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Centre for Social and Sustainable Innovation
Communiqué
August 6, 2015

We will facilitate and support dialogue and debate among educators, students, business, government, consumers, media, civil society organisations and other interested groups and stakeholders on critical issues related to global social responsibility and sustainability.

August 9, 2015 is International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples
The theme this year is access to health care services, and one of Gustavson’s favourite guest speakers is John Beale of VillageReach, whose mandate is to improve health system capacity and efficiency in places like rural Mozambique.

At CSSI’s Social Innovation Jam on May 26, 2015, John talked about VillageReach’s programs to improve logistics, energy supplies, and support for the health workers on the ground.

Supplies like vaccines arrive in a country, John explains, and there’s no way to get them to the end user. So John and VillageReach innovate information, delivery, and business models to make sure that there’s propane for the fridges that keep the vaccines cold at the health centres, and that there are trucks to get them there in the first place.

Learn more in Gustavson’s Business Class Spring/Summer 2014 edition (page 7).

World Bank undercutting its own anti-poverty mission?
In April 2015, members of fishing and farming communities near the Tata Mundra coal-fired power plant in Gujarat, India, filed a lawsuit in Washington, DC, against the World Bank Group’s private lending arm, the International Financial Corp. (IFC), which funded the project. They’re seeking remedies for harms to their environment, livelihood and health. The IFC has asked the court to dismiss the suit, claiming absolute immunity for harms caused by the project.

The World Bank’s resistance to accountability, according to The World Bank has an accountability problem in Al Jazeera America on July 22, 2015, undercuts its anti-poverty mission.

Free food movie @UVic
After catching a glimpse of the billions of dollars’ worth of perfectly good food that is tossed each year, Vancouerites Jen and Grant pledged to quit grocery shopping cold turkey. They’d survive only on foods that would otherwise be thrown away. Can they do it? Will they have to eat Dumpster dregs? (Hint: yes and no) Peg Leg Films and Knowledge Network made a movie about it.

UVic Sustainability Project, Capital Regional District, and CSSI are co-hosting the entertaining and, frankly, fascinating documentary Just Eat It.

August 11
Student Union Building, Upper Lounge
4:30 FREE screening of Just Eat It
5:45 discussion with panelists including Lorenzo Magzul, post-doctoral fellow and professor of Gustavson’s Food Security and Local Food Economy course.

International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples events
at UN headquarters in New York will be live webcast from 12-3 pm Pacific Time on Monday, August 10.

Connections, mentoring, coaching
Service Management
JetBlue has created VetConnect, a program that connects newly hired veterans with more experienced veteran crewmembers to help them succeed at JetBlue.

As well, Crewmember Resource Groups provide support, foster open communications and enhance JetBlue’s culture. There are now four groups: JetPride, Women in Flight, Vets in Blue, and a new group focused on strengthening Latino awareness and connections.