



Photo by Ashley Booris

## **GLOBAL METROPOLITAN STUDIES**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2018–19**

The Global Metropolitan Studies (GMS) program at U.C. Berkeley was established to address major transformations in cities around the world. Urbanization brings a range of new physical and political configurations and challenges—ecological crises, processes of democratization and de-democratization, urban marginality, and emergent strategies of recognition and resistance. The expansion of digital data and tools now provides new opportunities for study of transportation, housing, infrastructure, environment, and other critical aspects of urban form and process. GMS is a community of scholars across disciplines at Berkeley that investigates these challenges and politics of the new urban century. GMS trains young researchers to collaborate with one another to study the urban condition through its administered Designated Emphasis (a PhD minor to support scholarship on urban systems). It also facilitates interdisciplinary exchange on these topics by organizing a lecture series on international urban themes in partnership with multiple departments across campus, and hosting small workshops and sponsoring student groups. Finally, GMS works to catalyze interdisciplinary research initiatives by organizing interdisciplinary faculty workshops focused on specific external funding programs.

#### **2018–19 GMS Co-Directors:**

[G. Mathias Kondolf](#), Professor of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning

[Alison Post](#), Associate Professor of Political Science

Based at the [Social Science Matrix](#), Division of Social Sciences, U.C. Berkeley

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## Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives

During the 2018–19 academic year, Co-Directors Kondolf and Post initiated a new form of programming: workshops intended to spearhead interdisciplinary research initiatives on urban themes. In the first year of this effort, GMS organized 5 workshops to catalyze applications to major research grant programs requiring or strongly encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration. These workshops were developed in collaboration with the Berkeley Infrastructure Initiative. Workshops focused on three specific National Science Foundation programs:

- *The Humans, Disasters and Built Environment Program*
- *The Smart and Connected Communities Program*
- *The Dynamics of Integrated Socio-Environmental Systems/Dynamics of Coupled Natural-Human Systems program*

Initial sessions have taken the form of lightning talks, allowing researchers from different parts of campus to quickly learn about potential collaborators from other fields. Follow-up sessions have focused on facilitating the development of particular proposals or proposal components.

We also supported the development of a proposal to the NSF Sustainable Urban Systems conference funding program (proposal PI Marta Gonzalez).

We look forward to reporting back on the results of these funding competitions after the selection processes have been concluded.

## Student Group Activities

GMS sponsored one student group this year, the Latin American Cities working group. Co-led by GMS DE students Laura Belik (Architecture), Priscila Coli (City & Regional Planning), Giselle Mendonça Abreu (City & Regional Planning), and Francisco Trejo Morales (Anthropology), this group organized 5 research talks and a conference panel over the course of the academic year. More information about the group can be found [here](#).

This Fall, we will initiate a call for additional student working groups (led by DE students, but can include students and faculty from across campus, from at least two departments).



NSF CNH program workshop with faculty from different departments on May 16, 2019  
Photo by Amanda Cairo



Lana Salman presents at the Comparative Urban Politics Workshop on March 22, 2019  
Photo by Alison Post



Latin American Cities working group at the Urban Affairs Association Conference on April 25, 2019  
Photo by Priscila Coli

## Lecture Series and Thematic Workshops

GMS organized a series of lectures and workshops this year in collaboration with a wide variety of academic units on campus. Our aim was to encourage research communities that might not normally showcase scholarship on international urban studies to do so, and to encourage our faculty and graduate students to attend events in departments or research centers they might not usually visit.

### Lecture series:

- Aug 30, 2018: **The Heterogeneity of Urban Capital: Development, Construction, Services, and Consulting** — Eduardo Marques | University of São Paulo (*Co-sponsored by DCRP*)
- Sept 26, 2018: **Pictures of a Gone City** — Richard Walker (*Co-sponsored by Geography*)
- Oct 11, 2018: **Politics Below the Asphalt: Anti-Eviction Movements and Sexual Revolution in Bahia, Brazil** — Keisha-Khan Y. Perry | Brown University (*ARCUS/GMS Prize Lecture*)
- Nov 16, 2018: **Think Globally, Breathe Locally: Sensing Air Pollution for a Planet of Cities** — Joshua Apte | University of Texas, Austin (*Co-sponsored by Civil and Environmental Engineering*)
- Feb 07, 2019: **Electoral Politics and Africa's Urban Transition: Class and Ethnicity in Ghana** — Noah Nathan | University of Michigan (*Co-sponsored by Political Science*)
- Apr 22, 2019: **Could the Anthropocene be an 'Urbanocene'?** — Michel Lussault | University of Lyon (*Co-sponsored by Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, and the Institute of International Studies Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar on Water Management*)
- Apr 26, 2019: **Maritime Hubs And Mobilities: Rethinking Metropolitan Hong Kong-South China** — Helen Siu | Yale University (*Co-sponsored by the Center for Chinese Studies*)

We listed here the events where we provided significant monetary or organizational support. We also co-sponsored numerous other events on campus.



Michel Lussault's talk at Wurster Hall on April 22, 2019

Photo by Giselle Mendonça Abreu

**Bay Area Comparative Urban Politics Workshop:** GMS also hosted the first annual Bay Area Comparative Urban Politics Workshop in an effort to contribute to growing interest within the field of political science on urban politics. The one-day workshop, hosted by the Social Science Matrix, drew over 30 participants from many California institutions (Stanford, UCLA, U.C. Berkeley, U.C. Merced, U.C. Santa Cruz, and the University of San Francisco), and foregrounded graduate student research on urban politics in the United States and across the globe. Three GMS D.E. students, Christopher Herring (Sociology), Lana Salman (City & Regional Planning), and Matthew Stenberg (Political Science), presented their dissertation research.

## Designated Emphasis

There are currently **41 students** in the GMS Designated Emphasis, from the following departments: Anthropology; Architecture; City & Regional Planning; Civil & Environmental Engineering; Computer Science; Education; Environmental Science, Policy, and Management; Geography; Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning; Political Science; Social Welfare; and Sociology.

We are particularly pleased to have welcomed the following **new students** into the DE this year:



**Alli Appelbaum**

City & Regional Planning

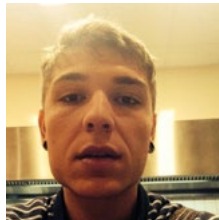
*Comparative urban studies, governance, security, urban theory, middle-class urbanism, African urbanisms*



**Juan Caicedo**

Civil & Environmental Engineering

*Behavioral modeling, data science, Latin American cities, and causal inference*



**Gustavo Capela**

Anthropology

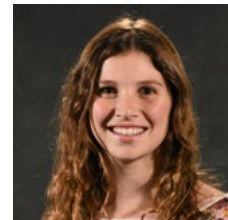
*Nigeria, citizenship, transnational displacement, resistance, maroonage*



**Christopher Chan**

Anthropology

*China, urbanization, digitalization, anthropology of cities, contemporary art, infrastructures*



**Jessica Lazarus**

Civil & Environmental Engineering

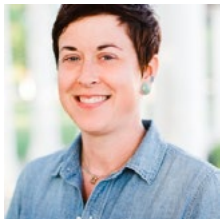
*Sustainable transport policy, on-demand mobility, shared automated vehicles, agent based modeling*



**Brenda Mathias**

Social Welfare

*Neighborhood effects, urban spaces, participatory action research, community building, youth*



**Beki McElvain**

City & Regional Planning

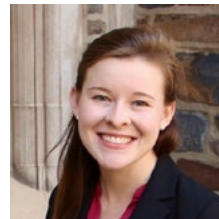
*Disaster risk reduction, earthquake resilience in Mexico & Latin America*



**Millard McElwee**

Civil & Environmental Engineering

*Community resilience, agent based modeling, natural hazards, environmental fluid flow*



**Madeleine Parker**

City & Regional Planning

*Transportation equity, urban mobility, climate change adaptation, resilience planning, affordable housing*



**Tawit Boom Sangveraphunsiri**

Civil & Environmental Engineering

*Transportation networks, public transportation, informal transit, freight transport*

During the 2018-2019 academic year, GMS offered its two core classes. **GMS 200**, the gateway class, was taught by Professor Alison Post (GMS/Political Science) during the Spring semester to a group of 13 doctoral students from a variety of fields (1 Anthropology, 3 City & Regional Planning, 5 Civil Engineering, 2 Landscape Architecture, 2 Social Welfare). **GMS 201**, the dissertation writing seminar, was taught by Dr. Renee Roy Elias, and was cross-listed with City & Regional Planning.

## Funding Awards

GMS was pleased to award funding for pre-dissertation research and conference travel to students enrolled in the Designated Emphasis.

This year, the winners of **summer research awards** were:

- Alli Appelbaum (City & Regional Planning)  
*A Comparative Exploration of the Security Guarding Industry and Urban Governance: Johannesburg, Delhi and Mumbai*
- Celina Balderas Guzman (Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning)  
*Planning for the Future of California Salt Marshes*
- Priscila Coli Rocha (City & Regional Planning)  
*The Rise of New Political Actors in Brazilian Peripheries: The Effects on Space, Politics, and Planning*
- Savannah Cox (City & Regional Planning)  
*Assembling Urban Resilience in Miami*
- Beki McElvain (City & Regional Planning)  
*Understanding Social Vulnerability and Risk in the Context of Water Infrastructure and Earthquake Hazards in Mexico City*
- Millard McElwee (Civil & Environmental Engineering)  
*Using Neighborhood Demographics and Organizational Analysis to Supplement Agent Based Models for Traffic In New Orleans, LA*
- Giselle Mendonça Abreu (City & Regional Planning)  
*“Urbanizing” the Hinterland: Agriculture-led Urbanization and Participatory Planning in the Brazilian Midwest*
- Madeleine Parker (City & Regional Planning)  
*A Study of Ridehailing Programs for Passengers with Disabilities in Boston and NYC*
- Francisco Trejo Morales (Anthropology)  
*Social Housing and Fragmented Politics: A Study of Political Activism In Mexico’s City Metropolitan Area*

GMS also awarded grants to defray the cost of **conference travel** expenses to the following students:

- Laura Belik (Architecture)
- Savannah Cox (City & Regional Planning)
- Christopher Herring (Sociology)
- Yanin Kramsky (City & Regional Planning)
- Giselle Mendonça Abreu (City & Regional Planning)
- J. Christopher Mizes (City & Regional Planning)
- Nicole Rosner (Anthropology)
- Ettore Santi (Architecture)

## Accomplishments by DE Students

During the academic year of 2018–19, students from the Designated Emphasis in Global Metropolitan Studies received several prestigious fellowships from outside institutions and published multiple articles in peer-reviewed journals, showcasing a diversity of exciting research interests. We congratulate the students on their accomplishments!

Students and respective **fellowships** received:

- Giuseppina Forte (Architecture): *Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Grant*.
- Chris Herring (Sociology): *Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Grant*.
- Heba Najada (Architecture): *2019 Grant from the Critical Refugee Studies Collective and IJURR Foundation Studentship* within the field of urban and regional studies.
- Jesse Rodenbiker (Geography): *Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation Doctoral Fellowship*.

Students and respective **peer-reviewed articles** published:

- Faisal bin Ayyaf Almogren (City & Regional Planning):  
Almogren, Faisal bin Ayyaf. 2018. "Reprioritizing the Human Factor in Building Gulf Cities." *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 50 (3): 568–572. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020743818000569>
- Chris Herring (Sociology):  
Herring, Chris, Dilara Yarbrough, and Lisa Marie Alatorre. 2019. "Pervasive Penalty: How the Criminalization of Poverty Perpetuates Homelessness." *Social Problems* Online 29 March 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spz004>
- Bridget Martin (Geography):  
Martin, Bridget. 2018. "From Camp Town to International City: US Military Base Expansion and Local Development in Pyeongtaek, South Korea." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IJURR)* 42 (6): 967–985. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.12698>
- Giselle Mendonça Abreu (City & Regional Planning):  
Mendonça Abreu, Giselle Kristina. 2018. "Invisible Production Spaces in Metropolitan Areas: Uncovering Micro-urban Manufacturing in the Case of São Paulo, Brazil." *Cadernos Metr pole* 20 (43): 743–767. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/2236-9996.2018-4306>
- J. Christopher Mizes (City & Regional Planning):  
Mizes, James Christopher, and Liza Rose Cirolia. 2018. "Contournements: Fiscalit  et Exceptions Informelles dans les Villes de M'Bour et de Kisumu." *Politique Africaine* 3 (151): 17–37. <https://doi.org/10.3917/polaf.151.0017>
- Matt Wade (City & Regional Planning):  
Wade, Matt. 2018. "Hyper-Planning Jakarta: The Great Garuda and Planning the Global Spectacle." *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 40 (1): 158–72. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sjtg.12262>
- Alex Werth (Geography):  
McElroy, Erin and Alex Werth. 2019. "Deracinated Dispossessions: On the Foreclosures of 'Gentrification' in Oakland, CA." *Antipode* 51 (3): 878–898. <https://doi.org/10.1111/anti.12528>