

KAREN T. LITFIN

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, 1992, Political Science
- M.A. University of Maryland, 1978, Government and Politics
- B.A. University of Maryland, College Park, 1977, Philosophy

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Professor, University of Washington, 2018-present.
Associate Professor, University of Washington, 1999-2018.
Visiting Research Professor, Space Policy Institute, The George Washington University, 1998.
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Washington, 1992-1998.
Visiting Lecturer, School of International Relations, University of Southern California, 1993.
Lecturer, University of Southern California, Department of Political Science, 1989.
Teaching Associate, Department of Political Science and University Honors Program, UCLA, 1985-1988.
Director, "The Fate of the Earth Project," Immaculate Heart College Center, 1983-1985.
Lecturer, Chapman College, Department of Political Science and Peace Studies Program, 1981-1982.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENT AND AFFILIATIONS

Department of Political Science, Arts & Sciences, 100% faculty appointment
Teaching Faculty, Program on the Environment, University of Washington, 1998-present.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to International Relations (undergraduate)
International Law (undergraduate and graduate)
International Relations Theory (graduate)
Global Environmental Politics (undergraduate and graduate)
Globalization and the Environment (graduate)
Introduction of Environmental Studies (undergraduate)
Introduction to Human Rights (undergraduate)
Political Ecology of the World Food System (undergraduate and graduate)
Technology and Politics (undergraduate)
Nature, Spirit, and Political Theory (undergraduate)
Feminist Perspectives on International Relations (graduate)
Person/Planet Politics (undergraduate)
Anthropocene Politics (undergraduate)

RELEVANT SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

Published Books

[*Ecovillages: Lessons for Sustainable Community*](#). Polity Press, 2014.

The Greening of Sovereignty in World Politics, editor. MIT Press, 1998.

Ozone Discourses: Science and Politics in International Environmental Cooperation. Columbia University Press, 1994.

Published Journal Articles

"The Contemplative Pause: Insights for Teaching Politics in Turbulent Times" *Journal of Political Science Education* (forthcoming).

"Towards an Integral Perspective on World Politics: Secularism, Sovereignty and the Challenge of Global Ecology" *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* (Summer 2003): 29-56.

"Environment, Wealth and Authority: Global Climate Change and Emerging Modes of Legitimation" *International Studies Review* (Summer 2001): 119-148.

"Advocacy Coalitions along the Domestic-Foreign Frontier: Globalization and Canadian Climate Change Policy." *Policy Studies Journal* 28,2 (Summer 2000): 236-254.

"Constructing Environmental Security and Ecological Interdependence." *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations* 5 (Autumn 1999): 359-377.

"The Status of the Statistical State: Satellites and the Changing Global Knowledge Structure" *Global Society: Interdisciplinary Journal of International Studies* 13,1 (Winter 1999): 95-116.

"Sovereignty in World Ecopolitics" *Merson Review of International Studies* 41, 2 (Autumn 1997): 167-204.

"The Gendered Eye in the Sky: Feminist Perspectives on Earth Observation Satellites" *Frontiers: Journal of Women Studies* Vol. XVIII, No. 2 (Autumn 1997): 26-47.

"Framing Science: Precautionary Discourse and the Ozone Treaties," *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 24,2 (Summer 1995): 251-277.

Book Chapters

"Localism, Sharing and Care," in Doris Fuchs, Anders Hayden, Agni Kalfagianni (eds.), *Handbook of Global Sustainability Governance*. Routledge, forthcoming.

"Gaia" in Noel Castree, Michael Hulme, James Proctor (eds.), *Companion to Environmental Studies*. Routledge, 2018.

“Make a Creative Response” with Michael Gillespie in Marie Eaton, Holly Hughes and Jean MacGregor (eds.), *Contemplative Approaches to Sustainability in Higher Education: Theory and Practice*. Routledge, 2017.

“Ecovillages and the Transition to Integral Community” in Sean Kelly, Sam Mickey and Adam Robbert, *Integral Ecologies: Nature, Culture, and Knowledge in the Planetary Era*. SUNY Press, 2017.

“Person/Planet Politics: Contemplative Pedagogies for a New Earth,” in Simon Nicholson and Sikhina Jinnah (eds.), *New Earth Politics: Essays from the Anthropocene*. MIT Press, 2016.

“What Are People For? Ontology and Sustainability in Ecovillage Culture,” in John M. Meyer and Jens Kersten (eds.), *The Greening of Everyday Life*. Oxford University Press, 2016.

“Gaia Theory, Ecovillages, and IR: Taking Material Limits Seriously” in Maximilian Mayer, Mariana Carpes and Ruth Knoblich (eds.) *The Global Politics of Science and Technology: Concepts from International Relations and Other Disciplines*. Springer, 2014.

“Localism” in Carl Death (ed.), *Critical Environmental Politics*. Routledge, 2013.

“Thinking Like a Planet: Integrating the World Food System into the Earth System,” in Peter Dauvergne (ed.), *International Handbook of Environmental Politics, 2nd edition*. Edward Elgar, 2012.

“A Whole New Way of Life: Ecovillages and the Revitalization of Deep Community” in Ray De Young and Thomas Princen (eds.), *Localization: A Transition Reader Adapting to a World with Less Material, More Time*. MIT Press, 2011.

“The Sacred and the Profane in the Ecological Politics of Sacrifice” in Michael Maniates and John Meyer (eds.), *The Environmental Politics of Sacrifice*. MIT Press, 2010.

“Reinventing the Future: The Global Ecovillage Movement as a Holistic Knowledge Community,” in Gabriela Kütting and Ronnie Lipschutz (eds.), *Environmental Governance: Knowledge and Power in a Local-Global World*. Routledge, 2009.

“Gaia Theory and the Greening of Global Political Culture,” in Eileen Crist and Bruce Rinker (eds.), *Gaia in Turmoil: Climate Change, Biodepletion, and Earth Ethics in an Age of Crisis*. MIT Press, 2009.

“Planetary Politics” in John Agnew, Katharyne Mitchell, and Garard Toal (eds.), *A Companion to Political Geography*. Blackwell, 2007.

“Gaia Theory: Intimations for Global Environmental Politics” in Peter Dauvergne (ed.), *International Handbook of Environmental Politics* Edward Elgar, 2004.

“Public Eyes: Satellite Imagery, the Globalization of Transparency, and New Networks of Surveillance.” in J. P. Singh and James Rosenau (eds.), *Information Technology and Global Politics: The Scope of Power and Governance*. SUNY Press, 2002: 65-90.

"The Globalization of Transparency: The Use of Commercial Satellite Imagery by Nongovernmental Organizations" in John C. Baker, Kevin M. O'Connell, and Ray A. Williamson, *Commercial Observation Satellites: At the Leading Edge of Global Transparency*. Rand Corporation and American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, 2001: 463-484.

"Environmental Security in the Coming Century" in John A. Hall and T.V. Paul (eds.), *International Order and the Future of World Politics*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.

"The Global Gaze: Environmental Remote Sensing, Epistemic Authority, and the Territorial State" in Martin Hewson and Timothy Sinclair (eds.), *Approaches to Global Governance Theory*. SUNY Press, 1999.

"The Greening of Sovereignty: An Introduction" in Karen Litfin (ed.), *The Greening of Sovereignty in World Politics*. MIT Press, 1998.

"Satellites and Sovereign Knowledge: Remote Sensing and the Global Environment" in Karen Litfin (ed.), *The Greening of Sovereignty in World Politics*. MIT Press, 1998.

"Eco-regimes: Playing Tug of War with the Nation-State," in Ronnie D. Lipschutz and Ken Conca (eds.), *The State and Social Power in Global Environmental Politics*. Columbia University Press, 1993.

SELECTED ONLINE RESOURCES

[Ecovillages Around the World](#), companion website to the book.

[Seed Communities: Ecovillage Experiments Around the World](#), companion video to the book.

[Ecovillages: Leading Edge of Sustainability](#)

Sustainable Today, "[On Ecovillages, Part One](#)" and [Part Two](#)

[Ecovillages Take Root in Africa](#)

REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

International Studies Review (Fall 2005). Review of Sheila Jasanoff and Marybeth Martello (eds.) *Earthly Politics*. (MIT Press, 2004).

Global Environmental Politics 1,1 (February 2001): 155-157. Review of Nicholas Low and Brendan Gleeson, *Justice, Society and Nature: An exploration of political ecology* (Routledge, 2000.)

"Environment, Security, and Internationalization," *MacArthur Foundation Newsletter* (May

1997). Review of Miranda Schreurs and Elizabeth Economy (eds.), *The Internationalization of Environmental Protection* (Cambridge University Press); Thomas Homer-Dixon, "On the Threshold: Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict" and "Environmental Scarcities and Violent Conflict: Evidence from Cases" (*International Security*); Cecelia Albin, "The Global Security to Negotiation: Toward the New Agenda" (*American Behavioral Scientist*)

"Up in the Air: Dynamic Regimes for the Global Atmosphere," *Mershon Review of International Studies* 40, 2 (October 1996): 279-283. Review of Thomas Gehring, *Dynamic International Regimes: Institutions for International Environmental Governance* (Peter Lang) and Ian Rowlands, *The Politics of Global Atmospheric Change* (Manchester University Press).

"Women and Ecology: Making the Connections," *Women and Politics* 17,1 (Winter 1997): 104-109. Review of Joni Seager, *Earth Follies: Coming to Feminist Terms with the Global Environment* (Routledge); Maria Mies and Vandana Shiva, *Ecofeminism* (Zed Books); Wendy Harcourt (ed.), *Feminist Perspectives on Sustainable Development* (Zed); Rosi Braidotti, Ewa Charkiewicz, Sabine Hausler, and Saski Wieringa, *Women, the Environment and Sustainable Development* (Zed).

American Political Science Review 90,3 (Winter 1996): 695-697. Review of Frank Fischer and Michael Black (eds.), *Greening Environmental Policy* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995) and Ian Rowlands, *The Politics of Global Atmospheric Change* (Manchester University Press, 1994).

Millennium: Journal of International Studies 25,1 (Spring 1996): 222-224. Review of Ian Rowlands, *The Politics of Global Atmospheric Change*.

The Ecologist (October 1995). Review of Irene Diamond, *Fertile Ground: Women, Earth and the Limits of Control* (Beacon Press, 1994).

Women and Politics 14,1 (Winter 1994): 109-110. Review of Rebecca Grant and Kathleen Newland (eds.), *Gender and International Relations* (Indiana University Press, 1991).

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Varenius Initiative Seed Grant, "Information Control and Satellite Imagery in Humanitarian Emergencies" (\$1,200), 1999.

National Science Foundation, "The Global Gaze: Earth Observing Satellites and the Changing International Knowledge Structure," Grant #9720475 (\$44,427), 1998.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory/U.S. Department of Energy, Associated Western Universities Faculty Fellowship, "Remote Sensing for Nuclear Nonproliferation and Environmental Security" (\$25,000), Summer 1997.

Social Science Research Council, MacArthur Program in International Peace and Security, Research Workshop Grant (\$5,500), 1995.

American Fellowship, American Association of University Women, 1990-1991.

Dissertation Fellowship, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, 1989-1991.

Summer Fellowship, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, 1986.

"The Fate of the Earth: Human Values in the Nuclear Age," California Humanities Council and Immaculate Heart College Center (\$100,000), 1983-1985.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Sprout Award (runner-up) for *Ozone Discourses*, International Studies Association award for best book on international environmental issues, 1995.

Sprout Award (runner-up) for *The Greening of Sovereignty*, International Studies Association award for best book on international environmental issues, 1999.

Orange County Woman of the Year, 1982.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Commencement Addresses

Program on the Environment, University of Washington, June 2015.

College Eight, University of California, Santa Cruz, June 2014.

Professional Conference Papers

"Beyond Solipsism: From Contemplative Practice to Micro-Laboratories for Deliberative Democracy," presented at the International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, 5-8 April 2018.

"Person/Planet Politics: Contemplative Pedagogies for Turbulent Times," presented at the Western Political Science Association, Vancouver, BC, 13-15 April 2017.

"Contemplating the Anthropocene: Pedagogical Practices for a New Earth" presented at the Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, America University, 8-11 June 2016.

"New Earth Teaching," "Living in Eairth" and "Who Am I in a Changing Climate" presented at Association for the Contemplative Mind in Higher Education, University of Washington, 17-19 October 2014.

"What Are People For? Ontology and Sustainability in Ecovillage Culture," presented at the workshop on "The Greening of Everyday Life" (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, July 2014).

Two papers at 2014 International Studies Association, Toronto: "Global Environmental Politics" An Integral Narrative" and "Pedagogies for a New Earth"

Two Roundtables: "Science, Technology and International Relations" and "How, then, shall we live in the Anthropocene?"

WPSA 2014, Seattle: "The 'I' Factor: Information, Intersubjectivity and Subjectivity in Ecovillage Culture"

"Ecology, Economics, Community, Consciousness in Ecovillages: Integrative Approaches to Sustainability" Prepared for the Climate, Mind and Behavior Symposium, The Garrison Institute, New York, June 10-12, 2013

"Ecology, Economics, Community, Consciousness in Ecovillages: Integrative Approaches to Sustainability" Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative, Clark University, Worcester, MA, June 12-14, 2013.

"Ecology, Economics, Community, Consciousness in Ecovillages: Integrative Approaches to Sustainability" Annual meeting of the Association of Environmental Studies & Sciences, Duquesne University, June 19-22, 2013.

"From Me to We to Thee: Ecovillages and the Transition to Integral Community" International Communal Studies Association, Findhorn, Scotland, June 26-28, 2013.

"Living the Change: Learning from Ecovillages Around the World," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Environmental Sciences and Studies in Portland, June 17-21, 2010.

"Systems Theory in the Global Ecovillage Movement," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Communal Studies Association in Aurora, OR, October 1-4, 2009.

"A Whole New Way of Life: Systems Theory in the Global Ecovillage Movement," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, April 1-3, 2010.

"Beyond Kyoto: Nonstate Actors and the Climate Change Policy Gap." Paper presented at the University of Otago Foreign Policy School, New Zealand, June 21-24, 2007.

"The Global Ecovillage Movement as a Pragmatic Systems Approach to the Global Problematique," Paper presented at a conference on "Knowledge Communities in Environmental Science and Politics," Rutgers University, May 4-5, 2006.

"Articulating the Sacred in the Politics of Sacrifice," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, San Diego, March 22-25, 2006.

"Gaian Politics: Implications of the New Science for World Politics." Public talk presented at the National Academy of Sciences Conference, "Issues in a Transboundary World" at University of California Irvine, October 28-30, 2004.

"Secularism and the Challenge of Global Ecology: Towards a New Story." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, New Orleans, March 24-27, 2002.

"Secularism and Sovereignty: Towards an Integral Approach." Paper presented at the Joint Workshop Sessions of the European Consortium on Political Research, Grenoble, France, April 7-12,

2001.

"The Globalization of Transparency: The Use of Commercial Satellite Imagery by NGOs" presented at the RAND Corporation workshop, "Commercial Observation Satellites: At the Leading Edge of Global Transparency," October 21-22, 1999.

"Environment, Wealth, and Authority: Global Climate Change and Emerging Modes of Legitimation," Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Washington, D.C., February 18-20, 1999.

"Public Eyes: Satellite Imagery, the Globalization of Transparency, and New Networks of Surveillance," Paper presented at a workshop on "Information, Power and Globalization" at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, September 2, 1998.

"Secret No More: NGOs and Satellite Imagery," paper presented at "Security Implications of Commercial Remote Sensing Satellites," a workshop sponsored by the Space Policy Institute and the U.S. Institute of Peace, May 7-8, 1998.

"Conceptualizing Technological Change and World Politics: A Constructivist Synthesis Highlighting Remote-Sensing Satellites and the Globalization of Transparency," paper delivered to the annual meeting of the International Studies Association, Minneapolis, March 18-22, 1998.

"Digital Planet: NGOs and New Applications of Satellite Imagery," paper for "Information, Power, and Globalization," a workshop sponsored by the University of Mississippi, January 24-25, 1998.

"Environmental Security as an Ambiguous Symbol," paper delivered to the Conference on International Order in the 21st Century, McGill University, May 16-17, 1997.

"The Status of the Statistical State: Satellites, Epistemic Sovereignty, and the Global Knowledge Structure," paper delivered to the annual meeting of the International Studies Association, Toronto, March 19-22, 1997.

"Satellites, Sovereignty, and the Global Knowledge Structure," paper delivered to the Workshop on Satellites and Surveillance, University of British Columbia, July 12-14, 1996.

"The Global Gaze: Science, Satellites, and Sovereignty," paper delivered to the annual meeting of the International Studies Association, San Diego, CA, April 1996.

"Watching the Earth: An Inquiry into Global Environmental Monitoring," paper delivered to the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, New York, NY, September 1-4, 1995.

"Transnational Scientific Networks and the Global Environment," paper delivered to the annual meeting of the International Studies Association-West, Los Angeles, 1991.

"Power, Knowledge and Ozone Politics," paper delivered to annual meeting of the International Studies Association, Vancouver, B.C., March 16-20, 1991.

"Are Environmental Regimes Different?" paper delivered at the Workshop of Global Resources and the Environment, University of California at Berkeley, 1990.

Invited University and Public Lectures

“Becoming Planetary: Learning to Reconnect in the Anthropocene,” Gonzaga University, March 22, 2022.

“Ecovillages Around the World,” World Issues Forum, Western Washington University, May 16, 2018.

“Becoming Planetary: New Possibilities at the Dawn of the Anthropocene,” TEDxUW, May 5, 2018.

“Assessing the Value of Contemplative Education,” Centre for Teaching and Learning, Yale/National University of Singapore, March 2018.

“Ecovillages Around the World,” Environmental Studies, Yale/NUS, 7 March 2018.

“Planetary Politics,” Distinguished Anthropocene Lecture, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies and Max Planck Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Potsdam, December 2017.

“From Planetary Boundaries to Planetary Politics: Linking the Personal to the Global” Technical University of Darmstadt (Germany), June 21, 2016.

“Person/Planet Politics: Pedagogies for the Anthropocene” Free University of Berlin, June 14, 2016.

“Ecovillages: Lessons for Sustainable Community” at Free University of Berlin, LMU Munich, University of Muenster, University of Bonn, House of Democracy and Human Rights in Berlin, July 2014.

“Ecovillages: Lessons for Sustainable Community.” Book talk given in 26 different US cities and universities, including Evergreen State College, Portland State University, University of Oregon, Willamette University, Humboldt State University, University of California at Davis, University of California at Berkeley, California Institute for Integral Studies, University of California at Santa Cruz, Cal Polytechnic University, University of California at Irvine, University of San Diego. Winter 2014.

“Ecovillages: Global Lessons for Local Sustainability” University and public lecture, UNC-Greensboro Ashby Dialogues, October 2014.

“Ecovillages: Lessons for Sustainable Community,” large public lecture at the House of Democracy and Human Rights (translated into German), Berlin, July 2014.

“Ways of Living for the Long Haul in a Changing World,” The Whidbey Institute, May 8, 2014.

“E2C2 in Ecovillages: Integrating Ecology, Economics, Community and Consciousness,” public lecture and slide presentation delivered at over 30 universities in the U.S. and Europe, January 2014-present.

“Global Atmospheric Governance: Lessons from the ozone treaties,” Department of Science and Technology Studies, Cornell University, September 25, 2007.

“Precautionary Action under Scientific Uncertainty: Climate Lessons from the Montreal Protocol,” Department of State, U.S. Embassy, Wellington, New Zealand, June 20, 2007.

“Changing Climate, Uncertain Future: Facing Global Warming,” Program in Science and Technology Studies, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, November 2-3, 2006.

"Feminist Readings of Global Ecology," Institute of International Studies, University of California, Berkeley, May 14, 2002.

"The Gendered Eye in the Sky: Feminist Readings of Earth Observation Satellites," co-sponsored by the Gender, Justice and Environmental Change Program and the Basic Science and Remote Sensing Initiative, Michigan State University, November 19, 1999.

"Democratizing Surveillance: NGO Applications of Satellite Imagery," Department of Political Science, Purdue University, November 22, 1999.

"From Science to Global Policy: The Case of the Ozone Treaties," Environmental Studies Program, University of Southern California, April 10, 1997.

"Environmental Ethics and Sustainable Development," public lecture at Peninsula Community College, Port Angeles, WA, March 1994.

"Environmental Security: The Agenda for the 90s," public lecture tour of seven cities in New Zealand, sponsored by New Zealand Institute for International Affairs, Department of Conservation, and New Zealand Foundation for Peace Studies, May 1993.

Keynote Addresses

"Ecovillages Around the World: Integrating Ecology, Economics, Community and Consciousness," Keynote address for conference on "Organic Marxism and Ecological Civilization," Jiangsu University, China, July 11-12, 2015.

"Western Cultural Attitudes Towards the Environment," Keynote Address, Conference on Cultural Attitudes about Environment and Ecology, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the University of Washington, Seattle, January 16-17, 1998.

"The United Nations and Global Ecology," Keynote address for conference on "The U.N. at 50," Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, January 17, 1996.

Faculty Education

Faculty workshop, "Contemplative Pedagogies for Personal and Social Resilience," Gonzaga University, March 21, 2022.

Senior faculty, "Teaching in an Age of Climate Consequences," sponsored by the Cascadia Climate Collaborative, a learning community for faculty and activists, November 10-12, 2016.

Core member, Contemplative Sustainability Education faculty learning community associated with Curriculum for the Bioregion, 2009-present.

Core faculty, "Contemplative Environmental Studies: Pedagogy for Self and Planet," an experiential workshop for instructors in higher education at Lama Foundation, New Mexico, July 26-August, 2015.

Other Professional Activities

Core member, Contemplative Studies faculty learning community, Curriculum for the Bioregion, 2009-present.

Active member, Environmental Studies Section, International Studies Association, 1994-present.

Editorial Board and Review Editor, *Global Environmental Politics*, 1998-2015.

Advisory Board, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 1997-2006.

Member, Environmental Political Theory Section, Western Political Science Association, 2012-present

Executive Committee, Environmental Studies Section, International Studies Association, 1997-99.

Junior Scholar Award Committee, Environmental Studies Section, International Studies Association, 1997-99.

Committee Member, Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, University of Louisville, 1998, 2000.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, Undergraduate Program Committee, Department of Political Science, University of Washington, 2000-present.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Member, UW Conversation on Wellbeing, convened by UW Resilience Lab, 2017-18.

Member, Sustainability Across the Curriculum Task Force, 2014-2016.

Member, UW Environmental Stewardship Committee, 2014-2016.

Member, Program on the Environment Advisory Board, 2010-present.