Human Ecology Brown Bag Series:

'Shrimp Rush':
Competing for Land, Mangroves and Ponds in Vietnam

Presented by: Dr. Le Thi Van Hue
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12:35-2pm
Thursday, May 10th
Blake Hall, Room 131

Dr. Hue Le is a researcher and lecturer at the Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies of Vietnam National University, Hanoi. She is currently a Fulbright visiting scholar at the Center on Globalization and Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute, Columbia University. She received her Ph.D. in Agricultural and Rural Development from the Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands.

Vietnam has experienced rapid changes in local land use systems, resource ownership and patterns of mangrove utilization and management in recent years in response to national policy reforms that have encouraged private ownership of land and the development of shrimp aquaculture. This talk will present research from coastal areas where economic and policy reforms, while opening up opportunities for many, have not benefited all in the community. Privatization has not solved the problem of resource degradation and overexploitation of coastal mangroves, and the enclosure of commons has often deprived many rural households of their livelihoods. Consequently, the shrimp rush has led to processes of differentiation between different classes, gender and ages, with female heads of household, women, and girls the most adversely affected.