

\*\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*\*

**For Immediate release:** February 10, 2015

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**Scientist-Authors,  
Sandra Steingraber, Michelle Bamberger and Robert Oswald  
To Speak at “Beyond the Ban” Event in Ithaca  
on Thursday, February 26, 2015 from 7 – 9 pm**

**Event Title:** *Beyond the Ban: Fracking, Health & Infrastructure in New York State from Port Ambrose to Seneca Lake*

**Time and Place:** Thursday, February 26, 2015 from 7 – 9 pm, in the Sanctuary at the First Baptist Church, 309 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY (Entrance located in the back corner of Dewitt Park). Doors open at 6:45 pm.

**Speakers:** *Sandra Steingraber* (author of “Raising Elijah” and “Living Downstream”, and Distinguished Scholar in Residence at Ithaca College) will join veterinarian *Michelle Bamberger* and Cornell professor of molecular medicine *Robert Oswald*, authors of “The Real Cost of Fracking.”

**More about this Event:** High volume hydraulic fracturing (fracking) has been shown to pose threats to human health and environment. Because of such concerns, the DEC promises to prohibit high volume hydraulic fracturing in New York State. This would be a courageous act by Governor Cuomo—but even with a ban in place there would remain many questions. What of the risks faced by many New Yorkers from pipelines, compressor stations, gas storage caverns and export terminals? If this infrastructure continues its rapid expansion across our state, what are the potential impacts to people, animals and the New York food shed? What is the current status of each project? The Beyond the Ban event will provide an update on these and other crucial issues.

Buffalo Street Books will be selling books written by the speakers at the event.

Local non-profits [The Bioscience Resource Project](#) and the [Community Science Institute](#) will have information tables at the event.

**Host/Organizer:** The Bioscience Resource Project (Publisher of *Independent Science News*) is organizing this event. The Bioscience Resource Project is a registered 501( c ) 3 educational non-profit based in Ithaca, NY. The Project’s aim is to provide the highest quality scientific information and analysis to enable a healthy food system and a healthy world. Through our research, events and publication of *Independent Science News*, we support public interest scientists and enable their work to reach a wide audience.

**Quote from Science Director of the Bioscience Resource Project, Dr. Allison Wilson:**  
“This exciting event will feature updates from groundbreaking scientists and eloquent speakers.”

**Bioscience Resource Project Event Post:**

<http://www.bioscienceresource.org/2015/01/steingraber-bamberger-oswald-beyond-the-ban/>

**Bioscience Resource Project Facebook Event Page**  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1557141494528970/>

### **Background Information on Speakers**

**Sandra Steingraber** is a celebrated author, researcher and teacher. Her work focuses on human-made environmental toxins, their effects and what can be done about them. In her writing and her talks, she describes current health and environmental crises with eloquence and clarity. She empowers her audience to take action – to protect the environment so as to protect their families, communities and the future. She is recognized as an expert “two-way translator” between scientists and the public. As a consequence, she is frequently asked to give public talks and to lecture at medical schools, hospitals, and universities. Dr. Steingraber has also been asked to be the keynote speaker at conferences on human health and the environment throughout the United States and Canada.

Called “a poet with a knife” by *Sojourner* magazine, Dr. Steingraber has received many honors for her work as a science writer, including, in 2011, a Heinz Award. By donating the cash prize to the anti-fracking movement, she became, in 2012, the co-founder of New Yorkers Against Fracking, a statewide coalition of more than 280 grassroots organizations.

**Best Known Books:**

*Living Downstream: An Ecologist Looks At Cancer and the Environment* (1997)

*Having Faith: An Ecologist’s Journey to Motherhood* (2001)

*Raising Elijah: Protecting Our Children in an Age of Environmental Crisis* (2011)

Distinguished Scholar in Residence  
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**Michelle Bamberger** is a veterinarian in private practice and a researcher who investigates the links between animal health and unconventional fossil fuel extraction. Dr. Bamberger received her DVM from Cornell University and her MS from Hahnemann University Medical College. She serves on the advisory board of Physicians, Scientists, and Engineers for Healthy Energy, and is the coauthor of *The Real Cost of Fracking: How America's Shale Gas Boom Is Threatening Our Families, Pets and Food*.

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**Robert Oswald** is a Professor of Molecular Medicine at Cornell University. Dr. Oswald received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in Biochemistry and did postdoctoral studies at the Institute Pasteur in Paris. He has received Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowships. His work on the effects of drugs and toxins on the structure and function of central nervous system proteins has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the American Cancer Society. He serves on the advisory board of Physicians, Scientists, and Engineers for Healthy Energy, and is the coauthor of *The Real Cost of Fracking: How America's Shale Gas Boom Is Threatening Our Families, Pets and Food*.

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