



IESVic Seminar

DATE: Thursday, April 11, 2019

TIME: 10:00-11:00 am

LOCATION: Engineering Computer Science Bldg. [ECS] Room 660

SPEAKER: **Tom Tiedje**
Professor, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering
UVic

TITLE: *Cost and limiting efficiency of silicon solar panels*

Abstract: Over the last 40 years the cost of silicon solar panels has decreased by more than a factor of 300, annual production has increased by five orders of magnitude and energy conversion efficiency has doubled. The net result is that “wind and solar have won the race to produce the lowest cost bulk electricity” (Bloomberg New Energy Finance 2018).

This seminar will explain what is likely to happen in the future with respect to solar panel cost, production volume and efficiency. Future projections for efficiency are guided by thermodynamics and the optical and electronic properties of silicon; cost can be projected with a learning curve, similar to Moore’s law for integrated circuits.

For further information, please contact the IESVic office (250) 721-6295.