

Democratizing Our Economy through Local Economic Innovation

October 4 & 19, November 1
Northern Illinois University-DeKalb, IL



- Dates: 10/4, 10/19, 11/1
- Time: 10:00 am—12:00 pm. Optional afternoon session from 1:30-3:00 on 10/19.
- Location: Board Room (Room 350), Altgeld Hall, NIU Campus, DeKalb, IL
- The series is free but registration is required. Attendance will be capped when venue is full. Register at cgs.niu.edu.

For questions contact
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Much of the economic growth of the past three decades disproportionately benefitted a small group at the top. This Distinguished Speaker Series focuses on developing a more equitable economy through place-based initiatives. Inspired by *What Then Must We Do?* by Gar Alperovitz, each session will challenge the audience to develop new approaches to strengthen their communities.

The Center for Governmental Studies, within NIU's Division of Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development, and PASCAL Observatory are pleased to bring the following three discussions to the community.

◆ *October 4: The Next American Revolution*

Gar Alperovitz's provocative thoughts regarding transformative economic change speak to our chaotic political climate. We will view his film on democratizing wealth and building a community sustaining economy from the ground up. A live discussion with the author via Skype will follow, providing an opportunity to ask questions, relate the ideas to our communities, and discuss implications for the upcoming election.

◆ *October 19: Growing a Place-Based Economy*

In the morning, Scott Struchen and his partners discuss how he developed Tangled Roots Brewing Company as well as a hops farm, microbrewery and restaurant in Ottawa, Illinois. Each celebrates local fare and capitalizes on regional assets. Optional afternoon program from 1:30-3:00 discusses using Community Supported Enterprises to finance new businesses.

◆ *Nov. 1: Engaging Institutions in Sustainable Economies*

Leodis Scott of Columbia Teachers College, New York facilitates a panel discussion on how institutions of higher education, healthcare and finance can transform to better support local economic innovation.

Faculty, staff, students and interested individuals are encouraged to attend all three events as each discussion builds on the previous. However, you are welcome to attend fewer if you prefer. There is no charge but registration is required.

To register, go to upcoming events at cgs.niu.edu



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