



SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Date: August 25, 2014, Monday

Time: 11:00 - 12:00

Place: Meeting Room A-1022 (First Floor), Engineering Building (A3)

Sustainability at IUPUI

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Abstract: The need to possess knowledge, skills, and perspectives in sustainability has never been greater for sustainability has gained recognition and importance in businesses, industries, non-profits, government agencies, higher education, and in the general public's consciousness. The goal of meeting today's needs without harming future generations' ability to realize their potential is the hallmark of sustainable practices, and there is widespread interest from many engineering disciplines and sectors in developing, enhancing, and integrating sustainability into aspects of products, services, and solutions. Conserving environmental resources and acting socially responsible while maintaining an economic balance is a trend in the world that cannot be ignored.

Developing sustainable practices and processes in every field or practice are arguably the most important challenges facing the world in the 21st century. Many companies and government agencies are emphasizing the role of designing new sustainable technologies and products and are examining their effect on larger systems through environmental, societal and economic impacts. Companies such as Google, Microsoft, Ford, and many others are embracing sustainability. Thus, there is a need to have sustainability education in some form for all undergraduate students.

One of the first sustainable courses offered by the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at Indianapolis began in 2003. It is a short study abroad course, specifically looking at sustainable practices in businesses and industries in Germany. As part of the course, students visit businesses, industries, municipalities and universities in Germany; such as, Daimler, Roche, MVV Energie, City of Mannheim, Freiburg, etc., to look at their sustainable practices and processes. The number of sustainable courses offered by the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at Indianapolis has increased over the years. The School has an undergraduate Energy Engineering degree, a Sustainable Technologies Certificate, and a modest number of undergraduate and graduate sustainable course offerings.

The IUPUI campus has a Sustainability Office and Director, which involves students, faculty and staff in sustainability activities in all levels. The Office of Sustainability is a role model on campus for good stewardship of resources across a large spectrum of campus activities making decisions based on conservation, protection, and enhancement of natural resources. This Office looks at all aspects of sustainability including social and environmental.

In this talk, you will learn about the sustainable short-term study abroad program in Germany at IUPUI and the other programs that have developed out of a demand for sustainable education both from students and employers. In addition the Office of Sustainability at IUPUI and how it operates and benefits the campus will be discussed.

About the Speaker: Pat Fox is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Technology Leadership and Communication in the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). Pat teaches ethics, leadership, sustainability, and study abroad courses at IUPUI. She has held a number of leadership roles in the American Society for Education (ASEE) including three terms on the Board. She is the ASEE Chair Elect for the Engineering Technology Council and the ASEE Chair of the Engineering Technology Leadership Institute. Pat is a Fellow of ASEE and has received a number of national awards for her work in engineering education. Her research interests include sustainability and study abroad education.