

GUEST LECTURE



JEFFEREY SELLERS

Associate Professor, Political Science,
University of Southern California

Please join the Center for Global Metropolitan Studies and the Institute of Urban and Regional Development in welcoming Dr. Jefferey Sellers, Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Southern California.

THE DECENTERED STATE

Around the world, the widespread shift toward decentralization has been hailed as a step toward greater democracy. Thus far, comparativists have mainly approached decentralization and its implications from the top down. This talk proposes a new analytical typology based on a bottom-up approach. Application of this typology reveals close links between institutions at the local scale and wider patterns of civic and political organization, with far-reaching implications for democratic performance.

Dr. Sellers' research interests focus on comparative politics with an emphasis on Multilevel Governance and Federalism, Urban Politics and Policy, Comparative Politics, European Politics, American Politics, Environmental Policy and Politics. His research agenda centers around comparative analysis of institutions and state society relations from the "bottom-up" perspective of cities and communities. His book, *Governing from Below: Urban Regions and the Global Economy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2002), analyses the growth of local efforts to provide for economic prosperity along with environmental quality and social inclusion in cities throughout France, Germany and the United States. His work in progress is *Building the Decentered State: The National Politics of Urban Governance in Europe and North America* (comparative historical analysis of the development of multi-level policies toward urbanization and suburbanization across the developed world).

Ongoing projects include the first systematic international database on national institutions for local governance, a comparative historical study of the role of urban regions in European and North American political development, a study of effects to create new alternatives for inner city economic development in downtown Los Angeles, and collaborative international research on contemporary metropolitan political transformations and urban environmental governance.

GLOBAL METROPOLITAN STUDIES



**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007
4:00PM — 5:30PM
104 WURSTER HALL**

FOR MORE INFO,
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