



GPEIG VOICE 2020

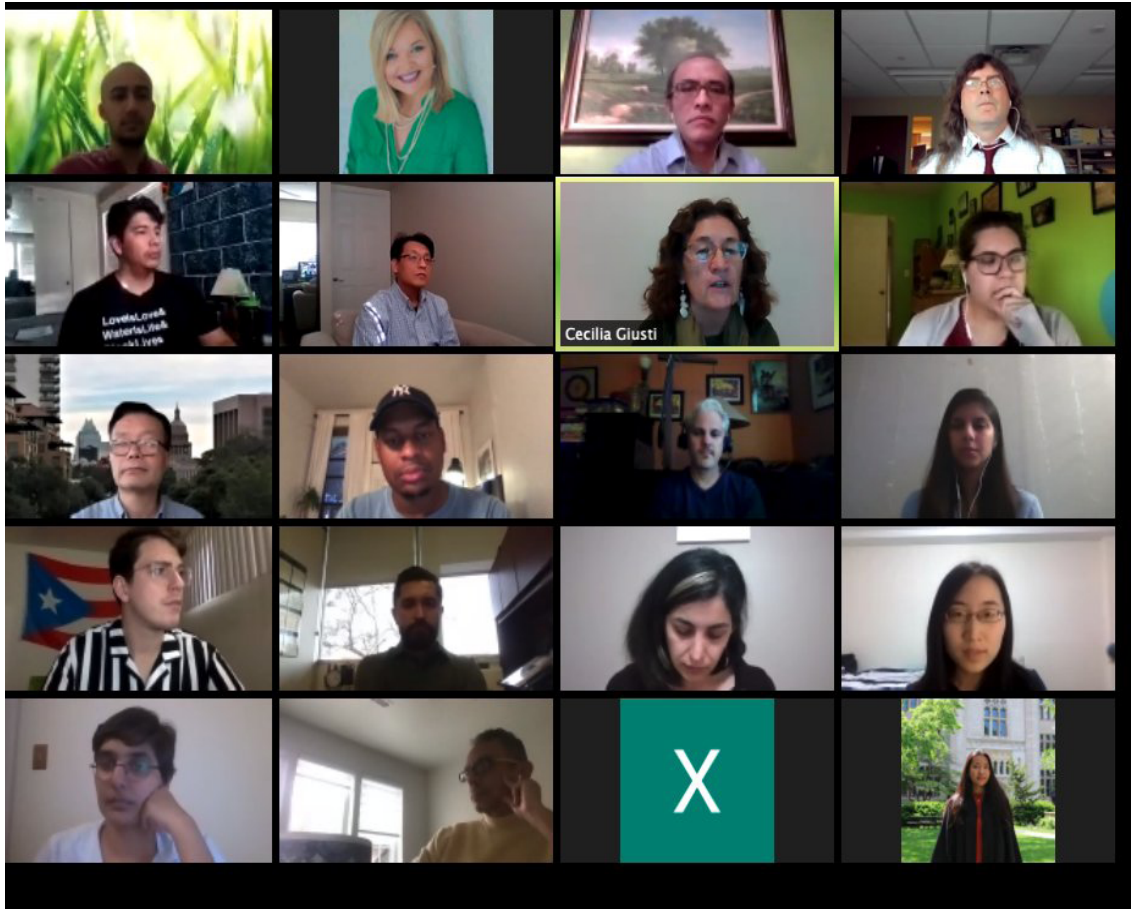
**Newsletter of the
Global Planning
Educators Interest
Group**



GLOBAL PLANNING EDUCATORS INTEREST GROUP

**GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES IN
PLANNING EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH**

NEWSLETTER



2020

The newsletter team would like to thank all contributors.

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Message from the Co-Chairs

Greetings GPEIG Colleagues,

As we celebrate another year of success in enhancing planning education across boundaries amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we reflect on our past year's achievements. We created new opportunities to serve the global planning community through GPEIG and enriched our presence within the local and regional planning community.

GPEIG sessions and meeting at the 2020 ACSP Annual Conference

At the virtual 2020 ACSP Annual Conference, GPEIG sponsored or co-sponsored four sessions:

- *GPEIG Roundtable Session - Borderless Pandemic: Response to COVID-19 and its impact on Planning in Global Arena.* Dr. Praveen Maghelal moderated the session.
- *Capacity Building for The New Urban Agenda - The Role of Universities and Researchers* was co-hosted by GPEIG, with the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN), and the ACSP Global Planning Education Committee (GPEC). Dr. Francis Owusu moderated the session.
- *The Changing International Higher Education Market in Urban Planning* was co-hosted by the ACSP Global Planning Education Committee (GPEC), and partnering with the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN), ACSP Global Planning Educators Interest Group (GPEIG), and the Association of Canadian University Planning Programs. Dr. Gavin Shatkin moderated the session.
- *GPEIG Business & Awards Meeting* was moderated by Dr. Jimmy Chen. The annual updates were shared with the members, and the student and faculty awards winners were felicitated during the meeting.

Four GPEIG Awards

This year, the Award Committee worked very hard to select the winners of the following four GPEIG-sponsored awards:

- *Best Dissertation Award:* The winner was Hayden Shelby (University of Hawaii at Manoa). The award committee chair was Dr. Neema Kudva (Cornell University).
- *Best Student Paper Award:* The winner was Gregory Randolph (University of Southern California). The award committee chair was Dr. Atul Pokharel (New York University).
- *Student Case Study Competition Award:* The winner was Samuel Tabory (Harvard University). The award committee chair was Dr. Divya Chandrasekhar (University of Utah).
- *Outstanding Service Award:* The winners are Dr. Tridib Banerjee (University of Southern California) and Dr. Ruth Yabes (Arizona State University). The award committee chair was Dr. Bish Sanyal (Massachusetts Institute of Technology). Tridib and Ruth were the first two GPEIG co-chairs beginning in April 1998 until summer 2000. They institutionalized the discussions on the scholarly and pedagogical interest of academics from or with interest in the affairs of the Global South, which involved creating processes and structures in coordination with people from or interested in the Global South, education, and pedagogy to create the group as a longstanding institution within ACSP. Both Tridib and Ruth truly deserve this lifetime achievement award. Thank you so much, Tridib and Ruth!

Congratulations to all award winners!

Message from the Co-Chairs

Election of new GPEIG Co-chair

Dr. Praveen Maghelal was termed out as a GPEIG co-chair this year. GPEIG greatly appreciates his strong leadership and outstanding contribution (2018-2020).

This fall, GPEIG members elected Dr. Charisma Acey from the University of California at Berkeley as the new co-chair (2020-2022). Congratulations and welcome, Charisma! Dr. Shelagh McCartney co-led the election committee work with Dr. Enrique Silva, supported by Dr. Ashima Krishna and Dr. John Felkner. Dr. John Felkner served the committee for several years and decided to take a break from the committee. Thank you, John and Shelagh, for your leadership and service to GPEIG.

Other Achievements in 2020

Dr. Andrew Rumbach led the efforts in updating the GPEIG website (with teaching, research, and other resources) and Listserv. Thank you so much, Andy.

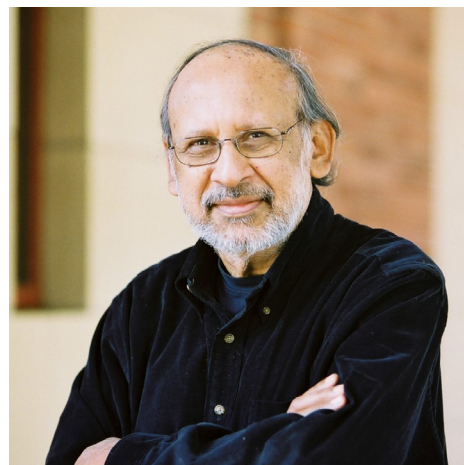
In addition, our colleagues Dr. Sandip Chakrabarti, Lu Liao, Nidhi Subramanyam, and Taru did a fantastic job in preparing Newsletter and managing other communications. Your efforts are much appreciated.

None of what we accomplished this year would be possible without our members' support, advice, and commitment. We plan to continue building on the syne otherrgy within GPEIG by adding to our membership; increasing access to international teaching and research resources; participating in the ACSP governing process; creating opportunities for global collaboration; inviting more volunteers and launching a campaign for donations, and becoming more connected with our members locally and globally.

We thank you all for your continued support of GPEIG. We are looking forward to seeing you all in Miami next year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Best Regards,

**Praveen Maghelal, 2018-2020, Co-Chair, Khalifa University,
United Arab Emirates**
**Xueming (Jimmy) Chen, 2019-2021, Co-Chair,
Virginia Commonwealth University**



*Dr. Tridib Banerjee
Outstanding Service Award Winner
University of Southern California*



*Dr. Ruth Yabes
Outstanding Service Award Winner
Arizona State University*

GPEIG@ACSP

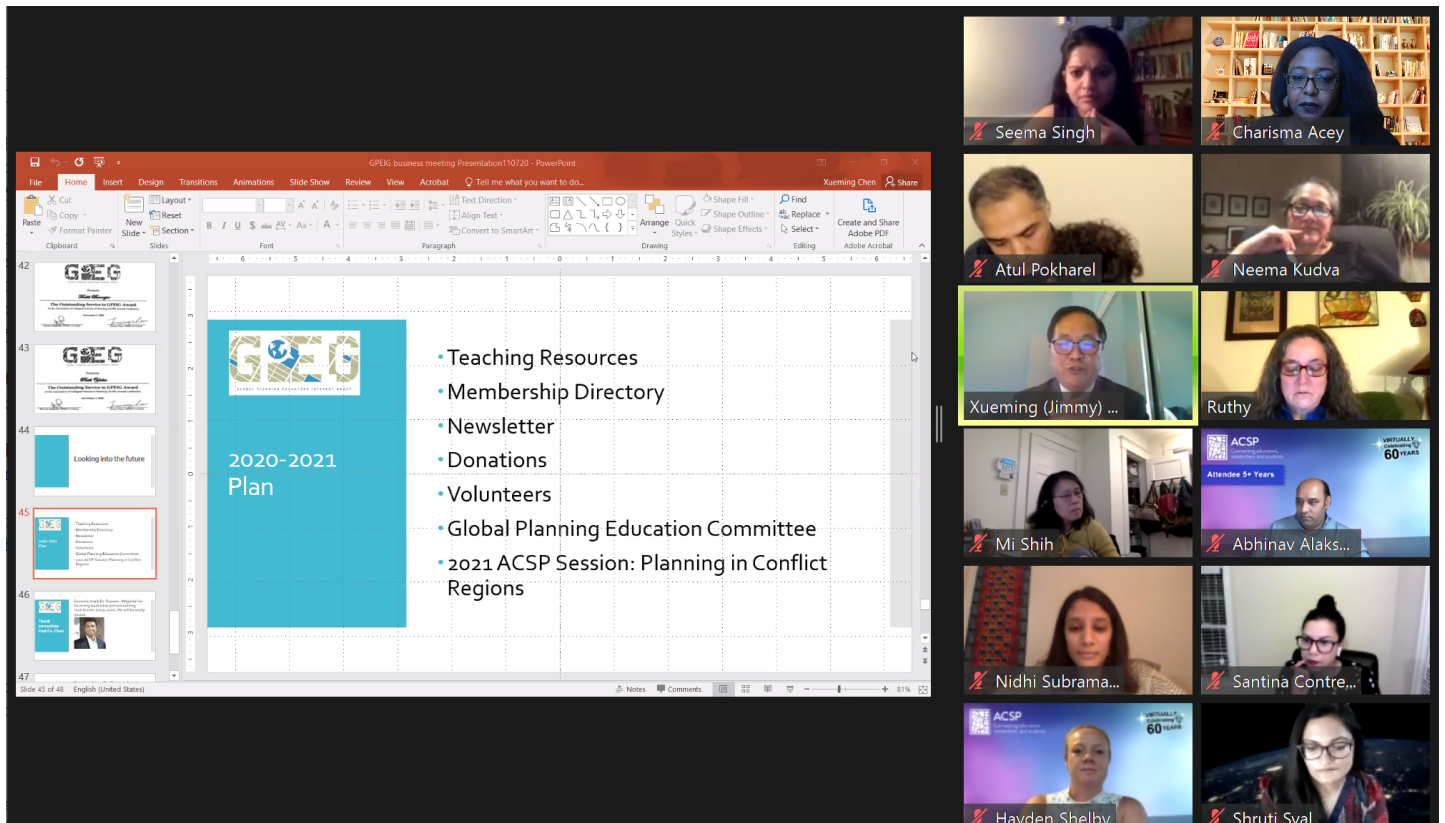


Screenshot from the session, 'Borderless Pandemic: Response to COVID-19 and its impact on Planning in Global Arena,' on 7th Nov, 2020.

GPEIG hosted three roundtables at the virtual ACSP annual conference on 7 November 2020. The first roundtable titled, '**Borderless Pandemic: Response to COVID-19 and its impact on Planning in Global Arena**' was jointly moderated by GPEIG Co-Chairs, Praveen Maghelal and Jimmy Chen. Roundtable participants Abhinav Alakshendra (University of Florida), Shannon Van Zandt (Texas A&M University), and Sandeep Agrawal (University of Alberta, Canada) contributed to the discussion.

GPEIG also hosted a roundtable on '**Capacity Building for The New Urban Agenda: The Role of Universities and Researchers**' in collaboration with Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN) and the ACSP Global Planning Education Committee (GPEC). The panel was moderated by Francis Owusu (Iowa State University) who is ACSP's representative to GPEAN. Panelists included Eduardo Nobre (National Association of Postgraduate and Research in Urban and Regional Planning, ANPUR-Brazil representative & GPEAN Chair), Juan Demerutis (Association of Latin American Urban Planning Schools - ALEUP representative), Paulo Silva (Association of European Schools of Planning - AESOP representative), Andrea Frank (Cardiff University & co-editor of Dialogues, 7th Edition), and Charisma Acey (University of California, Berkeley).

GPEIG@ACSP



Screenshot from GPEIG's first online annual business meeting on 7th Nov, 2020.

Another roundtable titled, **'The Changing International Higher Education Market in Urban Planning'** was co-hosted by GPEIG with GPEC, GPEAN, and the Association of Canadian University Planning Programs. Gavin Shatkin (Northeastern University) moderated a panel with participation from Daniel Inkoom, (Association of African Planning Schools - AAPS representative), Anthony Yeh (Asian Planning Schools Association - APSA representative), Bruce Stiffler (UN-Habitat Liaison), Zorica Nedovic-Budic (ACSP and AESOP, WPSC21 Steering Committee member), and Faranak Mirafteb, (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign).

In addition to these insightful roundtables, student and faculty members came together at **GPEIG's first online annual business meeting**. At this meeting, co-chair, Jimmy Chen provided an overview of GPEIG activities and accomplishments in the past year with contributions from co-chair, Praveen Maghelal. GPEIG also welcomed incoming co-chair for 2020-22, Charisma Acey. A felicitation of GPEIG student and faculty award winners concluded this session.

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles

Student Case Study Award

Winner: Samuel Tabory, Harvard University

Samuel Tabory is a PhD student in urban planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Design studying the governance and negotiation of urban infrastructure transitions, paying particular attention to questions of system scale and boundary. He is interested in how transitions and alternative urban-regional governance logics interact with evolving spatial and temporal understandings of urban crisis under conditions of global environmental change. Sam holds an MA in Latin American Studies and an MS in Community and Regional Planning, both from the University of Texas at Austin.



Samuel Tabory, Harvard University

Case highlights:

This case aggregates multiple conceptualizations of interconnected urban-regional water challenges in Mexico City—spanning flooding, scarcity, supply infrastructure, and discharge challenges, both within and beyond the metropolitan zone’s boundaries. The case then explores whether the Water Diplomacy Framework, which was developed largely as an analytical approach to transboundary international water dispute resolution, can yield insight when applied to intra-national—specifically urban-regional—water challenges, spanning questions of entrenched urban power and politics, as well as overall socio-technical system complexity. The role of political pressure and political will, intersecting with the current distributional configuration of system burdens and benefits, is directly considered. By experimentally applying the Water Diplomacy Framework to an urban-regional case, it explores the utility of a diplomatic tool kit for thinking through possible ‘dispute’ framings of the system’s challenges, as well as possible strategies for structuring interventions. Key concepts from the Water Diplomacy Framework that are explored include:

1) boundary choice, 2) conditions of interdependence, 3) mutual gains opportunities, 4) joint fact-finding opportunities, and 5) adaptive governance considerations.

Runner up: Sabrina Alonso, Alexandra Krmpotic, Reagan Murphy, and Marley Randazzo, University of Southern California

This case study was coauthored by Alexandra Krmpotic, Marley Randazzo, Sabrina Alonso, and Reagan Murphy, current second-year students at the University of Southern California’s Master of Urban Planning program. The paper was written for Marlon Boarnet’s course on Urban and International Development, which examined public and urban economics. These students were tasked with highlighting the economic factors pertinent to their case study, with an emphasis on planning’s impacts on marginalized groups.

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles

Case highlights:

This case study considers neoclassical economics with attention to power structures as part of a comparative analysis of passenger rail privatization in the UK and Japan. The divergent outcomes of these cases present an opportunity to evaluate privatization as a viable model for passenger rail transit. Japan's success hinges on its vertically integrated systems and strict regulatory environment, while the UK's struggles indicate an overemphasis on competition to produce operational efficiency. However, in each case, whether rail operators can truly function in a way that prioritizes both competitive profit margins and an accessible, equitable transit system is highly questionable. Nevertheless, against worsening traffic congestion, declining transit ridership, and climate change trends, other cities can and should heed the lessons learned in the UK and Japan and consider how private market mechanisms can improve passenger rail. This paper closes with an application of key learnings to a hypothetical rail privatization project in LA, addressing the set of conditions needed to produce successful private rail systems.



*Sabrina Alonso,
University of Southern California*

Q & A with the Team:

1. What inspires you about the work for which you won the award?

Living and studying in Los Angeles, we think often about how to surmount traffic congestion and curb automobile dependency. While LA Metro is very active and is making substantial strides improving LA's transit infrastructure, given the enormous scale of historical investment in roadways, it will take innovative policy and ambitious thought leadership to meaningfully cut into vehicular mode share. We explore passenger rail privatization as a possible solution to transit's heavy reliance on public subsidies, often floated as a more efficient option due to market-based incentives. Analyzing the cases of rail privatization in Japan and the UK was a rewarding exercise, revealing the distinct set of conditions that enable a successful private rail ecosystem. Applying these findings to LA, we entertain a hypothetical privatization scenario that utilizes land value capture, intra-urban competition over ridership, and robust public oversight to improve the transportation landscape.



*Reaghan Murphy
University of Southern California*

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles

2. Could you share some memorable experiences regarding this work?

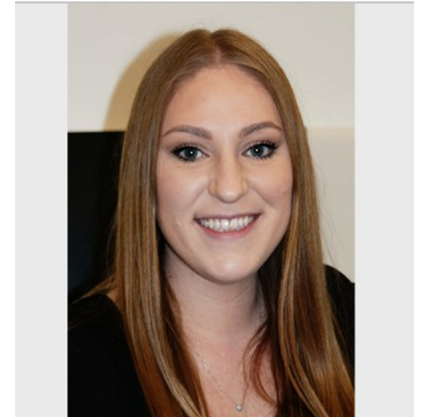
The preparation of this work was memorable in that we started this paper amidst the beginnings of a global pandemic—one day we were meeting together in class, and the next we were coordinating over a Zoom meeting. While this did present its challenges, the experience of four friends working together on a case study of mutual interest was an absolute pleasure.

3. How did you feel upon accepting the award?

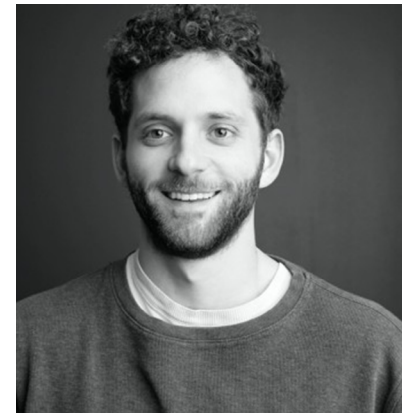
Grateful, excited, and humbled. Receiving this award has been an honor and underscored for us the importance of our findings and analysis.

4. What's next?

All four students will be graduating from University of Southern California's Master of Urban Planning program in May. Sabrina Alonso will continue her role as an Environmental Planner with Dudek working on environmental documents and long-range planning efforts. Marley Randazzo is pursuing his doctorate and hopes to enroll in planning Ph.D. programs next Fall. Alexandra Krmpotic plans to transition current entitlement work to affordable housing development in the Southern California region. Reaghan Murphy will return home to the East Coast and plans to pursue transit and active transportation planning within the public sector.



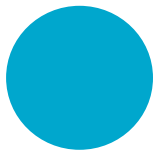
Alexandra Krmpotic
University of Southern California



Marley Randazzo
University of Southern California

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles



Best Student Paper Award

Winner: Gregory Randolph, University of Southern California

Gregory Randolph is a PhD candidate in Urban Planning and Development at the USC Price School of Public Policy. His research interests lie at the intersection of urbanization, economic development, and migration in countries of the Global South. Prior to beginning his doctoral program, Gregory co-founded the JustJobs Network, a global non-profit policy institute based in New Delhi conducting research on labor and employment. He speaks Hindi and Bahasa Indonesia.

Case highlights:

His winning paper, presented at ASCP in 2019, is entitled, “Urbanization without migration? The underpinnings of urban conversion in India.” He presents evidence to suggest that, while urbanization is generally imagined as a mass migration from villages to cities, parts of India are experiencing a different kind of urban transition. Permanent rural-urban migration is relatively low in India, yet thousands of rural settlements in India’s countryside, far from the metropolitan fringe, are gradually being transformed into urban towns. The paper proposes urban conversion as a way of conceptualizing this process—in which villages become dense, populous and non-agricultural, despite witnessing more out- than in-migration. He explores the mechanisms behind these transitions, arguing that urban conversion is underpinned by high rural population densities and rapid demographic growth, combined with a weak “urban pull,” weak “rural push,” and high levels of temporary mobility.



Gregory Randolph
University of Southern California

Q & A with Gregory:

1. What inspires you about the work for which you won the award?

I spent several years living and working in India before I began my PhD in planning, and I was lucky to find myself surrounded by a community of scholars, researchers and policymakers there who were thinking deeply about India’s urbanization. That experience inspired some fundamental questions that have motivated me in my doctoral research: Is India experiencing an urban transition that contrasts with our dominant imagination of urbanization as defined by rural-urban migration? And if so, is it a unique case, or representative of urbanization processes in particular regions of the South? I’m inspired to address these questions while drawing on, and hopefully contributing to, conversations among urban scholars and practitioners in India and elsewhere.

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles

2. Could you share some memorable experiences regarding this work?

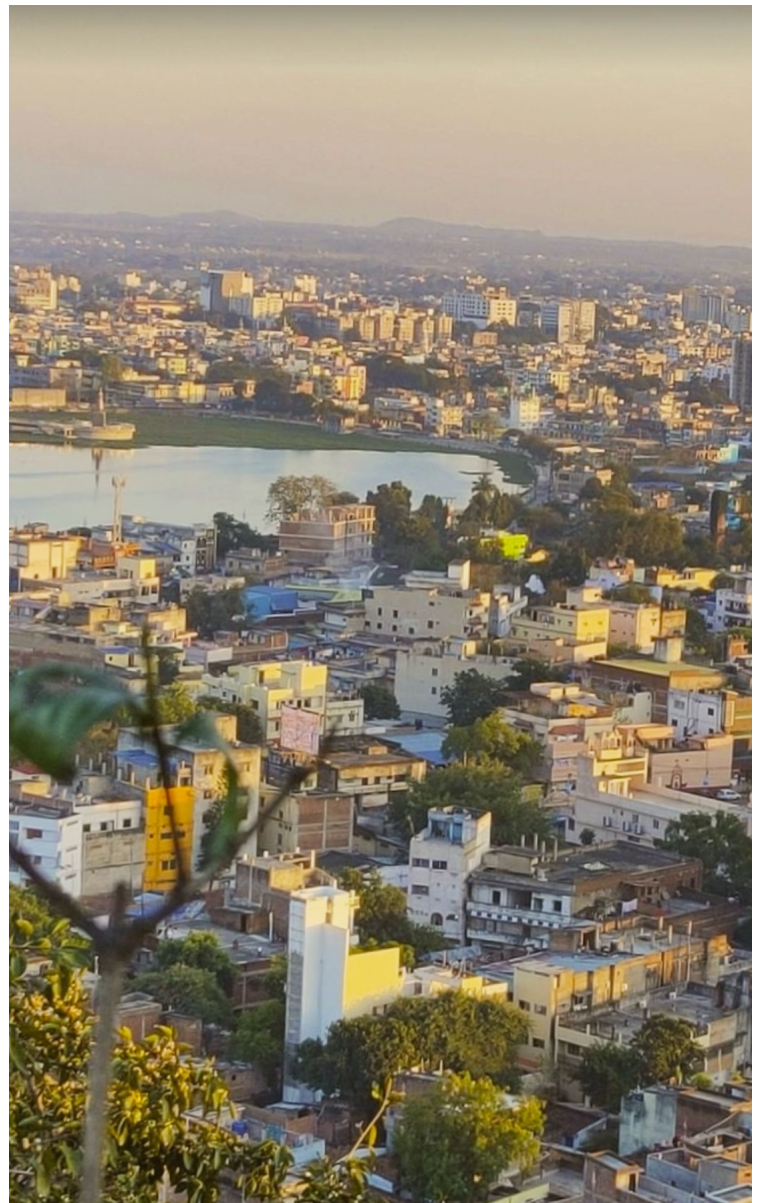
When I began working on this paper, I found it difficult to explain to my mentors and advisors why I believed, based on my reading of scholarship and data, that India was experiencing a kind of “urbanization without migration.” In fact, I struggled to defend the idea that it was even possible. These initial roadblocks ultimately turned into productive conversations that improved the clarity of my thinking. The experience generated an important lesson for me that I will carry forward in future academic endeavors: just because I haven’t yet found the vocabulary to elucidate a concept or argument does not mean it lacks potential.

3. How did you feel upon accepting the award?

I’m honored and humbled to receive the award, and I’m very grateful that the selection committee also provided meaningful feedback so that I can strengthen the paper.

4. What’s next?

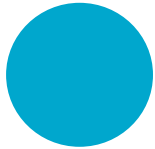
I’m currently revising the paper, having received supportive and encouraging feedback, and will submit the manuscript for publication in early 2021.



Emerging city, Ranchi, India. Source: Sikha Lakra

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles



Runner up: Naganika Sanga, University of Michigan

From British Raj to Builder Raj: The Realities of Mixed-Income Housing Projects in India

Naganika is a doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan, where she studies the urban politics of housing policies and land use planning in India and the United States in a multi-governance framework. Before joining the Ph.D. program, she worked as a Policy Analyst in the areas of international development, governance studies, housing policy, and information systems.

Paper Highlights:

Naganika argues in her paper that mixed-income housing policies in India, like many countries from the Global South, evolve as a tool to encourage low-income housing production. This southern turn to mixed-income housing policies is different from the social mix and integration objectives pursued by the countries in the Global North. Naganika proposes a scale-based framework to serve as a diagnostic tool to assess different government approaches to mixed-income housing policies. Based on an evaluation of four case studies of mixed-income housing initiatives in India, she finds that the socio-economic conditions, caste-based discrimination, high land values, and developer opposition in India do not favor close-grained mixed-income housing initiatives like inclusionary housing and PPPs supported by the federal government. Instead, the federal government should support large-scale mixed-income housing initiatives using land readjustment processes in addition to protecting the existing informal settlements to create equitable housing options and location access to all income groups. Small-scale initiatives that foster socio-economic integration will be more feasible over time once mixed-income housing is successfully institutionalized at larger scales.



*Naganika Sanga
University of Michigan*

Q & A with Naganika:

1. What inspires you about the work for which you won the award?

Working as a policy analyst, I was always perplexed to see seemingly well-thought housing policies be completely ineffective when it comes to implementation. That sparked my research interest in finding what went on between the policy formulation and the implementation ends. I was especially interested in inclusive planning and development policies that always seem to play catch up and provide ameliorative solutions as an afterthought to housing challenges. This realization guided my interest in finding land use and housing policies that proactively integrate the housing needs of the marginalized communities as part of any planning or development effort.

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles

2. Could you share some memorable experiences regarding this work?

The fieldwork for this project gave me a necessary reality check. Years of coursework and reading on my research area were largely informed by research from the countries in the global north. Initial discussions with stakeholders made me realize the need to unlearn and adapt not only the terminology but also the theoretical underpinnings that we largely take for granted. While one expects a certain amount of readjustment in any research initiative, I had to reassess my positionality to be truly attuned to the context I was studying. For example, mixed-income housing in the global north countries is explicitly understood to be an effort at encouraging social integration and dismantling social barriers. However, mixed-income housing in India, where adopted, was explicitly promoted, not just accepted, to reinforce existing social and class boundaries. Situating this 'southern turn' in the existing scholarship was definitely a challenge but also an important reminder that every new voice and perspective counts in recognizing diverse contexts and expanding our knowledge.

3. How did you feel upon accepting the award?

Being part of GPEIG gave me a sense of belonging. Exchanging ideas and experiences with scholars who understand and grapple with the same challenges in their work as I do has been an incredible learning experience. How do we make space and find a voice in a world, both academic and real, used to and dominated by a certain viewpoint? How do we stay true to the context we study and make our research 'relatable' to the others through mainstream channels? I am thankful to my adviser, Dr. Ana Paula Pimentel Walker, for not only supporting my work and nominating me for this award but also for introducing me to GPEIG. The award selection committee's feedback and acceptance of my work and viewpoint gave me the necessary confidence to further refine and advance this research for a wider reach.

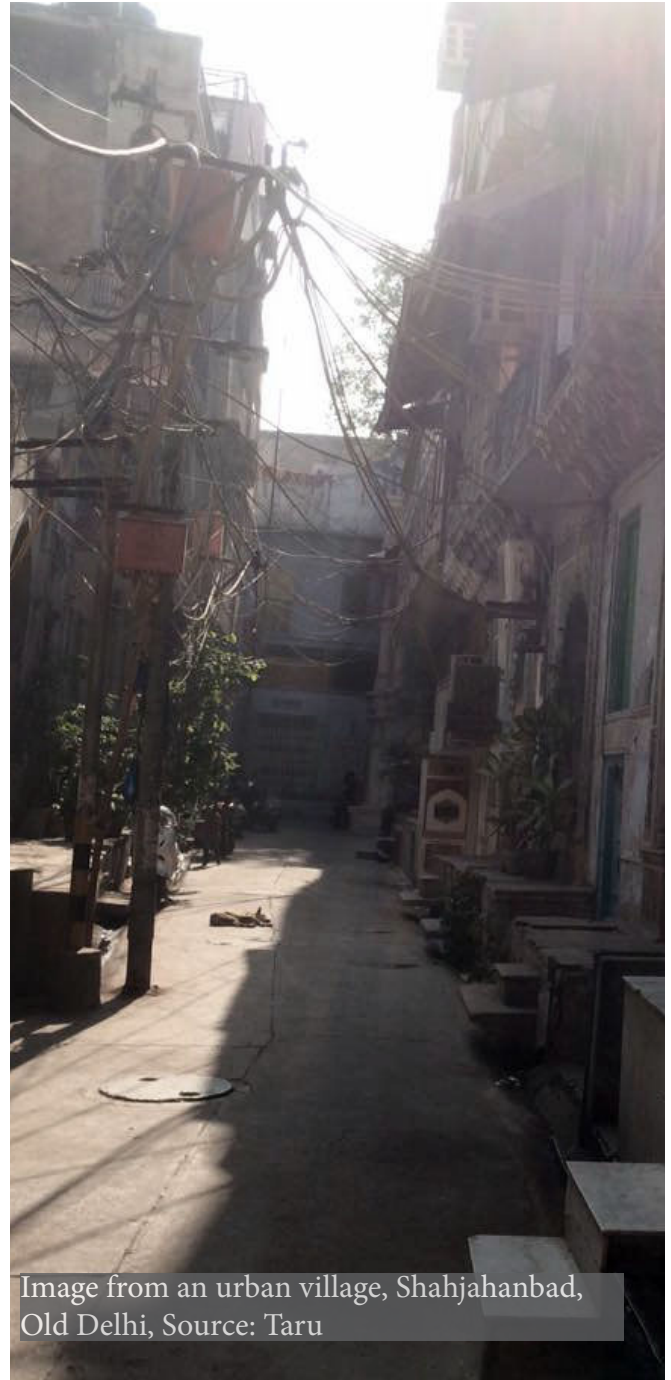
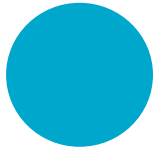


Image from an urban village, Shahjahanbad, Old Delhi, Source: Taru

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles



Award: Gill-Chin Lim Award for the Best Dissertation on International Planning

Winner: Hayden Shelby, University of Hawai'i

Hayden Shelby is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. She teaches in the core planning curriculum and the community planning stream. The inability of millions across the world to access land and shelter is one of the most pressing concerns facing cities of the twenty-first century. Hayden is interested in how community-based planning and organizing can expand the political capacity of marginalized groups to access urban land and exercise rights in the city. Her research centers around issues of land rights, democracy, and social justice, both in the U.S. and in Southeast Asia. Most recently, she has investigated the politics of a community-based slum upgrading program in Thailand. She examines how different government agencies and community-based social movements interact to make the policy function, focusing on the community organizing techniques employed by different actors.



*Hayden Shelby
University of Hawaii at Manoa*

Dissertation Highlight:

My dissertation investigates the origins and impacts of a community-based participatory slum upgrading program in Thailand called Baan Mankong (“Secure Housing”). Baan Mankong has gained international acclaim because of its uses of communal land tenure, collective finance, and community networks. While much of the English language literature on Baan Mankong has focused on the tangible outcomes of the policy in terms of housing production, my research, which involved 18 months of ethnographic fieldwork conducted in Thai, delves into the deeper history and ramifications of the policy. Specifically, I focus on the Thai term for community—chumchon—by tracing how the word has been used since its coinage in the post-World War II era. I examine the ways in which community/chumchon has been instrumentalized by both radical social movements and government efforts to contain insurgencies of poor populations. I ultimately demonstrate how the different groups involved in Baan Mankong represent a continuation of the ongoing tension between the state and poor citizens regarding the meaning and purpose of community. While radical grassroots groups involved in the policy view community as the most local unit for building a larger popular movement to hold the state accountable, the government agencies that administer the policy employ community-based institutions as a means to promote self-sufficiency and encourage poor populations to become proper citizens by governing themselves.

GPEIG Awards

Winner Profiles

Q&A with Hayden:

1. What inspires you about the work for which you won the award?

I uncovered so many paradoxes and contradictions over the course of doing this project. The people and groups who worked together on Baan Mankong often seemed like odd bedfellows. Even the terminology they used to describe their work was often at odds. I was continually surprised by what I witnessed and took part in. That was the intellectually inspiring part of the work. On a personal level, I developed deep relationships with many of the organizers and community members in the field. Watching them create homes and change policies under really difficult and often politically restrictive conditions is what still inspires me as I take lessons from the field into the classroom.

2. Could you share some memorable experiences regarding this work?

I got to accompany one group of community leaders on the day that they officially gained the deed to the land on which they were going to build their new homes. The months leading up to that day had been fraught with bureaucratic struggles, in-fighting among community members, and a last-minute misunderstanding that led to them getting the money in the right account at the very last minute. When all the paperwork was signed, we took a victorious photo in front of the local office of land management. Everyone was exhausted but so relieved. It was just another day at the office for most of the government staff and administrators involved, but for those community leaders it was the beginning of a hard-won new phase of their lives. It was an honor to get to be part of it.

3. How did you feel upon accepting the award?

I was absolutely thrilled. So many scholars I read and respect have gotten it in the past. It's a bit surreal to be in their company. It was also a much-needed bit of good news in this tough year.

4. What's next?

I'm working on publishing a few pieces from the dissertation and have started to return to researching affordable housing and community development issues in the U.S. I'm also planning to look at how collective housing is spreading throughout the world through models like community land trusts and limited equity cooperatives in the global North, as well as slum-upgrading schemes like Baan Mankong in the global South. There are interesting comparisons to be made, but I'm really interested in the relationships between these different efforts and how knowledge about common housing and land ownership is flowing across different geographies. And of course, I'm taking everything I've learned from my research and putting it to use in the classroom in my new role as an assistant professor at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.

News from Planning Schools



International Planning Studios

The Tokyo Smart City Project, Tokyo, Japan
Georgia Institute of Technology and University of Tokyo

Submitted by: Dr. Perry Yang, Associate Professor and Director of Eco Urban Lab, School of City and Regional Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology

The Tokyo smart city project is an international collaboration from 2017 to 2021 between Georgia Tech, Global Carbon Project (GCP) and University of Tokyo. Tokyo's Shinagawa was chosen as the site in Spring 2020. The studio investigated the impact of the new maglev high speed rail station area of Shinagawa and its surroundings at the Tokyo Bay waterfront for future city development.

The operation of the new infrastructure from 2030 will make Shinagawa a 70-70 new gateway, 70 minutes from Tokyo to Osaka for a region with 70 million population. Tokyo aims to be a net zero emission city by 2050. The project proposed a net zero urban design scenario and addressed how a smart community is designed, evaluated, and implemented in Japan by interacting with governmental agencies, stakeholders and communities.

The Tokyo smart city studio from 2017 to 2020 led to a new book "Urban Systems Design," published in 2020 by Elsevier. It offers an approach to designing new forms of sustainable, resilient and socially responsible communities, in which creative urban design integrates data analytics, system thinking, and digital technologies ([Yamagata and Yang eds., 2020](#)).



Image from Tokyo Smart City Project, Tokyo, Japan.

News from Planning Schools

The Evolving City: Arts, Public Realm, and Community (Re)design

Guangzhou, China, June 3-21, 2019

Ryerson University

Submitted by: Dr. Zhixi Zhuang, Associate Professor, School of Urban & Regional Planning, Ryerson University



Image from The Evolving City Studio

Over the past few decades, fast-paced urban development has been transforming Chinese cities in complex ways. This unprecedented hyper-urbanization often leads to homogenization and fragmentation, which largely manifests as uniform built form and spatial order, interrupted historical narratives and spatial continuity, and broken social fabric and community identity. Under this context, new waves of urban evolution and revitalization should reconsider how social, economic, cultural, political, and environmental factors underlie and intersect with rapid urbanization.

Situated in Guangzhou, one of the world's most-populous metropolitan areas, this Sino-Canadian field camp/studio was an academic partnership between the School of Urban and Regional Planning, Ryerson University, Canada and the School of Architecture, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, China. Guangzhou is an ideal urban laboratory to examine pressing urban development issues and test out new ideas. As the world-renowned Canadian architect Moshe Safdie (2018, p.g. 8) argues, "If [cities] are to progress, we must take lessons from the mega-city, not the Italian hill town, nor the American pre-industrial village ... We need not accept, but we must understand the powerful patterns that shape the city today."

News from Planning Schools

This ever evolving mega-city offers tremendous opportunities for planners, architects, designers, and other city builders to explore meaningful, creative, and engaging ways to reshape urban spaces, reactivate resilient mechanisms, reconstruct community identities, and rebuild social and spatial connections. We also sought to understand specific historical particularities that have shaped Guangzhou as a port city and through the specific contexts of the delta, looking for patterns and localities that remain and persist. Five client-based studio projects took place during the 3-week course period in various study sites across the Guangzhou City including but not limited to the following issues: the role of arts in placemaking, urban informality, university campus realm improvement, industrial renewal, gated communities, and the future of urban villages.

With diverse cultural and academic backgrounds, faculty, scholars, and over 50 undergrad and graduate students from both institutions brought together eastern and western, traditional and contemporary planning and design approaches to interrogate the complexity and dynamics of the aforementioned urban issues, and explore policy and design interventions to effectively recreate urban spaces and rejuvenate communities. In response to various ongoing challenges and opportunities, the interdisciplinary team paid respect to local history, revisited traditional planning and design principles, and adopted a people-oriented approach to address the renewed concern with placemaking and community building. Situated in contested grounds within global and local contexts, the field camp addressed imperative urban development issues that not only interplay with local dynamics, but also have implications for wider communities globally.

Informality in Urban Mexico, Monterrey, Mexico
The University of Texas at Austin
Submitted by: Dr. Patricia A. Wilson

Dr. Patricia A. Wilson's international planning studio, *Informality in Urban Mexico*, won the Texas APA Best Student Project Award for 2019. Students used the book, [The Heart of Community Engagement: Practitioner Stories from Across the Globe](#), to prepare for the uncertainties and subtleties of field work, and engaged with an informal



Image from The Evolving City Studio,
Field work

News from Planning Schools

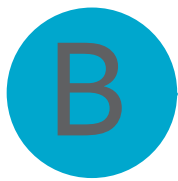
community in Monterrey, Mexico, on issues of connectivity using community-based design. Dr. Wilson is a Professor at the University of Texas, Graduate Program in Community and Regional Planning.

Food System Plan, Kerala, India

SUNY at Buffalo

Submitted by: Dr. Samina Raja, Professor of Urban and Regional Planning and Co-Director, Community for Global Health Equity, University at Buffalo

Graduate students of SUNY at Buffalo finished a food systems plan for a local government in Kerala, India. Dr. Samina Raja, Professor of Urban and Regional Planning and Co-Director, Community for Global Health Equity, University at Buffalo said that to their knowledge, this is the first food system plan completed for a local government (*panchayat*).



International Planning Programs and Courses

Cities and Globalization: Comparative Global Development Planning course offered at SUNY at Buffalo

Instructor: Dr. Emmanuel Frimpong Boamah, Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, SUNY at Buffalo

This seminar explores issues, trends, and debates in planning and development especially in the context of the Global South. The seminar focuses especially on the ways in which planning and development policies and strategies influence health equity in the Global South.

New Masters in City Design (MCD) program at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Submitted by: Dr. Sanjeev Vidyarthi, Professor, Urban Planning and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago

The Department of Urban Planning and Policy (UPP) at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) launched a new Masters in City Design (MCD)

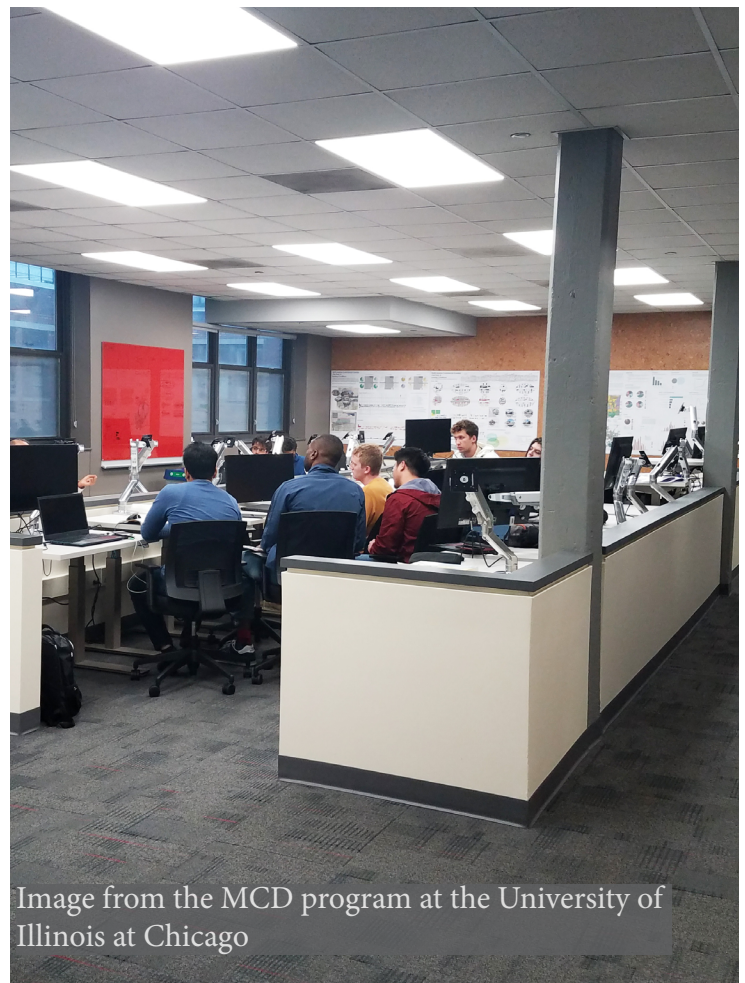


Image from the MCD program at the University of Illinois at Chicago

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Planning Schools

program using conceptual integration of spatial planning with urban design, the first of its kind. The program curriculum blends city-based immersive studios and classroom learning by combining spatial reasoning and design thinking to address the demands of urban places across the globe. Building intellectual and professional alliances with an ambitious array of internal and external partners, like UIC's Great Cities Institute and Chicago-based leading planning and design firms, the program offers an analytically informed, innovative approach to planning for city design. Complete details of the program can be found [here](#).



Image from the MCD program at the University of Illinois at Chicago

Mennatullah Hendawy, Ph.D. Candidate in Urban Design at TU Berlin, taught an online course titled Visual in/Justice at the Cairo Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This course explores the visual (mis-)representation of socio-spatial conditions with the help of the notion “Visual in/Justice.” A narrative about the course can be found [here](#). The syllabus is available [here](#).

Faculty Achievements

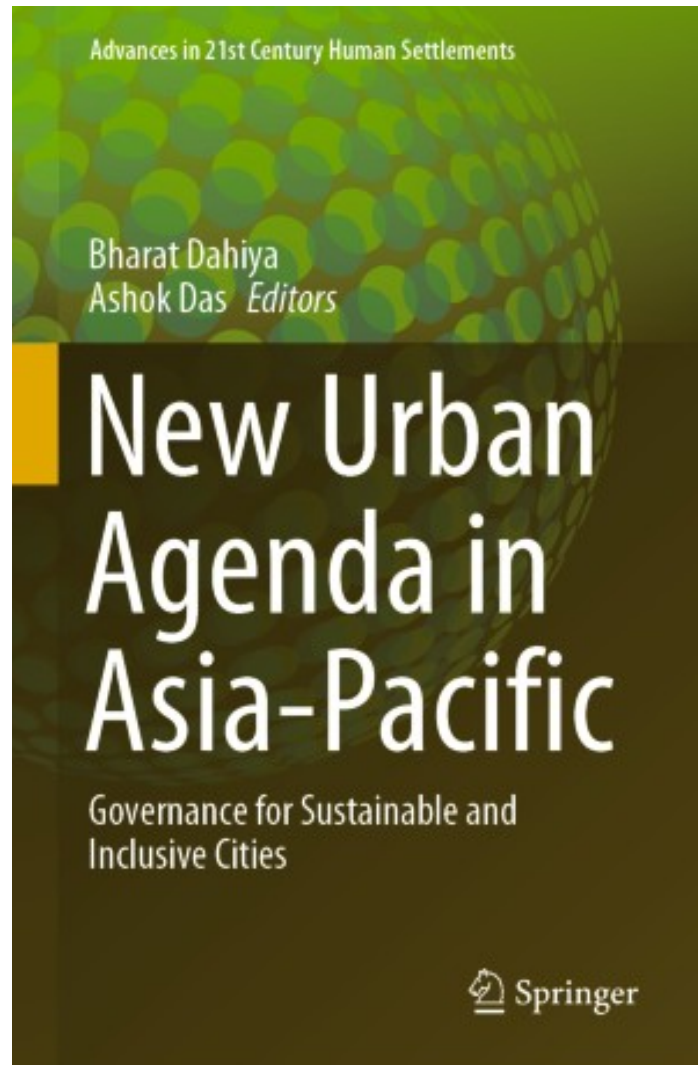
Emmanuel Frimpong Boamah, Assistant Professor, State University of New York at Buffalo

published five co-authored essays on planning in Africa this year. [“Planning by \(mis\) rule of laws: The idiom and dilemma of planning within Ghana’s dual legal land systems”](#) appeared in *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*; [“Farming within a dual legal land system: An argument for emancipatory food systems planning in Accra, Ghana”](#) in *Land Use Policy*; [“Spaces of market politics: Retailscapes and modernist planning imaginaries in African cities”](#) in *Applied Geography*; and [“Becoming Vulnerable to Flooding: An Urban Assemblage View of Flooding in an African City”](#) in *Planning Theory & Practice*. Dr. Boamah’s chapter [“When the Well Runs Dry: Governing to Deliver Safe and Affordable Water”](#) was published in *Transforming Global Health: Interdisciplinary Challenges, Perspectives, and Strategies*, published by Springer, New York.

Ashok Das, Associate Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa

is working with researchers at the North South University, Dhaka, Bangladesh and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to study the impacts of the COVID-19 lockdown on food security in slum areas in the Dhaka metropolitan region. Dr. Das also co-edited a volume, [New Urban Agenda in Asia-Pacific: Governance for Sustainable and Inclusive Cities](#) published by Springer Nature, Singapore. He also published a case study for the World Resources Institute’s World Resources Report series titled [“The legacies of transformative shelter interventions in Surabaya: potentials and challenges for inclusive and sustainable urban planning.”](#)

Ashok Das is a lead member and **Hayden Shelby**, Assistant Professor, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa is a member of a East-West Center team that received a \$1 million Luce Initiative on Southeast Asia Grant from the Henry Luce Foundation. The grant supports a multi-year (2021-25) initiative called LuceSEA Transitions: Environment, Society and Change, which comprises four sub-projects to enhance research and training through collaboration with institutional partners in Southeast Asia. For one of the sub-projects, Bolstering Planning Research and Education Towards Inclusive Urbanization, with Universitas Diponegoro (UNDIP) in Semarang, Indonesia as the institutional partner, Ashok Das is the primary investigator with Associate Professor, Wiwandari Handayani of UNDIP. Hayden Shelby is the third member of the sub-project team. Additionally, Dr. Das was an invited speaker and panelist at the Future Education, Sustainable Cities and Sustainable Develop-



Faculty Achievements

ment Goals (SDGs) webinar, a part of the UNDIP-ADB International Webinar Series 2020, jointly organized by Universitas Diponegoro and the Asian Development Bank.

Priyam Das, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa received a Rapid-Response Grant on COVID-19 and the Social Sciences by the Social Sciences Research Council (SSRC) for her research project, "*When hazards collide: exploring everyday adaptations to extraordinary events*," which will investigate the combined impacts of COVID-19 and flooding on the urban poor in Guwahati, the largest city in northeast India. The project was among 62 proposals awarded from a pool of over 1,300 applicants.

Daniel Galland, Associate Professor, Aalborg University, Copenhagen published two co-authored articles. "[Reinventing planning and planners: Ideological decontestations and rhetorical appeals](#)" was published in *Planning Theory*. "[Regional planning is dead: long live planning regional futures](#)" was published in *Regional Studies*.

Mennatullah Hendawy, PhD Candidate at TU Berlin was the co-recipient of the Facebook research funding on 'Ethics in AI Research Initiative for Africa request for proposals' with colleagues Katrien Pype, Samah Mohammed El Khateeb, and Stephanie Sherman. Their proposal revolves around developing *The Cairo Charter: Urban AI in Africa for Social & Environmental Justice*, which aims to formulate a framework for advancing justice-driven AI in smart city planning and development in Cairo, across the African continent, and beyond. Hendawy's co-authored article "[The Entanglement of Class, Marriage and Real Estate: The Visual Culture of Egypt's Urbanisation](#)" was published in *Urban Planning*.

Clara Irazábal, Director of the Urban Studies and Planning Program, University of Maryland, College Park received the 2020-22 Fulbright Scholar Award to conduct research in Costa Rica on the topic "Venezuelan Migrants in Costa Rica: Selective (Dis)Affiliations and (Sub)Urban Implications." Dr. Irazábal co-edited a book in Spanish *Lo Vecinal en Chile: Conceptos, Políticas y Prácticas en Disputa*, published by the Universidad Católica del Maule. Dr. Irazábal published over a dozen articles, book chapters, and peer-reviewed research reports this past year including: "[Latin American Smart Cities: Between Worlding Infatuation and Crawling Provincializing](#)" in *Urban Studies*, "[The High-Rise and The Shack: Rhizomatic Collisions In Caracas' Torre David](#)" in *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies*, "[Gating Tegucigalpa, Honduras: The Paradoxical Effects of 'Safer Barrios'](#)" in *Journal of Urban Affairs*, and "[Grabbed landscapes of pleasure and privilege: Socio-spatial inequities and dispossession in infrastructure planning in Medellín.](#)" *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*.

Faculty Achievements

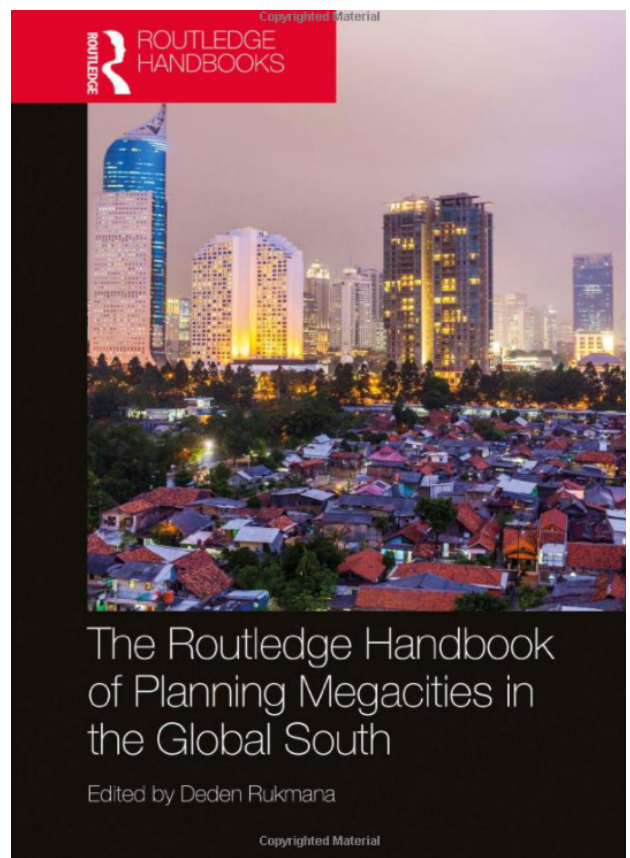
Clara Irazábal is transitioning jobs, and starting January 2021, she will be the **Director of the Urban Studies and Planning Program (URSP) in the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (MAPP+D) at the University of Maryland (UMD), College Park, in the Washington DC area.** Dr. Irazábal was an appointed member of the CARES Act Advisory Group, Jackson County Executive's Office, chaired by The Honorable Sly James, former mayor of Kansas City, MO. Dr. Irazábal advises the county's administration on spending the USD 122-million CARES Act funds received from the federal government to address the Covid-19 pandemic.

Magdalena Novoa, Assistant Professor, Urban & Regional Planning, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign obtained her PhD in Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin in August 2020. Her dissertation titled "*Insurgent Heritage: Grassroots Movements and Citizenship in Chile*" was supervised by Michael Holleran, Bjorn Sletto, Fernando Lara, Sarah Lopez, and Pedro Ignacio Alonso.

Cuz Potter, Associate Professor, Korea University co-authored an article with Danielle Labbé in Urban Studies titled "[Gentrification Or...? Injustice in Large-Scale Residential Projects in Hanoi.](#)" This article argues that the experience of injustice is a core element of the definition of gentrification. Thus, urban transformations in developing countries that displace less affluent users are not necessarily experienced as gentrification.

Samina Raja, Professor and Co-Director, Community for Global Health Equity, State University of New York at Buffalo is the project lead for [Planning for Regenerative Equitable Food Systems in Urbanizing Globalizing Environments \(Plan-REFUGE\).](#) This project is investigating food equity in Ghana, Jamaica, and India with smallholder farmers. Research results are forthcoming in a variety of publications, including a soon-to-be released report by the FAO.

Dr. Raja's team has also developed [the Global Database for City and Regional Food Policies](#) in partnership with the RUA Foundation (Global partnership for sustainable Urban Agriculture and Food Systems). This database contains copies of legislation, plans, funding allocations, or other public actions authorized or implemented by cities, municipalities, regions, and sub-national governments



Faculty Achievements

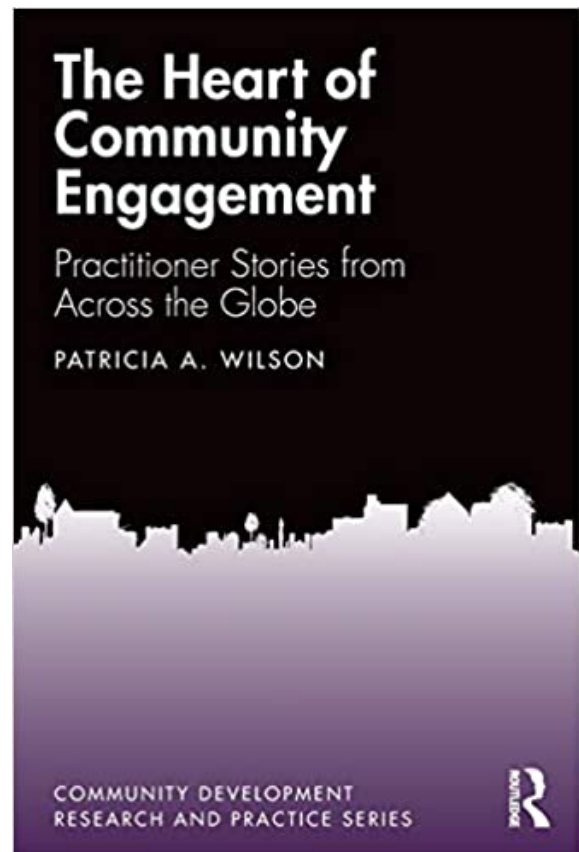
and allows local and sub-national governments to learn from strategies utilized in other regions or countries.

Deden Rukmana, Professor and Chair, Department of Community and Regional Planning, Alabama A&M University published a new edited volume *The Routledge Handbook of Planning Megacities in the Global South*. Dr. Rukmana was GPEIG co-chair in 2015-2017 and graciously acknowledges support and contributions from the GPEIG community to his book. A total of 51 scholars from different geographies and career stages have contributed to 29 chapters in this volume.

The book discusses the planning challenges, processes, and initiatives of 27 megacities in the Global South. These megacities are located in all continents of the Global South including Middle America (Mexico City), South America (Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, and Bogota), Middle East (Cairo and Istanbul), Africa (Lagos, Johannesburg, Dar es Salaam, and Luanda), South Asia (Delhi, Bangalore, Kolkata, Ahmadabad, Dhaka, Lahore, and Karachi), East Asia (Shanghai, Beijing, Chongqing, Shenzhen, Chengdu, and Wuhan), and Southeast Asia (Jakarta, Bangkok, and Ho Chi Minh City)

Alejandra Reyes, Assistant Professor, University of California at Irvine published two articles on housing in Mexico. "[Mexico's Housing Paradox: Tensions between Financialization & Access](#)" was published in a Special Issue on the Financialization of Housing in Capitalism's Peripheries in Housing Policy Debate. "[Mexico's Housing Crisis: Vacancy, Limited Access & Deaf Policy Responses](#)" is forthcoming in a Special Issue on Global Crisis in Housing Affordability in the *International Journal of Urban Sciences*.

Patricia Wilson, Professor, University of Texas at Austin published a book, [The Heart of Community Engagement: Practitioner Stories from Across the Globe](#) in 2019. Focusing on the Global South, with cases from Latin America, India, and South Africa, the book is an excellent secondary text for graduate courses in international planning. It also provides invaluable insights for preparing students for field projects in international planning studios and practicums. This book won the 2020 Hamilton Book Award Grand Prize for Best Textbook.



GPEIG's Committees

GPEIG Co-Chairs (2019-2020)

Praveen Maghelal, 2018-2020 Co-Chair, Khalifa University, United Arab Emirates
Xueming (Jimmy) Chen, 2019-2021 Co-Chair, Virginia Commonwealth University

Communications Committee

Tasks: To help launch the new website (www.gpeig.com) and maintain it.

Andrew Rumbach (Chair and Webmaster), Texas A&M University
Sukumar Ganapati, Florida International University (Listserv only)
Sandip Chakrabarti, IIM Ahmedabad (Newsletter)
Yiping Fang, Portland State University (Blog)
Lu Liao, Cornell University
Nidhi Subramanyam, Cornell University
Taru, University of Michigan

Election Committee

Tasks: Seeks nominations for GPEIG co-chair positions and administers the annual election process.
To solicit nominations for various GPEIG wide representations.

Shelagh McCartney (Chair), Ryerson University
Enrique Silva, Lincoln Institute

Global Planning Education Committee

Francis Owusu (Chair), Iowa State University
Bruce Stiffler, Georgia Tech
Priyam Das, University of Hawaii
Gavin Shatkin, Northeastern University
Praveen Maghelal, Khalifa University
N. Emel Ganapati, Florida International University

Newsletter Credits

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Website Links in the Document

The Tokyo Smart City Project: <https://smartech.gatech.edu/bitstream/handle/1853/63476/2020%20Tokyo%20Smart%20City%20Studio%20Final%20Report%201.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

The legacies of transformative shelter interventions in Surabaya: potentials and challenges for inclusive and sustainable urban planning: <https://www.wri.org/wri-citiesforall/publication/surabaya-legacy-participatory-upgrading-informal-settlements>.

Master of City Design: <https://cuppa.uic.edu/academics/upp/upp-programs/master-of-city-design/>

GPEIG website (<https://www.gpeig.com/>)

ACSP website (<https://www.acsp.org/>)

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The newsletter editing team is not responsible for factual errors in submitted articles. Parts of text and some images in this newsletter are published in various web and print media; all sources are not cited.