

REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2019

*Pushing Regions beyond their Borders*

University of Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

5th – 7th June 2019

## Urban and Regional Horizons Plenary Panel, Wednesday, 4th June 2019

The aim of this panel is to facilitate discussion and stimulate debate around the current state of urban and regional research, and how this is sitting in the face of the big global challenges – globalisation, urbanisation, technological change and innovation, climate change, inequality, geopolitical turmoil. A series of invited panellists will each deliver a short opening position statement. This will then be followed by open discussion among the panellists, prompted by questions from the audience.

### Panellists:

#### **Mercedes Delgado, MIT Innovation Initiative, USA and Copenhagen Business School, Denmark**



Mercedes Delgado is the Research Director and Research Scientist of the MIT Innovation Initiative Lab for Innovation Science and Policy. Delgado also serves as Senior Associate at the Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness at Harvard Business School. Delgado's research focuses on the relationship between the regional business environment and the performance of firms, regions, and countries. She examines the role of regional clusters—geographic concentrations of related industries, firms, and supporting institutions—in job creation, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusivity, and resilience. Delgado has developed new methods for defining and mapping clusters, providing tools to help firms, practitioners, and policymakers create regional strategies. In recent work she explores the interaction between the spatial organization of firms, their location choices through the

value chain, and firm performance. Delgado's work has been published in top economic, policy, and strategy journals. She has received a number of prestigious fellowships and research grants, including a recent National Science Foundation grant on Mapping the Inventor Gender Gap. She served as a lead researcher on the US Cluster Mapping Project: Mapping a Nation of Regional Clusters. More information at [www.delgadam.com](http://www.delgadam.com).

#### **Sergio Montero Muñoz, Centro de Estudios Interdisciplinarios sobre Desarrollo (CIDER) Universidad de los Andes, Colombia**



Sergio Montero is Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Development at the Interdisciplinary Centre for Development Studies (CIDER) of the Universidad de los Andes, Colombia. Sergio holds a master and PhD in City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley and a BA in Economics from the Universidad de Granada, Spain. Sergio's research interests are in the governance of urban and regional planning; the construction, learning and global circulation of urban and regional policy models and "best practices;" and local economic development policy, with an emphasis in Latin American cities and regions.

His work has appeared in the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Environment & Planning A* and *Urban Studies*. Based on fieldwork conducted in six Latin American small and medium-sized cities, his most recent book, *Fragile Governance and Local Economic Development: Theory and Evidence from Peripheral Regions in Latin*

*America* (Routledge 2018, with Karen Chapple), argues that much of our understanding of local economic development is based on large urban agglomerations in the global North and proposes an alternative framework of analysis based on the idea of fragile governance and a set of three related variables: informal networks, learning processes, and inclusive leadership.

Sergio received the Regional Studies Association/Routledge Early Career Award in 2017.

**Isabelle Anguelovski, Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA) and Hospital del Mar Institute for Medical Research (IMIM), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain**



Isabelle Anguelovski obtained a PhD in Urban Studies and Planning from MIT before returning to Europe in 2011 with a Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowship. Situated at the intersection of urban planning and policy, social inequality and development studies, her research examines the extent to which urban plans and policy decisions contribute to more just, resilient, healthy, and sustainable cities, and how community groups in distressed neighborhoods contest the existence, creation, or exacerbation of environmental inequities as a result of urban (re)development processes and policies. She is currently an ICREA Research Professor at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) within the Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA) and the coordinator of the research group Healthy Cities and Environmental

Justice at the Medical Research Institute-Hospital del Mar (IMIM). Since 2016, she is the PI of a five-year ERC-funded project called GreenLULUs which examines green inequalities in 40 cities in Europe, the US, and Canada.

**Ben Derudder, Department of Geography, Ghent University, Belgium**



Ben Derudder is Professor of Urban Geography at Ghent University's (Belgium) Department of Geography, an Associate Director of the Globalization and World Cities (GaWC) research network, and a Senior Visiting Professor at Shanghai Normal University. His main research interests are (1) the conceptualization and analysis of transnational urban networks and (2) the (putative) emergence of polycentric urban regions. In both cases, a main empirical focus of his research is the fast-evolving landscape of Chinese cities and regions. His research has been published in major scientific journals dealing with urban and regional questions. He has co-edited a number of books on both topics, including the ['International Handbook of Globalization and World Cities'](#) (Edward Elgar, 2011, with P.J. Taylor, F. Witlox & M. Hoyler). A second edition of the ['World City Network: a Global Urban Analysis'](#) (Routledge, 2016, together with P. Taylor) was published with Routledge in 2016, and later translated and published in Chinese with Phoenix Education Publishing in 2018. He is currently one of the Associate editors of *Regional Studies*, and co-coordinates a Regional Studies Association [Research Network on 'polycentric urban regions'](#)..

**David Bailey, Economics, Finance & Entrepreneurship Department, Aston University, UK**



Professor David Bailey, an influential business expert on economic restructuring and industrial policy is perhaps best known for his knowledge of UK and West Midlands car manufacturing. As an author, regular media commentator and newspaper columnist, he has provided articles and commentary on key economic and regional policy issues including the closure and eventual reopening of the MG Rover car plant in Birmingham, UK, and the Jaguar Land Rover economic success story. Most recently, David has undertaken European funded research on using foreign investment to upgrade clusters and on industrial and regional policy and the rise of 'phoenix' industries such as the low carbon vehicles cluster here in the West Midlands. He has also recently worked with

SQW Consulting on a project for the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills on developing a framework to assist Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) in responding to economic 'shocks' and restructuring. He has twice chaired the Regional Studies Association, and is currently editor in Chief of *Regional Studies*. He has acted as a Special Advisor

to the House of Commons Select Committee on the West Midlands region, presenting to a number of select committees and All Party Parliamentary Groups. He has also been a Non-Executive Director at University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust from 2006-2013.