

GLC Speaker Series
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energy for research/ research on energy

April 3rd

Marcy Schnitzer

Government and
International Affairs

Actually Existing Democracy and Energy Justice: The
Role of the Transnational Public Sphere

In 2005 and 2006 the Coalfields Delegation, a group of Appalachian citizens and activists, journeyed to the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development to protest the impact of mountaintop removal on their communities and livelihoods. In the process, they made connections with other international groups outside the United States facing similar environmental degradation due to mining and fossil fuel extraction. Energy extraction and production disproportionately benefit developed nations at the expense of smaller, lower income, and/or less developed regions. This cost in human life, health, and well-being is not reflected in the price of energy, and is generally accepted by energy consumers. This research explores the experiences of sub-national actors in seeking recognition and representation at the transnational level on the issue of just and sustainable energy practices.



Abstracts available at:
<http://www.glc.vt.edu/speakers.html>
Each 45 minute talk begins at 4:00 PM
in Room F of the Graduate Life Center
Coffee and Cookies Provided