



## GROWING GREENER CITIES SYMPOSIUM & A LECTURE BY DR. WANGARI MAATHAI

On October 16-17, Penn IUR, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS), and the Media & Policy Center Foundation hosted *Growing Greener Cities: Symposium on Urban Environmental Issues in the 21st Century*. This event convened over 50 practitioners, academics, and public leaders to address issues of urban sustainability and the important role of community-based participation in urban greening. More than 300 students, academics, practitioners, and policy-makers, attended the two-day conference, which featured a screening of *Edens Lost and Found*, a book fair, and addresses by Michael DiBernardinis, Secretary of The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; Alexander Garvin, President and CEO of Alex Garvin and Associates, Inc.; Barry Seymour, Executive Director of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission; Neal Pierce, nationally syndicated columnist for the Washington Post;



President Amy Gutmann and Dr. Wangari Maathai at the October 2006 Growing Greener Cities Symposium sponsored by Penn IUR, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and the Media & Policy Center Foundation

and Kameran Onley, Assistant Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

On the evening of October 16, Dr. Wangari Maathai, founder of the Green Belt Movement, and recipient of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize, gave the symposium's keynote address. This lecture, sponsored by the

Office of the Provost, was part of the Provost's Global Forum. Dr. Maathai gave an insightful and empowering lecture to an audience of over 1200 people. Recognizing the strong implications of sustainable management of the environment, Dr. Maathai presented an argument for democracy rooted in respect for human rights, equity, and



Conference attendees at Edens Lost and Found film screening

justice. Penn IUR is currently working to produce a publication compiling the conference proceedings. This volume is being edited by co-directors Susan Wachter and Eugenie Birch. For more information on the symposium or the upcoming publication, please e-mail [penniur@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:penniur@pobox.upenn.edu).

## REBUILDING AFTER KATRINA: BOOK RELEASE AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION



**R**ebuilding Urban Places after Disaster is the newest addition to Penn IUR's City in the 21st Century book series. Edited by Penn IUR's co-directors, Eugenie Birch and Susan Wachter, this publication examines the rebuilding of cities and their environs after a disaster. Planetizen recognized the book in its 2006 edition of

the Planetizen Top 10 Books List. Also, Smart City Radio invited Dr. Birch and Dr. Wachter on the program to discuss the publication.

On November 15, Penn IUR hosted a breakfast in Washington, DC in honor of *Rebuilding Urban Places*. More than 40 academic, business, and government leaders joined Penn IUR to celebrate the release of the new title. The breakfast

preceded a roundtable discussion on risk reduction and management.

The roundtable discussion, convened by the U.S. Geological Survey, the Association of American Geographers, and the Wharton GIS Lab, sought to advance a research agenda on improving decision-making to reduce and better manage the risks of natural hazards. The discussion focused on ways of

enhancing the use of scientific information to reduce societal vulnerability, and identifying how spatial data can enable and empower decision-making.

For more information on *Rebuilding Urban Places after Disaster*, or the November 15 roundtable discussion on risk management, please e-mail [penniur@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:penniur@pobox.upenn.edu).



Panelists discuss historic preservation at Penn IUR and TNAC's October public interest event.

## THE CHALLENGES OF URBAN PRESERVATION

If you think historic preservation is just about restoring old buildings, you are wrong. On October 5, four panelists electrified their audience by showing just how controversial the field can be—especially in cities like Austin, Texas and St. Louis, Missouri.

Randy Mason, Assistant Professor in Penn's Department of City and Regional Planning, moderated a panel consisting of Susana Almanza, Co-director, People Organized in the Defense of Earth and her Resources (PODER); Jeffrey Chusid, Associate Professor of Historic Preservation, Cornell University; Joseph Heathcott, Assistant Professor of American Studies, St. Louis University; and Royce Yeater, Midwest Director, National Trust for Historic Preservation, who reviewed case studies in the two cities.

They drew their comments from articles that appeared in the Fall 2006 issue of *The Next American City* magazine, now housed in the Penn IUR office. Heathcott argued that the National Trust, one of the oldest and most esteemed preservation groups in the country, had betrayed its mission and preservationists around the country by supporting the demolition of the Century Building in downtown St. Louis. Preserva-

tionists fought the city for years to save the Century, but in the end, with the National Trust's blessing, the city tore down the marble-clad structure to make way for a 1,000-unit parking lot in support of an adjacent office to residential conversion.

Chusid, a former Austinite, argued that historic preservation laws were not to blame for the rapid gentrification and displacement of minority families in East Austin. But PODER's Susana Almanza, who lives in East Austin, said property values in her community shot up after certain homes were declared historic landmarks, and this dramatic rise in property values contributed to minorities, and especially Hispanic families, being priced out of the neighborhood.

With more than 100 attendees, *The Next American City*, Penn IUR, and The Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia sponsored the panel and reception to honor jointly the *TNAC* special issue and the 10th anniversary of the Preservation Alliance. This session was the inaugural event of an ongoing collaboration between Penn IUR and *TNAC* to host public events on significant urban topics.

## PENN IUR AND AMERICA 2050 HOST THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA - NEW YORK LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE

The Penn Institute for Urban Research is partnering with Manhattan-based America 2050, sponsor of a national movement of practitioners and researchers monitoring U.S. population growth and metropolitan spatial development, to host a series of leadership exchanges that highlight issues of connectivity and economic competitiveness facing the Northeast megaregion and its major cities. Transportation networks, linked economies, and a common history and culture tie together the Northeast Megaregion, from Boston to Washington, DC. With the ever-growing population pressures in the region, America 2050 invites regional leaders to address common problems.

On October 24, Penn IUR and America 2050 convened more than 40 business and civic leaders from the Philadelphia and New York metro regions to explore shared issues. The group met in Philadelphia for a day-long session in Philadelphia's Cira Centre and the Kimmel Center to address topics related to advancing mass transportation, providing wireless service to citizens, and understanding the role of anchor institutions in economic and community development. Speakers included Jerry Sweeney, President and CEO of Brandywine Realty Trust; George D. Warrington,

Executive Director of NJ Transit; Greg Goldman, CEO of Wireless Philadelphia; Clarence Ambrister, Vice President of Temple University; and Robert Barchi, President of Thomas Jefferson University.

On November 14, 2006, the participants reconvened in New York City for the second day-long session in the exchange. The program examined many of the issues raised in Philadelphia focusing on case studies from the New York metro area. Topics for discussion included plans for the new Moynihan Station to replace Penn Station, and the role of anchor institutions in promoting community development and preservation. Speakers at this session included Vishaan Chakrabarti, Vice President of The Related Companies; John Bennett, Chief of Business Strategy for Amtrak; George Campbell, President of Cooper Union; and Audrey Slade, Executive Vice President of New York City Economic Development Corporation.

On March 2, 2007 Penn IUR and America 2050 will convene leaders from the entire Northeast megaregion, Boston to Washington, DC, to continue examining key megaregional issues. For more information on these events and the upcoming conference, please e-mail penniur@pobox.upenn.edu.



Philadelphia-New York City Leadership Exchange: Opening Session at the Cira Centre in Philadelphia

## RESCALING THE CITY

On August 30, Penn IUR partnered with the American Political Science Association (APSA) to host a day-long workshop on comparative urban politics, entitled “Rescaling the City.” The workshop focused on examining issues of rescaling and reterritorialization in cities around the world. International urban scholars discussed the ways that restructuring the scale and scope of government is being used to respond to the pressures of globalization, and underscored the notion that cities can no longer be understood solely in a national context but must also be examined within an international and comparative framework. Presenters included Neil Brenner, New York University; Richard Stren, University of Toronto; Nirmala Rao, University of London; and Susan Wachter,

University of Pennsylvania and co-director of Penn IUR. The speakers presented case studies from Western Europe, Canada, China, the UK, and Tokyo to an audience of about 30 workshop attendees.

To access workshop materials and select speaker presentations from this event go to the Penn IUR website (<http://www.upenn.edu/penniur/rescaling.htm>). For more information on APSA and future APSA sessions, visit <http://www.apsanet.org/>.



Dr. Robert Young, University of Western Ontario discusses intergovernmental politics in Canada.



Professor Susan Wachter, The Wharton School; Co-Director, Penn IUR speaks about globalization and human settlement patterns.

## upcoming events

January 11, 2007

The Humane Metropolis

January 22, 2007

Breaking Ground in New Orleans

February 27, 2007

Rebuilding After Disaster, panel discussion  
Municipal Art Society of New York

March 1, 2007

Sustainable Growth Patterns for the 21st Century

March 2, 2007

Northeast Megaregion Conference

March 15, 2007

Crime: The Philadelphia Story. Public Safety and the Race for Philadelphia's Next Mayor

April 13, 2007

Eminent Domain and Urban Renewal with PRIOR, Princeton University

April 26, 2007

Annual Urban Leadership Luncheon

May 11, 2007

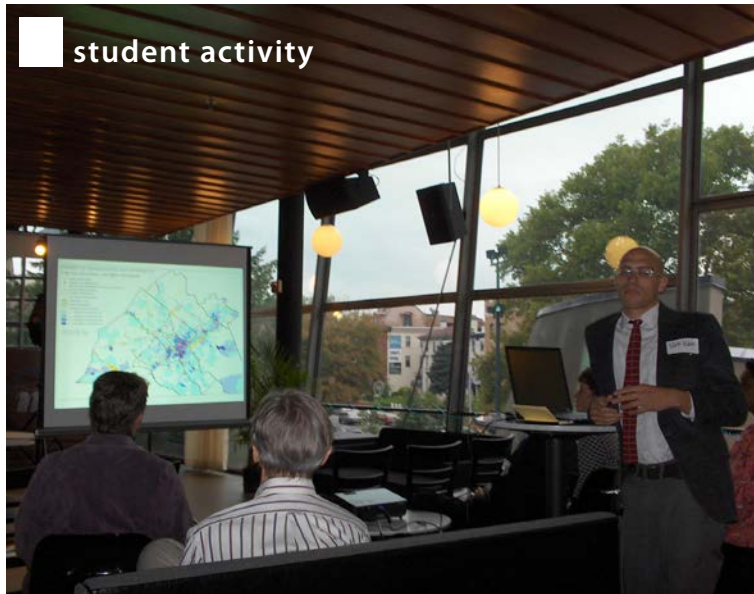
Urban Doctoral Symposium

## FACULTY FORUM HOSTS LECTURE ON LIVABLE COMMUNITIES FOR THE ELDERLY

Walk-ability, good public transit and safety—these were a few of the issues brought up by a group of elderly West Philadelphia homeowners during a faculty forum public lecture this semester. On October 4, the Penn IUR Faculty Forum on Elder-Friendly Urban Environments hosted a public lecture entitled, “Livable Communities for Older Adults.” Attended by academics, health-care providers, and members of the local community, the session focused on key issues in making communities more accommodating to elderly citizens.

The faculty members participating in the Faculty Forum on Elder-Friendly Urban Environments are also involved with

the Senior Collaborative, which started as a group of Penn faculty and administrators concerned about the living conditions of elderly homeowners and has now grown to include 16 university departments and over 12 community organizations. The group aims to work with community developers to promote senior-specific planning efforts. The Senior Collaborative also brainstorms creative ways to make use of existing resources to create a more elder-friendly community. For more information on the Faculty Forum on Elder-Friendly Urban Environments, please contact Maxine Hobson at [mhobson@nursing.upenn.edu](mailto:mhobson@nursing.upenn.edu).



Recent MUSA graduate Nicholas Klein presents his capstone research project at the MUSA Graduation Dinner held at Marathon Grill in September.



## MUSA UPDATE: FIRST GRADUATES

Penn IUR is proud to recognize the first graduates of the MUSA Program, Nicholas Klein and Peggy Wu. Nick and Peggy both entered the program last fall as part of the first MUSA cohort, and completed their requirements in the summer of 2006. On September 13, Penn IUR hosted a dinner to celebrate their accomplishment. At the dinner, the two graduates talked about their experiences in the program and presented their capstone research projects to their classmates, instructors, friends, and family. Upon completion of the program, Peggy obtained a position at The Reinvestment Fund, and Nick gained admittance into PennDesign's doctoral program in City and Regional Planning.

As the first graduates completed the program, a new cohort joined MUSA this fall. This class is comprised of nine impressive new students, coming from very diverse backgrounds. Represented in this year's cohort, are students coming directly from undergraduate institutions, students coming from other Masters programs, and students joining the program from established professional careers. Penn IUR looks forward to another promising year in the MUSA program. For more information on the MUSA program, please visit <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/CGS/graduate/musa/>.

Left: Nicholas Klein and Peggy Wu with Advisor Amy Hillier  
Right: Six member of the first MUSA cohort

## MUSA MAPS: GIS SKILLS PUT TO GOOD USE

This semester, three students in the Master of Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA) Program took on the task of creating GIS maps for a new publication. Authors Jon Calame and Esther Charlesworth requested the assistance of MUSA students Laura Blackstone, Thomas Hastings, and Benjamin Mearns to produce visually appealing maps for their book, *Divided Cities: Belfast, Beirut, Jerusalem, Mostar, & Nicosia*. The book provides a comparative examination of five cities torn by ethnic conflict.

This project not only benefits the publication, but also provides a great experience to the students involved. According to Laura Blackstone, the students "get a real life opportunity

to work collaboratively as well as the opportunity to add to our portfolios a project that we would not have had access to outside of Penn." Laura joined the MUSA program in the fall of 2005. Thomas and Benjamin both joined the program in the fall of 2006. These three students have named their enterprise MUSA MAPS/PENN IUR. The company is ready to undertake mapping projects for a wide variety of clients.

*Divided Cities* is a forthcoming publication in the City in the 21st Century book series sponsored by Penn IUR and Penn Press. It is slated for a late 2007 - early 2008 release. For more information, e-mail [penniur@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:penniur@pobox.upenn.edu).





Left to Right: Dean Gary Hack, Penn Design; Professor Eugenie Birch, Department of City and Regional Planning, Co-Director, Penn IUR; Lawrence Nussdorf, The Clark Enterprises, Inc.

## EUGENIE L. BIRCH RECEIVES NUSSDORF PROFESSORSHIP

In recognition of her many contributions to urbanism, Eugenie L. Birch, co-director of Penn IUR, and chair of the City and Regional Planning department, has been named the first recipient of the Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professorship of Urban Research and Education. The professorship, established in 2005, is given in honor of former Penn trustee, Lawrence Nussdorf. Mr. Nussdorf is President and COO of The Clark Enterprises, Inc.

Dr. Birch is an expert on downtown housing in American cities. Her recent paper for the Brookings Institution entitled, "Who Lives Downtown," was ranked among Brookings' top ten papers in 2005. Among her many accomplishments, Dr. Birch is a recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to Latin America, a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners, a member of the National

Advisory Council of the Mayors' Institute on City Design, and chair of the Planning Accreditation Board. She has also served as president of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, president of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History, and editor of the *Journal of the American Planning Association*.

Dr. Birch has written extensively on planning history and other issues. Recent publications include: "Whyte on Whyte: A Walk in the City," in *The Humane Metropolis* (2006), "Hopeful Signs, Urban Revitalization in the 21st Century," in *Land Policies for Urban Development* (2007), and "Public and Private Space in Urban Areas: House, Neighborhood, City," in *Handbook on Community Movements and Local Organizations* (2006).

## DR. WENDELL

**PRITCHETT** is Associate Dean and Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Dr. Pritchett has specialized in real estate and housing law, representing non-profit organizations involved in affordable housing and economic development.

His current research examines the development of post-war urban policy, in particular urban renewal, housing finance and housing discrimination. He is completing a biography of Robert Weaver, the first Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. His forthcoming publications include: *Which Urban Crisis: Regionalism, Race and Urban Policy* and *Beyond Kelo: Thinking About Urban Development in the 21st Century*.

Dr. Pritchett is a Co-Director of the Penn IUR Faculty Forum on Immigration Race and Urban Inequality. In the following interview, he shares his faculty forum experience.

**PIUR:** Can you tell us about your work with the Penn IUR Faculty Forum on Immigration Race and Urban Inequality?

**WP:** The project seeks to understand the impact of recent immigrants to the Philadelphia region. Last year, we organized a monthly seminar to address questions of immigration and race from several different perspectives, including, sociology, history, demographics, and law.

This year, we are overseeing the collection of data on recent immigrants to the Philadelphia region. We have been looking at several aspects of immigrant



life, including educational status, occupation, income, and residence. We are planning to share this data with policy-makers and scholars, and we hope to make this project a continuing study of the impact of immigration on the Philadelphia region.

**PIUR:** How has your involvement with the Penn IUR impacted your experience at the University?

**WP:** My interaction with the PIUR has enabled me to strengthen relationships with urbanists across the university and has deepened my understanding of the various approaches to the study of urban society. As legal study is inherently inter-disciplinary, this has been very useful to my own work.

Do you want to influence urban public policy and enlighten masses of urban researchers?

Add your papers to the Penn IUR section of **Scholarly Commons**.

For more information, e-mail [penniur@pobo.upenn.edu](mailto:penniur@pobo.upenn.edu)

## about penn iur

The Penn Institute for Urban Research (Penn IUR) is a university-wide body that builds on Penn's record as an urban institution by advancing urban scholarship, developing methodological tools for urban research, and applying research to public policy. Penn IUR enhances the field of urban-focused knowledge through a commitment to cities on a local and global scale. The Institute is premised on the belief that place matters to understanding urban phenomena, recognizing that spatially-based approaches are essential to identifying urban challenges, strategies, and solutions. As a campus-wide institution, Penn IUR stimulates research, provides opportunities for collaborative instruction, and engages with the world of practitioners and policymakers.

Penn Institute for Urban Research  
G-12 Meyerson Hall  
210 South 34th Street  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6311  
ph 215.573.8386 | fx 215.898.5731  
penniuur@pobox.upenn.edu  
<http://www.upenn.edu/penniuur>



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**PENN IUR in NYC**  
*(at the Urban Center in this building)*

February 27, 2007

**Rebuilding after Disaster**  
**Municipal Art Society of New York**

457 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10022

a panel discussion featuring contributors to the new publication, *Rebuilding Urban Places after Disaster: Lessons from Hurricane Katrina*