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Democratic Professionalism: Civic Task Sharing in Domains of Hidden Authority

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Rene Magritte, *Golconde*, 1953

**Professor
Albert Dzur**

**Democratic
Professionalism:
Civic Task Sharing
in Domains of
Hidden Authority**

Thursday, March 31
at 2:30 p.m.
Sky Bank Room (201B),
BTSU

How can ordinary citizens contribute to professional practices in law, medicine and journalism?

Do professionals in these fields owe anything more to public life than being skilled experts?

How might democratic values be integrated into the study of professional ethics?

In this talk, BGSU professor Albert Dzur presents a theory of democratic professionalism that explains how a number of key professions have civic roles to play in contemporary democracy. Illustrations drawn from three reform movements within professions -- the public journalism, bioethics, and restorative justice movements -- show ways in which professionals can enable citizen participation within their spheres of professional authority. In so doing, Professor Dzur argues, professionals might have a hand in helping reverse current trends of diminished trust, efficacy, and participation in American democracy.

Dr. Albert Dzur is Assistant Professor of Political Science at BGSU. His research and teaching focus on political theory, with special emphasis on theories of democracy and issues in ethics and policy. Currently a fellow at ICS, his recent work appears in journals such as *Law & Society Review*; *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*; *Criminal Justice Ethics*; *Policy Sciences*; *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*; and *Political Research Quarterly*.

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