

RESEARCH

## Urban Fiscal Stability & Public Pensions



MUNICIPAL STABILITY: Marcia Van Wagner answers an audience question. To her right, panelists Rob Dubow, Richard Ravitch, Matt Fabian and moderator Robin Prunty. To her right, panelist James Spiotto.

In the wake of the financial crisis, municipalities have faced major fiscal challenges related to fluctuations in pension liabilities. On November 11, Penn IUR hosted a public event entitled "Urban Fiscal Stability and Public Pensions: Sustainability Moving Forward," which convened academics and practitioners to discuss critical questions around municipal fiscal stability. Panelists identified best practices and potential avenues for reform, focusing on legacy issues of funding public pensions and evaluating strategies for financial sustainability.

In the event's first panel, Robert Inman, Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy at The Wharton School; Mathew McCubbins, Professor of Law and Political Science at Duke Law; Amy Monahan, Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota Law School; and Joshua Rauh, Professor of Finance at Stanford Graduate School of Business, presented recent work in these areas. Olivia Mitchell, Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy at The Wharton School and

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CONVENING

## Partnering with Penn Nursing to Improve Women's Health

As the final event in Penn IUR's year-long 10th anniversary lecture series, Penn IUR hosted on December 3 "Urban Women's Health in the United Nation's Post-2015 Agenda." The conference,

co-sponsored with the Center for Global Women's Health at Penn Nursing, examined proposed targets for global women's health to be put forward in the Framework for the United Nations'

Post-2015 Agenda, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Conference speakers addressed a broad array of women's health issues related to the proposed targets, including

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# Upcoming Events

VISIT [PENNIUR.UPENN.EDU](http://PENNIUR.UPENN.EDU) FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO REGISTER

## FEBRUARY 5, 2015

PENN IUR & LARP PUBLIC EVENT

*THE ANNUAL IAN MCHARG LECTURE: LAURIE OLIN*

MEYERSON HALL, LOWER GALLERY | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Penn IUR and the Department of Landscape Architecture are hosting this lecture by Laurie D. Olin, Practice Professor of Landscape Architecture in Penn's School of Design. Olin, who has taught at Penn for over thirty years, was recently chosen to serve as the landscape architect for the Barnes Foundation's new art education center to be located on Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Olin's redesign of the Washington Monument grounds received the 2008 Design Honor Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects. Olin, along with his five partners, received the 2008 Landscape Design Award from the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum for excellence and innovation in landscape design and dedication to sustainability.

## FEBRUARY 6, 2015

PENN IUR MUSA LUNCH SERIES

*GIS, CRIME ANALYSIS, AND RISK TERRAIN MODELING*

MEYERSON HALL, G-12 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Please join Penn IUR for the February MUSA lunch session featuring Joel Caplan, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Rutgers University. Caplan is Deputy Director of the Rutgers Center on Public Security, which focuses on innovative data analysis and information dissemination for strategic decision-making on matters of public safety and national security. He will discuss his work in the development of Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM), a methodology that employs GIS and spatial analysis in evaluating illegal behavior, crime patterns, and spatial risks.

## FEBRUARY 12, 2015

PENN COMMUNITY EVENT

*PENN IUR URBAN DOCTORAL POSTER SESSION AND PENN IUR FACULTY FELLOW RECEPTION*

MEYERSON HALL, G-12 | 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

This event highlights the work of urban-focused doctoral students from across the University and will celebrate the research contributions of Penn IUR Faculty Fellows. The event is by invitation only and will include poster presentations by doctoral students and a responding panel discussion by select Penn IUR Faculty Fellows. If you are a Penn Ph.D. student researching an urban topic and are interested in presenting a poster in an intimate setting to other doctoral students and faculty, please contact [lbarron@upenn.edu](mailto:lbarron@upenn.edu).

## MARCH 18, 2015

PENN IUR EXPERT ROUNDTABLE AND PUBLIC INTEREST EVENT

*THE FUTURE OF THE U.S. HOUSING FINANCE SYSTEM: BRINGING THE U.S. RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FINANCE SYSTEM INTO THE 21ST CENTURY*

JON HUNTSMAN HALL G50, THE WHARTON SCHOOL | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

This event brings together a diverse group of academics and housing policy experts to discuss how to bring the U.S. system of mortgage finance into the twenty-first century. The public lecture will feature a panel of experts including Ted Tozer, President, Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Mae); Edward Golding, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); Peter Carroll, Senior Vice President of Capital Markets, Wells Fargo Home Mortgages; David Stevens, President & CEO, Mortgage Bankers Association (invited); Robert Ryan, Senior Advisor, Federal Housing Finance Agency (invited); and Josh Rosner, Managing Director, Graham Fisher & Co. This event is co-hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative.

## MARCH 20 AND 27, 2015

PENN IUR MUSA LUNCH SERIES

*CIVIC TECHNOLOGY AT A GLANCE (MODULE I, MARCH 20)*

*WORKING IN THE CIVIC TECHNOLOGY SPACE (MODULE II, MARCH 27)*

MEYERSON HALL, G-12 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Penn IUR and MUSA are presenting this two-part series on the impact that innovative technologies are having on both the public and private sectors. The two sessions will offer a deep dive into the expanding role of technology in and around government and not-for-profit organizations and the opportunities for new products and businesses. The first event, "Civic Technology at a Glance," will provide an overview of the building blocks of civic tech and today's market environment. The second event, "Working in the Civic Technology Space," will offer an in-depth look at how this emerging civic technology field operates, with a discussion of the interactions of civic tech firms, government, and the public. Todd Baylson, Technology Procurement Advocate for Philadelphia's Office of Innovation and Technology, will lead the sessions.

## APRIL 9, 2015

*11TH ANNUAL PENN IUR URBAN LEADERSHIP FORUM*

VAN PELT LIBRARY, CLASS OF 78 PAVILION, 6TH FLOOR |

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

The Annual Penn IUR Urban Leadership Forum recognizes exemplary thinkers who have demonstrated the vision to revitalize urban centers, respond to urban crises, and champion urban sustainability in the United States and around the globe. The 2015 Forum will honor Renee Lewis Glover, Chair of the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity International and Former President and CEO of the Atlanta Housing Authority, and Michael Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

## APRIL 13, 2015

PENN IUR & LARP PUBLIC EVENT

*PIERRE BÉLANGER: "1 : 1 BILLION ON LANDSCAPE, INFRASTRUCTURE, POWER"*

MEYERSON HALL, B3 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Penn IUR has partnered with Landscape Architecture to present a talk about urbanism with Pierre Bélanger, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture and Co-Director of the Master of Design Studies (MDes) Postgraduate Design Research Program at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Cross-appointed with Harvard's Department of Landscape Architecture and the Advanced Studies Program, Bélanger teaches and coordinates graduate courses on the convergence of ecology, infrastructure, media, and urbanism in the interrelated fields of design, communications, planning, and engineering. Bélanger is currently completing two manuscripts on infrastructure and urbanism. His work has been recognized by professional associations and scholars worldwide.

## APRIL 22, 2015

MUSA EARTH DAY LECTURE

*GLOBAL MAPPING AND REMOTE SENSING FOR SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION*

MEYERSON HALL, LOWER GALLERY | 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Join Penn IUR and MUSA for a panel discussion on emerging research and technology for developing Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The UN's inclusion of a stand-alone urban SDG for sustainable cities and human settlement in the post-2015 development agenda marks an important turning point in how we think about the future of cities and their role in addressing climate change, environmental sustainability, and social equity. This annual Earth Day event will bring together scholars and research experts to discuss issues of global urbanization and the technology and directions in research that are emerging in this area.

# Faculty Spotlight: Wendell Pritchett



**WENDELL PRITCHETT** began his tenure as Interim Dean and Presidential Professor in the Law School on July 1. A Penn Law professor from 2001–09, Pritchett most recently served as Chancellor of Rutgers-Camden from 2009–14. In 2008, he served as Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Policy for Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, who also appointed him to the School Reform Commission, where he served from 2011–14. Prior to that, in 2007, he chaired the Urban Policy Task Force for then-Senator Barack Obama's presidential campaign. Pritchett's research examines the development of post-war urban policy, in particular urban renewal, housing finance, and housing discrimination.

## 1. WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES FOR YOUR TERM AS INTERIM DEAN OF THE LAW SCHOOL?

My highest priority is to keep up the momentum the last Dean generated over the last fourteen years of excellent work. He had a lot of priorities, including recruiting the best and the brightest faculty and students as well as building out our interdisciplinary program — our law school does a lot with other schools around the university and many of our students take classes in other parts of the university. Just one data point: 70 percent of our 2014 graduates also received a certificate or a joint degree, which is something we're really proud of. My top priority is continuing to recruit faculty and students and to build our relationships with the rest of the university and beyond.

## 2. YOU ARE A SCHOLAR, LAWYER, AUTHOR, AND HISTORIAN WITH A FOCUS ON URBAN HISTORY AND POLICY. YOU HAVE ALSO BEEN PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS. HOW HAVE YOUR ACADEMIC AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES INFLUENCED EACH OTHER OVER THE COURSE OF YOUR CAREER?

I think they're completely intertwined. I don't really see a distinction between academic work and civic work. I think as a law professor, in particular, academic, and civic activities are deeply interrelated — the things that I study are the things that I'm trying to influence. Other academics may see it a little bit differently, but I think that's how most of us law academics look at the world. With regard to urban policy and urban development issues, I've really been fortunate to have the opportunity over the last decade to implement some of the things I've been thinking about.

## 3. SPECIFICALLY, IN ADDITION TO YOUR APPOINTMENT AS INTERIM DEAN, YOU HAVE ALSO BEEN APPOINTED PRESIDENTIAL PROFESSOR. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON HOW YOUR RESEARCH IN THE FUTURE WILL BE IMPACTED BY YOUR CIVIC AND UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP?

Again, they're completely connected in my mind. First of all, it's a great honor to be the Presidential Professor; it really is a wonderful title to have. Penn has been a part of my life for a long time and I'm really looking forward to working, as a faculty member, with students and other faculty — not only in the Law School, but also across the schools — to expand knowledge and use it in ways that improve society. So while the title is an honorific, I think it puts me in a good position to be able to do those things.

## 4. HAVING SERVED ON THE SCHOOL REFORM COMMISSION AND AS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF AND DIRECTOR OF POLICY FOR MAYOR NUTTER, YOU HAVE UNIQUE INSIGHT INTO THE CHALLENGES PHILADELPHIA'S SCHOOLS FACE. WHAT DO YOU THINK CAN BE DONE TO IMPROVE EDUCATION IN PHILADELPHIA?

First, if you study the history of public education in this country, you will find very quickly that public education has always been in crisis. So I consider statements about the crisis of public education in the context of that historical fact.

Second, I think that over the past thirty years we've made a lot of progress in public education in the City of Philadelphia. We have more students included in the public educational system than we used to, we have more good options for students than we used to, and we have more students who move on to lives of

success than we used to. Now, in all three of those areas we are still failing way too many students, so we should not declare victory — but we've made a lot of progress.

Now, to answer your question: I think we have to focus on having more options for students to develop their talents. I think we have to give them more opportunities to pursue the things that they're interested in. If you look at the schools that are most successful, they're often schools where there's a particular focus — music, drama, technology, public affairs — where students are choosing to learn about things that they're interested in. We know now from great science — done by people at this university — that people are more engaged when they're focused on things they care about and when they understand why they're doing them. In those cases, people retain knowledge at a much higher level. So I think we need to improve and increase the number of opportunities for students to do things that they care about.

I think we also need to focus less on what specific content each student needs to master before we give them a high school degree, and put much more focus on building the skills that they need to be successful in life. We spend way too much time talking about the specific facts that students need to know and not enough time talking about how we develop the skills that they need to be successful. I think we've made progress, but there's still a lot of work to do.

## 5. IN YOUR ROLE AS CHANCELLOR OF RUTGERS-CAMDEN, YOU WERE KNOWN FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO CREATE CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND THE CITY OF CAMDEN. WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DO YOU SEE TO FURTHER PENN'S IMPACT IN ITS COMMUNITY? DO YOU SEE A ROLE FOR THE LAW SCHOOL?

## CONVENING

# Sustainable Equitable Urban Food Systems

“Increasing choices for low-income people requires a comprehensive approach.”

Yael Lehman

As part of the 10th Anniversary Event Series, Penn IUR held a public panel event on September 30 entitled “Sustainable, Equitable, Urban Food Systems,” which convened speakers to present research and praxis around the challenges of making food healthy, affordable, and accessible in cities. The multidisciplinary panel included Yael Lehmann, Executive Director of The Food Trust and 2013 recipient of Penn IUR’s Urban Leadership Award; Tracy Ward, Executive Director of the Easton Economic Development Corporation; Eugénie Birch, Co-director of Penn IUR; Karen Glanz, George A. Weiss Professor of Epidemiology and Nursing at the Perlman School of Medicine; Jessie Handbury, Assistant Professor of Real Estate at the Wharton School; Amy Hillier, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning in Penn’s School of Design; Dominic Vitiello, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning in Penn’s School of Design; and moderator Charles Branas, Professor of Epidemiology at the Perlman School of Medicine. Panelists discussed questions of global, local, and urban food systems, the impact of the food environment and the built environment on public health, food security and equity gaps, the role of scientific innovation for global production, and the dynamic relationships between food production and supply, and environmental impact, risk, and resources.

Presentations focused on urban food systems and the need for improved access (in terms of both availability and affordability) to healthy foods for all demographic groups as well for more sustainable agricultural practices. Panelists emphasized the need for system-level changes in agricultural practices and food distribution infrastructure, as well as for educational and outreach initiatives aimed at improving the health of communities through access to and awareness of nutritious foods. Panelists also stressed the importance of the built environment and other social determinants as factors in public health outcomes, highlighting key areas in which policymakers, planners, and public health workers can intervene to address health outcomes. Lehman explained that, “increasing choices for low-income people requires a comprehensive approach.” She added that initiatives must be targeted at multiple levels, in “schools, neighborhoods, and at the city level, in order to change policies that can bring resources to increase access to affordable and healthy foods.”

Panelists emphasized the importance of scientific research for food systems planning and the need to consider human health, environmental health, and the intersection of the two in a system of globalized production and consumption. Specifically, Tracy Ward discussed the importance of sustainable agricultural practices in reversing the decline of the Chesapeake Bay. Topics covered by other panelists included: cultural trends in food consumption, including changing dietary habits; the rise and role of urban gardening and farming on vacant land; the economic and local benefits of food production employment; the impact of global food production and supply on climate change and the environment; the shocks to food production and supply caused by changes in energy costs and climate risks (e.g. flooding, drought, severe temperature); and the role of technological advances in improving the efficiency and resiliency of food production and water consumption.

To watch a video of the event, visit <http://penniur.upenn.edu/events/sustainable-food-systems>.



THE FOOD ENVIRONMENT: From left, Dominic Vitiello, Amy Hillier, Jessie Handbury, Karen Glanz, Eugénie Birch, Tracy Ward, and Yael Lehmann.

## LEADERSHIP

## Penn IUR Shapes Conversations Leading to Habitat III

Penn IUR is taking a prominent role in preparations for Habitat III, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development to take place in 2016. Habitat III will focus on the implementation of a New Urban Agenda that will guide sustainable urban development in coming years and build on the Habitat II Agenda of Istanbul in 1996. In Fall 2014, Penn IUR took the lead in two international preparatory meetings and, in the coming year, will support the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as it coordinates national planning for the 2016 summit. Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, as Co-Chair of the World Urban Campaign (WUC), UN-Habitat's advocacy and partnership platform for cities, is taking a leading role in these preparatory activities.

On September 16, Penn IUR co-hosted "Thinking Inside Out: How Cities Contribute to Solving Global Problems," an event that brought together academics and professionals from a range of fields to discuss the important role cities play in the UN's sustainable development goals (SDGs). Other sponsors included UN Habitat, The New School, and the Observatory on Latin America.

The event kicked off with a talk by Robert Buckley, Penn IUR Scholar and Studley Visiting Fellow at the Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs, who spoke about the inequality of housing in major cities, and specifically in New York City. Following Buckley's talk, Don Chen, Director of the Just Cities Initiative at the Ford Foundation, conducted a discussion with Buckley that touched

on the importance of the social function of land in equitable development.

Following that discussion, Karen Seto, Professor and Associate Dean for Research at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, gave a talk on how cities can contribute to mitigating global climate change. David Satterthwaite of the International Institute for Environment and Development in London, and Aromar Revi, Director of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements and Coordinator of the Campaign for Urban SDGs, spoke about the importance of SDGs in international sustainable development. Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch wrapped up the discussions with a call to action for the UN Habitat III's upcoming conference by saying that civil society can have an enormous impact in making cities more sustainable globally if we as citizens act as a cohesive unit and prioritize the issue.

Other speakers included Michael Cohen, Director of the Studley Graduate Program in International Affairs at the New School; Gulelat Kebede, Chief of the Urban Economy Branch at UN Habitat; and Shagun Mehotra, Assistant Professor of Environmental Policy and Sustainable Management at the New School. Doctoral candidates in City and Regional Planning at the Penn School of Design held poster presentations after the event.

On October 15-18, Birch traveled to Caserta, Italy, to take part in "The City We Need" process,

an initiative of the WUC to involve the global community of urban thinkers in the next step towards shaping the New Urban Agenda and strengthening partnerships in advance of the Habitat III Conference. At the meeting, held at the UN's Urban Thinkers Campus, key representatives gathered in constituent groups to reflect on current urban challenges and trends and to propose a new paradigm as a contribution to the New Urban Agenda to be delivered at the Habitat III. In addition, co-chairs and rapporteurs from each group came together in a joint drafting session, where they agreed on key principles underlying a sustainable urban future. A report detailing these findings can be found here: <http://unhabitat.org/urbanthinkersdocuments/>.

In addition to convenings such as those in Philadelphia and Caserta, Italy, preparations for Habitat III include the development of a US National Report that will showcase programs, ideas, and methods designed to solve the major problems facing cities. Penn IUR is supporting HUD in its authorship of the National Report.

Habitat III will be the first UN global summit after the adoption of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda and, hopefully, a new climate change agreement. It offers a unique opportunity to discuss the important challenge of how cities, towns and villages are planned and managed, in order to fulfill their role as drivers of sustainable development, and hence shape the implementation of new global development and climate change goals.



NEW URBAN AGENDA: *s part of the conversation leading up to Habitat III, Penn IUR co-hosted an event on cities' roles in promoting sustainable development worldwide (left). At another preparatory event Caserta, Italy, Joan Clos, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) speaks on current urban challenges (right).*

IN MEMORIAM

## Examination of War on Poverty Celebrates Katz's Work

On September 30, "The War on Poverty at 50: Its History and Legacy" conference brought together leading scholars and policy analysts to examine the key questions raised by the work of influential historian and social theorist Michael B. Katz. Katz, who died on August 23, challenged the idea that poverty is a product of the failures of poor people, laying the blame instead on systemic problems and on those more powerful. The conference, co-sponsored by the Penn Social Science & Policy Forum, Penn IUR, Urban Studies at Penn, and the Penn Department of History, celebrated Katz's enduring contribution to the study of poverty and public welfare.

Katz—who was a professor of history at Penn for thirty-six years, founded Penn's Urban Studies Program, and was a Penn IUR Faculty Fellow—wrote over a dozen books on the history of public welfare in the United States. In a new edition of one of his best-known books, *The Undeserving Poor*, he noted that "poverty is deeply rooted" in American life. "Before the twentieth century, the nation lacked both the economic surplus and policy tools to eradicate it." With the inception of the War on Poverty fifty years ago, however, economic abundance and new methods of providing social services joined together to confront poverty and, "for about a decade, this combination, backed by popular support and political will, did spectacularly well." Since then, "poverty has been allowed to grow again."



"The War on Poverty at 50: Its History and Legacy" examined some of the key questions Katz raised throughout his career. What worked and what did not in the War on Poverty? Were its successes and failures the outcome of methods or of political will? Where did the political will to declare such a war come from? And in twenty-first century America, can it ever be regained?

The conference, which began with a welcome from Thomas Sugrue, David Boies Professor of History and Sociology and Director of the Penn Social Science and Policy Forum, included a roundtable on Katz's classic book *The Undeserving Poor*, three panels, and a closing discussion. Over 300 people took part over the course of the day.

Wendell Pritchett, Interim Dean and Presidential Professor at Penn Law, moderated the opening roundtable on *The Undeserving Poor*, first published twenty-five years ago and in 2013 published as a fully revised 2nd edition. The roundtable featured presentations by Peter Edelman, Co-Director of the Joint Degree in Law and Public Policy, Faculty Director of the Center on Poverty, Inequality, and Public Policy, and Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Law and Public Policy at Georgetown Law; Ira Katznelson, President of the Social Science Research Council and Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia University; Gareth Stedman Jones, Director of the Centre for History and Economics at Cambridge University and Professor of the History of Ideas at Queen Mary, University of London; Alice O'Connor, Professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara; and William Julius Wilson, Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor and Director of Joblessness and Urban Poverty Research Program at Harvard University. Edelman reviewed the book's main themes, highlighting its comprehensiveness and continued relevance. Katznelson followed with a discussion focusing on Katz's insistence that questions of poverty are questions of collective fate. O'Connor continued this theme, lauding Katz's recognition that history and ideas can frame and influence attitudes toward poverty and policy. Stedman Jones concurred that historians like Katz can influence social policy, and went on to discuss the transformation of London into a city increasingly characterized by inequality and poverty. Williams closed the roundtable with an examination of a chapter new to the latest edition of *The Undeserving Poor*: "The Rise and

Fall of the 'Underclass.'" Williams discussed the term "underclass," applauding Katz's work to keep public and academic conversations about the plight of society's most disadvantaged honest and rigorous.

Eric Schneider, Assistant Dean and Associate Director for Academic Affairs and Adjunct Professor of History at Penn Arts & Sciences, chaired the first panel, entitled "Maximum Feasible Participation: Community, Poverty, and Policy." This panel featured young scholars who presented on specific War on Poverty programs. Gretchen Aguiar, 2012 graduate of the Penn History Department's doctoral program, discussed Head Start as an employment program; Crystal Sanders, Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies at Penn State, presented on Head Start's role in the black freedom struggle in Mississippi; and Merlin Chowkwanyun, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholar at the University of Wisconsin, spoke on Medicare, Medicaid, and health reform. Dorothy Roberts, George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology and the Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Professor of Civil Rights, concluded the panel by identifying commonalities among the programs discussed by panelists, and contrasting these programs with the present-day child welfare system.

In contrast to the generally positive slant taken by the first panel, the second panel, entitled "The War on Poverty's Neoliberal Legacies," took a distinctly critical view of the War on Poverty. After an introduction by Sophia Lee, Professor of Law and History at Penn Law, panelists Brian Purnell, Associate Professor of Africana Studies and History at Bowdoin College, Karen Tani, Assistant Professor of Law at UC-Berkeley Law School, and Heather Ann Thompson, Associate Professor of History, Department of African American Studies and Department of History, Temple University, presented papers. Purnell discussed the evolution of first-generation community development corporations (CDCs) and their role in the subsequent gentrification of the neighborhoods in which they were active. Tani examined three legal case studies that she argued helped create the legal underpinnings of a neoliberal welfare state. Thompson asserted that the "War on Poverty" merged into the "War on Crime" in such a way as to promote widespread

(CONTINUED ON P. 15)

## CONVENING

## Equity and Equality in America

The “Race, Poverty and Change in America: The Persistent Dilemmas of Equity and Equality” symposium on December 4 and 5 explored America’s sixty-year history of civil and equal rights in the midst of unemployment, high levels of incarceration, low-quality education, and neighborhood blight. The event honored the anniversaries of four social policies that address justice in America: *Brown v. Board*, the Civil Rights Act, the War on Poverty, and *Lau v. Nichols*. Held at Penn’s Law School, the symposium was sponsored by the Carter Chair in Child Development, Penn’s Graduate School of Education, the Center for Africana Studies, the Annenberg School for Communication, the Penn Institute for Urban Research, Penn Law, the School of Arts & Sciences, the School of Social Policy & Practice, the Wharton School Sports Business Initiative and centers at Penn GSE: the Alliance for Higher Education and Democracy, Center for Minority-Serving Institutions, Center for the Study of Race & Equity in Education, Philadelphia Writing Project, Penn Children’s Center, and National Center on Fathers and Families.

Vivian Gadsden—the William T. Carter Professor of Child Development; Professor of Education; Professor of Africana Studies; Faculty in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies; Director of National Center on Fathers and Families at Penn; Penn IUR Faculty Fellow; and co-sponsor of the symposium—

said event organizers wanted to bring scholars together to offer critical, interdisciplinary, and cross-domain perspectives on equality and justice. “The themes of race, poverty, and change in America are as relevant as ever, as our nation grapples with the recent tragedies in Ferguson, Missouri and Staten Island, New York. Racial politics, the realities of living as a minority in our country, and the complex and charged emotions attached to these themes are making front-page headlines every day,” she writes in the December issue of Penn IUR’s monthly newsletter, *Urban Link*. “In the face of such tragedy, and at a time when questions of equity and equality are at the forefront of the public consciousness, how can we further the dialogue about true and meaningful change?”

The symposium addressed this question, putting issues of race, place, poverty, and change in historical context. Bryan A. Stevenson, Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative and Professor of Clinical Law at New York University Law School, provided the keynote address, encouraging the audience to focus on the problems of the less fortunate. Mary Frances Berry, Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and Professor of History at Penn and the former chairwoman of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, discussed the history and persistence of protest.

The two-day conference included an opening plenary on the history and historiography of change; a roundtable on reducing vulnerability for families and neighborhoods; a panel on social justice, public policy, and the law; a tribute to John Lewis, Georgia (D), U.S. House of Representatives and Civil Rights Activist; a roundtable on the future of education, schools, and the well-being of children; a panel on access and opportunity in relation to immigration and language policy; and an examination of critical issues in the media and representations of race, poverty, and religion.

To watch the keynote address, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSNdOyra7IU>. To read Vivian Gadsden’s article in *Urban Link* on race, poverty, and change in America, visit <http://penniur.upenn.edu/publications/race-poverty-and-change-in-america>.



EQUITY AND EQUALITY: Vivian Gadsden welcomes attendees to the conference.

### **THE FUTURE OF THE U.S. HOUSING FINANCE SYSTEM BRINGING THE U.S. RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE FINANCE SYSTEM INTO THE 21ST CENTURY**

**MARCH 18, 2015**

JON HUNTSMAN HALL G50, THE WHARTON SCHOOL  
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

<http://penniur.upenn.edu/events/the-future-of-the-u.s.-housing-finance-system-bringing-the-u.s.-residential>

Sponsored by Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative, Penn Institute for Urban Research, & Federal Reserve Bank of New York

## RESEARCH

## Penn IUR Launches Platform Promoting Global Urban Research

Penn IUR launched in September the Global Urban Commons, a publicly accessible global directory of more than 200 university-based urban research centers and a source for news and information about global urban research. Penn IUR created the Commons in response to scholar and practitioner requests for a platform to build awareness about the breadth and depth of global urban research. The Commons was funded by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of its “Transforming Cities” initiative, which aims to address issues affecting urban areas and promote more equitable cities. The platform can be accessed here: <http://www.globalurbancommons.org>.

“Our aim was to build a dynamic meeting place for urbanists across the globe,” says Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, who led the creation of the Commons. “We hope the site will spark rich dialogue, and that ideas that begin online at the Commons will eventually progress into real-world collaborations that improve our world’s cities.”

While urban scholars and practitioners often wish to collaborate and share knowledge, they all-too-often lack communications tools to connect. The Commons fills this gap. It offers a searchable database, video-conferencing and blogging capacities, and information about its member organizations’ initiatives, news, publications, and education opportunities. The Commons is unique in that it reaches across disciplines,

supports common research agendas, and fosters opportunities for collaboration between urbanists at research centers around the world.

The Commons is kicking off with a special series in conjunction with Towards the Human City, a project that aims to identify, document, and communicate initiatives that make cities more human and inclusive (see page 9 for more on the series). The series, which follows the Towards the Human City Co-Directors as they travel to thirty-

six cities on five continents over the next year to document over 100 initiatives that aim to improve cities and make them more human and inclusive, will appear on the Global Urban Commons blog.

In 2015, The Global Urban Commons will continue to grow, featuring guest writers and adding new content including new series, interviews with scholars and authors, articles on urban research and field collaborations, and additional resources for scholars and builders of our urban world.



## RESEARCH

## CBEI Tool Use Guides

Penn IUR is expanding its work with the Consortium for Building Energy Innovation (CBEI, formerly the Energy Efficient Buildings Hub (EEB Hub)) by developing user guides for Department of Energy (DOE) -created tools to help the building industry save energy. These tools—which include software, models, and guides—save effort and improve accuracy when used properly, but they have an initial learning curve. Penn IUR, now in its fourth year of working with the CBEI, is creating the tool use guides that the CBEI needs to best serve its audience.

Penn IUR first guide is for DOE’s recently released Energy Asset Score Tool (EAS). EAS rates the overall energy efficiency of a property’s physical systems by accounting for the building’s physical attributes—such as wall material, window types,

lighting, heating and cooling equipment, etc.—and evaluating how well that building should perform. Its value is in its estimation of a building’s *potential* performance, independent of its actual performance (which depends on how the building is operated.) Penn IUR’s guide walks a user through the tool’s purpose, use, and output.

The CBEI, based at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was established by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in 2011 to stimulate innovative research on methods to make the nation’s existing building stock more energy efficient. Involving fourteen partners from academia and practice, its goal is to develop market-tested pathways to achieve 50 percent energy reduction in existing commercial buildings. Penn IUR works as a CBEI partner in a university-wide team that spans

many of Penn’s schools and centers. In its first three years of collaboration with CBEI, Penn IUR focused on developing CBEI’s Research Digest, a web platform that translates complex research on building energy efficiency into easily understandable narratives with accompanying infographics and videos.





## RESEARCH

## Penn IUR Launches Web-Based Sustainability Tool

Penn IUR, in collaboration with the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, launched in September the Sustainable Communities Indicator Catalog (SCIC), a web-based tool that enables communities to assess and track their progress on measures of “livability,” such as transportation options, affordable housing, and economic competitiveness. With funding from the Ford Foundation, Penn IUR developed the SCIC for the Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC), an alliance of three federal agencies: Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The SCIC can be found at <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/indicators>.

The new tool highlights thirty-one priority indicators and equity measures, describing how each relates to sustainability, offering instruction on its use and interpretation, and providing examples of its use in U.S. cities. Communities of all sizes (rural, urban, and suburban) can use the searchable database to select indicators appropriate to their projects and desired outcomes, and to track their progress on those measures of sustainability. The new SCIC aims to address six “livability principles” that govern the Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) program: provide more transportation choices; promote equitable, affordable housing; enhance economic competitiveness; support existing communities; coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment; and value communities and neighborhoods.

Penn IUR Scholars Amy Lynch and Stuart Andreason and current Penn Ph.D. student Simon Mosbah, developed the SCIC under the direction of Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch. The researchers developed the new tool for PSC by crowd-sourcing indicators from around the country, while incorporating state-of-the-art research on sustainability of the built environment.

The PSC was founded in 2009 to share knowledge and coordinate investments in infrastructure, facilities, and services that can meet multiple economic, environmental, and community objectives with each dollar spent. Through these efforts, more than 1,000 communities in all fifty states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico have received more than \$4 billion in grants and technical assistance to help them grow and improve their quality of life.

## PARTNERSHIP

## Making Cities More Human and Inclusive

Penn IUR is partnering with Towards the Human City, a project that aims to identify, document and communicate initiatives that make cities more human and inclusive. The special series will appear on Penn IUR’s Global Urban Commons blog, and will feature regular posts from Towards the Human City Co-directors Paula García Serna and Fernando Casado Cañeque as they travel over the next year to thirty-six cities on five continents to document real-world approaches to improving cities.

The project is part of Penn IUR’s Global Urban Commons (<http://www.globalurbancommons.org>), a publicly accessible, global directory of university-based urban research centers (see page 8 for more on The Commons). Readers can log onto the website to follow the stories of Serna and Cañeque.

Every two weeks, the Co-Directors will file a new blog post from their remarkable journey, sharing insight into the initiatives and events they encounter, the cities they are exploring,

and the people they are interviewing. Serna and Cañeque’s first piece, entitled “Why leave everything behind to document human cities,” can be found here: <http://globalurbancommons.org/leave-everything-behind-document-human-cities/>. Future topics will include security and informal settlements, youth and participatory planning, the challenges of mobility in rapidly expanding cities, and the efforts underway to measure sustainability and development goals around the world.

## RESEARCH

## Penn IUR Assesses APEC Economies’ Readiness for Low-Carbon Towns

Penn IUR presented on the status of low-carbon town development in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) region at the “APEC Conference on Future Energy Smart Communities Models,” held in Taipei, Taiwan in October 2014. As part of Penn IUR’s partnership with APEC’s Energy Smart Communities Initiative (ESCI), the Institute was asked to assess the extent to which national and subnational policies in APEC’s twenty-one economies support the development of low-carbon towns.

Penn IUR’s report assesses the presence of conditions necessary for the development of low-carbon towns, including factors such as access to funding, presence of monitoring instruments to track progress, capacity to implement best practices, and level of integration of policies between national and subnational governments. While the policy landscape that emerges from the report is varied, the review found, for example, that nearly all economies have policies in place for monitoring emissions and other factors that allow tracking effectiveness of low-carbon measures.

Penn IUR is now in its fourth year of partnering with APEC. In past years, Penn IUR created a web-based Knowledge Sharing Platform for ESCI (known as ESCI-KSP)—which provides APEC economies with case studies on energy efficient design and best practices for expanding urban development—and managed, expanded, and promoted usage of the ESCI-KSP. The ESCI-KSP includes the Low Carbon Model Town project, a cross-cutting investigation tracking best practices across all topics in the ESCI-KSP.

US President Barack Obama and former Japanese Prime Minister of Naoto Kan launched ESCI in 2010 to speed the adoption of energy efficient development strategies in Asia Pacific’s growing economies. The knowledge sharing platform, with information on Low-Carbon Model Towns, can be found here: <http://esci-ksp.org/>.

# Penn IUR Faculty Fellows News & Awards



## STEFAN AL PUBLISHES BOOK

Stefan Al, Associate Professor of Urban Design, published *Villages in the City: A Guide to South China's Informal Settlements*. Al spoke in Amsterdam and Hong Kong as part of the book launch. His next book, *Mall City: A Catalog of Hong Kong*, was accepted for publication and will come out later this year.



## EUGÉNIE BIRCH FURTHERS UN'S GLOBAL CONVERSATIONS

Eugénie Birch, Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research in the Department of City and Regional Planning, Chair of the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning, and Co-Director of Penn IUR, attended the UN-Habitat's Urban Thinkers Campus, Caserta, Italy in October where she presented a plenary address and presided over the 11th Steering Committee of UN Habitat's World Urban Campaign, which she chairs. In November, the U.S. Department of State named Birch to the US National Committee for Habitat III; she will co-chair its sub-committee on Connecting the U.S. to Global Conversations. Throughout the fall, she delivered talks on the UN's Framework for the Post 2015 Development Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals, and Habitat III. In November, Birch served on the World Smart Cities Honor Awards Jury at the Smart City Expo, in Barcelona. In January, Birch presented a paper local capacities for SDG implementation at the UNSDSN-IIHS Consultation on the Global Campaign for a Urban Sustainable Development Goal, Bangalore, India. Along with Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter and Research Associate Alexander Keating, Birch co-authored "Best Practice Methods for Cities: State of the Art" in Fritz Wagner (ed) *Transforming Distressed Global Communities* (Ashgate; 2015).



## CHARLES BRANAS WRITES ON ECONOMIC AUSTERITY IN GREECE

Charles Branas, Professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology in the Perelman School of Medicine and Director of Penn's Cartographic Modeling Laboratory, will publish "The impact of economic austerity and prosperity events on suicide in Greece: A 30-year interrupted time-series analysis" in a forthcoming issue of *British Medical Journal Open*. In addition, Penn Injury Science Center, which Branas directs, was recently funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Center aims to reduce violence and injury among low-resourced populations using science, education, and outreach.



## DENNIS CULHANE REPORTS ON HOMELESSNESS TO CONGRESS

Dennis Culhane, Dana and Andrew Stone Chair in Social Policy and Professor of Social Policy and Practice in the School of Social Policy and Practice, is co-principal investigator of the 2014 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress. The report shows a decline in the number of homeless people in the U.S. across all groups, including women and children, veterans, and the chronically homeless.



## THOMAS DANIELS WRITES ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING HANDBOOK

Thomas Daniels, Professor of City and Regional Planning and Director of the Certificate in Land Preservation Program in the School of Design, has a new book: *The Environmental Planning Handbook for Sustainable Communities and Regions, 2nd edition*, published by the American Planning Association. The book covers a wide array of environmental topics of interest to urban planners-air quality, transportation, energy, water quality, water supply, climate change, hazard mitigation planning, and green cities.



## JOHN DI IULIO PENS OP-ED

John DiIulio, Frederick Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion, and Civil Society, School of Arts and Sciences, wrote an op-ed in the August 29 issue of the *Washington Post* about expanding the federal public service by 1 million and pruning federal private contractors to create better, smaller, more accountable government.



## GILLES DURANTON BECOMES RSAI FELLOW AND AWARDEE

Gilles Duranton, Dean's Chair in Real Estate Professor and Chair, Department of Real Estate, The Wharton School became a fellow of the Regional Science Association International and received the Association's 2014 Walter Isard Award for Scholarly Achievement. He is also co-editing the new *Elsevier Handbook of Regional and Urban Economics* (vol. 5a and 5b), which is due out soon.

# Penn IUR Faculty Fellows News & Awards



## VIVIAN GADSDEN CONVENES SYMPOSIUM

Vivian Gadsden, the William T. Carter Professor of Child Development, Professor of Education, Professor of Africana Studies, Faculty in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, and Director of the National Center on Fathers and Families at Penn, convened a two-day symposium in December entitled "Race, Poverty, and Change in America: The Persistent Dilemmas of Equity and Equality." See page 7 for more on the symposium's themes, speakers, and sponsors.



## JESSIE HANDBURY WRITES ON FOOD PRICES AND CITY SIZE

Jessie Handbury, Assistant Professor of Real Estate at The University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and a Faculty Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), co-authored an article with David Weinstein titled "Goods Prices and Availability in Cities" that uses spatial price indices to examine the relationship between food price levels and city size. The results show that prices are lower in larger cities when accounting for geographic differences in price and availability of products. The article was published in the *Review of Economic Studies* in October 2014.



## KAREN GLANZ CO-DIRECTS PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER

Karen Glanz, George A. Weiss University Professor and Professor of Epidemiology and Nursing, is Director, with Kevin Volpp, of the new Prevention Research Center (PRC) at Penn, established by a five-year, \$4,350,000 grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The PRC, one of 26 in the nation and the first in Philadelphia, will conduct innovative public health and disease management research aimed at preventing chronic disease and reducing health disparities in Southeastern Pennsylvania. In addition to the CDC award, the Center has already received \$4 million for four supplement projects.



## IRA HARKAVY NAMED VICE CHAIR OF CEOSE

Ira Harkavy, Associate Vice President and Founding Director of the Netter Center for Community Partnerships, was invited to serve a second term and serve as Vice Chair of the Congressionally mandated Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering (CEOSE). Harkavy also spoke at the Global Forum hosted by the International Consortium with the Council of Europe and the European Wergeland Centre. Along with Penn colleagues Matt Hartley, Rita Hodges, Tony Sorrentino, and Joann Weeks, Harkavy wrote "Effective Governance of a University as an Anchor Institution: University of Pennsylvania as a Case Study" in *Leadership and Governance in Higher Education for Decision-makers and Administrators*.



## JOSEPH GYOURKO PUBLISHES CHINESE LAND PRICE INDEX

Joseph Gyourko, Martin Bucksbaum Professor of Real Estate, Finance, and Business Economic and Public Policy in the Real Estate Department and Director of the Zell/Lurie Estate Center at The Wharton School, recently published the first Chinese Residential Land Price Index, a collaboration among Wharton, the National University of Singapore, and Tsinghua University. The constant quality index tracks land values across 35 major cities in China and is published quarterly. Annual indexes are reported for 12 major markets. Index updates are reported on his web site (<http://real.wharton.upenn.edu/~gyourko/>).



## JOAN C. HENDRICKS WELCOMES PARTICIPANTS AT PENN VET SYMPOSIUMS

Joan C. Hendricks, Gilbert S. Kahn Dean of Veterinary Medicine and Professor of Medicine, provided the opening remarks at a lecture by author and New York Times columnist Carl Zimmer; the event, part of the 2014 Symposium on Microbial Communities in Health and Disease made possible by the Provost Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund Award, drew over 250 people and was hosted by the Penn Vet Center for Host-Microbial Interactions, Perelman School of Medicine, and The School of Arts and Sciences. In December, Hendricks provided the opening remarks as Penn Vet hosted "The Last Food Mile Conference: Food Loss and Food Waste in the U.S. Supply Chain," a which drew nearly 200 people from around the country joined in this unique national conference about the scope of food loss and waste in America, possible solutions, and the impact of food insecurity on our nation's families.

# Penn IUR Faculty Fellows News & Awards



## MARK ALAN HUGHES DIRECTS NEW ENERGY CENTER

Mark Alan Hughes, Professor of Practice at Penn's School of Design, is Faculty Director of the new Kleinman Center for Energy Policy. The Center, launched in Fall 2014, advances policy innovation in support of energy productivity. The Kleinman Center was established at Penn with a \$10 million gift from Scott (C'94, W'94) and Wendy Kleinman and will occupy the upper floors of Penn's iconic Furness Library.



## LAURA PERNA TESTIFIES TO SENATE COMMITTEE

Laura Perna, Professor, Higher Education Division in the Graduate School of Education, testified in July to the U.S. Senate committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on "the role of states in higher education." Her latest book, edited with Michael McLendon, is *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Volume 655, on the role of state policy in promoting college access and success; it was published in the fall.



## JOHN L. JACKSON, JR. PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

John L. Jackson, Jr., Dean of the School of Social Policy & Practice and Richard Perry University Professor, is visiting ten cities this academic year to meet with SP2 alumni and prospective students. The "Future of Social Change" tour launched in September with an event in Philadelphia and will end in China this June. Jackson also published a new book in November 2014, *Impolite Conversations: On Race, Politics, Sex, Money, and Religion* (Atria/Simon and Schuster), co-authored by Cora Daniels.



## WENDELL PRITCHETT BECOMES INTERIM DEAN OF LAW SCHOOL

Wendell Pritchett began his tenure as Interim Dean and Presidential Term Professor in the Law School on July 1. See page 3 for an in-depth interview with Pritchett, with more information on his latest activities.



## JANICE FANNING MADDEN GIVES PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS TO NARSA

Janice Fanning Madden, Professor of Regional Science, Sociology, and Real Estate, delivered the Presidential Address at the November 2014 meeting of North American Regional Science Association in Washington, DC on in November. The topic was: "The Demography of Commuting: How Population Groups Create and Respond to Cities."



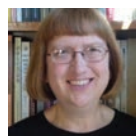
## MATTHEW STEINBERG WRITES ON SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Matthew Steinberg, Assistant Professor of Education in the Education Policy Division of the Graduate School of Education, co-authored a policy brief, with GSE Professor Rand Quinn, asserting that the Philadelphia School District, while underfunded, uses its resources more efficiently than other comparable state districts. He also has a forthcoming article, co-authored with Lauren Sartain, in *Education Finance and Policy* examining Chicago Public School's Excellence in Teaching Project (EITP) to uncover the causal impact on school performance of an teacher evaluation system based on highly structured classroom observations; a forthcoming paper on Pennsylvania school finance in *Journal of Education Finance*; and another forthcoming article on the EITP Chicago initiative in *Journal of Human Resources*.



## RANDALL MASON TO LEAD PENNPRAXIS

Randall Mason, Associate Professor and Chair of Penn School of Design's Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, became Executive Director of PennPraxis. The mission of PennPraxis is to extend design excellence and innovation beyond the classroom and into the community by carrying out practical or applied projects for external clients under the direction of PennDesign faculty.



## NANCY S. STEINHARDT WRITES BOOK ON CHINESE ARCHITECTURE

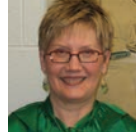
Nancy S. Steinhardt, Professor of East Asian Art in the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and Curator of Chinese Art at the Penn Museum, published *Chinese Architecture in an Age of Turmoil, 200-600* (University of Hawaii Press and Hong Kong University Press, 2014). The volume includes a chapter on urbanism during this period.

# Penn IUR Faculty Fellows News & Awards



## THOMAS SUGRUE WRITES OP-ED ON FERGUSON

Thomas Sugrue, David Boies Professor of History and Sociology in the School of Arts and Sciences, served as president of the Urban History Association and hosted its biennial conference in Philadelphia, and also finished his term as president of the Social Science History Association. A new edition of his 1996 book *The Origins of the Urban Crisis*, was recently published with an analysis of the Detroit bankruptcy. Sugrue delivered keynote addresses on post-bankruptcy Detroit to the Detroit Regional Chamber's annual conference, at Wayne State Law School, and the Citizens Research Council of Michigan. He also gave more than twenty five public lectures, including at Berkeley, UCLA, Cornell, USC Law School, NYU, the Sorbonne, and the University of Heidelberg,



## BARBRA MANN WALL EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF JOURNAL

Barbra Mann Wall, Associate Professor of Nursing and the Associate Director of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing in the School of Nursing, has been named Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Health Emergency and Disaster Nursing*. Additionally, an article on maternal healthcare in Ghana that Wall co-authored with Lauren Johnson, with whom she worked on a UURC project in 2012, was recently published in the journal *Family and Community Health*.



## RICHARD WESLEY LECTURES, PUBLISHES

Richard Wesley, Adjunct Professor of Architecture and Undergraduate Chair of Architecture in the School of Design, gave a public lecture in October at the College of Charleston, South Carolina, on "Cultural Ecology: Up on the Roof," a critical examination of the appearance of recent urban roofscapes and their precedents in the early modern movement. He co-authored an article with David Leatherbarrow on "Performance and Style in the Work of Olgyay and Olgyay," a reinterpretation of an ecological approach to architectural design embracing cultural concerns, published in the recent issue of the *Architectural Research Quarterly (ARQ)*, Cambridge University Press.



## DANA TOMLIN CONTRIBUTES TO GOOGLE EARTH ENGINE

Dana Tomlin, Professor of Landscape Architecture in the School of Design, and Co-director of the Cartographic Modeling Laboratory, has been working with the Earth Outreach team at Google to generate instructional materials for a yet-to-be-released software application called *Google Earth Engine*, which offers online access to unprecedented amounts of global geographical data and extremely powerful data-processing capabilities.



## SUSAN WACHTER GIVES KEYNOTE ADDRESS IN SEOUL

Susan Wachter, Albert Sussman Professor of Real Estate and Professor of Finance at The Wharton School, gave the keynote address "Sustainable Housing Finance" at the fifth annual "Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development" in November in Seoul, Korea. She was invited to speak on a panel in celebration of the 50th year anniversary of the American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association on "Real Estate and Urban Economics: The Last 50 Years and the Next" at the 2015 Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) meetings in Boston, MA. She also delivered an address at the Bank of England on the "The Future of Housing Finance," in September in London, which resulted in a paper published in November in the *National Institute Economic Review*. ([http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2508030](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2508030)).



## VUKAN R. VUCHIC RECEIVES APTA AWARD

Vukan R. Vuchic, UPS Foundation Professor Emeritus of Transportation Engineering in the Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering, has been awarded the Lifetime of Academic Distinction Award by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) at its Annual Meeting in Houston in October. This award is a special one-time honor given to a university professor who has had tremendous influence on the urban public transportation industry.

## ALUMNI EVENT

## Penn IUR Board Member Hosts Alumni Club Events

Penn IUR Board Member Ken Tanenbaum (W'91), hosted an Alumni Club Event in Toronto on October 7. At "Cities and Waterfront Development: An Exclusive Look at Toronto's Innovative Model," Penn alumni and parents were invited to hear John Campbell, President and CEO of Waterfront Toronto, and Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch discuss the dynamic CIBC Pan Am Games Athletes' Village and Canary District project and the influence of this model on the development of thriving waterfronts and cities in North America. Ken Tanenbaum, who also moderated the event, is Vice Chairman of Kilmer Developments, the co-developer of the Village.

The development is taking place on formerly industrial lands along Toronto's waterfront as part of Toronto's successful bid for the 2015 Pan/Para Pan American Games. The Village will house athletes during the games and, after, will be part of a new mixed-use district known as the Canary District.

On February 24, Penn IUR will host another Alumni Club Event at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, Georgia. Civic leaders Egbert Perry, Chairman & CEO of The Integral Group, LLC; Virginia Hepner, President & CEO of the Woodruff Arts Center; and Michael Shapiro, Director of the High Museum of Art will join Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, Nisha Botchwey (DES'99 '03), Associate Professor in the School of City and Regional Planning at the Georgia Institute of Technology, and Stuart Andreason (DES'14), Community and Economic Development Adviser at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta in a discussion of the role of cultural anchor institutions in urban development; how Atlanta's development compares to that in cities across America; and how values of health and shared prosperity can be assessed and integrated into redevelopment efforts. For more

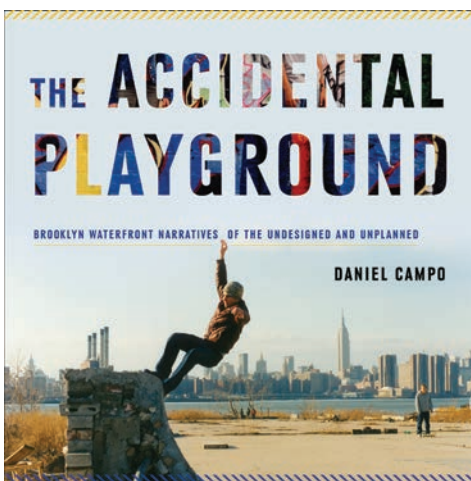
information and to register visit <http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/cityofresurgence>.



CANARY DISTRICT: Ken Tanenbaum presents a rendering of the design for the Canary District.

## BOOK TALK

## Urban Book Talk by Former Doctoral Student Explores DIY Development of Brooklyn Waterfront



On October 20, Penn IUR hosted a discussion with Daniel Campo, Associate Professor in the

School of Architecture and Planning at Morgan State University in Baltimore and former planner for the New York City Department of City Planning. Campo, a graduate of the School of Design's doctoral program in City and Regional Planning, spoke on his recent book, *The Accidental Playground: Brooklyn Waterfront Narratives of the Undesigned and Unplanned* (Fordham University Press, 2013). The book talk was co-sponsored by the Department of City and Regional Planning.

*The Accidental Playground* explores the remarkable landscape created by individuals and small groups who occupied and rebuilt an abandoned Brooklyn waterfront. While local residents, activists, garbage haulers, real estate developers, speculators, and two city administrations fought over the fate of the former Brooklyn Eastern District Terminal

(BEDT), others simply took to this decaying edge, transforming it into a unique venue for leisure, creative, and everyday practices. These occupiers and do-it-yourself builders created their own waterfront parks and civic spaces absent every resource needed for successful urban development, including plans, designs, capital, professional assistance, consensus, and permission from the waterfront's owners. Amid trash, ruins, weeds, homeless encampments, and the operation of an active garbage transfer station, they inadvertently created the "Brooklyn Riviera" and made this waterfront a destination that offered much more than its panoramic vistas of the Manhattan skyline.

In the October talk, Campo discussed the narratives, perspectives, and conflicts of those who developed the waterfront and shared the documentary strategies he used in the book.

# Penn IUR Urban Scholarship Events

Cosponsored with Penn's Urban Studies Program

## ***Penn IUR Urban Doctoral Poster Session and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Reception***

*February 12, 2015, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm*

This event include poster presentations by doctoral students and a responding panel discussion by select Penn IUR Faculty Fellows.

## ***Penn IUR Urban Doctoral Symposium***

*May 15, 2015, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm*

Celebrate the work of graduating urban-focused doctoral candidates. Graduates present and discuss their dissertation findings.

If you are a Penn Ph.D. student researching an urban topic and are interested in participating in these events, please contact [lbarron@upenn.edu](mailto:lbarron@upenn.edu).

IN MEMORIAM

## Examination of War on Poverty Celebrates Katz's Work

(CONTINUED FROM P. 6)

incarceration. Amy Offner, Assistant Professor of History in Penn's Department of History, concluded by calling for a more precise use of the term "liberalism."

Roberta Iversen, Associate Professor and Director of the Master of Science in Social Policy Program in Penn's School of Social Policy and Practice, introduced the third panel, entitled "The Fifty Years' War: Poverty and Policy in an Age of Inequality," noting that panelists would make links between the War on Poverty and ongoing political conversations. Felicia Kornbluh,

Director of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's and Studies and Associate Professor of History at the University of Vermont, examined fissures on approaches to poverty within the Democratic party during policy debates of the 1960s, welfare reform debates of the 1990s, and up to the present. Annelise Orleck, Professor of History at Dartmouth, pointed to the distinctly different tones of the first and second panel, reminding the audience of Katz's stance that studying history involved contradiction and complexity. She continued with a discussion of current efforts and debates on poverty, inequality, and

the role of the government. Greg Kaufman, Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and editor of *TalkPoverty.org*, ended with a call for broader dissemination of scholarly findings on poverty.

The conference's closing discussion gave conference attendees an opportunity to engage further with one another and with panelists. To watch videos of the conference, visit: <https://www.sas.upenn.edu/sspf/event/2014/war-poverty-50-its-history-and-legacy-conference-o>.

## INSTRUCTION

## Penn National GIS Day Celebration 2014

Penn GIS Day, held on November 19 in conjunction with the National GIS Day celebration, showcased innovations of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in research and real-world applications. Kevin Novak, Uber's Head of Data Science, gave the keynote address, presenting on the data analysis and modeling that are behind Uber's success. Novak described how real-time collection and analysis of spatial data are transforming the transportation industry, explaining that "science and data go into all factors of a transportation marketplace" and that while "most people think of Uber as a taxi company, in our opinion we're a technology logistics company."

Additional participants included Eugene Brusilovskiy, MUSA Lecturer in Penn's School of Design and Director of GIS Analytics in Rehabilitation Research Lab at Temple University; Ken Steif, a doctoral candidate in City and Regional Planning in Penn's School of Design; Tara Jackson, Executive Director of Penn's Cartographic Modeling Lab; Paul Amos, Managing Director of the Wharton GIS Lab; Karl Dailey, Database Administrator of Penn's Cartographic Modeling Lab; Dana Tomlin, Professor of Landscape Architecture in Penn's School of Design; Amy Hillier, Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning and Faculty Director of the MUSA Graduate Program in Penn's School of Design; and Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter. The event was co-sponsored by the Master of Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA) program, Penn's Cartographic Modeling Lab, the Wharton GIS Lab, Penn's School of Design, and Penn Engineering.

The event began with two presentations on current research into applications of GIS, GPS, and locational-data analytics. Brusilovskiy described the use of spatio-temporal clustering methods from GPS data in order to identify movement patterns and destinations for measuring participation in a community health program. Steif demonstrated how regression analysis of data from existing bike share programs in New York and Chicago can be used to develop a spatial statistical model that predicts the viability and optimal locations of bike share stations in Philadelphia.

A panel session entitled "Evolution of GIS in Tech and Research" provided a platform for Penn spatial data experts—including Jackson, Amos, and Dailey—to describe their experiences



GIS DAY: Kevin Novak, right, spoke to a full house, above, at Penn GIS Day.

with GIS and how the methods and tools have evolved during their careers. Tomlin, who moderated the session, invited panelists to predict how they saw GIS developing in their respective sub-fields in the coming decade. A recurring theme among the panelists was the emphasis on the ability of students and researchers to creatively formulate critical questions in order to effectively utilize the "big data" produced by mobile devices and made newly accessible by the continually increasing capacity of data storage and cloud-based services and processing. Jackson concluded with a call to all students and researchers saying, "You don't have to have a traditional career path to get into the GIS [field], but it helps if you have curiosity about using space and time to solve problems."





## INSTRUCTION

## Penn's Humanities, Urbanism, and Design (H+U+D) in Fall 2014

Penn IUR sponsors an annual speaker series The Penn Humanities, Urbanism, and Design (H+U+D) Initiative, funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, is continuing in 2014-2015 its mission to bridge the gaps between urbanists in the humanities and design disciplines. In its second year, the multi-faceted Initiative has welcomed five new members from the Schools of Arts and Sciences and of Design to its faculty Colloquium; hosted its first public lecture; co-sponsored several additional events; and is looking forward to presenting international and domestic city seminars to graduate and undergraduate students in Spring 2015. Eugénie Birch, Co-Director of Penn IUR, and David Brownlee, Frances Shapiro-Weitzenhoffer Professor and Chair of the Graduate Group in the History of Art in the Penn School of Arts and Sciences, co-direct the five-year Initiative.

The Initiative's faculty Colloquium, with members drawn from both the humanities and design disciplines, meets twice monthly to explore cities, meet with visiting guests, and share research. This fall, five new members were invited to participate: Francesca Ammon, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, Stefan Al, Associate Professor of Urban Design, and Nancy Davenport, Assistant Professor of Fine Arts and Photography, joined the colloquium from the School of Design. Tsitsi Jaji, Assistant Professor of English, and Naomi Waltham-Smith, Assistant Professor of Music, joined the colloquium from the School of Arts and Sciences. Applications for next year's

colloquium will be invited in Spring 2015.

Additionally, H+U+D hosted and co-sponsored several events in Fall 2014. The annual H+U+D public lecture, held November 20, featured Basile Baudez, Maître de conférences at the University of Paris- Sorbonne, who discussed the architecture of Saint-Petersburg. Founded in 1703 on the Neva River delta to provide Russia with a port to serve its Baltic ambitions, Saint-Petersburg was aggressive in its bid to be read as a modern, European capital; Baudez explored the connection between humanities, urbanism, and design exhibited in early panoramic prints of the city.

The Initiative also co-sponsored with Penn's Department of Architecture a lecture by Graham Harman, Professor at the American University in Cairo; sponsored events at conferences for the Association for Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) and the Urban History Association (UHA); and hosted an open house to facilitate faculty connections across disciplines and to publicize opportunities such as course development funds and colloquium membership.

In the Fall semester, H+U+D offered graduate students across the university a seminar on architectural criticism co-taught by Jonathan Barnett, Professor Emeritus of Practice in City and Regional Planning and Director of the Urban Design Program in the School of Design, and Liliane Weissberg, Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor in Arts and Sciences and

Professor of German and Comparative Literature in the School of Arts & Sciences. Courses planned for Spring include the first of several international city seminars: undergraduates will travel to Paris with Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education and Chair of the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning in the School of Design, and Andrea Goulet, Associate Professor of Romance Languages in the School of Arts and Sciences, for FREN/URBS 300: *The Making of Modern Paris*. Another group of undergraduates will travel to Rio de Janeiro with Daniel Barber, Assistant Professor and Associate Chair of Architecture in the School of Design, and John Tresch, Associate Professor and Graduate Chair in the History and Sociology of Science in the School of Arts & Sciences, for ARCH/STSC 314: *Cosmopolitan Urbanism in the 21st Century*. This year's local city seminar, URBS/HIST 210: *The City*, taught by Eric Schneider, Assistant Dean and Associate Director for Academic Affairs in the School of Arts and Sciences, and Adjunct Professor of History, and Michael Nairn, Lecturer in Penn's Urban Studies Program, will focus on the evolution of social, physical, and spatial systems in Baltimore.

Project Co-Directors and Colloquium members are planning more thought-provoking events and are preparing to expand the Initiative to include two Junior Fellows for 2015-2016. Follow H+U+D's progress on the project website: <http://www.humanitiesurbanismdesign.com/>.

## 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.

Visit <http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/series/C21.html> for a list of books in the series.

## CONVENING

## Partnership with Penn Nursing to Improve Women's Health

(CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

healthcare opportunities in developing countries, shifts in gender norms and their impacts on women's health, urban versus rural sexual and reproductive health, and the importance of analytical data in informing policy conversations about women's health.

This event showcased Penn's Provostial theme for the 2014-2015 academic year, Health. Vivian Pinn, Former Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), provided the Keynote Address; she spoke on the importance of gender equity and collaboration, sharing her vast knowledge of the history of women in the medical profession. The event also included opening remarks from Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education and Chair of the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning; Marilyn Sommers, Director of the Center for Global Women's Health and the Lillian S. Brunner Professor of Medical-Surgical Nursing at Penn Nursing; Antonia Villarruel, Dean

of Penn Nursing and Professor and Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing; and Afaf Meleis, Professor of Nursing and Sociology and Dean Emerita of Penn Nursing.

Following Pinn's presentation, Sommers moderated the first panel, entitled "Women's Health in Cities: Progress to Date and Vision for the Future." On this panel, Bridgette Brawner, Assistant Professor of Nursing in the Penn School of Nursing, discussed the emerging concept of "geobehavioral vulnerability" and showed how geographic proximity to various urban elements, such as brownfields or major transportation hubs, can dramatically impact health vulnerabilities. Yzette Lanier, Assistant Professor, New York University, College of Nursing, Center for Global Women's Health, discussed the disparities among women based on demographics and their sexual and reproductive health, defining the idea of a sexual debut and how such events influence future reproductive health outcomes for urban women. Catherine McDonald, Assistant Professor of Nursing in the Penn

School of Nursing spoke about the vulnerabilities women face in middle-income countries related to traffic deaths and how health impacts vary based on urban indicators, demographics, and country characteristics.

Birch moderated the second panel, entitled "Building Healthy Cities." On this panel, Shamim Hayder Talukder, CEO, Eminence-Associates for Social Development in Dhaka, Bangladesh and President Elect of the International Society for Urban Health, spoke on the emerging place for women in the growth and economic development of Bangladesh. Nisha D. Botchwey, Associate Professor, School of City and Regional Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Architecture, emphasized the need for built environment data next to health data for better decision-making and highlighted the demographic and gender differences in medical data. Nithya Raman, Project Director, Transparent Chennai, Centre for Development Finance in Chennai, India, explained critical sanitation-related problems in

India and stressed the importance of supporting advocacy, practice, and change.

The UN's SDGs will replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), set to expire in 2015. Currently, UN member states have articulated in draft form seventeen SDGs and 169 targets measuring these goals. The goals and targets cover a broad range of sustainable development issues, including ending poverty and hunger, improving health and education, making cities more sustainable, combating climate change, and protecting oceans and forests. Over the coming months, these goals and targets will be debated, revised, and eventually adopted to help guide the UN's efforts to improve development worldwide. For more information on the SDGs, visit <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>. To watch videos of the "Urban Women's Health in the United Nation's Post-2015 Agenda" conference, visit <http://penniu.upenn.edu/events/urban-womens-health-in-the-united-nations-post-2015-agenda>.

WOMEN'S HEALTH: Panelists discussed issues at the intersection of health and design. From left, Vivian Pinn, Marilyn Sommers, Afaf Meleis, Shamim Hayder Talukder.



## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Wendell Pritchett

(CONTINUED FROM P. 3)

Penn really is a national model for civic engagement, and a lot of the structures we set up at Rutgers-Camden were actually things that we stole from Penn. We really tried to engage students, faculty, and staff in conversations with the community to identify common interests and activities, to allocate resources to support them, and to build structures to make them sustainable. Penn is doing all of these things.

Penn actually has a challenge that I didn't have at Rutgers-Camden. Since the overwhelming majority of my students at Rutgers-Camden came from south Jersey and were staying in south Jersey, they clearly understood the connection between what they were doing in school and the community. Since Penn is a global institution, it has a different approach; most Penn students aren't going to stay in the community, though we hope some will. That's one difference between Penn and Rutgers-Camden. Penn has appropriately focused on the development of best practices and civic engagement in general, so we can disseminate that information to other places like Rutgers-Camden. The things we're providing

the students at Penn are often shorter-term engagements than some of the ones we were working on at Rutgers-Camden, but that doesn't mean that they're not meaningful.

To answer your question about the Law School: Law School students have a *lot* of pro bono practice. There are now twenty-seven student-run pro bono projects at the Law School. The students are making a difference through these projects, and they're also developing professionally and taking those skills with them.

**6. YOU'VE SHOWN THROUGHOUT YOUR ACADEMIC AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES A COMMITMENT TO COLLABORATION. AND AT RUTGERS, WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ESTABLISHED A CENTER FOR URBAN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE IMPORTANCE OF SUCH CENTERS? DO YOU SEE OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN PENN IUR AND THE LAW SCHOOL?**

I was asked by Judith Rodin to serve on the panel that recommended the creation of the Penn Institute for Urban Research, and so I'm very proud of what Penn IUR has done over the past decade. It is a national model also for bringing faculty, staff, students, and others together to explore urban issues and develop solutions. The Rutgers-Camden Institute for Urban Research — which was another model that we stole from Penn — is doing the same thing on a smaller scale. At Rutgers-Camden, many of our faculty were interested in studying urban issues; the Institute was a place for them to convene.

At the Law School, we have several faculty members who are engaged in issues that Penn IUR focuses on, and they do participate in discussions and research. Six months from now, when I'm just a faculty member, I look forward to being much more engaged in many of those issues myself.

## RESEARCH

## Urban Fiscal Stability and Public Pensions

(CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

Executive Director of the Pension Research Council, moderated the discussion.

This panel reviewed major points characterizing the scope and scale of the problems facing existing pension systems and the municipalities that manage them. According to Rauh, despite the recent successes in capital markets, unfunded pension liabilities have continued to increase in many cities. On the question of legal regulation of public pensions obligations, Monahan explained how state governments such as California are unable to change prospective obligations for benefits to current employees. McCubbins provided a less-than-optimistic outlook on municipalities' financial prospects. Concluding the first panel, Inman addressed the economic implications of unfunded liabilities,

positing that once people know about these cities' unfunded liabilities, the liabilities would be factored into property values and home prices would decrease, impacting future tax revenue potential.

Shifting perspective, the second panel included practitioners Rob Dubow, Director of Finance of the City of Philadelphia; Matt Fabian, Managing Director of Municipal Market Advisors; Richard Ravitch, former Lieutenant Governor of New York; James Spiotto, Managing Director of Chapman Strategic Advisors LLC; and Marcia Van Wagner, Vice President/Senior Credit Office of Moody's Investors Service. Robin Prunty, Managing Director of Standard & Poor's Public Finance Ratings, moderated. Ravitch led off the session, framing the budgetary issues

stemming from pension liabilities with his view that as municipalities need to balance day-to-day services provided to their communities with outstanding liabilities, they are less motivated to address the overhanging debt. To counter this, panelists Fabian, Spiotto, and Van Wagner advocated for increased supervision and transparency in pension liabilities by reporting the standards used in calculating liabilities. Rob Dubow spoke last, describing efforts to reduce the unfunded pension obligation in Philadelphia, where over 10 percent of the city's revenues are allocated to paying pension liabilities, many of which are from non-active employees. The panel concluded by discussing the need to address these liabilities and to ensure the ability to fund benefits promised moving forward.

# 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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