

# OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

## Cary Coglianese

*School of Law, University of Pennsylvania*

“Promoting Self-Governance via Public Recognition: Lessons from EPA’s Performance Track and OSHA’s Voluntary Protection Programs”

**Monday, April 25, 2016**

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park



Over the last few decades, officials in environmental, health, and safety agencies at the federal and state levels have tried to promote public health protection through voluntary programs designed to encourage effective safety and environmental management by recognizing qualifying businesses as high-performing leaders. Multiple sources of evidence from two flagship voluntary programs—the Environmental Protection Agency’s National Environmental Performance Track and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s Voluntary Protection Programs—are used in this paper to address two main questions: (1) Do such programs promote exemplary environmental and safety leadership as they purport to do, or are they instead promoting more of a type of “public relations”? (2) Can these programs scale up to a level that would make them a potentially significant alternative form of governance? We conclude that neither of these programs in practice live up to their designs nor constitute viable alternative strategies to public regulation.



**Cary Coglianese** is the Edward B. Shils Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania, where he currently serves as the director of the Penn Program on Regulation and has served as the law school’s Deputy Dean for Academic Affairs. He specializes in the study of regulation and regulatory processes, with an emphasis on the empirical evaluation of alternative strategies and the role of public participation, negotiation, and business-government relations ([website](#)).

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL and papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch, and refreshments will be available. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon ([sturgeon@iu.edu](mailto:sturgeon@iu.edu); 812/855-3151).