

# JOURNALISM, SCIENCE, AND POLICY: COMMUNICATING RISK AND RELEVANCE

FEBRUARY 11, 2021  
10:30 to 12:00 PM EST  
ONLINE ZOOM WEBINAR

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**Ken Ward  
Jr.**

Journalist, Co-founder  
of *Mountain State  
Spotlight*, and  
MacArthur Fellow



**Deborah  
Blum**

Author, Journalist,  
Director of MIT  
Knight Science  
Journalism Program,  
and Co-founder of  
*Undark Magazine*



**Seth  
Siegel**

Entrepreneur, *New  
York Times*  
Bestselling Author,  
Water Policy  
Thought Leader

*A conversation with three leaders of  
journalism and water policy  
moderated by Professors Andrew  
Whelton and Caitlin Proctor*



## **Ken Ward, Jr.**



**@KenWardJr**

is a ProPublica reporter covering West Virginia. Previously, he was the longtime environmental and investigative reporter at The Charleston Gazette and Gazette-Mail. Ward has worked on a series about West Virginia's natural gas industry and on an investigation of the business empire of the state's governor. Ward is also co-founder of Mountain State Spotlight, a statewide nonprofit civic news organization. In 2018, he received a MacArthur Fellowship for "revealing the human and environmental toll of natural resource extraction in West Virginia and spurring greater accountability among private stakeholders." Mr. Ward is also three-time winner of the Scripps Howard Foundation's Edward J. Meeman Award for Environmental Reporting, the Livingston Award for Young Journalists, and an Investigative Reporters and Editors Medal for his work.

## **Deborah Blum**



**@DeborahBlum**

is a Pulitzer-prizewinning American science journalist, columnist, and author of six books, including *The Poison Squad* (2018), and *The Poisoner's Handbook* (2010). She is a former president of the National Association of Science Writers, was a member of the governing board of the World Federation of Science Writers, and currently serves on the board of advisors of the Council for the Advancement of Science Writing. Blum is co-editor of the book *A Field Guide for Science Writers*, and in 2015, she was selected as the fourth director of the Knight Science Journalism Program at MIT.

## **Seth Siegel**



**@SethMSiegel**

is a serial entrepreneur, *New York Times* bestselling author, and water policy thought leader. Seth is a campaigner for change in water policy in the US and around the world. He is also the author of the award-winning, international bestseller *Let There Be Water: Israel's Solution for a Water-Starved World*. Seth has been recognized for his thought leadership and advocacy on water scarcity and quality concerns. He is a Senior Fellow at the University of Wisconsin's Center for Water Policy and his commentary has appeared in many leading publications, including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*. Seth has spoken about water issues on four continents, has appeared in Congress, the United Nations, the World Bank, and Davos.



For questions please contact Professor  
Andrew Whelton at [awhelton@purdue.edu](mailto:awhelton@purdue.edu).

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