

Bergen Summer Research School 2013: Food as a Global Development Challenge

Bergen, 17 – 28 June

PLENARY EVENTS:

Keynote lectures

The Hunger Games

TUESDAY 18.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Thomas Winfried Menko Pogge, Director of the Global Justice Program and Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University, USA.

Efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals have been characterised by methodological revisions which artificially lower the number of hungry people. As new development goals are about to be formulated, we must urgently learn the lessons from the expiring ones which have brought mainly cosmetic efforts and cosmetic progress.

Leveraging Agriculture and Food for Nutrition and Health Outcomes

TUESDAY 18.06. – 18:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Shenggen Fan, Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC, USA

This presentation will give an overview of global food insecurity, malnutrition, and agriculture-related health risks. Actions needed to leverage agriculture for nutrition and health outcomes through a nexus approach will be discussed, including biofortification and crop diversification, public information campaigns, as well as regulatory and monitoring frameworks for food safety.

Communicating 'Wicked Problems' at the Interface between Science and Politics: the example of Climate Change

WEDNESDAY 19.06. – 08:30 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Kjersti Fløttum, Professor of French linguistics, Department of Foreign Languages, University of Bergen

Why are there so many different opinions about and attitudes towards climate change? The meaning that people ascribe to this phenomenon is closely related to how it is portrayed in the communication. Fløttum will present and discuss different linguistic and discursive features frequently used in text and talk about climate change. The aim is to reach a fuller understanding of the multifaceted climate change debate.

Interlinkages Between Food Security, Climate Change and Sustainable Development

WEDNESDAY 19.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Atiq Rahman, Executive Director of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS)

The poor of the world will be paying the heaviest price of climate change through the experience of extreme events. Food Security will be a sector that will face particular stress. The presentation will discuss food production, food availability, food access, food security and also nutritional security, and Bangladesh will be treated as a case study to demonstrate the interlinkages of food security, climate change and sustainable development.

Challenges and Policy Options for Balancing Competing Demands on Agriculture

THURSDAY 20.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

David Blandford, Professor of agricultural and environmental economics, Pennsylvania State University, USA.

Increasing demand for food will exert major pressure on the agricultural sector, which is also vulnerable to climate change. Urban migration is another complicating factor, as it will be difficult to sustain viable local economies in many rural areas. In his lecture Blandford will outline key issues that we face in trying to balance competing objectives for agriculture and their implications for agricultural policies.

Rambunctious Garden Earth

FRIDAY 21.06. – 11:00 – BERGEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, OLAV KYRRESGT. 11

Emma Marris, author of *Rambunctious Garden*

Even seemingly 'pristine' ecosystems have been subjected to transformative change by humans. Environmentalism must accept that things cannot be put back the way they used to be, and orient itself towards diversity, services and beauty. This talk will suggest how this might be done, including accepting and becoming conscious about our influence over ecosystems, as well as letting some areas go wild to form 'novel ecosystems'--the wildernesses of the future.

Challenges and Opportunities to Sustain Aquaculture Production in the Asia – Pacific Region

FRIDAY 21.06. – 16:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Embekar Eknath, Director General (2011 - present) of the Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia-Pacific (NACA), Bangkok, Thailand

Eknath will discuss the track record of aquaculture in Asia, including productivity, environment, biodiversity, use of resources, food safety, balancing of socio-economic benefits, small-scale vis-à-vis large scale industrial aquaculture, and adoption of animal welfare measures. What does the future look like, against the backdrop of stagnating food fish production from capture fisheries, population growth and the targets of the Millennium Development Goals?

Re-thinking Environmental Causes of Obesity

MONDAY 24.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Julie Guthman, geographer and professor of social sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz, USA

The thesis that rising obesity owes to a built environment where cheap, fast, nutritionally inferior food is ubiquitous and physical activity opportunities are sparse has become quite prominent. Guthman will challenge this thesis and suggest that environmental toxins and certain food additives play a significant role in contemporary obesity, irrespective of caloric intake. She will conclude the talk by discussing some of the implications of these findings for food governance.

Seafood and health – current status

TUESDAY 25.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Livar Frøyland, Director of Research, Norwegian National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research (NIFES)

Seafood contains unique combinations of nutrients, proteins, vitamins, minerals and omega-3 fatty acids, which are all important components of a healthy and proper diet. However, seafood also contains unwanted substances such as methyl mercury, dioxins, PCBs and other potentially harmful compounds. Some principles regarding risk-benefit evaluations on seafood as well as some thoughts on future research on seafood consumption will be presented.

The Importance of Ecosystem Services in Long-term Food Security and the Need for Outcome Based Measure of Sustainable Agriculture

WEDNESDAY 26.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Peter Kareiva, Chief Scientist and Vice President of The Nature Conservancy, USA

Labels such as "all natural", "organic", "no GMO's", and "grown locally" are used to say something about how food is grown. But missing are credible measurements that can point us towards a truly sustainable food production system. Kareiva will outline some contentious issues surrounding the definition of sustainable agriculture, and suggest a pragmatic solution. Science needs good measures of sustainability to improve agriculture, for both food security and a healthy planet.

The Role of Fisheries in Food Security

THURSDAY 27.06. – 10:00 – LAW FACULTY – DRAGEFJELLET – AUDITORIUM 2

Serge Garcia, Director (retired), FAO Fisheries Management Division, Belgium

Paradoxically, fisherfolk communities are both important contributors to food security and vulnerable to food insecurity. Modern proposals for fisheries reform and environmental rebuilding present a tense trade-off between conservation and food security. The so-called "win-win" solutions are rare and usually miss (or hide) one important dimension of the problem. Hard-nosed decisions are therefore needed. Without more integrated governance, it is likely that both goals will be missed.

Popular lecture

The Slow Food Movement

MONDAY 24.06. – 19:00 – LAW FACULTY, AUDITORIUM 2

Thor Øivind Jensen, Department of Administration and Organization Theory, UiB

The Slow Food movement crosses several dividing lines within and between politics, culture, development and food marketing. It joins forces with indigenous people and small-scale producers all over the world, links with Fair Trade and UN organizations and is running development projects. Is Slow Food indicating new alliances between consumers and producers, between local and global, between South and North and between pleasure and politics? Can we eat our way to a better world?

Roundtable discussions

Global change, food security and ethical challenges

TUESDAY 18.06. – 16:00 – LAW FACULTY, AUDITORIUM 2

Persistent poverty, environmental degradation and poor governance are today widespread but avoidable. What should be the responsibility of the powerful states, the intergovernmental organizations, the international corporations, the individual citizens, in achieving a more sustainable, equitable and harmonious world where basic needs are met for all human beings?

Discussion leader: Tore Furevik, Geophysics, Climate Dynamics, UiB

Participants:

- Dr Ambekar E. Eknath, Director General of Network of Aquaculture Centres, Bangkok
- Dr Shenggen Fan, Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC
- Dr Thomas Winfried Menko Pogge, Director of the Global Justice Program, Yale
- Dr A. Atiq Rahman, director of the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, Dhaka

Is seafood good for you?

TUESDAY 25.06. – 16:00 – LAW FACULTY, AUDITORIUM 2

Dietary guidelines all over the world recommend consuming at least 2 portions of fish per week. Many species of fish are an excellent source of polyunsaturated fatty acids and vitamin D, among other nutrients. However, epidemiologists and toxicologists are able to discover fish consumers due to their higher levels of mercury and other persistent pollutants in their blood, which may limit any positive health effect of fish consumption.

Discussion leader: Jutta Dierkes, Department of Clinical Medicine, UiB

Participants:

- Amund Måge, National Institute of Nutrition and Seafood Research
- N.N., Department of Clinical Medicine, UiB

Food or biodiversity vs Food and biodiversity: Whither conservation?

THURSDAY 27.06. – 16:00 – LAW FACULTY, AUDITORIUM 2

More mouths to feed and increasing standards of living lead to inexorable growth in food consumption; where will this food come from, and by what means of production or harvesting? Given the impact of humans on nature everywhere, conflict between basic human needs and the needs of other species is inevitable. Must we, at least in some cases, pit biodiversity against food production? Or can we develop sustainable methods favourable to both?

Discussion leader: Professor Lawrence Kirkendall, Department of Biology, UiB

Participants:

- Dr. Peter Kareiva, Chief Scientist, The Nature Conservancy, USA
- Representatives of student groups

Morning seminars

Ethical Challenges Related to Publication

FRIDAY 21.06. – 08:30 – BERGEN RESOURCE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, JEKTEVIKSBAKKEN 31

The first of three morning seminars at BSRS 2013 takes on the issue of ethics in relation to open access, citation impact, and other aspects of research publication. What is citation impact and why is it so important for researchers? Does it reflect the scientific merits of a given paper? Another issue for discussion is scientific misconduct, including fabrication, falsification, plagiarism and misrepresentation of authorship. What mechanisms are in place to prevent and uncover such practices?

Discussion leader: Øyvind Gjerstad, Communications advisor, UiB Global

Participants:

- Howard Browman, Institute of Marine Research, Bergen
- Ingrid Cutler, University of Bergen Library
- Matthias Kaiser, Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities, UiB
- Susanne Mikki, University of Bergen Library

Can research be independent when funding is not?

MONDAY 24.06. – 08:30 – BERGEN RESOURCE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, JEKTEVIKSBAKKEN 31

During the second morning seminar of BSRS 2013 we will discuss the conditions for independent research within different models of financing. What role do private actors play in the research they finance? What is the importance of political priorities for researchers who apply for funding from public institutions? Another central point for discussion will be the future of scientific diversity and basic research in a time where science is expected to yield financial and societal gains.

Discussion leader: Øyvind Gjerstad

Participants:

- Benedicte Carlsen, Uni Rokkan Centre, Bergen
- Jutta Dierkes, Department of Clinical Medicine, UiB
- Ottar Nygård, Department of Clinical Science, University of Bergen

Science Communication outside Academia

WEDNESDAY 26.06. – 08:30 – BERGEN RESOURCE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, JEKTEVIKSBAKKEN 31

Science has long enjoyed an unrivalled status as a producer of knowledge, but popularised accounts of scientific findings risk simplifying the complexities of the issues and leave out the uncertainties involved. What is it about scientific discourse that makes it difficult for even scientists to communicate the results of their work to the public? Why do especially climate researchers have difficulties getting through to politicians and the public?

Discussion leader: Øyvind Gjerstad

Participants:

- Trine Dahl, Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (NHH)
- Helge Drange, Geophysical Institute, UiB/Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research, Bergen
- Peter Kareiva, The Nature Conservancy, USA

More detailed event descriptions can be found in the BSRS calendar:

<http://www.uib.no/rs/bsrs/kalender>