

Greenovation as focus: new Illinois opportunities with Informatics PhD and interdisciplinary Centers

Time and Location:

March 30, Wednesday 8:50 AM -1:00 PM
National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA)
Executive Conference Room room 1104
1205 West Clark St., Urbana, IL 61801 (**see below for parking and directions)
Food and drink provided through lunch hour

Agenda

8:15 Coffee, fruit and pastries throughout morning
8:50-9:00 Introductions
Panelists will present on their specific areas
9:00-9:15 Dr. Guy Garnett, new Illinois Informatics PhD
9:15-9:30 Professor Deke Weaver, art project to raise bio-awareness
9:30-9:45 Dr. Don Wuebbles, challenges in climate and environment
9:45-10:00 Professor William Bullock, challenges in e-sustainability
10:00-10:15 Dr. Donna Cox, environmental visualization challenges
Discussants will ask questions/provide perspectives on their experiences in open forum with audience
10:15-11:30 Discussants:
Dr. Radha Nandkumar, Dir. International Programs, NCSA (tbc)
Dr. Linda Vigdor, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Arizona
Dr. Steve Marshak, Dir. Earth, Society and Environment
Professor Deana McDonagh, Empathic Design Researcher
11:30 Working Lunch (pre-ordered box lunches)

Workshop Focus and Goals

The University of Illinois provides new avenues for interdisciplinary research and education. This workshop will present and discuss some of these emerging opportunities. While the focus is sustainability, climate, and environment, any discussion/contribution relating to interdisciplinary research and PhD study is welcome. Faculty and students provide vital input to the discussion.

Recently, the University of Illinois established a new interdisciplinary Informatics PhD that enables students and faculty to design research that can cross the boundaries of art and science
<https://www.informatics.illinois.edu/display/infophd/PHD+Press+Release+27+January+2011>. This forum presents this new PhD and other research opportunities at the Center for Transformative Climate Solutions and the Illinois Sustainability Technology Center.

Environmental challenges require a variety of discipline domains, often crossing boundaries of science, art, international studies, and design. Our goal is to discuss Illinois graduate and undergraduate opportunities in this environmental context and to involve students and faculty in the process of formulating opportunities and addressing challenges. What works? What doesn't work?

Workshop panelists will present and respond to discussants in an open forum with audience in round table format. All are welcome to question and comment. One goal is to outline how this new interdisciplinary PhD may serve to address environmental challenges. Opinions and suggestions will be collected and presented at the Illinois Innovation Summit at the Beckman Institute <http://summit.research.illinois.edu/>.

Panelists and Discussants

Dr. Guy Garnett, Associate Director eDream and IACAT Creativity and Computing co-PI; faculty in Music and Chair governing committee Informatics PhD

Dr. Don Wuebbles, Professor Atmospheric Science, and co-leader of the new Center for Transformative Climate Solutions (CTCS); internationally known for his research in the social impact on climate

Professor Deke Weaver, School of Art and Design, new media and creator of "Elephant" art performance to raise awareness on biodiversity and the environment.

Professor William Bullock, Director Design for Energy and Environment Laboratory, Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, and UIUC Industrial Design.

Dr. Donna Cox, MFA, Director Advanced Visualization Lab, NCSA, and eDream Institute and leader in the art of scientific visualization.

Dr. Steve Marshak, Director of the School of Earth, Society and Environment, and Professor of Geology

Dr. Radha Nandkumar, NCSA Associate Director International Programs, Astrophysicist and reviewer for the Cyprus Institute PhD fellowships at UIUC

Dr. Linda Vigdor, recent interdisciplinary humanities PhD and Postdoctoral Research Associate, on "Art-Science Collaborations," an NSF grant

Dr. Deana McDonagh, Empathic Design Researcher, SA+D/Beckman Institute and faculty, and Associate Professor Industrial Design, UIUC

Ilona Matkovsz, PhD candidate architecture, Fall 2011; interested in Spatial Informatics and Art and Cultural Informatics (art & architectural history, cultural heritage, historic preservation)

UI Centers and Institutes:

University of Illinois Informatics PhD through Illinois Informatics Institute (I3)

Center for Transformative Climate Solutions (CTCS)

Illinois Sustainability Center

eDream (Emerging Digital Research and Education in Arts Media)

NCSA Advanced Visualization Laboratory Scientific visualization

Institute for Academic Computing, Applications, and Technology (IACAT)

National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA)

CyberInfrastructure and Geospatial Information Laboratory (CIGI)

*** NCSA is located diagonally southeast of Beckman Institute. Meter parking just north of NCSA at the UIUC covered Parking Garage North which is east of Beckman Institute between Mathews and Goodwin. You can enter NCSA Atrium glass doors that face both North and South of building, first floor.