

# OSTROM WORKSHOP TOCQUEVILLE LECTURE SERIES

*The Charles S. Hyneman Distinguished Lecture  
Indiana University Department of Political Science*



## **Michael Munger**

*Duke University, Departments of Political Science,  
Economics, and Public Policy*

## **“Polycentricity, Transaction Costs, and the Future of Local Government: An Ostrom Perspective”**

**Friday, NOVEMBER 15, 2019**

**3:00–4:30 PM • Woodburn Hall 120**

**Wine & Cheese Reception to follow in the Rawles Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

The “sharing” economy raises questions about the notion of the Coasian firm. Changes in technology can make profound differences in the nature and implications of transaction costs. But important changes are on the horizon for the nature of local governance institutions and decentralized cooperation. Polycentricity involves the matching of the “size” of institutional action to the extent of the externality or public policy problem being addressed. New apps and blockchain arrangements are changing the nature of local government and the way we think about public goods.

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Michael Munger is Professor in the Department of Political science at Duke University. He received his Ph.D. in Economics at Washington University in St. Louis, and taught in the Economics Department at Dartmouth College and the Political Science Departments at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, before joining Duke in 1997 where he was Chair of the Political Science Department from 2000 through 2010. He is currently director of the interdisciplinary PPE Program at Duke. Professor Munger’s recent books include “Choosing in Groups” (coauthored with his son, Kevin Munger) and “The Thing Itself,” both in 2015. His research interests include the study of the morality of exchange and the working of the new “Middleman Economy.” Much of his recent work has been in philosophy, examining the concept of truly voluntary exchange, a concept for which he coined the term “euvoluntary.” His newest book addresses the sharing economy, and is entitled “Tomorrow 3.0.”

*Cosponsors: Tocqueville Program, Department of Political Science*

Presentations are open to the public and some may be live streamed (see our website for URL and papers if available). For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).