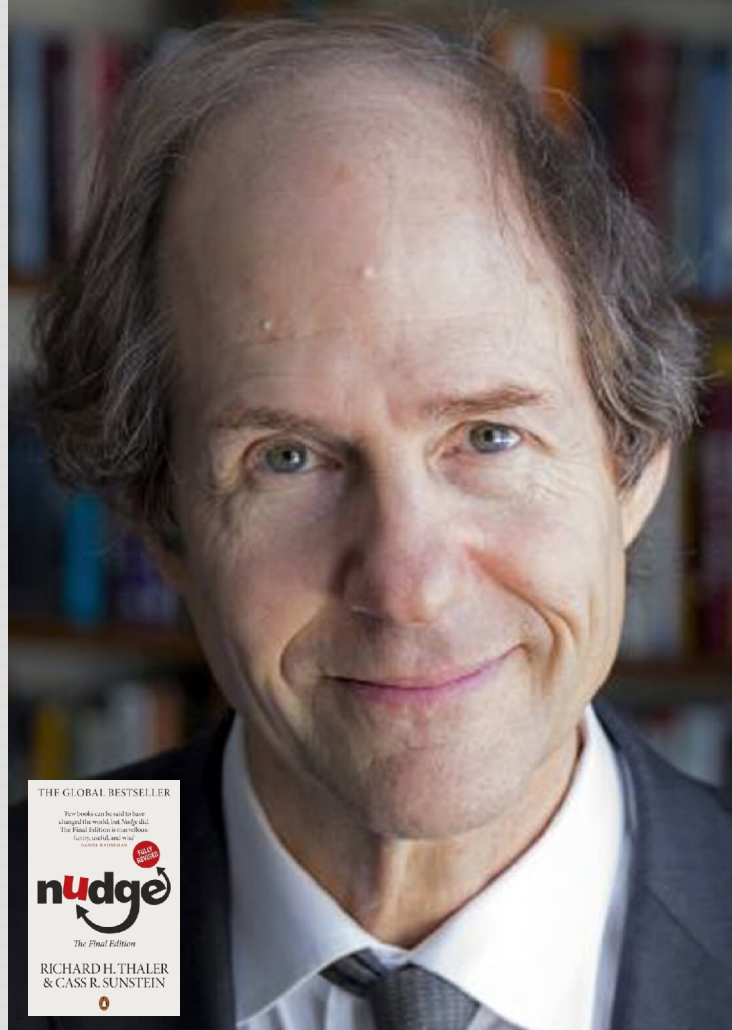


Carnegie Mellon University
Social & Decision Sciences

Cass R. Sunstein

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Co-author of the New York Times Bestseller *Nudge*



Sludge: Behavioral science under the Star-Spangled Banner

"Sludge" consists of administrative burdens, or frictions, that prevent people from getting where they want to get, or from obtaining something that they think they need. Examples include complex and confusing forms; hidden terms; phone appointments; waiting time; in-person interview requirements; mail-in forms; slides with lots of words on them; jargon-filled language. Sludge greatly decreases social welfare and is associated with disproportionate harms on vulnerable communities; it also raises a host of unresolved empirical issues in social science. This talk will explore the need for Sludge Audits and urge that sludge reduction is essential to improving people's lives, not least by protecting their rights.

Thursday, October 27
4:45 PM
Giant Eagle Auditorium
Baker Hall A51
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Graciously Presented by the
Hilliard Family Speaker Series on Behavioral Economics**