

## RE-IMAGINING OUR ECONOMIC SYSTEM: A BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

March 26, 2013 MSU Union Bldg. Gold Rooms A&B, E. Lansing, MI

**Why are we getting together?** We are saddled with an economic model that does not meet our short- or long-term interests, is a cause of global social disruption, and is likely to result in substantial environmental degradation. A traditional economic recovery that relies on consumptive growth as a solution to Michigan's economic future seems misguided and most certainly unsustainable. Maybe it is **time to reexamine our situation!**

Michigan as a result of its unique Great Lakes heritage and historically strong manufacturing economy is in a position to lead the nation and the world in framing a new social and economic paradigm that is environmentally sustainable in scale, socially just and efficient in its use and distribution of resources, values a high quality of life and reaffirms our commitment to a democratic society. Such a paradigm shift must be led by an informed public that has a vision of the character and scope of a re-imagined economy.

Join the discussions on March 26<sup>th</sup> with panelists from across the state and nation on how we might re-imagine our economic paradigm and examine strategies that may help us achieve this fundamental transformation to a more balanced and sustainable economy.

### Event Co-Sponsors:

MSU Center for Community and Economic Development

U of M Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

MSU Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies

Clean Energy Coalition

MSU Land Policy Institute

Starting Now!

Michigan Environmental Council

Capital Area Local First

U of M Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute

MSU Teacher Education Department

Michigan Suburbs Alliance

Michigan Association of Planning

Michigan Municipal League

MSU James Madison College

Peace Education Center



**No pre-registration  
Space limited**

TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2013 MSU UNION BUILDING

# **Re-Imagining our Economic System:**

## **A Balanced and Sustainable Economy**

### **A Michigan Perspective**

**Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> 2013, 9 a.m.**

#### **9:00-9:15 a.m. Welcome**

#### **9:15-10:30 a.m. Panel 1: What Is the Current Economy For?**

- Basic principles, assumptions and characteristics of the current economy.
- Social, political and environmental consequences of the current economic model.
- Sustainability of the current economic paradigm.

**Moderator- *Rex LaMore*, Director of MSU Center for Community and Economic Development**

**Panelists: *Charlie Ballard*, MSU Department of Economics; *Jim MacInnes*, President/Co-owner Crystal Mountain Resort**

#### **10:45-noon Panel 2: How has the current economic system succeeded and in what ways has it failed us?**

- Gains realized from our current system, such as better technologies, status of global wealth and standards of living.
- Negative consequences of the consumer economy, such as income inequality, consumption trends and environmental degradation.
- The general dominance of one economic system over other models and the environmental, the social and political consequences of the dominant system.
- Lessons learned and strategies for action toward change.

**Moderator- *Richard Norton*, University of Michigan Urban and Regional Planning**

**Panelists: *Kurt Cobb*, Post-Carbon Institute; *Lana Pollack*, International Joint Commission; *Juliet Schor*, Boston College Department of Sociology**

**LUNCH: “On your own”** with colleagues from the event. A number of local restaurants are directly north of the MSU Union on Grand River Ave. in E. Lansing.

#### **1:30-2:45 Panel 3: What Could a New Economy Look Like?**

- Potential strengths and weakness of the new paradigm.
- Aspects of the new economy, cultural considerations, scalability, social justice and equality.
- Impacts on livelihood, businesses, the environment.

**Moderator-*Louise Jezierski*, MSU James Madison College**

**Panelists: *Ted Howard*, Executive Director of The Democracy Collaborative at University of Maryland; *Joshua Farley*, University of Vermont Community Development & Applied Economics and Public Administration; *Tom Princen*, U of M School of Natural Resources and Environment**

#### **3:00-4:15 Panel 4: Where do we go from here to achieve greater balance between our economic, social, and environmental systems?**

- Emerging and promising local and global models.
- Responsibility of wealthy nations to lead a transformation.
- Organizations and individuals who are, or can assist with a transformation toward the new economic model.
- Short and long terms strategies and measures to indicate progress.

**Moderator - *Robert Richardson*, MSU Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies**

**Panelists: *Christina Keller*, Cascade Engineering; *Wynne Wright*, MSU Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation, and Resource Studies; *Ray DeYoung*, U of M School of Natural Resources and Environment**

#### **4:15- Closing**