UCSUR's Brown Bag Speakers Series Presents...

The Changing Role of Public Housing Authorities in the Affordable Housing Delivery System



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Friday, January 24th
Noon-1:15 pm
UCSUR's 1st Floor Conference Room
3343 Forbes Ave.

(across the street from Magee-Womens Hospital)

Public housing authorities (PHAs) in the U.S. have transformed from entirely public endeavors to public-private hybrids that must respond to market forces. As the recession began, PHAs were just beginning to experience the full effects of this transition. Using 13 cases studies of the largest PHAs in the Pacific Northwest, she will outline activities PHAs undertake in this devolved, market-based context. The different responses by PHAs point to the under-valued attribute of public housing authorities as local organizations with diverse mandates. Dependence on HUD, local charter, and the degree of integration with local government contributed to PHAs' propensity to develop non-HUD-assisted affordable housing. Even with this creativity, adequate resources are needed to meet the demand for affordable housing for the poorest households as market conditions change.

Rachel Garshick Kleit, PhD, is Head of the City and Regional Planning Section at the Knowlton School. Previously, she was Associate Professor in the Evans School of Public Affairs and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Urban Design and Planning at the University of Washington. She received a Bachelor of Art, from Brandeis University, a Master of Arts in Urban and Environmental Policy from Tufts University, and a Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research interests include housing mobility and location choice, affordable housing policy, housing as a poverty alleviation strategy, equity impacts of economic development, urban and regional disparity. She teaches courses on affordable housing policy, metropolitan policy, social equity, and advanced planning theory.

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