

Urban Research Centre and Institute for Culture and Society seminar

Living in the City

This is the second of two seminars on Living in the City hosted by the Urban Research Centre and the Institute for Culture and Society.

The papers presented in these seminars will address the question of how to live in the city, and will be followed by a discussion aimed at developing critical insights and practical answers.

Presenters

- **Dr Dallas Rogers and Dr Shanthi Robertson:** *'Visa regimes, foreign investment and changing real estate production and consumption practices in Australian cities'*.
- **Professor Paul James:** *'A manifesto for good cities'*.
- **Dr Louise Crabtree:** *'Housing policy as the policing of the acceptable'*.
- **Dr Cameron McAuliffe:** *'Valuing the 21st century city: the role of public engagement in our urban future'*.

Date

Monday 10 November

Time

10.00am – 12.00pm

Venue

Room X6.4.14, Parramatta City Campus

Background

Bruce Katz in his recent lecture at the Global Cities Dialogue, broadcast to Sydney from Washington DC, declared that the 21st Century will be the century of the city. We are nearly a decade and a half into that century and eight years have elapsed since the UN pronounced that over half of humanity calls the city home. In that time the Global Financial Crisis and multiple ecological challenges have added urgency to the questions of how to live in the city together. We may be early into this urban century but every dimension of city life seems, as it were, up in the air. This one question of how to live in cities begets many others: What is the future of work in cities where precarious employment is the norm? How are common resources cared for in the context of increasingly unstable ecosystems? How are cities in both minority and majority world contexts to adjust to aging populations? How are we to house growing populations and what challenges might this mean for our concept of home? Can we think of new ways to orient urban infrastructure in the 21st Century, and what, ultimately, might new models of urban growth mean for urban mobility?

All of these questions, and more, are relevant for the way we might conceptualise and approach Sydney's future development, and the way our local context articulates with urban contexts elsewhere, and help inform our responses to the challenges of an urban century.

In this second session there are two papers that consider how changing financial, legal and normative frameworks affect housing in cities for particular communities as well as two papers that ask more general questions: what is the good city and what role does public engagement play in 21st century urbanism?