To: Department Chairpersons and Program Directors

Subject: New format for Environmental Science and Policy Program’s Distinguished Lecture Series

General information

Instituted in 2009, the Environmental Science and Policy Program’s Distinguished Lecture Series (DLS) seeks to engage world class researchers, policy makers and practitioners with the MSU environmental research and education community. DLS speakers give a public lecture on an interdisciplinary topic and interact with MSU faculty and students. The Series is designed to provide an important interface between MSU and global leaders working on cutting-edge environmental issues. An important function of the Series is to facilitate interactions among MSU researchers from diverse fields to address issues that cross disciplinary boundaries.

New in 2016

The Environmental Science and Policy Program (ESPP) is pleased to announce a new format of its DLS to include events organized jointly with other units at MSU. The ESPP DLS selection committee, composed of faculty from the four ESPP-supporting colleges (CSS, CNS, CENG, CANR), will research potential speakers and accept nominations from within the Departments and the College they represent as well from the broader MSU community. The committee will select the speakers and identify a Department that would co-host the event.

Successful DLS nominations will meet the following three criteria:

1) The topic of the DLS lecture appeals to broad environmental research and education community at MSU;
2) The invited speaker is a recognized leader in his or her field;
3) The speaker has demonstrated ability to present to broader audiences.

The schedule for the invited speakers should also accommodate a possibility of another presentation – a more focused academic seminar in an appropriate academic unit, most likely the Department that co-hosts the DLS event.

ESPP will offer a $500 honorarium to each invited DLS speaker and an additional $500 to the Department/unit co-host as cost share to support the DLS. There will be no deadlines for nominations. Departments interested in co-hosting a DLS speaker will be asked to submit a brief rationale to espp@msu.edu that addresses the three criteria listed above.

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