

COLLOQUIUM BY MING XU

LIFE CYCLE THINKING AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

TIME: 4:00-5:00 PM, MONDAY, 16 JAN 2017

VENUE: AB 1079

Life Cycle Thinking and Environmental Policy

Speaker: Ming Xu, Associate Professor, School of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor



ABSTRACT:

Consumption drives production, as well as environmental impacts generated during production. Understanding how consumption drives environmental impacts along the supply chain is thus important for guiding the development of technology and environmental policy. Life cycle thinking allows evaluating environmental impacts of consumption from the whole life cycle, consisting of raw material extraction, material processing, manufacturing, use, and end-of-life. This talk introduces the concept of life cycle thinking, examples of life cycle assessment for environmental impacts, and applications in environmental policy. The talk will also discuss the importance of life cycle thinking to environmental policy making in China and environmental policy education.

BIO:

Ming Xu is an Associate Professor in School of Natural Resources and Environment and Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He received his BS (2003) and MS (2006) from Tsinghua University, China and PhD (2009) from Arizona State University, all in Environmental Engineering. Prior to joining the University of Michigan in 2010, he was a postdoctoral fellow in Brook Byers Institute for Sustainable Systems at Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Xu has been the PI for four US National Science Foundation (NSF) projects and received the NSF CAREER Award in 2016. He also received the Robert A. Laudise Medal from the International Society for Industrial Ecology in 2015 "for outstanding achievements in industrial ecology by a researcher under the age of 36." Since 2015, Dr. Xu has been serving the Editor-In-Chief of the journal *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*.