Book Talk

Shocks, States, and Sustainability
The Origins of Radical Environmental Reforms
Thomas K. Rudel, Ph.D.

About the Book:
Rudel presents a theory of environmental reform, illustrated by cases from both rich and impoverished nations. He shows how destabilizing events that threaten the well-being of everyone—elites and commoners alike—are crucial to facilitate changes towards more sustainable practices. The book offers a comparative historical approach to emphasize that the dynamics of environmental change vary with the scale of the relevant political arenas.

Date: April 12th, 2019
Time: 4:00-5:30 pm
Location: George H. Cook Room
Cook Campus Center

Light refreshments to follow

Meet the Author
Thomas Rudel
Distinguished Professor Emeritus Rutgers University
Tom Rudel conducts research on land use change.
He has researched the driving forces behind tropical deforestation both through case studies in the Ecuadorian Amazon and through quantitative analyses at the global scale. The latter set of studies has included work on "the forest transition". He has also done research on the forces that have driven suburban sprawl, primarily through field studies in the northeastern United States.

Panelists
Rachael Shwom
Associate Professor Rutgers University
Rachael Shwom is a sociologist who is interested how different groups of people in society make sense of and respond to energy and climate change problems. Rachael conducts research that links sociology, psychology, engineering, economics, and public policy.

Karen O'Neill
Associate Professor
Karen O'Neill is a sociologist who studies how policies about land and water affect government power, the status of experts, and the well-being of various social groups. She has researched biodiversity protections in the urban plans of large cities around the world, local slow growth, as well as many other topics.