

GLOBALIZATION IN PROGRESS

Understanding and working with World Urbanization

October 17, 2009, 9am to 6pm
Rainey Auditorium and Mosaic Gallery
Penn Museum

An activity of the
Faculty Forum on Globalization and Cities,
Penn Institute for Urban Research (PIUR)

Objective:

Introduce to the Penn community and the public to the variety of Penn's academic and professional work on globalization as the expansion of global cities and urban networks.

Brief description:

A day of panels with short presentations and discussion, complemented by a display of visual materials, on selected projects of research and application from different parts of the campus, illustrating work in progress in different parts of the world, and showing how they add up to a product that transcends the individual projects. All of Penn's twelve Schools are represented.

Questions addressed:

What causes globalization and makes it possible?
Why are cities and urban life central to the process?
What kind of activities are helping us understand it and work with it—at Penn and elsewhere?
How can we make the most of it in the coming years?

Message:

Globalization is a qualitatively new process of modern change—accelerating change that is producing new social forms and cultural modes, which give rise to new political and economic mechanisms throughout the world. The primary engines of this change are in the world's largest cities, where population is densest and human interaction is most intense. The proportion of the world's population living in cities now exceeds 50% and continues to grow. Cities are growing both in size and density, and their networks link together into global formations that pervade non-urban areas. Soon no part of the world will be isolated from the forces of globalization.

Cities are thus both the engines and the nodes of globalization. Urban life increases interaction between strangers, which accustoms us to novelty, raises our expectations of innovation, and encourages further change. This accelerating rate of comprehensive change takes us into unknown territory. To live in it we innovate in everyday life. To understand it, we must develop new research methods—a constant challenge to our academic as well as our professional communities.

The effort to understand and work with the opportunities offered by such unprecedented change draws on the full range of resources available at Penn, and brings together into a collaborative enterprise projects that until recently were pursued in isolation, with the result that the research experience and the research product are now becoming more truly interdisciplinary, and the overall result transcends the significance of the individual projects.

Speakers:

Cheikh Babou, Department of History, SAS
Nancy Biller, Global Health Programs, School of Medicine
Richard J. Estes, School of Social Policy and Practice
James Ferguson, School of Veterinary Medicine
David Galligan, School of Veterinary Medicine
Mauro Guillen, Lauder Institute and Wharton School
John D. Keenan, School of Engineering and Applied Science
Janet Monge, Department of Anthropology, SAS
Marjorie Muecke, School of Nursing
Michael Nairn, Urban Studies
Sarah Paoletti, Law School
Adriana Petryna, Department of Anthropology, SAS
Alan Ruby, School of Education
Theodore Schurr, Department of Anthropology, SAS
Brian Spooner, Department of Anthropology, SAS, and Penn Museum
Marilyn Stringer, School of Nursing

Presenters of Visual Materials:

Cameron Hu, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, SAS
Robert Collins, School of Dental Medicine
Neal Nathanson, Global Health Programs, School of Medicine
Janet Monge, Department of Anthropology, SAS
Majorie Muecke, School of Nursing
John D. Keenan, School of Engineering and Applied Science
Theodore Schurr, Department of Anthropology, SAS
Huiquan (Mary) Zhou, School of Social Policy and Practice

PROGRAM

Welcome

9.00 Susan M. Wachter, Co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research

Introduction

Brian Spooner, Conference Chair

First panel: Society Changes

9.30 Richard J. Estes
World Social Situation: 1970-2009

10.00 Theodore G. Schurr
Human Genetic Diversity in a Global Context

10.30 Cheikh Babou
Hôpital Matlaboul Fawzaini: Diaspora, Faith and Science in Tuubaa, Senegal

Second Panel: How we cope—positive and negative adaptations

11.00 James D. Ferguson, David Galligan
Meeting the Food Demands of a Globalizing World

11.30 Janet Monge
Global trends in Diet and Nutrition: an evolutionary perspective

12.00 Nancy Biller and Neal Nathanson
Salient Issues in global health

LUNCH BREAK

Third panel: Organizational implications

1.30 Mauro Guillen
The Fallout from the Global Crisis

2.00 Alan Ruby
The Globalization of Universities

2.30 Joe Sun, John D. Keenan, Megan Doherty and Christina Catanese
Academically-Based Global Service Learning

Fourth Panel: New issues and complications

3.00 Adriana Petryna
Clinical Trials Offshore

3.30 Sarah Paoletti
Collaborative Responses to Transnational Migration

4.00 Marjorie Muecke, Michael Nairn and Marilyn Stringer
Women's Health in globalizing cities

General discussion and concluding remarks

4.30

RECEPTION

5.00-6.00

*Co-sponsored by
The Penn Institute for Urban Research,
Penn Lauder Ciber,
Penn Museum,
South Asia Center
and the
Department of Anthropology (SAS).*