

# Invitation to Durban

## Ethnography and the Politics of Climate Activism at COP17



Richard Widick holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he lectured on theory, culture, media, globalization, social movements and environment. In new research aimed at further integrating global studies and cultural sociology with environmental theory, Widick extends his analysis of modern social imaginaries from his recent book *Trouble in the Forest: California's Redwood Timber Wars* (University of Minnesota Press, 2009) in a series of essays on "Dangerous Places: Ethnography at the Global Convergence of Peoples, Labor, and Environmental Movements."

In this talk, Widick introduces his new research (in collaboration with Professor John Foran, Sociology, UCSB) on international climate activism and discusses its basis in previous writings on California's Redwood Timber Wars (*Trouble in the Forest*, U. of Minnesota Press, 2009) and "modern social imaginaries" ("What is Driving our Modern Social Imaginaries," *Perspectives* 31:2, 2009). At issue will be the relationship between the UNFCCC process of international climate change negotiations and the convergence of peoples, labor and environmental movements in emergent global civil society, as it plays out at the 17th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be convened in Durban, South Africa, Nov. 28 - Dec. 9, 2011.

**Thursday, May 19th**

**12pm - 1pm**

**Orfalea Center Seminar Room**

**1005 Robertson Gym**



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