

Aerospace/CIRES/CSTPR/ESOC Seminar



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Open Data: The Global Effort for Open Access to Environmental Satellite Data

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Abstract: Understanding and addressing environmental challenges, including climate change, requires access to accurate data from many sources. In some cases, government agencies that operate Earth observing satellites have been leaders in this regard - making their data freely available to all users. In fact, some of the earliest references to "open data" can be traced back to early government satellite projects. However, many governments continue to restrict access to their unclassified Earth observing satellite data, and even those that now make their data freely available did not always do so. *Open Data: The Global Effort for Open Access to Environmental Satellite Data* examines how government agencies developed data sharing policies for their Earth observation satellites and how these data sharing policies changed over time.

Bio: Mariel Borowitz is an Assistant Professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at Georgia Tech. Her research deals with international space policy issues, primarily international cooperation in Earth observing satellites and satellite data sharing policies. Her research interests extend to human space exploration strategy and developments in space security and space situational awareness. Dr. Borowitz earned a PhD in Public Policy at the University of Maryland and a Master's degree in International Science and Technology Policy from the George Washington University. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she also earned a minor in Applied International Studies. Dr. Borowitz was on detail at NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC from 2016 to 2018.