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pre-modern Kyoto. The virtual city enables to compare artistic drawings to data-based 3DCG image. Our attempt proves that compilation of historical data using GIS is an efficient and flexible way to produce large-scale 3D urban models. The advantage of our method are that it is based on data if any data exists, or otherwise, it is capable of visualizing alternative hypotheses in 3D to examine the validity of a hypothesis by cross-referencing to historical documents and drawings.

Keywords: GIS, virtual reality (VR), Kyoto, Edo era

**Takashi Tsukamoto, Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Dept. of Political Science. Email: t\_tsukam@uncg.edu; *Is regional rescaling happening in the American metropolis? A study from the local politics perspective***

Is regional rescaling happening in the American metropolis? Many say that city regions are becoming the primary scale of economic activities under globalization. Meanwhile, it is commonplace that elite form regional development corporations and advocate regional economic development. Apparently, the forces of economic structure and local politics converge at the metropolitan scale. Regional rescaling should be happening. However, except for the merger of the city of Louisville and Jefferson County, Kentucky, major political regionalization is hard to come by in American Metropolis since the globalizing 1980s. Is globalization indeed causing “relativization of scale” and working as catalysis for local state reformulation in the US? If it is, what kind of regionalism is happening and in what ways is the new scale being constructed? These basic questions are not well examined from the local political perspective. Against this, in this paper, we make a comparative investigation of metropolitan regions in North Carolina. Differing scalar interests of urban political economy compete one against another. Changing balances of the politics of scale are embedded in the local interpretations of regional rivalries, higher-level government policies and the processes of globalization.

Keywords: Urban politics, Regionalism, Rescaling

**Jun Tsutsumi, DR, Ehime University, Japan. Email: jtsu@LL.ehime-u.ac.jp; Kevin B. O'Connor, University Of Melbourne. Email: kevin.oconnor@unimelb.edu.au; *International Students and the Changing Character of the Melbourne CBD***

In the past there have been two closely connected forces shaping the character of the CBD and its surrounding area. These have been office development and inner city residential development. In this situation the outcome in a city was shaped by the strength of its office sector as that provided the jobs that attracted many of the inner city residents, some of whom moved into the CBD. To this situation has been added a new influence: the international student. These have moved to Australia in large numbers in the past decade, and many have settled in the CBD or its fringe, close by the centrally located institutions. This paper will explore the impact that this new influence has had upon the CBD and its fringe in Melbourne since 1990. The central idea is that the international students have been the most important influence upon change in the character of the CBD.

Keywords: CBD, Students, gentrification

**Wei Tu, Georgia Southern University. Email: wtu@georgiasouthern.edu; *Integrating System Dynamics Modeling into Plan Level Strategic Environmental Assessment: The case of Shanghai***

Despite the increasing recognition of and recent preliminary studies on plan level strategic environmental assessment (PLSEA) on urban and regional planning, neither methodological frameworks nor case studies are sufficient in the practice of SEA. In this paper, we attempted to develop a new methodological framework for PLSEA by integrating a system dynamics (SD) approach into the practice of PLSEA. Our new methodological framework was further tested in simulating and assessing the environmental consequences of three land use planning scenarios for the city of Shanghai. First, a SD model, LUP\_SEA was developed and calibrated according to the historical land use data. Second, three scenarios of land use plan between 1997 and 2020 were developed and simulated based on the base run model. Third, an environment indicator system was formulated to assess the potential environmental impacts of three simulated land use plans. It is found that the LUP\_SEA model is an efficient tool for SEA practitioners, urban planners and managers, and decision-makers to implement PLSEA at a verity of temporal and geographic scales. This case study is also helpful to the long-term sustainable development of Shanghai by providing valuable insights about the complex relationship among development paths, land use economic development, and environment.

Keywords: System dynamics, Plan level strategic environmental assessment, Land use planning, Shanghai

**Andrew R. Tucker, Cambridge University. Email: art25@cam.ac.uk; *Racing the closet: Visibility and the appropriation of heteronormative space***

This paper will compare and contrast the way queer men in two racially defined communities in Cape Town have been successful at appropriating heteronormative space. A growing body of work has started to criticise the way Western notions of ‘the closet’ and the heterosexual/homosexual binary do not translate well onto communities away from Western metropolitan environments. By exploring the development of white ‘gay’ identified men with coloured cross-dressing men in Cape Town, this paper aims to uncover how both have striven to free themselves from secrecy and hiding - to free themselves from ‘the closet’? but in startling different ways. In conclusion this paper will argue that ‘the closet’ does have strong application in communities away from the West, but that a wider interpretation that takes account of political history, geographical visibility and diverse methods of spatial appropriation is required.

Keywords: Queer, sexuality, South Africa, race, gender

**Steven Tufts, Trent University. Email: steventufts@trentu.ca; *Hospitality worker unionism and labour market adjustment: toward Schumpeterian unionism?***

This paper proposes a conceptual model for understanding emerging changes in a North American labour union. UNITE-HERE has been at the forefront of debates on union renewal in the US and Canada and is part of the Change to Win coalition of unions which left the AFL-CIO. It is tempting to characterize UNITE-HERE as a union undergoing a renewal process, but I argue that this often oversimplifies many complex and contradictory labour strategies. Much of the labour union renewal literature remains prescriptive and is only beginning to escape false binaries such as business versus social unionism or the servicing versus organizing model. In this paper, I attempt to conceptualize the strategies adopted by the union as they ‘actually exist’ in relation to the changing political economic landscape. I characterize the current labour practices as ‘Schumpeterian unionism’, a model which captures the shifting and contradictory relationships labour has with the broader community, capital and the state. The model is inherently geographical as I argue that Schumpeterian unions organize at multiple scales. The model is illustrated with a case study of UNITE-HERE Local 75’s response to the 2003 SARS outbreak through their establishment of a Hospitality Workers Resource Centre and its current efforts to increase labour market adjustment support in the sector through collective bargaining.

Keywords: geographies of union renewal, labour market adjustment, hospitality workers, SARS

**Claire Tugault-Lafleur, McGill University. Email: claire.tugault@gmail.com; Sarah J. Turner, McGill University. Email: turner@geog.mcgill.ca; *Diversifying highland livelihoods: Ethnic minorities and forest product use and trade in Northern Vietnam***

Since their migration from Yunnan nearly two centuries ago, the highland minority Hmong in north upland Vietnam have remained relatively autonomous, relying on a diverse production system including wet rice terraces, swidden fields, livestock and, more recently, handicraft and tourist-related activities. Forests also supply households with fuel wood and a variety of non-wood forest products such as mushrooms, bamboo shoots, herbal medicines, honey, game, and construction materials. In 1992, the Vietnamese Government, via Decree 327, officially banned all forms of slash-and-burn practices and opium cultivation, thus cutting off highlanders from important sources of income. More recently, the State has implemented rural development initiatives focused on tourism development and livelihood diversification, impacting on people’s relationships with the natural resource base. This paper examines the importance of forest products for the Hmong in Sa Pa district, Lao Cai province, northern Vietnam. Drawing on in-depth qualitative field work undertaken in 2006, we first look at how the local use of forest products has changed from the end of French rule in 1954 to the present-day period. Secondly, we analyse the contemporary dynamics of forest product trade in the region, examining the spatial organisation of commodity flows of these goods. As such, this research explores the impacts associated with the commercialisation of forest products in upland north Vietnam for the many different actors involved.

Keywords: non-timber forest products, exchange networks, rural livelihoods, ethnic minorities, Vietnam

**Jahalel Lee Tuil, UC Davis. Email: jltuil@ucdavis.edu; Steven E. Greco, Ph.D., UC Davis. Email: segreco@ucdavis.edu; *Restoration Potential Identified Through Historic Vegetation Reconstruction***

In the Central Valley of California, much of the landscape was converted to agriculture well before the native vegetation was explicitly mapped. Historical vegetation inventories in this region consist primarily of written descriptions. In the absence of a true spatial record, this study seeks to model the potential distribution of historic vegetation, based on soils, hydrology, geology and available written descriptions for the valley floor of Yolo County. Potential