WOW5 conference

WOW5 is less than two months away, June 18–21. We are very excited about it and are happy to announce that this will be our biggest WOW yet! Forty-eight working groups will present 72 sessions during the four days, ranging in topics from the IAD Framework to Social-Ecological Systems, and Polycentrism to Collective Action. There is a plenary panel to address the future of the Workshop, “What Is To Be Done? Charting Future Research Programs, Prospects, and Directions,” that is sure to start many conversations by Workshoppers both old and new. Similar to past WOWs, we will also have a Thursday evening reception at the Indiana University Art Museum, and a dinner on Saturday to wrap everything up.

If you want to join us for what will likely be another memorable conference, registration is still open: http://www.indiana.edu/~wow5/registration.html. Please register before you attend the conference as we will not be able to assist you in the process as in years past.

Lodging options are available here: http://www.indiana.edu/~wow5/lodgingtravel.html. The deadline for Indiana Memorial Union (IMU) rooms is May 15, 2014. Any remaining rooms in our reserved block will be released back to IMU after this date.

Schedule for sessions: http://www.indiana.edu/~wow5/WOW5%20Sessions%20Overview.pdf. The session schedule is now FINAL.

Deadline submission for all papers is May 23, 2014: http://www.indiana.edu/~wow5/papers.html.

The website will continue to be updated as information becomes available. Please address any questions to: wow5@indiana.edu.

Hope to see you in June!
is published biannually in May & November. We welcome submissions from current and former Workshoppers regarding research projects, awards, publications, announcements, etc. Items may be submitted to the editor, Patty Lezotte (zielinsk@indiana.edu)

Please submit items by OCTOBER 10 for inclusion in the November 2014 issue

An archive of past newsletter issues is available at: http://www.indiana.edu/~workshop/publications/newsletter/index.php

Help keep our records up to date! Send address changes to: workshop@indiana.edu

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CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS
Ostrom Oral History Project

Were you a student of Elinor and/or Vincent Ostrom? Did you work with or collaborate with one of them at Indiana University, the Workshop, or through another venue? Were you a friend of the Ostroms or otherwise significantly impacted by them personally or professionally? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, please consider sharing and preserving your firsthand perspective by participating in an oral history interview. A collaborative project through IU’s Center for the Study of History and Memory, “Coming Together: An Oral History of the Ostroms and their Scholarly Impact on Problem Solving,” will conduct oral history interviews to preserve the professional and personal impacts of Elinor and Vincent Ostrom. Plans are being made to facilitate interviews during the upcoming WOW5 conference, and scheduling will begin in early May. If you would like to participate or have other information, please contact Sara Clark at ostromoralhistories@gmail.com.

This project is supported by Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Ostrom Grants Program.
In January, I spent three weeks driving throughout the southwestern United States filming water projects and talking with Workshop colleagues. In Tempe, AZ, I interviewed Lou Weschler, Vincent’s former student and Lin’s former grad student colleague at UCLA. I also interviewed Marco Janssen about his work with Lin and one of his current projects with Ruth Meinzen-Dick, being carried out with the help of Jagdeesh Rao and the Foundation for Ecological Security (FES) in India. I traveled to Tucson to interview Edella Schlager about her work with Lin on common-pool resources and water rights and uses in the arid West. And I made a brief trip to Beverly Hills to film one of Lin’s grade school and high school friends.

On March 19, the documentary “crew” flew to India and Nepal to film interviews for Actual World, Possible Future. “Trekking” (mostly in jeeps with wonderful drivers . . . still) with 45 pounds of equipment in 103 degrees and air quality unlike the pristine, subzero temperatures of Minnesota was a shock to the body. I was fortunate to have the help of a younger camera person I have worked with before (who charged for only his airfare and food) and a student who received support from Carleton College to make the trip with me. We were welcomed warmly as representatives of the Ostroms/Workshop.

To read about Lin’s work in the context of these two countries is very different from meeting the people in “their backyards” and seeing the work of the Workshop continuing under the leadership of these “Workshoppers.” It was enlightening and inspiring.

The India portion of our trip was sponsored by the FES under the guidance of Jagdeesh Rao, who is known to many at the Workshop for his work with villages throughout India on a range of issues including forest restoration. We landed in Delhi to film and visit with Dr. Minoti Chakravarty-Kaul, a prior visiting scholar at the Workshop on several occasions, including a year-long residency during which she catalogued and archived 20 boxes of Vincent Ostrom’s papers. My work on Vincent’s previously unpublished work and on this film may be said to stand “on the shoulders” of Minoti’s meticulous archiving of Vincent’s memos, letters, and draft papers. Minoti arranged for us to stay at the India International Centre (IIC) where she has long been a member. It was especially wonderful to stay at IIC, which is one of India’s major cultural institutions. The architecture of the area is of great interest, as are the adjacent Lodi Gardens, a 90-acre site containing architectural works of the fifteenth century. I was able to conduct three interviews with Minoti at IIC, including filming her as we walked through the IIC grounds into Lodi Gardens, at the Taj Mahal, and at several Delhi historical sites.

On March 25, we flew to Bangalore to interview Dr. Harini Nagendra at Kaikondrahalli Lake, an urban commons in Bangalore. In 2013, Harini received the Elinor Ostrom Award on Collective Governance of the Commons from IASC. I stayed with Harini and her husband, Suri, and young daughter, Dhwani, whom I met while Harini was a visiting professor at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN. Our immediate kinship during her visit to chilly Minnesota made seeing her again all the more wonderful. Harini also arranged interviews at Kaikondrahalli Lake with several community members who worked on lake restoration and maintenance, including filmmaker Priya Ramasubban (who was instrumental in the lake restoration, which she documents in her film Kaikondrahalli Lake: The Uncommon Story of an Urban Commons’ produced by the Stockholm Resilience Centre). Lin visited the lake during her last trip to Bangalore in 2012. Her visit is commemorated by a plaque and photo of Lin planting a jackfruit tree placed at the entrance to the lake. Harini describes the lake restoration and her work with Lin to document this case in my film short film posted at http://ostromthestmovie.tumblr.com.
On March 28, we were grateful to have the opportunity to take a two-day expedition arranged by FES to Biligiriranga Hills (BR Hills), a hill range situated in southeastern Karnataka, at its border with Tamil Nadu (Erode District) in south India. At the 10-day mark on our 20-day trip, we were appreciative of a respite. We stayed for three days at the Biligiriranga Swamy Temple (BRT) Wildlife Sanctuary and Tiger Reserve where we filmed the wildlife (including a tiger) and forest conservation project as well as the villages and temple within the reserve.

From there, we travelled to Byraganahalli, a village in the Pallicerlu Gram Panchayat, Chikkaballapura district of Karnataka, India, where FES helped with forest restoration. Jagdeesh Rao accompanied us, and I felt honored to sit in a circle with village elders with whom Lin had met in 2012. They remembered her very fondly.

The Nepal portion of our visit was sponsored by International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), Asia Foundation-Nepal, and USAID. After landing in Kathmandu, Harini and I took a 20-minute flight into the Chitwan National Park to film community-managed forests and government managed forests. The 360 square miles of this landmark national park are comprised primarily of sal forests. The park is home to 50 mammal species including rhinoceros, tiger, elephant, and deer as well as 400 species of birds. There we met Birendra Karna of Forest Action Nepal and former Research Program Codirector at the Nepal Forest Resources and Institutions (IFRI-Nepal).

I interviewed Birendra about his work comparing community- and government-managed forests during times of military actions (civil war, insurgencies). I filmed Birendra and Harini discussing the past decade of Chitwan forest development at the site of Harini and Lin’s research, which was the basis for the PNAS article that she coauthored with Lin. After days of filming, Birendra introduced us to the ethnic food of the Tharu people, which was a special treat. Birendra did his graduate work with another Workshopper, Ganesh Shivakoti; Lin served as Birendra’s outside examiner for the dissertation.

The videographer who accompanied me unfortunately became ill and had to stay in Kathmandu where Workshopper, now Asia Foundation Nepal Country Representative, George Varughese, arranged for a car and driver to take him to film city life in Kathmandu. George, who finished his dissertation working with Lin on his own study of Nepali irrigation, also arranged for me to hire Bishnu Kalpit, a videographer in Nepal, to join me behind the camera. Bishnu is a wonderful videographer and journalist whose resume includes filming for Al-Jazeera’s award-winning documentaries, the BBC, and a dozen Nepali feature films. Bishnu has now become an invaluable member of our filming crew, and coincidentally will be in China when I, too, will be there to film Vincent and Lin's colleagues in Beijing, and will film the interviews with me.

On April 3, following a speedy jeep ride through the mountain passes out of the Chitwan Forest, Harini and I each spoke about our research at a gathering convened in honor of Elinor Ostrom at ICIMOD. I then interviewed: Prachanda Pradhan, who showed Lin his data on irrigation systems in the 1980s and helped start her on the track of considering how to craft irrigation institutions; Rucha Ghate, ICIMOD senior governance specialist and long-time friend of the Workshop and commons governance; and Mukanda Karmachar of Forest Action Nepal. We then traveled with Birendra Karna to villages in the terai to film the hill terraces that so intrigued Vincent and the irrigation systems that Lin studied. I will be posting clips from these interviews on our blog.

I am still raising money. We did wonderfully well with the Indiegogo campaign, raising $32,000. I am now working on the organizational sponsorship phase of fundraising. Currently, in addition to working with China colleagues seeking sponsors for the upcoming China trip, we are working with Keith Taylor to find sponsors from the broad community of cooperatives, many of whose leaders have called upon Lin and Vincent’s ideas. Recommendations for contacts are appreciated!

I look forward to seeing many of you in Bloomington at WOW5 in June.
A collection of artifacts donated to IU’s Mathers Museum of World Cultures (MMWC) by the late Elinor and Vincent Ostrom is currently featured in the exhibit “Ojibwe Public Art, Ostrom Private Lives.” The exhibit explores works by late twentieth-century Ojibwe artists of Manitoulin Island, Canada, collected by the Ostroms during the 1970s.

The gift to the museum led MMWC Director Jason Jackson, an Associate Professor of Folklore, to incorporate research and study of the collection into his graduate museum curatorship course. Research from that class led to curatorial studies and exhibition development by a team of graduate students: Dorothy Berry, a dual masters student in ethnomusicology and library science; Sara Clark, from the School of Education’s Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies; and Brian Forist, from the School of Public Health’s Department of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism.

In addition to the exhibition, the trio worked with museum staff members to schedule a number of related public programs, including a special presentation on “Spirit Island Renaissance: Ojibwe Artists, White Patrons, and the Manitoulin Cultural Revival” presented by Crystal Migwans (Wikwemikong Unceded First Nation), a recent graduate of Carleton University and currently a PhD student in Art History at Columbia University whose research explores the traditional arts of the Anishinaabeg within the context of colonization and resistance.

The exhibition will be at the MMWC through June 22, 2014, but an online exhibition is also being developed as part of the Ostrom project. The exhibitions and programs have been partially supported by the Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences Ostrom Grants Program.

The museum is located at 416 N. Indiana Avenue in Bloomington. Its exhibit halls and museum store are open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.* Tuesday through Friday, and 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and admission to the museum is free.

Free visitor parking is available by the Indiana Avenue lobby entrance. Metered parking is available at the McCalla School parking lot on the corner of Ninth Street and Indiana Avenue. The parking lot also has spaces designated for Indiana University C and E permits. During the weekends, free parking is available on the surrounding streets. An access ramp is located at the Fess Avenue entrance, on the corner of Ninth Street and Fess Avenue, and reserved parking spaces are available on Ninth Street, between Fess Avenue and Indiana Avenue.

* To accommodate WOW5 attendees, the exhibit will remain open until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18
Elinor Ostrom Prize Competition

A prize of £1000 is awarded each year for the best full-length article published in the Journal of Institutional Economics in the preceding calendar year. Each annual prize competition will be judged by an international committee of experts in the field of institutional research. The award is funded by the Foundation for European Economic Development (http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displaySpecialPage?pageId=5536). Approval to use the Ostrom name has been obtained from the IU Foundation.

The first Elinor Ostrom Prize will be awarded in 2014 for the best full-length article published in the Journal of Institutional Economics in 2013. The award will be made at the conference of the World Interdisciplinary Network for Institutional Research, Greenwich, London, UK, September 11–14, 2014.

Elinor Ostrom Award on Collective Governance of the Commons

The call for nominations is now open for IASC’s 2014–2015 Elinor Ostrom Award, which will be given in three categories: (1) practitioners (either formally or not formally constituted groups), (2) young scholars (with no more than ten years of having received their PhD), and (3) senior scholars (with more than ten years of having received their PhD). The call for nominations deadline is May 25, 2014. Information on the nomination, evaluation, and selection processes may be found on the website at: elinorstromaward.org.

Research Associate

The Center for the Governance of Natural Resources at the University of Colorado Boulder seeks a Research Associate (“postdoctoral researcher”) to conduct and support interdisciplinary research related to the local governance of two different collective goods in developing countries: forest ecosystems and public health systems. The Research Associate will work under the supervision of Professor Krister Andersson and will help coordinate the data collection campaigns in selected field sites in Latin America, design field protocols, develop data-analysis plans, and train field assistants. We are looking for colleagues with advanced skills in quantitative analysis, with preference for individuals who have experience in designing and conducting behavioral experiments (e.g., decision-making games) in rural field settings. Proficiency in Spanish is highly desirable. For more details, and to apply, please visit https://www.jobsatcu.com/postings/79454.

IASC’s 2nd Thematic Conference on Knowledge Commons: Governing Pooled Knowledge Resources will be hosted by NYU’s Engelberg Center on Innovation, Law and Policy on September 5–7, 2014 (http://iasckc.nyuengelberg.org/#about). Building upon the successful 2012 global thematic IASC conference on knowledge commons, this second conference aims to take stock of the latest developments in the interdisciplinary study of knowledge commons. This year’s program will highlight knowledge commons in the fields of medicine and the environment by devoting special paper tracks and policy sessions to those topics. Keynote lectures will be given by Yochai Benkler (Harvard Law School), Eric von Hippel (MIT Sloan School of Management), and Michael McGinnis (Political Science, Indiana University).
VISITORS

PETER HEYWOOD (Feb 1 – May 8) is Honorary Professor of International Health, University of Sydney, Australia. With training in epidemiology, policy analysis, economics, and nutrition, he has a strong background and experience in health policy and health sector reform in low-income countries with particular emphasis on South and Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Peter’s recent research activities include (1) an assessment of the effect of decentralization of the health sector in Indonesia on health service delivery, health sector funding and health outcomes funded by the Ford Foundation; (2) a systematic review of the effect of public and private funding of ambulatory care in low-income countries on quality of care; and (3) an institutional assessment of the HIV/AIDS control program in Indonesia.

IRENE INIESTA ARANDIA (Jan 10 – May 1) is a PhD candidate in Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Autonomous University, Madrid, Spain. Her work focuses on the interdisciplinary field of Sustainability Sciences with special emphasis on social-ecological systems, ecosystem services, and governance. She has conducted research in irrigation systems of the Sierra Nevada mountain range, in the semi-arid areas of Spain, focusing on understanding which are the main drivers of change currently affecting these systems and how building on local ecological knowledge and local institutions and organizations can contribute to cope with them. She is also interested and has conducted research in emerging urban green commons, especially in urban community gardens in Madrid.

EMILIA MELVILLE (Feb 3–21) is an EngD candidate at the University of Surrey with Buro Happold, based in Bath, in the UK. She holds a Masters of Engineering degree from the University of Cambridge. Emilia is interested in the potential to apply the IAD and SES frameworks to urban neighborhood electricity management, and is currently developing an action research methodology for this. She has a background as a sustainability consultant in Buro Happold, a multidisciplinary international engineering consultancy, and in social enterprise as a founding director of the Bristol Energy Cooperative.

MARIA BEATRICE VANNI (Mar 1 – Apr 12) is a PhD candidate in Administrative Law at the Università degli Studi di Milano. She holds a BA in Cultural Heritage-Archaeology, and a MA in Law from the same institution. Her graduate dissertation in Administrative Law dealt with museum goods, deaccessioning, and limits to the circulation of private property. Beatrice’s current research focuses on the commons, property and its history, property systems, and property protection: her doctoral thesis deals with the analysis of phenomena of communal ownership in a legal comparative and historical perspective, with the reception of the scholarship on the commons in the Italian legal culture and legislation, and with the possible reframing of a reform meant to introduce the commons among the Italian legal categories of goods.

Thank you to all of our new and long-time supporters who have made a contribution to the Tocqueville Fund! As of December 2013, the fund stands at $4.6 million. To quietly recognize donations, we designed an Ostrom Workshop coffee mug (pictured) that we are sending on a monthly basis to anyone who donates $100 or more to the Tocqueville Fund. Contributions can be made via the online “GIVE NOW” button on our website, or by sending a check (payable to Indiana University Foundation) to the Ostrom Workshop.

This book examines ethnic identity formation from the New Institutionalism and demonstrates institutional features of ethno-genesis in the world. Anyone interested in ethnic groups studies and ethnic identity issues would find this book of considerable interest.


Authors from the East African collaborative research centers of the International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) Research Program demonstrate that the institutional changes resulting from decentralization create costs for those who need to reinstitutionalize and reorganize the management of forest and land resources.


In this book, Hilton Root argues that international relations, like other complex ecosystems, exist in a constantly shifting landscape, in which hierarchical structures are giving way to systems of networked interdependence, changing every facet of global interaction.


This volume brings a set of key works by Elinor Ostrom, co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, together with those of Vincent Ostrom, one of the originators of Public Choice political economy. The two scholars introduce and expound their approaches and analytical perspectives on the study of institutions and governance.


The European Union’s Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) is the world’s largest carbon trading market. This book offers a new perspective on the EU ETS as a multilevel governance regime, in which the regulatory process is composed of three distinct “competences”—norm setting, implementation, and enforcement.


After defining the commons and describing the arguments of Hardin’s influential article and Elinor Ostrom’s more recent work on the commons, Wall offers historical case studies from the United States, England, India, and Mongolia. He examines the power of cultural norms to maintain the commons; political conflicts over the commons; and how commons have protected, or failed to protect ecosystems.


In this book, Wall critically examines Ostrom’s work, while also exploring the following questions: is it possible to combine insights rooted in methodological individualism with a theory that stresses collectivist solutions? Is Ostrom’s emphasis on largely local solutions to climate change relevant to a crisis propelled by global factors?
Articles


SPECIAL ISSUES:


Publius: The Journal of Federalism (Spring 2014). Elinor and Vincent Ostrom made important contributions to federalism scholarship in eleven articles published in Publius over a 20-year period. A virtual issue of Publius features these articles along with an overview of their scholarship by John Kincaid (http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/publ/pubj/virtual_issue_ostrom.html). Kincaid also served as editor of a special issue of Publius (Spring 2014) applying and reflecting on the Ostroms’ federalism scholarship. In this issue, noted scholars applied their theories and frameworks to cases including forestry in the Russian Federation, power sharing in Afghanistan, and civic engagement and fracking (http://publius.oxfordjournals.org/content/44/2.toc). Finally, John Kincaid, former editor of Publius, has written a blog posting on The Ostroms and federalism scholarship (https://blog.oup.com/2014/03/elinor-vincent-ostrom-federalists-for-all-seasons/).
In summer 2013, the Ostrom Workshop began making a video documentary related to the NSF-funded project “Institutional Dynamics of Adaptation to Climate Change: Longitudinal Analysis of Snowmelt-Dependent Agricultural Systems.”

The video documentary project’s goal is to describe water governance dynamics in the Upper Ewaso Ng’iro river basin in Kenya. In this area, there are multiple factors, such as population increase, hydro-climatic change, and conflicts among different users, that make water governance particularly important and challenging.

The video project has documented the research activity of Indiana and Princeton researchers in their data-gathering efforts and followed them in their day-to-day work among the community water projects and in collaboration with different stakeholders and community water projects’ representatives.

Jampel Dell’Angelo, a postdoc at the Ostrom Workshop, and his brother Matteo Dell’Angelo, a young emerging filmmaker, have trained some of the Kenyan research assistants and put together a small film crew who engaged in filming and interviewing for more than two weeks.

The main results of this video project will be a 25-minute documentary on how the interdisciplinary team of social scientists and ecohydrologists from Indiana and Princeton universities have conducted the research showing the different phases and dimensions involved in such an interdisciplinary effort. This documentary is enriched by interviews with different members and representatives from the community water projects.

Moreover, the video crew has developed, together with one of officers of the Likii River Water Resources Users Association, a script and filmed a 15-minute documentary on the activities and challenges of the association in governing water use in the area.

Some short video clips will be out soon, and possibly a premier of the two short documentaries will be organized during the WOW5 conference in June 2014.
Spring 2014

LIVE STREAMING: All Monday colloquia are now live streamed (depending on the agreement of presenters)
Presentations are broadcast at: http://www.indiana.edu/~video/stream/liveflash.html?filename=Workshop_Colloquium
Archive stream URLs are posted at: http://www.indiana.edu/~workshop/colloquia/colloquiumseries/index.php

COLLOQUIA

JAN 13 • Thomas Dietz, Department of Sociology, Michigan State University, “Science, Values and Decision-Making for Sustainability”

JAN 24 • James Piereson, Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, New York; and Leslie Lenkowsky, SPEA, IUB, “Inequality and American Capitalism”

JAN 27 • Stephen Aldrich, Department of Earth & Environmental Systems, Indiana State University, “Preemptive Deforestation and Land Occupation: Responsibility and Social Process Drivers of Deforestation in the Eastern Amazon”

FEB 3 • Alon Tal, Department of Biology, Stanford University, “Will the Environment Survive a Renewed Middle East Peace Process? A Blueprint for Progress”

FEB 5 • Andrea Lockhart, Department of Economics, IUB, “The Effects of Endowment Size, Heterogeneity and History in a Binary-Choice Experiment with Positive Spillovers”

FEB 7 • John Tomasi, Department of Political Science, Brown University; and Vasabjit Banerjee, Department of International Studies, IUB, “Free Market Fairness”

FEB 12 • Emilia Melville, Sustainability and Physics, Buro Happold Ltd., UK, “Community Management of Urban Electricity in the UK”

FEB 17 • Kris-Stella Trump, Department of Government, Harvard University, “The Status Quo and Perceptions of Fairness: How Income Inequality Influences Public Opinion”

FEB 24 • Gwen Arnold, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of California, Davis, “Natural Gas Shale Plays as Common-Pool Resources: Conceptualization and Implications”

FEB 26 • Justin Schon, Department of Political Science, IUB, “Surviving Conflict: How Foreign Intervention Affects Displacement Patterns”

FEB 28 • Isabela Mares, Department of Political Science, Columbia University, “‘From Open Secrets to Secret Voting’

MAR 3 • Zhao Ma, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University, “Climate Change Perception and Adaptation in the Context of Multiple Stressors: A Case Study of Smallholder Farmers in Northwest China”

MAR 5 • Irene Iniesta Arandia, Department of Ecology, Autonomous University of Madrid; Workshop Visiting Scholar, “Urban Green Commons for Social Transformation: The Case of Community Gardens in Madrid, Spain”

MAR 10 • Elizabeth King, Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia, “Social-Ecological Transitions and Vulnerability in an African Pastoralist System”

MAR 12 • Peter Heywood, Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney; Workshop Visiting Scholar, “Does It Help to See a National AIDS Commissions as a Commons?”

MAR 24 • Simanti Banerjee, Department of Economics, Oberlin College, “Participation and Spatial Coordination in Conservation Incentive Schemes: Role of Transaction Costs and Localized Communication”

MAR 26 • Christopher Weible, School of Public Affairs, University of Colorado Denver; David Carter, IUB; and Saba Siddiki, SPEA, IU-Purdue University, “Institutional Analysis of Policy Designs: Methods, Theories, and Illustrations”

MAR 27 • Gerd Gigerenzer, Center for Adaptive Behaviour and Cognition, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, Germany, “Rationality for Mortals”

MAR 31 • Emilio Moran, Center for Systems Integration and Sustainability, Michigan State University, “Building Cyberinfrastructure Capacity for the Social Sciences”


APR 7 • Michael Mattioli, Maurer School of Law, IUB, “Regulating Big Data Pools”

APR 9 • Maria Beatrice Vanni, Department of Italian and Supranational Public Law, University of Milan, “Understanding the Commons: The Reception of
Elinor Ostrom’s Work in Italian Law, Jurisprudence, and Scholarship”

APR 14 • John Stanfield, Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies, IUB, “The Possible Unraveling of Elite Utopian Dreaming: Rumblings In and Outside Post-Genocide Rwanda As An African Home Grown Democracy”

APR 18 • Peter Boettke, Mercatus Center; Department of Economics, George Mason University.
Roundtable panelists: Peter Boettke, Daniel Cole (Maurer School of Law, IUB), Michael McGinnis (Political Science, IUB), and Filippo Sabetti (Political Science, McGill University), “The Relevance of the Bloomington School”

This roundtable, organized by the Tocqueville Program (http://www.indiana.edu/~workshop/tocqueville/welcome.php), was the penultimate event in this year’s series on “Capitalism, Its Critics and Defenders,” cosponsored by CAHI, the Charles Koch Foundation, the Veritas Fund, the Ostrom Workshop, and the Department of Political Science. The event attracted a large audience. Professor Peter Boettke from George Mason gave a keynote presentation that situated the Ostroms’ works in the larger context of public choice (James Buchanan, Gordon Tullock), institutionalism (Douglas North), and classical liberalism (F. A. von Hayek). He received three responses from Filippo Sabetti (McGill), Mike McGinnis (IU), and Dan Cole (IU). They discussed recent developments such as technological change, the change in the relationship between federal power and state power, and asked how these developments challenge or reinforce some of the ideas of the Bloomington school.

APR 21 • Kathleen Morrison, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago, “Does Giving ‘Nature’ a History Redefine the Commons in India?”

APR 25 • Jeremy Jennings, Department of Political Economy, King’s College London, “Liberalism and the Morality of Commercial Society”

APR 28 • Michael Vandenbergh, Vanderbilt University School of Law, “Buying Time: The Private Governance Response to Climate Change”

Tree Planting on Park Avenue

Each spring, Burney Fischer’s Urban Forest Management class plants street (public) trees with Bloomington City Forester Lee Huss in a near-campus neighborhood. This is both an educational and real-life learning experience.

The 2014 tree planting location, which took place on Earth Day, was Park Avenue in front of the Ostrom Workshop with 13 new trees (elm, honey locust, oak) planted to refill the quite vacant tree lawn. The pictures show a few of the 45 urban forestry students planting the trees.
In the News

Maksim Barbashin, Laureate, All-Russian Contest for the Best Book in Caucasian Studies, and European Academy Contest for Young Scholars, 2013.

Joanna Broderick, Technical Editor/Publications Coordinator at CIPEC, retired on December 31, 2013, after 21 years of service at IU.

A new study coauthored by Eduardo Brondizio demonstrates that indigenous hunting with fire helps sustain Brazil’s savannas (http://news.indiana.edu/releases/iu/2013/12/indigenous-hunting-fire-sustains-savannas.shtml).


Daniel and Marci DeCaro welcomed their first baby boy, Lucian Luther DeCaro, on December 27, 2013.

In April, Ray Eliason was honored with a pin from IU for his 15 years of service.

Graham Epstein, Jessica Vogt, Sarah Mincey, Michael Cox, and Burney Fischer were presented the “2013 Ostrom Memorial Award for Most Innovative Paper of the Year” from the International Journal of the Commons for their paper, “Missing Ecology: Integrating Ecological Perspectives with the Social-Ecological System Framework.”

Tom Evans received a Mellon Short-Term Faculty Fellowship from IU’s OVPR for “Food Security and Agricultural Decision-Making in East and Southern Africa.”


Awardees of the Ostrom Workshop Faculty and Graduate Research Awards for Spring 2014 are: Travis Selmier (faculty); and graduate students: Jacob Bower-Bir (Political Science), Farzana Chowdhury (SPEA Public Affairs), Graham Epstein (SPEA/Political Science Joint Public Policy), Kirk Harris (Political Science), Sanchayan Nath (SPEA/Political Science Joint Public Policy), Justin Schon (Political Science), and Landon Yoder (Geography).


Filippo Sabetti was named a Senior Research Fellow by the Workshop Advisory Council in 2013. In addition, Sabetti’s Civilization and Self-Government: The Political Thought of Carlo Cattaneo, published in 2010, is now (2013) available in paperback from Lexington Books.

Scott Shackelford is a recipient of IU’s Outstanding Junior Faculty Awards for 2013–14 (http://news.indiana.edu/releases/iu/2014/03/outstanding-junior-faculty-awards.shtml). Scott was also awarded an IU Sustainability Course Development Fellowship for “Global Business Immersion: Sustainability in Australia and New Zealand” (http://news.indiana.edu/releases/iu/2014/04/sustainability-course-development-awards.shtml).

Check out the new Tocqueville Program website at: http://www.indiana.edu/~workshop/tocqueville/welcome.php.

Josephine van Zeben recently accepted a job offer at Worcester College Oxford, England, as a (five-year) Tutorial Fellow in Public and EU Law. She also has a newly published book (see page 8).

Hope to see you at WOW5!