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CARES Visiting Scientists Seminar Series:

Energy, Commodities & the Environment

Dr. Oliver Inderwildi, ESSEC Business School

Monday 21st Nov, 5.00pm - 6.00pm

CREATE Theatrette, Level 2, CREATE Tower

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● Chemical Technology

Abstract: Rapid technological advancements can make previously uneconomic resources and/or feedstock available within significantly reduced timeframes. This can and will further transform the global energy landscape and moreover, will impact the mix of feedstock we use for energy provision and material production—the so-called Feedstock Curve. During the presentation, three current examples are assessed to illustrate that this restructuring has by far wider reaching implications: Firstly, we examine how unconventional resources—mainly produced using fractured cracking techniques—have restructured the US energy landscape, are now fuelling the US economic recovery and will impact the geopolitical balance. Secondly, we assess how unconventional resources could impact European energy security, the Crimean crisis and redirect global cash flows. Thirdly, we analyse the potential impact of so-called methane hydrates deposited off the shores of Japan on the energy transition of the Island nation and how they might impact its trade deficit and long-term economic outlook. Last but not least, we will assess arguments that unconventional resources, when regulated properly, may be a blessing for the environment. With these examples, this presentation will illustrate the interconnectedness of economics, politics, environmental conservation and technology.



Biography: Dr. Inderwildi serves as Advisory Board member for Energy & Environmental Science, a high-impact journal published by the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Energy Advisory Board of the Council of Canadian Academies.

Dr. Inderwildi was educated in science and engineering at the University of Heidelberg, the Swiss Institute of Technology, and the University of Amsterdam. He received additional training in economics and policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the London School of Economics and Political Science and is currently pursuing an MBA at ESSEC Business School.

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