

CALL FOR BOOK PROPOSALS

POLYCENTRICITY

Studies in Institutional Diversity and Voluntary Governance

Publisher: Lexington Books

Series Editors: Lenore T. Ealy & Paul Dragos Aligica

This interdisciplinary series will explore the varieties of social institutions, processes, and patterns of governance that emerge through individuals' coordination, cooperation and competition in governance systems based on freedom of choice, freedom of exchange, and freedom of association. Under conditions of relative freedom of association, human diversity leads to institutional diversity and polycentric structures. In contrast to monocentric, unitary, and hierarchical command and control systems, polycentric social systems are comprised of many decision centers interacting freely under an overarching set of common rules.

First introduced by Michael Polanyi as a descriptive and normative feature of free societies and further elaborated by the Nobel Prize in Economics recipient Elinor Ostrom and public choice political economy co-founder Vincent Ostrom, the notion of polycentricity has proven itself able to offer a powerful analytical framework expanding our understanding of the operation of governance regimes, constitutional federalism, law, public administration, private ordering, civics and citizenship, subsidiarity, nonprofit organization, cultural pluralism, civil society and entrepreneurship.

Studies in this series will refine the conceptual framework of polycentricity and its governance theory implications, while expanding their application in the study of what Alexis de Tocqueville called the art and science of association. These studies should be of interest to scholars, policymakers, executives, social entrepreneurs, and citizens working to devise ways of living together harmoniously in civil societies.

We welcome proposals for books of sole or joint authorship as well as proposals for edited collections. If you are interested in submitting a volume to the series, the first step is to contact Lenore Ealy (lenore.ealy@tpeinc.org) with a brief description of the project you would like to propose. The series editors will review the proposed project, in consultation with select editorial advisory board members, and will inform you whether you should send a full proposal.

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