

AQRD LUNCHTIME SEMINAR

Date: Monday 22/12/08

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: AQRD Boardroom (Room 4S624)

Speaker: Dr. Christoph Matulla

Title:

The media, politics and climate change – how well do they work together? Some remarks from the German-speaking part of Europe

Abstract:

The discussion on climate change does drive the making of decisions. It takes place between and within groups of stakeholders. These groups include the scientific and political communities, as well as the media. In principal one may say that incitements pushing these groups are quite different, and they are indeed. The question is: can we get scientifically correct media coverage and appropriate political reaction at the same time? I am not going to answer that. I just want to pose that question and discuss some examples of how it sometimes works overseas. Does change automatically mean worsening? Will the future be wrought with extreme weather? Should we pay more money to insurance companies and banks, or try to reduce hunger? Are we at the mercy of climate change or can we protect ourselves? Certainly, such questions can't be easily answered, and maybe cannot be answered at all, but it makes a great deal of sense to be aware of them and discuss such pertinent issues with the parties involved.