

The Urban Planet

Newsletter of the Center for Urban and Global Studies (CUGS) at Trinity
College

September 2020



A Note from the CUGS Director, Garth Myers

As Summer comes to a close and a new school year begins at Trinity, there is a lot of new energy around CUGS – despite all of the uncertainties that come with the COVID-19 pandemic and traumas of the crisis in racial injustice.

We welcome (virtually) our new Kelter Post-Doctoral Fellow, Dr. Laura Delgado, and we welcome (or welcome back) several other colleagues – Sean Fitzpatrick, Dr. Don Poland, and Dr. Jonathan Elukin – into the CUGS orbit.

We are also excited by the number of new and newly revised courses that will be on offer in 2020-21, including:

- In the Fall: Laura’s **Community Development Strategies**, Jonathan’s **History of the City** (in the Cities Program first-year gateway), and Don’s **Introduction to Urban Planning**.
- In the experimental 5-week J-term: Dr. David Lukens will be offering a new course called **Digital Urban Investigations** and I’m offering a new, all-online version of my course, **Architecture & Urban Planning on the Swahili Coast**.
- In Spring 2021: Dr. Xiangming Chen will offer a new course on **Reshaping Global Urbanization**, Dr. Yipeng Shen will teach **Global Crime Fiction** and Dr. Julie Gamble will offer the new course, **Learning from Hartford**.
- All of these come on board alongside several new cross-listed and cross-referenced classes from affiliated faculty, including Dr. Luis Figueroa, Dr. Davarian Baldwin, Dr. Susan Masino, and Dr. Hernan Flom.

CUGS and URST continue to grow and develop new connections. The URST major is, at the time of writing, the 10th-largest major at the college with 43 majors. As we look to the future, we are in conversations about how best to restructure the major to strengthen both its intellectual base and career development potential. We clearly need to grow our faculty, and to find the means for convincing those who have eyes to see that this is necessary. Our graduate certificate in Urban Planning, launched in Fall 2020, will almost certainly grow and, ideally, with the growth of our faculty, blossom into a full Master’s program in Urban Planning.

We look forward to an era of new and continuing collaborations with the Center for Hartford Engagement and Research, the Center for Caribbean Studies, the new Climate Emergency Committee, the new Urban Arts Initiative, the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, the Connecticut World Affairs Council, the New University in Exile Consortium, the Institute for International Education Scholar Rescue Fund, Fudan University and other partners in the region and around the world.

Welcomes and Farewells

This summer we were happy to formally welcome **Sean Fitzpatrick**, Professor of the Practice in Public Policy and Urban Studies, to the CUGS team. Prof. Fitzpatrick has been a friend of CUGS since his days as Director of Development Services for the City of Hartford under Mayor Luke Bronin and has taught in Trinity's graduate Public Policy program since 2018. [Read more about Sean and his new freshman seminar course in urban studies here.](#)



We are grateful to have **Laura Delgado** as our Kelter Postdoctoral Fellow for 2020-2021. Laura received a B.A. from Williams College and a Master in City Planning and a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She has experience teaching housing and community development, urban planning theory and practice, research design, and GIS at MIT and Boston University. This fall, Laura will teach a course titled URST-301: Community Development Strategies. [Read more about Laura here.](#)

As we welcome new colleagues, we prepare for our IIE-SRF visiting fellow **Savas Ergül**' departure. Savas will be off to Paris to participate in the University of Paris 8's PAUSE program. [Read his farewell message here.](#)

[Trinity Students in China Participate in Special Program at Fudan University for the Fall Semester](#)



In Fall 2020, through a partnership between Trinity College and Fudan University, twenty-two of Trinity's first-year students from the class of 2024 and twenty continuing students will enjoy a special semester by taking in-person classes at Fudan University in Shanghai. Read more about the program, organized by Professor Xiangming Chen, [here](#).

[Fall 2020 Virtual Global Vantage Point Lecture Series](#)

All events will take place from 12:00-1:00 pm via Zoom

We hope you can join us for our virtual Global Vantage Point Lectures this fall. We're doing things a bit differently, but we have a stellar line up of scholars for what is sure to be a stimulating fall lecture series.

September 15, 2020 –This first event took place yesterday. It was a great lecture. We hope you'll join us for the remaining lectures of the semester.

The Patchwork City: Class, Space, and Politics in Metro Manila, with Marco Garrido, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago.

<https://trincoll.zoom.us/j/94594053076>

October 13, 2020

Climate Change and Everyday Fragility, with Steve Commins, Lecturer in Urban Planning and Associate Director for Global Public Affairs, UCLA

<https://trincoll.zoom.us/j/92832389466>

November 3rd, 2020

Performing Class, Gender, and Nation: Chinese Vloggers in Transnational Settings, with Xin Yang, Chair and Associate Professor of Asian Languages and Cultures, Macalester College

<https://trincoll.zoom.us/j/99582640966>

November 10th, 2020

Negotiating the Socialist Industrial Legacy in Post-1978 China, with Tze-Lan Sang, Professor of Chinese, Michigan State University

<https://trincoll.zoom.us/j/93406974198>