

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

Campus News Archive

Campus News, Newsletters, and Events

10-21-2009

International sustainability expert Annie Leonard speaks on "stuff"

University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news

Recommended Citation

University Relations, "International sustainability expert Annie Leonard speaks on "stuff" (2009). *Campus News Archive*. 1360.

https://digitalcommons.morris.umn.edu/urel_news/1360

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Campus News, Newsletters, and Events at University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. It has been accepted for inclusion in Campus News Archive by an authorized administrator of University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well. For more information, please contact skulann@morris.umn.edu.

Contact

Melissa Weber, Director of Communications
Phone: 320-589-6414, weberm@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: 320-589-6068, jrray@morris.umn.edu

International sustainability expert Annie Leonard speaks on "stuff"

Summary: Sponsored by the Campus Activities Council Convocations Committee, Leonard's film and presentation on "stuff" will entertain and challenge.

(October 21, 2009)-Annie Leonard, international sustainability and environmental health issues expert, will speak at the University of Minnesota, Morris on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium in the Student Center. The presentation, free and open to the public, will feature Leonard's brief film, *The Story of Stuff*. Earlier in the day, Leonard will visit with students in the Environmental Problems and Policy class. Leonard's campus presentations are sponsored by the Campus Activities Council Convocations Committee.

The Story of Stuff, a 20-minute, fact-filled film centers on the question, "Where does all the stuff we buy come from, and where does it go when we throw it out?" The result of Leonard's 20-year search for an answer and travels in more than 40 countries, the film exposes the costs, both environmental and social, of the world's manufacturing and consumer habits. Leonard will discuss the ideas of "planned obsolescence" and "perceived obsolescence"—that is, goods that are designed to be disposable and goods that we are made to think are disposable once they go "out of style."

Leonard's film and presentation have been described as "humorous and accessible" as well as "challenging and serious."

In 2008, *TIME* magazine named Leonard an Environmental Hero alongside Arnold Schwarzenegger, who began eco-friendly initiatives in California Joachim Luther, who made strides in the solar power field and brothers Jean-Francois and Jean-Charles Decaux, who established a bicycle renting system in Paris.

The Story of Stuff has generated more than 6.5 million online views in 200 countries and territories since its launch in December 2007. A book version is scheduled for release in March 2010.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.