



Plenary 1

Urban Co-ordinates

Monday 11 November, 10.30 – 12.00

IOE Jeffery Hall

Chair: **Prof. Jennifer Robinson**, Chair of Human Geography, UCL

This session will explore the ways in which thinking the urban through specific contexts, and from different urban practices, might inform and (re-)frame conceptualisations of the 'urban' and urbanisation as well as inform responses to the significant challenges they represent. How might the different approaches presented here be placed into dialogue with one another?

Prof. Susan Parnell

Susan Parnell is a Global Challenges Professor of Human Geography at the University of Bristol and Emeritus Professor at the University of Cape Town, where she was the co-founder of the African Centre for Cities. She has recently been a Visiting Professor at LSE Cities, a Leverhulme Visiting Professor at UCL and the Emeka Anyaoku Visiting Chair, UCL. She has been actively involved in local, national and global urban policy debates around the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and is an advocate for better science policy engagement on cities. Recent books include *Building a Capable State: Post Apartheid Service Delivery* (Zed, 2017) and *The Urban Planet* (Cambridge, 2017).

Prof. Fulong Wu

Fulong Wu is Bartlett Professor of Planning at University College London. His research interests include urban development in China and its social and sustainable challenges. He has recently published a book, *Planning for Growth: Urban and Regional Planning in China* (2015, Routledge). He is an Editor of *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. He was awarded 2013 Outstanding International Impact Prize by UK ESRC. He has previously taught at Cardiff University and the University of Southampton.

Dr Gautam Bhan

Gautam is Senior Lead (Academics & Research) at the School of Human Development at Indian Institute for Human Settlements. He teaches, researches and writes on the politics of urban poverty and inequality, urban and planning theory, housing, and identity and social practice. He anchors the role of IHS as a National Resource Centre with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, and is part of IHS' work in affordable housing policy and practice. His previous research has focused on displacement and resettlement of the urban poor in Delhi and his new work engages with regimes of urban welfare and social security, including work on urban health. He has been an active part of urban social

movements on sexuality as well as housing rights, and currently advises and trains governmental agencies at local, state and national levels on housing policy.

Prof. Raquel Rolnik

Raquel Rolnik is a professor and urban planner, with over 40 years of scholarship, activism and practical experience in planning, urban studies and housing policies. She is professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the University of São Paulo. In her career, she has held various government positions including Director of the Planning Department of the city of São Paulo (1989-1992) and National Secretary for Urban Programs of the Brazilian Ministry of Cities (2003-2007). From 2008 to 2014 she was the UN Human Rights Council Special Rapporteur on adequate housing. She is the author of several articles and books, including *Urban warfare: housing under the empire of finance*.