ABSTRACTS AND TITLES OF STUDENT WORK

Department of City and Regional Planning,
University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D. Dissertations

The Migrants of the Information Age: Foreign-Born Engineers and Scientists and Regional Development in Silicon Valley.

Rafael Guadalupe Alarcón.

This dissertation examines the integration of foreign-born engineers and scientists in the high technology industry of Silicon Valley, located in Northern California. The study focuses on the experiences of Indian and Mexican immigrants. India provides the United States with the largest number of highly educated immigrants and Mexico is the source of the largest number of unskilled workers and of a small but growing number of professionals.

The dissertation centers around two research questions: 1) what role do foreign-born professionals play in high technology firms vis a vis their native-born counterparts? and, 2) are recent immigrant engineers and scientists recruited because of their willingness to accept lower wages? The quantitative and qualitative data used in this study come from the census (1990 Public Use Microdata Samples) and from twenty case studies of Indian and Mexican engineers and scientists.

There are four types of foreign-born engineers and scientists working in Silicon Valley: children of immigrant families, former employees of subsidiaries located outside the United States, former foreign students at U.S. universities, and "high tech braceros" (workers holding temporary non-immigrant visas). The recruitment and hiring of these workers underscore the importance of the operation of social networks.

Immigrant engineers and scientists play a crucial role in the development of the information technology industry of Silicon valley because of their large concentration and contribution of human capital. There is a much larger concentration of foreign-born engineers and scientists in Silicon Valley than in other high technology regions of the United States. Nearly one third of the

engineers, and scientists employed in the high technology industry of Silicon Valley are immigrants. They have much higher levels of education than their native counterparts: the majority has post-graduate degrees and they are twice as likely to have obtained a doctorate degree than the native-born engineers and scientists.

The results of regression analyses suggest that high tech employers reward the high levels of education of recent immigrants but in spite of this, their hourly wages remain low. This is either because employers penalize them for their lack of work experience or they discriminate against them.

The Process of Municipal Government Boundary Formation in the United States, 1950-1990

William Samuel Huang

Municipal boundaries are the outcome of an ongoing social contest between groups with conflicting interests and unequal power. This research studies those boundary change processes in metropolitan areas, where the proliferation of small independent municipalities is credited with producing inefficient parochialism, an inequitable distribution of public services, and undesirable race and class segregation.

Boundary change is examined at three scales. First, for each decade between 1950 and 1990, metropolitan-level models for fringe population growth and new city formation are developed. Second, a model of municipal boundary change in unincorporated residential areas is used to isolate the determinants of annexation and incorporation during the 1980s. Finally, detailed boundary change histories are presented for three case study metropolitan areas: Atlanta, Louisville, and Phoenix. The statistical analysis supplements existing studies by focusing on municipal boundary change during specific time periods in metropolitan and by modeling annexation and incorporation simultaneously. The case studies are used to confirm the results of the statistical analysis and to explore the mechanisms by which municipal boundary change occurs.

The research indicates that boundary change processes may exacerbate residential segregation and unequal tax incidence in metropolitan areas. The findings suggest that fringe residents do not form new cities because they want enhanced urban services — the traditional justification for municipal incorporation. Moreover, the research provides evidence that incorporation decisions are motivated in part by race and income exclusion; that tax avoidance motivates incorporations by fringe residential communities; and

that tax base capture motivates incorporations by fringe residential communities; and that tax base capture motivates annexation of non-residential uses.

Policymakers, however, should be cautions in crafting solutions. The findings indicate that laws must be designed carefully to anticipate the likely responses of fringe area communities. In addition, they suggest that preventing the spatial fragmentation of local government should not be an end in itself: achieving the goal may produce limited equity benefits; and the cost — in some cases, a realignment of central city public service priorities to appeal to fringe residents — may be too high.

Urban Redevelopment and the Emerging Community Sector

Elizabeth Wilson Morris

The work introduces the idea of the "community sector" as a contemporary player in the political economy of American cities. The sector emerged as citizen resistance to market-oriented redevelopment programs institutionalized into locally interdependent nonprofits and voluntary associations specialized in the functional aspects of urban development. In theory, as the sector grows more complex, so does its ability to articulate and implement innovative urban agendas.

The research focuses on San Francisco and Baltimore. It examines the economic, social, and political factors shaping redevelopment in each city since th4e 1950s, and then turns to four-project specific case studies spanning the 1980s and early 1990s. The case studies document the role of community participation in the planning process for Yerba Buena Center and Mission Bay in San Francisco and for HarborView and Oriole Park at Camden Yard in Baltimore.

Both cities reflect a history of citizen-initiated planning, firs by elites in support redevelopment, then by working-class opponents, and increasingly through networks of specialized community-based organizations. In each case study, leaders of such groups participated in negotiations both at their own initiative and in structured advisory processes set up by public officials.

The theory of sectoral formation helps explain differences in project outcomes across the two cities. San Francisco citizens had much greater influence on project planning and design than their Baltimore counterparts. Nonprofit housing and community economic developers — linked by ongoing networks, consortiums, and coalitions with urban environmentalists groups — have won financial resources to carry out their own projects, as well as

introducing new policies for the city as a whole. They have reshaped plans for high-end housing, tourist, and office enclaves into investment and services for lower-income residents in mixed-income and multi-use neighborhoods.

Participation in Baltimore has occurred mainly through turf-based, multi-issue neighborhood associations with marginal influence on the projects studied. By the 1990s, however, we see technical assistance agencies and functionally oriented development and advocacy groups working with traditional neighborhood groups to initiate plans and projects and win economic linkage agreements from private developers.

Masters Theses, MCP

Gregory Delaune. *Redeveloping Abandoned Urban Industrial Sites: Designers' Role in Remediation and Redevelopment of Brownfields.* Spring 1998.

Roderick Diaz. *Optimal Regulation for an Urban Bus Transit Line: Using Incremental Surplus Subsidy Schemes.* Spring 1998.

Nashua Kalil. *Multiculturalism in the Design and Use of Urban Public Open Space.* Spring 1998.

Skip Lowney. *Human Values and Creation of a Just City Form.* Spring 1998.

Michael Reilly. *Proposition 13's Effect on the Pattern of Regional Development in the San Francisco Bay Area.* Spring 1998.

Susan Rogers. *Building From Within: The Role of Community-Based Arts in Community Development and in the Lives of Youth.* Spring 1998.

Mahendra Subba. *Evaluation of the Impact of Urban Containment Policies on Urban Form.* Fall 1998.

Clark Wilson. *Pragmatics and Presence: The Use of Over-Capacity Arterials for Urban Stormwater Treatment.* Spring 1998.

Professional Reports, MCP

Khalid Afsar. *Business Attraction and Retention in the Eastlake Commercial District.* Fall 1998.

Christian Alvarez. *Jobs and the Marin County Economy.* Spring 1998.

Mark Babsin. *Cleveland: One City's Experience with Transit-Related Development.* Spring 98.

Natalie Bonnewit. *The Magnitude of Homelessness in the State of California.* Fall 1998.

Kevin Brown. *Waste Water Treatment in the Villages Proposed for the Eastern Seaboard of Thailand.* Spring 98.

Joseph Castiglione. *The Citywide Mobility Study: Developing User-Based Transit Performance Measures for San Francisco.* Spring 98.

Rebecca Davis. *A Local Government Guide to Increasing Affordable Housing Opportunities.* Spring 98.

Anthony Daysog. *The Role of CDC Boards in Retaining Local Control of Neighborhood Organizations.* Fall 1998.

Francesca Gambetti. *Artists/ Work/Live Space in Fruitvale: Trends, Issues and Policies.* Spring 98.

Carrie Hamilton. *Interpreting the Urban Environment: Case Study of Placemaking and Wayfinding on the San Francisco Waterfront.* Spring 98.

Corby Hannah. *Measure performance of the SF Foundation/Faith Initiative.* Fall 1998.

Carolyn Henderson. *Fayetteville Urbanized Area and Cumberland County Population and Economic Study: Methods of Data Collection, Processing and Analysis.* Spring 98.

Catherine Howard. *Risk Rating and Loan Loss Reserve Policies for the Northern California Community Loan Fund.* Spring 1998.

Kelly Kahn. *San Francisco's Cruise Terminal: An Assessment of Location Options.* Spring 98.

Jennifer Kassan. *Sustainable, Self-Reliant Economic Development: An Analysis of and Recommendations for the Fruitvale Neighborhood Economy.* Spring 1998.

Grace Kim. *A Retail Analysis of Grocer-Anchored Shopping Centers.* Spring 98.

Grace Lee. *Community Development and Housing Study for the Prescott Area West Oakland.* Spring 1998.

Julie Lieberman. *Youth Development in Action: A Case Study of the Oakland Fund for Children and Youth Planning and Oversight Committee -- Year One.* Spring 98.

Amalia Lorentz Pinole. *Valley Shopping Center: Strategies for Economic Development.* Spring 98.

Mark McConnaughay. *Gains at the Margins: Techniques for Improving the Efficiency and Productivity of the U.S. Housing Industry.* Spring 98.

Kathleen Mikulis. *Homeowner Earthquake Retrofit Survey: Results and Analysis to Create a Model Earthquake Program.* Fall 1998.

Ian O'Donnell. *Tapping into Informal Markets: Strategies for Bolstering Support Group Activities Aimed at Economic Development.* Spring 98.

Megan O'Neill. *Exurbanization Patterns in the Milwaukee Metro Region.* Fall 1998.

Alexander Quinn. *Resale Restructions: Alternatives and Recommendations.* Spring 98.

Tracie Reynolds. *150 Mission Street — A Financial Analysis of the construction and ground lease for a proposed $100 million high-rise office building in downtown San Francisco.* Spring 98.

Yoruba Richen. *East Bay Access Strategic Plan: Increasing Technology Resources to Low Income Communities in the East Bay.* Spring 98.

Gregory Shiffer. *An Analysis of Transit Fare Coordination in the Bay Area and the Potential Impact of the TransLink Fare Payment System.* Fall 1998.

Rachel Silver. *Bernal Gateway Residential Development Market Analysis.* Spring 98.

Robert Stevenson. *Design Guidelines for the Berkeley Bike-Pedestrian Bridge.* Spring 98.

Jack Sylvan. *Residential Overcrowding in California.* Spring 98.

Lori Tsung. *Science Industrial Park as a Successful Economic Development Tool: Taiwan's Hsinchu Attempt at Building a Hi-Tech City.* Fall 1998.

Matthew Wangeman. *Programmatic Self-evaluation of the ADA Transition Plan for the City of Berkeley.* Fall 1998.

Christopher Williges. *MetroCard Free Transfers: Effects on Subway Access, Fare Payment, and M86 Trip Making.* Spring 1998.

Nadine Wilmot. *Assessment, Strategic Plan and Funding Strategy for Taller Sin Fronteras, a Community-Based Arts Collective.* Spring 98

Mark Wolfe. *Multimedia Infiltration: Loft Conversion, etc., in San Francisco's South of Market and Northeast Mission.* Spring 98.