

ADAPTED FROM GRANT PROPOSAL PORTAL

Event Title

Protest and Public Space

Organization

Public Space Working Group/ PhD Student Anthropology

Dates

May 2 - 3, 2012

Event Information

Protest and Public Space concludes the first year of lectures, discussions, and meetings of the Public Space Working Group, a collective of faculty and graduate students sponsored by the Public Space Research Group at the Graduate Center of the CUNY. This two day conference focuses on various kinds of protest and the importance of public space for democratic practices and transformations of cities. Panels interrogate how protest and transformation of space is configured differently in various parts of the globe, highlighting the contemporary Arab Spring and Tahrir Square in Cairo, within the context of school closing protests, social movements to take back the city, reworkings of urban space in eastern Europe in a post Soviet and Socialist context, and the investigation of infrastructure as an enabling structure for new forms of public space. Panels include both senior and emerging scholars in the field as well as activists who work within the academy for equality and social justice in the city.

This conference is an extension of the Public Space Working Group, founded in the fall of 2010 in order to provide a forum for student and faculty scholars working on issues of public space, democracy, and access. Throughout the past three semesters, students have been instrumental in inviting speakers for a regular speaker series, organizing events (including a film screening funded by the DSC) and a conference last spring, entitled Which Space for the Public? (also with DSC funding.)

While last year's conference was internal, with about 50 attendees, we hope to grow the conference this year to provide students with opportunities to network with scholars in the field and share their work more broadly. Panels will be composed of students and faculty together, opening discussion across traditional academic hierarchies.

Budget and Publicity Material

| Line Item | Estimated Cost | Source of Funds |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| Travel: Farha Ghannam, Swarthmore | 150 | Center for the Humanities |
| Travel: Andrea Maldonado, Providence | 50 | Center for the Humanities |
| Refreshments, May 2 | 150 | Center for the Humanities |
| Coffee, May 3 | 50 | DSC grant |
| Reception, May 3 | 100 | DSC grant |
| Travel/Lodging: Jessica Greenberg, Chicago | 350 | DSC grant |
| Poster and flyer design | 125 | DSC grant |
| printing | 75 | DSC grant |

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Other possible revenue sources include the Space-Time Research Collective, and the Center for Human Environments. We hope that they will co-sponsor this event with us.

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Attachment 1: Conference schedule (submitted separately as Word document)

CONFERENCE: PROTEST AND PUBLIC SPACE, MAY 2 -3, 2012, CUNY Graduate Center

Tentative schedule and participants

Organizers:

Fabio Mattioli, PhD student in Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Naomi Adiv, PhD student in Geography, CUNY Graduate Center

Setha Low, Professor of Environmental Psychology, Anthropology, Earth and Environmental Sciences and Women's Studies, CUNY Graduate Center, Director of the Public Space Research Group and the Public Space and Privatization Working Group, Co-chair of the Max Planck Institute Working Group on Public Space and Diversity

MAY 2

Panel 1

Revolting Times: Schools closed, dream (acts) deferred and public education under siege

Ujju Aggarwal, Parent Leadership Project, Center for Immigrant Families, and Ph.D. candidate in Cultural Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center,

Edwin Mayorga, New York City school teacher, core member of New York Collective of Radical Educators (NYCoRE) and Ph.D. candidate in Urban Education, CUNY Graduate Center;

Donna Nevel, Participatory Action Research Center for Education Organizing (PARCEO)

Jennifer Ayala, Associate Professor, Saint Peter's College

Anne Galletta, Associate Professor, Cleveland State University;

Leigh Patel Stevens, Associate Professor, Boston College,

Rocio Sanchez Ares, Ph.D. candidate at Boston College.

Michelle Fine, Distinguished Professor of Psychology, The Graduate Center - City University of New York

Panel 2

Lessons from Cairo: Historical Context and Contemporary Protest in Public Space

Farha Ghannam, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Swarthmore College.

Claire Panetta, PhD Student of Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Negar Azimi, Senior Editor, Bidoun Projects

Moustafa Bayoumi, Professor, Department of English, Brooklyn College

Panel 3

The Neoliberalization of Public Space

Katherine McCaffrey Associate Professor, Co-Director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program, Montclair State University.

Julian Brash Assistant Professor, Montclair State University

Jill Siegel PhD Student, Penn University

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Ida Susser, Professor of Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center and Hunter College

MAY 3

Panel 4.

Protest at the gates of Europe: Lessons from Peripheral Spaces

Fabio Mattioli PhD Student in Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Jessica Greenberg, Assistant Professor, Department of Communications, Northwestern University

Juraj Anzulovic PhD Student in Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Leven Soysal Professor of Anthropology, Kadir Has University

Emily Curtin PhD Student in Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Gerald Creed, Executive Officer and Professor of Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Panel 5

Social Movements, Bodies, and Protest

Andrea Maldonado PhD Student in Anthropology, Brown University

Aimee Cox Assistant Professor, African American and African Studies, *Rutgers University*

Monica Barra PhD Student in Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center\

Manissa Maharawal PhD Student in Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center

Jeff Maskovsky, Associate Professor, CUNY Graduate Center and Queens College.

Panel 6

The Politics of Infrastructure

Naomi Adiv PhD Student in Geography, CUNY Graduate Center

Andrea Renner PhD student of Art History, Columbia University

Marta Gutmann Associate Professor, Spitzer School of Architecture, *City College* of New York

Ruth Gilmore, Professor of Geography CUNY Graduate center and Associate Director of the Center for Place Space and Politics

Elebash Recital Hall on May 2, DSC room 5414 on May 3

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Attachment 2: Mock flyer (submitted separately as JPEG or PDF)

PROTEST AND PUBLIC SPACE. A CONFERENCE

CUNY Graduate Center, May 2 - 3, 2012

*Sponsored by the Public Space Working Group, the Center for the
Humanities, the Doctoral Students Council, the Space-Time Research
Collective and the Center for Human Environments*



Ujju Aggarwal, Edwin Mayorga, Donna Nevel, Jennifer Ayala, Anne Galletta, Leigh Patel Stevens, Rocio Sanchez Ares, Michelle Fine, Farha Ghannam, Claire Panetta, Negar Azimi, Moustafa Bayoumi, Katherine McCaffrey, Julian Brash Assistant Professor, Jill Siegel Ida Susser, Fabio Mattioli, Jessica Greenberg, Juraj Anzulovic Leven Soysal Emily Curtin Gerald Creed, Andrea Maldonado, Aimee Cox, Monica Barra, Marissa Maharawal, Jeff Maskovsky, Naomi Adiv, Andrea Renner, Marta Gutman, Ruth Gilmore.