

## **Virtual Center for Supernetworks Isenberg School of Management, UMass Amherst**

**For Immediate Release - August 12, 2008**

The UMass Amherst INFORMS (Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences) Speaker Series lineup for Fall 2008 is now available. The talks take place on scheduled Fridays at the Isenberg School of Management in Room 112 from 11:00AM-12:00PM (except where noted), and are open to the public. The series is organized by the UMass Amherst INFORMS Student Chapter, whose Faculty Advisor is Anna Nagurney, the John F. Smith Memorial Professor. This is the ninth semester of this Speaker Series, which is multidisciplinary in nature.

The schedule for Fall 2008:

Professor Daron Acemoglu, the Charles P. Kindleberger Professor of Applied Economics at MIT, will open the series on September 19, 2008. He will speak on "Bayesian Learning on Social Networks." Professor Acemoglu is the 2005 John Bates Clark Medal recipient from the American Economic Association and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His talk is joint with the Finance Seminar Series at the Isenberg School.

Dr. Grace Lin, will deliver her talk, "Enterprise of the Future," on October 3. Dr. Lin is the CTO & Director, Innovation and Emerging Solutions -- Supply Chain Management, at IBM Global Business Services, Yorktown Heights. She was the leader of the IBM team that received the 1999 INFORMS Franz Edelman Award for its role in reengineering efforts that resulted in over \$750 million in savings for IBM the year prior. She is an INFORMS Fellow. Her research has been recognized in *Forbes* and *China News*.

Professor Senay Solak of the Department of Finance and Operations Management at the Isenberg School will speak on "Air Traffic Flow Management in the Presence of Uncertainty," on October 24. Professor Solak holds degrees from the US Naval Academy and Georgia Tech and just joined the faculty of the Isenberg School. He served for seven years as a naval officer and also worked as an analyst in the Planning Department of the Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta.

Professor Ahmed Ghoniem of the Department of Finance and Operations Management at the Isenberg School will deliver his talk, "Joint Vehicle Assembly-Routing Problems: An Integrated Modeling and Optimization Approach" on November 7. Professor Ghoniem has degrees from Virginia Tech and the Ecole des Mines de Nantes in France. He is also a new faculty member in ISOM. Professor Ghoniem has conducted projects with Volvo Logistics North America and with Harley-Davidson.

Mr. Tom Vanderbilt of New York City will speak on November 14. He writes about design, technology, science, and culture for *Wired*, *Slate*, *The New York Times*, and other publications. His most recent book *Traffic -- Why We Drive the Way We Do (and What it Says About Us)* was reviewed in *The New York Times Book Review* on August 10, 2008 and has been the subject of extensive media coverage.

Professor Kevin Fu, Department of Computer Science, UMass Amherst, will conclude the Fall 2008 INFORMS Speaker Series on December 5, with his talk, "Implantable Medical Devices: Security and Privacy for Pervasive, Wireless Healthcare." Professor Fu is the Co-Director of the Medical Device Security Center and the Director of the RFID Consortium on Security and

Privacy. His work has been featured in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. His talk will take place in Room 128 in the Isenberg School.

For more detailed information on the series, see:  
<http://supernet.som.umass.edu/informs/speakernew.html>

For information on the UMass Amherst INFORMS Student Chapter and additional activities, see: <http://student.som.umass.edu/informs/>

After each presentation, interested guests are welcome to join the speaker for additional conversation at lunch at the University Club at UMass Amherst.

Support for this series is provided by the Isenberg School, the Department of Finance and Operations Management, the John F. Smith Memorial Fund, and INFORMS.

For questions, please contact Professor Anna Nagurney; contact information below.

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