

10th BAA Annual Conference 2008
at Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz 3, Munich

Global Cities - Metropolitan Cultures: A Transatlantic Perspective

May 29 - 31, 2008

The 2008 BAA-annual conference addresses the effects of globalization on urban spaces and metropolitan cultures in a comparatist, transatlantic perspective.

Today globalization is everywhere, from financing institutions to trade, from culture to mass media. Even though industry is decentralizing due to the new international division of labour, some cities seem to be stronger than ever before. These so-called global cities are centers of transnational corporate headquarters, of telecommunication and information processing, of business services and of international finance among others. At the same time these cities are especially attractive for migrants from various countries, are culturally diverse metropolises, and socially complex agglomerations.

No conference fee, please register for participation by

Fon: +49-89-54 50 40 30

Fax: +49-89-54 50 40 35

E-Mail: info@amerika-akademie.de

The Conference Program

THURSDAY, MAY 29th, 2008

CONFERENCE OPENING

18.15 Welcome Addresses:

Klaus Benesch, Director, BAA

Eric Nelson, US Consul General, Munich

Helen Rodney, Canadian Embassy, Berlin

Hartmut Wurzbacher, Ministry of Sciences, Research and the Arts

Nadja Hirsch, councilwoman of the City of Munich

Awards Ceremony:

2008 BAA Dissertation Award

19.00 Keynote Address

[Susan Fainstein](#) (Harvard University)

[Ups and Downs of Global Cities](#)

19.50 RECEPTION Lobby, Amerika Haus

FRIDAY, MAY 30th, 2008

10. BAA-Akademiekonferenz 2008: Global Cities - Metropolitan Cultures: A Trans...

9.30 Panel I: Political and Social Aspects of the Global City Debate

Chair | [Jürgen Gebhardt](#) (University of Erlangen-Nürnberg)

[Susan E. Clarke](#) (University of Colorado) | [Global City Debates, Metropolitan Cultures, Multicultural Politics](#)

[Karsten Zimmermann](#) (University of New York) | [Does Locality Matter? How the Importance of Place Affects Local Politics](#)

10.50 Coffee Break

11.15 Panel II: Geography and Economy in Global Cities

Chair | [Barbara Hahn](#) (University of Würzburg)

[Roger Keil](#) (York University, Toronto) | [Global Cities: Connectivity, Vulnerability and Resilience](#)

[Ulrike Gerhard](#) (University of Würzburg) | [Global City Washington D.C.? An Urban Geography of the Political Sector](#)

12.45 Lunch Break

15.00 Panel III: Urban History and the Metropolis

Chair | [Volker Depkat](#) (University of Regensburg)

[Kathleen Conzen](#) (University of Chicago) | [Before the Chicago School: Vernacular Assimilation Theory in 19th Century Immigrant Chicago](#)

[Dorothee Brantz](#) (TU Berlin) | [The City as 'Second Nature': Metropolitan Growth and Urban Environment in Berlin and Chicago Science and its Publics: Theories and Practices](#)

15.45 Coffee Break

16.00 Panel IV: Metropolitan Cultures

Chair | [Klaus Benesch](#) (University of Munich)

[Rickerby Hinds](#) (University of California, Riverside) | [Hip Hop Culture: Multi-ethnic/ Multi-national Origins of a Global Expression?](#)

[Werner Zips](#) (University of Vienna) | [The Rules of the Streets: Fetishization and Pluralisation of "the" Law in the Global Reggae Metropolis](#)

17.30 BAA Members' Meeting

Annual Meeting of the Bavarian American Academy - **Members only!**

SATURDAY, MAY 31st, 2008**9.30 Panel V: World City Networks**

Chair | [Heike Paul](#) (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

[Michael Hoyler](#) (Loughborough University) | [Linking Cities Globally: Professional Service-Firms and the Making of Inter-City Relations](#)

[Caroline Nagel](#) (University of South Carolina) | [Diaspora Networks, Communications Technologies, and Public Spheres: the Case of Arab American Activists](#)

11.00 Coffee Break

11.15 Panel Discussion:

München: Von der Weltstadt mit Herz zur Global City?

10. BAA-Akademiekonferenz 2008: Global Cities - Metropolitan Cultures: A Trans...

Chair | [Barbara Hahn](#) (University of Würzburg)
[Klaus Illigman](#) (Representative of the City of Munich)
[Willfried Wienholt](#) (Siemens, Urban Deveopment)
[Achim Degen](#) (Immobilien-Kontor Schauer & Schöll GmbH / Colliers Property Partners Holding GmbH)
[Roger Keil](#) (York University, Regional Planning)
[Ilse Helbrecht](#) (University of Bremen, Vice President)

The discussion will be held in German

13.00 End of Conference

The Bavarian American Academy wishes to thank:

**Bayerisch-Amerikanisches Zentrum im Amerika Haus
München e.V.,
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft DFG,
U.S. Consulate General Munich,
Landeshauptstadt München Referat Für Stadtplanung und
Bauordnung**

Abstracts

Keynote Address

Susan Fainstein (Harvard University): Ups and Downs of Global Cities

Susan S. Fainstein is a Professor of Planning in the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. She has also taught at Columbia and Rutgers Universities and been a visiting professor at the University of Amsterdam and the University of Witwatersrand. Her teaching and research have focused on comparative urban public policy, planning theory, and urban redevelopment. Among her books are *The City Builders: Property, Politics, and Planning in London and New York*, *Restructuring the City*, and *Urban Political Movements*. She has co-edited volumes on urban tourism (*The Tourist City* and *Cities and Visitors*), gender and planning, planning theory, and urban theory. She is currently working on a book relating theories of justice to urban development. She is the recipient of the 2004 Distinguished Planning Educator Award of the Association of American Schools of Planning.

Abstract

The strong presence of financial and business services and cultural industries causes the designation of a city as a global city. The first two of these, however, while significantly increasing a city's wealth, also intensify income inequality and are particularly susceptible to the ups and downs of the business cycle. Moreover, while global city status strongly affects some economic and social sectors as well as spatial relations within them, the industries associated with that status are not the most important factor in the lives of the majority of residents. Thus, although many cities strive to be named global cities, achievement of this aim does not necessarily provide benefits commensurate with the effort.

Panel I: Political and Social Aspects of the Global City Debate:

Chair: [Jürgen Gebhardt](#) (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

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Jürgen Gebhardt is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg. His research focuses on political theory, political philosophy and the history of ideas. His publications include the volumes *Die Krise des Amerikanismus* (1976) and *Americanism* (1992) as well as numerous articles on the history of political ideas, systematic political theory and comparative politics. He is a member of the board of directors of the BAA.

Susan E. Clarke (University of Colorado): Global Cities, Metropolitan Cultures, Multicultural Politics

Susan E. Clarke received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research and teaching interests center on public policy and urban politics and policy, particularly issues of globalization and local democracy. Her publications include *The Work of Cities* (with Gary Gaile: Minnesota, 1998) on local economic development strategies, a co-authored book on *Multiethnic Moments: The Politics of Urban Education Reform* (Temple University Press, 2006) and numerous journal articles. She is Editor (with Michael Pagano and Gary Gaile) of *Urban Affairs Review*.

Abstract

Multiculturalism is experienced at multiple scales: the multi-level tensions between national policies and local experiences with immigrant incorporation are important but not solely derivative from central-local structures—there are substantial variations within and between countries that merit further attention. The emphasis in this essay is on the spatial context of multiculturalism in a global city system and the implications for local politics. The key themes include: the significance of multi-level governance, particularly the role of subnational governments in responding to new multicultural conditions; the ongoing effort to redefine “who belongs” in the U.S. and Europe, with a tense relationship between citizenship and restrictive conceptions of national identity; and the social and political implications of Putnam’s recent findings that more diversity is associated with less trust in government and in neighbors. The empirical work draws on the author’s field work in London boroughs as well as recent comparative analyses of transatlantic experiences with multicultural politics.

Karsten Zimmermann (Zentrum Für Interdisziplinäre Technikforschung Darmstadt): Does Locality Matter? How the Importance of Place Affects Local Politics

Karsten Zimmermann holds a PH.D. in political science. He has research experience in the field of local and regional governance, regional planning and planning theory. In recent years he worked on current changes in local government structures in German cities. Since 2004 he is working as a senior social scientist at Technical University of Darmstadt and is a member of the centre of research excellence “urban research”.

Abstract

Comparative urban research is always caught between the contradictory poles of convergence and diversity. Many scholars in urban political research emphasize the homogenizing effects of globalization in world cities and city politics in particular. World cities are supposed to follow entrepreneurial strategies which lead to similar outcomes in the build environment as well as in the governance of cities. Local strategies in planning and city marketing easily find traces in history of the respective cities (i.e. Hamburg or Munich) to construct distinctiveness. But the question of how places achieve and reproduce distinctiveness and respond differently to exogenous forces is not well addressed. Recent attempts to understand the “logic of place” can be subsumed under the spatial turn in sociology and political science. Another approach seeks to apply the concept of habitus of Pierre Bourdieu in the context of urban research (the habitus of the city). The contribution will try to summarize these approaches and develop hypotheses on how these new ways of thinking might contribute to urban policy research.

PANEL II: Geography and Economy in Global Cities

Chair: **Barbara Hahn (University of Würzburg)**

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Barbara Hahn is a Professor of Economic Geography at the University of Würzburg . She received her university education from 1973 to 1979 at the Ruhr University of Bochum. She received her PH.D. in geography with a dissertation on Cyprus at Bochum University in 1982 and in 1990 her habilitation at Mannheim University with a thesis on Canadian Cities. Since the mid-1980s her main research focus is on North America and she has worked on several projects in the United States . Her work focused on poverty and public housing in New York City , public spaces in American Cities , Shopping Centers in the United States , and the internationalization of retailers (Wal-Mart in Germany , Aldi in the United States). From 1994 to 2000 she was professor for economic and social geography at University of Lüneburg . In 1993 she taught at the Fulbright summer school at New York University and winter term 1999 she was a visiting professor at the University of Chicago .

Roger Keil (York University, Toronto): Global Cities: Connectivity, Vulnerability and Resilience

Roger Keil is the Director of the City Institute at York University and Professor at the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University , Toronto . Among his publications are *Los Angeles : Urbanization, Globalization and Social Struggles* (Chichester: John Wiley, 1998); *Nature and the City: Making Environmental Policy in Toronto and Los Angeles* (with Gene Desfor) (Tucson : University of Arizona Press , Nature and Society Series, 2004); (ed. with N.Brenner) *The Global Cities Reader* (London und New York : Routledge, 2006). Keil has three books forthcoming: with J.A.Boudreau and D.Young, *Changing Toronto : Governing the In-Between, The Global and The Local*. Peterborough : Broadview Press; ed. with Rianne Mahon, *Leviathan Undone? The Political Economy of Scale*. Vancouver : UBC Press; and ed. with S.H.Ali, *Networked Disease: Emerging Infections and the Global City*. Oxford : Blackwell. Keil is the co-editor of the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IJURR) and a co-founder of the International Network for Urban Research and Action (INURA).

Abstract

Global City theory is primarily a product of the ebullient 1980s. As globalization took shape, networks of urban regions became visible as a tangible way in which the world economy was connected. The downsides of this connectivity were of little concern at the time. Although there has always been a sharp divide between the – always optimistic – normative versions of global city parlance on one hand and the – often dystopic – analytical uses of concepts like global city or world city on the other, little has been said specifically about the pitfalls that lie in the network itself. Much has been written about social class divisions in global cities, ethnic diversity, ecological and health issues of social polarization and the like. But we have no sustained understanding of the dangers and opportunities that lie in being networked per se. This paper will take the SARS outbreak of 2003 and the issue of infrastructures as the basis of a conceptual discussion of the relationship of systemic networked connectivity to new forms of vulnerability in the global city system. Using Toronto as an example, it will be argued that global cities are now increasingly in danger of infectious disease outbreaks and systemic infrastructure breakdown. But it will also be shown that increased vulnerabilities may be met by considerable resilience of the governance institutions created over time.

Ulrike Gerhard (University of Würzburg) : Global City Washington D.C.? An Urban Geography of the Political Sector

Ulrike Gerhard is Professor of Urban and Economic Geography at Heidelberg University . She received her PhD at Marburg University in 1998, analysing urban retail landscapes in Canadian cities. As an assistant professor at Würzburg University (2001-2008) she specialized on global city development, looking at economic, political, and social aspects of North American cities. Among her publications is a book on the political urban geography of Washington, D.C., as well as several articles on retailing, consumer behaviour, urban planning and urban development in Canada, the US and Germany.

Abstract

Research on global cities can be understood as a modern perspective to analyse the changing appearance of cities as well as their dependency on global developments. However, 'traditional' global city research focuses mainly on economic aspects of the global urban network. Political

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and social actors seem to be of less importance. Using the case study of Washington , D.C. , political networks within a global city will be analysed. The urban context constitutes a certain stage or platform for the global civil society that uses the specific urban milieu for their work. At the same time, political actors influence urban development and contribute to the further rise of (political) world cities.

PANEL III: Urban History and the Metropolis

Chair: Volker Depkat (University of Regensburg)

Volker Depkat is a trained historian and professor of American Studies at the University of Regensburg . He studied History, English and German at the universities of Bonn , Eugene , Oregon and Göttingen, where he completed his PhD with the book "*Amerikabilder in politischen Diskursen. Deutsche Zeitschriften, 1789-1830*" (Stuttgart 1998). After completing his PhD he did postdoctoral work at the universities of Bielefeld , Greifswald and Berlin , where he held a position at the John-F.-Kennedy Institute for North American Studies. His habilitation dealt with autobiographies of twentieth -century German politicians and was published as "*Lebenswenden und Zeitenwenden. Deutsche Politiker und die Erfahrungen des 20. Jahrhunderts*" (Munich 2007). His latest book is a history of North America in continental perspective.

Kathleen Conzen (University of Chicago): Before the Chicago School: Vernacular Assimilation Theory in 19th Century Chicago

Dorothee Brantz (Technische Universität Berlin): 'The City as Second Nature': Metropolitan Growth and Urban Environment in Berlin and Chicago

Dorothee Brantz is assistant professor of urban history at the Center for Metropolitan Studies at the TU Berlin. After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2003, she held fellowships in Berlin , Washington , DC, and Cologne . She has published several articles on the topic of urban environmental history and is currently completing a book manuscript on the history of slaughterhouses in 19th-century Paris , Berlin , and Chicago.

Abstract

When Mark Twain visited Berlin in 1891 he described the city as "the German Chicago." In making this comparison, Twain alluded to the fact that both cities stood for the unprecedented growth of nineteenth-century metropolises. Indeed, whereas neither city was particularly significant at the beginning of the century – Chicago had not even been incorporated – by 1900 both were among the five largest cities in the world. What had made this incredible urban growth possible? Usually scholars explain the growth of cities in purely human terms, but as my presentation seeks to show, in order to understand the emergence of modern metropolises, we also need to consider the role of non-human factors. Hence, the history of cities should not be understood in opposition to nature but rather as the formation of a 'second nature' in urban space. Focusing on two specific examples – the Berlin zoo and the Chicago stockyards – my paper will demonstrate how animals in particular have shaped the rise of these cities in a global world. How did the Berlin zoo, founded in 1844, forge new linkages between metropole and empire through the exhibition of exotic animals and how did their staging in the urban environment come to symbolize imperial ambitions as well as western claims regarding the human dominance over nature? While zoos primarily signified the cultural expansion of metropolises, slaughterhouses like the stockyards of Chicago attested to the growing economic networks that incorporated humans, animals and their products into expanding global market structures. As I will demonstrate, the Chicago stockyards, which were established in 1865, serve as an early example of the close connection between metropolitan growth, the exploitation of natural resources and the establishment of global markets. Through these examples, I want to offer a reading of the historical rise of global cities that allows for the integration of the non-human in conceptions of urban development and that broadens the horizon of the global cities debate beyond the confines of the twentieth century.

PANEL IV: Metropolitan Cultures

Chair: Klaus Benesch (University of Munich)

Klaus Benesch is Professor of American Studies at the University of Munich (Germany). He was a 2004 Mellon Fellow at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center of the University of Texas (Austin), and has taught at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and Weber State University (Utah). Major publications include *Space in America: Theory, History, Culture* (editor/2005); *African Diasporas in the New and Old Worlds* (editor/2004); *The Sea and the American Imagination* (editor/2004); *Romantic Cyborgs: Authorship and Technology in the American Renaissance* (2002); *Technology and American Culture* (editor/1996); and *The Threat of History: Narrative Discourse and Historical Consciousness in Contemporary Afro-American Fiction* (1990).

Rickerby Hinds (University of California, Riverside): Hip Hop Culture: The Multi-ethnic/Multi-national Origins of a Global Expression?

Rickerby M. Hinds is an assistant professor of Playwriting at the University of California , Riverside . He received his BA in Liberal Arts in 1993 from UCR and his MFA in Playwriting from the University of California , Los Angeles in 1996. Professor Hinds has written numerous plays, such as *Blackballin'* (1995), *One Size Fits All* (1999), *Keep Hedz Ringin'* (1998), a Hip-Hop adaptation of Richard Wagner's opera *The Ring Cycle* and most recently *Buckworld One* (2007). He is currently working on a number of screenplays including an adaptation of his semi-autobiographical play *Birthmark* (1996). Rickerby Hinds is a leading national authority in Hip Hop Theater and is known for the creative development of this emerging acting performance style.

Abstract

Hip Hop Culture as it has been exported globally from its place of origin in the Bronx, New York , has often been perceived as a construction of, by and for Black Americans. Yet from its inception hip hop culture has been a multi-ethnic/national art form with its participant's common ground rooted more in their economic status than their ethnic or national designation. The convergence of diverse cultures in the metropolis that is New York City gave birth to hip hop cultures founding elements (DJ, MC, Graffiti, Break dancing) with little regard for the creator's place of origin, but with attention, intentional or subconscious, to the human need for expression, diversion and ultimately the creation of art that speaks to the soul. From this foundation Hip Hop has spread to and influenced people throughout the world either through their use of these cultural elements as they were used by the originators, or in their attempt to resist hip hop's influence altogether.

Werner Zips (University of Vienna): The Rules of the Streets: Fetishization and Pluralisation of "the" Law in the Global Reggae Metropolis

Werner Zips is Professor in the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna ; currently president of the Society for Caribbean Research. He has published extensively on legal anthropology, political anthropology, historical anthropology, Caribbean studies and governance in Africa . He has edited the volume *Rastafari. A Universal Philosophy in the Third Millennium*. Kingston and Miami : Ian Randle Publishers (2006); co-edited with Markus Weilenmann: *The Governance of Legal Pluralism*: Münster: Lit Publ. (2008). He is author of the book *Black Rebels. African-Caribbean Freedom Fighters in Jamaica* , Princeton and Kingston 1999: Markus Wiener and Ian Randle Publ. He has also directed and produced numerous ethnographic films and television documentaries on Jamaica , Cuba , Botswana , Ghana , South Africa , Japan , Thailand , and India .

Abstract

Dancehall Reggae represents one of the most vibrant and innovative artistic expressions to emerge from the contemporary Caribbean experience(s). Although thoroughly Black in its political and cultural agenda, the music spread globally, perhaps because of its categorical connection to other cultural contexts and universal concerns. This openness in turn may be the dominant reason why it appears unequaled in its multi-sited appropriations or „glocalizations“. Some of its most surprising strongholds may be found in Japan , Maoriland or Germany with their distinct local variants. A good deal of dancehall productions follows the practical logic of

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mainstream (Western) modernity and thus incorporates cultural imperialism. Globalized images of (virtual) violence derived from Hollywood or Hong Kong are reproduced in this hybrid artistic field that bears some resemblance with a „real“ war zone. The dominant violent means that the superpower(s) resort to, wherever they lack rationality to find political solutions, return as questionable reservoirs for creativity on the stage of performative acts. „Gun lyrics“ and ritualized verbal battles – in the form of DJ clashes – draw on the motives of the classical Western and, more recently, Eastern movies. Far from simple mimicry or imitation such dancehall tunes become hybridized by their translation into the Jamaican lifeworlds of the urban ghetto. In a striking inversion of transatlantic cultural flows Kingston prides oneself as the undisputed global city of Reggae . Its transnational power exports the „rules of the streets“ to those spaces usually coined metropolises.

Panel V: World City Networks

Heike Paul (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

Heike Paul is professor of North American Studies at the Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg. She is the author of *Mapping Migration. Women's Writing and the American Immigrant Experience, 1950s to 1990s* (1999) and *Kulturkontakt and Racial Presences: Afro-Amerikaner und die deutsche Amerika-Literatur, 1815-1914* (2005). She has co-edited *Differenzen in der Geschlechterdifferenz/ Differences within Gender Studies* (1999), *Amerikanische Populärkultur in Deutschland: Case Studies of Cultural Transfer Past and Present* (2002) and, most recently, *Screening Gender: Geschlechterszenarien in der gegenwärtigen US-amerikanischen Populärkultur* (2008). Her current research engages with phenomena of transatlantic cultural mobility and with the theoretical underpinnings of mobility studies.

Michael Hoyler (Loughborough University): Linking Cities Globally Professional Service Firms and the Making of Inter-City Relations

Michael Hoyler studied Geography, English Language and Literature, and Political Science at the University of Heidelberg and is currently Lecturer in Human Geography at Loughborough University (UK). His main research interests are in urban economic and social geography with a focus on the transformation of European cities and metropolitan regions in contemporary globalization. Much of this research is conducted under the auspices of the Globalization and World Cities (GaWC) Research Network based at Loughborough University , where he heads the European Cities Research Unit.

Abstract

Major cities and city-regions play a key role in contemporary economic globalization, both as places that attract clusters of dynamic firms and as nodes in transnational business networks. Advanced producer service firms (professional, creative and financial) in particular have become influential actors in world city formation through the 'seamless' provision of highly specialised corporate services for global clients. Their offices in different cities across the world link urban economies through flows of information, ideas, capital and people. This paper presents results of a large-scale attempt at mapping the contours of the 'world city network' created by the locational strategies of leading global service firms. Based on an interlocking network model, the empirical analysis identifies not only the most connected nodes in the world economy but also shows the unequal geographies of the corporate world city network. The outline of this macro-social network forms the background for more detailed investigations of inter-city relations under conditions of contemporary globalization.

Caroline Nagel (University of South Carolina) Diaspora Networks, Communications Technologies, and Public Spheres: the Case of Arab American Activists

Caroline Nagel is a member of the Department of Geography at the University of South Carolina. For the past several years, her work has focused on Arab-origin communities in Britain and the United States. She is interested in issues relating to identity, citizenship, religion, and integration. Her work has appeared in numerous interdisciplinary journals, and she was joint editor of *Geographies of Muslim Women: Religion, Gender and Space* (2005)..

Abstract

If advance producer service firms can be thought of as creating globalization from above, the millions of migrants who live in the cities of the Global North can be thought of as creating globalization from below. For over a decade, the focus of migration research has been the formation of dense social, economic, and political networks that link together diasporic groups with their places of origin. Such networks disrupt notions of here and there and are indicative of the deterritorialization and reterritorialization of the local and the national. In recent years, scholars have paid increasing attention to the role of communications technologies notably the internet, email, and cellular phones in enabling and sustaining these networks. According to some analyses, these technologies form the basis of new transnational public spheres in which diasporic groups can openly discuss and debate issues relating to their homelands and can foster a collective identity and imagination. But while these transnational public spheres clearly occupy an important role in the lives of diasporic groups, it is important to consider, as well, the embeddedness of migrants in national and local contexts. Migrants, in this sense, are not only diasporas; they are also minorities who are subject to and who participate in the politics of race, ethnicity and class in their societies of settlement. Using the example of Arab-origin activists in four U.S. cities, I wish to demonstrate how migrants participate in and address multiple, overlapping publics some that are transnational and others that are national or local or some combination therein. My account examines how Arab American activists are using communications technologies toward a variety of political goals and ends. Their use of communications technologies, I will suggest, speaks to the geographical complexity both of migrants lives and of the public sphere..

PANEL Discussion: München: Von der Weltstadt mit Herz zur Global City?

Chair: **Barbara Hahn**(University of Erlangen-Nuremberg)

Barbara Hahn is a Professor of Economic Geography at the University of Würzburg . She received her university education from 1973 to 1979 at the Ruhr University of Bochum. She received her PH.D. in geography with a dissertation on Cyprus at Bochum University in 1982 and in 1990 her habilitation at Mannheim University with a thesis on Canadian Cities. Since the mid-1980s her main research focus is on North America and she has worked on several projects in the United States . Her work focused on poverty and public housing in New York City , public spaces in American Cities , Shopping Centers in the United States , and the internationalization of retailers (Wal-Mart in Germany , Aldi in the United States). From 1994 to 2000 she was professor for economic and social geography at University of Lüneburg . In 1993 she taught at the Fulbright summer school at New York University and winter term 1999 she was a visiting professor at the University of Chicago .

Klaus Illigmann (Representative of the City of Munich)

Klaus Illigmann has been head of the department HA I of City Planning and Building Regulation of the City of Munich since 2003. The emphasis of his work lies mostly on cross-sectional topics, such as the continuation of the concept of city development planning, "PERSPEKTIVE MÜNCHEN", the monitoring of the housing market, dealing with questions of the city economy, social infrastructure, and the demographic development. Prior to his function at the city of Munich , Klaus Illigmann worked as consultant for municipalities for 15 years in all of the German-speaking countries. He has advised more than 100 municipalities and regional corporations, especially about interactive processes with an emphasis on city-, village-, and regional marketing and –management, as well as retail development.

Statement

Munich is one of the most successful cities in Germany and Europe . It has an excellent international image and a very strong economy. The employees of the city are highly qualified in their fields. Furthermore, we have renowned universities, many distinguished research institutions, a large scale of high-tech-, and knowledge-based industries and a strong service sector. Nevertheless, the disparities in living standards are growing. The increased costs of living and the pressure on the housing market can be accounted to the attractiveness of the city.

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Migrants, less qualified workers and elderly people are disadvantaged on the employment market. The majority of the inhabitants are worried about growing social differences. Munich's position as a competitive city can only be secured by actively tackling the upcoming challenges. There is a need for an integrative approach in urban development planning. The concept of the City Department of Urban Development Planning, „PERSPEKTIVE MÜNCHEN“, is working exactly towards this goal!

Willfried Wienholt (Siemens, Urban Development)

Dr. Willfried Wienholt is Vice President and Head of Urban Development at Siemens AG, Corporate Development, Siemens One. In his role, he enters new innovative paths based on a systemic perspective together with city stakeholders and with corresponding regional business units of Siemens AG. The identification of infrastructural demands, potential business opportunities, and technology requirements are part of his work. Dr. Wienholt has more than 16 years of experience in the areas of strategy development, technology, and research & sciences. His work spanned over the alignment and realization of evaluations varying from multi-level analysis to strategic decision support, design and application of innovation processes, internal key account management, and research and development projects. He earned a Ph.D. in Physics from Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany where he built a team of researchers on evolutionary algorithms.

Statement

Although each city must address its own unique issues and circumstances, there are common themes and trends that will be shaping the evolution of major cities worldwide in the coming years and decades. A survey sponsored by Siemens and conducted with decision-makers in the world's 25 biggest cities revealed that the cities prioritize economic competitiveness and employment. Stakeholders in the survey also highly rank environmental issues, but if a choice has to be made between the environment and economic growth, economic growth usually wins. As city leaders address the challenges of meeting the needs of a large and growing urban population, they need to balance three overriding concerns: Competitiveness, environment and quality of life. For Munich – the "City with a Heart" that managed to achieve this balance in the past – it will be crucial to maintain this course.

Achim Degen (Immobilien-Kontor Schauer & Schöll GmbH / Colliers Property Partners Holding GmbH)

Achim Degen commenced employment at Immobilien-Kontor Schauer & Schöll GmbH in 1989. He has been managing director and a partner of the company since 1999. He is responsible for the development of national cooperation as managing director of Colliers PropertyPartners Holding GmbH and is representative of the Colliers PropertyPartners network in Germany. He is also a member of the EMEA Regional Committee (ERC) and of the International Governing Committee (IGC) of Colliers International. He holds a Master's degree in business from the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, where he majored in tax law, auditing and professional trusteeship as well as civil law.

Roger Keil (York University, Regional Planning)

Roger Keil is the Director of the City Institute at York University and Professor at the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University, Toronto. Among his publications are *Los Angeles: Urbanization, Globalization and Social Struggles* (Chichester: John Wiley, 1998); *Nature and the City: Making Environmental Policy in Toronto and Los Angeles* (with Gene Desfor) (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, Nature and Society Series, 2004); (ed. with N.Brenner) *The Global Cities Reader* (London und New York: Routledge, 2006). Keil has three books forthcoming: with J.A.Boudreau and D.Young, *Changing Toronto: Governing the In-Between, The Global and The Local*. Peterborough: Broadview Press; ed. with Rianne Mahon, *Leviathan Undone? The Political Economy of Scale*. Vancouver: UBC Press; and ed. with S.H.Ali, *Networked Disease: Emerging Infections and the Global City*. Oxford: Blackwell. Keil is the co-editor of the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IJURR) and a co-founder of the International Network for Urban Research and Action (INURA).

Abstract

Global City theory is primarily a product of the ebullient 1980s. As globalization took shape, networks of urban regions became visible as a tangible way in which the world economy was connected. The downsides of this connectivity were of little concern at the time. Although there has always been a sharp divide between the – always optimistic – normative versions of global city parlance on one hand and the – often dystopic – analytical uses of concepts like global city or world city on the other, little has been said specifically about the pitfalls that lie in the network itself. Much has been written about social class divisions in global cities, ethnic diversity, ecological and health issues of social polarization and the like. But we have no sustained understanding of the dangers and opportunities that lie in being networked per se. This paper will take the SARS outbreak of 2003 and the issue of infrastructures as the basis of a conceptual discussion of the relationship of systemic networked connectivity to new forms of vulnerability in the global city system. Using Toronto as an example, it will be argued that global cities are now increasingly in danger of infectious disease outbreaks and systemic infrastructure breakdown. But it will also be shown that increased vulnerabilities may be met by considerable resilience of the governance institutions created over time.

Ilse Helbrecht (University of Bremen, Vice-President)

Prof. Dr. Ilse Helbrecht studied geography, sociology and law at the University of Munster (1983-1990), she got her PhD (Dr. phil., 1993) and habilitation (Dr. phil. habil., 1999) from the Technical University of Munich. Since 2002 she is full professor of human geography at the University of Bremen and since 2005 Vice-President for Academic Affairs and International Relations at the University of Bremen.

Statement

The city of Munich has witnessed a most impressive urban transformation in the last decades. The German phrase "Weltstadt mit Herz" captures part of the apparent contradictions that accompanied the process. This is a wording with wit. Because it addresses a specific character of a " Munich way of going global.
