

Program



Atkinson Center
for a Sustainable Future



MARIO EINAUDI
Center for
International Studies

Sustainability in Asia

Partnerships for Research
and Implementation

Hong Kong | April 6-7, 2017



Cornell University

Welcome!

This conference brings together international scholars, scientists, practitioners, and policy influencers from the United States and Asia who are working to advance sustainable practices and solutions in the face of climate change, increased energy needs, and the specter of slower economic growth.

Through the day, we will discover how creative collaborations between Cornell University and research partners in Asia are tackling sustainability challenges such as urban energy and infrastructure transitions, agricultural resilience, and the complex connections between human and animal health.

The event honors the late Cornell University President Elizabeth Garrett, who carried the vision for an expanded Cornell global presence, beginning with innovative collaborations in China.

In the words of Laura Spitz, vice provost for international affairs: “She saw the necessity for the university to focus its strengths on critical global problems as part of its leadership in the world. Societies today are interconnected in complex ways – business, science, and academia are global activities. Developing sustainable solutions requires comprehensive approaches that derive best from interdisciplinary thinking. That is why international partnerships are foundational in our teaching and research activities.”

We look forward to a day of discussion about advances in sustainability research and community engagement as we explore opportunities for collaboration and partnership.

David Lodge

Francis J. DiSalvo Director, David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future
Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Hirokazu Miyazaki

Director, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies
John S. Knight Professor of International Studies
Professor of Anthropology

Organizers



The Einaudi Center was established in 1961 to enhance Cornell's research and teaching about the world's regions, countries, cultures, and languages. In 1990 it was named for its founding director, the political theorist Mario Einaudi. Today the center houses area studies and thematic programs; organizes speaker series, conferences, and events; provides grants and other support to faculty and students; and brings together scholars from many disciplines to address complex international issues.



The David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future empowers faculty to think outside of their departments and across disciplines when it comes to tackling the world's greatest challenge—creating a vital and resilient future for the global community. By providing start-up funding for cross-college collaborations, emergency research, and partnerships with non-profits, government, and industry, the Atkinson Center supports the pioneering risk-takers at the very heart of radical collaboration through multiple funds and fellowship programs. The center embodies an entrepreneurial approach to discovering, developing and deploying sustainable solutions.

Sustainability in Asia

Thursday, April 6

6:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner and Welcome Remarks

Friday, April 7

8:00 a.m. Conference Registration

8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

Michael I. Kotlikoff, Cornell University Provost

8:35 a.m. Presentation — Global Sustainability Challenges, Progress, and Opportunities

David M. Lodge, Francis J. DiSalvo Director, David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, Cornell University

9:15 a.m. Panel — Sustainable Energy Systems in Asia and Beyond

Chair: Hirokazu Miyazaki, Director of the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies John S. Knight Professor of International Studies, Cornell University

Panelists:

Lance R. Collins, Joseph Silbert Dean of Engineering and Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Cornell University

Jeff MacCorkle, Managing Director, Pacific Rim Resources, China

Supree Srisamran, Senior Analyst, Economic Intelligence Center of Siam Commercial Bank Public Company Limited, Bangkok, Thailand

Satsuki Takahashi, Associate Professor of Sustainability Studies, Hosei University, Tokyo, Japan

10:45 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m. Panel — One Health and Sustainable Development in Asia

Chair: Daryl V. Nydam, Associate Professor of Population Medicine and Diagnostic Science, Director, Quality Milk Production Services, Cornell University

Panelists:

Dirk U. Pfeiffer, Chair Professor of One Health, School of Veterinary Medicine, City University of Hong Kong, China

Mike Van Amburgh, Professor of Animal Science, Cornell University

Nancy Wells, Professor of Design and Environmental Analysis, Cornell University

12:45 p.m. Lunch

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Friday, April 7

1:45 p.m. Presentation — Agricultural Engagement in Asia and Lessons for Successful Partnerships

Ronnie Coffman, Director of International Programs at Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University

2:15 p.m. Panel — Rural-Urban Transitions to Sustainable Settlement Systems

Chair: Kieran Donaghy, Professor and Chair, Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University

Panelists:

Ying Hua, Associate Professor of Design and Environmental Analysis, Cornell University

Neema Kudva, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning, Director of the International Studies in Planning, Cornell University

Zhilin Liu, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Robin McNeal, Associate Professor of Asian Studies and Director of the East Asia Program, Cornell University

Pratim Roy, Co-Founder, Keystone Foundation, Kotagiri, India

Jeremy Wallace, Associate Professor of Government, Cornell University

3:45 p.m. Break

4:15 p.m. Presentation — Developing New Forms of Communication and Collaboration

Hirokazu Miyazaki, Director of the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University

4:45 p.m. Panel — Cornell's Commitment to Sustainable Development

Chair: Michael I. Kotlikoff, Cornell University Provost

Panelists:

Lance R. Collins, Joseph Silbert Dean of Engineering

Daniel P. Huttenlocher, Dean and Vice Provost, Cornell Tech campus

David M. Lodge, Director, David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future

Greg Morrisett, Dean of the Faculty of Computing and Information Science, Cornell University

5:30 p.m. Closing remarks

David Lodge, Francis J. DiSalvo Director of the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future

Hirokazu Miyazaki, Director of the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University

Presentations & Panels

David M. Lodge: Global Sustainability Challenges, Progress, and Opportunities

Many challenges remain to improving human welfare without harming future humans and ecosystems. Yet past successes provide a rational basis for optimism. Some of the UN's Millennium Development Goals for 2015 were achieved, the Montreal Protocol protects the planet from harmful UV radiation, the natural and built environments continue to benefit from decreases in acidic deposition in some regions, water pollution has declined in some regions, some species have rebounded from near extinction, and air quality in urban environments in North America and Europe has improved dramatically. Further successes depend on strengthening three aspects of university engagement in sustainability research. First, the unparalleled intellectual capacity in universities must be increasingly focused on use-inspired research. Second, universities must increasingly incentivize interdisciplinary research. Third, university researchers must partner with nonacademic organizations to inform robust sustainability solutions. Universities like Cornell that take these steps are more likely to help achieve the quadruple bottom line of benefits to people, profits, the planet, and purpose.

Sustainable Energy Systems in Asia and Beyond

From Fukushima's nuclear disaster to Beijing's smog apocalypse, Asia is facing some of the toughest policy choices in energy production and distribution. Experts from several institutions will debate how sustainability and economic development have been and might be balanced in the region. In an era of deepening anthropogenic climate change, what are the costs involved in transitioning to more sustainable energy sources? How can governments balance environmental and economic concerns?

One Health and Sustainable Development in Asia

The concept of One Health recognizes that the health of people, animals, and the environment are intrinsically connected. Academic research and policy practice in these areas must be based on partnership and collaborations. As food demands for a growing world's population expand, scholars at Cornell and other research centers will talk about their work with industry practitioners to meet sustainability goals on issues such as milk safety, precision feeding, and efficient agriculture.

Ronnie Coffman: Agricultural Engagement in Asia and Lessons for Successful Partnerships

The current global food system is not sustainable. It requires too much land and water, contributes to excess carbon and methane in the atmosphere, and is poorly positioned for the truly transformative innovations demanded by rapid climate change and increased demand. Moreover, the world's poorest

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people remain dependent on staple grains and root crops low in critical micronutrients, while a growing global middle class adopts consumption patterns increasingly associated with obesity and chronic disease. Food system sustainability in Asia is a global challenge that requires innovative solutions that are informed by science and facilitated by forward-thinking partnerships. From Nanjing to Los Baños, from IRRI to CIMMYT, from faculty to students, Ronnie Coffman, director of International Programs in Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, will offer examples of engagement in Asia, where the consequences for human health, productivity, and economic development have been profound.

Rural-Urban Transitions to Sustainable Settlement Systems

This panel highlights Cornell's cutting-edge research on issues related to the urban transition in Asia, whose pace and scale has no historical precedent. This includes work that focuses on better understanding the challenges, designing sustainable and responses, and teaching the next generation of citizens, planners, and entrepreneurs to think creatively about problems whose full scope still eludes us.

Hirokazu Miyazaki: Developing New Forms of Communication and Collaboration

Globalization has radically changed the challenges facing our world. While it has not made us more homogeneous, as many predicted it would, it has connected us in profound and complex ways. As a result, what occurs in one place on our planet matters everywhere else. We must approach global challenges with a holistic vision that makes space for the perspectives of diverse communities, interests, and values. Ironically, we must do this at a time of resurgent anti-globalism and anti-intellectualism, which seeks to impede the movement of people and ideas. At Cornell's Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, we have set out to create a collaborative environment where technical experts and a broader range of social scientists, humanists, and experts in various cultures and regions can work together. By building intellectual communities in both real and digital space, and by encouraging multilingual, multidisciplinary dialogue and problem-solving, we hope to produce new knowledge for a more equitable, sustainable, and peaceful world.

Cornell's Commitment to Sustainable Development

Provost Kotlikoff will lead the closing panel, which will examine Cornell's role as a living laboratory for sustainability, and as a promoter of sustainable development worldwide. He will describe interdisciplinary research initiatives across the university and discuss the new Cornell in China Center. The panelists will then present examples of innovative sustainability practice in university operations, research, and educational activities. They will identify opportunities and challenges for Cornell to contribute to future sustainable development.

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