Global Shifts: Urbanization, Migration, and Demography

Highlighting the research of over 45 faculty members from across the University of Pennsylvania.
Greetings,

This year’s Habitat III conference occurs just weeks after the Grand Opening of Perry World House at the University of Pennsylvania. On September 20, 2016, we officially opened our doors as Penn’s new global research center, dedicated to advancing interdisciplinary, policy-relevant approaches to the world’s most urgent global affairs challenges.

In recognition of the unique challenges posed by today’s transforming world and the expertise of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House has chosen “Global Shifts: Urbanization, Migration, and Demography,” as one of its inaugural research themes. Around this theme, faculty from across the University of Pennsylvania have contributed research citations and abstracts from their research projects and publications, highlighting the breadth of work being done by Penn in this space. The result is a research digest that offers both a more comprehensive picture of the range and complexity of issues that we face today and an appreciation for the perspective to be gained by examining issues through interdisciplinary lenses. I hope you will find this work useful in your own policy efforts.

I would like to make a brief note about the organization of this research digest. It is arranged by themes, and the work of each faculty member has been placed into one such theme. While the work of many faculty members transcends one category, we find that listing the work together offers important insight into the interests of that particular faculty member and makes it easier for users of the digest to find relevant information. Abstracts or brief introductions have been included where possible.

It is our hope that you will look to the University of Pennsylvania and Perry World House for opportunities to engage our faculty and to collaborate on your own academic and policy work. I’d also like to extend my sincerest thanks to the faculty who have contributed to this digest, and especially to Eugenie Birch and Susan Wachter, co-directors of the Penn Institute for Urban Research.

As Penn’s new home for global affairs, we are dedicated to bringing together students and faculty from across Penn’s twelve schools with practitioners and policymakers from around the world, bridging the best academic thinking and research with innovative policy proposals. We look forward to your involvement in our growing research partnerships, and to your collaboration. If you wish to reach us, please contact Kate Leader, leader@upenn.edu.

Best wishes,

Bill Burke-White
Director, Perry World House
Richard Perry Professor
University of Pennsylvania
In 2015, the United Nations reported that the world now faces the highest level of forced displacement since 1950, with over 60 percent of refugees living in urban environments. Urbanization, migration, and demographic changes shaped by new technologies, political unrest, climate change, and economic hardship are transforming our global environment and creating rigorous debate about the future of sustainable urban development.

Recent migration has produced patterns that are difficult to predict and to record, reflecting an unprecedented depth and nuance in urbanization. Over 66% of the world's population will live in urban spaces by 2050. Since levels of displacement are forecasted to increase, unpredictable and rapid urbanization raises critical questions about urban inclusiveness and sustainability. In 2015, the United Nations and world leaders committed to a new set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aiming to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and halt the progression of climate change. The complexities of achieving these goals make them ripe for engagement at the intersection of academia and policy, as exemplified by multi-stakeholder convenings such as Habitat III.

While urbanization, migration, and demographic change are interconnected, their diverse causes and consequences are too often examined in isolation. The University of Pennsylvania is uniquely positioned to contribute to pressing policy debates in this area. Penn's academic strength in the fields of urban planning, sociology, demography, law, and politics come together at Perry World House, where academia and policy are bridged to produce innovative policy ideas.

In light of the importance and urgency of the issues highlighted in Habitat III’s New Urban Agenda, Perry World House’s inaugural research agenda concentrates on two broad themes: Global Shifts: Urbanization, Migration, and Demography and The Future of the Global Order: Power, Technology, and Governance. Around each theme, Perry World House seeks to advance interdisciplinary policy approaches to pressing international challenges. Propelled by faculty from Penn’s twelve schools, as well as postdoctoral fellows, visiting policymakers, and undergraduate fellows, Perry World House organizes high-level workshops, conferences, conversations, and publications that link Penn to the global policy community.

Perry World House’s policy engagement on the Global Shifts theme launched this fall through a partnership with the Penn Institute for Urban Research to produce this research digest and will continue with a December 2016 workshop on how Perry World House and Penn can help advance the New Urban Agenda. Its April 2017 conference will focus on marginalization and inequality as both drivers and consequences of Global Shifts.

A special thanks to Stephanie Herrmann, Research Fellow at Perry World House, for helping to compile and edit this research digest. Please visit the Perry World House website at https://global.upenn.edu/perryworldhouse and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. The electronic version of this document, with active links, is available at https://global.upenn.edu/perryworldhouse/publications.

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This section features Penn research on immigrant populations and issues surrounding culture, labor, education, health, and the law. It offers insight into notions of “belonging” and examines some of the legal and economic challenges that immigrants face. From changing cultural practices to new tactics for urban environments, this research is essential for better understanding the experiences of immigrants and what successful forms of integration entail.

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Increasing urban populations require academics and policymakers alike to think about the governance structures and policies that will support political and social stability and well-financed growth at local, national, and international levels. Research in this section looks at the social norms behind change and tackles questions on decentralization.
Sustainable Growth: Planning for the Future

What will sustainable urban development look like in the coming decades? What questions does it raise about inclusivity and public welfare? Research in this section addresses important questions around urban planning at both micro and macro levels, with specific attention given to informal settlements, infrastructure, and sustainability.

Al, Stefan
Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning


Countless Chinese villages have been engulfed by modern cities. They no longer consist of picturesque farms and fengshui groves, but of high-rise buildings so close to each other that they create dark claustrophobic alleys - jammed with dripping air-conditioners, hanging clothes, caged balconies and bundles of buzzing electric wires, and crowned with a small strip of daylight, known as “thin line sky.” At times, buildings stand so close to each other they are dubbed “kissing buildings” or “handshake houses” - you can literally reach out from one building and shake hands with your neighbor. Although it is easy to see these villages as slums, a closer look reveals that they provide an important, affordable, and well-located entry point for migrants into the city. They also offer a vital mixed-use, spatially diverse and pedestrian alternative to the prevailing car-oriented modernist-planning paradigm in China. Yet most of these villages are on the brink of destruction, affecting the homes of millions of people and threatening the eradication of a unique urban fabric. Villages in the City argues for the value of urban villages as places. To reveal their qualities, a series of drawings and photographs uncover the immense concentration of social life in the dense structures, and provide a peek into residents’ homes and daily lives. Essays by a number of experts offer a deeper understanding of the topic, and help imagine how reinstating the focus on the village could lead to a richer, more variegated pathway of urbanization.

Aldana Cohen, Daniel
Assistant Professor of Sociology


Social equity and global impacts are missing from measures of cities’ environmental friendliness, write David Wachsmuth, Daniel Aldana Cohen and Hillary Angelo. Please add this additional text to Aldana Cohen’s existing abstract: They proceed to discuss why the “prevailing model of urban sustainability is too narrow,” and offer next steps for improving urban policymaking.

**Anand, Nikhil**
Assistant Professor of Anthropology


In this article I explore the political and technical controversies of measuring water leakages in Mumbai to demonstrate how the dense historical accretions of technology, material, and social life that form hydraulic infrastructures in Mumbai trouble the audit cultures of neoliberal government. While scholars have recently drawn attention to the generativity of ignorance in the making of the state, in this article I argue that ignorance is not only a technology of politics, produced and managed by municipal water engineers and their subjects. Leakages, and the ignorances of leakages, are also enabled by the vital materiality of the city’s infrastructure. As engineers work hard to improvise resolutions to the leakages they can fix, and ignore the thousands of others they cannot, the processes of leakage always exceed the control of the city’s government. As such, the uncertain appearances of leakage in Mumbai not only provide the grounds for the work of the state. Leakages also constantly disrupt governmental projects in ways that make the water department vulnerable both to the claims of marginalized subjects and to new reform projects in the city.


**Birch, Eugenie**
Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Education & Research; Co-Director of the Penn Institute for Urban Research (PennIUR)


In an exploration of the potential impact of Habitat III, the all–United Nations (U.N.) conference that meets every 20 years, I suggest that, in addition to government commitments, clear messaging and strong civic engagement are essential to its success. The basis for these critical elements is already in play, but is it strong enough? In answering this question, I discuss the treatment of cities and human settlements within the U.N. system, the legacies shaping the conference, and the views on sustainable urban development being put forth in its outcome document, the New Urban Agenda (NUA), arguing that the current draft NUA differs from its predecessors, leaving room for strengthening the required advocacy. I conclude with a short challenge to city and regional planners worldwide to become advocates.

Large numbers of people in urbanizing regions in the developing world live and work in unplanned settlements that grow through incremental processes of squatting and self-building. Slums: How Informal Real Estate Markets Work 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 still do 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 of specific neighborhoods. Their essays provide detailed portraits of individuals and community organizations, revealing in granular detail the working 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.


**Gilles, Duranton**

Dean’s Chair in Real Estate Professor; Chair, Real Estate Department


Why do cities grow in population, surface area, and income per person? Which cities grow faster and why? To these questions, the urban growth literature has offered a variety of answers. Within an integrated framework, this chapter reviews key theories with implications for urban growth. It then relates these theories to empirical evidence on the main drivers of city growth, drawn primarily from the United States and other developed countries. Consistent with the monocentric city model, fewer roads and restrictions on housing supply hinder urban growth. The fact that housing is durable also has important effects on the evolution of cities. In recent decades, cities with better amenities have grown faster. Agglomeration economies and human capital are also important drivers of city growth. Although more human capital, smaller firms, and a greater diversity in production foster urban growth, the exact channels through which those effects percolate are not clearly identified. Finally, shocks also determine the fate of cities. Structural changes affecting the broader economy have left a big footprint on the urban landscape. Small city-specific shocks also appear to matter, consistent with the recent wave of random growth models.


Sustainable Growth: Planning for the Future

Gouverneur, David
Associate Professor of Practice, Landscape Architecture


Planning and Design for Future Informal Settlements makes a call for responsible action to address the urban challenges of the developing world, suggesting that the vitality of informality, coupled with spatial design and good management, can support the efficient use of resources in better places to live. The book analyses the strengths and weaknesses of informal urbanism and the challenges faced by the fast growing cities of the developing world. Through case studies, it demonstrates the contributions and limitations of different attempts to plan ahead for urban growth, from the creation of formal housing and urban infrastructures for self-built dwellings to the improvement of existing informal settlements. It provides a robust framework for planners and designers, policy-makers, NGOs and local governments working to improve living conditions in developing cities.

Harari, Mariaflavia
Assistant Professor of Real Estate


The spatial layout of cities is an important determinant of urban commuting efficiency, previously highlighted by urban planners but overlooked by economists. This paper investigates the economic implications of urban geometry in the context of India. A satellite-derived dataset of night-time lights is combined with historic maps to retrieve the geometric properties of urban footprints in India over time. I propose an instrument for urban shape, which combines geography with a mechanical model for city expansion: in essence, cities are predicted to expand in circles of increasing sizes, and actual city shape is predicted by obstacles within this circle. With this instrument in hand, I investigate how city shape affects the location choices of consumers and firms, in a spatial equilibrium framework à la Roback-Rosen. Cities with more compact shapes are characterized by larger population, lower wages, and higher housing rents, consistent with compact shape being a consumption amenity. The implied welfare cost of deteriorating city shape is estimated to be sizable. I also attempt to shed light on policy responses to deteriorating shape. The adverse effects of unfavorable topography appear to be exacerbated by building height restrictions, and mitigated by road infrastructure.

Keene, John
Professor Emeritus of City and Regional Planning


The policies implemented towards farmland are critical to understanding urban-rural dynamics and growth. This publication provided a reference guide to programs that were being used to protect agricultural land—to identify their elements, document the experience which state and local governments had with them, identify their intended and unintended effects, note their fiscal and political costs, and comment on their long- and short-run effectiveness.
Marcinkoski, Christopher
Associate Professor of Landscape
Architecture and Urban Design


This project explores the recent proliferation of speculative urbanization activities across the African continent. Despite the urgent demand for urbanistic upgrades throughout much of Africa, the myriad proposals for new towns and vanity infrastructures that characterize much of the urbanization activities currently being pursued are rarely oriented toward those populations actually in need. Rather, exogenous models of “proven” urban growth strategies are being imported into wholly incongruous contexts with little regard for the realities of their destination. The project looks to position these activities in relation to recent speculative building pursuits undertaken in places like Spain, Ireland and China during the first decade of the 21st century—in particular, the severe social, environmental and political consequences that emerged from their failure. The project will use lessons from those events to develop a catalogue of alternate urban planning and design conventions and strategies that engage the volatility and risk associated with the African pursuits in order to productively mitigate their potential consequences. The work is structured into two parts: 1) A critical survey of territorial-scale speculative urbanization projects proposed or undertaken throughout Africa since 2005 (the peak of the prior global real estate bubble); and 2) the elaboration of potential alternate futures for these projects by means of adjustment to the planning, design and construction conventions upon which they rely.


One of the most troubling consequences of the 2008 global financial collapse was the midstream abandonment of several large-scale speculative urban and suburban projects. The resulting scars on the landscape, large subdivisions with only marked-out plots and half-finished roads, are the subject of The City That Never Was, an eye-opening look at what happens when development, particularly what the author calls “speculative urbanization” is out of sync with financial reality. Presenting historical and recent examples from around the world—from the sprawl of the US Sun Belt and the unoccupied towns of western China, to the “ghost estates” of Ireland—and focusing on case studies in Spain, Marcinkoski proposes an ecologically based model in place of the capricious economic and political factors that typically drive development today.


Vucic, Vukan
UPS Foundation Professor of Transportation Engineering and Professor of City and Regional Planning


Beginning with a history of transit and its role in urban development, the book proceeds to define relevant terms and concepts, and then presents detailed coverage of all urban transit modes and the most efficient system designs for each. Including coverage of such integral subjects as travel time, vehicle propulsion, system integration, fully supported with
equations and analytical methods, this book is the primary resource for students of transit as well as those professionals who design and operate these key pieces of urban infrastructure.


**Weller, Richard**
Professor and Chair of Landscape Architecture


*The AFEW is a project of assembling the base maps that show the difference between the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) targets for protected habitat and what is actually on the ground in the world’s 34 biodiversity hotspots. The research question that underpins and motivates this project is how can landscape architecture work on a scale and in a manner that is inversely commensurate with that of biodiversity’s inexorable decline?*

Urban Life: Housing, Markets, and Security

The urban experience is shaped by myriad factors. In this section, faculty members examine several of these, from the affordability of urban spaces and vulnerabilities in housing to the dynamics of neighborhoods and connections between design and crime. This research underscores the importance of interdisciplinary insights in creating new urban policy.

Ferreira, Fernando
Associate Professor of Real Estate and Business Economics & Public Policy


This paper examines mortgage outcomes for a large, representative sample of individual home purchases and refinances linked to credit scores in seven major US markets in the recent housing boom and bust. Among those with similar credit scores and loan attributes, black and Hispanic homeowners had much higher rates of delinquency and default in the downturn. There is important heterogeneity within minorities: black and Hispanics that live in areas with lower employment rates and that have high debt to income ratios are the driving force behind the observed racial and ethnic differences in foreclosures and delinquencies. Moreover, these estimated differences are especially pronounced for loans originated near the peak of the housing boom even after controlling for the effect of origination timing on households’ equity position. These findings suggest that black and Hispanic homeowners drawn into the market near the peak were especially vulnerable to adverse economic shocks and raise concerns about homeownership as a mechanism for reducing racial disparities in wealth.


Gyourko, Joseph
Martin Bucksbaum Professor of Real Estate, Finance and Business Economics & Public Policy; Nancy A. Nasher and David Haemisegger Director of the Zell/Lurie Real Estate Center


global.upenn.edu/perryworldhouse
Cities are physical structures, but the modern literature on urban economic development rarely acknowledges that fact. The elasticity of housing supply helps determine the extent to which increases in productivity will create bigger cities or just higher paid workers and more expensive homes. In this article, we present a simple model that provides a framework for doing empirical work that integrates the heterogeneity of housing supply into urban development. Empirical analysis yields results consistent with the implications of the model that differences in the nature of house supply across space are not only responsible for higher housing prices, but also affect how cities respond to increases in productivity.


This paper theorizes and tests why urban decline is slower than urban growth and why its speed is bounded below by the rate of depreciation on owner-occupied housing. Data are U.S.-based, but the model applies globally.


**Handbury, Jessie**
Assistant Professor of Real Estate

that while women are significantly disadvantaged by various measures of human and political capital, these disadvantages explain little of the observed gender gaps in employment status and earnings. Instead, gender gaps in employment and earnings are strongly related to family status. It is only married women and mothers who face significant disadvantages. This finding is likely tied to the fact that wives and mothers spend much more time than husbands and fathers doing household chores, even net of controls for potential earnings. These results suggest that research on gender disparities in urban China would be complemented by additional attention to family-work conflict, a topic which looms large in research on gender and labor in most other countries.


Hoek-Smit, Marja
Adjunct Professor of Real Estate; Director and Founder, International Housing Finance Program, Zell/Lurie Real Estate Center.


Housing plays a special role in the social and political dialogue in most societies. It is often the largest single category of household expense, and the housing sector is a large part of the economy. Housing is also a major component in creating stable and healthy communities and a very visible indicator of social conditions. These economic and social characteristics of the housing sector are the reason that almost all societies intervene in housing markets through an array of policies intended to increase housing consumption by various groups. This chapter focuses on one category of government intervention in housing markets—subsidies related to housing finance, that is, the way in which the housing asset is being paid for.


Landis, John
Professor and Chair, City & Regional Planning


This article addresses four fundamental questions about neighborhood change processes and outcomes among large U.S. metropolitan areas between 1990 and 2010: (a) Is it possible using census data and other secondary sources to come up with a consistent and robust method to measure gentrification and other forms of substantial neighborhood socioeconomic change (SNSEC) across all U.S. metropolitan areas? (b) To what degree are gentrification and other forms of SNSEC the result of metropolitan-scale economic and demographic forces versus more bottom-up and neighborhood-specific forces and dynamics? (c) To what degree are gentrification and other forms of SNSEC shaped by the actions of individual, and groups of, property owners, developers, and speculators versus the neighborhood service and location preferences of households? (d) To what extent are gentrification and other forms of substantial neighborhood change always accompanied by the displacement of existing residents?
Urban Life: Housing, Markets, and Security


MacDonald, John M.
Professor of Criminology and Sociology; Penny and Robert A. Fox Faculty Director, Fels Institute of Government


Crime is influenced by the built environment. Broken windows, crime prevention through environmental design, situational crime prevention, and economic theories of the supply of and demand for criminal opportunities offer explanations. Zoning, designs of streets and housing, locations of public transit, and land uses shape the built environment in ways that can increase or reduce crime. Cross-sectional research shows that elements of the built environment are associated with crime rates in particular places. Quasi-experimental studies show that changes in zoning and street configurations, configuration and design of housing, and access to public transit can help manage crime. The mechanisms by which such changes influence crime are not well understood, though shifts in the supply of criminal opportunities most likely play a role. This evidence is promising. It suggests that the built environment can be modified to reduce both crime and reliance on criminal justice sanctions. Place-based experiments that manipulate features of the built environment will provide evidence for policy makers to use in designing cities in ways that reduce crime.


This study investigated the extent to which immigrant concentration is associated with reductions in neighborhood crime rates in the City of Los Angeles. The results indicate that greater predicted concentrations of immigrants in neighborhoods are linked to significant reductions in crime. The results are robust to a number of different model specifications. The findings challenge traditional ecological perspectives that link immigrant settlement to higher rates of crime. Immigration settlement patterns appear to be associated with reducing the social burden of crime. Study conclusions are limited by the potential for omitted variables that may bias the observed relationship between immigrant concentration and neighborhood crime rates, and the use of only official crime data which may under report crimes committed against immigrants. Understanding whether immigrant concentration is an important dynamic of changing neighborhood patterns of crime outside Los Angeles will require replication with data from other U.S. cities.


Madden, Janice
Professor of Regional Science, Sociology, Urban Studies, and Real Estate


As African Americans are poorer than non-African Americans, increasing racial integration might lead to increasing poverty integration. Alternatively, if racial segregation pushed higher- and lower-income African Americans to reside together, increasing racial integration may lead higher-income African Americans to sort into higher-income non-African American neighborhoods, decreasing poverty integration. Using consistently bounded census tract data for thirty-six large metropolitan areas (MAs) from 1970 to 2009, a fixed effect model measures the relationship of a census tract’s end of the decade proportions of the metropolitan population by race and poverty status group between 1980 and 2009 to the proportions of each race and poverty group resident in a census tract at the start of the decade. The article finds that racial integration occurs mostly within own poverty groups and poverty integration occurs mostly within own racial groups, making these integration processes largely independent. Poverty and racial segregation were slightly decreased, however, because the nonpoor racially integrated with the poor in a manner consistent with gentrification and status caste exchange theory.

Pritchett, Wendell
Presidential Professor of Law and Education


During the 1960s and 1970s, Congress and policymakers engaged in a heated debate over the proper role of the federal government in urban America enacted several initiatives to deal with the problems facing older cities, including creating the Department of Housing and Urban Development. However, throughout these years, federal officials, members of Congress, and other interested parties remained divided over the extent and nature of the “urban crisis.” During the early 1960s, much of the debate about urban areas focused on the problems of “metropolitan growth,” but in late 1960s, urban problems became increasingly identified with issues of racial conflict. By the early 1970s, policymakers had concluded that federal programs had generally failed to improve the state of urban America, and they oversaw a devolution of power back to local governments.


Teitelman, Anne
Patricia Bleznak Silverstein and Howard A. Silverstein Endowed Term Chair in Global Women’s Health; Associate Professor of Nursing
Conditional cash transfer (CCT) programs have spread worldwide as a new form of social assistance for the poor. Previous evaluations of CCT programs focus mainly on rural settings, and little is known about their effects in urban areas. This paper studies the short-term (one- and two-year) effects of the Mexican Oportunidades CCT program on urban children/youth. The program provides financial incentives for children/youth to attend school and for family members to visit health clinics. To participate, families had to sign up for the program and be deemed eligible. Difference-in-difference propensity score matching estimates indicate that the program is successful in increasing school enrollment, schooling attainment and time devoted to homework for girls and boys and in decreasing working rates of boys.

Thomas, Deborah
Professor of Anthropology and Graduate Chair


Four Days in May explores how state violence generates archives of both suffering and life by focusing on the 2010 State of Emergency in West Kingston, Jamaica. Locally dubbed the “Tivoli Incursion,” the joint operation of the military and police forces into Tivoli Gardens and surrounding communities in order to apprehend Christopher “Dudus” Coke, who had been ordered for extradition to the United States to stand trial for gun and drug-related charges, resulted in the deaths of at least 75 civilians.

Todd, Petra
Alfred L. Cass Term Professor Economics

The demographics of the world are changing. From youth bulges to ageing populations, what will these shifts mean for labor, mobility, and education? This section explores some challenges and opportunities for an increasingly interconnected and evolving global landscape.

**Behrman, Jere**
William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Economics


Recent unprecedented changes in the quantity, quality, and mobility of the population will continue to affect the world throughout this century, with important differences among countries, depending on their stage of demographic transition and level of economic development. The world population will grow at much lower rates than in the past half-century-with some population increases-as a result of remaining high fertility in some low-income countries and population momentum in many other countries that reflects the large number of women of childbearing age. The decline in the population growth rate and the substantial increase in the quality of the population, as reflected in health and education, lay the foundation for ongoing improvement in population quality. Ensuring that changes benefit average citizens requires enhancing the freedom to move, internally and internationally; strengthening the early foundations for life; supporting aging with dignity and equity; and improving incentives for social service delivery.


**Guillot, Michel**
Associate Professor of Sociology


This project focuses on the impact of migration on health outcomes, with a focus on migration selection issues (for both in-migration and out-migration). The main purpose is to understand the underlying processes explaining the migrant mortality advantage, a phenomenon observed in virtually all receiving countries. The currently-funded ROI project, which involves Guillot (PI) and Elo, as well as Khlat from the French Institute for Demographic Studies (INED), uses longitudinal data from France to address this question and also examines health outcomes among the second generation. In a separate but related project, Elo (PI) has received seed funds to examine the health of Black immigrants in the US vs. in their country of origin. This project overlaps with Parrado and Flippen’s project on health among Mexican migrants.

**Kohler, Hans-Peter**
Frederick J. Warren Professor of Demography


The goal of this paper is to discuss the Post-2015 Development Agenda in the area of Population and Demography, focusing primarily on aspects of population size, age structure and geographic distribution. It is important to highlight that “population quality”, including human capital such as health and education, is an important further aspect of population dynamics that is essential for addressing the challenges of future population changes and for realizing the benefits of population dynamics for social, economic and environmental development (Behrman and Kohler 2014). Population quality therefore needs to be seen as an inherent component of development priorities in the area of population and demography, and in some areas—for instance policy addressing population aging—policies related to population quality are primary policies.


**Park, Hyunjoon**
Korea Foundation Associate Professor of Sociology and Education


We investigated the link between migration, family structure, and the risk of dropping out of upper secondary school in Mexico. Using two waves of the Mexican Family Life Survey, which includes 1,080 upper secondary students, we longitudinally modeled the role of the family structure in the subsequent risk of dropping out, focusing on the role of migration in single motherhood. We found that children living without a father because of international migration or divorce or separation are at a greater risk relative to children in 2-parent households. Economic characteristics of the household provide a partial explanation for children living in single-mother households because of divorce or separation but do not explain the greater risk of dropping out for children with fathers in the United States.
Throughout human history, the rate of world population growth overall has been outpaced by the rate of urban population growth. Right now, more than half the world’s population lives in cities, and that proportion will only increase in the next fifty years. Rapid urban growth accelerates the exchange of ideas, the expansion of social networks, and the diversity of human interactions that accompany globalization. The present century is therefore the crucial phase, when the world’s increasing interconnectedness may give rise to innovation and collaboration or intensify conflict and environmental disaster. Bringing together scholars of anthropology and social science as well as law and medicine, Globalization: The Crucial Phase presents a holistic and comprehensive understanding of the way the world is changing. The contributors reveal the changing scale of social, economic, and financial diversity, examine the impact of globalization on the environment, health, and nutrition; and consider the initiatives to address the social problems and opportunities that arise from global migration. Collectively, these diverse interdisciplinary perspectives provide an introduction to vital research and policy initiatives in a period that will bring great challenges but also great potential.


Migration in all its forms is a source of both opportunity and distress for millions around the world. In order to maximize opportunity and ease suffering, governments, civil society, and international actors must better understand migration flows. The research presented here explores various causes and characteristics of migration patterns, as well as their political, economic, and social implications.

Chang-Muy, Fernando
Thomas O’Boyle Lecturer in Law


The leading textbook on social work with immigrants and refugees, this is the only book to address the intersection of legal, policy, and advocacy issues, in addition to the clinical skills needed to help these populations. This second edition has been updated to reflect key policy changes at the state and federal levels affecting social work with immigrants and refugees. The authors have expanded their coverage of transnationalism, microaggressions, and public health and community issues, and each chapter features updated case studies on the most critical issues immigrants face today: legal processes, physical and mental health issues, employment difficulties, family conflicts, and more.


Kao, Grace
Professor of Sociology, Education, and Asian American Studies

Statistics suggest that young men and women in China migrate at almost equal numbers, but we know less about gender differences in the decision to migrate. We examine the factors associated with migration decisions and the rationales given by young migrants. Our results are consistent with previous figures and show no overall gender differences in susceptibility to migration. However, we find that a sibship structure operates differently on the decisions of boys and girls. We also found that young men were more likely to report that they had moved for purposes of starting a business or personal development than young women, while young women were more likely to report that they had moved to support the tuition of a family member. We argue that, despite the gender parity of the migrant youth population, gender shapes migration decisions by affecting the family circumstances and migration motivations of men and women.


Education is a crucially important social institution, closely correlated with wealth, occupational prestige, psychological wellbeing, and health outcomes. Moreover, for children of immigrants – who account for almost one in four school aged children in the U.S. – it is the primary means through which they become incorporated into American society. This insightful new book explores the educational outcomes of post-1965 immigrants and their children. Tracing the historical context and key contemporary scholarship on immigration, the authors examine issues such as structural versus cultural theories of education stratification, the overlap of immigrant status with race and ethnicity, and the role of language in educational outcomes.

La migración internacional es uno de los temas que actualmente atrae una enorme atención en las ciencias sociales y es objeto de controvertida discusión en el ámbito de políticas públicas. La discusión está casi exclusivamente dominada por la migración Sur-Norte, es decir la que ocurre de países más pobres hacia las democracias ricas. En este contexto, a pesar de su larga presencia histórica y su creciente volumen, las migraciones intra-regionales Sur-Sur han permanecido comparativamente opacadas (Campillo Carrete, 2013). En el caso de América Latina el foco de la investigación y los debates en torno a la migración internacional ha estado mayormente puesto en los masivos flujos migratorios de México y América Central hacia los Estados Unidos, y más recientemente por la migración hacia Europa. Comparativamente, los movimientos migratorios entre países de la región, como es el caso de la migración intra-regional en Sudamérica han recibido menor atención a pesar de su relevancia numérica (Pellegrino 1989). De acuerdo a nuestra estimaciones, en la primera década del nuevo milenio alrededor de 3 millones de Sudamericanos viven en otro país de la región distinto al de nacimiento, cifra algo superior a la que se registra en Estados Unidos (2.7 millones) y por encima de los que residen en España (2.0 millones).


**Parrado, Emilio**  
Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology


**Research Agenda.** Annual Review of Sociology, 41, 399-421.

La migración internacional es uno de los temas que actualmente atrae una enorme atención en las ciencias sociales y es objeto de controvertida discusión en el ámbito de políticas públicas. La discusión está casi exclusivamente dominada por la migración Sur-Norte, es decir la que ocurre de países más pobres hacia las democracias ricas. En este contexto, a pesar de su larga presencia histórica y su creciente volumen, las migraciones intra-regionales Sur-Sur han permanecido comparativamente opacadas (Campillo Carrete, 2013). En el caso de América Latina el foco de la investigación y los debates en torno a la migración internacional ha estado mayormente puesto en los masivos flujos migratorios de México y América Central hacia los Estados Unidos, y más recientemente por la migración hacia Europa. Comparativamente, los movimientos migratorios entre países de la región, como es el caso de la migración intra-regional en Sudamérica han recibido menor atención a pesar de su relevancia numérica (Pellegrino 1989). De acuerdo a nuestra estimaciones, en la primera década del nuevo milenio alrededor de 3 millones de Sudamericanos viven en otro país de la región distinto al de nacimiento, cifra algo superior a la que se registra en Estados Unidos (2.7 millones) y por encima de los que residen en España (2.0 millones).


**Parrado, Emilio**  
Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology


We build on recent developments in social organization theory to examine the sexual partnering of Mexican men in a new area of immigrant destination. We elaborate on two levels of contextual influence: 1) how differences in social capital between sending and receiving communities affect partner formation and 2) how neighborhood social cohesion influences immigrants’ behavior. Data come from an original survey conducted in Durham, NC and migrant sending communities in Mexico. We show dramatic differences in sexual partnering between Mexico and the U.S. that are directly linked to lack of social networks and familial support. Neighborhood level social cohesion in part counteracts those effects. The role of social capital and neighborhoods, however, is highly gendered. The presence of women is a critical dimension of the social organization of immigrant communities and its effect extends beyond mere partner availability.


**Poggi, Christine**
Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art and Criticism


**Wong, Maisy**
Assistant Professor of Real Estate


This paper estimates people’s taste for living with own-ethnic-group neighbors using variation from a natural experiment in Singapore: ethnic housing quotas. I develop a location choice model that informs the use of policy variation from the quotas to address endogeneity issues well-known in the social interactions literature. I assembled a dataset on neighborhood level ethnic proportions by matching more than 500,000 names in the phonebook to ethnicities. I find that all groups want to live with some own-ethnic-group neighbors but they also exhibit inverted U-shaped preferences so that once a neighborhood has enough own-ethnic-neighbors, they would rather add a new neighbor from other groups. Welfare simulations show that about 30% of the neighborhoods are within one standard deviation of the first best allocation of ethnic groups.
This section features Penn research on immigrant populations and issues surrounding culture, labor, education, health, and the law. It offers insight into notions of “belonging” and examines some of the legal and economic challenges that immigrants face. From changing cultural practices to new tactics for urban environments, this research is essential for better understanding the experiences of immigrants and what successful forms of integration entail.


Deporting “criminal aliens” has become the highest priority in American immigration enforcement. Today, most deportations are achieved through the “crimmigration” system, a term that describes the convergence of the criminal justice and immigration enforcement systems. Emerging research argues that U.S. immigration enforcement is a “racial project” that subordinates and racializes Latino residents in the United States. This article examines the role of local law enforcement agencies in the racialization process by focusing on the techniques and logics that drive law enforcement practices across two agencies, I argue that local law enforcement agents racialize Latinos by punishing illegality through their daily, and sometimes mundane, practices. Investigatory traffic stops put Latinos at disproportionate risk of arrest and citation, and processing at the local jail subjects unauthorized immigrants to deportation. Although a variety of local actors sustain the deportation system, most do not see themselves as active participants in immigrant removal and they explain their behavior through a colorblind ideology. This colorblind ideology obscures and naturalizes how organizational practices and laws converge to systematically criminalize and punish Latinos in the United States.


Babou, Cheikh
Associate Professor of History
The immigration of relatively unskilled workers poses a fundamental problem for liberals. While from the perspective of the economic welfare of natives, the optimal policy would be to admit these aliens as guest workers, this policy would violate liberal ideals. These ideals would treat these workers as equals, entitled to access to citizenship and to the full set of public benefits provided to citizens. If the welfare of incumbent residents determines admissions policies, however, and we anticipate the fiscal burden that the immigration of the poor would impose, then our welfare criterion would preclude the admission of relatively unskilled workers in the first place. Thus, our commitment to treat these workers as equals once admitted would cut against their admission and make them worse off than they would be if we agreed never to treat them as equals. A liberal can avoid this “immigration paradox” by adopting a cosmopolitan perspective that extends equal concern to all individuals, including prospective immigrants and other aliens, which suggests liberal immigration policies for relatively unskilled workers. I argue that liberal ideals require a global view of distributive justice and that attempts to defend more limited conceptions of distributive justice that apply only within nations are ultimately question-begging. The problem with policy prescriptions based on global justice is the failure of most citizens to adopt such a cosmopolitan perspective.


“Global Shifts”: A Research Digest

Social Perspectives on Immigration & Integration


Ghaffar-Kucher, Ameena
Senior Lecturer in Education; Associate Director, International Educational Development Program


The unprecedented human mobility the world is now experiencing poses new and unparalleled challenges regarding the provision of social and educational services throughout the global South. This volume examines the role played by schooling in immigrant incorporation or exclusion, using case studies of Thailand, India, Nepal, Hong Kong/PRC, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Kenya, Egypt, South Africa, Senegal, Sudan, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. Drawing on key concepts in anthropology, the authors offer timely sociocultural analyses of how governments manage increasing diversity and how immigrants strategize to maximize their educational investments. The findings have significant implications for global efforts to expand educational inclusion and equity.


This article describes a cultural production process called religification, in which religious affiliation, rather than race or ethnicity, has become the core category of identity for working-class Pakistani-American youth in the United States. In this dialectical process, triggered by political changes following the September 11 terrorist attacks, the Muslim identity is both thrust upon Pakistani-American youth by those who question their citizenship and embraced by the youth themselves. Specifically, the article examines the ways in which schools are sites where citizenship is both constructed and contested and the roles that peers, school personnel, families, and the youth themselves play in this construction/contestation of citizenship.


**Lingel, Jessa**
Assistant Professor of Communication


This study examines the ways in which transnational city newcomers interact with locative technology to build knowledge about their urban surroundings. We conducted semistructured interviews with 25 transnational migrants recently relocated to the greater New York City area, investigating their day-to-day smartphone use, navigation tactics, and uses of location-based services. Our analysis reflects on three themes: tensions surrounding different navigation strategies (searching vs. browsing); social monitoring practices (awareness vs. surveillance); and perceptions of online information sources (credibility/trust vs. distrust). Together, these themes highlight the contradictory outcomes of technology use both facilitating and hindering the processes of urban learning. We conclude with a discussion of paradoxical outcomes of technological use as a means of unpacking the sociotechnical tensions that emerge from locative technology use among transnational migrants in new urban environments.


**Meleis, Afaf**
Professor of Nursing and Sociology and Dean Emerita


Women’s Health and the World’s Cities illuminates the intersection of gender, health, and urban environments. This collection of essays examines the impact of urban living on the physical and psychological states of women and girls in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the United States. Urban planners, scholars, medical practitioners, and activists present original research and compelling ideas. They consider the specific needs of subpopulations of urban women and evaluate strategies for designing spaces, services, and infrastructure in ways that promote women’s health. Women’s Health and the World’s Cities provides urban planners and public health care providers with on-the-ground examples of projects and policies that have changed women’s lives for the better.


**Schnittker, Jason**
Professor of Sociology


Despite the resurgence of immigration in the United States and a renewed scholarly interest in the effects of social context, social psychologists have not sufficiently explored the joint relationship between acculturation and neighborhood ethnic composition as influences on immigrants’ self-esteem. Using a sample of adult Chinese immigrants, I examine the effects of English language use, Chinese cultural participation, and neighborhood Chinese composition on self-esteem.

**Vitiello, Domenic**
Associate Professor and Assistant Chair, City and Regional Planning


How has the diversity of post-1965 immigration to the United States influenced newcomers’ housing experiences and civil society’s housing support systems? Planning scholars have shown immigration’s role in revitalizing cities and housing markets, but we have done less to parse the variety of housing problems that immigrants experience and the ways civil society addresses them. This article examines the recent history of civil society organizations’ housing support strategies in Chinese, Southeast Asian, and African communities in Philadelphia. We find that the diversity within and between groups has shaped largely distinct “institutional ecosystems” and approaches to housing support.


Schnittker, Jason
Professor of Sociology


Despite the resurgence of immigration in the United States and a renewed scholarly interest in the effects of social context, social psychologists have not sufficiently explored the joint relationship between acculturation and neighborhood ethnic composition as influences on immigrants’ self-esteem. Using a sample of adult Chinese immigrants, I examine the effects of English language use, Chinese cultural participation, and neighborhood Chinese composition on self-esteem.
Increasing urban populations require academics and policymakers alike to think about the governance structures and policies that will support political and social stability and well-financed growth at local, national, and international levels. Research in this section looks at the social norms behind change and tackles questions on decentralization.

**Bichhieri, Cristina**  
S. J. Patterson Harvie Professor of Social Thought and Comparative Ethics


This article investigates the impact of trust on bribery. We measure trust with a survey question from the World Values Survey on whether respondents think others would take advantage of them if given the chance, and we observe bribery behavior in an experimental bribery game. The research was conducted in China and Italy, which have relatively high perceived-corruption levels, as well as in Japan and the Netherlands, which have relatively low perceived-corruption levels. In the bribery game, participants have the opportunity to bribe another participant to cheat to their advantage. We hypothesized that honoring bribing agreements depends on trust, the endorsement of such agreements is independent of trust. We find evidence that trust enables bribery in the two low-corruption countries, but no evidence that trust enables bribery in the two high-corruption countries. More specifically, trust predicts bribers’ trustworthiness in honoring the bribery agreement once they enter into one. The results reveal a dark side of trust: It supports socially detrimental cooperation when a deal is unenforceable.


**Falleti, Tulia**  
The Class of 1965 Term Associate Professor in Political Science


In this award-winning book, Professor Falleti explains the processes of decentralization of government and their markedly different outcomes in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. She draws on extensive fieldwork, in-depth interviews, archival records, and quantitative data. This book has shaped the scholarly and policy-making debates on decentralization, federalism, subnational politics, and multilevel governance.

en Perspectiva Comparada. Desarrollo Económico, 46(183), 317-352.


Inman, Robert
Richard King Mellon Professor of Finance; Professor of Business Economics & Public Policy; Professor of Real Estate


South Africa’s transition from apartheid to democracy has been successful because its federal governance has provided protection for the economic elite from maximal redistributive taxation. Federal governance creates a “hostage game” in which the majority central government controls tax rates, while elite-run provinces control redistributive services. South Africa has found an equilibrium that has improved the welfare of the white minority and the black majority. However, the success of the federal structure depends on the patience of the majority and their demands for redistributive public services. An impatient and more radical majority party threatens the current equilibrium.


Wachter, Susan
Albert Sussman Professor of Real Estate


Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities examines this place-based disparity of opportunity 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. Approaching the problem from the vantage point of economics, sociology, and public policy, Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities offers a timely analysis of the country’s growing socioeconomic and geographic division and shows how communities can respond to the challenge of economic inequality to build a nation of opportunity for all.

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