

OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

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“Building Deliberative Places and Spaces: Making Sense of the Power of Food Movements in Governance Processes in the Global North”



Monday, September 30, 2019

12:00–1:00 PM • Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park

Food movement(s) actors are claiming new roles in governance as they seek the transition towards more sustainable and just food systems. To understand these emerging forms of involvement, we conceptualize their engagement in food system governance arrangements on a continuum from multi-stakeholderism to self-governance, exposing the ways that food movements wrestle with power. Applying this framework to nine case studies, we offer three insights. First, power constellations can be initially “light” or “dense,” requiring different types of power on the part of food movements in order to engage. Second, we find that food movements use a distinct type of power, what we call the power to convene, enabling them to leverage other powers, prefigure more inclusive policymaking processes, and increase their capacity. Third, using convening power allows movement actors to reshape policy fields so they can seek longer-term governance arrangements that address the complexity of food systems. These insights challenge the traditional narrative of social movements as simply “inside” or “outside” by positioning food movements within the policy field.



[Jill Clark](#) is an associate professor at the John Glenn College of Public Affairs, Ohio State University. Her research explores policies that connect food security with economic development in agriculture; rural wealth creation via the food system; and public participation and governance structures in food movements. Clark provides statewide leadership for the Ohio Food Policy Network and serves as an advisory board member for Johns Hopkins national Food Policy Network.

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL and papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).