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Sustainability Seminar Series, 2017

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Something Wicked This Way Comes – Human Effects on the Environment

JD Lewis

Fordham University

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The MSU Sustainability Seminar Series Presents:

Something wicked this way comes – human effects on the environment

WHEN: DAY & DATE, 4:00 pm

WHERE: CELS 120 lecture hall

Dr. JD Lewis

Dept. of Biology, Fordham University



Dr. Lewis earned a BS in Biology and MS in Ecology from Penn State, and a PhD in Botany from Duke. After working with the EPA, he joined the Biology Department at Fordham, where he currently is Chair, as well as Chair of the University Research Council. Research in his lab spans plant physiology, community ecology and ecosystem biology, with an emphasis on interactions among microbiota, plants and animals, and how human effects on the environment alter these interactions.

Every habitat and ecosystem on Earth has been affected by human activities. The three primary mechanisms through which humans affect the environment are climate change, the spread of invasive species, and habitat fragmentation. The rapid environmental changes associated with these factors have few parallels in Earth's history, leading paradoxically to an extinction crisis and to the spread of a few dominant species. Because these effects are not uniformly distributed among locations or ecosystems, they are creating ecologic and economic winners and losers. These discrepancies, in turn, are a key factor driving global patterns of urbanization, and is projected to be a major, if not *the* major, cause of warfare and humanitarian crises during the 21st Century. Conversely, these changes also present opportunities for developing more sustainable cities and societies.

For more information contact Dr. Stefanie Brachfeld at 973-655-5129