

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE CITY

SPRING 2009



The Spring 2009 Lecture Series Committee is hosting academic and professional practitioners whose work focuses on issues of social justice in the planning and design of urban environments.

The purpose of this series is to raise awareness about the participation of underrepresented groups in the planning process, and to encourage a wider range of individuals to consider pursuing planning as a profession.

The Social Justice and the City series is designed to engage students, urban planners and designers in dialogue about the policy, practice and ethics of working with citizens in historically marginalized communities undergoing rapid redevelopment.

This series is supported by a Diversity & Excellence grant awarded to the Department of Planning and Design from the President's Initiative Fund for Diversity within the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research.

Featured Topics:

- the methods and techniques for promoting the civic participation of marginalized populations
- the politics of planning and design in diverse communities
- the importance of place as a form of cultural expression
- the creation of green environments that promote diversity
- citizen movements to protect important community spaces from private development

Featured Speakers/Events:

Film Screening

"The Garden"

February 12, 2009

11:15-1:15: Film Screening, Lunch & Dialogue

Co-sponsored by the APAS-Colorado and ASLA, Room 480

The fourteen-acre community garden at 41st and Alameda in South Central Los Angeles is the largest of its kind in the United States. Started as a form of healing after the devastating L.A. riots in 1992, the South Central Farmers have since created a miracle in one of the country's most blighted neighborhoods. Growing their own food. Feeding their families. Creating a community. But now, bulldozers are poised to level their 14-acre oasis. The Garden follows the plight of the farmers, from the tilled soil of this urban farm to the polished marble of City Hall. Mostly immigrants from Latin America, from countries where they feared for their lives if they were to speak out, we watch them organize, fight back, and demand answers. Visit <http://www.blackvalleyfilms.com/> for more information.

Dr. Robert Fogelson

Professor of Urban Studies and History, MIT

What's a Reasonable Rent?

A Chapter in the Early History of Rent Control in New York City

MARCH 9, 2009

5:30: Reception, Dean's Suite, Sponsored by the APAS-Colorado

6:00: Lecture, MBA Room

Professor Fogelson is internationally recognized for his research on the historical development of cities, with a particular emphasis on class-based dimensions of urban change. He is author of, among other books, *Downtown: Its Rise and Fall 1880-1950*, *Bourgeois Nightmares: Suburbia, 1850-1930*, and *America's Armories: Architecture, Society and Public Order*. Dr. Fogelson has also written and published extensively on American ghettos, race riots, and policing. This lecture will draw attention to his current research on the history of rent control in New York City from 1917-1929. His talk will focus on how, in the absence of a Rent Commission, New Yorkers attempted to implement rent control, and in particular, how they wrestled with the concept of a "reasonable rent."

Ms. Julie Campoli

Terra Firma Urban Design

Designing for Density in Urban Neighborhoods

APRIL 6, 2009

5:30: Reception, Dean's Suite, Sponsored by the APAS-Colorado

6:00: Lecture, MBA Room

Americans like free-standing houses and big yards. We've come to expect a certain amount of elbow room in our built environment. This is especially evident in the pattern of isolated dwellings and low-slung subdivisions seen from the air above metropolitan regions. That bird's-eye view also reveals some of the costs of that elbow room: income segregation, overextended infrastructure, depleted reservoirs, and retreating landscapes. In the face of rising housing, energy and transportation costs, and the clear need for reduced carbon emissions, the time has come to stop spreading. Our imperative is to build green cities, in which a concentrated, mixed-use settlement pattern creates both greater efficiencies and a high quality of life. This lecture will illustrate how the road to economic and environmental sustainability will be lined not with single-family homes but with townhouses and apartment buildings. It uses aerial photography to examine the environmental consequences of sprawling land use patterns and the need for density in future development. It addresses how density is typically perceived and how aversion to it can be overcome through better planning and design. Time-tested principles of urban design such as interconnection, diversity, and human scale are complemented by a discussion of more recent, green approaches that are made possible by greater density.

Dr. Rudi Hartmann

Professor of Geography and Environmental Science,

University of Colorado Denver

Dissonant Heritage, New Preservation Efforts

APRIL 21, 2009

11:15-1:15: Brown Bag Lunch, Room 320A

This lecture will address the establishment and management of the Sand Creek Massacre and Japanese Internment Camp Amache historic sites in Southeast Colorado.