



Mentoring Lecture Series

Empowering Women to Develop Academic Careers



May 24, 2011, 16:00, UZAII 2B201 O. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Marianne Popp,

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The Limits of Growth of Biomass

Energy production from biomass is regarded as a beneficial possible substitute for fossil fuels. The 'so-called' experts in the field overlook that plant growth needs (besides sunlight and CO₂) water and minerals. Water is limiting plant production in many areas of the world, whereas nitrogen fertilizers produced by the very energy-consuming Haber-Bosch process disturb the natural nitrogen cycle and enhance greenhouse gases.

Biological nitrogen fixation and plant species with a low transpiration coefficient can mitigate these problems.

The science lecture (ca. 1 hour) is followed by a Question & Answer period on issues specific to career development of women in academia (e.g., options, barriers, how to overcome them, good practices and strategies).

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