

Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future Topical Lunch

Title: *“Soils at Cornell”*

Hosts: **Johannes Lehmann, Soil and Crop Sciences**

Jonathan Schuldt, Department of Communication

Date: Thursday December 7, 2017 12:00 – 1:00 pm 300 Rice Hall

At this topical lunch, we will connect seemingly disparate actors across Cornell University that have an interest or want to participate in work on soils in the widest sense, garner interest in the ongoing TNC collaboration on Soils4Climate and SoilSentry, as well as probe the feasibility to propose a coordinated activity on soils at Cornell University such as NSF Science&Technology Center. Soils are literally fundamental to our existence as a species. Soils underpin the development of civilization and sustain food security to a large extent, yet also provide multiple other environmental, spiritual and technological services. Streptomyces producing antibiotics have been isolated from soils, the transition from hunter-gatherers to agricultural communities involved growing plants in soils, and utilizing pigments from soil have been central to artistic pursuit. We therefore hope to attract faculty from all colleges at Cornell, including colleagues in religious studies, medicine, art, nutrition, biology, policy, archaeology, engineering, music, literature, economics, classics and environmental science.