ESPP is starting a Research Colloquia Series that extends the format of the former student research presentations by ESPP specialization students to now include a variety of formats including student and expert panel discussions, faculty roundtables and debates. These events will utilize ESPP’s unique network of MSU expertise spanning MSU’s colleges to address important and timely environmental issues that cross disciplinary boundaries. The ESPP Research Colloquia Series is envisioned as a forum for MSU students, researchers and visitors to engage in research discussions where an interdisciplinary perspective is critical.

Energy Needs for Our Urbanizing World: What to Expect and How to Achieve a Low Carbon Future

ABSTRACT: The United Nations has declared the twenty first century “the urban century”, effectively, the century of the city. At the dawn of the twenty first century, we've just surpassed the mark of having more than half the global population living in cities. UN Habitat projections indicate the world’s urban population's will exceed 60% by 2030, and 70% by mid-century. Simultaneously, the World Energy Outlook forecasts that cities will account for three-fourths of total energy use by 2030. In this urban century, energy policy is effectively urban policy, and vice versa: urban policy is energy policy. Energy is at the heart of cities, and cities are the heart driving energy use. This rapid urbanization of the planet and resulting increase in energy use is, coupled with existing energy use patterns in the Global North, unsustainable. To avoid catastrophe, we need to help the 2 billion poorest who live on very little to find ways to rise out of poverty in a sustainable way, which means changing energy use patterns for everyone. Can we do this? Technology, politics, and policy are explored in the search of the pathway toward energy efficient urbanization.

A Distinguished Lecture by Dr. Amy Glasmeier, Professor of Economic Geography and Regional Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BIOSKETCH: Dr. Glasmeier holds a professional masters and PhD in City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley. From 2009 to 2013, she was the Department Head of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT. She simultaneously serves as a professor of economic geography and regional planning. She has two books on policies to develop and expand technology industries. Her book, Manufacturing Time: Global Competition in the World Watch industry, 1750-2000, provides considerable perspective on how different modes of industrial organization and varieties of capitalism yield varying levels of competitive success of national systems of industrialization. In addition, she has written two books focused on the special development problems of rural areas and has worked closely with academics and policy makers around the country to fashion programs designed to assist in formulating sustainable development strategies for rural areas. Her most recent book, published fall 2005 by Routledge Press, An Atlas of Poverty in America: One Nation, Pulling Apart 1960-2003 examines the experience of people and places in poverty since the 1960s, looks across the last four decades at poverty in America and recounts the history of poverty policy since the 1940s.

Co-sponsored by the Department of Geography and MSU Graduate Geography Group Colloquium Series

3:00 p.m. Thursday October 9 Lake Huron, MSU Union

Reception to follow

Register at environment.msu.edu For more information, contact Guo Chen at guochen@msu.edu