

## Editors' Note

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The urban/rural divide has evolved significantly since its conception. What work does it do today? From American presidential election results that mapped onto urban and rural spaces to the urbanization of rural land along India's highways, multiple and complex contemporary conditions challenge and/or entrench our understanding of urban and rural divisions. As the financialization of agribusiness and mining ventures increases across Latin America, what persists or has been blurred in the linkages between urban and rural? Do these concepts still hold explanatory power? What are the values and limitations of this dichotomy? How do representations of the urban/rural divide shift as boundaries are mapped? What do emerging planning practices and informal interventions illuminate about the urban/rural divide and rural-urban transitions, both in the Global North and South?

The Call for Papers for Volume 31 of the Berkeley Planning Journal invited academics and practitioners to engage these questions. Submissions came in from different parts of the world, and in the form of original research, literature reviews, and one photo essay. From the United States to Lebanon, Bedouin villages to digital agriculture, the diverse contributions to this volume uncover urbanization patterns, planning practices, and forms of livelihood that challenge the boundaries between urban and rural in different ways. Importantly, the articles reveal uneven processes and landscapes that eschew teleological narratives of progress that have commonly outlined linkages and transitions between rural and urban spaces, economic dynamics, and ways of life. Taken together, they invite us, instead, to think how 'urban' and 'rural' have been recombined in the contemporary moment.

This volume begins with Cochran's review of human settlement patterns in the United States and the argument that actual distinctions between urban and rural lands no longer exist in contemporary contexts. Instead, new conceptualizations of urbanization can inform post-urban/rural planning. Next, we follow Berkowitz, Abu-Rabia-Queder, and Orenstein to Israel's Negev/Naqab Desert, where the authors employ planning theories from the Global South and North to analyze a case of state planning for Arab Bedouins, an indigenous ethnic minority in the region. From there we turn to Simitian, who examines nineteenth century to modern migrations, demographic shifts, and financial systems in Lebanon in order to understand the relationship between urban and rural spaces. What follows is Heathcott and Rogan's photographic essay that explores locations where 'urban' and 'rural' descriptors cannot capture man-

ifold, shifting, and unstable landscape forms. We end with Ravis and Notkin's critique of digital technologies that are deployed as a 'data fix' in solving the crisis of capitalist agriculture, and the transformation of vast, interconnected landscapes these technologies enable.