

Dear Rob Krueger, Congratulations on a successful submission of your session to the 2012 Annual Meeting, New York, New York. Your session details are as follows:

Title: *Situating Urban Sustainability in the Context of Urban Theory and Policy I*

Description: Over the past decade a body of work has emerged one might call "critical sustainability studies." These scholars have focused their analytical lenses on the political economic processes and practices of urban sustainability, thus choosing not to reify the concept and practice of urban sustainability. For example, Gibbs and Krueger (2007) examined urban sustainability planning practices were adopted in new economy spaces in response to intense competition for attracting new high-tech industries. In her study of environmental gentrification, Pearsall (2009) showed how urban regeneration and sustainability initiatives lead to a gentrification of erstwhile economically disadvantaged communities. Finally, Raco (2005) argued that urban sustainable development policies are embedded in a different ethical foundation than contemporary, or neoliberal, urban development schemes.

Raco's insights implicitly call for an analysis of the role of ideas, actors, practices and representations in critical sustainability studies. More recently, Krueger and Gibbs (2009, forthcoming) focused on actors' beliefs, understood dilemmas, and traditions of governance, to examine how two seemingly contradictory ensembles of ideas - i) inter-urban competition, and ii) urban sustainability - can emerge simultaneously in policy development discourses. This understanding of the broader role of actors, informal infrastructures, and institutions play, have resulted in calls for "thicker" analyses of neoliberal policy reforms and their implications for urban development, in general, and sustainability, in particular. In this context, we believe it is time for re-engaging sustainability as an urban development framework and to critically examine the conceptual and political nuances of this type of development.

Anticipated Attendance: 50

Organizers: Rob Krueger
Constance Carr

Chairs: Christian Schulz

Participants: Presenter: Markus Hesse, *The "Kirchberg-Syndrome", or: big projects in a small country. Theoretical reflections on the exceptional urbanism of Luxembourg (Luxembourg)*
Presenter: Peter Hall, *Implicated in regional sustainability: two readings of urban waterfront redevelopment*
Presenter: Aidan White, *Climate policy, sustainability and the prospects for urban environmental policy*
Presenter: I-Chun Chang, *Chinese Green Capitalism and Urban Sustainability: Shanghai's Dongtan Eco-City and Chongming Eco-Island*
Discussant: Yonn Dierwechter

Sponsorships: Urban Geography Specialty Group
Economic Geography Specialty Group

You may return to the submission console to edit your session if you wish.