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### Introduction to the Journal of Comparative Urban Law and Policy

Julian C. Juergensmeyer

Georgia State University College of Law, [jjurgensmeyer@gsu.edu](mailto:jjurgensmeyer@gsu.edu)

Karen Johnston

Georgia State University College of Law, [kjohnston3@gsu.edu](mailto:kjohnston3@gsu.edu)

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## **Introduction to the Journal of Comparative Urban Law and Policy**

We are proud to introduce the first issue of the *Journal of Comparative Urban Law and Policy*, a publication of the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth at Georgia State University College of Law. The mission of the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, founded in 2005, is to provide opportunities for both professionals and students to work collaboratively around the world, shaping sustainable, equitable and resilient communities through research and legal and policy recommendations.

The *Journal of Comparative Urban Law and Policy* is being launched to serve as tool for lawyers, planners, policy-makers and scholars in metropolitan regions around the world grappling with growth-related issues such as equitable and sustainable development; taxation and infrastructure finance; social mix, affordable housing, and housing finance; historic preservation; and climate change, environmental law, and greenspace preservation. Its online presence was a deliberate choice, enabling greater dissemination of the articles around the world.

The editorial board consists of: Julian Conrad Juergensmeyer, Editor in Chief; Karen Marie Johnston, Managing Editor; Ryan Max Rowberry and John Travis Marshall, Associate Editors. We are grateful to have a strong, geographically and professionally diverse board of advisors for this journal including: Ellen Margrethe Basse, Colin Crawford, Janice Griffith, Lydie Louis, Camille Mailot, Claudio Monteiro, Arthur C. Nelson, Romulo Sampaio, Juli Ponce Sole, Bruce Stiftel, and Maria Kenig-Witkowska. Their subject matter expertise and world renowned reputations will be valuable in guiding the direction of this new journal.

This first edition is being launched with the research articles resulting from our Study Space Program in Cape Town, South Africa held in June 2016. Study Space is an annual weeklong workshop that brings together scholars and practitioners from around the world to solve critical issues facing metropolitan regions. It is held in a different city every year, providing an opportunity for its participants to engage in comparative research and networking around the globe. As evidenced by the range of topics addressed in these articles – land use, sustainable development, security, finance, governance, etc. – study space tackles a wide range of themes over the week, but all are interconnected complex challenges facing metropolitan regions.

It is envisioned that as the journal grows, it will continue to feature articles from our Study Space Programs but also expand to include independent

submissions from authors on a wide range of urban issues related to metropolitan growth, student articles, book reviews and commentary.

We hope that you find this journal informative and become interested in our Study Space Program and publishing your own works in our journal. We welcome any feedback that you have on the journal and ideas for future issues.

Sincerely,

Julian Conrad Juergensmeyer  
Ben F. Johnson Jr. Chair in Law  
Director, Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth  
Editor in Chief

Karen Marie Johnston  
Assistant Director, Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth  
Managing Editor