

A Joint Seminar with the Department of Geography

Topic: Generative Urbanization through Global Production Networks? Perspectives from East Africa

ABSTRACT

This talk examines whether ties to GPN might facilitate more inclusive, sustainable, and economically transformative processes of urbanization in East Africa today. Cities are conceptualized as sociotechnical systems constituted by production, consumption, and infrastructure regimes that determine the direction, quality, and pace of urban development. The framework is used to assess the role that GPN couplings do/might play in shaping urbanization pathways in a region where cities face extremes of inequality and poverty. The talk concludes with an overview of new research that will examine how Chinese-driven GPN are shaping urban-regional development outcomes in East Africa.

SPEAKER:

[Professor Jim Murphy](#)
Professor of Geography
Clark University

CHAIR:

[Distinguished Professor Henry Yeung](#)
Department of Geography
National University of Singapore

DATE:

Wednesday, 5 Feb 2020

TIME:

4:00pm – 5:30pm

VENUE:

Earth Lab #02-03
Department of Geography
Block AS2, Level 2
5 Arts Link
Singapore 117570



Jim Murphy

Jim Murphy is a Professor in Clark University's Graduate School of Geography (Worcester, MA USA).

His research examines the structures, agencies, relationalities, and spatialities shaping contemporary urban-economic geographies and analyses the prospects for more just, sustainable, and resilient forms of development in the Global South (esp. East Africa). This work draws on concepts, theories, and epistemologies from human geography, global production networks, development studies, economic sociology, and science and technology studies (STS). As the Editor-in-Chief (since 2014) of *Economic Geography* he has helped to advance diverse research agendas and played a significant role in promoting, expanding, and strengthening the field.