University of Pennsylvania
SOCIAL SCIENCE & POLICY FORUM
2013–2014
Immigration & Citizenship
The SSPF Executive Committee would like to express its sadness at the passing of Michael B. Katz, a groundbreaking historian, socially engaged scholar, and generous colleague, teacher and friend. Two advisory committees, for the immigration and poverty themes, benefited from his wealth of experience and insight. His participation in SSPF has helped ensure the continuing success of the Forum.
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Penn Social Science and Policy Forum has now completed its second full year of programming, bringing together social scientists at the University of Pennsylvania with colleagues from around the world – as well as with students, policymakers, and the public – to address vital issues of broad concern. Each year explores a topic. In 2012-13 we tackled the global economic crisis, which had been the inescapable context for policy at all levels, local, national, and global, for the previous four years. In 2013-14 we grappled with another issue that, over the long term, has ramifications for nearly every realm of policy making: the movement of people across national borders, with all of the social, economic, political and legal impacts that result.

We began the year with a wide focus on the politics of immigration reform, hosting a panel discussion at the American Museum of National Jewish History that included historian Mae Ngai and reform advocate Tamar Jacoby. We ended with an examination of the profound impacts of immigration on urban revitalization, the focus of a one-day conference that featured Robert Sampson, Marilynn Johnson, Jacob Vigdor, Jamie Winders, and work co-authored by the late Michael Katz.

In between, our faculty workshops explored the nature of national identity (Irene Bloemraad, Devesh Kapur); the nitty-gritty of comprehensive immigration reform (Demetrios Papademetriou); the plight of refugees, both historically and currently (Maria Cristina Garcia); and the impacts of immigrants on the American housing market (Dowell Myers), labor force (Hiroshi Motomura), and local politics (Michael Jones-Correa). Our two postdoctoral fellows also presented their original research, with feedback and commentary from senior scholars.

Apart from its annual focus, the Forum once again encouraged innovative teaching and research throughout the university. We provided Penn faculty with small grants to bring policy makers into their classrooms, introducing students to their work on child welfare, urban finance, and public education. We offered start-up funds for new courses on policy in three schools. And we selected a talented cohort of pre-dissertation fellows – drawn from more than 100 applicants in an interdisciplinary national competition – to participate in our second SSPF Summer Workshop on Inequality.

Our 2014-15 theme is Poverty and Opportunity, a topic of increasing political relevance which, like our other themes, shows up in a wide variety of scholarly and policy debates. We have appointed a talented postdoctoral fellow, political scientist Erica Dobbs, and have planned a year of exciting events bookended by two major conferences, one in the fall devoted to the history of the War on Poverty and its impacts fifty years on, and a second in the spring devoted to global economic development policy.

As our work moves forward, I am grateful to the Penn Office of the Provost and the School of Arts and Sciences for their invaluable support. I would also like to thank the Trustees’ Council of Penn Women for their support in bringing Maria Cristina Garcia to campus for two events.

Thomas Sugrue
Director, Penn Social Science & Policy Forum
THE POLITICS OF IMMIGRATION, with a tight focus on undocumented immigrants, runs hot and cold in Washington, D.C. The U.S. Senate debated comprehensive reform, but legislation languished because of intense opposition. Whatever the turns of the political wheel, however, the issue remains of critical longterm importance. In its second programming year, SSPF examined policy options for immigration reform and considered the impacts that recent waves of immigrants have had on the nation, including its labor and housing markets. Our theme year culminated in a daylong conference on immigration and metropolitan revitalization.

All events can be viewed on the SSPF website and on its YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/PennSSPF

SSPF hosted two postdoctoral fellows whose work dealt with immigration. **Laurencio Sanguino** received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Chicago in 2012. He spent the year revising his manuscript, “The Origins of Migration between Mexico and the United States, 1905-1945.” **James Walsh**, who received his Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California Santa Barbara in 2011, continued work on his book-in-progress, “Governing the Divide: Political Institutions and Immigration Control in the United States, Canada, and Australia.” Walsh has been appointed Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology.
Who Should Be an American?

The Past and Future of Immigration Policy

THIS KICKOFF EVENT brings together important perspectives on the past and future of immigration in this distinguished panel. It ultimately explores whether, in efforts to maintain America's longstanding status as a nation of immigrants, the emphasis should be on the economic benefit for the U.S. or social justice for those who seek to live here. Co-sponsored by the National Museum of American Jewish History and the University of Pennsylvania Jewish Studies Program, with generous support from the Arlene and Stanley Ginsburg Family Foundation.

Presented October 3, 2013

Yellow and Gold

The “Chinese Question” on the California and Victoria Goldfields

Mae M. Ngai
Professor of History and Lung Family Professor of Asian American Studies at Columbia University

MAE M. NGAI’S NEW WORK EXAMINES the labor and social organization of Chinese miners and the racial politics surrounding the “Chinese Question” in California and the Australian colony of Victoria in the 1850s to the 1880s. Although race relations on the goldfields have received relatively little attention, compared to the urban workingmen’s movements of the 1870s and 1880s, the Chinese Question in the early mining years was arguably foundational to anti-Chinese politics in both the U.S. and Australia. Further, anti-Chinese politics has been discussed mostly in terms of discourse and policy, with little empirical understanding of the actual condition of Chinese miners’ work. We thus know much more about what whites thought about Chinese labor than about Chinese labor itself.

Presented October 4, 2013
IMMIGRANTS ARE AN IMPORTANT AND GROWING SOURCE OF DEMAND that has bolstered housing markets in recent decades, Myers argues, as housing demand has been more stable among foreign-born than native-born households. And as the housing market continues its recovery, it is important to understand the demographic trends which are likely to affect housing demand in the years ahead. In presenting our best understanding of these trends projected to 2020, Myers draws on his recent report, Immigrant Contributions to Housing Demand in the United States, prepared with John Pitkin and sponsored by the Mortgage Bankers Association’s Research Institute for Housing America.

Presented November 1, 2013

AS IMMIGRANT GROUPS HAVE SETTLED in an increasingly wide variety of places – including small cities, suburbs and rural areas – their successful integration into American life has depended on the attitudes and actions of the communities receiving them. A number of organizations, including Welcoming America and the Receiving Communities Initiative, have emerged over the past decade to address this issue – even in cities, such as Philadelphia, which have long histories of immigration. Jones-Correa has been at the forefront of studying the growth and success of this movement, as well as the policies that best promote integration. During his SSPF talk, he will present new findings on how Philadelphians in an array of neighborhoods have welcomed new immigrants.

Presented November 8, 2013
Learning Race in Newark

Affect, Race, and Neoliberalism among Brazilian and Puerto Rican Youth in Newark, Belo Horizonte (Brazil), and Santurce (Puerto Rico)

Ana Ramos-Zayas

DRAWING FROM ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH conducted in public and private schools in Newark, NJ, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and Santurce, Puerto Rico, Ramos-Zayas explores the intersection of affect, race, and neoliberalism in the lives of Brazilian and Puerto Rican youth. She examines the ways in which U.S.-born Latinos and Latin American migrants learn race in the predominantly African American context of Newark, NJ and how these forms of racial learning compare to perspectives on race in countries of origin or ancestry. The focus of Ramos-Zayas’ work is on how affect, the organization of feelings and sentiments, intersects with the everyday evaluations of racial difference and the ongoing process of “racial learning,” particularly among Latin American migrants and US-born Latinos.

Presented December 6, 2013

Getting Comprehensive Immigration Reform Right

Demetrios Papademetriou

IN EARLY 2013, MOVEMENT ON IMMIGRATION REFORM was significant, even astounding. It is unusual for a divisive issue to jump from the near oblivion of repeated legislative failures to the center of the political and policy stage as quickly as immigration reform had done since the beginning of the year. As pressure for legislative accomplishment compels a return to immigration reform, Papademetriou provides a clear and incisive look at the various proposals, their virtues, and their potential pitfalls.

Presented December 13, 2013
The New Refugees
Seeking Haven in Post-Cold War, Post-9/11 America

Maria Cristina Garcia
Howard A. Newman Professor of American Studies, Cornell University

THE END OF THE COLD WAR altered the ideological lens that for half a century shaped U.S. definitions of – and policies toward – refugees and asylum-seekers. During the Cold War, the vast majority of the refugees resettled in the United States came from communist countries, but today “refugees” and “asylees” receive protection on a much wider range of religious, political, social, and gender-related grounds. Foreign policy, concerns about homeland security, and humanitarian obligations continue to influence who is admitted to the U.S. and in what numbers, but non-governmental actors and the courts are playing an ever greater role in shaping U.S. refugee policy. Prof. Garcia examines these developments, as well as the implications of these changing definitions for both immigrant and host societies.

American Refugee Law
Historical, Global and Local Perspectives

Judith Bernstein-Baker
Executive Director, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society of Pennsylvania

Fernando Chang-Muy
Thomas O’Boyle Lecturer in Law at the University of Pennsylvania School of Law

Maria Cristina Garcia
Howard A. Newman Professor of American Studies, Cornell University

FOR THIS FAR-RANGING EXAMINATION of American refugee law, legal scholar Fernando Chang-Muy and advocate Judith Bernstein-Baker join historian Maria Cristina Garcia (Cornell) to discuss the transformations of refugee law in recent decades, possibilities for reform, and the current situation in the Philadelphia area.
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Temporary Workers
as Part of Comprehensive Immigration Reform
Problem or Panacea?
Hiroshi Motomura
Susan Westerberg Prager Professor of Law, UCLA Law School

MANY LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS for comprehensive immigration reform would not only revise immigrant admission categories, intensity enforcement, and offer legal status to unauthorized migrants, but also include a prominent role for temporary worker programs. Some critics of temporary workers view reliance on them as problematic, pointing especially to the underlying assumption that they are truly temporary. On the other side of the debate are those who view temporary workers as an essential to any effective response to unauthorized migration. Drawing on his forthcoming book, Immigration Outside the Law, Motomura explores the roles that temporary workers might play in immigration reform and explain how disagreements about them illuminate key choices in responding to unauthorized migration.

Presented February 21, 2014

Being American/
Becoming American
Immigrants’ Membership in the United States
Irene Bloemraad
Thomas Garden Barnes Chair of Canadian Studies and Associate Professor, Sociology, UC-Berkeley

WHAT MAKES SOMEONE "AMERICAN"? Political theorists and political sociologists have emphasized “ethnic” and “civic” distinctions in national belonging, while scholars of immigration focus on boundary making around language, religion, citizenship status and race. In a presentation of ongoing work, Professor Bloemraad explores the contours of membership in the United States that emerged in interviews with 182 U.S.-born youth and their immigrant parents born in Mexico, China, and Vietnam. Despite a discourse portraying U.S. citizenship as a civic and political affiliation blind to ascriptive traits, many of those interviewed equate “being American” with racial majority status, affluence, and privilege.

Presented March 20, 2014
Governing the Divide

A Comparative Historical Study of Border Policy in the U.S., Canada, and Australia

James Walsh

Penn SSPF Postdoctoral Fellow

IN THIS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW WORKSHOP, James Walsh presents new work developed from his dissertation, “Governing the Divide: Institutions and Immigration Control in the United States, Canada, and Australia.” Through sources extending back to the nineteenth century, Walsh traces the origins of three regimes for handling immigration – generally more centralized and technocratic in Canada and Australia, and more fragmented in the U.S. – that continue to determine distinctive border controls in the age of globalization. Irene Bloemraad (UC Berkeley) and Rogers Smith (Penn Political Science) provide comments on Walsh’s manuscript.

Indian Americans

The Life and Work of a New Immigrant Community

Devesh Kapur

Madan Lal Sobti Associate Professor for the Study of Contemporary India and Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania

PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN – whether they are Indian-born or U.S.-born – make up well less than one percent of the American population. Despite its small size, this community has been called a “Model Minority” that has been unusually successful in pursuing the “American Dream” through careers in high-skill occupations and entrepreneurship. The talk focuses on four major themes in the immigration literature – selection, assimilation, entrepreneurship, and clustering – to analyze the specific characteristics of this community. Unlike most immigrant groups who enter the country at a disadvantage (relative to non-Hispanic Whites) and converge within a generation or two, the advantages of exceptional positive selection of Indian immigrants at the time of entry appears to be sustained through the next generation.
The Origins of Migration Between Mexico & the U.S.

Laurencio Sanguino  Penn SSPF Postdoctoral Fellow

IN THIS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW WORKSHOP, Laurencio Sanguino presents new work developed from his dissertation, “The Origins of Migration between Mexico and the United States, 1905-1945.” The focus of his work this year has been Zamora, Michoacán, and its transformation into one of the most important migrant-sending communities in Mexico. Jose Moya (Barnard College) and Madeline Hsu (University of Texas, Austin) comment on Sanguino's manuscript.

Presented April 25, 2014
Co-Directors Thomas Sugrue and John Skrentny (Sociology, UC San Diego) have chosen inequality as the subject for the annual Summer Institute because it provides a rich body of interdisciplinary scholarship that ties into the annual SSPF topics, from the Global Economic Crisis to Immigration and Citizenship (and in 2014-15, Poverty and Opportunity).

The program consists of a mix of visiting speakers, seminars, and workshops featuring cutting-edge qualitative and quantitative research on a variety of topics related to inequality: poverty, labor force participation, income and wealth disparities, the impact of race and ethnicity, spatial dynamics, educational gaps, and social and economic policies that address inequalities.

This year, the Institute’s ten graduate students represented Brandeis University, Northwestern University, Princeton University, UC-Berkeley, UCLA, UC-Santa Barbara, the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan, and the University of Washington. Their fields included Anthropology, Health Education, History, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology.

**Visiting Speakers**

**Martin Gilens** (Politics, Princeton University) examines representation, public opinion, and mass media, especially in relation to inequality and public policy.

**Harry Holzer** (Public Policy, Georgetown University) focuses primarily on the low-wage labor market, and particularly the problems of minority workers in urban areas.

**Annette Lareau** (Sociology, University of Pennsylvania) examines the impact of social stratification on the life chances of Americans and the way that policy shifts over the past decade has changed how Americans decide where to send their children to school.

**Bruce G. Link** (Epidemiology and Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University) conducts research aimed at understanding health disparities by race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status, the consequences of social stigma for people with mental illness, and the connection between mental illness and violent behaviors.

**Robert J. Sampson** (Director, Boston Area Research Initiative, Harvard University) investigates the influence of local neighborhoods on
a remarkably wide variety of social phenomena, including crime, health, civic engagement, home foreclosures, teen births, altruism, leadership networks, and immigration.

**Heather Ann Thompson** (History and African American Studies, Temple University), who has emerged as one of the leading scholars of the carceral state, prisons, and racial justice, is currently writing the first comprehensive history of the Attica Prison Rebellion of 1971 and its legacy.

**Marta Tienda** (Sociology and Public Affairs, Princeton University) studies the effects of race and ethnic differences on various metrics of social inequality, ranging from poverty and welfare to education and employment, as a way to address how ascribed attributes acquire their social and economic significance.

The 2013 Visiting Speakers were **Philippe Bourgois** (Anthropology, Penn); **Paula England** (Sociology, NYU); **Harry Holzer**; **Katherine Newman** (Sociology, Johns Hopkins); **Sean Reardon** (Education and Sociology, Stanford); **Marta Tienda**; and **Dorian T. Warren**.

**Students**

Pictured below from left to right, standing between **Tom Sugrue** and **John Skrentny** in the lovely courtyard of Penn’s Fels Institute of Government: **Eric Reinhart** (Social Anthropology, Harvard / MD, University of Chicago), **David Lopez** (Political Science, University of Washington), **Erin Bogan** (Education and Psychology, University of Michigan), **Alexis Mann** (Sociology, Brandeis University), **Jessica Schirmer** (Sociology, UC-Berkeley), **Adrienne Wilson** (Health Behavior & Health Education, University of Michigan), **Adam Thal** (Dept. of Politics, Princeton University), **Vontrese Deeds** (Sociology, Northwestern University), **Samir Sonti** (History, UC-Santa Barbara), and **Ivuoma Onyeador** (Social Psychology, UCLA).
2014 Course Development Grants

The Theory of Networks: How Digital Technologies Shape Collective Behavior and Why it Matters • Sandra González-Bailón (Annenberg School for Communication) and Victor M. Preciado (Penn School of Engineering and Applied Science) • This course provides an introduction to the theory of networks, covering both the social and technical aspects of network research and its applications. The course aims to attract undergraduates from engineering and the social sciences and to create a space where these students can learn and collaborate across a disciplinary divide that is not always bridged.

Integrative Seminar in Child Welfare • Antonio Garcia and Johanna Greeson (Penn School of Social Policy and Practice) • This course coincides with the launch by SP2 of the Child Well-Being & Child Welfare (CW2) Specialization. The development of CW2 comes at a time when there is great demand and need to train, recruit, and retain highly skilled child welfare practitioners and leaders to deliver evidence-based, trauma informed services in a culturally competent manner. The main objective of this course is to ensure social work students are honed to produce positive developmental outcomes for children and families while also ensuring child safety, permanency and well-being.

Education Reform in the Era of Neoliberalism • Kathleen Hall (Penn Graduate School of Education) • The course considers the relationship between neoliberalism and education reform over the past thirty years. Students investigate historically the rise of neoliberal forms of capitalism and consider anthropological and sociological theories about neoliberalism and its forms, mechanisms, and influences.

2013-14 “Bring A Policy Maker to Class” Small Grants

Malitta Engstrom, Assistant Professor of Social Policy and Practice (SP2) and Andrew Fussner, Lecturer (SP2), to bring Connell O’Brien, Children’s Policy Specialist at Rehabilitation and Community Providers Association RCPA.

Robert P. Inman, Professor of Finance, Economics, and Public Policy (Wharton) to bring Anthony Williams, former mayor of Washington, DC.

Rand Quinn, Assistant Professor of Education (GSE), to bring Albert Wat, senior analyst, National Governors’ Association; Anna Brandt, advisor, Harlem Children’s Zone; and Gillian Page, Coordinator, Teacher Effectiveness Strategy, Washington, DC Public Schools.

Frances Rust, Director of the Teacher Education Program (GSE) to bring Paul Kihn, Deputy Superintendent, School District of Philadelphia.

Laura Wolf-Powers, Assistant Professor of City and Regional Planning (School of Design) to bring David J. Fischer, Senior Director of Career and Technical Education, New York City Department of Education.
In 2013-14 The Penn Graduate Social Science & Policy Forum (GSSPF), a joint initiative of Penn SSPF and the History Graduate Student Body, with funding from SASgov and the Graduate Student and Professional Student Assembly (GAPSA), provided a venue for graduate students to share research using historical investigation to address the social, political, and economic questions of our time.

The 2013-14 theme, Origins of the Twenty-First Century, sought to begin the long process of historicizing the roots of the twenty-first century. Examinations of contemporary transformations of power, politics and everyday life generally ignore their deep historical roots, leaving pseudo-scientific discourses, harmful to both academic inquiry and popular opinion, to fill the void. History is indispensable to disentangling the burning questions facing our present conjuncture. Penn GSSPF brought young scholars together in a series of workshops, listed below, to grapple with how, why, and when the twenty-first century began to take shape.

**New Nations, Old States, and Great Power Conflict** • Meicen Sun (Penn Political Science), “Red army, Blue Helmets: Evaluating the Nature of Change in China’s participation in UN Peacekeeping” • Claire Kaiser (Penn History), “The Soviet Roots of the Georgian-Abkhaz Conflict”


**New Spatialization of Race and Housing** • Anthony Pratcher (Penn History) and Colin McGrath (Penn History), “Section 236 in Phoenix: Federal Policy and the Local Placement of Multi-Family Housing” • Charlotte E. Jacobs (Penn GSE) and David Schor (Penn GSE), “Public School Desegregation Efforts in Philadelphia 1955-1980”

**New Forms of Child Sociability** • Gideon Dishon (Penn GSE), “What Are We Building Anyway? The Origin and Function of Team Sports as Tools of Character Development” • Tom Brinkerhoff (Penn History), “Government Agents of a Different Order: Children, Print Culture, and the Shaping of Contemporary Argentine Political Discourse”
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Co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research
*The Wharton School*
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Global Economic Crisis (2012-13)

Julia Gray  Political Science / Arts and Sciences
Robert Inman  Wharton School
Roberta Iversen  Social Policy and Practice
Julia Lynch  Political Science / Arts and Sciences
Thomas Sugrue  History and Sociology / Arts and Sciences
Susan Wachter  Wharton School

Immigration and Citizenship (2013-14)

Michael Katz  History / Arts and Sciences
Emilio Parrado  Sociology / Arts and Sciences
Thomas Sugrue  History and Sociology / Arts and Sciences
Deborah Thomas  Anthropology / Arts and Sciences
Domenic Vitiello  City and Regional Planning / PennDesign
Stanton Wortham  Graduate School of Education

Poverty and Opportunity (2014-15)

Michael Katz  History / Arts and Sciences
Julia Lynch  Political Science / Arts and Sciences
John M. MacDonald  Criminology and Sociology / Arts and Sciences
Emilio Parrado  Sociology / Arts and Sciences
Mark Stern  Social Policy and Practice
Thomas Sugrue  History and Sociology / Arts and Sciences