

## Gordon Research Conference

### **GRC Theme: Transforming The Use Of Energy, Materials, Water And Wastes**

**Faye Duchin** (duchin@rpi.edu)

**Reid Lifset** (reid.lifset@yale.edu)

The time is quickly approaching for the Gordon Research Conference in Industrial Ecology that will take place this summer in New Hampshire at Colby Sawyer College. There is a GRC every other year, following a format that features state-of-the-art invited presentations and contributed posters, while also encouraging informal interaction and networking within our diverse community.

Session topics for this meeting are:

- Energy Policy Challenges
- Energy Efficiency and Carbon Mitigation
- Energy Sources for Transport
- Bio-Fuels and Bio-Feedstocks
- NanoMaterials and NanoTechnologies
- Satisfying Strategic Material Requirements
- Water Resource Management
- Assuring Sustainable Use of Materials
- Industrial and Agricultural Use of Water

Check out the outstanding program, at

<<http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2008&program=industeco>>

We have a record-breaking number both of applicants and of poster submissions this year and can accept only a limited number of additional participants. The deadline is 27 July 2008.

For further information or to apply, go to

<<http://www.grc.org>>

or contact Faye Duchin.



*The GRC is being held on the picturesque Colby Sawyer College campus in New London, New Hampshire, US*

*Gordon Research Conference  
on Industrial Ecology*

**17-22 August 2008**

***Last call for applications.***

<http://www.grc.org>

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*Inside...*

Lifset highlights JIE Special Issues

Univ. of Pittsburgh research team promotes IE

IE popular in cyberspace

Costa studies symbiosis in Portugal

## **University of Pittsburgh Offers Sustainability and Green Design Research Opportunities**

**Kristan Cockerill** (kristanc10@earthlink.net)

Since they were graduate students, Joe Marriott, Amy Landis and Melissa Bilec have pursued industrial ecology research and have been involved with ISIE. Now, as faculty in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at the University of Pittsburgh, they continue to promote IE through their Sustainability and Green Design research group.

The website says that this group,

*represents the next generation of interdisciplinary education and research in environmental science, engineering, and sustainability....Through our research and outreach, we tackle some of the most pressing concerns of the 21st century.*

Seeing students move on to create groups like this is a powerful testament to the promise that IE offers and the support that ISIE can give to the next generation of IE researchers and practitioners.

See the team's website for more information.

<<http://www.engr.pitt.edu/civil/research/sgd/index.html>>



## IE Online

### **Blogged Lately?**

**Kristan Cockerill** (kristanc10@earthlink.net)

A Google search for "industrial ecology" generates 335,000 hits. This includes blogs, journal articles, books, university programs, and other interesting bits. There is also a solid Wikipedia entry (ISIE members' fingerprints there, perhaps?)

<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial\\_ecology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial_ecology)>

There is also activity in the Blogosphere. Several years ago René Kleijn set up an IE blog and it routinely features interesting posts. A current item highlights Craig Venter's project to genetically modify a microbe to metabolize atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> to octane.

The archives at that site include an article on Adu Dhabi's attempt to become the "World's first carbon-neutral, waste-free, car-free city."

To visit, go to

<<http://industrialecology.blogspot.com>>

Abhi Agarwal recently established a blog focused on industrial symbiosis. The latest post is an update on the UK's National Industrial Symbiosis Program.

To join the discussion, go to

<<http://www.abhibiz.co.uk/IS.html>>

## JIE News

### **Special Issues in the Journal of Industrial Ecology**

**Reid Lifset** (reid.lifset@yale.edu)

The Journal of Industrial Ecology uses special issues—that is, single issues devoted to a particular topic—to highlight important and emerging topics in the field. Because IE is a broad and diverse field, special issues have the advantage that they can both coalesce a critical mass of work on a key topic and also attract the attention of researchers, policymakers and managers who might not otherwise be drawn to work in our field because it is interspersed with work unrelated to their interests.

Sometimes the special issues take advantage of papers emerging from conferences, though all papers go through the same review process regardless of the source. Other special issues rely

on widely disseminated calls for papers. Where possible, special issues are supported with external funding which can allow printing of extra copies for distribution to students, researchers from developing countries and NGOs, or provide free downloading of the electronic versions of the special issue articles.

Special issues are scheduled so that there is at least one conventional issue between them to ensure that “regular” articles are not delayed.

The JIE has two special issues nearing publication, one in review, one with an open call for papers and one with a call for papers about to be issued.

#### ***Nanotechnology & Industrial Ecology***

Shannon Lloyd of Concurrent Technologies Corporation (USA) and Roland Clift of the University of Surrey (UK) have been working hard, finishing up the forthcoming special issue on nanotechnology. The issue should “hit the streets” in mid-August.

This special issue examines the implications—positive and negative—of current and potential applications of nanotechnology, concentrating on resource use, environmental effects and human health. The issue promises to be a good one with lively and substantive articles on the identification, perception, analysis and reduction of risks from nanotechnology; cost and environmental assessment of carbon nanotube production; a review of nanomanufacturing processes; investigation of the potential of nanotechnology for chemical substitution and for improving bio-based products; and applying green chemistry techniques. The issue will be available for free download on the JIE web site through funding provided by a US-based foundation.

#### ***Materials Use Around World Regions: Inevitable Pasts and Possible Futures***

Heinz Schandl of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia) and Helga Weisz of the Institute of Social Ecology at the University of Klagenfurt (Austria) have been busy serving as guest editors for the special issue on material use around world regions. That special issue—which as the name suggests—focuses on MFA in different countries, is scheduled for publication this fall. It examines existing knowledge about economy-wide material use in industrial and developing countries in different parts of the world and its relation to sustainability.

*more JIE News*

### ***Complexity and Industrial Ecology***

A special issue on complexity and industrial ecology is in progress. Edited by Gerard Dijkema of the Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management at the Technical University of Delft (The Netherlands), and Lauren Basson of the Centre for Environmental Strategy at the University of Surrey (UK). The deadline for submissions was April 15 and papers are now in review. This special issue seeks to capture and illustrate the state-of-the art in complexity and industrial ecology and build on work presented at the 2007 ISIE conference.

### ***Applications of MFA***

This special issue is designed to document how, when and where MFA has been used for business, policy and related decision making and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of MFA for those purposes using concrete examples.

A call for papers has been issued and submissions are due on September 1, 2008. <<http://www.yale.edu/jie/cfpAMFA.htm>>

It is being edited by Ester van der Voet of the Institute of Environmental Sciences at Leiden University (The Netherlands), and Claudia Binder, the Department of Geography, Division of Social and Industrial Ecology at the University of Zurich (Switzerland). Support for this special issue is being provided by the US National Science Foundation and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

### ***Waste Valorization and Industrial Ecology***

A call for papers will be issued later this month for a special issue on waste valorization and industrial ecology. Articles that focus on loop-closing and related industrial ecology concepts from the upcoming WasteEng 08 conference in Patras, Greece <[http://www.wasteeng.org/wasteEng10\\_english.html](http://www.wasteeng.org/wasteEng10_english.html)> will be solicited. Submissions will also be welcomed from ISIE members with a deadline of July 19, 2008.

This special issue will be a supplement, that is, it is in addition to the normal six issues. Funded with external support provided by the conference organizers, the special issue will be published only electronically. Print copies, however, will be provided to ISIE members and to the conference organizers. This is an experiment for the JIE, testing a publication mode—"supplemental issues"—available through Wiley-Blackwell.

*Save*   
**the date:**

**The 2009 ISIE Conference will be 21-24  
June in Lisbon. Watch for the Call for Papers!**

## Conference/Exhibition Listings

Water Pollution 2008

9-11 June 2008, Alicante, Spain

Greener by Design

12-13 June 2008, Alexandria, US

Bio International Convention: The Global Event for Biotechnology

17-20 June 2008, San Diego, US.

Sustainability in Printing

18-20 June 2008, Philadelphia, US

Paper Recycling Conference and Trade Show

22-24 June 2008, Chicago, US

### **Gordon Research Conference on Industrial Ecology**

17-22 August 2008, New London, US

Global Waste Management Symposium

7-10 September 2008, Copper Mountain, US

8th Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP8),

18-20 September 2008, Cebu, Philippines

14th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference

21-23 September 2008, New Delhi, India

Life Cycle Assessment VIII

30 September-3 October 2008 , Seattle, USA

5th International Congress of Nanot-Bio & Clean Tech 2008

27-30 October 2008, Burlingame, US

Sustainable Innovation 08: Future Products, Technologies and Industries

27-28 October 2008, Malmo, Sweden

RECONN'08

9-21 November 2008, Bilbao, Spain

International Conference on LCA in the Agri-Food Sector

12-14 November 2008, Zurich, Switzerland

2008 AIChE Annual Meeting: Philadelphia

16-22 November 2008, Philadelphia, US

8th International Electronics Recycling Congress

21-23 January 2009, Salzburg, Austria

III International Conference on Life Cycle Assessment of Latin America (CILCA 2009)

27-29 April 2009, Chile

### **2009 ISIE Conference**

21-24 June 2009, Lisbon, Portugal

3rd International Conference on Eco-Efficiency Modelling and Evaluation for Sustainability

18-20 November 2009, Egmond aan Zee, the Netherlands



## IE Jobs

### **Postdoctoral Position In IE**

The Institute for Environmental Science and Policy  
University of Illinois at Chicago, US

This is a one year postdoctoral scholar position in industrial ecology and life cycle impact assessment renewable for a second year.

Deadline: 16 June 2008

## Student Chapter

### Student Activities at GRC-IE 2008

**Wenjie Liao** (wenjieliao@gmail.com)

**Weiqiang Chen** (yutouren@gmail.com)

**Ming Xu** (Ming.Xu.3@asu.edu)

The student chapter of ISIE will organize activities for student attendees at the Gordon Research Conference. There will be a student chapter meeting, a development session, a poster competition, an advisory board meeting, and social events.

All IE students are welcome to enter the poster competition. Three winners will be chosen and awarded prizes. If you wish to enter the competition, please contact Weiqiang Chen (yutouren@gmail.com).

There are modest student fellowships to support student participation. The application form and more information may be found at  
<<http://www.isiestudents.com/GRC2008.htm>>

We appreciate any questions or suggestions about the student activities. Send them to Wenjie Liao (wenjieliao@gmail.com).

Reports on student events from the 2007 ISIE conference are on the student chapter website  
<<http://www.isiestudents.com/ISIE2007.htm>>

We look forward to seeing you in this August!

### E-waste forum

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The Student Chapter is pleased to announce a new discussion forum. This first discussion will be on electronic waste (e-waste or WEEE) and will be moderated by Ramzy Kahhat, our PR co-chair. E-waste is one of the faster growing waste streams in the world and it is important to correctly manage it. This management needs to consider the whole system. The initial question in this e-waste forum will be: "Do you think banning the exportation of e-waste (including usable electronics) from developed countries to developing countries is the best approach to globally deal with this waste stream?"

Please feel free to access our discussion forum at

<<http://groups.google.com/group/isiestudents>>

(Thanks Tristan Wagner for setting this up!)

You don't need to be a member to post or read posts, although posts from non-members will be moderated (approved before being displayed on the site).

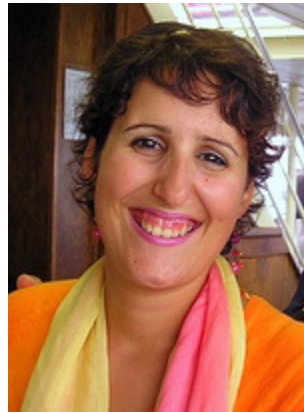
*more* Student Chapter  
Student Research

**The Challenge of Industrial Symbiosis: Policy and Structural Issues in Applying Industrial Symbiosis to the Portuguese Context**

**Inês Costa** (icosta@dem.ist.utl.pt)  
Center for Innovation, Technology and Policy Research,  
Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical University of  
Lisbon, Portugal.

Industrial symbiosis (IS) is recognized as an important concept to stimulate resource efficiency practices. Cases like Kalundborg stimulated public/private interest for IS development; however, lack of success led to arguments that IS could not be planned and that the market was the main driver for resilient networks. However, one cannot generalize, because a drivers' significance is context-dependent, varying across continents, national, regional and/or local frameworks.

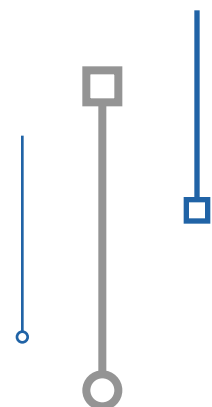
In Portugal the first known IS project began in Chamusca. The municipality is envisioning a community that demonstrates/offers solutions for reuse and recycling waste challenges, using IS as a synergistic paradigm, through a multi stakeholder participatory planning approach. In three years, two integrated treatment and recovery facilities for hazardous waste were built, and other reuse, recycling and recovery units have transferred, or are being built. Early project involvement, and ongoing collaboration with the Portuguese Environment Agency on resource/waste policies and legislation, pushed my research to focus on the study of policy and legislative IS drivers, and on the types of structures that can be fostered in this context; this was an organic response to stakeholder's concerns on the subject. It's an important issue, especially if we consider that Portugal is subject to the same EU policies as other IS case countries, like the UK. This analysis will allow elaborating on future IS supportive guidelines for waste and resource policy, at a national level, but



*Inês Costa pursues research on policy issues relevant to industrial symbiosis.*

also capitalize on potential structural and organizational factors for Chamusca to improve its chances of success.

The best outcome of the PhD so far has been engaging and interacting with national and international researchers, industry and government, in developing fitted solutions - integrated policies, legislation and tools - to well frame problems. I hope to continue to use the same approach and expand it to other areas of my specialty, such as LCA, sufficiency strategies, or corporate sustainability - whether by a post-doc or consultancy - after I finish my PhD in January 2010. Also, being an outdoor-hiking-adventure person, my goal in the future is to continue to interact with international research teams in bringing these approaches to other different areas in the world.



## **ISIE Membership Renewal**

**Beverly Chevalier** (is4ie@yale.edu)

All membership registrations and renewals must now be submitted via Blackwell (follow the "JOIN" link on the ISIE homepage). Members who have not received notification from Blackwell about membership renewals or how to access electronic subscriptions to the JIE should contact Blackwell customer service at

<customerservices@blackwellpublishing.com>

Any membership registration or renewals received in the ISIE office on or after 28 February 2008 must be re-submitted via Blackwell.

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## **International Society for Industrial Ecology**

The International Society of Industrial Ecology (ISIE) promotes industrial ecology as a way of finding innovative solutions to complicated environmental problems and facilitates communication among scientists, engineers, policy makers, managers and others who are interested in how environmental concerns and economic activities can be better integrated.

### **Officers**

President—Marina Fischer-Kowalski

President-Elect—Roland Clift

Treasurer—Joule Bergerson

Secretary—Claudia Binder

### **Council**

Marian Chertow                      Thomas Theis

Edgar Hertwich                      Valerie Thomas

Sangwon Suh

**Student Liaison**—Ming Xu

### **Nominating Committee**

Diana Bauer                      Arpad Horvath

Tracy Casavant                      Sinichiro Nakamura

Paulo Ferrao                      Glen Peters

**Executive Director**—John Ehrenfeld

**Editor, *Journal of Industrial Ecology***—Reid Lifset

<http://www.is4ie.org>

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## **ISIE News Schedule**

<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>
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Sep 2008 v8n3	15 Aug 2008
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Dec 208 v8n4	14 Nov 2008
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Send submissions to the appropriate editor.

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