



## University of Massachusetts Amherst

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## UMass Amherst INFORMS Fall 2009 Speaker Series Announced

## For Immediate Release – July 29, 2009

The UMass Amherst INFORMS (Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences) Speaker Series lineup for Fall 2009 is now available. The talks take place on scheduled Fridays at the Isenberg School of Management in Room 112 (except for when noted below) from 11:00AM-12:00PM, and are open to the public. The series is organized by the award-winning UMass Amherst INFORMS Student Chapter, whose Faculty Advisor is Anna Nagurney, the John F. Smith Memorial Professor. This is the eleventh semester of this Speaker Series, which is multidisciplinary in nature.

The schedule for Fall 2009:

Dr. Mary Helander of the Mathematical Sciences Department of IBM's T. J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, New York will open up the Fall 2009 Series on September 18, 2009. The title of her presentation is: "Food Safety in a Global Supply Chain." Her presentation will be in Room 128.

Professor Andrew Lo, the Harris & Harris Group Professor and Director of the Laboratory for Financial Engineering at MIT's Sloan School of Management in Cambridge, MA, will speak on October 3, 2009. His talk title is: "Kill All the Quants?: Models vs. Mania in the Current Financial Crisis." His talk is co-sponsored by the Finance Seminar Series.

Professor Jose Holquin-Veras, Acting Head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at RPI in Troy, New York, will deliver his lecture, "Emergency Logistics Issues Impacting the Response to KATRINA: What Went Wrong? What Could We Do to Avoid a Repeat?" on October 23, 2009.

Professor Richard N. Palmer, Head of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UMass Amherst, will speak on "A Decision Support System for Optimizing Reservoir Operations Using Ensemble Streamflow Predictions (ESP)" on November 6, 2009.

Professor Sam Bowles, Research Professor and Director of the Behavioral Sciences Program at the Santa Fe Institute in New Mexico, Professor of Economics at the University of Siena in Italy, and Professor Emeritus of Economics at UMass Amherst, will deliver his talk, "The Nature of Wealth and the Dynamics of Inequality from Pre-history to the Knowledge-based Economy," on November 20, 2009.

Professor Brian Levine of the Department of Computer Science at UMass Amherst and Director of the NSA Center for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education will speak on December 4, 2009. His presentation title is, "Forensic Investigation of the Internet and Mobile Systems."

For more detailed information on the series, see: <a href="http://supernet.som.umass.edu/informs/speakernew.html">http://supernet.som.umass.edu/informs/speakernew.html</a>
For information on the UMass Amherst INFORMS Student Chapter and its other activities, see: <a href="http://student.som.umass.edu/informs/">http://student.som.umass.edu/informs/</a>

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 (Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences). For questions, please contact Professor Anna Nagurney, contact information above.