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Soup & Substance to Focus on Earth Week and E-waste

Summary: The April discussion will focus on the issue of e-waste.

(April 15, 2013)-The University of Minnesota, Morris will host its monthly Soup & Substance discussion on Tuesday, April 23, at 6 p.m. in Imholte Hall 112. Sponsored this month by the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement, Soup & Substance is open to all who wish to share their opinions and experiences. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion and enjoy a free meal.

Held in conjunction with the campus's Earth Week festivities, the next Soup & Substance will explore the issue of e-waste, or discarded electrical and electronic devices. The conversation will address the environmental impact of discarding these devices, especially that faced by countries in the third world.

According to Melissa Kerr of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, "In developing countries where most informal and primitive e-waste recycling occurs, environmental exposure to lead, cadmium, chromium, polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) is prevalent at high concentrations in pregnant women and young children." For these reasons and more, Kerr believes e-waste is a topic that demands immediate attention.

Soup & Substance provides an open forum for members of the campus and community to discuss issues of local, national, and international importance—particularly issues related to privilege and oppression. The event pairs a delicious free meal with a meaningful discussion.

For more information, please contact Maria Fleck '14, Saint Stephen, at fleck049@umn.edu or 320-589-6276.

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