Advancing the Science of Domicology

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Domicology....what is it?

**Domicology:**
The study of the economic, social and environmental factors relating to the “life cycle” of structures.

**What might Domicologists do?**

- Examine the life cycle continuum of building and infrastructure use and abandonment from planning, design, construction, building use, reuse, abandonment, demolition/deconstruction and material reuse.

- Identify potential innovative tools, models, policies, practices and programs that can sustainably address structural life cycles and abandonment.

- Conduct research on the technical, economic and policy challenges present in structural abandonment and seek to reduce the negative social, economic and environmental impacts associated with structural abandonment.
Nature of the Challenge

Private Sector
Constructs Property

Private owner uses/reuses structure and eventually "walks away" from the structure
The Alternative Paradigm

Private Sector designs and constructs structure anticipating an end of useful life and incorporates assurance to fund deconstruction.

Structure is abandoned or becomes obsolete.

The abandoned structure is deconstructed with the funds from the financial assurance.

The parcel is returned to the original state.

The “negative affects” of abandoned properties are reduced or eliminated.
Domicology: An alternative paradigm for structures
Policy Inputs In Domicology:

1. Deposit
2. Disposal fee
3. Recycling fee
4. Management plan

Material recycling requirement

Salvage requirement

1. Percentage recycling requirement
2. Government recycling purchasing requirement

Policy Inputs In Domicology:

1. Deposit
2. Disposal fee
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4. Management plan
Thank You!

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Dr. Venkatesh Kodur, MSU Civil Engineering

Dr. George Berghorn, MSU Construction Management

Dr. Julie Brockman, MSU School of Human Resources and Labor Relations

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