Participant Bios

Session 6: Cross Pacific Experiences in Dealing with Economic and Social Issues

Chair/Moderator: Richard Drobnick, Director CIBER, Marshall School, USC

Dr. Drobnick has a joint appointment with the University of Southern California and the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), which maintains its Secretariat at NUS. At USC, Drobnick is the founding director of the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) at the Marshall School of Business, which has been supported by the U.S. Department of Education since 1990, as one of its 31 national resource centers on international business. From 1994-2005, Drobnick served as USC’s Vice Provost for International Affairs.

At NUS, Drobnick is the Managing Director of the APRU World Institute, an institute founded in 2006 to produce interdisciplinary research on issues of critical importance to Pacific Rim policy makers and he is a Visiting Professor of Global Studies at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (www.apru.org/awi). Drobnick is also the Secretary General Emeritus and a member of the Steering Committee of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), the association of presidents of 42 leading Pacific Rim research universities (www.apru.org). Drobnick specializes in Pacific Rim economic and business issues and U.S. and Pacific Rim trade policies. He is the author of numerous articles regarding international economics and business, as well as the co-author of Neither Feast nor Famine: Food Conditions to the Year 2000 (D.C. Heath, 1978) and co-editor of Small Firms in Global Competition (Oxford University Press, 1994).

Doug Joines, Professor, Marshall School, USC

Douglas H. Joines is Professor of Finance and Business Economics in the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California. He is currently director of international experiential learning programs in the Marshall School and was Vice Dean for Academic Programs from 2005 to 2007. His research interests lie in the fields of macroeconomics, monetary economics, and public finance. In recent years his work has dealt largely with policies that affect national saving, including social security and tax-based saving incentives. He has received research grants from the National Science Foundation as well as private foundations. He held an Abe Fellowship from the Japan Foundation and the Social Science Research Council which funded a three-month stay in Japan during each of the academic
years 2005-2007. This grant supported the study of social security, public debt, and national saving in Japan. He received an A.B. in economics from Duke University, prior to which he also attended the London School of Economics and Political Science. He received MBA and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago. His visiting appointments include Claremont McKenna College, the University of Rochester, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Most recently, he was Visiting Professor of Economics at the University of Tokyo from 2002 to 2003.

Glenn Melnick, Professor, School of Policy, Planning and Development, USC

Glenn Melnick, Ph.D., is a world-renowned expert in health economics and finance. Professor Melnick joined the School of Public Administration faculty in 1996. Previously, he served as a faculty member of the UCLA School of Public Health, a consultant at RAND, and an expert witness to the Federal Trade Commission. He has been published in the American Journal of Public Health, Health Affairs, Medical Care, Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law, Health Policy Reform: Competition and Controls, and Journal of Ambulatory Care Management. He has been principal investigator for a number of funded projects in Jakarta, Indonesia, and in Taiwan.

Tridib Banerjee, School of Policy, Planning and Development, USC

Tridib Banerjee, Ph.D., has focused his research, teaching, and writing on the design and planning of the built environment and the related human and social consequences. In particular, he is interested in the political economy of urban development, and the effects of globalization in the transformation of urban form and urbanism from a comparative international perspective. His current research includes implementation of smart growth policies, converting brown fields to affordable housing, designing for residential density and walkable communities, and transit oriented development. Professor Banerjee's previous areas of research and consulting have included comparative urbanism and urbanization, user perceptions of residential environments, spatial environment of adolescence, urban scale vulnerability of seismic damages, privatization of public life and space, transit corridor design and developments, and regional growth visioning processes. He served as associate dean of the former USC School of Urban and Regional Planning from 1982 to 1986, and as vice dean of the USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development from 1998 to 2001. He is principal investigator of USC's Center for Economic Development and serves as the director of the Community Development and Design Forum. In addition to his work in the United States, his consulting, research, and teaching assignments have taken him to such countries as Bahrain, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Morocco, Mexico, Taiwan, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates. His publications include Beyond the Neighborhood Unit (with William C. Baer), City Sense and City design: Writings and Projects of Kevin Lynch (co-edited with Michael Southworth), and Urban Design Downtown: Poetics and Politics of Form (with Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris). Professor Banerjee is a fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), a member of the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB), and is actively involved with the Association of the Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP).
Mark Wilson, team lead, USC Marshall ABAC Research Team

Mark Wilson, 2009 Marshall ABAC Team Lead, is currently a Market Analyst developing utility scale solar power plants for the leading CPV firm Amonix, Inc. Prior to that, he spent four years in the financial services industry, trading fixed income securities for the founder of the mutual fund industry, MFS Investment Management. Mr. Wilson also brings a heavy international focus, consulting with a tourism company in Western China and a solar energy social enterprise in India. He has spent extensive time in Asia and speaks fluent Mandarin Chinese. Mr. Wilson holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Trinity College and an MBA from the University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business.