



Transforming Cities Draws Interest and Explores New Terrain

On Wednesday, September 22, the Penn IUR hosted the public interest forum *Transforming Cities: Positive Outcomes of Public/Private Engagement* to discuss the impact of recent urban policy changes on cities across the country. The standing-room-only event featured a panel of distinguished urban thinkers: Judith Rodin, President Emerita of the University of Pennsylvania; Alice Rivlin, Senior Fellow of The Brookings Institution; John Timoney, Chief of Police of the City of Miami; and James Nevels, Chairman of the Philadelphia School Reform Commission. The different experiences of the panelists allowed for an interesting and engaging discussion on the critical question of public-private partnership in urban revitalization and change initiatives.



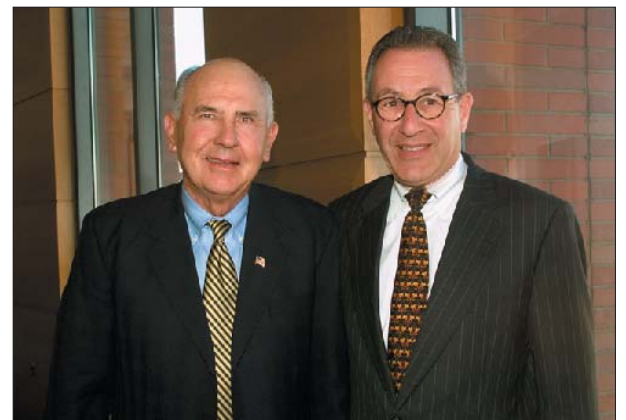
John Timoney, Miami Chief of Police, addresses the audience

The forum also included a question and answer session that allowed the audience to address its concerns about urban policy and development, such as: Can the city improve quality of life and promote local economic development without the negative effects of gentrification? and should the city seek its independence from nonprofit and corporate philanthropy? The panel not only served as a way to find answers about urban issues, but also as an inspiration to take action and a starting point for continuing debates.

For more information on the *Transforming Cities* event, or to read a transcript of the panel discussion please visit the Penn IUR website.

\$2 Million Gift Announced for New Professorship

This September, President Amy Gutmann announced the creation and endowment of a new professorship given by Clark Enterprises, Inc. The \$2 million gift honors Penn Trustee and Penn IUR Advisory Board member Lawrence C. Nussdorf who is president and chief operating officer at Clark Enterprises. “With this generous gift,” said President Amy Gutmann, “Penn is better positioned than ever to become an extraordinary leader in urban research and teaching. I am deeply grateful to Clark Enterprises for endowing the Nussdorf chair, which will enable Penn to attract preeminent faculty members to the Institute. James Clark and his colleagues have found a truly wonderful way to honor one of Penn’s most loyal alumni.” In making the gift, A. James Clark, chairman and CEO of Clark Enterprises, said, “Larry Nussdorf has played a large role in the growth and success of Clark Enterprise. We hold him in very high esteem for both his ethics and ability and could think of nothing that would honor and please him more than a chair at his beloved alma mater.” The search for the first Nussdorf Professor will begin in 2005. Penn IUR co-directors, Eugenie Birch and Susan Wachter will work with the Provost’s Office to conduct the search.



A. James Clark (l) and Lawrence Nussdorf (r)

SPOTLIGHT: PENN IUR LAUNCHES TWO NEW GRANT PROGRAMS

Penn IUR Urban Undergraduate Research Course

A key objective of the Penn IUR is to enhance Penn's position as a premier source of urban-focused instruction. In the spirit of this objective, the Undergraduate Urban Research Program joins faculty conducting urban-focused research with undergraduates who express a strong interest in developing research skills in a semester-long, credit-bearing seminar series and other mentoring activities. In spring 2005 CPLN528/URBS 428 will convene 12 student/faculty teams from across the university working on a range of research initiatives. From explorations of urban nightlife in Philadelphia to an analysis of the impact of preservation on urban space, the course will explore a wide diversity of urban topics and approaches to conducting urban research.

Penn IUR Faculty Forums

Penn IUR encourages the collaborative examination of urban issues by multi-disciplinary Faculty teams through an annual symposia series, the Penn IUR Faculty Forums. Through a rigorous selection process teams of Faculty are chosen to develop a year-long symposia series that includes a student and faculty seminar series; original research activities; a large annual conference open to a public audience; and final products in the form of working papers and conference and convening event proceedings. Each Faculty Forum develops an original urban research question which will guide the events and activities produced by the Forum. The Faculty Forums are a unique opportunity to galvanize the urbanist community around an annual centralized theme. This year the two Faculty Forum awardees will address topics of immigration, Race and Inequality and the Urban Health Environment.

Immigration, Race, and Urban Inequality. Lead by Professors, Michael Katz (History), Kathleen Hall (Education), Mark Stern (Social Work) and Wendell Prichett (Law), this forum will advance understanding of the intersection of immigration, race, ethnicity and inequality in urban settings. It will further document the impact of immigration on Philadelphia with special attention to the relations between immigrants and African-American communities within the city following the end of segregation. The series of seminars for Faculty and graduate students will culminate in a public event in the Spring of 2006 featuring a leading scholar lecture.

Health and the Urban Environment. Lead by Professors Dennis Culhane (Social Work), John Fantuzzo (Education) Shiriki Kunmanyika (Medicine), and Dana Tomlin (Design), the forum will establish an active network of Penn faculty to 1) strengthen existing research in the area of "neighborhood effects" on health factors, and 2) generate new collaborations in the field of health research to generate new published works and engage new faculty and student researchers in the field. This Faculty Forum will also use Philadelphia as the specific case for much of the field research and analysis.

Look for more information on the Faculty Forum research seminars on the Penn IUR website or in our Spring newsletter.

Urban News at Penn

Penn IUR and SAS History Department Honor New Authors

On Friday, October 29, Penn IUR and the SAS History Department hosted Urban Perspectives, as three recent Penn History PhDs returned to campus to present and discuss their contributions to the study of the urban landscape. The authors took turns presenting the main arguments in their works, and then faculty discussants offered insight into the contributions of these perspectives to urban research in general. Russell A. Kazal, author of *Becoming Old Stock: The Paradox of German-American Identity*, started the



program by putting forward his view that over the course of the 20th century, cultural and historical developments caused the German identity in America to go into retreat. Margaret Pugh O'Mara presented her ideas from *Cities of Knowledge: Cold War Science and the Search for the Next Silicon Valley*, in which she investigated how the unique combination of people, jobs, capital, and institutions that shaped Silicon Valley is incredibly difficult to reproduce. Alison Isenberg, author of *Downtown America: A History of the Place and the People Who Made It*, wrapped up the presentations by laying forth her views on the rise and fall of the American Main Street. She explored the ways in which symbolism and cultural values have affected economic investment and urban revitalization. Overall, the event was a tremendous success and we look forward to hosting in collaboration with the History Department each year.

Penn IUR Professor Elijah Anderson's *Cosmopolitan Canopy*

An article by Penn IUR Faculty Associate Elijah Anderson, Charles and William L. Day Distinguished Professor of the Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology, was recently featured in the September 2004 edition of *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. The article, entitled "The Cosmopolitan Canopy," explores how the urban experience in cities encourages common, everyday urban civility for others who are different from oneself, while also allowing people to develop new or reinforce old stereotypes about unfamiliar people and groups.

Penn IUR Faculty Awarded HUD COPC Grant

The University of Pennsylvania's School of Design and partner organizations have received a Community Outreach Partnership Center grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for \$400,000. Through the Office of University Partnerships, the grant is focused on the design and development of affordable housing and serves as an excellent opportunity to engage Penn Design Students in theory and applied practice. Five courses centered on community development and affordable & efficient housing, will accompany a lectures series and two exhibitions, all emanating from the grant. Partnering with the local People's Emergency Center, Pennsylvania's oldest and most comprehensive social service agency, the grant period will end with houses built in the West Powelton Neighborhood of Philadelphia.

Upcoming Events Calendar

DATE/TIME	EVENT
January 14 8:00 am Houston Hall	Social Impact Management Conference “Investing in Change” Sponsored by the Wharton Social Impact Management Initiative
January 20 4:00 pm Anthropology Museum	Edward J. Soja, Department of Urban Planning, UCLA Co-sponsored by Ethnohistory, Anthropology and the Urban Studies Program
January 27 4:00 pm Penn IUR, Conference Room	Winter Urban PhD and Faculty Reception Co-sponsored by Penn IUR and the Urban Studies Program
February 25-26 8:30 am Logan Hall	26th Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum Sponsored by the Graduate School of Education
March 13-14 8:00 am School of Nursing	Global Perspectives and Ethical Mandates on Reducing Health Care Disparities Co-sponsored by Center for Bio-Ethics and School of Nursing
March 19-23 San Francisco, CA	American Planning Association 2005 National Planning Conference Judith Rodin, Keynote Lecturer

Penn IUR Website Updates



Faculty Associate Database

Through a Faculty Associate Program, Penn IUR fosters an environment that encourages cross-discipline connections and nurtures a collaborative spirit among faculty across the 12 schools. This program identifies faculty with a demonstrated interest in urban-research and provides central services such as participation in and access to the Penn IUR Urban Scholarship Database. The database allows visitors to identify faculty by name, school, and/or research interests and provides linkages to other urban-related research and publications, including working papers. Please visit the database for more information.

Penn IUR Urban Data Portal

The Penn IUR Urban Data Portal is a web-based clearing house for urban data and related resources. Serving researchers and students across an array of disciplines, the portal will feature complete data sets and access to other prominent data sources, with links to associated articles, reports and scholarly publications. As this project grows, the Institute will add more content, functionality and features, including querying functions. Please visit the Urban Data Portal on the Penn IUR website for more information.

About Penn IUR

The Penn Institute for Urban Research dedicated to fostering increased understanding of cities and developing new knowledge vital to charting the course of local, national and international urbanization. By providing an umbrella structure for urban-focused scholarship, research and civic engagement across Penn's twelve graduate and undergraduate schools, the Penn IUR provides the synergy needed to address urban challenges in the new century.



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