February 19, 2013
ISOM Room 306
2:00 PM-3:00 PM
Refreshments at 1:30 PM

Hosted By:

Professor Anna Nagurney

UMass Amherst Student Chapter of INFORMS

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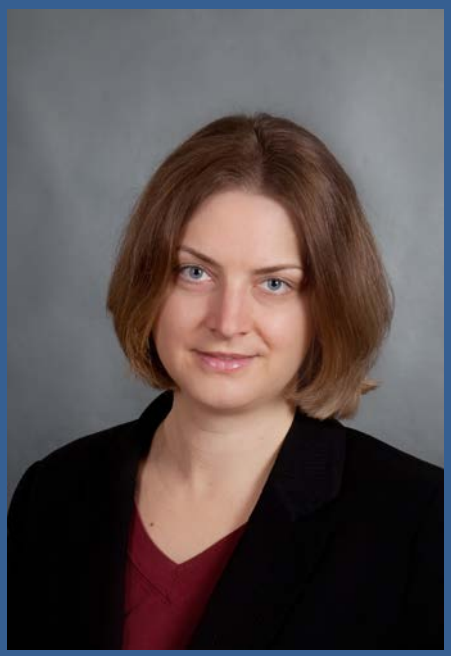
2012 UMass INFORMS "Meet an Isenberg PhD Alum event" with Dr. Tina Wakolbinger

THE VALUE OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR PRODUCT RECOVERY MANAGEMENT

Biography:



Tina Wakolbinger is the Professor of Supply Chain Services and Networks and the Head of the Research Institute for Supply Chain Management at the Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU) in Austria. She received her PhD from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, with a concentration in Management Science, in May 2007. Prior to joining WU, she was an Assistant Professor at the Fogelman College of Business and Economics, University of Memphis, in Tennessee. Professor Wakolbinger's research focuses on the interaction among social, financial, and supply chain networks. She is especially interested in humanitarian and sustainable supply chains. Methodological tools that she uses include variational inequalities, game-theory, optimization, and agent-based simulation. She serves as an Associate Editor of the Central European Journal of Operations Research. Her research has been published in journals such as the European Journal of Operational Research, the International Journal of Production Economics, the International Journal of Production Research, the Annals of Operations Research, and Naval Research Logistics.

While a doctoral student at UMass Amherst, she was the President of the UMass Amherst INFORMS Student Chapter and was recognized for her work with the chapter with the Judith Liebman award from INFORMS in 2006.

Abstract:

Recovery operations for products at the end of their life play a critical role in achieving sustainable business practices. The importance of efficient Product Recovery Management operations is highlighted by the Waste Electrical and Electronics Equipment (WEEE) category of products. Governments worldwide are recognizing the importance of recovery operations for WEEE due to the high risk of hazardous material contamination of the product category as well as the potential economic value of the precious materials included. To accommodate special recovery regimes for this product category, governments have started setting up regulations that outline under what conditions WEEE will be recycled within their jurisdictions. This presentation sheds light on the role of information systems in product recovery management. Specifically, the talk highlights conditions that ensure that investments in information systems are economically justifiable for manufacturers and when policy-makers need to consider facilitating their implementation.