

THE SPACE of STRUGGLE

A mini-conference on radical planning

Generously sponsored by Critical Planning Journal, Portland State Planning Club,
Students Addressing Urban and Community Issues, and Planners Network

November 2, 2016 | 8:30am - 8:30pm

Portland State University
Native American Student and Community Center
710 SW Jackson St., Portland, OR 97201

CONFERENCE ABSTRACT BOOK

Quick Schedule

Daytime Schedule

8:30-9:00	Coffee and tea
9:00-9:15	Welcome and Introductory Address
9:15-10:30	Gentrification, Segregation, and Resistance
10:30-10:45	Break with coffee and tea
10:45-11:45	What Makes (Radical) Planning?
11:45-1:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:00-2:15	Insurgent Planning in Latin American Contexts
2:15-2:30	Break
2:30-3:30	Pedagogy and Urban Rights
3:30-3:45	Break
3:45-5:00	Informality and Urban Rights
5:00	Concluding Remarks
5:05-6:30	Dinner (on your own)

Evening Plenary

6:30	Introduction of Evening and Keynote Speaker
6:35-7:15	“Planning and the Prospect of a Humane Urbanism”
7:15-8:00	Panelist Remarks
8:00-8:30	Panel Discussion and Questions from Audience

Abstracts by Session

Session I: Gentrification, Segregation, and Resistance	3
The Counter Land Grabbing of the Precariat: Housing Movements and Restorative Justice in Brazil	3
Building economic alternatives and community control in the face of gentrification: The case of Parkdale, Toronto	3
Mapping Regional Arcs: The Resegregation of the Bay Area	4
Gentrification, Educational Disinvestment and Community Resistance	4
Session II: What Makes (Radical) Planning?	5
Confronting the Whiteness of Planning	5
Fourth Wave Radical Planning: Introducing a theory of praxis in a time of discontiguous space	5
A Framework for Thinking Insurgency in Detroit	6
Session III: Insurgent Planning in Latin American Contexts	7
Rethinking ownership and belonging from settler-colonial cities	7
Putting the Colonias in their Place: The future of Mexican spaces	7
Street <i>Lucha</i> : Two approaches to streetscape reclamation in Mexico City	8
The Nepantleras: Colonia Organizing in a Liminal Space between the Global North and South	8
Session IV: Radical Pedagogy and Urban Rights	9
Messy Methodologies: Proposing radical alternatives to the formal research plan	9
The Educative Potential of the ‘Right to the City’	9
Cities & Citizenship: Chinese rural-to-urban migrants’ struggle over the right to the city	10
Session V: Informality and Urban Rights	11
Politics, Crime and Class: The case of the human right to sanitation in the informal settlements of Khayelitsha Township, Cape Town	11
Autogestion: Reframing Brazilian Favelas	11
Competitive Commoning and the Struggle for Neighborhoods: The Adaptive Co-Management of Urban Places	12
Sidewalk Interactions as an Infrastructure of Trust	12
Keynote Address	13
Planning and the Prospect of a Humane Urbanism	13
Invited Panelists	13

Session I: Gentrification, Segregation, and Resistance

The Counter Land Grabbing of the Precariat: Housing Movements and Restorative Justice in Brazil

Clara Irazábal, PhD | Professor of Urban Planning | University of Missouri - Kansas City

Brazil's precariat—the chronically unemployed and underemployed poor, politically organized in national social housing movements—are courageously pressing for a true urban reform in Brazil, whose promise has been systematically delayed and subverted even by those who were put in power to realize it. By seizing vacant buildings and land, not only are these unsung heroes/heroines confronting neoliberalism in Brazil at a time of the model's highest level of hegemony in the world. They are unveiling the impossibility of the system to deliver socio-spatial justice to the poor and are enacting an alternative. Through a restorative justice practice, they go beyond critique and show us a project that would allow millions of people in Brazil access to decent housing, and through it, to myriad of other opportunities—the right to the city. As shown in these experiences, restorative justice deserves further exploration as an alternative planning mode that can combine the strengths of advocacy planning and communicative action while reducing their drawbacks. These reflections build on ethnographic work on several building and land occupations in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo in Brazil in 2016.

Building economic alternatives and community control in the face of gentrification: The case of Parkdale, Toronto

Kuni Kamizaki | PhD Student | University of Toronto

This paper offers critical reflections on community-based planning and equitable economic initiatives in the rapidly gentrifying Parkdale neighbourhood in Toronto, Canada. Parkdale is one of the few remaining low-income downtown neighbourhoods in Toronto, but recently has seen the intensifying pressures of gentrification, displacement and deepening poverty. To confront mounting gentrification pressures, community-based organizations have initiated community strategies, including the establishment of the Toronto's first Community Land Trust; workforce development facilitated through alternative currency and a cooperative business; and community-driven planning to create a comprehensive neighbourhood plan.

This paper builds on the author's involvement as a community-based planner in Parkdale and other practitioners' experience. Parkdale's experience offers important insights to radical planning theory and practice, as what lies at the heart of its critical planning practice is not limited to exposing injustices of gentrification; it has also actively created non-capitalist economic alternatives to increase community ownership and democratic control of economic assets such as land (DeFilippis 2004; Gibson-Graham 2006). The paper highlights lessons for the role of radical planning in guiding the economy in an equitable fashion (Goonewardena 2002), and specifically challenges and conditions of possibility for neighbourhood-scale critical planning and multi-pronged economic alternatives for forging just local economies.

Mapping Regional Arcs: The Resegregation of the Bay Area

Tony Roshan Samara | Program Director of Land Use and Housing | Urban Habitat

Urban regions in the US are in the midst of a dramatic transformation captured in two related processes, the gentrification of cities and the suburbanization of poverty. Although generally viewed separately, these are twin engines of larger structural inequalities around race and class taking up a new spatial form. Moving beyond the segregation that marked 20th century cities, this emerging regional form is both a consequence of historically racist planning and a new expression of racial separateness. This marks a reversal of the previous era, which tended towards the concentration of poverty in the core and dispersion of affluence in the periphery, today.

Using the Bay Area region as a case study, this paper presents some of the data on resegregation, provides an analysis of how to interpret the regional shift, and proposes some ideas for how to chart a different course. Our paper examines the new geography of inequality through changes in racialized residential patterns, in wealth/poverty and housing insecurity, and the reshuffling of working class communities. We suggest that after decades of being an outlier, the US metro region is conforming to patterns commonly found in cities of the global south, raising the possibility of learning from communities there about formality, informality, and radical planning.

Gentrification, Educational Disinvestment and Community Resistance

Leanne Serbulo, PhD | Instructor of University Studies | Portland State University

When neighborhoods gentrify, the schools within them seem to paradoxically decline. As longtime residents are displaced, schools lose population, and gentry families take advantage of school-choice policies to opt-out of sending their children to neighborhood schools. The decline in students leads to a loss of resources and funding and can result in school closures or consolidations. As a result, longtime resident children receive an unstable and underfunded education, which stands in sharp contrast to their gentry neighbor's experiences. How can communities actively resist the disinvestment in neighborhood schools that often accompanies gentrification? Can communities shape their schools in ways that benefit longtime resident children? This paper will explore community-based solutions that have been put forth by activists in Portland, OR and other cities to reinvest in the education of longtime resident children and in neighborhood schools.

Session II: What Makes (Radical) Planning?

Confronting the Whiteness of Planning

Heather Dorries, PhD | Assistant Professor in Indigenous Policy | Carleton University

In her landmark essay, *Whiteness as Property*, Cheryl Harris powerfully demonstrates how racial identity and property claims are co-produced in law. Through a genealogy of law starting with American slave law, Harris reveals how whiteness has evolved from a form of racial identity into a legally acknowledged and protected form of property. In this paper I apply Harris' framework to an analysis Indigenous struggles over planning in Canada to demonstrate how planning, by aiding in the establishment and maintenance of the property regime, upholds a system of racial privilege and accords significant economic and political gains to non-Indigenous peoples, while criminalizing and disavowing Indigenous expressions of authority. I will also discuss how an analysis the role of race planning is necessary in order to disrupt systemic racism in planning and to invigorate radical planning theories and practices.

Fourth Wave Radical Planning: Introducing a theory of praxis in a time of discontiguous space

Henry Mochida, PhD | Independent Urban Scholar

My research examines the optical fixation of planning, as a field historically preoccupied with the visual orientation of space and thus failing to achieve the regionalist's agenda of decentralization. I apply a post-structuralist lens along with actor-network, spatial imagination, affect, historico-ethical, and Thirdspace theories to explore a new radical planning agenda. I seek to participate in the conference because I have found the postmodern turn in planning to create a false dichotomy between critiques of neoliberalism and identity politics, and left us with a necessity to scale up local to global movements. Planning is a field founded on radical tenets that have ossified in a developmental-corporatist and military industrial complex establishment causing the project of the nation-state (i.e., Democracy) to fail today. Planning is in need of a new radical wave that disrupts corporatism, state violence, and environmental degradation, as well as redistributes wealth, space, and power. My paper will trace the perversion of key radical tenets decentralism and political community in postmodernism and participation and argue that being radical is not being anti-institutional (Tironi 2015) but rather it is learning how to activate political community in new spatial forms (Healey 2006; Buser 2012, 2014).

A Framework for Thinking Insurgency in Detroit

Allison B. Laskey | PhD Candidate | University of California, Irvine

Public engagement in Detroit's urban planning has inadequately served residents to the extent that it has de facto served to antagonize engaged citizens. In their city, some Detroiters seek to create alternative ways of thinking, gathering, and acting. However, no core social theory explains why and how critical collectives form and function in Detroit. To address this theoretical gap, I build a framework around three bodies of literature – insurgent planning, counterpublics, and black radical thought.

- *Insurgent planning* identifies the phenomenon of critical collectives planning their city from the grassroots, suggesting theoretical limitations of planning theory that the empirical study of critical collectives in Detroit can elucidate.
- *Counterpublics* theorizes the location of critical collectives in the urban fabric and investigates the mechanisms behind their formation and functioning. Counterpublics are the meeting-grounds of critical interlocutors outside of the dominant public sphere, where modern urban planning traditionally takes place.
- *Black radical thought* offers an assumptive logic to explain the phenomena, mechanisms, and locations of insurgent counterpublics, not as a matter of Gramscian subjects opposing hegemony, but by situating Detroit's critical collectives within a long legacy of black struggle that fuels contemporary grassroots theorizing.

Session III: Insurgent Planning in Latin American Contexts

Rethinking ownership and belonging from settler-colonial cities

Libby Porter, PhD | Associate Professor, Global, Urban and Social Studies | RMIT University

Cities are constituted by multiple and diverse expressions of occupying, using and belonging to urban space – from those that are formally recognised through land titles, to informal, untitled performances of property. This paper interrogates different practices and articulations of being in the city and what they mean for radical planning. Occupying and using public space, practicing customary law, or squatting are all practices that register ‘property’ in its radical sense of belonging and place-creation. Yet they are not performed in mainstream, liberal registers such as multicultural citizenship, or private ownership. Either invisible, or threatened with displacement, they nonetheless constitute particular performances of property that offers a different framework to understand place-based relations and politics in the contemporary city. Drawing on examples from Mapuche revival in Santiago, Chile; a major housing occupation in downtown Sao Paulo, and the practice of Aboriginal law in Australian cities, the paper offers a conceptual contribution about the possibility of ‘reclaiming property’ from narrow (neo)liberal ownership frameworks towards a more just urban society. In so doing, the paper makes a specific contribution toward thinking radical planning through the specific lens of settler-colonial cities.

Putting the Colonias in their Place: The future of Mexican spaces

Deyanira Nevarez Martinez | PhD Student | University of California, Irvine

Since 1990, the Cranston-Gonzalez Affordable Housing Act has provided funds for informal settlements, known as ‘colonias’ in the American Southwest. The funding mechanism has been Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for infrastructure improvements projects. The Act defines colonias as, “[a]ny identifiable community (i.e., with defined boundaries) within 150 miles of the United States-Mexico border in Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas, that was in existence before November 28, 1990, excluding metropolitan statistical areas with populations exceeding one million. Qualifying characteristics include the lack of potable water supply, adequate sewage systems and decent, safe and sanitary housing” (1990 Cranston-Gonzalez Affordable Housing Act, Section 916). The resulting funding mechanisms and criteria employed by different federal agencies has been criticized as confusing and competing (Huntoon & Becker, 2001). This paper proposes that the challenges of transforming “colonias” into sustainable communities requires rejecting the narrow focus on infrastructure projects and enhancing funding to provide for meaningful transformative improvements. Thus, a critical perspective would require an engagement with the changing political economy, capitalist urbanization and that of a future radical Latino urbanism.

Street *Lucha*: Two approaches to streetscape reclamation in Mexico City

Claudio A. Sarmiento-Casas | PhD Candidate | University of Toronto

With an increased focus on urban equity, policy-makers in Mexico City have begun to explore how to redesign streets to be more inclusive. While most of these efforts propose shifting from automobility and promoting alternative modes such as walking and cycling, they ignore the issues that emerge when considering the street not only as a space for transport, but as a place for work.

Despite sharing the core values of social interaction, demographic diversity, economic vitality, grassroots entrepreneurship, and symbolic meaning, Mexico City's planning authorities and advocacy groups have championed small-scale streetscape interventions while dismissing the "informal" presence of street vendors. My paper looks into recent policies and implementations that follow the imported, creative-class discourse of Tactical Urbanism, and contrasts them with the everydayness of street vending. A policy and literature review will highlight the theoretical and spatial conflicts that arise when the latter form of space reclamation is legitimized in detriment of the former's.

The principal argument is that street vending is already a radical form of streetscape reclamation and transformation that challenges the entrenched ideas of "order" in Planning. As such, the struggle of street vending is that of recognition within the Westernized ideals of the inclusive street.

The Nepantleras: Colonia Organizing in a Liminal Space between the Global North and South

Danielle Zoe Rivera | PhD Candidate | University of Michigan

Nearly 500,000 people live on the Texas-side of the Texas/Mexico border in communities called "colonias." Colonias lack many basic services, like electricity, water, waste water management, and paved roads, along with representational issues like local governance and voting rights. Due to their highly rural and dispersed nature, many scholars believe that these communities lack the ability to organize or horizontally integrate. However, in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, colonia organizing remains an integral part of the culture and stretches back to César Chávez and the United Farmworkers. This paper explores how urban planning's traditional conceptions of space lead to this mismatch between organizing theory and practice. Instead, the concept of nepantla (which originated in the Rio Grande Valley) is used to reanalyze the organizing practices of colonias. Nepantla is a concept created by Chicana scholar Gloria Anzaldúa to express the feeling of "inbetween-ness" or "nowhere-ness" associated with border life. The nepantlera is, then, the social activist working within these liminal spaces. Using Rio Grande Valley colonias as a case study, the paper explores the utility of Anzaldúa's concept and puts forth an updated feminist framework for community organizing theory.

Session IV: Radical Pedagogy and Urban Rights

Messy Methodologies: Proposing radical alternatives to the formal research plan

Sarah Gelbard | PhD Student | McGill University

The city as it is conceived and constructed through urban planning theory and practice is a reproduction of the values and forces which shape it, leaving it vulnerable and blind to other forces which risk burdening those who fall outside its definition. Due to the fundamental challenges of engaging with radical positions, perspectives, and experiences of the city, a consciousness of the limitations of conventional methodology and methods must be carefully considered; not only for logical but also ethical consistency with the subject. This paper examines the challenges of proposing an experimental—what I call “messy”—methodology informed by alternative approaches and radical theories which, by their nature resist rational organization, normative structures, and formal processes. In contradiction to positivist methodologies, there is no clear separation between the subject of study, the researcher, and the process—nor between practice, theory, and pedagogy. This is how I come to center my doctoral research on city-users who fall outside mainstream assumptions and have to find/make space to satisfy their own needs either by negotiation with or circumventing the official city structures. In the process, my research similarly relies on developing ad-hoc and nimble tactics that sometimes align and sometimes diverge with the conventions of a formal research plan. I am rooted in and inspired by traditions of alternative praxes including Jewish philosophy, feminist and subculture theories, and everyday practices by marginalized/alternative urban groups.

The Educative Potential of the ‘Right to the City’

Louis L. Thomas | PhD Candidate | Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Radical Planners often talk about the Right to the City, and rightly so, but what are the potentials for progressive design, policy, and planning from framing the city as an educative space? Critics of gentrification along with advocates for marginalized residents and affordable housing justly bemoan displacement, and important critiques are being made concerning the mixed-income initiatives of HOPE VI. But rather than the patronizing arguments propagated from Frederick Law Olmstead to Oscar Newman to William Julius Wilson that the poor learn ‘proper’ behavior and cultural assimilation from proximity to the middle and upper classes, what if planners and urban designers argued that neighborhoods should reflect the stratifications and diversities within a metro-region or society at large so that residents, and children in particular, learn about their society and the larger socio-economic context that they live in? This paper proposes a new framing for the potential of the city as an educative space. Classic thinkers in the field such as Colin Ward and Jane Jacobs have wrestled with this issue, but never argued it as a central framing. Given the rapid gentrification and densification of many North American cities, the time for a new framing has never been more prescient.

Cities & Citizenship: Chinese rural-to-urban migrants' struggle over the right to the city

Chen Zhang | PhD Student | University of Minnesota

This article examines spatial politics and reconstruction of urban citizenship across Chinese cities. China's emerging urban citizenship is affected by its Hukou system, a household registration system, which excludes unregistered rural-to-urban migrants spatially and socially from urban welfare. Migrants struggle to make cities recognize their unique demands, modes of life and forms of using urban spaces. These struggles are evident in social movements of the poor migrants for "rights to the city". The education of migrant children is one area of clear discrimination against migrants. This case study of unregistered migrants looks at their radical planning practices and urban resistance movement as reactions to local government's land invasion, destruction and demolish of migrants' schools. I capture how migrants organize themselves in social movements to resist inequalities and discrimination. This helps explain what are obstacles and opportunities for them to get the right to the city through urban resistant movements and radical planning practice in the rapid urbanizing China today.

Session V: Informality and Urban Rights

Politics, Crime and Class: The case of the human right to sanitation in the informal settlements of Khayelitsha Township, Cape Town

Srinidhi Sampath Kumar, MCP

In 2010, the UN General Assembly recognized an explicit human right to water and sanitation. Though not an explicit constitutional guarantee, in post-apartheid South Africa sanitation has been tied to the right to equality, dignity and housing. Cape Town, a city in South Africa has been falling short on realizing the right to sanitation. Since 2011, service delivery protests focusing on sanitation has been on the rise with the South African government trying to pass the first comprehensive draft national policy. This paper will explore the reasons for the gap between the rhetoric and reality of the human right to sanitation both as a national policy and an international law in Cape Town's informal settlements. Data from interviews with a nonprofit and two focus groups in the informal settlements of Khayelitsha, a township in Cape Town revealed the plurality and contestation in the meaning, norms and language around the human right to sanitation between different actors leading to poor sanitation governance. To understand this plurality, I use an actor oriented approach to analyze the different articulations around the right to sanitation among these actors. One of the key findings of this work is that sanitation is deeply political, tied to larger structural issues of race, violence and governance. This study also reveals a relative marginalization between formal and informal settlements in accessing sanitation services. Hence, I argue that a narrow focus on increasing the number of toilets has not led to an increase in access for the communities in the informal settlements. I also argue that the "human right to sanitation" and the associated norms of international law allows for a broader understanding of the socio-cultural issues that affect sanitation governance in this city.

Autogestion: Reframing Brazilian Favelas

Patricia Basile | Fellow, Science without Borders | University of Virginia

Favelas are deemed as a social problem in Brazil. Originally built in response to the lack of affordable housing and perpetuated by urban poverty and inequality, favelas are stigmatized communities whose inhabitants are discriminated against because of where they live. However, favelas are, in fact, thriving communities with exceptional levels of social and political cohesion. They have been an innovative solution to the structural problem of the lack of affordable housing in Brazilian cities for more than 100 years.

This paper argues that favelas are a partial materialization of autogestion. Favelas are a struggle to resolve a condition of both homelessness and lack of affordable housing. This condition is imposed by an unequal society in which urban land is sold as a commodity regardless of its use value. Within the urban democracy framework, Henri Lefebvre defined the concept of autogestion as a strategy of occupying space towards the collective management and social appropriation of the space of everyday life. Autogestion is the individual and collective attempts to reject its

conditions of existence and take action to transform it. The paper proposes a reframing of the favela as a stage of development towards self-governance and autogestion.

Competitive Commoning and the Struggle for Neighborhoods: The Adaptive Co-Management of Urban Places

Jeremy T. Stone | PhD Candidate | University of British Columbia

In *Rebel Cities* David Harvey describes the social process of “commoning” in which relations between social groups and common property resources are created and reproduced (Harvey 2012, p.73). While Harvey mostly discusses this process at the scale of the urban, neighborhoods are themselves common property resources that contribute to the livelihoods of local populations (see Karkkainen 1994; Selsky & Memon 1997; Blomley 2004; Fullilove 2004, pp.121–124; Cheshire 2012) and are subject to many of the same competitive processes of overconsumption and extinction that fisheries and forests are. Harvey rejects the ability of traditional, state-sponsored urban planners to preserve urban commons for their use values to residents, which pushes us to reflect on how a civil society composed of radical planners (see Sandercock 1998a; Sandercock 1998b) might establish new systems of neighborhood commons management. This paper draws together gentrification literature with environmental theories and case studies of adaptive co-management to discuss how neighborhoods can be reclaimed for local uses and values.

Sidewalk Interactions as an Infrastructure of Trust

Ofurhe Igbinedion | PhD Student | University of California, Davis

Sidewalks form an important part of the infrastructure of any urban area. In a libertarian ideal city, sidewalks serve to transport people, and their money, from place to place (de Waal 2012). In a communitarian ideal city the sidewalk serves another important function; facilitating sidewalk interactions as part of an urban public and thus creating solidarity within the neighborhood community. Paul Edwards is a founder of the emergent field of infrastructure studies which explores the study of the relational systems and services that underlie our civilization (Edwards et al 2009). While Edwards has studied the physical infrastructure of cities James Scott has theorized the infrastructure of mutual trust created in cities (Scott 1999). This infrastructure is located only in those public spaces that are peopled. To map this infrastructure is not to map the sidewalks themselves but to map the conversations and the non-verbal smiles and slights that take place above them. These intersections perpetuate and reproduce spatial inequalities. Women, people of color, queer and disabled citizens are treated to a range of microaggressions, slights, stares and comments full of implicit and explicit biases. When sanctioned and justified by the state these microaggressions can turn into violent expressions of fear. Planners need to look above the cement to revolutionize their understandings of these infrastructures of trust.

Keynote Address

Planning and the Prospect of a Humane Urbanism

In this keynote address I highlight the time of crisis we live in—indeed a global crisis that is not only a crisis of capitalism but also of planning as a profession and as an idea. I stress the urgency to rethink planning when it is part and parcel of contemporary crises, and imagine decolonizing practices that make a humane urbanism possible. I argue that planning is facing its own crisis of identity and legitimacy, a crisis that emerges from its professional schizophrenia whereby its image of itself and idea of the profession (serving the public good) does not match its record (entrenching the private interest). And hence the need for a new kind of planning, new meaning and new imagination. Progressive planning needs to break with the hegemonic assumptions that has brought it to such existential crisis. It needs an ontological shift in theorization of planning practices. Some call this insurgent planning.

Faranak Miraftab, PhD | Professor of Urban and Regional Planning | University of Illinois

Professor Faranak Miraftab is an urban scholar of globalization. Her scholarship is situated at the intersection of geography, planning, and feminist studies, using case study and ethnographic methodologies. Her research interest concerns social aspects of urban development and planning. In this broad area, her work is focused on the global and local development processes and contingencies involved in the formation of the city and citizens' struggles to access dignified livelihood — namely how groups disadvantaged by class, gender, race and ethnicity access resources such as shelter, basic services and income. In the 1980s and 1990s, her work studied the global through the experience of local communities in Latin America; since the mid-1990s she has studied the global neoliberal policies through the experience of townships in post-apartheid South Africa. In her current project using a relational frame of analysis she seeks to reveal the development connections and dependencies across seemingly far away communities located across the globe but intimately connected through everyday practices of their transnational families. Her 2016 book [Global Heartland: Displaced Labor, Transnational Lives and Local Placemaking](#) accounts for the relational development processes that take place in Togo, Mexico and Illinois. She says: "My scholarship, the kind of questions I ask, the methodologies I use, and the insights I aspire to offer to the public are all greatly influenced by my activist past and drive for global justice." She serves as the Director of the PhD program and the coordinator of the Transnational Planning Stream at DURP. She received her PhD in Planning from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Master's degree in Architecture at the Norwegian Institute of Technology in Trondheim.

Invited Panelists

Kian Goh, PhD | Professor of Urban Planning | University of California Los Angeles

Professor Kian Goh investigates the relationships between urban ecological design, spatial politics, and social mobilization in the context of climate change and global urbanization. As a licensed architect, she co-founded design practice [SUPER-INTERESTING!](#), a Building Brooklyn

Award winner and ONE Prize semi-finalist. She has also worked with Weiss/Manfredi in New York City, and MVRDV in Rotterdam. Previously, she served as Assistant Professor of Urban Landscape at Northeastern University, and has taught architecture, urban planning, sustainable design, and environmental studies at MIT, University of Pennsylvania, the New School, and Washington University in St. Louis. She previously served on the board of directors of the [Audre Lorde Project](#). She is a Point Scholar, and the recipient of a New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) independent projects grant. She received a PhD in Urban and Environmental Planning from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT, and a Master's degree in Architecture from Yale University.

Nabil Kamel | Professor of Environmental Studies | Western Washington University

Dr. Kamel is associate professor of urban planning and urban geography at Western Washington University. He received his Ph.D. in urban planning from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he led numerous research projects working at the North American Integration and Development Center, the Ralph and Goldy Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies, the Institute of Transportation Studies, and the Anderson Forecast at UCLA. He was involved in research at the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center at Texas A&M and practiced architecture, urban design, and planning in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East. His research centers on social and environmental justice and his areas of expertise include urban and regional development, post-disaster planning, urban design, and physical planning. His current research deals with uneven urban development associated with the housing foreclosure; and urban informality and contemporary urban social movements. His courses include planning theory, political economy of urbanization, urbanization processes and patterns, history of urbanization. Dr. Kamel chairs the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the Huxley College at Western Washington University.

Aaron Golub | Professor of Urban Studies and Planning | Portland State University

Dr. Golub is an associate professor in the Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning at Portland State University (PSU), moving to PSU after eight years at Arizona State University and ten years studying and working in the San Francisco Bay Area. His work focuses on the social contexts of urban transportation systems, explored in three ways: 1. the effects on social equity of current transportation planning practices – how people participate in planning, and who wins and loses from transportation plans, 2. planning, research and advocacy in support of alternatives to the automobile (especially public transportation and bicycles), and 3. the historical roots of automobile dependence in the United States. At PSU, Dr. Golub teaches courses on urban transportation policy, planning research methods, transportation finance and public transportation.

Sy Adler | Associate Dean of the College of Urban and Public Affairs, Professor of Urban Studies and Planning | Portland State University

Professor Sy Adler's interests include the comparative evolution of planning institutions, theories and practices, urban social and political dynamics, and relationships between urban planning and public health. He teaches courses about urban planning history and theory. In 2012, Professor Adler published [Oregon Plans: The Making of an Unquiet Land-Use Revolution](#), a dissection of the

political history of the Oregon statewide land-use planning program. The book is based on archival research and interviews with activists and planners who worked at local, regional, and state levels. Prior to joining the PSU faculty in 1982, Professor Adler worked for the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning on transportation and growth management issues. He received a PhD in Urban Planning from University of California, Berkeley and a Master's degree in City Planning from Harvard University.