Penn IUR, in partnership with the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine and a Faculty Steering Committee representing nine schools and six centers at the University of Pennsylvania, convened the Feeding Cities: Food Security in a Rapidly Urbanizing World conference March 13-15. The conference addressed a fundamental challenge of our modern age: how to provide a sustainable, nutritious, and affordable diet to the world’s burgeoning urban populace.

Over a three-day period, more than seventy experts from around the world shared multidisciplinary perspectives on the nexus of food security and urbanization with 450 conference attendees representing public, private, and academic institutions and organizations from the United States and abroad. The conference featured three keynote addresses, six plenary sessions and twelve focused breakout sessions covering topics ranging from sustainable food production and natural resource management to food distribution, urban-rural linkages and infrastructure, food policy, politics, and nutritional health.

The Feeding Cities conference was launched on Wednesday, March 13 by Penn IUR’s 9th Annual Urban Leadership Forum, which took place at Penn’s Museum of Archeology and Anthropology. The awards honored Joan Clos, Executive Director of United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT), Yael Lehmann, Executive Director of The Food Trust, and Ridwan Kamil, Founder and Principal of Urbane Indonesia ar-

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

visit penniur.upenn.edu for more details.

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**SEPTEMBER 10, 2013**

Penn IUR Public Interest Event and SSPF Global Economic Crisis Seminar **Bankrupt: Lessons from Detroit’s Fiscal Crisis**

Irvine Hall, Amado Recital Room | 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Please join Penn IUR and Penn’s Social Science and Policy Forum (SSPF) for a discussion of Detroit’s unprecedented municipal bankruptcy and the implications for urban finance, pensions, and the future of American cities. Speakers include Gilles Duranton, Professor of Real Estate and Chair of Real Estate Department, The Wharton School; Robert P. Inman, Richard K. Mellon Professor of Finance, Economics, and Public Policy, The Wharton School; Jeremy Nowak, President of J Nowak and Associates, LLC, and Chair of the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; and Thomas J. Sugrue, David Boies Professor of History and Sociology and Director of the SSPF. Moderated by Susan Wachter and introduced by Eugénie Birch, Co-Directors of Penn IUR. This event is free and open to the public. Please register at https://bankrupt-lessons-from-detroit-fiscal-crisis.eventbrite.com.

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**OCTOBER 31, 2013**

Penn IUR Public Interest Event **The Power of Eds & Meds: How Urban Universities are Leading Neighborhood Revitalization and Innovation-Based Economic Development**

Houston Hall, Goklin Room | 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Penn IUR and Penn’s Executive Vice President will host a conversation about university-led economic and community development. Leaders from several of the nation’s most engaged urban universities, along with representatives from municipal government and the private sector, will discuss the public, private, and institutional investments being made in neighborhood revitalization and Innovation Districts around the country.

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**FRIDAYS in SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2013**

Urban GIS Workshop Series **Applied Spatial Analysis in City Government**

Meyerson Hall, G12 | 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Penn IUR and the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority (PRA) will host this series of technical workshops every Friday in September (6, 13, 20, and 27) and October (4, 11, 18, and 25). Introducing the spatial analytical methods that add value to many everyday activities in city government, the series is open to all students with some prior experience in GIS. For more information, please visit http://penniur.upenn.edu.

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**SEPTEMBER 16, 2013**

Penn IUR Public Interest Event **Urban Book Talk: Ed Bacon: Planning, Politics, and the Building of Modern Philadelphia**

University of Pennsylvania Bookstore | 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Please join Penn IUR for a talk with author Gregory Heller who will speak about his book **Ed Bacon: Planning, Politics, and the Building of Modern Philadelphia** (Penn Press 2013), the first biography of one of urban planning’s most charismatic figures. Heller traces the trajectory of Bacon’s two-decade tenure as Director of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission, which coincided with a transformational period in American planning history, and reveals the change-making moves that had a profound impact on Philadelphia’s future as well as the controversies in a career-long effort to transform planning ideas into reality. Introductory remarks by Eugénie Birch, Co-Director of Penn IUR. To learn more about the book, please visit http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/15092.html. This event is free and open to the public. Please register at http://urban-book-talk-ed-bacon-eorg.eventbrite.com.

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**OCTOBER 11, 2013**

Provost’s Interdisciplinary Seminar **Legacy and Innovation – Unlocking Value in Regional Energy Assets**

Golkin 100, Flits Auditorium, Penn School of Law | 9:00am – 6:00pm

PennDesign, in partnership with Penn IUR and several Penn departments, will present Penn’s Fall 2013 Provost’s Interdisciplinary Seminar: **Legacy and Innovation – Unlocking Value in Regional Energy Assets.** The seminar will explore the nexus between legacy and innovation by examining the Philadelphia region’s active discussion of how to leverage its large collection of legacy energy assets into an economic development strategy. For more information and to register, visit http://www.legacyandinnovation.org.

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**NOVEMBER 14, 2013**

Penn Community Event **Penn GIS Day**

Houston Hall, Bodek Lounge | 10:00am – 3:00pm

Penn GIS Day is a full day of programs that highlight the use of Geographic Information Systems at the University of Pennsylvania and in the community at large and that provide venues for professional collaboration. Speakers and program to be announced.

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**NOVEMBER 15, 2013**

Penn IUR Session at India as a Pioneer in Innovation?, a University of Pennsylvania Conference (November 14-15, Philadelphia; November 18, San Francisco) **Innovation in Indian Cities**

Flits Auditorium, Penn School of Law | 2:30pm – 4:00pm

Penn IUR has organized this special session of the university-wide conference **India as a Pioneer in Innovation?** to bring together leading experts in urban advancement in India. Speakers include: Aro Revi, Director, Indian Institute of Settlements, and Co-Chair, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network’s Thematic Group 9, Sustainable Cities: Inclusive, Resilient, and Connected; Chetan Vaidya, Director School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, Chairman, All India Planning Education Board of AICE; and H.M. Shivanand Swamy, Executive Director, Centre of Excellence in Urban Transport, CEPT University, Ahmedabad. This conference is free and open to the public. For complete agenda and registration information, please visit http://global.upenn.edu/indiainnovationconference.

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**NOVEMBER 15, 2013**

Mellon Foundation H+U+D Lecture **Léger, Le Corbusier, and Paris Future**

Van Pelt Auditorium, Philadelphia Museum of Art | 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Join the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Penn’s School of Arts and Sciences, PennDesign, and Penn IUR for the opening lecture of the Fifth Annual Anne d’Harnoncourt Symposium, **Reconsidering Paris in the 1920s: Fernand Léger in an Expanded Context**, featuring Anthony Vidler, Professor of Humanities and History of Art and Architecture, Brown University. This event is free but registration is required. For tickets, visit http://www.philamuseum.org.
1. You are a leading academic figure in the role of clusters and economic development, having done path-breaking research on agglomeration economies, transportation, and local public finance and the economic success of cities. How did you become interested in this area?

I guess it’s a conjunction of factors. Parts of my research interests in cities are “hard-wired.” At age ten or eleven, after growing out of wanting to be a fireman or an air-force pilot, the first realistic job I envisioned was urban planner. I could sense that one could not micro-manage a country but could be in charge of a city. That seemed so cool to me at the time.

There is also something very convenient about my interests. I love diversity in a profession where we must narrowly specialize. As an urban economist, I can be a “specialist” but at the same time do research on a broad variety of issues: transportation, local labor markets, firm productivity, etc. For an economist, urban issues are somewhat of a niche outside of the mainstream but this is a choice I never regretted.

2. In “Speed,” a recent paper you wrote with Victore Couture and Matthew Turner, you find that managing travel demand might more effectively address congestion than the traditional approach of increasing supply. Is congestion pricing the way to fix congestion? Why is this?

When we drive, we pay less than the full cost we impose on society. When something is too cheap, we consume too much of it. Each mile we drive in a city costs us on average two to three minutes of our time, which means about 50 cents for an average worker. Then one must add about 10 cents for gas and a few more cents for the depreciation of the car. But then, we also impose about 5 cents of congestion on other drivers, an equal amount for accidents, a couple of cents for local pollution, and less than a cent for global warming. These 12 or 13 cents per mile are paid by others, not by us. Accidents and pollution, which are (very) roughly proportional to fuel consumption can be dealt with by the gas tax. That leaves us with congestion, which varies a lot depending on traffic condition – 5 cents per mile is only an average. At 4:00 am, an extra driver is not a burden on society. At 4:00 pm, the congestion induced by an extra mile driven can be way above 5 cents a mile. My own estimate is 50 cents to a dollar. Nobel prize winner Bill Vickrey believed it to be even higher, perhaps considerably higher. Looking at some drivers sometimes on my way back home, part of me agrees with him.

One could think of three solutions: increase supply, manage demand by restricting the number of cars directly, or manage demand through prices. Increasing supply, i.e. building more roads, is a losing proposition. With Matt Turner, I showed that traffic increases nearly exactly proportionately with the roadway. As a result, road building does not reduce congestion. That does not mean that building roads is always wrong. It increases capacity. If done well, it can also eliminate bottlenecks. But this is not a general cure to congestion. There are also a lot of engineering solutions. Preventing too many cars from entering a highway when it’s already very busy can help significantly. But again, this is ultimately self-defeating. Interstate 76 between my house and work during the morning rush hour is a mess. I never use it. If traffic was better, I would. Many others would as well and it would become a mess again. It’s important to offer road capacity but it does not cure congestion. Still, on the supply side, public transportation is back in fashion in North America. But the same logic applies. If one can convince a driver to take the bus instead of the car, this frees some space on the road but that space will be taken by someone else. Public transportation can have a lot of virtues but reducing congestion is not one of them. The data show this.

So if the solution cannot come from the supply side, it has to be found on the demand side. Sorry for being such an economist here, but if it’s not supply it has to be demand or you have to make up an alternative reality. Some cities in the developing world such as Mexico City or Bogota impose quantitative restrictions based on a car’s plate number. For instance, plates ending in 3, 6 or 9 cannot drive in the city on Mondays between 6:00 am and between 4:00 and 7:00 pm. It’s fairly easy to implement. That’s the good side of those restrictions. But everything else about them is not very good. Mainly, there is a way around these restrictions: just keep several cars. As a result, there are a lot of clunkers on the road. They are unsafe and pollute a lot more than newer cars. There is another reason why economists don’t like these measures: they allow someone to make a marginal trip because he or she has the lucky number on his or her plate, whereas it prevents someone else from doing something he or she really values. That leaves us with only one fix: make people pay. That’s unpleasant but it works: London, Stockholm, and Singapore are all great testimonies of the power of road pricing solutions.

3. You have looked at the foundations of urban agglomeration economies, doing pioneering work on “nursery cities” – cities whose diversity fosters innovation. Do you see some of
Philadelphia is in an awkward position. It is stuck behind two great success stories of the last thirty years: NYC and D.C. Our chance here is that neither of these two fast-growing giants has an economy centered around science-based industries. So there might be a chance for another successful scientific city in the Northeast (in addition to Boston). Maybe. Our main asset seems to be our strong university base. There is Penn of course but also Drexel, Temple, our first-tier liberal arts colleges, etc.

But even if this approach does not work, it is not the end of the world. Not being an overachieving city has benefits. Philadelphia was planned for a much larger population than it currently hosts. As result, it has plenty of cheap land which means cheap housing and cheap nearly everything. The challenge for Philadelphia is then to manage the challenges associated with relative decline, such as derelict land, a large city bureaucracy, a large proportion of unskilled workers who did not go elsewhere for lack of opportunities, etc. What really matters is the welfare of city residents – not being in some magazine list of top high-tech cities.

4. You are part of the planning group for a conference on clusters in the fall. How do you think local governments can play an active role in fostering clusters?

On cluster policies, I am Mr. Negative! I do not deny that clusters exist and bring benefits. I have spent years of my research life developing new methodologies to define clusters and measure their benefits. My skepticism comes from several facts which I think are well established. First, the benefits from clustering are quite small. Doubling the size of an activity somewhere increases its productivity by 2 to 10 percent, maximum. So a huge amount of spatial reallocation would be needed to achieve significant benefits. Second, these benefits from clustering in the data are mostly unrelated to local wages. Places are rich because they are big or because of some natural advantage. In general, places are not rich because they are specialized in sector X or Y. Third, clusters tend to be found in very traditional manufacturing sectors: carpets, caravans, ropes, knives, or bits of textile and apparel. Fourth, although they exist for more “desirable” high-tech sectors, albeit to a lesser extent, clusters also tend to move around. If you compare the map of the U.S. IT industry today with the same one back in 1980, you’ll see two very different landscapes. Silicon Valley and bits of Texas are the only constants. Fifth, the record of government in cluster development is appalling. There are literally hundreds of Silicon Valley copycats and barely any are successful. Local governments should be preoccupied by the quality of their schools and the amenities they offer to their residents not by cluster development.

5. What are some of your current research projects?

I’m working on a number of things. I still have a big interest in transportation. My next project with Matt Turner will be on the effect of “urban form” on driving. That’s a big topic in the literature but I feel we still don’t really know what is cause and what is consequence. I also want to know about the effects of high speed trains. My country of origin, France, is a good place to study that. We have thirty years of experience now.

6. You recently moved to Philadelphia. How do you think your new work environment will influence your thinking on urban issues?

At a personal level, after living in Paris, London, and Toronto with stints in Bogota over the last twenty years, it’s certainly something new for me and my family. It’s also the first time in my adult life that I live in a suburb and that so much of my life revolves around the car. It’s not bad – just different with different pros and cons. At the same time, being an economist, I rely on data more than on personal experience. Actually, if anything, I think my academic knowledge tends to inform my everyday life more than the opposite.

7. What words of advice do you have for urban-focused scholars at Penn and beyond?

There is something quite unique about urban scholars, in economics and elsewhere. They are genuinely interested in their subject matter. That makes this area very special. As a big believer in diversity, I don’t think we should all march to the same drum. Let a thousand flowers bloom.
Spring 2013 marked the tenth Penn IUR Urban Doctoral Symposium, held on February 7, and the second Penn IUR Urban Doctoral Poster Session, held on May 10. Faculty from across Penn’s twelve schools nominated doctoral students who have made scholastic contributions to the field of urban research. This year Penn IUR was delighted to celebrate the work of seven doctoral students at the Urban Doctoral Poster Session and four graduating doctoral students at the Urban Doctoral Symposium.

At the Urban Doctoral Poster Session on February 7, students representing four of Penn’s schools showcased their working research to fellow urban scholars. Stuart Andreason, from Penn Design, presented on “How Do Regions Get Smarter and What Does It Mean For the Labor Market,” explaining why and how some regions attract BA holders, why some labor markets improve with increased BA attainment, and what role residential segregation and labor migration patterns play in the relationship. Fellow PennDesign doctoral student Ben Chrisinger presented on “Influence of Store Type on Fruit and Vegetable Purchasing Behavior,” discussing how controlling for confounding factors helps to explain how seemingly discrepant inter-regional patterns converge in remaking a place.

Anthony DeFusco, from The Wharton School, presented on “The Interest Rate Elasticity of Mortgage Demand: Evidence from Bunching at the Conforming Loan Limit,” which provides empirical evidence on the extent to which household debt responds to changes in interest rates.

Julia McWilliams, from the Graduate School of Education (GSE) presented on “Constructing Educated Personhood across Contexts: Bhutanese and Burmese Refugees’ Aspirational Strategies in South Philadelphia,” a collection of narratives of “the good life” and an analyses of how such narrations articulate also with educational aspirational in order to shed light on how the process of “becoming educated” remains a contentious, multifaceted project across many social realms. Also from GSE, student Peter Blair presented on “The Role of the Choice-set in Determining Neighborhood Tipping Point,” where Blair models the arrival of new black neighbors and studies the response of existing whites in the neighborhood. Blair found that the availability of better neighborhoods matter crucially to determining the “tipping points” of neighborhoods.

Sudev Sheth, from the School of Arts and Sciences, presented on “The Changing Landscape of Haaz Khas: Historical Transformations in Boundary and Land Use in ‘Rural’ Delhi;” focusing on historical transformations in boundary and land use along with the contemporary politics of urban planning. Sudev is furthering an understanding of how seemingly discrepant interests converge in remaking a place.

The final presenter at the February poster session, Jordan Hyatt from the School of Arts and Sciences, also returned in May for the Urban Doctoral Symposium. At both gatherings, he presented “The Impact of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy on the Recidivism of a High-Risk, Urban Probation Population,” his research using randomized control trials to evaluate the effectiveness of cognitive-behavioral therapy on criminal recidivism.

At the Urban Doctoral Symposium on May 10, Hyatt was joined by Carolyn Chernoff, Lisa Merril, and Whitney LeBoeuf. Three of the four participants – Chernoff, LeBoeuf, and Merrill – received their doctoral degrees from the Graduate School of Education (GSE). Merrill presented on “The Relationship Between Teacher Turnover and School Performance in New York City’s Middle Schools” and LeBoeuf presented on “The Effects of Intradistrict School Mobility and Student Turnover Rates on Early Reading Achievement.” Carolyn Chernoff, a joint PhD candidate at GSE and the School of Arts and Sciences presented on “Imagining the City: Community-Based Art and the Experience of Urban Density.” Penn IUR was happy to have a strong representation from GSE this year that highlighted the very issues that the School District of Philadelphia is currently seeing as it considers restructuring. After the graduating doctoral candidates presented at the symposium, Mark Stern, Co-Director of Penn’s Urban Studies program, facilitated a discussion that continued over lunch. Both the symposium and the poster session brought together friends, family, and faculty to help celebrate these students’ scholastic achievements.

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**ENDING “TOO BIG TO FAIL”**

On May 9, Sheila Bair, former Chair of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and author of *Bail by the Horn*, gave a presentation entitled “Ending Too Big to Fail: Financial Regulation After Dodd-Frank” at Penn as part of the Global Economic Crisis Public Lectures Series organized by Penn Social Science and Policy Forum (SSPF). Her talk was followed by a panel discussion featuring Bair; Franklin Allen, Nippon Life Professor of Finance at the Wharton School; Richard Herring, Jacob Safra Professor of International Banking, Professor of Finance at the Wharton School; and Susan Wachter, Penn IUR Co-Director. Penn IUR was instrumental in bringing Bair to Penn, having worked with SSPF Director and Penn Faculty Fellow Tom Sugrue to organize this event.

In her talk, Bair reflected on her tenure at the FDIC during the financial crisis. During this period, she successfully oversaw the bankruptcy, sale, and restructuring of over 350 banking institutions with combined assets in excess of $800 billion. One of her main points of pride, she related, was that the FDIC...
MELLON FOUNDATION GRANT FUNDS HUMANITIES AND URBANISM STUDIES

Penn IUR is proud to partner with Penn's School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) and PennDesign on a five-year, innovative and collaborative project entitled “Fulfilling and Livable Cities: Design, Urban Life, and the Humanities.” Funded by a generous grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the project will foster new cross-disciplinary study and research among scholars and students in the fields of design and the humanities, with the aim of advancing the potential and promise of urban life.

Through new courses, symposia, and publications, the project will explore connections between the built environment and the arts, history, and culture that underpin cities. The project begins in Fall 2013 with the launch of the Mellon Fulfilling and Livable Cities Colloquium, a five-year, multi-generational, multi-disciplinary study group composed of twenty Penn faculty members and students with rotating terms.

The $1.3 million Mellon Foundation grant to the University of Pennsylvania will include participation throughout the University, with Penn IUR, SAS, and PennDesign leading the activities. It will support new undergraduate and graduate classes, including two undergraduate seminars – one focused on a domestic city and one on an international city – that will include site visits. These courses will each be developed and taught collaboratively by design and humanities professors.

“These are precisely the sorts of courses that integrate knowledge and lead to new, exciting avenues of student exploration and learning,” said Steve Fluharty, Senior Vice Provost for Research. The grant will also support curricular enhancements to existing programs; student research; a yearly public lecture series; sponsorship of panels at scholarly conferences; and publication of research generated from the colloquium.

“We are enormously grateful to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for its support of interdisciplinary research that promises to have an impact on real-world deliberations surrounding the future of cities,” said President Amy Gutmann. “We fully expect this program to generate knowledge that will inspire new and renewed urban forms in the twenty-first century and beyond.”

The project will bring together faculty members from diverse disciplines, as well as undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students. In addition, the project will attract new visiting professors and PhDs to Penn; it will also host international urban experts and will support researchers at professional conferences presenting papers that integrate humanities and urbanism.

The project will be co-led by Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education in PennDesign’s Department of City and Regional Planning and Chair of the Graduate Group in City Planning, and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow David Brownlee, Frances Shapiro-Weitzenhoffer Professor of Art History and Chair of the Graduate Group in the History of Art. The project will be guided by an advisory committee of the two deans and key faculty members.

PENN IUR WELCOMES SIXTH CLASS OF MUSA STUDENTS

Penn IUR welcomes fourteen new students to the Master of Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA) class of 2014.

The incoming class includes students from as far away as China and India as well as from closer to home, including several students from Philadelphia. Incoming students’ backgrounds vary widely: from studio art to architecture to policy to GIS practice.

Penn IUR supports the program by convening a Faculty Committee which oversees the degree as well as focusing on alumni engagement and helping MUSA graduates as they move into the working world. In February, Penn IUR hosted a career panel and mentoring session to assist MUSA students in their professional advancement. In the career panel, alumni discussed how the MUSA degree influenced their careers and where they see growth in the spatial analysis fields. The panel was followed by one-on-one mentoring sessions, which allowed students to get resume feedback and advice targeted to their fields of interest. This spring, Penn IUR also launched an online resume book to increase the visibility of the MUSA program to potential employers and help individual students connect with those employers.

Additionally, with Penn IUR’s support, several students and alumni had the opportunity to network with GIS professionals from around the world at the annual ESRI International User Conference in San Diego. The conference, held July 8-12, featured presentations, including those by Penn alumni Hao Wang (MUSA ’12), who presented his capstone paper “The Solar Potential Index Analysis in Philadelphia”, and Brian Traylor (MCP, MUSA ’12), who presented “Vacant Land: A Spatial Analysis of Redevelopment Opportunities in Philadelphia.” Penn IUR also supported three MUSA students who showcased their work at the conference’s Map Gallery. The MUSA map exhibit included David Karp’s (MUSA ’13) research on “Modeling Spatial Income Inequality in Philadelphia;” Emily Antoszyk’s (MSSP ’13, MUSA ’14) indicators of Philadelphia “Crime Corners;” and Wes Weaver’s (MUSA ’13) research on “Urban Microshed and Stormwater Modeling.”

Penn IUR launched the MUSA graduate program to integrate urban research with GIS-based analysis. Jointly administered by PennDesign, the MUSA program blends GIS-based applications with urban disciplines ranging from public health to criminology, transportation, economic development, education, and real estate. MUSA is unique among GIS-based degree granting programs in combining rigorous GIS instruction with urban-related disciplinary interests. Penn IUR is looking forward to working with the sixth class of MUSA students.
Professor of Urban Planning and Sociology at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, and Susan S. Fainstein, Senior Research Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, argue for the promotion of social equity and quality-of-life via evaluation and design of urban plans and policies. The volume features original essays by leading authorities across the globe in the field of urban planning and policy who present theoretical and practice-based essays on a wide range of planning issues, including housing, transportation, surveillance, safety, and regional and community development, among others. The book’s unifying themes of equity, diversity, and democratic participation are present throughout, particularly in essays devoted to disadvantaged and excluded groups, such as senior citizens, migrant workers, and the poor. The contributors discuss goalsetting and ethics in planning and arrive at best practices for future planning. They demonstrate the need to look beyond efficiency to determine who benefits from urban policies and plans.

In Locked In, Locked Out: Gated Communities in a Puerto Rican City, Zaire Zenit Dinzy-Flores, who teaches sociology and Latino and Hispanic Caribbean studies at Rutgers University, offers a glimpse into the gated world of Ponce, Puerto Rico, and reveals how built environments can create cartographies of disadvantage that affect everyone. Dinzy-Flores investigates the transformation of the largest public housing project in Ponce, Puerto Rico into a gated community. In its exploration of four communities in Ponce – two private subdivisions and two public housing projects – Locked In, Locked Out offers one of the first ethnographic accounts of gated communities devised by and for the poor. She describes how the gates that continue to dominate present-day Ponce operate as physical and symbolic ways of distributing power, rerouting movement, sustaining social inequalities, and cementing the boundaries of class and race across the city. Through interviews and participant observation, she argues that gates have shaped the lives of people from all economic backgrounds.

Considered to be the father of modern Philadelphia, Ed Bacon served as the Director of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission from 1949 until 1970, forging new approaches to neighborhood development and elevating Philadelphia’s image to the level of a great world city. In Ed Bacon: Planning, Politics, and the Building of Modern Philadelphia, the first biography of this charismatic but controversial figure, Gregory L. Heller, President and CEO of AGA Public Realm Strategists, Inc., traces the trajectory of Bacon’s tenure as Planning Director, which coincided with a transformational period in American planning history. Bacon oversaw the planning and implementation of dozens of redesigned urban spaces. Heller’s insightful biography reveals an inspiring portrait of determination and a career-long effort to transform planning ideas into reality. The New Republic’s review of the volume can be found at http://www.newrepublic.com/article/113755/urban-planning-dictatorial-planners-image-rehabilitated. Another City in the 21st Century series book, The City After Abandonment, edited by Margaret Dewar and Julie Manning Thomas, was recently reviewed in the Journal of the American Planning Association and Urban Affairs Review and was the topic of a two-part Sustainable City Network series that can be found at http://www.sustainablecitynetwork.com.
On April 25, scholars and practitioners researching informal land markets in India and Brazil took part in “Real Estate Markets in Informal Settlements in India and Brazil,” a symposium organized by Penn IUR, cosponsored by Penn’s Lauder Institute, and made possible by the support of the Penn Global Engagement Fund. The program included presentations by José Brakarz, Nancy Lozano Gracia, Paavo Monkkonen, Vinit Mukhija, and Janice Perlman.

This multidisciplinary workshop on land and housing markets in informal settlements started from the proposition that informal settlements in rapidly growing cities in India and Brazil must be understood as complex environments where market actors along with state policies and civil society interact – not as places divorced from market forces.

The symposium brought together scholars and practitioners working in India and Brazil – two growing economies where overall economic growth and urban informal markets are interconnected. Both countries, as they develop economically, face pressure to provide infrastructure, amenities, housing, and services to diverse and growing urban populations. And, in each country, the state’s role in providing housing and services is evolving as new markets for land and housing develop. However, cities in India and in Brazil differ in their regulatory systems and their land tenure, housing, and market structures and stage of development, offering opportunities for comparative analyses.

Symposium participants – in their exploration of the relationship between formal and informal urban development, between public and private actors, and between different regulatory systems and the housing and land market structures they engender – underscored the similarities the two countries share, and the differences.


In February 2013, Penn IUR and the Department of Criminology gathered four experts from sociology, criminology, epidemiology, and economics to discuss the valuation and assessment of place-based interventions intended to improve the livability of neighborhoods. The event was part of the University’s 2012-2013 “theme” – the “Year of Proof,” a dedication to understanding what makes something “true” across the disciplines.

Panelists included Elijah Anderson, William K. Lanman, Jr. Professor of Sociology, Yale University; Charles Branas, Professor of Epidemiology, Perelman School of Medicine, and Director, Cartographic Modeling Laboratory; John MacDonald, Chair of Penn’s Department of Criminology and Associate Professor of Criminology; and Susan Wachter, Co-Director, Penn IUR and the Richard B. Worley Professor of Financial Management and Professor of Real Estate and Finance, The Wharton School.

The panelists discussed the need to enrich cities through placemaking programs that are structural, scalable, and sustainable. Using Anderson’s concept of cosmopolitan canopies – the urban spaces like parks and malls where diverse groups of urbanites interact civilly – as a frame, the panelists acknowledged the long history of racism that has prevented interventions from succeeding in the past and the hope for place-based initiatives that will create the canopies that Anderson celebrates in his work.

“Mostly the canopy is a very positive place. It’s a beautiful place where all different kinds of people come and interact and are civil to one another,” said Anderson. “But it’s important to acknowledge the fault lines.”
In Spring 2013, Penn IUR, with support from the Ford Foundation, organized “The Future of the U.S. Housing Mortgage System.” This series of events explored the future of a system that, for decades, functioned well and helped to build wealth for American families across the income spectrum but that failed dramatically in the recent past.

Over the course of three panel discussions, key players in the world of housing finance explored what the housing market landscape might look like going forward. Policymakers, legal experts, government representatives, Wall Street analysts, and academics discussed what has changed, identified what needs to be preserved, and debated what can be learned from the decades when the system worked well and from its recent failure.

On March 4, Penn IUR, along with the Urban Institute, partnered with Next City to organize a panel discussion on “FHA and the Future of Affordable Housing” at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. The panel included Carol Galante, Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Commissioner and Assistant Secretary for Housing; Lisa Hodges, Senior Advisor, Oystertree Consulting; Mike Malloy, Mortgage Policy and Counterparty Relations Executive for Legacy Asset Servicing and Consumer Banking, Bank of America; and Sarah Rosen Wartell, President, The Urban Institute. Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter moderated. With an audience of about 200 people, these leaders in housing, lending, real estate, and government discussed the future of affordable housing policy and in particular of the FHA.

Over the course of the discussion, the panelists expressed the idea that the FHA has been critical in balancing the housing market and continuing to provide financing for underserved borrowers during the Great Recession. Wartell underlined FHA’s counter-cyclical role, with the FHA insuring mortgages the private sector would not provide in times when capital is tight. In that regard, FHA performed well in its role as a backstop during the financial crisis. Galante emphasized that FHA’s recent portfolio of insured loans is profitable and healthy, meaning that the current need for additional capital might be temporary. Hodges made a proposal to develop a mortgage savings account that would prepare people to save for a down payment. Malloy focused on the need for better homeownership counseling for homeowners taking FHA loans to ensure that the owners are informed about the risks associated with their mortgage.

“Housing Finance in the New Regulatory Environment,” the second event in the series, took place on March 27 at the Wharton School. Adam Ashcraft, Senior Vice President and Head of the Structured Products Function, Federal Reserve Bank of New York; Edward Golding, Visiting Fellow, The Urban Institute; and James Wiener, Partner and Head of the Public Policy Practice, Americas, Oliver Wyman, participated in a panel moderated by Penn IUR’s Co-Director Susan Wachter. Panelists discussed the impact of Basel III and the new regulatory environment on the future of lending for housing. In particular, panelists focused on the leverage ratio requirement and capital treatment of mortgage servicing rights in Basel III as well as how the regulatory standard would affect how banks hold mortgages on their balance sheets. Panelists also considered how Basel III would impact the provision of credit to low- and moderate-income borrowers, with Golding and Wiener expressing the idea that these borrowers would have limited access to mortgage credit except via government programs if the current version of Basel III was implemented.

The third event in the series, “Mortgages: Alternative Visions of Reform,” took place on April 10 at the Wharton School. Participants debated proposals to structure the mortgage. Speakers included: Greg Boester, Managing Director, Securitized Product Origination, Barclays Capital; Laurie Goodman, Member of the Bipartisan Policy Center Housing Commission and Senior Managing Director, Amherst Securities Group, L.P.; and Joseph Tracy, Executive Vice President and Senior Advisor to the President, Federal Reserve Bank of New York. This panel was also moderated by Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter. The event was cosponsored by The Wharton School and Next City. For a detailed summary of the event, see: http://nextcity.org/daily/entry/in-the-wake-of-crisis-we-talk-the-future-of-affordable-housing.
The morning panel, “Urban Water: Managing Stormwater, Rivers and Watersheds,” moderated by Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter, featured Howard Neukrug, Philadelphia Water Commissioner, who focused on the need for an integrated approach to water management due to the connection between watersheds, drinking water, and stormwater and wastewater treatment. David Hsu, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning at PennDesign and Tom Daniels, Professor of City and Regional Planning at PennDesign discussed this “one water, one city” approach, raising questions about the appropriate scale of governance, the engagement of private actors in infrastructure provision, and the acceptability of spending taxpayers’ dollars on preservation.

Two keynote speakers presented between the morning and afternoon panels. David Russ, Regional Director of USGS Northeast region, spoke about two recent federal initiatives: America’s Great Outdoors (AGO) and the Urban Waters Initiative (UWI). Mark Alan Hughes, Professor of Practice at PennDesign, addressed the complexity of properly designing, incentivizing, and sustaining programs to manage urban ecosystem services. He emphasized the importance of having quantifiable benchmarks, objectives, and structures of accountability.

Two panel discussions were held in the afternoon. “Urban Green: Managing Forests, Trees and Greenspace” moderated by Emily Pindilli, Science and Decisions Center, USGS, featured presentations by Michael Rains, Director, Northern Research Station, U.S. Forest Service; Laura Jackson, Research Scientist, Sustainable and Healthy Communities Research Program, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and Nancy Goldenberg, Senior Vice President for Programs, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Panels discussed how public agencies and non-profit organizations are refocusing their efforts to manage and value trees and green spaces within an urban context. Focusing on the emerging roles of the U.S. Forest Service and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) in growing and managing Philadelphia’s tree canopy, panelists covered topics of tree planting, sustainable harvesting, public health, environmental equity, education, training, community capacity building, and data collection and analysis. Jackson presented integrated and innovative tools for decision-making, planning, and spatial analysis developed by the EPA.

The final panel, “Establishing an Urban Research Agenda for Decision Ready Science: Priorities and Opportunities,” was moderated by Dianna Hogan, USGS, SILUS Co-Director. This session focused on research into valuing ecosystem services. Sarah Low, Coordinator, Philadelphia Field Station, U.S. Forest Service, began by discussing the need to create a “feedback loop” in which research guides practice, which then informs further research. Kathleen Wolf, Research Social Scientist, University of Washington, discussed the benefits in terms of amenity, aesthetic, wellness support, and fitness derived from urban ecosystems, which are particularly important when access to nature is limited. Christopher Crockett, Deputy Water Commissioner, Philadelphia Water Department, emphasized the importance of understanding the response of the private sector (in particular, property developers) to regulations and incentives.

Metro Nature: The Philadelphia Water Department’s “Green Cities, Clean Waters” stormwater management plan encourages the creation of green infrastructure that not only manages stormwater sustainably but also results in parks, beauty, and community pride. Photo credit: Philadelphia Water Department.
Penn IUR presents its Urban Leadership Award annually to people who have made outstanding contributions to building cities that respond to the challenges of the twenty-first century. This year, Penn IUR highlighted accomplishment in conjunction with the theme of its national impact conference. The Ninth Annual Urban Leadership Forum and Award Ceremony, held March 13, examined the impact of urbanization on agriculture, diets, and food security and launched the Feeding Cities: Food Security in a Rapidly Urbanizing World conference. It celebrated Penn IUR Urban Leadership awardees Joan Clos, Undersecretary and Executive Director, UN-HABITAT and former Mayor of Barcelona, Spain; Yael Lehmann, Executive Director, The Food Trust; and Ridwan Kamil, Founder and Principal of Urbane Indonesia.

Joan Clos is Undersecretary and Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT). Trained as a medical doctor and active in municipal public health, he took office in October 2010. Prior to joining UN-HABITAT, Clos was twice elected Mayor of Barcelona, serving two terms during the years 1997–2006 and having been a member of Barcelona’s city council for a number of years prior. In his post-mayoralty years, he was Spain’s Minister of Industry, Tourism and Trade (2006-2008) and ambassador to Turkey and Azerbaijan (2008-2010). Clos received the award in recognition of his worldwide urban leadership and leading-edge response to urban challenges.

Yael Lehmann is Executive Director of The Food Trust, a twenty-year-old nonprofit organization headquartered in Philadelphia that works in more than twenty states on projects that include promoting childhood nutrition, reducing food deserts, and increasing access to healthy food in supermarkets. Recognized by First Lady Michelle Obama and described by Time Magazine as being a “remarkable success,” The Food Trust has and is making substantial contributions to city life throughout the nation. Prior to being named Executive Director of The Food Trust in 2006, Lehmann served as its Associate Director and Deputy Director. Lehmann received the award in recognition of her exemplary leadership of the Food Trust, which is serving as a national and international model for advancing local food security.

Ridwan Kamil is Founder and Principal of Urbane Indonesia (UI), a major architectural and urban design firm in Bandung and Jakarta, Indonesia. Since its founding in 2004, UI has received the International Young Design Entrepreneur of the Year award from the British Council Indonesia (2006) and been named to the BCI Asia Top 10 Awards lists in the Building Design Business category for three consecutive years (2008, 2009, 2010). As an individual and through the work of UI, Kamil is committed to grassroots urban design that empowers urban poor populations and has created the “Indonesia Berkebun” movement to build amateur gardens in cities across Indonesia. Since his being awarded the Penn IUR Leadership Award, he has been elected Mayor of Bandung, Indonesia’s third largest city. He received the award in recognition of his grassroots efforts which have had national implications in urban Indonesia’s food security.

Video of the Urban Leadership Forum can be found here at http://vimeo.com/62727015.
Jonathan Barnett Wins William H. Whyte Award

Jonathan Barnett, Professor of Practice in City and Regional Planning and Director of Penn’s Urban Design Program, has received this year’s William H. Whyte award from the Partners for Livable Communities for his lifetime achievements in urban design. He also recently published a chapter entitled “Jane Jacobs and Designing Cities of Organized Complexity” in *The Urban Wisdom of Jane Jacobs*, edited by Sonia Hirt with Diane Zahm.

Eugénie Birch Receives APA’s President’s Award

The American Planning Association awarded Eugénie Birch its President’s Award (given every two years) at its National Planning Conference in Chicago in April. She also delivered an address entitled “Emerging Trends: The Future Planning” at the same meeting, having chaired the association’s National Task Force on Emerging Trends. In April, she also delivered papers on the Ford Foundation-funded sustainability indicators at the Federal Reserve’s Resilience and Rebuilding for Low-Income Communities conference in Washington, D.C.; the Sustainability Development Network meetings at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.; and the Urban Sustainability Leadership Forum, hosted by Virginia Tech’s Metropolitan Institute (MI) & Center in Leadership in Global Sustainability (CLiGS). In March, she directed a workshop on Energy Smart Communities Initiative (ESCI) at the 45th Meeting of the APEC Energy Working Group in Koh Samui, Thailand.

Philippe Bourgois Awarded 2013 Guggenheim Fellowship

Philippe Bourgois, Richard Perry University Professor of Anthropology and Family and Community Medicine, has been named a 2013 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellow for work on his new book on North Philadelphia, tentatively entitled *Cornered*, about daily life in an impoverished de-industrialized U.S. inner-city neighborhood that has been turned into an open air drug supermarket. He also received a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies to co-author the book with Laurie Hart, George Karandinos, and Fernando Montero Castrillo. He will be writing the first draft with Karandinos during his current sabbatical year at the School of American Research in Santa Fe.

Ram Cnaan Appointed Eminent Scholar

Ram Cnaan, Professor of Social Policy and Practice, was appointed as “International Eminent Scholar” at Kyunghee University in Korea with affiliation to their Graduate Institute of Peace. He will also be the faculty adviser for the Penn School of Social Policy and Practice’s Goldring Reentry Initiative, an innovative program in collaboration with the Philadelphia Prison Society and the City’s Public Defender to reduce recidivism among people who are released from local jails.

Dennis Culhane Creating Web-based Research Tool on Homelessness

Dennis Culhane, Dana and Andrew Stone Professor of Social Policy and Co-Director of the Cartographic Modeling Laboratory, is working (with Tom Byrne of Penn’s School of Social Policy and Practice) to create Homelessness Analytics, an interactive Web-based application that provides users with access to national, state and local data about homelessness among veterans and the
general population. Developed in collaboration with the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Homelessness Analytics has been in the works for more than a year.

John Dilulio Joins Leadership of Franklin Project

John DiIulio, Frederic Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion, and Civil Society and Professor of Political Science, joined the Leadership Council of the Aspen Institute’s Franklin Project, which has launched a plan to mobilize 1 million full-time national service positions a year for eighteen- to twenty-eight-year-olds all across the country.

Ira Harkavy Wins Awards, Publishes Book

Ira Harkavy, Associate Vice President and Founding Director of the Netter Center for Community Partnerships, recently received the Visions and Values Award from Hillel of Greater Philadelphia, the Service in Education Award from Peace Islands Institute, as well as a Doctor of Public Service Honorary Degree from Westfield State University. In addition, the Netter Center for Community Partnerships continued its twentieth anniversary celebration with a series of events, including a Community Partnership Festival at Sayre High School and an Alumni Weekend panel.

David Hsu Wins Research Grant

David Hsu, Assistant Professor and Associate Chair of City and Regional Planning, won – as principal investigator of a Penn team (with Co-PI John Landis, as well as Susan Wachter, Tom Daniels, and Mark Allen Hughes) – a $1 million EPA STAR grant to study Philadelphia’s plans for green infrastructure.

John L. Jackson Publishes

John L. Jackson, Jr., Richard Perry University Professor of Communication and Anthropology, completed an ethnographic monograph entitled Thin Description: Ethnography and the African Hebrew Israelites of Jerusalem and published several papers: “An Americanist Anthropologist in Dimona: Notes from an Africanized Israel,” in Ethnographic Encounters in Israel, edited by Fran Markowitz; “Ethnography Is, Ethnography Ain’t,” in Cultural Anthropology; and “Return of the Reflexed: Filmmaking and the Aesthetics of Social Science,” in Ethnic and Racial Studies. He serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Oxford Bibliographies Anthropology section and recently joined the editorial board of the journal Public Culture.

Michael Katz Elected to American Philosophical Society

Michael Katz, the Walter H. Annenberg Professor of History, was recently elected to membership of the American Philosophical Society. He is also publishing two books: Public Education Under Siege, with Mike Rose, and The Underserving Poor: America’s Enduring Confrontation with Poverty.
John MacDonald Researches Education Policies’ Effects on Crime

John MacDonald, Chair, Department of Criminology and Associate Professor of Criminology, is working with funding from the CDC on several projects related to the effects of education policies on changes in youth crime and violence. He has also recently published papers (all of which involve the use of quasi-experimental designs) on the effects of policies to divert drug offenders from prison to treatment on racial disparities in the administration of justice, the effects of unemployment on criminal behavior in Finland, the role of immigrant settlement in neighborhood crime declines in Los Angeles, and the influence of land use zoning on block and neighborhood level crime patterns. Recent publications include papers in Criminology, Law and Society Review, American Journal of Public Health, University of Pennsylvania Law Review, and Journal of Quantitative Criminology.

Afaf I. Meleis Receives Award, Publishes

Afaf I. Meleis, the Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing, received the 2013 NLN President’s Award from the National League of Nursing to recognize her national and international contributions to health care, the nursing profession, and nursing education. She is also Co-Chair of the Harvard-Penn-Lancet Commission on Women and Health, and has several recent publications: “A Passion in Nursing for Justice and Equity: Thoughts for the Future Using our Past,” with C.G. Glickman in Philosophies and Practices of Emanicipatory Nursing: Social Justice as Praxis, edited by P.N. Kagan, M.C. Smith, and P. Chinn; Preface to The Interprofessional Health Care Team: Leadership and Development by D. Weiss, E. Tilin, and M. Morgan; and (forthcoming) “Transition Theory” in 4th Edition of Smith and Parker’s Nursing Theories and Nursing Practice.

Laura Perna Edits Book

Laura Perna, Professor in the Graduate School of Education, edited with Anthony P. Jones The State of College Access and Completion: Improving College Success for Students from Underrepresented Groups. The book draws together leading researchers nationwide to summarize the state of college access and success and to provide recommendations for how institutional leaders and policymakers can effectively improve the entire spectrum of college access and completion.

Dana Tomlin Awarded Two Grants from Google

Dana Tomlin, Professor of Landscape Architecture and Co-Director of the Cartographic Modeling Laboratory, has been awarded two grants from Google, Inc. The first will support his development of a massive open online course (MOOC) on Map Algebra. The second will support creation of a course on geospatial software design that will be offered at both Penn and Yale and which will experiment with new alternatives to traditional classroom instruction.

Domenic Vitiello Researches Food Systems, Publishes

Domenic Vitiello, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, spent the summer conducting research with gardeners and farmers in Camden, New Jersey, and studying food production and distribution from Chicago’s community gardens with economics major and urban studies minor Jenny Chen, building on their collaboration in Penn IUR’s 2013 UURC. This fall, Cornell University Press is publishing Domenic’s second book, Engineering Philadelphia: The Sellers Family and the Industrial Metropolis, which recounts the history of urban economic development planning from the 1680s to the mid-twentieth century.
Vukan R. Vuchic Lectures Internationally

Vukan R. Vuchic, Emeritus Professor of Transportation Engineering and Professor of City and Regional Planning, presented the keynote speech at the Korean Railroad Research Institute’s annual meeting in Seoul, Korea, speaking on “Development and Increasing Roles of Urban Rail Transit and High-Speed Rail Systems.” He was also invited to Moscow and St. Petersburg for a series of lectures about urban transportation policies and planning in March and April and then chaired an International Expert Committee to evaluate plans for reconstruction of two major boulevards.

Barbra Mann Wall Wins Lindback Award

Barbra Mann Wall, Associate Professor, Evan C. Thompson Endowed Term Chair for Excellence in Teaching in the School of Nursing and Associate Director, Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, is a winner of Penn’s Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

Laura Wolf-Powers Publishes on Employment in Central Cities

Laura Wolf-Powers, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, will have her working paper, entitled “Predictors of Employment Growth and Unemployment in U.S. Central Cities, 1990-2010,” published by The Upjohn Institute for Employment Research.

Robert Yaro Testifies Before Congress on Rail Bill

Robert Yaro, Professor of Practice in the Department of City and Regional Planning, testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the economic benefits of the Northeast Corridor, the railway running from Boston to Washington, D.C. The impetus for the hearing is that the current federal rail bill expires this fall and Congress began negotiating the next bill this summer. In his testimony, Yaro outlined the main components of an improvement program that can be included in the rail bill’s reauthorization.

Susan Wachter Testifies Before Congress on Housing Policy

Susan Wachter, Richard B. Worley Professor of Financial Management and Professor of Real Estate and Finance at The Wharton School, Co-Director of Penn Institute for Urban Research and Director of the Wharton GIS Lab, testified before the House of Representatives on government housing policy’s role in the financial crisis, keynoted on real estate prices at the 2013 SKBI Conference on Financial Economics at Singapore Management University, and spoke on mortgage risk at the American Enterprise Institute’s International Conference on Collateral Risk.
Penn IUR Hosts Conference on Food Security in Cities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The first full day of programming began with an introduction by Vincent Price, University of Pennsylvania Provost, and a keynote address from Heather Grady, Vice President for Foundation Initiatives at The Rockefeller Foundation. After welcoming remarks from Price, Grady provided a comprehensive summary of the critical relationship between population growth, urbanization, and food production, as well as of the Foundation’s long-term commitment to helping cities and national governments build resilient food systems.

In the plenary and breakout panels that followed, conference participants delved into issues of ecologically sustainable agricultural and animal production, water, energy, and nutrient management, the geopolitics of food, as well as the urban diet shift and the public health challenges that accompany urbanization worldwide. Among the many high-profile speakers were Udaya Gammanpila, Minister of Agriculture, Minor Irrigation, Industries & Environment (Western Province) Sri Lanka; Jim Harkness, President of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP); Carl Hausmann, Global Policy Advisor at Bunge Limited; and Raj Khosla, Professor of Precision Agriculture at Colorado State University and Lead U.S. government representative on the Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS) for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). Sessions featured experts from the university and around the world that examined food sovereignty and local food politics, peri-urban food production and land management at the rural-urban fringe, and livestock production systems across India, China, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Brazil.

Other conference highlights included:
• Real-time media coverage by bloggers and reporters representing Next City, UBM’s Future Cities, the Citistates Group, and the Penn Gazette;
• A special photography exhibition curated by Professor Joshua Mosley, Chair of the Department of Fine Arts at PennDesign that showcased the work of Penn faculty, staff, students, and alumni;
• An address from Barry Popkin, the W. R. Kenan, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Nutrition, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, on the changing nature of human diets and health in the rapidly urbanizing regions of Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as a talk by Drew Becher, President of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, who outlined steps being taken to improve access to fresh nutritious foods in Philadelphia; and
• A concluding plenary session that engaged speakers and attendees in a dialogue on the creation of teaching, research, and practice-based coalitions dedicated to ensuring a secure, sustainable and equitable food distribution system for the twenty-first century, with participation from both the public and private sectors.

The Feeding Cities conference served as a call for all those working to hold a constructive dialogue examining policy and planning solutions related to:
• Food production: the science of producing safe and adequate food in the appropriate place considering current and projected urban and agricultural land-use pressures on the environment;
• Food distribution: the policies and logistics underlying global and local food distribution systems; and
• Food delivery: emerging trends in diets and nutritional demands across the globe with a focus on place-based food access and nutritional health.

In establishing these areas of research and the interactions among them, the Feeding Cities conference drew attention to the fact that food security considerations must be integrated into broader public economic development policy by national and municipal governments and by donor and lender groups.

The Feeding Cities conference was made possible by support from The Rockefeller Foundation and the University of Pennsylvania’s Office of the Vice Provost for Global Initiatives. For more information about the conference visit http://www.feedingcities.com.
On April 22, MUSA and Penn IUR celebrated Earth Day by hosting a lecture by Deputy Director of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the University of Maryland’s Joint Global Change Research Institute Marc Imhoff. In his lecture “Urbanization in the Anthropocene: What’s Ahead for Energy, Climate, and Food Security?” Imhoff demonstrated how satellite imagery and geospatial data provide valuable insight into the influence of human activities on the environment.

Imhoff’s talk had a Malthusian bent, showing the enormous impact human activities have on the global environment and the potential limits for population growth. He showed that 43 percent of Earth’s total land area is devoted to agricultural production. Imhoff pointed out that limits on growth are due to a loss of prime agricultural land.

Rather than treating limits to growth as the limits of the human endeavor, however, Imhoff argued that his and related work should be viewed as a means to better understand challenges and as a step towards overcoming them. To that end, he introduced integrated assessment modeling as a way of better understanding the interaction between climate, land cover, the economy, and trade by stringing together models that describe these processes. This approach, he explained, allows researchers to simulate policy solutions to climate and food security issues. He showed, for example, how warming trends could influence the balance of gas and oil use (usually used for heating) versus electricity (usually used for air conditioning) in the United States as warming increases, and that more southerly states will see increased demand for energy while more northerly states might enjoy a net savings.

City Planning Professor John Landis commented on Imhoff’s talk and then joined him in taking questions from the audience.

Earth Day: Top, Marc Imhoff, Deputy Director of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and the University of Maryland’s Joint Global Change Research Institute, presented on Earth Day. Middle, John Landis, City Planning Professor and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow, responded to Imhoff’s talk. Bottom, Marc Imhoff, John Landis, and Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter.

“The Future of Financing Energy Efficient Buildings,” held at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, featured a panel including Scott Muldavin, Executive Director; Green Buildings Finance Baxter Wasson, Director of Credit Structuring, Deutsche Bank; James Finlay, Vice President and Senior Commercial Real Estate Appraisal Manager, Wells Fargo; and Michael Meehan, CEO, Zerofootprint USA which identified barriers and recommendations to financing energy retrofits.

The “Building Energy Efficiency, Finding Strategies that Work” event was organized in partnership with Penn's Initiative for Environmental Leadership (IGEL), the Wharton Risk Management Center and the Wharton Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and took place at SAP’s U.S. headquarters in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. Panelists included Richard Bernknopf, Professor of Research at the University of New Mexico; Brad Molotsky, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, Brandywine Realty Trust; and Matthew Kwatinetz, EEB Hub Investigator. They discussed, among other topics, how a cap-and-trade program could contribute to the financing of energy retrofits; the potential for both owners and tenants to push forward the adoption of energy retrofits; and findings from Penn IUR work establishing value premiums for buildings with LEED and Energy Star label.

Penn IUR and the Wharton School’s GIS Lab organized “Best Practices for Financing of Energy Retrofits” in conjunction with the launch of the EEB Hub Finance and Real Estate Platform, a working group that identifies ways to accelerate investments in small commercial and multi-family energy retrofit projects in the Philadelphia region. Participants reviewed the state of the market, identifying potential solutions to the challenges of investing in energy efficiency. After an introduction by Laurie Actman, Deputy Director of the EEB Hub, and Jacqui Jenkins, leader of the EEB Hub’s efforts to catalyze the energy retrofit sector, Jays Merves from the New York City Energy Efficiency Corporation presented his work on providing financing for energy retrofit projects, and was followed by a panel of experts on financing strategies composed of Joel Freehling, Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure Group; Deane Evans, New Jersey Institute of Technology; Alexandra Lieberman, Connecticut Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority; Jonathan Cloud, NJ PACE; and Roger Clark, The Reinvestment Fund. Susan Wachter moderated the panel and Brad Molotsky commented on the presentations and joined the panel discussion afterwards.

**Penn IUR Addresses Financing of Energy Efficient Building Upgrades**

**Financing Energy Efficient Buildings:** Left: Manitoba Hydro Place, an energy efficient office building in Winnipeg, Canada. Right: Rendering by Kieran Timberlake of retrofit plans for Building 661 in Philadelphia’s Navy Yard.
Penn IUR advances energy efficient development in the Asia Pacific

Penn IUR organized a workshop in Thailand at the 45th semi-annual meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation’s (APEC’s) Energy Working Group (EWG) as part of Penn IUR’s second year of partnering with the group.

In the first year, Penn IUR created a web-based Knowledge Sharing Platform for the Energy Smart Communities Initiative (known as the ESCI-KSP), which provides APEC economies with case studies on energy efficient design and best practices for their expanding urban development. In this second year, Penn IUR is curating the new platform, increasing the knowledge base, and promoting its usage. Co-Director Eugénie Birch and Project Manager Alon Abramson traveled to Samui Island, Thailand as part of this effort.

The workshop, which Penn IUR organized with partners from the Taiwan Institute for Economic Research (TIER), brought attention to the ESCI-KSP as a valuable tool for APEC members. Birch presented the ESCI-KSP website’s layout and functionality at the workshop, and again at the following day’s official meeting with a wider audience of EWG members. The response from the 150 attendees representing APEC’s twenty-one member economies was overwhelmingly positive.

ESCI was launched in 2010 as a joint initiative by U.S. President Obama and Japanese Prime Minister Kan. Its purpose is to aid APEC in achieving its energy intensity reduction goals, which requires more efficient use of energy in the building and transportation sectors as the economic output of the region grows.

ESCI also focuses on best practices related to smart grid development and education and training programs to create a competent workforce, which are fundamental to accomplishing the goal of reducing energy use.

The ESCI-KSP can be found here at http://esci-ksp.org.

Penn IUR provides sustainability measures to communities

Penn IUR, with funding from the Ford Foundation, enlisted a team of city planning doctoral students to develop the Sustainable Communities Indicator Catalog (SCIC), a web-based tool that helps communities track their progress toward sustainability and livability. In 2012-2013, Penn IUR consulted extensively with experts and stakeholders to inform the development of this tool, with plans to launch it on http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov by the end of 2013.

The SCIC is a set of flexible, scalable indicators applicable to communities of varying sizes and with varying goals. The database is searchable, allowing communities to find indicators appropriate to their projects and their desired outcomes. The site highlights certain priority indicators, describing how each relates to sustainability and detailing its use.

Penn IUR developed the SCIC for the Partnership for Sustainable Communities’ (PSC), a partnership among three federal agencies: Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In creating the SCIC, Penn IUR built on its research from previous years and consulted closely with representatives from the PSC agencies, with Sustainable Communities grantees, and with other stakeholders. In March 2013, Penn IUR hosted an expert workshop at the U.S. Department of Transportation and, in early May 2013, a second workshop at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. The team received additional feedback after presenting to professional associations in the United States and abroad, including the 2013 Federal Reserve Community Development Conference, the OECD, the Urban Affairs Association, and others.

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Priority Indicators: The SCIC highlights those indicators likely to be most valuable in measuring progress toward sustainability, though it also includes dozens of additional indicators so that users can tailor it to their own community’s goals.
UURC CONNECTS PROMISING URBAN-FOCUSED SCHOLARS WITH FACULTY MENTORS

The 9th annual offering of the Undergraduate Urban Research Colloquium (UURC) during the Spring 2013 term brought undergraduate scholars from across campus to study, learn, and conduct research on urban issues and urban research methods. Penn IUR sponsors the UURC, an advanced research seminar for undergraduates, in which students with an interest in urban-focused research team up with a faculty mentor with expertise in their area of interest.

Students worked on projects that addressed urban questions such as: What drives spatial concentration of murders in Philadelphia? Why do some neighborhoods in Philadelphia have higher prevalence of HIV and AIDS than others? Projects highlighted interventions to make urban areas more livable and sustainable, including a case study of transit oriented development along the Arlington, Virginia Metro corridor in northern Virginia and a study of “Smart City” initiatives where cities and regions are integrating information and communication technology to improve energy efficiency and streamline governance. Still other UURC projects examined urban issues related to arts-based life skills teaching for young urban women, informal housing and real estate markets in India, and urban agriculture initiatives in Philadelphia and Chicago. The student-faculty pairs who took part in Spring 2013 are listed in the table below.

Final reports and posters on the UURC research projects are available at the Penn IUR website.

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<td>Andrew Mondschein, PennDesign</td>
<td>Juan Visser, Urban Studies</td>
<td>Transit Oriented Development in the Arlington, Virginia Metro Corridor</td>
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<td>Eugenie Birch, PennDesign</td>
<td>Alexandra Bendheim, Urban Studies</td>
<td>Identifying Smart City Initiatives</td>
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<td>Bridgette Brawner, Nursing</td>
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<td>Domenic Vitiello, PennDesign</td>
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<td>Eric Schneider, History</td>
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<td>Carolyn Cannuscio, Family Medicine &amp; Community Health</td>
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<td>Shahanah Chattaraj, Wharton Lauder Institute</td>
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PENN IUR CONVENES ROUNDTABLE IN ITALY ON TRANSFORMING CITIES

From August 27-30, Penn IUR, in partnership with the Forum for the Future and the Economist Intelligence Unit, convened the Future of Transforming Cities expert roundtable at The Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Center in Italy. The roundtable engaged twenty-six leaders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors in scenario-building exercises to articulate the drivers of change in urban areas and outline policy interventions needed to plan, finance, and implement public infrastructure. Among those in attendance were Hon. Nicholas K. Banda, MP, Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing, Zambia; Joan Clos, Undersecretary and Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT); Sheela Patel, Founder Director, Society for the Promotion of Area, Resource Centers (SPARC), Mumbai; Judith Rodin, President, The Rockefeller Foundation; and Sameh Wahba, Sector Manager, Urban Development and Resilience Unit, World Bank.

“Transform Cities” is one of the Rockefeller Foundation’s four areas of focus; the Foundation will hold three similar meetings over the next year on its other three areas of focus: “Secure Livelihoods,” “Revalue Ecosystems,” and “Advance Health.” Over the coming year, Penn IUR will report on the findings and engage in additional activities to turn the findings of the Transforming Cities roundtable into actionable policy recommendations for urban leaders. Visit http://www.penniur.upenn.edu and http://www.visionariesunbound.com for video interviews with roundtable participants and a library of resources on global urbanization. Here you will also find a special edition of The Economist, entitled “Transforming Cities,” which compiles select articles from 2013-2014 on urbanization.

http://www.visionariesunbound.com

Penn IUR and the Economist Intelligence Unit Resources and interviews on global urbanization

While the discussion focused mainly on rapidly urbanizing regions, with special attention paid to fostering cross-sectoral collaborations in these regions, participants also discussed strengthening partnerships among developing countries and between developed and developing countries in order to create urban resiliency and equitable growth.
BOOK, PANEL, EXPLORE MISALIGNMENT BETWEEN EDUCATION AND JOBS IN URBAN AMERICA

On January 30, Faculty Fellow Laura Perna and several colleagues took part in a panel discussion on how to bridge the gaps between workers’ training and employers’ requirements and provide urban workers with the educational qualifications and skills they need for real-world jobs. Perna, Professor in the Graduate School of Education, edited Preparing Today’s Students for Tomorrow’s Jobs in Metropolitan America, a recent volume in the City in the 21st Century Series edited by Penn IUR and published by Penn Press.

Preparation Today’s Students for Tomorrow’s Jobs in Metropolitan America includes contributions from twenty-one authors, three of whom participated in the January event: Thomas Bailey, the George and Abby O’Neill Professor of Economics and Education at Teachers College, Columbia University and Director of the Community College Research Center; Alan Ruby, Senior Fellow, Penn Graduate School of Education; and Laura Wolf-Powers, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning at PennDesign. Lori Shorr, Philadelphia’s Chief Education Officer, also joined the panel.

Acknowledging that adequately educating students is a nation-wide challenge, Perna noted that the “mismatch between the educational qualifications of the population and the educational requirements of jobs, both current jobs and future jobs, is particularly dramatic in our nation’s metropolitan areas, including Philadelphia.” The panel discussion focused on the highs and lows of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, teacher evaluation, and the concept of “workforce readiness.”

FORMER MAYOR OF MIAMI MANNY DIAZ ENGAGES AUDIENCE ON PUBLIC POLICY AND PERSONAL HISTORY

Manny Diaz, Penn IUR Advisory Board Member and former Mayor of Miami, Florida, spoke at Penn about his book Miami Transformed: Rebuilding America One Neighborhood, One City at a Time available through Penn IUR’s City in the 21st Century book series published by Penn Press.

At a fireside book talk on January 14, Diaz spoke of his own Miami childhood and his tenure as mayor. In a discussion with Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, Diaz discussed supporting Miami’s diverse neighborhoods, encouraging real estate development that would enhance city life, and the implications of immigration for growing cities.

Diaz was personally involved in the headline-grabbing Elian Gonzales case that rocked immigrant communities in Miami and across the country. An immigrant himself, Diaz became involved in the Gonzales case because “it’s a symbol that immigration matters.” While Diaz frankly discussed the challenges he faced as mayor, his story is one of positive change with Miami’s transformation into a growing city that supports the business community, the arts, and its diverse population.

Penn IUR Undergraduate Urban Research Colloquium (UURC)

The UURC is an advanced research seminar for undergraduates working on urban-focused research. Students team up with a faculty mentor with expertise in their area of interest. Student and faculty pairs come from academic departments throughout the University.
Penn Institute for Urban Research newsletter | Fall 2013

SUPERINTENDENT OF PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENGAGES IN ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

On January 9, Penn IUR, in partnership with the Penn Graduate School of Education and Penn’s Office of Government and Community Affairs, convened a group of scholars and experts from Penn and the greater Philadelphia area to engage in a roundtable discussion with William J. Hite, Jr., the Superintendent of the School District of Philadelphia. Hite began his role in Philadelphia in the fall of 2012 after serving as the Superintendent of Prince George’s County Public Schools in Maryland.

Previously he held academic leadership positions in Cobb County, Georgia and Henrico County, Virginia. The purpose of the roundtable discussion was to provide local leaders in educational research and practice the opportunity to collaborate on strengthening the district’s private partnerships, an area of considerable importance to Hite’s new administration.

The roundtable discussion focused on the expansion of the role of private philanthropy in the School District. In light of cuts in state funding and declining student enrollment in recent years, the District faces especially challenging fiscal difficulties in the coming years. In fact, Hite released his “Action Plan v1.0” only days before the discussion, allowing those in attendance an opportunity for an informed dialogue on the District’s reform plan. The roundtable discussion enabled local leaders in educational research and practice the opportunity to discuss collaborating on strengthening the District’s private partnerships, an area of considerable importance to Hite’s new administration.

Strengthening Private Partnerships: The roundtable discussion focused on strengthening private partnerships to support the Philadelphia School District. From left, Jeffrey Cooper, Penn’s Vice President of Government and Community Affairs; Susan Wachter, Penn IUR Co-Director, William J. Hite, Jr., Superintendent of the Philadelphia School District, and Eugénie Birch, Penn IUR Co-Director.

ENDED “TOO BIG TO FAIL”
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

managed its losses and liquidity needs entirely through its industry-funded reserves during the crisis and, despite depleted resources, did not need taxpayer borrowing.

While Chair of the FDIC, she also worked with the Federal Reserve Bank and the Treasury Department to stabilize troubled institutions, considered so important to the financial system, and representing so many trillions of dollars in assets that the government felt it had to intervene and rescue them — institutions deemed “too big to fail” (such as Wachovia, Citibank, and Bank of America).

Bair suggested preventive tools such as mandatory, detailed succession plans. She argued that the financial crisis highlighted the need to develop innovative programs that can stabilize institutions by providing temporary liquidity guarantees, thereby unfreezing credit markets without requiring taxpayer money.

The panel discussion that followed reinforced many of Bair’s points, in particular the need to create certainty about when the government will intervene and in what form. Panelists also supported the implementation of risk retention requirements that, while increasing the cost of credit, would also increase economic stability. In sum, the panel agreed on the need for simplification of large institutions, regulation of leverage, and reform of the status of regulators to avoid conflicts of interest.

PENN IUR WELCOMES THEASTER GATES

On February 28, 2013, Penn IUR and PennDesign welcomed Theaster Gates, Director of Arts and Public Life at the University of Chicago, to speak at Penn. Gates, who trained as an urban planner and ceramicist, lectured on arts and public life, a contemplation on community, industry, education, and art.

In his talk at Penn, Gates explored the intersection between community development and art. He discussed his Spring 2013 exhibit at Philadelphia’s Fabric Museum and Workshop, entitled Soul Manufacturing Corporation, in which artists collaborate to publicly create clay-, wood-, and textile-based objects.

Arts and Public Life: Theaster Gates, Director of Arts and Public Life at the University of Chicago, lectured at Penn on the intersection between community development and art. Photo credit B. Doherty/PennDesign.
**Revitalizing American Cities**  
Edited by Susan M. Wachter and Kimberly A. Zeuli

“The American economy’s success resides in its ability to continually remake itself. This is clearest in our cities. Read this book to understand why some cities succeed at this and others fall short.”  
- Mark Zandi, Chief Economist, Moody’s Analytics

“If you’re a mayor, economic developer, city builder, scholar or student who wants to understand how small and medium sized cities have fared in our rapidly changing economy, then *Revitalizing American Cities* is the book for you. Wachter and Zeuli bring together a wide range of scholars to consider how and why these cities have combated decline and revitalized and become more resilient, the role of neighborhood factors in urban revitalization, and how cities can best adapt to the new economy.”  
- Richard Florida, author, *The Rise of the Creative Class*, University of Toronto and NYU

“America’s older industrial cities once powered the nation’s economy—now these places must adapt to a new reality in which the U.S. manufacturing industry is no longer ascendant. Required reading for anyone working to stabilize and strengthen America’s industrial cities.”  
- Manny Diaz, former Mayor of Miami, Florida and past President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors

“Taking a timely look at the struggles of America’s smaller, older cities, Wachter and Zeuli have assembled a group of accomplished scholars to consider how these cities can adapt and thrive in an economy very different from the one in which they matured. These essays provide what policymakers and practitioners need: practical strategies for reinvention based on well-documented evidence and compelling examples.”  
- Sarah Rosen Wartell, President, The Urban Institute

“Wachter and Zeuli have created an invaluable resource for anyone involved in reinvigorating our struggling cities. This volume offers important insights into the practices needed to create the kinds of vital cities necessary for broader economic opportunity for all.”  
- Marc H. Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League

*Revitalizing American Cities*, the latest book in the City in the 21st Century book series, will be available in December 2013. To order this and other books in the series visit the University of Pennsylvania Press at http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/series/C21.html.

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**The City in the 21st Century book series**  
Eugénie Birch and Susan Wachter, Series Editors  
Published by the University of Pennsylvania Press

The City in the 21st Century is a heterodox, interdisciplinary series of books addressing both topical and long-range issues confronting the world’s cities, from disaster response to cultural coexistence, from civic engagement to urban revitalization.
About Penn IUR
The Penn Institute for Urban Research (Penn IUR) is dedicated to advancing cross-disciplinary urban-focused research, instruction, and civic engagement on issues relevant to cities around the world. As the global population becomes increasingly urban, understanding cities is vital to informed decision-making and public policy at the local, national, and international levels. Penn IUR has a strong focus on research that informs the sustainable and inclusive twenty-first-century city. By providing a forum for collaborative scholarship and instruction at Penn and beyond, Penn IUR stimulates research and engages with urban practitioners and policymakers to inform urban policy.

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Contact Information
G-12 Meyerson Hall
210 South 34th Street
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6311
phone 215.573.8386
fax 215.898.5731
penniur@pobox.upenn.edu
www.penniur.upenn.edu
www.facebook.com/penniur.upenn
www.twitter.com/penniur
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