

## RESEARCH

# Recovering Cities Project Concludes

**THROUGH ITS RECOVERING CITIES PROJECT**, Penn IUR brought research to bear on the question of the pandemic's impact on cities. In December 2021, Penn IUR concluded the project with the publication of [\*Recovering New York City: A One Year Look Back on the Penn IUR Recovering Cities Project, and a Look Forward towards Recovery\*](#).

Penn IUR launched the Recovering Cities Project in September 2020 to track the recovery of a major U.S. city from the pandemic and its economic impact. It focused on New York City, a world city of global economic and cultural importance and the original epicenter of the pandemic in the United States. Led by Penn IUR Advisory Board member Bill Lukashok, Penn

IUR Post-Doctoral Fellow Chandan Deuskar, and Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, the research team assembled a small but influential group of the city's leaders drawn from the public, private, and non-governmental sectors and monitored the situation in real time with regular data gathering in the form of the Penn IUR New York City Recovery Dashboard (a set of indicators that tracked health,

fiscal conditions, employment, public transport use, crime, residential and commercial real estate markets, park usage, retail, arts and culture, and foot traffic, available on the Penn IUR website).

The group met bi-monthly, reviewed data on the state of the city, and invited experts to provide

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## CONVENING

# Education & Workforce Series Launched

Penn IUR is exploring the future of education in America in a panel discussion series entitled Education and Workforce Solutions for an Equitable Future. Led by Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Laura Perna, Vice Provost for Faculty and GSE Centennial Presidential Professor of Education, the discussion series included two events in Fall 2021.

The first event, "Community Colleges: Who Should Pay?," took place October 12. A panel conversation among education policymakers, leaders, and researchers explored the benefits of tuition-free community college and the issues that need to be considered if this approach is to successfully improve access to and affordability of higher education, especially for students from historically underserved groups. Speakers shared insights from tuition-free community college initiatives that have been developed by the State of New Jersey and in other states and communities across the nation, as well as President Biden's tuition-free proposal. Panelists included Zakiya Smith Ellis, Chief Policy Advisor to New Jersey Governor Phil D. Murphy; Mike Flores, Chancellor, Alamo Colleges District, San Antonio Texas; Martha Kanter, CEO, College Promise; and Edward Smith, Education Program Officer, The Kresge Foundation.

The second event in the series, "Federal Support for Local Workforce Solutions," was held December 7 and explored the federal government's role in investing in educational and workforce development systems. Panelists included Donald Guy

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## LEADERSHIP

## Penn IUR Welcomes 4th Cohort of Fellows in Urban Leadership

Penn IUR welcomed the fourth cohort of the Fellows in Urban Leadership program in Fall 2021. The year-long program, open to all Penn undergraduates, engages a small cohort of selected students with high-level local, regional, and national leaders drawn from government, business, and civil society to discuss decision-making in urban places.

Fellows gathered virtually starting in September 2021, meeting in October, November, and December with Former Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter; Maura McCarthy, Executive Director of The Fairmount Park Conservancy, and Chellie Cameron, CEO of the Philadelphia International Airport. Fellows will continue to meet with urban leaders including Craig Carnaroli, Senior Executive Vice President of Penn, and Shawn McCaney, CEO of the William Penn Foundation, in Spring 2022. Over the course of the year, these interactions with city leaders will help the Fellows develop an understanding of the critical connections between the public, private, and nonprofit spheres and prepare them to make meaningful contributions as future leaders in an increasingly urban world. To learn more about the program, visit the page on the [Penn IUR website](#).

UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS IN URBAN RESEARCH MEET MONTHLY WITH PROMINENT URBAN LEADERS SUCH AS FORMER GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND MARTIN O'MALLEY, RIGHT.



## 2021-22 FELLOWS IN URBAN LEADERSHIP

**DENNIS GALLO** is a senior from Managua, Nicaragua in the College of Arts Sciences concentrating in Political Science and minoring in Urban Real Estate and Development.

**SYLVIA GARRETT** is a junior pursuing a major in political science, minor in English, and a certificate in Spanish Language.

**ADAM GOUDJIL** is a junior from Staten Island, NY majoring in Urban Studies and minoring in Urban Education Policy.

**AISHA IRSHAD**, who grew up in Brooklyn, NY, is a junior in a Dual Degree Program studying Economics and Political Science in Wharton and the College.

**ALEXANDER MASSARO** is a senior from Monroe, Connecticut majoring in Economics and minoring in Mathematics and Statistics.

**BENJAMIN MOSS-HORWITZ** is a junior from Northampton, Massachusetts studying urban studies and music.

**VEDIK NAVALE**, originally from the Phoenix Metropolitan Area in Arizona, is a senior in the Vagelos Dual-Degree Program in Life Sciences and Management, where he studies Finance in the Wharton School and Neuroscience in the School of Arts and Sciences.

**DAVID NAVARRO** is junior originally from Monterrey, Mexico majoring in economics at Wharton with a minor in urban real estate.

**DANIEL RUIZ DE LA CONCHA** is a senior majoring in International Relations and Urban Studies and minoring in Latin American and Latino Studies.

**THOMAS STATCHEN** is a junior from Stonington, Connecticut studying Bioengineering and Urban Studies.

**JENNA SCHULMAN** is a junior from Washington, D.C. pursuing a dual major in Urban Studies and Health and Societies with a minor in French.

**ETHAN SCHWARTZ**, who grew up in New York City, is current junior in the college of arts and sciences majoring in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) with minors in Architecture and Urban Real Estate and Development.

**JOSEPH SQUILLARO** is studying Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) with minors in Urban Studies and Classical Studies in the School of Arts and Sciences.

**NATASHA TAGLIAFERRI** is a senior from London concentrating in Finance and Real Estate in Wharton with a minor in Italian.

# Faculty Spotlight: Lance Freeman



**LANCE FREEMAN**, Penn IUR Faculty Fellow and one of the world's leading scholars of urban housing and gentrification, was recently appointed Penn's 29th Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) University Professor, a position established to recruit exceptional faculty members whose research and teaching exemplify the integration of knowledge across disciplines. He is the James W. Efron University Professor, with joint appointments in the Department of City and Regional Planning in the Weitzman School and the Department of Sociology in the School of Arts & Sciences. Previously a professor in the Urban Planning Program at Columbia University, Freeman spent the 2020-21 academic year at Penn as the Provost's Distinguished Visiting Faculty Fellow. His books include *A Haven and a Hell: The Ghetto in Black America* (Columbia University Press, 2019) and *There Goes the 'Hood: Views of Gentrification from the Ground Up* (Temple University Press, 2006).

## CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND? HOW DID YOU COME TO FOCUS IN PARTICULAR ON THE ROLE OF NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGE?

I'm a native New Yorker. I grew up in Queens. I think it was that experience, growing up in the city and noticing the really stark differences across neighborhoods, both in terms of demographics, race, ethnicity, and also class, that got me interested in urbanism. I have an interest in architecture, as well. It was those interests that led me to study city planning as a profession. I got a master's degree in City Planning, and then I worked for the New York City Housing Authority for a couple years before getting my Ph.D. In my experience working at the New York City Housing Authority, I became interested in housing, and how housing policy and planning affected neighborhoods.

It really was my experience growing up in New York, and being fascinated by the different characteristics of various neighborhoods and how starkly neighborhoods can change, that got me interested in the topic.

## YOUR MOST RECENT BOOK, *A HAVEN AND A HELL: THE GHETTO IN BLACK AMERICA*, WHICH SPEAKS TO THE ROLE OF THE BLACK GHETTO AS A REFUGE, AS WELL AS A SOURCE OF MARGINALIZATION. CAN YOU TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THOSE SEEMINGLY OPPOSITE VIEWS OF THE HISTORY OF THE BLACK GHETTO?

In recent years, increasing attention has been paid to the way that Black neighborhoods—I'll just use the term "ghettos"—have been marginalized. I think the murders of George Floyd and others in the past few years rekindled attention to that topic in a way that perhaps had not been done since the Kerner Commission Report, more than 50 years ago, now. That's one vantage point of these neighborhoods. My interest in neighborhoods, too, has been how the people themselves experience them. How do they feel about them? I wanted to research the ghetto from that vantage point.

If you look at the role that these neighborhoods have played in Black life historically, I think it has played both roles—it has both been a place of marginalization, but it's also people's home. It's a place of community. And, in particular, in the earlier part of the 20th century, it was viewed as a step up. A way to advance the race, and escape from the Jim Crow South.

## THANK YOU. AND CAN YOU TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE MOST SALIENT PLANNING AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS IN YOUR BOOK THAT COME OUT OF THAT HISTORY?

I talk about the need to provide opportunities for people who want to remain in these communities, to give them the opportunity to thrive there. In many ways, for many people, it seems that option has been increasingly closed off. At the same time, some people do want to leave those spaces. So, I think you need a mix—you need policies that both help people to stay and thrive, and then

also to move away. For people who want to stay, gentrification is a concern in many cities—including Philadelphia. The way that the neighborhoods may be "improved" is a way that doesn't benefit the people who have been living there for a long period of time. So, I'm thinking about ways to improve the conditions of neighborhoods in ways that also benefit the people that live there. That would include not just improving the physical conditions, but also providing services and investing in the people: better education, job training, policing that's done in a less oppressive way. These can help the people who want to remain flourish.

## AS PIK PROFESSOR, YOU'RE FOCUSED ON INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AND TEACHING. WHAT OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES HAVE YOU RUN INTO IN DOING RESEARCH THAT SPANS DISCIPLINES?

That's a great question. I think the opportunity is to reach a broader audience—beyond just planners. I've done a lot of work collaborating with people in public health. Planning and public health had really close ties back in the 19th century, the early 20th century—there's started to be a reintegration of that recently. So, there's an opportunity for reaching another, separate audience of people who are interested in public health. It's a way of affecting change but through a different channel. Sociology or demography—again, another opportunity to speak to a different audience.

## CONVENING

## Penn IUR Keeps Focus on Cities at COP26

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) convened October 31–November 12, 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland. Penn IUR joined the University of Pennsylvania’s delegation for the second and final week of the conference, which focused, among other things, on cities and regions. Penn IUR joined delegation with representation from Mauricio Rodas, Former Mayor of Quito and Visiting Scholar at Perry World House, Penn IUR, and the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, and Amy Montgomery, Penn IUR’s Managing Director. Rodas spoke on a number of panels, sharing his expertise on financing climate infrastructure in cities and urban



heat resilience. Montgomery provided [daily bulletins](#) on urban-related activity from COP26.

Following the conference, Rodas and Montgomery shared their takeaways from COP26 on the role cities can play in addressing climate change. Read the December 2021 issue of [Urban Link](#) for their reflections on the opportunities and challenges that cities face in addressing climate change at the local level while simultaneously navigating national and multi-national systems.

YOUTH GATHERED AT COP26 WITH THE MESSAGE “SHOW US THE MONEY,” LEFT.

## CONVENING

## Conversations on Informality

A seminar series highlighting research on urban informality offers academics and practitioners an opportunity to exchange knowledge and together delve into topics such as informality in settlements, services, livelihoods, water supply and waste, and transportation.

The ongoing series is organized by the Forum on Urban Informality, a group of early-career researchers housed at Penn IUR that convenes graduate and post-graduate researchers across disciplines and institutions to explore the way informality is shaping sustainable urban development. Membership is open to any graduate or post-doc studying informality. To learn more or to join, visit the [Penn IUR website](#).

Events in the “Conversations on Informality” series are structured as dialogues between academics and practitioners. The four events that have taken place since the series began in June 2021 are:

### JUNE 18, 2021

#### [“INTERNATIONAL WASTE CHAINS: TRACING THE SUPPLY CHAIN FROM FORMAL WASTE COLLECTION TO INFORMAL WASTE PROCESSING”](#)

Silpa Kaza, Senior Urban Specialist at the World Bank, presented an overview of the scale of the waste management challenge, how it relates to urban informality, and what the World Bank does in relation to it.

Dagna Rams, PhD candidate in Social Anthropology, University of Lausanne (UNIL) in Switzerland, and Visiting Fellow, NYU and the Max Planck Institute, presented on electronic waste processors in Ghana, their financial networks and commodity chains, and the hazards that they face.

### JULY 23, 2021

#### [“BRIDGING GAPS IN ENERGY ACCESS: INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN BASIC SERVICE PROVISION, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND CLIMATE ACTION”](#)

Deepti Chatti, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies and Affiliate Faculty with the Schatz Energy Research Centre at Humboldt State University, presented her insights from nearly a decade of ethnographic research on cookstove use in urban and rural households in the Indian Himalayas.

### SEPTEMBER 3, 2021

#### [“RETHINKING THE THEORETICAL DIVIDE: URBAN INFORMALITY IN THE GLOBAL NORTH”](#)

Robert Fairbanks II, Lecturer and Fellow, Urban Studies Program, University of Pennsylvania, presented his ethnographic work on the informal processes characterizing the housing industry and poverty survival strategies in the Kensington area in a post-industrial Philadelphia.

Noah Durst, Assistant Professor, Urban and Regional Planning School of Planning, Design, & Construction, Michigan State University, outlined his findings on informal housing in the United States, identifying different housing regulatory regimes and the varied manifestations of informal housing within these contexts.

### SEPTEMBER 24, 2021

#### [“THE EMPLOYMENT PARADOX: HIGH JOB OPENINGS AND THE UNDOCUMENTED LATINX”](#)

Héctor Manuel Herrada Rangel, Community Activist, Philadelphia, presented perspectives from the community in Philadelphia about informality and ways to support undocumented communities to formally join the workforce in the U.S. Michael Jones-Correa, President’s Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Director, Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Race and Immigration (CSERI), spoke on the consequences of undocumented status and informality, for the economic, social and civic engagement of the Latinx community in Philadelphia.



## CONVENING

## Special Briefings on State and Local Finance Continue

In Fall 2021, Penn IUR continued its monthly webinar series on the impact of COVID-19 on the fiscal outlook of state and local governments. In partnership with the Volcker Alliance, Penn IUR launched the ongoing series in July 2020.

Free and open to the public, the fall events attracted hundreds of people from around the world. Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter and Penn IUR Fellow William Glasgall, Senior Director, Public Finance, Volcker Alliance, introduced and moderated the discussions. A description of each event's topic and guest speakers follows, along with a link to video of the webinar:

**“COVID-19, THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN, AND 2022 STATE AND LOCAL BUDGETS”** took place June 17, 2021 and focused on how governments were planning to use the \$350 billion in direct aid contained in the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) as they readied budgets for fiscal year 2022, and the impact on budgets of the Act's assistance to individuals, families, educational institutions, and mass transportation systems. This briefing featured presentations by Mark Zandi, Chief Economist, Moody's Analytics; Shelby Kerns, Executive Director, National Association of State Budget Officers; Hughey Newsome, Chief Financial Officer, Wayne County, Michigan; and Kim Norton, Mayor of Rochester, Minnesota.

**“THE BIDEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN: RESILIENCE, EQUITY, AND FEDERAL INVESTMENT”** took place July 15, 2021 and focused on how state and local governments planned to use ARPA funding to address broadband as well as water and sewer needs. Panelists also discussed the Act's emphasis on resilience and equity; the outlook for investment by counties and cities; and risks posed by climate change to states, counties, and cities in the \$4 trillion municipal bond market. This briefing featured presentations by Brad Little, Governor, Idaho; Carolyn Bourdeaux, Congresswoman, Georgia; Laura Curran, Executive, Nassau County, New York; Penn IUR Advisory Board Member Manny Diaz, former Mayor, Miami, Florida; and Thomas G. Doe, President, Municipal Market Analytics.

**“THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT: CLEAN WATER, BETTER BROADBAND, RESILIENCE, AND EQUITY”** took place September 23, 2021 and focused on the \$1 trillion federal infrastructure bill then under consideration and America's needs for investment in clean water and wider access to internet service in states, cities, and counties. This briefing featured presentations by Ras J. Baraka, Mayor, Newark, New Jersey; Kathryn de Wit, Project Director, Broadband Access Initiative, The Pew Charitable Trusts; Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Howard Neukrug, Professor of Practice, Department of Earth and Environmental Science, School of Arts and Sciences; and Thomas Hazlett, Hugh H. Macaulay Endowed Chair in Economics, Clemson University.

**“THE BIDEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN: UNMET NEEDS AND STATE OF PLAY”** took place October 21, 2021 and focused on the federal response to U.S. infrastructure needs. This briefing featured presentations by Carolyn Coleman, League of California Cities; Andrew Haughwout, Federal Reserve Bank of New York; Annie Linsky, Washington Post; and Torsten Slok, Apollo Global Management.

**“CLIMATE CHANGE, FEDERAL AID AND STATE AND LOCAL STRATEGIES”** took place November 18, 2021 and focused on the impact of climate change on state and local finances as well as the role the federal government may play under measures proposed by President Biden. This briefing featured presentations by Nora Wittstruck, Director-ESG Lead in U.S. Public Finance at S&P; Emily Robare, Vice President and Credit Research Analyst at PIMCO Municipals; Hughey Newsome, Chief Financial Officer of Wayne County, Michigan; and Tim Coffin, Director of Sustainability at Breckinridge Capital Advisors; and was moderated by Penn IUR Fellow Nora Fitzpatrick, regional affairs specialist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

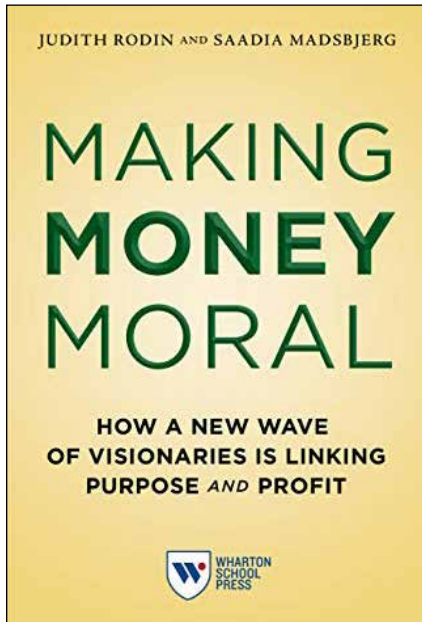
**“STATE AND CITY SPENDING OF FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS”** took place December 16, 2021 and focused on state and city spending of federal infrastructure funds contained in the November 2021 infrastructure bill as well as ARPA. This event featured presentations by Earl Blumenauer, U.S. Congressman, Oregon, and Member, House Ways and Means Committee; Penn IUR Advisory Board Member Patrick Brett, Managing Director and Head of Citi's Municipal Debt Capital Markets and Capital Solutions Businesses, Chairman of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; and David Glick, Associate Professor of Political Science, Boston University, Faculty Director of MetroBridge, and Co-Principal Investigator, Menino Survey of Mayors, Boston University Initiative on Cities.

This series continues in Spring 2022. To stream a video of individual events, click on the above hyperlinks. For more information visit Penn IUR's event listings for upcoming [events in the series](#) and for videos of past events.



## CONVENING

## Penn IUR Book Talk: *Making Money Moral*



On November 4, Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch engaged Judith Rodin, President Emerita, University of Pennsylvania, and Former President, The Rockefeller Foundation, in a conversation about [Making Money Moral: How a New Wave of Visionaries Is Linking Purpose and Profit](#) (Wharton School Press, 2021), which Rodin co-authored with Saadia Madsbjerg.

In *Making Money Moral*, Rodin and her coauthor explore impact investing, a burgeoning movement of ambitious innovators using private-sector investments in new ways to solve global problems, from environmental challenges to social issues such as poverty and inequality. In their hour-long conversation, Drs. Rodin and Birch touched on the historical and contemporary forces that led to this movement, the potential of using private finance to build communities and protect the environment, and several examples of impact investing across various asset classes.

Rodin was the first woman named to lead an Ivy League institution and the first woman to serve as The Rockefeller Foundation's president. At Penn, she presided over an unprecedented decade of growth and progress that transformed the institution, its campus, and the community, and took the university from sixteenth to fourth in U.S. News and World Report national rankings. To stream the discussion, visit the [Penn IUR event page](#).

## RESEARCH

## H+U+D Update

The Penn Humanities, Urbanism, and Design (H+U+D) Initiative, funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, proceeded in person during the Fall 2021 semester, bridging the divide between the humanities and design disciplines in the study of cities through frequent interdisciplinary exchanges, student research awards, and graduate and undergraduate courses.

The H+U+D colloquium—a group of 15 scholars from across the university who meet bi-weekly to share research, foster collaboration, and build relationships—is a signature component of the initiative. This fall, H+U+D officially welcomed Franca Trubiano (Architecture, Weitzman School of Design) as a new co-director of the initiative. She will serve during the 2021-22 academic year alongside H+U+D co-chair and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Andrea Goulet, Professor of French and Francophone Studies, Department of Romance Languages (School of Arts and Sciences). Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, co-chair of H+U+D for the initiative's first seven years, continues working with the initiative in an advisory role.

The initiative also welcomed five new faculty members into the colloquium from both

humanities and design disciplines. New members include: Mia Bay (History, School of Arts and Sciences), Odette Casamayor-Cisneros (Romance Languages, School of Arts and Sciences), Rahul Mukherjee (Television and New Media Studies/English, School of Arts and Sciences), Sonja Dümpelmann (Landscape Architecture, Weitzman School of Design), and Andrew Saunders (Architecture, Weitzman School of Design). This faculty cohort was joined by two Junior Fellows, Dr. Ewa Matyczyk and Dr. Alec Stewart, as well as two Doctoral Dissertation Fellows, Pavel Andrade and Kimberly Noronha, who were all appointed for the 2021-22 academic year.

During the Fall 2021 semester, Alec Stewart, Jorge Téllez, Odette Casamayor-Cisneros, Jennifer Ponce de León, and Pavel Andrade presented their research at the H+U+D Colloquium meetings. In addition, one highlight of the fall semester was a group field trip to Taller Puertorriqueño to see the organization's new building and meet with Taller's Exhibition Program Manager and Curator, Rafael Damast. Taller was H+U+D's Anchor Institution Seminar for the 2020-21 academic year. This year,

H+U+D's Anchor Institution partnership is with the Philadelphia Lazaretto, the first quarantine hospital in the U.S., built in 1799, which served as the gateway to Philadelphia in a crucial period of the nation's growth. H+U+D Faculty Fellow David Barnes (History and Sociology of Science) will teach the Anchor Institution seminar on the Lazaretto this year, and the H+U+D Colloquium will take a field trip there this spring.

H+U+D is a joint project with the Weitzman School of Design and the School of Arts and Sciences, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to foster integrative considerations of the relationship between the humanities and the design professions in the analysis and shaping of the built environment.

Following the successful completion of the project's first five-year period, Mellon renewed the grant for a second five-year period beginning in 2018. Under the renewed grant, the initiative takes "The Inclusive City: Past, Present, and Future" as its theme, focusing on issues of inclusivity and diversity. For more information on the initiative and its programs visit [www.humanitiesurbanismdesign.com](http://www.humanitiesurbanismdesign.com).

## CONVENING

# Livable Cities Generates Cross-University Conversation



The Audible book *Livable Cities* by Mark Alan Hughes, above, inspired a conversation among 18 researchers from six schools at Penn IUR's fall event.

On October 27, Penn IUR sponsored an event that brought together 18 scholars from across the university to share their research as it relates to the themes in Mark Alan Hughes' *Livable Cities*, an Audible Original audiobook in The Great Courses series, which argues for the necessity for cities in meeting the fundamental needs of individuals and of the human community.

The event paired scholars from different disciplines in discussion of a concept Hughes used in the book to explore the necessity of cities. By drawing scholars from diverse disciplines, the event unearthed themes common across disciplines and created connections among widely varied research topics. Visit the Penn IUR website to [stream the dialogues](#) and to [read Hughes's reflections on the conversation](#).

The participants, grouped in pairs with the theme on which they spoke, are listed below:

### *The Livability of Cities*

**Michael Weisberg**, Professor and Chair of Philosophy, School of Arts and Sciences; Senior Faculty Fellow and Director of Post Graduate Programs at Perry World House

**Akira Drake Rodriguez**, Assistant Professor, City & Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

### *Theme: Building Refuge in Cities*

**Randy Mason**, Professor, Historic Preservation and City & Regional Planning; Faculty Director, Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites, Weitzman School of Design

**David Grazian**, Professor, Sociology and Communication; Faculty Director, Urban Studies Program, School of Arts and Sciences

### *Theme: Markets at the Crossroads*

**Gilles Duranton**, Dean's Chair in Real Estate Professor, The Wharton School

**Erick Guerra**, Associate Professor and Associate Chair, City & Regional Planning; Director, Cm2 University Transportation Center, Weitzman School of Design

### *Theme: Making Meaning in Livable Cities*

**John Dilulio**, Frederic Fox Leadership Professor of Politics, Religion, and Civil Society, School of Arts and Sciences

**Ken Lum**, Marilyn Jordan Taylor Presidential Professor, Chair of Fine Arts, Weitzman School of Design

### *Theme: Freedom the Key to the Cities*

**Michael Delli Carpini**, Oscar H. Gandy Professor of Communication & Democracy, Annenberg School for Communication

**Mia Bay**, Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Chair in American History, School of Arts and Sciences

### *Theme: Livable Cities are Edible Cities*

**Domenic Vitiello**, Associate Professor, City & Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

**Karen Glanz**, George A. Weiss University Professor, Professor, Perelman School of Medicine and the School of Nursing; Director, UPenn Prevention Research Center

### *Theme: The Wisdom of Cities*

**Alison Lassiter**, Assistant Professor, City & Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

**Bethany Wiggins**, Associate Professor of German; Founding Director, Penn Program in Environmental Humanities, School of Arts and Sciences

### *Theme: Waste Not, Walk Not*

**Jennifer Pinto-Martin**, Viola MacInnes/Independence Professor of Nursing; Professor of Epidemiology, Perelman School of Medicine; Executive Director, Center for Public Health Initiatives

**David Barnes**, Associate Professor, History and Sociology of Science, School of Arts and Sciences

### *Theme: Paradise Lost and Found*

**Karen M'Closkey**, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture, Weitzman School of Design

**Simon Richter**, Class of 1942 Endowed Term Professor of German; Department Chair, Germanic Languages and Literatures, School of Arts and Sciences

### *Theme: The Survival of Livability*

Penn IUR Co-Director **Eugenie Birch**, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education, City & Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

**Francesca Ammon**, Associate Professor, City & Regional Planning and Historic Preservation, Weitzman School of Design

## PUBLICATION

## #GalapagosGoesGreen Published

Penn IUR published [#GalapagosGoesGreen: Resiliency and CO2 Emission Reduction Pathways via Green Transportation for Recovering the Tourist Industry in the Aftermath of COVID-19](#) in October 2021 to help local leaders understand the options for sustainable mobility in the cities of the Galápagos Islands. The policy brief is a product of the City Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Financing Initiative ([C2IFI](#)), a cross-University initiative to expand financing for climate-resilient urban infrastructure, on which Penn IUR works in partnership with the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy (KCEP) and Perry World House (PWH).

Ecuador's Galápagos Islands have a tourism-based economy reliant on diesel fuel and old, undersized port facilities. The collapse in tourism due to the pandemic highlighted the value of increasing the archipelago's self-sufficiency by developing off-grid green transportation systems. Within this context, [#GalapagosGoesGreen](#) explores the context, precedents, and possibilities for sustainable mobility with a focus on the islands' two largest

town centers, Puerto Ayora and Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, as well as the archipelago's intra-island waters.

In collaboration with planners and officials in the Galápagos Islands, C2IFI researchers undertook this project in support of the islands' vision to transition from fossil fuel dependency to clean energy options (as articulated in its *Zero Fossil Fuel Initiative*, 2007); this vision expresses the intent to preserve the archipelago's unique ecosystem, protect it from the effects of climate change, and ensure healthy communities—while maintaining its valuable tourism economy. [#GalapagosGoesGreen](#) outlines suggestions for realizing this vision through energy grid improvements, non-fossil fuel vehicles, and financial mechanisms. The brief frames the challenges and possibilities leaders face, situates options within the political and economic context, and offers case studies from around the world. Learn more about Penn IUR's work with C2IFI on the [Penn IUR website](#).

## RESEARCH

## Comparative Urbanization: United States and South Korea

Penn IUR [presented](#) research on housing development and financing at the Korea City Renaissance Industry Expo (CRIEXPO) on October 28, 2021. The presentation marked Penn IUR's third year of participation in this research project convened by the Urban Sustainability Laboratory at the Washington-based Wilson Center, which undertakes comparative research with U.S. and South Korean scholars and practitioners involving the Housing and Urban Guarantee Corporation (HUG) and the Land and Housing Institute (LHI) of South Korea.

For this project, the Center assembled a team of knowledge partners including Penn IUR, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and American University to develop U.S. case studies that inform specific research questions on housing development and financing practices and policies posed by

South Korean sponsors. In the project's first year, Penn IUR explored Business Improvement Districts and their investments in public space (see "[Comparative Study of Urban Regeneration in the United States and South Korea: Business Improvement Districts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](#)"). In the second year, Penn IUR examined partnerships financing large-scale housing projects in the U.S. such as Pacific Park (formerly Atlantic Yards) in Brooklyn New York ("[Comparative Study of Urban Regeneration in the United States and South Korea: Atlantic Yards, Brooklyn, NY](#)"). Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch and Amanda Lloyd, Penn IUR Program Director, Global Research Initiatives, presented the findings of these projects to HUG in Seoul and Busan respectively in September 2019 and 2020. Along with their Korean and other partners, they presented the results of the whole project at the World Urban Forum in

February 2020. Now in the project's third year, Penn IUR is developing case studies of Greater Miami and Philadelphia in order to examine models for financing affordable moderate-to-middle-income rental housing and urban regeneration and disaster resilience focusing on the use of vacant land. The October 2021 presentation of initial research findings at CRIEXPO can be streamed on the Penn IUR website. The report will be available in 2022.

Penn IUR's interest in comparative urbanization research between U.S. and South Korea dates back to 2014, when Penn IUR hosted, as part of its 10th anniversary event series, "[The Future of Urbanization: What Can We Learn from Asian Cities?](#)" an event that included a presentation by Dr. Kyung-Hwan Kim, former President of the Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements. Kim, now Professor of Economics at Sogang University, is a Penn IUR Scholar.





## CONVENING

## Webinar Series on Education and Workforce Launched

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

Generals, President, Community College of Philadelphia; Harry J. Holzer, John LaFarge, Jr. S.J. Chair and Professor, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University; James Kvaal, Under Secretary of Education, United States Department of Education; and Theresa Y. Singleton, Senior Vice President and Community Affairs Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. The conversation explored the provisions in the Build Back Better Act (which was being debated in congress at the time) that promised to expand access to affordable,

high-quality postsecondary education; support community college workforce programs; invest in institutions that serve people from underserved groups; and support student retention and completion programs.

Laura Perna moderated both events, which were online and open to the public. Both are available to stream on the [Penn IUR website](#).

## PUBLICATION

## Urban Innovation Essential to Achieve SDGs

Penn IUR co-authored, with the Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and Wellcome Trust, the [5th Guangzhou Award Report on Local Implementation of SDGs](#), which suggests ways to support and accelerate the city-level innovation needed to reach the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Published in July 2021, the report analyzes 45 case studies of innovative urban initiatives around the world, providing evidence that city-level innovation is essential to achieving the SDGs and suggesting ways nations can

partner with and support cities in pursuit of this common goal. The report draws lessons from forward-thinking cities tackling challenges as diverse as food security in Antananarivo, Madagascar; reducing waste through circular business models in Capetown, South Africa; and eco-efficiency land use policies in Quito, Ecuador.

Focused on innovations related to the COVID-19 pandemic response and the eight SDGs reviewed at the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) held July 13-15, 2021, the report includes lessons drawn from the Guangzhou International Award for Urban

Innovation (Guangzhou Award). Established in 2012 to advocate urban innovation, accelerate the attainment of the SDGs, and encourage international exchanges and city-to-city cooperation, the award was co-founded by the City of Guangzhou with the United Cities and Local Government (UCLG) and the World Association of Major Metropolises (Metropolis). Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch has been part of the peer review jury process for the Guangzhou Award since 2018.

Download the report from the Penn IUR [website](#).

## PUBLICATION

## Policy Brief: The COVID-19 Recession

In October 2021, Penn IUR published [The Covid-19 Recession: Which Urban Economies Have Performed Better or Worse and Why?](#) by John Landis, Crossways Professor Emeritus and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow. The brief analyzes the effects of the pandemic across the nation by looking at the extent and velocity of job losses between January 2020 and May 2021 in the nation's 105 most populous metros.

Landis's analysis shows a 14 percent overall drop in unemployment in the nation's 105 most populous metros (in contrast to the nation's at 13 percent) with wide variation among metros. At one extreme, Los Angeles plunged 24 percent below its January 2020 figure while, at the other end, Omaha lost only 4 percent of its jobs in this time span. Landis determined that population size, high density, costly housing, and relatively poor growth performance prior to the pandemic were associated with cities with the highest unemployment rates. Further, contrary to conventional beliefs

about the resilience of economies based on "eds and meds" in the face of economic disruptions, he found that those metros yielded worse returns than those with high numbers of government employees.

Landis also reported a substantial recovery across the metros, with a comeback rate of 96 percent of the January 2020 level. He noted that the slowest to recover were large, highly dense places dependent on the leisure and tourism and health and education sectors having high numbers of foreign-born residents while the more resilient cities were those that had vigorous economic growth prior to the pandemic and those with a better educated workforce. These data led to one of Landis's counter-intuitive observations: metros that possess agglomeration economies, considered a critical success factor for positive economic growth in ordinary times, may slow down recovery. To read this and other Penn IUR briefs, visit the Penn IUR [publications page](#).

## RESEARCH

## Innovation Ecosystems and Higher Education

How can a state and its higher education institutions work together to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship? Penn IUR recently reviewed this question for CTNext, the Connecticut agency that fosters growth in startup and early-stage businesses and links startups to promote greater business activity.

*CTNext Higher Education Initiative Program: Strategic Recommendations for the Next Five Years* looks in depth at CTNext's Higher Education Initiative (HEI), designed to fund institutional partnerships that support innovation and entrepreneurship skills for students and faculty. The report reviews HEI's progress over the last five years and potential for expanding its impact over the next five. This report follows up on the program's initial strategic planning process, which Penn IUR completed in 2017. That report, [Entrepreneurship & Innovation in Connecticut's Higher Education System: A Catalytic Roadmap for Higher Education Collaboration](#), assessed the state's assets and opportunities in relation to innovation and entrepreneurship in higher education, recommended strategies to strengthen the

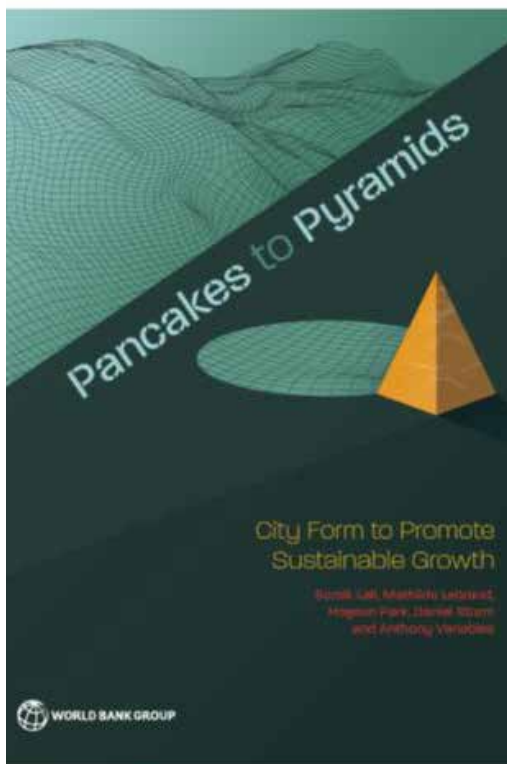
innovation ecosystem across its colleges and universities, and listed criteria for evaluating grant applications.

Penn IUR's December 2021 report for CTNext assesses the state's efforts so far and makes recommendations on recalibrating its programs. The report offers strategic recommendations—grouped under three broad pathways, or scenarios—for how the program can use its remaining \$4 million. These include place-based catalytic investments that build on urban revitalization investments across the state; capacity-building efforts such as supporting a stronger community of educators; and pursuing new opportunities for collaboration and equitable access.

CTNext retained Penn IUR to write the roadmap and the recent update because of the Institute's deep expertise with urban anchor institutions and economic development. Read more about Penn IUR's anchor institution work on the Penn IUR initiatives [webpage](#).

## CONVENING

## Urban Experts Discuss New Research from the World Bank



Penn IUR and World Bank experts came together September 17 at “City Form for Sustainable Growth,” the first event in the Global Urban Development Pathways series organized by Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Gilles Duranton, Dean's Chair in Real Estate Professor, The Wharton School. Participants discussed the World Bank report “Pancakes to Pyramids: City Form to Promote Sustainable Growth,” which demonstrates links between an ongoing increase in global urban density and productivity.

The report analyzes city development to identify the spatial extent of cities, the drivers of urban growth and ways to influence those drivers to create more productive and sustainable cities. In a major new finding, it shows an increase in density in cities as the world becomes more urban.

Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter introduced the topic and welcomed participants, followed by remarks on the

World Bank's urban analytics by Sameh Wahba, Global Director, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank. Following introductions by Duranton, three of the report's co-authors—Somik Lall, Lead Urban Economist and Global Lead for Territorial and Spatial Development, Urban, DRM, Resilience and Land; Mathilde Lebrand, Economist, Chief Economist Office for Infrastructure, The World Bank; and Daniel Sturm, Professor of Economics, London School of Economics—presented their findings.

Following their presentations, Solly Angel, Program Director of Urban Expansion and Professor of City Planning, NYU Marron Institute; Edgar Pieterse, Director, African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town; Shipra Narang Suri, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat; and Duranton discussed the report's implications.

Visit the Penn IUR website for a [recording of the event](#) and [an article](#) on the report.

## CONVENING

## World Cities Day 2021

Penn IUR recognized World Cities Day 2021 by sponsoring, with the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy (KCEP) and Perry World House (PWH), presentations by students of CPLN 577, Topics in International Development. After introductory remarks by Mauricio Rodas, Former Mayor, Quito, Ecuador, and Visiting Fellow at Penn IUR, PWH, and KCEP and Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, Penn IUR screened a video that students in CPLN 577 created on the topic of adapting cities to climate change.

Opening with a prompt to consider what the world could be like in 50 years, the video included an overview of the challenges climate change will present, the opportunities to adapt, and the actions cities are already taking. Students focused on the phenomenon of urban growth in Africa and Asia, where cities can potentially leapfrog traditional development formats and avoid the worst effects of climate change and poverty.

To stream the event, visit the [Penn IUR event page](#).

## CONVENING

## Extreme Heat in Cities

Penn IUR contributed to Climate Week at Penn, September 20-24, 2021, with a session on extreme heat. "[Extreme Heat in Cities: The Silent Killer](#)," held September 23, featured presentations by Mauricio Rodas, Former Mayor, Quito, Ecuador, and Visiting Fellow, Penn IUR, Perry World House, and Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, and Eleni Myrivili, Chief Heat Officer, Chief Resilience Officer, and Former Deputy Mayor, City of Athens.

Rodas and Myrivili noted that extreme heat is the deadliest climate-related hazard. They discussed the effects of heat in cities, and how it particularly impacts the most vulnerable. They also highlighted success stories of how effectively tackling extreme heat can save thousands of lives while creating new economic opportunities at the urban level.

To stream the event, visit the [Penn IUR website](#).

## Recovering Cities Project Concludes

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insights. Included were urban historian Kenneth Jackson, who reflected on the Big Apple's revival after such repeated and various crises as disease, fire, riots, and hurricanes for nearly 250 years; Fred Dixon, President and CEO, NYC & Company, the 2,000-member official destination marketing organization and convention and visitors bureau for the five boroughs of New York City, who outlined measures to regain the 67 million annual tourists, a major contributor to the city's economic base; Jennifer Raab, President, Hunter College/CUNY, who discussed online learning; Kathy Wyld, President and CEO, New York City

Partnerships, who spoke on employment and job losses; Thomas Wright, President, Regional Plan Association, who discussed public transportation; and others.

In the *Recovering New York City* report, the project directors present the health conditions early in the pandemic, monitor the ups and downs of health and socioeconomic conditions in the city over the year, and take stock of the group's continuing concerns for the future. They note in their conclusion that "The experts convened by Penn IUR remain cautiously optimistic that the city will rebound, but also

aware that plenty of work needs to be done to ensure that this happens."

Penn IUR undertook the Recovering Cities project to study the dynamics of recovery and to inform public and private decision-makers as they adapt the post-pandemic urban environment to be more resilient, inclusive, and innovative. It grew out of Penn IUR's long-standing interest in resilience, a research area that began with publication of Penn IUR Co-Directors Birch and Susan Wachter's [Rebuilding Urban Places After Disaster, Lessons from Katrina](#) (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2006).

## Faculty Spotlight: Lance Freeman

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

And also, sometimes, I do research of the type that might not be so readily appreciated by planners. Some of my work, particularly in residential segregation, is almost more like demography. And the planning implications or policy implications aren't always that direct or explicit. So, it's an opportunity to do research that I'm interested in, without necessarily being concerned about the immediate planning applications.

### ON THAT INTERDISCIPLINARY NOTE—WHAT KIND OF OPPORTUNITIES DO YOU SEE FOR WORKING WITH PENN IUR?

I think there will be opportunities to work with other urbanists—again, a way of reaching a broader audience, using it as a channel to speak to other people. That's one of the things I'm excited about. I knew a couple of people, like [Penn IUR Co-Directors] Genie Birch and Susan Wachter, before I came to Penn—and

I was excited about the opportunity to work with them. And, Penn has the planning Ph.D. program. I think it could be an attractive way to draw potential Ph.D. students to the program.

### AND WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

Right now, I'm doing work in New York City on what could be considered a racial equity report for the New York City Planning Department. The idea is that major planning initiatives would explicitly take into consideration how developments or initiatives would impact racial equity. I participated in a pilot last summer and, based on that experience, I'm writing about the potential for this type of planning practice more broadly, and how it could be something that other cities might adopt. And I'm comparing it to some of the initiatives that other cities have adopted in recent years.

# About Penn IUR

## THE PENN INSTITUTE FOR URBAN RESEARCH

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 21st-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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