Carleton University

Climate Change Seminar Series

Improving Accountability of Corporate Climate Commitments

Dr. Patrick Callery
University of Vermont

Climate change has recently seen a dramatic rise in attention and concern within capital markets. The increasing pressure applied to companies by institutional investors and other stakeholder groups has resulted in a corresponding proliferation of corporate commitments to address climate change. However, there is little evidence that such pressure is resulting in meaningful emissions reductions or technological and behavioral shifts required to meet current global climate goals. In this talk I will present a perspective on the state of corporate commitments on climate change informed by recent academic research, detailing several developments that are limiting tangible progress and are structured by both companies and institutional investors to favor the status quo. I will also highlight a series of pragmatic changes to corporate reporting that may improve accountability.

Monday, November 21st

417 St. Patrick's Building

10:30am-11:30am EST

Registration required

10:30-11:10am Presentation
11:10-11:30am Q&A

Patrick Callery is an Assistant Professor of Management in the Grossman School of Business at the University of Vermont. His research focuses on corporate sustainability strategies in the context of climate change. His work on corporate climate disclosure identifies opportunities for climate reporting mechanisms to close loopholes and drive greater accountability over voluntary disclosure by firms. He also studies diffusion of innovative business models that may hasten the transition to a low carbon economy. Prior to his current appointment, he served as Assistant Professor of Strategic Management at Carleton University's Sprott School of Business, and was a member of the CLIM5000 faculty teaching team. He holds a PhD in Economics and Environmental Science & Management from the University of California, Santa Barbara, an MBA from the Haas School of Business at University of California, Berkeley, an MS in Engineering from the University of Michigan, and a BS in Engineering from Boston University.