Three New Volumes in Book Series Released


*Public Pensions and City Solvency*, published in January 2016, addresses the widespread problem of underfunded pension liabilities and presents strategies to achieve financial sustainability. In this volume, expert contributors provide incisive analyses and practical approaches to navigating the fiscal morass in which many governments find themselves.

Penn IUR Recognizes Leadership toward Shared Prosperity

On April 7, the Penn Institute for Urban Research hosted its twelfth annual Urban Leadership Forum and presented the Penn IUR Urban Leadership Award (ULA) to Angela Glover Blackwell, President and CEO, PolicyLink, and Jeremy Nowak, President, J. Nowak and Associates. The theme of this year’s event was “Leading Cities for Shared Prosperity.”

After a welcome from Penn IUR Advisory Board Chair Egbert Perry, Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch introduced the recipients. In accepting the award, Blackwell encouraged leaders to “lead with equity” and that other goals would then fall into place; she presented as an example of such an approach the broad social benefits that have resulted from the adoption of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990.

Nowak, in accepting his award, spoke from the perspective of a practitioner, lauding the efforts of research institutions like Penn IUR that aim to connect academia with professional practice. He emphasized the importance of a city’s fiscal sustainability, the reduction of poverty, and the potential of the entrepreneurial economy. Using Philadelphia as an illustration, he argued that the city should not mourn old, obsolete industries but look at educational institutions and entrepreneurship to re-envision the future.

After the awardees spoke, they engaged in a conversation moderated by Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter. They remarked on the importance of leadership and institutional innovation and change to bring about real, sustainable progress for urban areas. Wachter noted how the awardees exemplified such leadership.

Since 2005, Penn IUR has recognized through the ULA exemplary thinkers who have demonstrated vision in revitalizing urban centers, responding to (CONTINUED ON P. 21)
Upcoming Events

**SEPTEMBER 14**
**PENN IUR URBAN BOOK TALK**
**FRANCESCA RUSSELL AMMON: BULLDOZER: DEMOLITION AND CLEARANCE OF THE POSTWAR LANDSCAPE**
**PENN BOOKSTORE | 5:30 – 6:30 PM**

Join Penn IUR and the Department of City and Regional Planning, School of Design for a talk with Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Francesca Russello Ammon, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, School of Design, to discuss her book *Bulldozer: Demolition and Clearance of the Postwar Landscape* (Yale University Press, 2016). Ammon’s book explores the history of the bulldozer as a symbol of American clearance, progress, and destruction.

**SEPTEMBER 21 – 23**
**REINVENTING OUR COMMUNITIES: TRANSFORMING OUR ECONOMIES**
**FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE**
**HILTON AT PENN’S LANDING | 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

Reinventing Our Communities is a national biennial conference series hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Penn IUR, and others. The 2016 conference will highlight strategies to create places of opportunity, develop the local workforce for a global marketplace, and provide wealth and opportunity inclusively to all segments of the population. For more information and to register, visit: www.philadelphiafed.org.

**SEPTEMBER 15**
**PENN IUR PUBLIC INTEREST EVENT**
**RISING SEA LEVELS, COASTAL HAZARDS, AND URBAN RESILIENCE**
**KLEINMAN CENTER FOR ENERGY POLICY FORUM | 4:30 – 6:30 PM**

Join Penn IUR and the USGS for a discussion of urban resiliency metrics and climate change impacts. City and national leaders who are working toward long-term, city-level resiliency will discuss responses to sea level rise and climate change. Panelists include Howard Kunreuther, Co-Director, Risk Management and Decision Processes Center, The Wharton School; Wayne Pathman, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Pathman Lewis, LLC; Jamie Springer, Senior Principal, HRSA Advisors, Inc.; Walter Meyer, Principal, Local Office Landscape Architecture; and Marion McDadden, Vice President of Policy, Enterprise Community Solutions. Michael Berman, Founder, Berman Consulting, LLC, will moderate.

**SEPTEMBER 19 – 20**
**PERRY WORLD HOUSE GRAND OPENING**
**PERRY WORLD HOUSE | 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

As part of Perry World House’s two-day Grand Opening, which highlights its inaugural research agenda, Penn IUR will cosponsor an event on the theme of “Urbanization, Migration, and Demography,” with Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Devesh Kapur, Director, Center for the Advanced Studies of India (CASI) and Madan Lal Sobti Associate Professor for the Study of Contemporary India and Professor of Political Science, Penn School of Arts and Sciences. For more information, visit: global.upenn.edu/perryworldhouse.

**SEPTEMBER 20**
**PENN IUR PUBLIC INTEREST EVENT**
**BREXIT: TERRITORIAL INEQUALITY AND THE FUTURE OF NATIONS**
**KLEINMAN CENTER FOR ENERGY POLICY FORUM | 12:00 – 1:30 PM**

Join Penn IUR and Perry World House for a lunch talk with Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, Professor of Economic Geography, President of the Regional Science Association International, London School of Economics, as he talks about Brexit, territorial inequality, and the future of nations. Discussants Gilles Duranton, Dean’s Chair in Real Estate Professor, Chair, Real Estate Department and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow; and Joao Gomes, Howard Butcher III Professor of Finance, will join him in a panel discussion moderated by Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter. Lunch will be served.

**SEPTEMBER 27**
**PENN IUR BOOK LAUNCH**
**SLUMS: HOW INFORMAL REAL ESTATE MARKETS WORK**
**PERRY WORLD HOUSE | 5:30 – 7:00 PM**

Join Penn IUR for the launch of *Slums: How Informal Real Estate Markets Work*, edited by Eugenie Birch, Shahana Chattaraj, and Susan Wachter, and published by Penn Press as a part of the Penn Press/Penn IUR The City in the 21st Century book series. The volume shows that unauthorized settlements in rapidly growing cities are not divorced from market forces; rather, they must be understood as complex environments where state policies and market actors play a role. Join Penn IUR for a discussion on how the form and function of informal real estate markets are shaped in rapidly urbanizing places. Panelists include Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch; Sebastian Galiani, Professor of Economics, University of Maryland; Devesh Kapur, Director, Center for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) and Madan Lal Sobti Associate Professor for the Study of Contemporary India, and Professor of Political Science, Penn School of Arts and Sciences; Bishwapriya Sanyal, Ford International Professor of Urban Development and Planning and Director, Special Program in Urban and Regional Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter. This event is cosponsored by Perry World House and CASI.

**OCTOBER 4**
**PENN IUR PUBLIC INTEREST EVENT**
**MEDIA AND HABITAT III: HOW YOU CAN BE A PART OF IT**
**PERRY WORLD HOUSE | 5:30 – 7:00PM**

Join Penn IUR and Perry World House for an in-depth discussion on the upcoming UN-Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador, the role media will play, and how you can follow the conference. Speakers include Eugenie Birch, Co-Director, Penn IUR; Neal Pierce, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Citiscope; Mythili Sampathkumar, US editor for Cities Today; and Ariella Cohen, Editor-in-Chief, Next City. Cosponsored by Perry World House.

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Faculty Spotlight: Jere R. Behrman

JERE R. BEHRMAN is W.R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Economics and Sociology in the School of Arts and Sciences. A leading international researcher in empirical microeconomics with a focus on developing economies, Behrman in 2016 completed 51 years on the Penn Faculty, where he has been Chair of Economics, Research Associate and Director of Penn’s Population Studies Center, Associate Director of the Launder Institute, and Associate Director of Penn’s Population Aging Research Center, among other positions in the University. He has been an investigator on over 160 research projects, including 42 National Institutes of Health (NIH) and 14 National Science Foundation (NSF) grants, and has published over 400 articles and 35 books.

1. YOU JOINED THE PENN FACULTY IN 1965 AFTER EARNING A PH.D. IN ECONOMICS FROM MIT AND A B.A. IN PHYSICS FROM WILLIAMS COLLEGE. WHAT SPARKED YOUR INITIAL INTEREST IN ECONOMICS AND, SPECIFICALLY, IN DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS?

As an undergraduate I spent two summers in an intensive Russian language program at Indiana University, including time in the Soviet Union. Though my original motivation for studying the language was because Russian was useful in the field of Physics, through this experience I became more and more interested in international events, initially related to the development of the Soviet Union but then more broadly in economic development throughout the world. Given my background in Physics, I thought that Economics would be the best match in the social sciences, so I switched into an introductory economics class in the middle of the fall semester of my senior year. I liked the course and did well in it so at the end of the semester I talked with my professor about how I might explore Economics further. To my surprise—because I only had a semester of Economics—he suggested that I apply to graduate school. Though I already had applied to graduate school in Physics, I followed his advice and also applied in Economics. When I was admitted to both Physics and Economics at MIT, I decided to postpone graduate studies in Physics for at least a year to explore graduate studies in Economics—I became sufficiently engaged in Economics that I never returned to Physics.

2. OVER THIS TIME PERIOD, THE WORLD HAS UNDERGONE ENORMOUS DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC CHANGES. HOW HAS THE FIELD OF DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS RESPONDED TO THESE CHANGES? WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE FIELD?

As you say, the changes have been enormous. World population grew at unprecedented rates during the late twentieth century, but at the same time per capita income in the developing countries roughly doubled and more than a billion people have moved out of extreme poverty since 1990. The field of economic development changed substantially as well. When I started studying development economics, the dominant strategy for development was to include central planning inspired by what was perceived to be the Soviet success: squeezing resources for manufacturing out of agriculture with little costs in terms of agricultural production because farmers were perceived to be relatively unresponsive to incentives, and developing domestic manufacturing through “import substitution” policy barriers for imports. A considerable Malthusian fear of overpopulation was also widespread, as evidenced by well-known books such as The Population Bomb by Ehrlich and Famine 1975 by the Paddocks. But a counter movement that focused on responsiveness to incentives, even by poor peasants, developed at the same time; I contributed to this counter movement with my Ph.D. dissertation and later my first book: Supply Response in Underdeveloped Agriculture: A Case Study of Four Major Annual Crops in Thailand 1937-1963.

Further, a growing revisionist perspective on international trade emphasized that import substitution created distortions and corruption in economies and thus had high costs, and that competition in international markets was the most effective way to increase productivity. This perspective was inspired in part by the so-called “Asian Miracle” of rapid growth induced in part by export successes but also by the Bhagwati-Krueger National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) project on trade and growth, in which I participated by contributing a book on Chile. In recent decades, a number of developing countries have oriented outward, increased the competitiveness of their exports enormously, and attained unprecedented economic growth in a more globalized world.

Another important development was the “Green Revolution” in which high-yielding agricultural varieties, initially of rice and wheat in particular, enabled large increases in agricultural production in the developing world that countered earlier fears of vast famines. Also, schooling was extended rapidly, particularly for girls, which, in combination with improved family planning options and reductions in infant mortality, eventually not only contributed to productivity growth but also to the demographic transition with declining fertility rates and shifting age structures. The latter for a while increased the working-age population relative to dependents too young or too old to work, and in East Asia initially caused a demographic dividend, though almost always this period has been followed by an increase in old-age dependency.

Another major change related to aging populations is the shift in the burden of diseases from the traditional diseases of developing countries (communicable diseases, and child and maternal health problems) to the diseases of development (noncommunicable diseases such as cancers, cardiac conditions, diabetes, and mental health issues). Though there is tremendous variation in the experience of developing countries, on average, in a number of important dimensions (e.g., schooling attainment, life expectancies, per capita income), developing countries have been catching up with the developed countries in terms of life expectancy and disease patterns.

3. YOU HAVE RECEIVED NUMEROUS HONORS FOR YOUR RESEARCH, INCLUDING BEING SELECTED AS A POPULATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA HONOREE, A

(CONTINUED ON P. 22)
Publication

Intersection of Place and Prosperity: 
Shared Prosperity Book Launch

On March 23, Penn IUR and the Community Development Studies and Education Division of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia hosted a panel discussion to launch the publication of Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities, edited by Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter and Lei Ding, Community Development Economic Advisor, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and published by Penn Press in The City in the 21st Century series. Panelists included Eva Gladstein, Deputy Managing Director of Health and Human Services, City of Philadelphia; Penn IUR Scholar Paul Jargowsky, Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Center for Urban Research and Education, Rutgers University–Camden; Penn IUR Scholar Elizabeth Kneebone, Fellow, Metropolitan Policy Program, Brookings Institution; and Laura Sparks, Executive Director, William Penn Foundation. Theresa Singleton, Vice President, Community Development Studies and Education Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, moderated the panel.

Wachter opened the event by introducing Patrick T. Harker, President and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and former Dean, The Wharton School. Harker lauded the partnership between Penn IUR and the Philadelphia Fed, noting that Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities is just the latest product in an ongoing collaboration. He emphasized the book’s central theme—that the intersection of inequality and place is an essential point of policy research—and brought the topic home to Philadelphia, arguing that the city will benefit from a reflective dialogue in which research informs practice and practice informs research. He introduced Singleton, who described the interaction between the geography of opportunity and economic segmentation in communities across the United States and introduced the events panel of speakers.

Kneebone explored the geographic distribution of poverty, attributing the increasing concentration of poverty at cities’ outskirts to changes in the structure of the economy. She argued that one sign of structural economic change is the increase in college-educated people living in poverty. Jargowsky followed up by noting that, while education is vitally important to people’s life chances, improving the education system cannot be the sole approach to improving communities; rather, strengthening neighborhoods can improve schools. In short, he argued, housing policy is education policy.

Gladstein brought a local, public-sector perspective to the table, presenting on the city’s Shared Prosperity Plan. This anti-poverty plan includes such approaches to combating poverty as housing revitalization and early childhood education. Sparks contributed a nonprofit perspective, highlighting the role of philanthropies (and the William Penn Foundation specifically) in bringing partners together to bridge the wealth gap and urging the audience and panelists to “attack poverty now while we have momentum.”

Wachter’s final comments stressed the importance of a holistic approach to poverty, including family-friendly neighborhoods, more green spaces, better schools and housing, and livable cities.

Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities is the fourth book that has emerged from the collaboration between Penn IUR and the Philadelphia Fed. The other three are Revitalizing American Cities, edited by Susan Wachter and Kimberly Zeuli and published in 2013; The American Mortgage System: Crisis and Reform, edited by Susan Wachter and Marvin Smith and published in 2011; and Neighborhood and Life Chances: How Place Matters in Modern America, edited by Harriet Newburger, Eugénie Birch, and Susan Wachter and published in 2011. All four are part of Penn IUR and Penn Press’s The City in the 21st Century book series. A complete list of titles in the series can be found here: www.upenn.edu/pennpress/series/C21.html.
On February 19, “Urban Transportation and Energy Consumption: What is the Role of Urban Planning?” convened by Penn IUR with the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy and Wharton’s Real Estate Department, featured presentations by Penn IUR Scholar Bob Cervero, Professor and Chair of Urban and City Planning, University of California-Berkeley and Matt Turner, Professor of Economics, Brown University. Following their presentations, Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Gilles Duranton, Dean’s Chair in Real Estate Professor, Chair, Real Estate Department The Wharton School and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Enck Guerra, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, School of Design, responded. Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch moderated.

Cervero outlined the role urban planning can take in diminishing the greenhouse gases emitted through urban transportation as an approach that he called avoid/shift/innovate, or ASI. Planners can help consumers avoid taking trips by working to create land use patterns that eliminate the need for energy to be expended on transportation (e.g. by making neighborhoods walkable and by ensuring that jobs and housing are near one another and public transport convenient); can encourage a shift from energy-intense transportation to lower energy intensity (e.g. from single-occupant car trips to shared rides and public transportation); and can look to innovation for gains in vehicle energy efficiency and other technological improvements.

Density, he argued, is not a silver bullet: he called Los Angeles “dense but dysfunctional.” Rather than chasing density per se, planners must realize patterns of development that integrate transportation systems and land use in functional ways in order to create sustainable, energy efficient cities (he cited Stockholm’s pattern of nodes along a network as an example).

While Turner agreed that encouraging dense development is not the best way to minimize energy use, he approached the question from a different angle, arguing that urban planning cannot play a large role in minimizing the energy consumed by urban transportation largely because urban transportation is not where the majority of greenhouse gases are emitted. To minimize the energy used by transportation, he argued, policymakers should use tax policy and marginal cost pricing, not urban planning tools: a carbon tax, gas tax, reducing peak hour use, eliminating the mortgage interest tax deduction (which he called a subsidy for single-family homes), and pay-by-mile car insurance are all policies that Turner argued will be more effective than, for example, increasing density of development.

Turner said that urban planning—while not a particularly useful tool for curbing energy use in transportation—can be used to encourage people to live in temperate climates, where the need for cooling in the summer and heating in the winter is low.

After Cervero’s and Turner’s presentations, respondents Guerra and Duranton joined the conversation. Some ideas that emerged include:

- Pursuing density alone will not result in energy efficiency, though density does have benefits (such as greater efficiency and productivity and stronger communities).
- Technology is likely to be the most promising avenue to minimize energy use.
- The real battle for energy efficiency in cities will be fought in the developing world, where small- and mid-size cities are poised to grow in population and in per capita energy use.
The Region Prepares for Habitat III

On May 17, representatives of civic, governmental, educational, and philanthropic organizations from across the mid-Atlantic region met in Philadelphia to discuss challenges and accomplishments on the road to creating sustainable and equitable cities. “The City We Want and Need: A Mid-Atlantic Regional Convening on Habitat III” was one of five meetings across the United States that engaged local and regional practitioners in the preparatory process for Habitat III, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development that will be held this October in Quito, Ecuador, and for the New Urban Agenda, Habitat III’s outcome document. The event was cosponsored by Penn IUR and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Perry World House, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Brookings Institution, Middle Atlantic Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (MARC NAHRO), and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The daylong convening included a keynote address by Amy Liu, Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program, Brookings Institution; three panel discussions featuring regional experts and practitioners from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington, D.C.; and closing remarks by Nancy Stetson, U.S. Secretary of State’s Special Representative for Global Food Security and head of the U.S. delegation to Habitat III.

Jane C.W. Vincent, Regional Head, HUD, opened the convening; HUD, in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, is leading U.S. government preparations for Habitat III. Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch, President of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP)—the the forum for non-governmental engagement in Habitat III preparations—set the stage for the day’s conversations by discussing the central role cities play across issues as diverse as climate change and terrorism.

In her keynote address, Liu emphasized that, while economic growth is achievable, broadly shared prosperity has been elusive. She attributed this reality to a dearth of effective institutions and frameworks, but argued that policies and programs can be effective if well-designed and -implemented, illustrating her point with many hopeful examples of innovative programs, such as Motor Cities Match, a Detroit small business development initiative that connects entrepreneurs with real estate opportunities and support, and Kentucky Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (KY FAME), a partnership of manufacturers that are addressing the shortage of technically skilled workers through an apprenticeship-style training program.

The first panel, entitled “Investing in People and Communities for Upward Mobility,” examined the issues of social and economic mobility, opportunity, and inclusion. Thomas G. Dallessio, President, CEO, and Publisher, Next City, moderated the discussion among panelists Susan Wachter, Director of Planning and Development, Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University; Mark Edwards, President and Chief Executive Officer, Philadelphia Works; and Anne Fadullon, Director of Planning and Development, City of Philadelphia; and respondent Liu. What emerged from the conversation was the idea that place-based strategies hold promise in reversing the trend of declining social mobility in the United States; these include strategies that focus on improving neighborhoods, developing regional economic strategies that align housing and workforce development, and addressing structural unemployment through local centers that offer programs such as youth development, literacy programs, re-entry services, and jobs programs.

The second panel, entitled “Securing Housing Options for All,” addressed housing in the mid-Atlantic region. Bryan Greene, General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, HUD, gave the primary talk, with presentations by Rose Gray, Senior Vice President for Community and Economic Development, Asociacion Puertorriqueños En Marcha (APM); Dan Pontius, Housing Policy Coordinator, Baltimore Metropolitan Council and The Opportunity Collaborative; and Kevin Walsh, Associate Director, Fair Share Housing Center. Greene and others stressed the persistence of racial bias in housing status and the difficulty of addressing it, as the repercussions of discriminatory twentieth-century housing policies continue to present severe cost burdens for African Americans. Other topics covered included a review of New Jersey’s Mount Laurel Doctrine; the relationships among housing, transportation, and employment; and the role of family programs and community development initiatives in the creation of the country’s first platinum LEED ND (Neighborhood Development) Project in Paseo Verde, Philadelphia.

The third panel, entitled “Responding to Change and Building Resilience” highlighted the effects social, economic, environmental, and technological factors have on urban

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Urban Doctoral Events

In Spring 2016, Penn IUR sponsored two events for urban-focused doctoral students: the annual Penn IUR Urban Doctoral Poster Session and Workshop on February 16; and the Urban Doctoral Symposium on May 13.

At the Urban Doctoral Poster Session, more than fifteen Ph.D. students joined their peers, mentors, and advisors at a workshop intended to give attendees—who were in various stages of their dissertation research—an opportunity to network, brainstorm, and discuss their work in a new context. Students presented using posters, slideshows, and informal talks. Five schools—The Wharton School, School of Design, School of Arts and Sciences, Graduate School of Education, and School of Nursing—were represented.

The Penn IUR Annual Urban Doctoral Symposium, cosponsored with Penn's Urban Studies program, featured formal presentations by graduating students followed by a luncheon for families and mentors. The Urban Doctoral Symposium is a celebratory opportunity for graduating students to present their work for the first time as doctors. The graduates and their topics of study were:

Albert T. Han, Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning, School of Design “Evaluating the Performance of the Greenbelt Policy for Present and Future Urban Growth Management and Environmental Protection: A Case Study in the Seoul Metropolitan Area of South Korea”

Mary Rocco, Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning, School of Design “Partnership, Philanthropy and Innovation: 21st Century Revitalization in U.S. Legacy Cities”

Kenneth Steif, Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning, School of Design “Toward School Improvement Districts: School Quality and the Equitable Revitalization of Neighborhoods”

Daniel Treglia, Graduate Group in Social Policy and Practice, School of Social Policy and Practice “Using Positive Psychology to Explain Shelter Use: A Study of Homeless Families in New York City”

Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Mark Stern, Co-Director of the Urban Studies Program and Kenneth L.M. Pray Chair and Professor of Social Welfare and History, School of Social Policy and Practice, moderated the session that also included a welcome from Dawn Bonnell, Vice Provost; introductory remarks by Elaine Simon, Co-Director of the Urban Studies Program and Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, School of Arts and Sciences; and closing remarks by Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch.

MUSA Brown Bag Lunch Series

In Spring 2016, Penn IUR hosted two Masters in Urban Spatial Analytics (MUSA) Brown Bag Lunches, where students heard from and met with practitioners in the field.

Guy Thigpen, Director of Analytics, Philadelphia Land Bank, kicked off the first MUSA Brown Bag Lunch of the semester on February 5. A MUSA alumnus, he spoke to a mix of students, staff, and alumni about his experience with the MUSA program and his transition from a job with the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority to his current position at the Philadelphia Land Bank, a municipal entity formed to streamline the reinvestment process by creating a comprehensive database of city-owned property. After sharing the Land Bank’s history, Thigpen discussed various analytical methods—such as a market value analysis to target the vacant properties most likely to help turn a declining neighborhood around—that his department employs to facilitate reinvestment in ways that most effectively benefit struggling city neighborhoods.

On March 18, Jeff Frankl, UI/UX (User Interface/User Experience) Designer, Azavea, headlined the final MUSA Brown Bag Lunch of the semester. The story of his career path served as a case study of how a career in spatial analytics could unfold. Frankl earned his bachelor’s degree in Sociology at Haverford College and moved to Philadelphia with the intention of working on social justice issues. After repeatedly finding himself applying his recreational interests in web design and data management in his professional positions at nonprofit organizations, Frankl recognized his career should take a turn toward data analytics and design. Frankl began co-teaching the MUSA course “Java Programming for Planning and Urban Management” in Spring 2016.

See the Events Calendar on page 2 or visit the “Events” section of the Penn IUR website (penniur.upenn.edu) for information about the 2016-17 MUSA Brown Bag Lunch schedule.
CONVENING

New Policy Alternatives for Housing Finance Reform

On June 15, Penn IUR partnered with the Penn Wharton Public Policy (Penn Wharton PPI) initiative to host a panel discussion in Washington, D.C. on reforming the nation’s housing finance system. “Housing Finance Reform: New Policy Alternatives” brought together economic experts and policy researchers to discuss the challenges that lie ahead for rebuilding this key sector of the U.S. economy.

Panelists included Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter; Penn IUR Fellow Joseph Tracy, Executive Vice President and Senior Advisor to the President, Federal Reserve Bank of New York; Penn IUR Fellow Laurie Goodman, Director, Housing Finance Policy Center at the Urban Institute; Penn IUR Fellow Andrew Davidson, Founder and President, Andrew Davidson & Co. Inc.; Penn IUR Fellow Mark Zandi, Chief Economist, Moody’s Analytics; Michael Berman, Principal, Michael Berman Consulting, LLC; Peter Wallison, Chair, Financial Policy Studies at the American Enterprise Institute; Joshua Rosner, Managing Partner, Graham Fisher & Co.

“Housing Finance Reform: New Policy Alternatives” examined policy proposals for reforming Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. It continued Penn IUR’s work on housing finance reform, which has included, most recently, Principles of Housing Finance Reform, a volume edited by Susan Wachter and Joseph Tracy and scheduled for publication in Fall 2016. Topics include liquidity, macroprudential mortgage-backed securitization and the to be announced (TBA) market, affordability and access, and the legislative context for housing reform.

PUBLICATION

Penn IUR Brief Examines Decline in Homeownership Rates

In Spring 2016, Penn IUR issued the third publication in the Penn IUR Briefs series: “Owning or Renting in the U.S.: Shifting Dynamics of the Housing Market,” by Susan Wachter and Arthur Acolin. The brief is based on the article “Borrowing Constraints and Homeownership” by Arthur Acolin, Jesse Bricker, Paul Calem, and Susan Wachter, which appears in American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings. The authors provide evidence of the role of increasing financial barriers in the decline in homeownership.
Penn IUR Welcomes New Fellows, Scholars, and Ph.D. Students

Penn IUR is pleased to welcome its newest Fellows, Scholars, and Affiliated Ph.D. students. Our newest affiliates join a dynamic network of urbanists who, through Penn IUR’s programming, have unique opportunities to collaborate on issues impacting today’s cities.

Penn IUR’s affiliated faculty and practitioners are experts in the field of urbanism, and collaborate with us on research and related projects. They include Penn IUR Faculty Fellows, who are distinguished, urban-focused scholars based at the University of Pennsylvania; Penn IUR Scholars, who are leading urban-focused academics at other institutions; and Penn IUR Fellows, who are practitioners from across the United States and around the world. Our Faculty Fellows, Fellows, and Scholars are important contributors to understanding our changing cities.

This year, we are also pleased to welcome our third class of Penn IUR Emerging Scholars, junior scholars in the field of urbanism, and to continue to expand our Affiliated Ph.D. student program, which recognizes Ph.D. students at Penn who are undertaking an urban-focused course of study.

Below is the list of our newest affiliates; to read their biographies please visit the “People” section of the Penn IUR website (penniur.upenn.edu).

**Faculty Fellows**
- Erick Guerra, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, School of Design
- Megan Ryerson, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, School of Design
- Jere Behrman, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Economics, The Wharton School

**Scholars**
- Mark A. Willis, Executive Director, Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, New York University

**Fellows**
- Angela Glover Blackwell, President and CEO, PolicyLink
- Michael Berman, Principal, Michael Berman Consulting, LLC
- Andrew Davidson, Founder and President, Andrew Davidson & Co. Inc.
- Laurie Goodman, Director, Housing Finance Policy Center, Urban Institute
- Michael Nutter, former Mayor, Philadelphia
- Aromar Revi, Director, India Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS)
- Mark Zandi, Chief Economist, Moody’s Analytics

**Emerging Scholars**
- Peter Blair, Assistant Professor, John E. Walker Department of Economics, Clemson University
- Caroline Cheong, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Central Florida
- Theodore Eisenman, Assistant Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- Albert Han, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Calgary’s Faculty of Environmental Design
- Kristen Kinzer, Assistant Professor, Department of Public and International Affairs, UNC-Wilmington
- Simon Mosbah, Consultant, U.S. Advisory Services Group, WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Mary Rocco, Postdoctoral Researcher, Mellon H+U+D Initiative, University of Pennsylvania
- Amber Woodburn, Assistant Professor, City and Regional Planning, The Ohio State University
- Albert Alex Zevelev, Assistant Professor of Real Estate, Zicklin School of Business, Baruch College

**Affiliated Ph.D. Students**
- Chandan Deuskar, City and Regional Planning, School of Design
- Xiaoxia Dong, City and Regional Planning, School of Design
- Sa Min Han, City and Regional Planning, School of Design
- Chaeri Kim, City and Regional Planning, School of Design
- Sara Lindsey Reuben, Hispanic and Portuguese Studies, School of Arts and Sciences
- Patricio Xavier Zambrano Barragan, City and Regional Planning, School of Design

Penn IUR Supports Five Years of Research on Minimizing Energy Use in Buildings

Buildings account for 40 percent of the country’s energy use, with about half of that energy expenditure attributable to commercial buildings. Over the past five years, Penn IUR has helped build and disseminate a body of knowledge on how to minimize the energy expenditures by small- and medium-sized commercial buildings through its work with the Consortium for Building Energy Innovation (CBEI). Although the five-year CBEI project drew to a close in April 2016, the research briefs and case studies that Penn IUR developed for it remain available online.

Penn IUR played a central role over the life of the CBEI project, developing and managing CBEI’s Research Digest, a web platform that was the organization’s primary means of disseminating research findings and knowledge; translating complex research on building energy efficiency into easily understandable narratives with accompanying infographics and videos for distribution on the Research Digest; and supporting several of CBEI’s research programs. In addition to these ongoing tasks, during the spring of 2016, Penn IUR also led CBEI’s communications program, including managing the organization’s website as well as its social media communications.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) established CBEI, based in Philadelphia, in 2011 as one of three innovation clusters nationwide. Intended to stimulate the innovative research required to make the nation’s building stock more energy efficient, the project involved numerous partners from academia and practice. Its vision was to reduce energy use by 50 percent in existing small- and medium-sized commercial buildings (those less than 250,000 square feet) by 2030.

To access the project’s research findings, case studies, and reports, visit: www.cbei.psu.edu.
AMMON WRITES ON PROGRESS AND DESTRUCTION
Francesca Russello Ammon, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning, School of Design, explores the history of the bulldozer as a symbol of American clearance, progress, and destruction. *Bulldozer: Demolition and Clearance of the Postwar Landscape* (Yale University Press, 2016) was featured on the radio shows “The Takeaway,” “The Colin McEnroe Show,” and “Against the Grain.” Ammon also appeared as a featured speaker on the PBS documentary “10 Towns That Changed America,” which began airing nationally in April.

BIRCH CONTINUES WORK ON HABITAT III
Eugénie Birch, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education, Department of City and Regional Planning, School of Design, as president of the UN’s General Assembly of Partners, the civic engagement platform for Habitat III, represented the group in several venues including the Habitat III Europe Regional Meeting (Prague, March), the Informal Hearings with Stakeholders (New York City, June), the Habitat III Third Preparatory Conference (Surabaya, July). As a member of the U.S. National Committee on Habitat III, Birch made several presentations in Washington D.C. and elsewhere on the Habitat III preparatory process and keynoted the HUD Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, “The City We Want and Need,” co-sponsored with Perry World House, Penn IUR, and HUD, in May. She also co-led the Expert Group Meeting on an Action Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, representing Penn IUR, partnering with ISOCARP and UN Habitat (Surabaya, July). Her “Midterm Report, Will Habitat III Make a Difference to Global Urban Development?” is published in *Journal of the American Planning Association* (82:4).

BRANAS PUBLISHES ON YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION
Charles Branas, Professor of Epidemiology in Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Perelman School of Medicine and Director of the Penn Injury Science Center, co-authored a study suggesting a link between youth violence and urban blight. By comparing the immediate environments of teenage homicide victims with those of matched controls, the research team identified features of the physical environment that put adolescents at risk for homicide. The study was published in the May issue of *JAMA Pediatrics* and covered by CNN, *U.S. News & World Report*, and other media outlets.

CULHANE RECEIVES GRANTS FOR IDS RESEARCH
Dennis Culhane, Dana and Andrew Stone Chair in Social Policy, School of Social Policy & Practice, and GSE professor John Fantuzzo have received two grants totaling $2 million to continue development of integrated data systems (IDS) for evidence-based policy analysis and program reform. The major grants came from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

DURANTON REAPPOINTED CHAIR OF REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT
Gilles Duranton, Dean’s Chair in Real Estate Professor, The Wharton School, has been reappointed as Chair of Wharton’s Real Estate Department for a term of three years effective July 2016. Additionally, his research (with Ejaz Ghani, Arti Grover Goswami, and William Kerr) on land markets and manufacturing productivity in India was discussed in India’s *Financial Express*, and he spoke at eleven events around the nation and world in Spring 2016.

GADSDEN BEGAN AERA PRESIDENCY
Vivian L. Gadsden, William T. Carter Professor of Child Development and Professor of Education, Graduate School of Education, began her term as President of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) in April 2016. Gadsden also chaired the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine’s Committee on Supporting Parents of Young Children; the committee’s report, entitled “Parenting Matters: Supporting Parents of Children Ages 0–8,” was released in July 2016 and is accessible here: www.nationalacademies.org.
Penn IUR Faculty Fellows News & Awards

GLANZ NAMED TO INFLUENTIAL SCIENTIFIC MINDS LIST
Karen Glanz, George A. Weiss University Professor, Professor of Epidemiology and Nursing, Perelman School of Medicine and School of Nursing and Director, UPenn Prevention Research Center, was named one of the “The World’s Most Influential Scientific Minds” by Thomson Reuters. The citation analysis identifies the scientists who have made the most significant global impact within their fields of study. Glanz was recognized in the Social Sciences, General category.

GUERRA APPOINTED TO PENNDOT TASKFORCE
Erick Guerra, Assistant Professor in City and Regional Planning, School of Design, was appointed to a PennDOT Taskforce that will develop guidance for PennDOT to use in developing autonomous vehicle policy. He also co-authored (with Lucia Artavia) a policy digest for the Kleinman Center evaluating the potential for electric motorcycles to replace gasoline-powered motorcycles. The digest reported on the findings of a study that Guerra conducted in Solo, Indonesia, on the price point at which consumers are willing to adopt electricity-powered motorcycles or e-bikes; in the policy digest, Guerra found that that promotion of electric motorcycles needs to be part of a larger set of policies if it is to reduce pollution.

GYOURKO CONTINUES CHINESE HOUSING MARKETS RESEARCH
Joseph Gyourko, Martin Bucksbaum Professor, Department of Real Estate and Director of the Zell/Lurie Estate Center, The Wharton School, continues his work on the Chinese housing market, including updating the Wharton/NUS/ Tsinghua Chinese Residential Land Price Indexes (CRLPI) and writing, with Jing Wu and Yonghend Deng, “Evaluating the risk of Chinese housing markets: What we know and what we need to know,” for the July issue of China Economic Review. Additionally, his work on how on how restrictive land-use regulations shape metropolitan segregation was cited in Richard Florida’s January article in The Atlantic’s CityLab.

HARKAVY EDITS VOLUME ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Ira Harkavy, Associate Vice President and founding Director, Barbara and Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships, co-edited the latest volume from The Council of Europe, Higher Education for Democratic Innovation, as well as contributing a chapter arguing that higher education institutions serve as critical sources of stability. Harkavy also gave a series of talks at the Durban University of Technology to university faculty, senior administrators, and scholars from across South Africa, and was on the keynote panel at a conference of universities from across Northern England on engaged scholarship at the University of Sheffield. Additionally, he assumed the position of Chair of the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering, National Science Foundation and received the College and University Public Relations and Associated Professionals’ 2016 Arthur V. Ciervo Award for service to higher education in the Commonwealth.

HARPER ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ASHE
Shaun Harper, Professor, Graduate School of Education and Executive Director, Center for the Study of Race and Equity in Education, was recently elected President of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, an academic organization of more than 2,000 scholars who conduct research on colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. Harper begins his presidential year this November. He also is an elected member of the executive council of the American Educational Research Association, the largest association of scholars who study education.

HILLIER RECEIVES TEACHING AWARD
Amy Hillier, Associate Professor, City and Regional Planning, School of Design and School of Social Policy & Practice, received the 2016 Excellence in Teaching Award, Standing Faculty from the Social Policy & Practice. Hillier teaches courses on GIS for city planning, social work, and urban studies. Her research focuses on geographic disparities in health and housing. She also works with faculty, staff, students, and community members to better prepare students to work with LGBTQ communities.
LUM EXPLORES ART AND PLACE

Ken Lum, Professor and Chair, Department of Fine Arts, School of Design, filmed with the Institute of Contemporary Art a project about “place” in the context of an increasingly globalized visual art world. To illustrate the concept of locality, Lum discussed Monument Lab, the Penn IUR-sponsored 2015 project that he curated in Philadelphia, which included temporary public art installations, public events, and community-sourced research proposals. Lum described his personal experiences of how place can influence making art in the Winter issue of Canadian Art in an essay comparing life in the United States and Canada.

MACDONALD DELIVERS JERRY LEE LECTURE

John MacDonald, Professor of Criminology and Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences and Penny and Robert A. Fox Faculty Director, Fels Institute of Government, delivered the prestigious Jerry Lee Lecture at The Stockholm Criminology Symposium in Stockholm, Sweden in June 2016. MacDonald’s lecture focused on how science can play in designing safer and healthier cities. MacDonald also co-authored several papers on the effects of crime on various factors, including papers on stop, question, and frisk policies in PLoS One; on Penn Police in the Journal of the Royal Statistical Society; on tree removals in Landscape and Urban Planning; on lifting of Sunday liquor sales in Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research; and on improvements in collecting delinquent taxes in Philadelphia in NBER’s Tax Policy and the Economy, Vol. 30.

MARCINKOSKI PUBLISHES THE CITY THAT NEVER WAS

Christopher Marcinkoski, Assistant Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Design, examines the recent proliferation of large-scale, speculative urban development projects in The City That Never Was (Princeton Architectural Press, 2016). The book considers what happens when projected demand for urban development goes unrealized and proposes a more dynamic approach to the production of settlement and infrastructure. Marcinkoski was also a Fellow at the American Academy in Rome from January to July 2016, where he continued work on a follow-up project on speculative urbanization in Africa.

MCHUGH STUDIES SURVIVAL RATES AMONG CARDIAC ARREST PATIENTS

Matthew McHugh, Associate Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing, led a study published in the January issue of Medical Care on how survival rates of patients who suffer in-hospital cardiac arrests differ among hospitals. After analyzing data on over 11,000 patients across 75 hospitals, the researchers found that nurse staffing levels and work environments can impact health outcomes.

PERNA CHAIRS FACULTY SENATE

Laura Perna, James S. Riepe Professor, Graduate School of Education, is Chair of the Faculty Senate in academic year 2016-17. Her recent publications include a chapter on technology in education in American Higher Education in the Twenty-First Century (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2016) and “Throwing Down the Gauntlet,” her presidential address to the Association for the Study of Higher Education, in the Spring issue of Review of Higher Education.

PRITCHETT PENS OP-ED ON SCHOOL FUNDING

Wendell Pritchett, Presidential Professor of Law and Education, Law School, wrote an editorial, with third-year law student Max Weiss, for Philly.com on public school funding, arguing that, while Philadelphia has significantly increased its funding to local schools in recent years, it lags behind its peer cities in education funding. The editorial drew from the April 2016 report Weiss and Pritchett released on their study comparing local school funding in Philadelphia to other major cities over the past decade.
Penn IUR Faculty Fellows News & Awards

**RYERSON RECOGNIZED AS TRANSPORTATION THOUGHT LEADER**

Megan Ryerson, Assistant Professor, Department of City and Regional Planning, School of Design and Assistant Professor, Electrical and Systems Engineering in the area of Transportation, School of Engineering and Applied Science, was identified as one of the top ten transportation thought leaders in academia by the Eno Center for Transportation, a non-partisan transportation think tank. Ryerson studies air transportation, with expertise in airport planning and development, resilient air transportation networks, and the environmental impacts of air transportation.

**STEINBERG AWARDED NAED/SPENCER FOUNDATION POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP**

Matthew Steinberg, Assistant Professor, Education Policy Division, Graduate School of Education, has been awarded a 2016 National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship. Steinberg’s study will provide evidence to policymakers on the effects of school closures on students’ behavioral and academic trajectories.

**STEINHARDT PUBLISHES MONOGRAPH ON CHINESE MOSQUES**

Nancy Steinhardt, Professor of East Asian Art and Chair, Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, School of Arts and Sciences and Curator of Chinese Art, Penn Museum, documents Muslim worship space in premodern and contemporary China in *Early Mosques* (Edinburgh University Press, 2015). The monograph includes case studies of China’s most important surviving mosques and illustrates the adaptability of the Chinese architectural system. She also wrote an article on Kherlen Bars Pagoda in Mongolia for *Archives of Asian Art* and gave more than thirty outside lectures.

**TOMLIN DEVELOPING GEOSPATIAL SOFTWARE**

Dana Tomlin, Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, School of Design, and Co-Director, Cartographic Modeling Lab, recently began work in collaboration with colleagues at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and with support from the Swedish Research Council to develop software for geodesign. The application being developed enables users to draw on a digital map in a manner that is immediately sensed, evaluated, and constrained according to selected implications of what is being drawn. Tomlin is also working in collaboration with Azavea, Inc. on DOE- and NASA-sponsored projects involving the development of cloud-based software for geospatial modeling.

**VITIELLO WRITES ON PLANNERS’ RESPONSES TO IMMIGRATION**


**FOUR WACHTER VOLUMES RELEASED**

Susan Wachter, Sussman Professor and Professor of Real Estate and Finance, The Wharton School, edited three volumes in the Penn Press/Penn IUR The City in the 21st Century series: *Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities*, with Lei Ding; *Slums: How Informal Real Estate Markets Work*, with Eugénie Birch and Shahana Chattaraj; and *Public Pensions and City Solvency: Public Pensions and City Solvency* includes an introduction by Richard Ravitch and a conclusion co-authored by Wachter and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Robert Inman. In addition, *Principles of Housing Finance Reform*, co-edited with Joseph Tracy of the NY Federal Reserve Bank is coming out this Fall; it was the subject of a symposium held on June 15 (see page 8). Wachter’s related research on home ownership and shifting housing finance conditions was featured in a live-streamed Politico event at the DNC and was covered recently in the *Wall Street Journal*. 
H+U+D Concludes Third Year

The five-year Penn Humanities, Urbanism, and Design (H+U+D) initiative, funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, continued to bridge the divide between the humanities and design disciplines around the study of cities by cosponsoring with partners across the university on two major events, by supporting the Faculty Colloquium, and by sponsoring graduate and undergraduate student seminars. In the Spring 2016 semester, the Initiative was co-directed by Penn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow David Barnes, Director, Health & Societies Program and Associate Professor, History and Sociology of Science, Penn School of Arts and Sciences.

On April 14-15, the initiative cosponsored a symposium organized by Colloquium member and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Francesca Ammon, Assistant Professor, City Planning and Historic Preservation, School of Design, that explored the relationship between images and the urban built environment. “Picturing Policy: How Visual Culture Shapes the Urban Built Environment” drew an interdisciplinary group of image makers and scholars to consider the often silent ways that visual representations have helped structure the policies and practices of urban life. On April 18, the Urban Studies program and H+U+D welcomed Kurt Schmoke, President, University of Baltimore, and former Mayor of Baltimore, in conversation with Nan Feyler, Visiting Professor, Temple University’s Beasley School of Law and former Philadelphia Deputy Commissioner of Public Health, at a lecture entitled “Tapping The Wire: The Power of Social Change.” Schmoke spoke candidly about his time in office, specifically about the opportunities and challenges associated with affordable housing, vacant properties, and lead remediation.

The Faculty Colloquium, composed of faculty from both the humanities and design disciplines, met regularly to share research, foster collaboration, and build relationships. Spring semester Colloquium field trips included two guided boat tours. On April 22, Colloquium members explored Philadelphia’s Delaware and Schuylkill riverfronts by boat; colloquium members Aaron Wunsch, Assistant Professor, Landscape Architecture and Historic Preservation, and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Domenic Vitiello, Assistant Professor, City and Regional Planning, both in the School of Design, narrated the trip. On May 6, Colloquium members travelled to New York City to board a ferry bound for Governor’s Island in the heart of the New York harbor; there, Leslie Koch, President and CEO, Trust for Governor’s Island, led a tour of the former military base-turned-public park.

H+U+D-sponsored courses in Spring 2016 included “Cities and Sound: The Spatial Politics and Practices of Sound in Modern Urban Life” a graduate seminar that paired faculty from city planning (Ammon) and musicology (Naomi Waltham-Smith, Assistant Professor, Department of Music, School of Arts and Sciences). Students in the seminar explored the making, meaning, and experience of sound for varied populations; the politics of sound as an instrument of power; and the policies of noise regulation.

The Spring 2016 undergraduate seminar, “The City: Baltimore and The Wire,” used images and representations found in HBO’s The Wire to investigate the City of Baltimore. This course, now in its second year, was co-taught by Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Eric Schneider, Assistant Dean and Associate Director for Academic Affairs and Adjunct Professor of History, School of Arts and Sciences, and Michael Nairn, Lecturer, Urban Studies Program, School of Arts and Sciences.

In addition to offering courses, H+U+D fosters the next generation of scholars by supporting student research that blends humanities and design approaches to the study of the built environment. In Spring 2016, H+U+D awarded eight students with grants to support interdisciplinary design/humanities projects in the upcoming academic year. Awardees and their projects include:

- Kurt Koehler, undergraduate student, Health and Societies, School of Arts and Sciences
  “Neighborhood Spaces and Blood Pressure Management: Perspectives among Hypertensive African Americans in West Philadelphia”

- Erin Putalik, Ph.D. student, Architecture, School of Design
  “Revaluing Plywood: The DFPA Competitions, 1943-45”

  “The Sounds of Change: What Can Music Tell Us about West Philadelphia’s Changing Neighborhood during the Mid-20th Century”

The Colloquium selected two Junior Fellows (junior scholars who have completed their doctoral work in humanistic or design disciplines, and whose work deals with cross-disciplinary study of the built environment) to join the Faculty Colloquium in 2016-17. They are: Shiben Banerji from the Chicago Institute of Art and Anna Vallye from the Sam Fox School at Washington University in St. Louis.

For more information on the H+U+D initiative and its programs visit: www.humanitiesurbanismdesign.com.
UURC in Spring 2016

In Spring 2016, Penn IUR sponsored the twelfth annual Undergraduate Urban Research Colloquium (UURC), which brings undergraduate scholars from across the University to study, learn, and conduct research on urban issues. This advanced research seminar for undergraduates gives students with an interest in urban-focused research a chance to learn from and partner with a faculty mentor with expertise in their fields of interest. This year, UURC brought eight undergraduate students together with faculty mentors from the Schools of Nursing, Education, and Arts and Sciences.

Mary Rocco (Ph.D. ‘16, City and Regional Planning) led the UURC course. Students attended weekly seminars with faculty guest speakers from multiple disciplines. For a unique perspective on urban research, students attended a performance at the Philadelphia Theater Company in Center City. In “Notes from the Field: Doing Time in Education,” playwright Anna Deavere Smith explored the “school to prison pipeline” through performance generated from interviews with stakeholders in several cities, including Philadelphia. The experience offered UURC students the opportunity to witness a humanities-centered approach to the exploration of an urban issue.

The students, their projects, and faculty mentors are listed at right.

Zoe Blickendorfer, Urban Studies, School of Arts and Sciences
“The Planned Destruction of Chinatown in the U.S. and Canada, 1900-2010”
Faculty Mentor: Domenic Vitiello, City and Regional Planning, School of Design

Camille Calvin, Business, Wharton
“Suspending Zero Tolerance: Policy and Programmatic Alternatives”
Faculty Mentor: Matthew Steinberg, Education, Graduate School of Education

Ryan Hall, Urban Studies, School of Arts and Sciences
“Equity and Environmental Justice in the Planning Process for the Reading Viaduct”
Faculty Mentor: Michael Nairn, Urban Studies, School of Arts and Sciences

Angela Perfetti, Modern Middle Eastern Studies, School of Arts and Sciences
“Philadelphia and Its Iraqi Refugees: Lessons from the Northeast”
Faculty Mentor: Heather Sharkey, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, School of Arts and Sciences

Joycelyn Pickens, Political Science, School of Arts and Sciences
“Cities and Unemployed Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents Impacts of and Relations to Changing Public Benefit Regimes”
Faculty Mentor: Mary Summers, Political Science, School of Arts and Sciences

Adam Shapiro, Economics and Musicology, School of Arts and Sciences
“Listening to Chinese Cities: A Study of Precarity thru Field Recordings”
Faculty Mentor: Naomi Waltham-Smith, Music, School of Arts and Sciences

Andrew Simpson, Urban Studies, School of Arts and Sciences
“Where Are the Parklets? An Analysis of Parklet Location Dynamics”
Faculty Mentor: Ariel Ben-Ramos, Urban Studies, School of Arts and Sciences

Roshani Waas, Nursing, School of Nursing
“Assessing NOW I KNOW Mobile App for HPV and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Education”
Faculty Mentor: Anne Teitelman, Nursing, School of Nursing

Penn IUR Promotes Recognition of Exceptional Energy Practices

The Energy Smart Communities Initiative Knowledge Sharing Platform (ESCI-KSP) is sponsoring the third annual ESCI Best Practices Awards program to recognize exceptional practices in energy efficiency related to transportation, buildings, smart grids, green employment, and industry. Penn IUR, which co-manages ESCI-KSP with the Taiwan Institute for Economic Research (TIER) with funding from the Taiwan National Development Council, has been selected to help organize the awards program. Awards will be presented in May 2017 by a judges panel led by Penn IUR Co-Director Eugenie Birch.

ESCI-KSP, an online hub for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) economies to share knowledge and demonstration projects related to energy efficient urban development, is the preeminent project of APEC’s Energy Working Group (EWG). Penn IUR developed and has maintained the ESCI-KSP since its inception in 2011. In Spring 2016, Penn IUR handed off day-to-day management of the web platform to TIER, though Penn IUR continues to work with TIER to collect best practices for the ESCI-KSP and to present updates at APEC-EWG meetings.

For more information, visit: www.esci-ksp.org.

SEOUL, KOREA, RIGHT: Seoul’s “Weekly No Driving Day” program was selected as an ESCI Silver winner in the second annual ESCI Best Practices Awards. The program stands out among car-free day programs in that it incorporates incentives.
Panel Explores Link between Health and Urban Landscape

On February 25, participants examined the ways the urban environment can shape health at a panel discussion Penn IUR cosponsored with the School of Design, the Center for Public Health Initiatives (CPHI), and the Urban Health Lab. “Shaping the Urban Health and Environmental Landscape,” held at the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, included Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Charles Branas, Professor of Epidemiology, Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Perelman School of Medicine and Director, Penn Urban Health Lab; Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Sara Heller, Assistant Professor, Department of Criminology, School of Arts and Sciences; Rupal Sanghvi, Founder, HealthxDesign; and Bob Grossman, Senior Director, Vacant Land, Philadelphia Horticultural Society (PHS). Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter moderated the discussion.

The panel explored the link between health and environment, a link that is frequently invoked but less often quantified. Sanghvi opened the panel with a presentation on the Haven Project, which seeks to correct this state of affairs. The Haven Project is a master plan that aims to improve the health of residents of the South Bronx by improving their physical environment with waterfront access, a network of open spaces, bicycle paths, and street trees. What makes the plan unique is its intention to track neighborhood health data after the project’s construction in order to quantify its impact.

Grossman followed with a presentation on a problem Philadelphia shares with many formerly industrial cities: the tens of thousands of vacant lots that, when undertended, attract drugs, dumping, and other unsafe activities. PHS has transformed thousands of these blighted city lots into healthy, green spaces by working with the City of Philadelphia, community groups, minority-owned landscape businesses, and ex-offenders reentering the community. Using this collaborative approach, PHS is able to maintain thousands of clean, green lots while also disseminating horticultural knowledge and providing jobs.

Heller discussed studies in Chicago that identify low-cost interventions that reduce violence among black youth, a topic of urgent importance given the fact that homicide is the leading cause of death for young black males. Heller’s research in Chicago suggests that after-school programs, alternative behavior therapy, and summer jobs programs can make a dramatic impact on youth violence, reducing re-admission to detention, reducing violent crime rates, and improving school outcomes.

Branas concluded the panel presentations with a discussion of results from two randomized controlled trials undertaken by the Penn Urban Health Lab. The studies tested the impacts of vacant lot greening and of abandoned building remediation, ultimately determining that both lot greenings and fixing up abandoned vacant buildings improved numerous health and safety measures.

Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter moderated the question and answer session that followed the panel presentations. At the event, the winners of a related photography contest were also revealed (see story below and photos opposite page).

PHOTO CONTEST

Contest Winners Announced

Prior to the “Shaping the Urban Health and Environmental Landscape” event (see article above), Penn IUR held a photography contest, cosponsored with the Center for Public Health Initiatives (CPHI), Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships (CURF) and the Green Campus Partnership, of urban spaces that successfully promote public health. The top three winners were announced at the February 25 event. The contest attracted over twenty-five submissions from as near as Penn’s campus to as far as rural villages in India.

The winning photo, “Summer’s Day at John Kelly Pool, Fairmount Park, Pa.,” taken by Ben Chrsisinger, is a nostalgic-feeling image that depicts the recreational and community-building benefits of urban public pools. The two runners-up were: “Schuykill River Trail” by Rob Lybeck, a moody and arresting shot depicting a runner on the trail, and “Spruce Street Harbor Park, Philadelphia,” by Teng Teng, a vibrant image of toddlers enjoying the waterfront pop-up parks. Three additional submissions received honorable mentions: “Pedestrian Traffic, Italian Market, Philadelphia” by Alexandra Atiyeh; “Natural, Human, and Industrial Landscape, Philadelphia,” by Caroline Carney; and “Luxembourg Gardens, Paris, France” by Javier Medina.


CONVENING

Habitat III, continued

(continued from p. 6)

areas. Barry Seymour, Executive Director, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, gave the primary talk, followed by a panel that included Christine Knapp, Director, Office of Sustainability, City of Philadelphia; Caleb Stratten, Principal Planner, City of Hoboken, New Jersey.; Antonio Fiol-Silva, Chair, Urban Land Institute, Philadelphia District Council, and Founding Principal, STIO Architecture + Urbanism; and Matthew Ward, Chief Executive Officer, Sustainable Strategies D.C. While panelists’ presentations and conversations ranged across many topics, the topic of climate change repeatedly rose to the fore. Speakers agreed that climate change—and other unpredictable global forces that lie beyond the control of any one city—must be planned for in the future. Speakers agreed that climate change—and other unpredictable global forces that lie beyond the control of any one city—must be planned for regionally, with resilience built into coordinated regional systems and sensitive urban design interventions used to strengthen existing community fabric.

The day ended with closing remarks from Stetson, who emphasized the message the United States will bring to Habitat III and the New Urban Agenda: cities are critical. Habitat III is an opportunity to build broad, inclusive, bottom-up solutions and the U.S. delegation, said Stetson, will insist that the New Urban Agenda should support urban innovation at the local level and through existing city-level networks.

To watch a video of the event, visit the “Events” section of the Penn IUR website (www.penniur.upenn.edu).
Designing of a More Equitable Philadelphia with Bruce Mau

On February 22, Penn IUR, Penn Praxis, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art (PMA) hosted the workshop “Designing the Future with Bruce Mau: How Do We Design a More Equitable Philadelphia?” The event was one of the three workshops offered in conjunction with the PMA exhibition Work on What You Love: Bruce Mau Rethinking Design, which showcased Mau’s design work and presented a portrait of a wildly innovative designer.

Mau led the workshop, which was intended to demonstrate the potential of design thinking to create positive social change. He began by introducing the principles that guide the work of his design firm, Massive Change Network; these principles include, among others: Work on What You Love, We’re not Apart from or Above Nature, Design is Leadership—Lead by Design, and Think Like You Are Lost in the Forest. Between discussions of individual principles, faculty presented on equity issues in Philadelphia, such as: the unequal distribution of resources in the educational system, re-introducing the activity of play to the city, and equity gaps in transportation and infrastructure.

The audience then broke up into groups—each with a mix of students, faculty, and community members—to brainstorm, discuss, and draft an “Equitable Philadelphia Manifesto.” When the workshop reconvened, each small group presented its ideas for creating a more equitable Philadelphia; proposals ranged from turning existing penitentiaries into schools, to creating one universal zip code, to monetizing trees and air, to creating a movable forest, and more.

Materials produced during the workshop were integrated into the PMA exhibition, which ran from November 21 to April 3.

Healthcare Innovations in the Informal Economy

On March 1, Penn IUR and Next City hosted a panel discussion entitled “Healthy Horizons: Innovation and the Informal Economy” on grassroots healthcare innovations in the world’s fastest-growing cities. Panelists included M. Sophia Newman, a Next City columnist; Carrie Kovarik, Associate Professor, Dermatology, Dermatopathology, and Infectious Diseases, Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine; Heather Calvert, Associate Director, Botswana-Penn Partnership (BUP); Dave Issadore, Assistant Professor of Bioengineering and Electrical and Systems Engineering, Penn School of Engineering and Applied Science; Megan Doherty, Administrative Director, The Center for Global Health, Penn’s Perelman School of Medicine; and Shadrack Frimpong, Penn ’15, winner of Penn’s inaugural President’s Engagement Prize. Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the event served as a capstone for a Next City column, which ran from March 2015 through February 2016, on how technology, data, and new modes of collaboration are transforming healthcare worldwide.

Panelists discussed innovative, self-organizing systems that have developed in response to the healthcare needs of informal workers in cities in low- and middle-income countries. For example, Frimpong—who joined the event via video—discussed the healthcare clinic he is building in his impoverished hometown of Tarkwa Breman, Ghana with a $100,000 grant from the President’s Engagement Prize. Frimpong is bringing together local and international resources and traditional and Western approaches in creating the clinic.

Worldwide, new projects and programs have come about in response to rapid urbanization and the attendant rise in healthcare needs coupled with the inability of formal institutions and governments to keep up with these needs. At the same time, new technologies and collaborations have created opportunities to respond to these needs in novel ways. Some projects—like telemedicine programs, which Kovarik discussed—take advantage of technological innovations while others—like Frimpong’s clinic—bridge the historic divide between formal and informal in order to deliver healthcare where it is needed.

A reception with food and drinks followed the panel discussion.
Urbanization and Migration

On February 25, nearly 80 people gathered to explore the interconnected global phenomena of urbanization and migration. “Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Global Challenges of Urbanization and Migration,” a half-day workshop convened by Penn IUR and Perry World House and cosponsored by Penn’s School of Arts and Sciences, School of Design, and Alice Paul Center for Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, sought to uncover the complex and controversial causes and consequences of urbanization and migration by viewing these trends from three different interdisciplinary perspectives: sociological and demographic, gender-based, and design- and development-centered approaches.

The workshop began with an exploration of the incredibly complex relationship between urbanization and migration from a sociological and demographic perspective. Lina Bassarsky, Population Affairs Officer, United Nations Population Division, reported on the lack of international uniformity in data collection and interpretation, noting that no common definition of “urban” exists nor is there agreement on the types of demographic data that should be collected; she pointed out that this greatly complicates research into the causes and consequences of urbanization.

Highlighting the difficulty of pinning down the causal relationship between migration and urbanization, Michel Guillot, Associate Professor of Sociology, Penn School of Arts and Sciences and Penn IUR Affiliated Ph.D. Student Megan Reed, Penn Doctoral Candidate in Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences, questioned the commonly held belief that urban growth is always or primarily the result of rural-to-urban migration; they explained that urbanization in India, for instance, is largely attributable to population growth and to the reclassification of space to an “urban” land-use category, rather than to rural-to-urban migration (in fact, rural-to-urban migration explains less than a quarter of urbanization in India).

The consequences of urbanization are also heterogeneous, as two Penn studies reveal. Penn’s Center for the Advanced Study of India (CASi), in collaboration with the Department of Sociology and the Population Studies Center, is studying the impacts of urbanization on 5,000 households in India, focusing on core urban issues including housing, mobility, public services, human capital and livelihoods, and urban governance. Another study on the heterogeneity of impacts on human capital in China, reported on by Emily Hannum, Associate Professor of Sociology and Education, Penn School of Arts and Sciences, and Natalie Young, Penn Doctoral Candidate in Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences, uncovers the impact of spatial hierarchies on income inequality and educational outcomes in China.

The second panel, “Gender-Based Approaches to Urbanization and Migration,” moderated by Nancy Hirschmann, Professor of Political Science, Penn School of Arts and Sciences, and Director, Program on Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, and Director, Penn’s Alice Paul Center for Research on Gender, Sexuality and Women, took as its launch-point the recognition that urbanization and migration are experienced differently by women and by men. For example, as Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Janice Madden, Professor of Regional Science, Sociology, Urban Studies, and Real Estate, The Wharton School and Penn School of Arts and Sciences, discussed, women on average and over time have shorter commute times than do men, a phenomenon that is not yet fully understood.

Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Anne Teitelman, Patricia Bleznak Silverstein and Howard A. Silverstein Endowed Term Chair in Global Women’s Health and Associate Professor of Nursing, Penn School of Nursing, illustrated the divergent experiences of women in urban areas and those in rural areas, describing how adolescent girls in urban areas are more likely to be sexually active than their non-urban peers and face higher rates of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI). Jaya Ramji-Nogales, Professor of Law and Co-Director, Institute for International Law and Public Policy, Temple University’s Beasley School of Law, argued that antiquated and gendered laws need to evolve in order to serve women fleeing extreme violence in Central America; currently, international laws do not recognize the reality of gang and gender-based violence that many women are trying to escape.

The third panel turned to design- and development-centered approaches to urbanization and migration, with a keynote address by Ananya Roy, Professor and Meyer and Renee Luskin Chair in Inequality and Democracy and Director, Institute on Inequality and Democracy, UCLA’s Luskin School of Public Affairs. Roy used a discussion of the Chicago Anti-Eviction Campaign—a direct-action movement in Chicago that gives homeless people access to abandoned homes—to illustrate the ways racial injustice can play out across urban spaces and how challenging these injustices can also manifest across space. Discussant and Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Stefan Al, Associate Professor, Department of City and Regional Planning, Penn School of Design, highlighted three themes in Roy’s work: how inequality can be made manifest through eviction, the significance of colonial narratives in shaping this reality, and how competing notions of housing (specifically, housing as a right versus housing as property) impact the lives of city residents.

Penn IUR and Perry World House, which was established in 2015 as the University’s hub for global engagement and international policy research, will continue to explore together global issues related to urbanization, migration, and demographic change. See the Events Calendar on page 2 or visit the “Events” section of the Penn IUR website (penniur.upenn.edu) for upcoming cosponsored events.

New volume in The City in the 21st Century series arriving Fall 2016

Principles of Housing Finance Reform
Edited by Susan Wachter and Joseph Tracy

Eugénie Birch and Susan Wachter, Series Editors | Published by Penn Press
Visit www.upenn.edu/pennpress/series/C21.html for a list of books in the series.
GAP@TheCommons Publishes Blog Series

The Global Urban Commons (The Commons) is publishing a special blog series this fall presenting stories from a diverse group of organizations and researchers addressing urban problems such as housing, youth unemployment, migration, and sustainability. The series is part of an effort by The Commons to engage stakeholders in preparation for the UN’s Habitat III conference, the world’s premier conference addressing urban issues, which will be held this October in Quito, Ecuador.

The blog series highlights the work of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP), non-governmental constituent groups who are contributing to the Habitat III Conference and the New Urban Agenda, the conference’s outcome document. Blog entries will be varied, covering such topics as new models of collaboration to accelerate social impact in impoverished areas, philanthropic initiatives, and community campaigns to improve health or support housing rights.

Upcoming Events, continued

OCTOBER 15 - 20
UN-HABITAT III CONFERENCE EXHIBITION: THE ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION IN THE NEW URBAN AGENDA
QUITO, ECUADOR
Penn IUR will exhibit at the UN Habitat III Conference Exhibition, sharing Faculty Fellows’ and Scholars’ research relevant to the New Urban Agenda.

OCTOBER 28
MUSA LUNCH SPEAKER SERIES
LAUREN ANCONA
MEYERSON HALL, PENN IUR CONFERENCE ROOM, G12 | 12:00 – 1:30 PM
Join Penn IUR for the second MUSA lunch session of the 2016-17 year. Lauren Ancona, Senior Data Scientist of Web Analytics, City of Philadelphia will discuss her interactive web map, “Parkadelphia,” which investigates parking regulations in Philadelphia. She will also discuss her office’s use of data analytics and visualization to improve city-wide projects.

NOVEMBER 10
PENN IUR PUBLIC INTEREST EVENT
PENSION LIABILITIES AND THE PATH TOWARD MUNICIPAL FINANCE STABILITY
PERRY WORLD HOUSE | 3:00 – 5:00 PM
Join Penn IUR for the launch of Public Pensions and City Solvency, edited by Penn IUR Co-Director Susan Wachter and published by Penn Press as a part of the Penn Press/Penn IUR The City in the 21st Century book series. This event will explore unfunded municipal pension liabilities and the role of transparency and new data. Speakers forthcoming.

MUSA LUNCH SPEAKER SERIES
KEN STEIF
MEYERSON HALL, PENN IUR CONFERENCE ROOM, G12 | 12:00 – 1:30 PM
Join Penn IUR for the final MUSA lunch of the semester with Ken Steif, MUSA Program Director. Steif will discuss with students research practices, career prospects, and opportunities to apply their skills in urban spatial analytics.

These groups are working together to develop recommendations for Habitat III; this preparatory process has included holding meetings in different regions of the world over the past year, mobilizing partner networks, creating opportunities for broad stakeholder involvement in the New Urban Agenda dialogue, and disseminating news and research through The Commons.

Penn IUR created The Commons in 2014 as a publicly accessible online directory of urban research centers and a source for information about global urban research. In 2015, when the site became the public face of GAP, Penn IUR expanded it to include GAP@TheCommons, with a mapped database of GAP members, information about each constituent group, and news and research related to GAP and the constituent groups. More information can be found here: www.globalurbancommons.org.
urban crises, and championing urban sustainability in the United States and around the globe. Past recipients include: Michael A. Nutter, Mayor, City of Philadelphia; Renée Lewis Glover, Chair, Board of Directors, Habitat for Humanity International and former President and CEO, Atlanta Housing Authority; Sister Mary Scullion and Joan Dawson McConnon, co-founders of Project HOME; Martin O’Malley, Governor, State of Maryland; Joan Clos, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT and former Mayor, Barcelona, Spain; Yael Lehmann, Executive Director, The Food Trust; Ridwan Kamil, Founder and Principal, Urbane Indonesia; Derek R.B. Douglas, Vice President for Civic Engagement, University of Chicago and former Special Assistant, White House Domestic Policy Council; Paul Levy, President and CEO, Philadelphia’s Center City District; Lily Yeh, Global Artist and Founder, Barefoot Artists; Raphael Bostic, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, HUD; Henry Cisneros, Executive Chairman, CityView, and former Secretary, HUD; Jane Golden, Executive Director, Philadelphia Mural Arts Program; John Timoney, former Miami Chief of Police; William Hudnut III, Senior Fellow emeritus, Urban Land Institute, and former Mayor, Indianapolis; Shirley Franklin, Mayor, City of Atlanta; Parris Glendening, President, Smart Growth Leadership Institute, and former Governor, State of Maryland; Bruce Katz, Vice President and Founding Director, Metropolitan Policy Program, Brookings Institution; Edward J. Blakely, Executive Director, Mayor’s Office of Recovery and Development Administration, City of New Orleans; M. Susan Savage, Secretary of State, Oklahoma; Donna E. Shalala, President, University of Miami and former Secretary, HUD; Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor, City of Charleston, South Carolina; James Lee Witt, Chairman and CEO, James Lee Witt Associates; Brent Warr, Mayor, City of Gulfport, Mississippi; Loree D. Jones, Secretary of External Affairs, Office of the Mayor, City of Philadelphia; Manuel A. Diaz, Mayor, City of Miami; Stephen Goldsmith, former Mayor, City of Indianapolis; Marc H. Morial, former Mayor, City of New Orleans; and John F. Street, Mayor, City of Philadelphia.

The twelfth Annual Penn IUR ULA was supported by Richard Paul and Ellen S. Richman Family Trust Foundation, Brandywine Realty Trust, Resource Real Estate, Studio Hillier, and EBL&S Development. To watch a video of the 2016 event, visit the “Events” section of the Penn IUR website (www.penniur.upenn.edu).
Fellow of the Econometric Society, a 40th Anniversary Fulbright Fellow, and a Member of the U.S. National Institutes of Child Health and Development (NICHD) Advisory Council. How have your research interests evolved over the course of your career? What major research questions are still unresolved?

My initial research interests, as noted, focused on agricultural change, particularly in Asia. But then I spent a year working in the Chilean planning office and became much more involved in macro (aggregate) questions, including foreign trade policies and their impact on developing economies. Whether studying agriculture or foreign trade, however, I focused on exploring the extent to which various entities responded to incentives.

I also became increasingly interested in human capital investments in education, nutrition, and health, topics on which I have focused much of my research activity over a number of decades. Through such research I have become persuaded, for example, that the returns to schooling tend to be frequently overstated because of the widespread failure to recognize that those who obtain more schooling also tend to have better family background, abilities, and motivations that directly affect productivities and other outcomes—so part of the widespread associations of schooling with “good outcomes” reflects not the impact of schooling but of family background, abilities, and motivations that are correlated with schooling. I also have grown to perceive that other forms of human capital—importantly including health and nutrition and early-life stimulation—are probably much more important than previously recognized, and I have contributed to the empirical literature documenting the importance of these forms of human capital investment.

Of course, there are many major unanswered research questions. In the area of human capital investments, for example, major unanswered questions relate to how to create incentives to improve the quality of human-capital-related services pertaining to education, health, and nutrition. Another important example: How can nations best manage migratory flows, given that there are enormous potential gains for receiving countries and for the migrants themselves, who are underexploited?

4. In addition to honors for your research, you have also been recognized for your dedication to mentoring students, having won the Irving B. Kravis Prize for Distinction in Undergraduate Teaching and having served on over 150 Ph.D. dissertation committees. What changes have you seen in the student body (including Ph.D.s) during your time at Penn?

The proportion of excellent students, at all levels, has increased notably during my tenure at Penn. There also has been an important and healthy increase in students with international interests, including international students. Now, attention is less focused—though probably still over-focused—on the 6 percent of the world population living in the United States (rather than on the 84 percent living in developing countries).

5. Massive demographic and economic changes are expected to continue in coming decades, with the UN predicting world population growth by 2050 of 2.5 billion, virtually all of which will be in cities. What do you think are the biggest challenges this growth presents? What do you think are the most important investments that the international community can make to ensure healthier and more equitable development worldwide?

These are big questions. Over half of the world population has been urban since about 2010, and this proportion is expected to grow substantially in coming decades—particularly in Asia and Africa, which, to date, have lagged behind the rest of the world in urbanization. There are enormous challenges in urbanizing in ways that exploit the tremendous advantages that cities have (in terms of economies of scale and scope, networking and conglomeration effects) while also limiting negative spillovers such as congestion, pollution, disease, and crime. One critical way the international community can support developing countries is by maintaining and enhancing globalization, which has been a major factor in unprecedented economic growth, reduction in poverty, enhanced human capital, and increased equality of global income in recent decades.

6. The UN and others have identified informality in cities as a major issue. You have done path-breaking research on labor markets in developing countries. How do you see this issue and potential solutions?

Informality is not limited to cities. As usually defined, it refers to lack of participation in, and coverage by, governmental programs such as social security systems and labor market regulations. In part, increased informality reflects various governmental policies: regulations that make it very difficult for workers to be separated from formal sector firms, for example, create incentives for such firms to develop alternative employment mechanisms to avoid the inflexibilities due to such regulations; programs that provide large benefits to people in the informal sector, as have been adopted in many countries in recent decades, on the other hand often create incentives to not enter the formal sector because of the high effective tax rates associated with such transitions.

7. With your completion of over half a century here at Penn, what are you looking forward to?

For me, Penn has been a great institution. My home “neighborhoods” in the Economics Department and Population Studies Center have been sources of rich intellectual engagement with fellow faculty and students at various levels. These experiences have been further enhanced by fruitful interactions with many throughout the university. During my tenure, both Penn and Philadelphia have blossomed in many dimensions. And the location—just an Amtrak ride away from international organizations in Washington and New York—further enriches the opportunities for someone with my interests. I look forward to more of the same, though probably not for another half century.
cities find themselves. The book’s three chapters examine the issue from different key perspectives: Joshua Rauh, a leading scholar in the study of unfunded pension liabilities, provides an economist’s perspective; Amy Monahan, a renowned authority in public employee benefits law, illuminates the legal framework; and D. Roderick Kiewiet and Mathew McCubbins, visionary political scientists, put the crisis and its economic and legal implications into context and lay out the necessary framework for reform. Penn IUR Faculty Fellow Richard Ravitch, former Lieutenant Governor of New York, writes the Foreword and Robert Inman and Susan Wachter provide the conclusion.

Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities, published in March 2016, examines the place-based disparity of opportunity across the United States and suggests what can be done to ensure that the benefits of economic growth are widely shared. Contributors’ essays explore social and economic mobility throughout the country to illuminate the changing geography of inequality, offer a portfolio of strategies to address the challenges of place-based inequality, and show how communities across the nation are implementing change and building a future of shared prosperity. Contributors include: Penn IUR Affiliated Ph.D. Student J. Cameron Anglum, Penn IUR Fellow Timothy Bartik, Chris Benner, Penn IUR Fellow Angela Glover Blackwell, Penn IUR Scholar Anthony Carnevale, Raj Chetty, Penn IUR Scholar Rebecca Diamond, Lei Ding, Penn IUR Scholar Paul Jargowsky, David Karp, Penn IUR Scholar Elizabeth Kneebone, Douglas Massey, Penn IUR Fellow Jeremy Nowak, Manuel Pastor, Victor Rubin, Chris Schildt, Nicole Smith, Penn IUR Scholar Margery Austin Turner, Susan Wachter, and Zachary Wood.

Slums: How Informal Real Estate Markets Work, published in April 2016, shows that unauthorized settlements in rapidly growing cities are not divorced from market forces; rather, they must be understood as complex environments where state policies and market actors both play a role. In this volume, contributors examine how the form and function of informal real estate markets are shaped by legal systems governing property rights, by national and local policy, and by historical and geographic particularities. Chapters reveal in granular detail the workings of informal real estate markets, and they review programs that have been implemented in unconventional settlements to provide lessons about the effectiveness and implementation challenges of different approaches. Contributors include: Arthur Acolin, Sai Balakrishnan, Eugénie Birch, José Brakarz, Penn IUR Scholar Shahana Chattaraj, Sebastian Galiani, David Gouverneur, Yvonne Mautner, Paavo Monkonen, Vinit Mukhiya, Penn IUR Fellow Janice Perlman, Lucas Ronconi, Bish Sanyal, Ernesto Schargrodsky, Patricia Cezário Silva, and Susan Wachter.

The volumes are available in at the Penn Bookstore, on Amazon, or through the Penn Press website (www.upenn.edu/pennpress/series/C21.html).
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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