Great Decisions Global Discussions 2022
Know the World, then Change the World

Rescheduled to February 21
Conservation on Drugs: Challenges and Solutions
Dr. Jennifer Devine, Texas State University

The US-led War on Drugs in Latin America has created a cat and mouse game that pushes drug traffickers into remote areas. Drug traffickers finance illegal cattle ranching and oil palm cultivation in protected areas to legitimize their presence, claim smuggling territory, and to launder money. Dr. Devine's research team integrates remote sensing, GIS, and ethnographic methods to analyze drug trafficking's environmental impacts in Central America's protected areas.

Their research reveals that drug trafficking is a key driver of deforestation in Guatemalan and Honduran national parks. In the era of the Drug War Conservation, Indigenous and peasant community-resource management is the most viable conservation strategy: this approach simultaneously achieves environmental sustainability, improves security and governance, and serves as a means of social and environmental justice.

Dr. Devine is a critical human geographer and political ecologist who studies human-environmental relations, US - Central American politics, community resource management, grassroots social movements, global drug policy, and tourism and heritage management. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Texas State University.

In person and Livestreamed on YouTube
6 - 7:15 PM

Wisner-Botrall Applied Technology Center, GRCC campus (151 Fountain St. NE).
Free parking at the Bostwick parking lot. Campus map here.

Masks required for in-person attendees. Web program archived.

Public invited. $10 admission per discussion, $60 for a series pass.
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