

Healthy Future Cities: Scoping Conference

Harvard University, June 22-24, 2015



The HEALTH AND PLACES INITIATIVE (HAPI) investigates how to create healthier cities in the future, with a specific emphasis on China. Bringing together experts from the Harvard Graduate School of Design (HGSD) and the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), it creates a forum for understanding the multiple issues that face cities in light of rapid urbanization and an aging population worldwide.

The Health and Places Initiative gratefully acknowledges the Harvard University Asia Center for their support of this conference.

Health and Places Initiative
<http://research.gsd.harvard.edu/hapi/>

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HEALTHY FUTURE CITIES: SCOPING CONFERENCE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Health and Places Initiative (HAPI) brings together experts from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the T.H. Chan School of Public health to create a forum for understanding the multiple issues that face cities in light of rapid urbanization and an aging population worldwide, in order to create healthier cities in the future.

On June 22–24, 2015, HAPI hosted the *Healthy Future Cities: Scoping Conference*, a highly interactive working conference bringing together 30 participants with expertise in public health and planning, members of the foundation community, and nonprofit leaders in the areas of health and sustainability. During nine “sessions,” participants collaborated and exchanged ideas to reframe how the topic of healthy places is dealt with in research and practice.

The conference had four outcomes:

- Determining initial steps to increase visibility and communication around health and place issues.
- A vision statement describing the urgency of health and place issues and a call to action. The full vision statement is on page 30 and online (<http://research.gsd.harvard.edu/hapi/overview/activities-and-events/healthy-future-cities-scoping-conference-2/>).
- New ideas and collaborations around group research agendas.
- Development and refinement of individual research agendas.

While the HAPI project concludes in 2015, the conference was a step in bringing together a wider range of people from across campus to engage issues related to healthy places. With participants from outside the HAPI core teams, as well as visiting experts, it started to chart out new directions from different points of view. Work on healthy places needs collaboration and innovation. Conferences such as this can provide a model for future work at Harvard and beyond.



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INTRODUCTION

In June 2015, the Health and Places Initiative (HAPI) hosted *Healthy Future Cities: Scoping Conference*, a highly interactive working conference bringing together attendees with expertise in public health and planning, members of the foundation community, and nonprofit leaders in the areas of health and sustainability. During two and a half days, participants collaborated, exchanged ideas, experiences and knowledge to reframe how the topic of healthy places is dealt with in research and practice and move toward creating new collaborations around healthy places.

Background

About the HAPI project – who are we?

Launched in 2013, the Health and Places Initiative (HAPI) investigates how to create healthier cities in the future, with a specific emphasis on China. Bringing together experts from the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, it creates a forum for understanding the multiple issues that face cities in light of rapid urbanization and an aging population worldwide.

Three main components make up HAPI:

- Education. This includes courses taken by students in both the design and public health schools, Harvard Extension School courses, and a webinar series.
- Research. Examining the building, neighborhood and city scale, HAPI research includes innovative analyses of existing datasets from Chinese studies to better understand the connections between health and place; new tools for both evaluating places and making existing places and processes healthier; and, translating existing research on the connections between environments and health into guidelines and prototypes for practice.
- Next steps. HAPI will create a forum for further work on the connections between built environments and public health.

About conference proceedings – why the conference?

HAPI organized the *Healthy Future Cities: Scoping Conference* as part of the “Next Steps” component of the two-year initiative. The goal of *Healthy Future Cities* was to convene thought leaders, academics, and other experts in the public health and planning fields to answer two key questions:

- Where is the area of healthy places headed in the next decade or two?
- Where might Harvard be able to make a difference—through existing resources and new collaborations?

Structure of Conference

At *Healthy Future Cities: Scoping Conference* participants engaged in a collaborative process, performing most of the work in groups, supported by a facilitation team led by Maurizio Travaglini of Architects of Group Genius.

Nine conference “sessions” were designed to leverage the diversity of experiences and range of insights that participants have to contribute and were geared towards an understanding of the future of health and place, globally and at Harvard, and generating ideas on how to engage in this work going forward.

Though a detailed agenda of workshop activities was developed prior to the event, it was not circulated to participants beforehand. Travaglini – whose hallmark is a flexible and responsive approach - adapted activities based on energy level and participant interests during the workshop to maximize the outputs. Participants were expected to their undivided attention during the event and work in “full immersion mode”. Use of cell phones, laptops, and other IT gadgets that might cause distraction was highly discouraged.



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Conference Outline

Day 1: June 22, 2015

- **Introductions**
- **Session 1 Framing the future from the past:** identify critical events, issues, experiences related to health and place in the last 50 years to help identify shifts, innovation, and larger patterns.
- **Session 2 Remarkable failures:** focus on a failure that may influence or impact a new phenomenon with negative consequences.

Day 2: June 23, 2015

- **Session 3 Sharing failures and the questions we need to ask:** discuss planning and policy failures and lessons learned.
- **Session 4 Weak signals:** organize, describe, and explain the potential impact of weak signals from the recent past (individually).
- **Session 5 Projecting patterns using group models:** groups combine ideas about 'weak signals' of future shifts, trends, innovations, problems, solutions, and discoveries that may unfold in the domain of health and place. Refine models of health and place patterns/trends and project them forward 25 years to year 2040+.
- **Lunch group discussion:** ideas that need to be retired.
- **Session 6 Slices of life:** imagine life in 2040, its consequences and possibilities.
- **Session 7 Individual research possibilities:** identify a NEW individual research interest.
- **Session 8 Conference structure and outcome proposals:** decide on how to structure the remainder of the conference, group research proposals or outcomes.

Day 3: June 24, 2015

- **Session 9 Groups looking at self-defined issues:** discuss key points from proposals and how to take the work forward.

Participants

30 conference participants attended *Healthy Future Cities: Scoping Conference*. Invitees were selected based on their knowledge and experience in the areas of health and place. Whether leading research studies or developing plans and programs to improve sustainability and livability, participants were in a unique position to think about opportunities to innovate, identify major future trends, and engage in new research in the area of health and place. A full participant list and biographies can be found in the Appendix.

Breakdown of Attendees	Number
Harvard University Faculty, Postdoctoral and Project Staff	14
External University Faculty (Domestic)	6
External University Faculty (International)	3
Foundation Representatives	3
Government/Non-Profit leaders	3
Sponsor representatives	1
Total	30



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DAY 1: JUNE 22, 2015

Session 1: Framing the future from the past

Aim: Identify critical events, issues, experiences related to health and place in the last 50 years to help identify shifts, innovation and larger patterns.

Exercise: Participants come up one at a time to introduce themselves and put an item—a critical event, issue, or trend related to health and places—on the timeline.



Session 2: Remarkable failures

Aim: Focus on a failure that may influence or impact a new phenomenon with negative consequences.

Exercise: Small groups select a failure in '**foreseeing-influencing-impacting**' in a new phenomenon with negative consequences. They document their discussion to report back to the general session the next morning.

Discussion Questions:

- What is the **anatomy** of this remarkable failure?
- What is the failure **teaching** us as a collective?
- What **question** is this failure inviting us to ask ourselves?



DAY 2: JUNE 23, 2015

Session 3: Sharing failures and the questions we need to ask

Aim: Discuss planning and policy failures and lessons learned.

Input/Supporting Materials: Discussion notes from previous evening

Exercise: Representative from Session 2 groups reports back key discussion points and questions about the 'remarkable failure' identified.



Auto-centric cities

Anatomy, lessons and questions:

- Planning cannot be only one-dimensional. It has to have a systems view.
- Need to create an integrated long-term plan, rather than just plan for immediate future.
- Many urban planning failures tend to be compounded by poor city governance—not only from the top, but also how stakeholders are (or aren't) engaged in the process.

Green and healthy homes initiative (poor program implementation)

Anatomy, lessons and questions:

- Group talked about benefits of healthy homes (and programs) and mitigating negative household exposures. There isn't enough discussion about who loses (disenfranchised populations) and how to make sure those people don't lose in the future.
- How do we make these programs work better and be accessible for the most disenfranchised?

Redlining in the 1930s (contributing to suburban sprawl)

Anatomy, lessons and questions:

- There can be a lack of perspective and holistic thinking in policymaking. Policies don't always take into account all stakeholders.
- At the same time we should be forgiving of policymakers; we need to consider the assumptions that are brought to the table when these decisions are made and who is deciding.
- Economic concerns are not the only priority – yet it gets all the attention.
- There are multiple solutions – ex. we don't hone in on high-density as being the one solution to making a healthy city. The economics, social, historic and social capital bonds that are created and broken when we make these decisions have long-term consequences.
- We need values issues first and economics second; frame things as morality first.
- We tend to favor quantitative data; we need more qualitative data because not all things that can be measured; and not all measures are relevant.

Racialized access to capital

Anatomy, lessons and questions:

- How do you democratize data? Decision-making? So everyone has a voice?
- How do we authentically get to know each other, so our self-interest becomes your self-interest? How are decisions made? How can we increase accountability?
- There's a moral element to it; for example, it's cheaper to pollute than to do the right thing. How does it affect communities of color?
- How do you rationalize policies with seeds of good intentions? How do "good" policies turn bad?

Isolation of aging baby boomers

Anatomy, lessons and questions:

As baby-boomers age, they are taking care of elderly parents, but also moving into that realm themselves. There is a great sense of denial.

Issues relating to aging in place:

- Having safe, affordable, often multi-generation housing isn't as available – in cities housing is more expensive. Generations who want to live together may need to upsize not downsize.
- There are many reasons to hang onto family home (economic and space for extended family). Many services can be delivered if the right companionship/support is in place.
- Aging in place is a good thing, but people will eventually need some sort of facility and those facilities aren't accessible for low-income community. This trend is coming in the next 10 years.

Issues relating to housing and services for an aging population:

- This will have a profound impact on healthcare,.
- Commercial real estate market, left to own devices, fails to accommodate anyone but young professionals aged 25-35.
- Developers are waiting for the market to signal them. So far, the market is delivering the wrong product – group homes for aging. Naming things and branding them 'senior' is concerning – we need an integrated approach. We should consider what are the real economic cost is for those struggling the most along different points along the lifespan. If a home is safe for an 80 year old, it is safe for everyone.
- There are many well-done, small-scale aging housing. It is the small stuff you don't notice.
- There is a war against young people, people trying to buy a home and start a home – with loan debt. Preferentially, we help seniors; but public services have declined horribly for young working families.

Need for collaboration, leadership, and funding:

- We need better leadership in matching the right resources together to bring more overall benefit.

Session 4: Identifying ‘Weak Signals’ individually

Aim: Organize, describe, and explain the potential impact of weak signals from the recent past.

Exercise: Working independently, participants pick a trend that is a “weak signal” – phenomena that give us insight today on what may happen tomorrow.

Discussion questions:

- What are the weak signals in the domain of health and place that you have been noticing?
- How could they impact the relationship between health and place in the future?



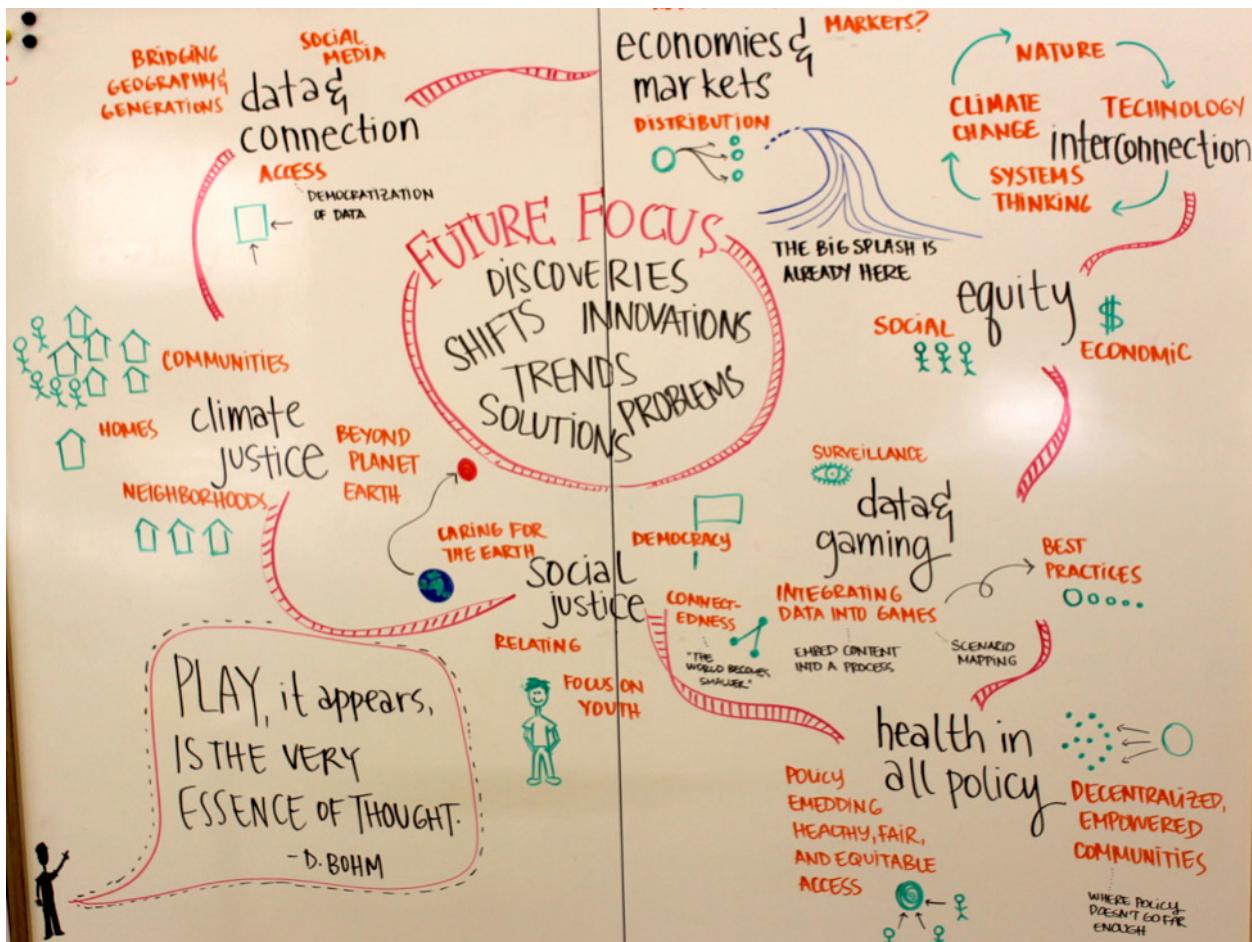
Session 5: Projecting patterns using group models

Aim: Groups combine ideas about 'weak signals' of future shifts, trends, innovations, problems, solutions, and discoveries that may unfold in the domain of health and place. Refine models of health and place patterns/trends and project them forward 25 years to year 2040+.

Exercise: Groups focus on the weak signals that have the potential to have a deep, transformative and significant impact. Use hands to "get out of head" and create a 3-dimensional model to think creatively about future.

Discussion questions:

- Will it change (for better or worse) the way we live and work and pursue a meaningful life?
- When will the early signs become evident to more people?
- How will these phenomena reach a tipping point and spread like a virus?
- Who will play a role in accelerating or slowing their emergence?
- When will they move from the edge to the mainstream?



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Tsunami of change

Model description:

A big splash that has led to a wave of change with six trends to keep an eye on:

1. Climate change
2. Globalization
3. Technological transformation
4. Systems thinking
5. Nature
6. Resource management

Trends discussed:

- The presence of technology, and how it brings us closer to nature.
- There is an equity movement.
- The embedded technology movement is key.
- The driverless car movement will be a fundamental change in our personal transportation.
- By 2030 all buildings will be energy positive, LEED process or better; this will be required.
- By 2040 we will have resilient cities.



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Gaming to educate and transform environments

Model description:

Group created an abstract representation of big and small data to visualize how gaming can educate and transform environments, as well as health in all policies.

Trends Discussed:

- Gaming can be used to: 1) collect big data, and 2) educate and transform environments (participatory planning)
- Health impact assessments and health in all policies: there is a need for more immediate feedback about assessment tools; many injustices happen because we cannot share common understanding; if we have some standard we can share it.

- Decentralization and tactical urbanism: could have good and bad impacts, empowering people or break down and leave people behind.
- Climate change: we will feel the impacts by 2030.
- Social justice: we are moving toward a more equitable world. Our youth are a weak signal of this: social media and youth, creating good in the world. We are moving toward collectivism and cohesion - a sharing economy.
- Globalization: the earth is becoming smaller than before – are we creating a global consciousness?



A Utopian future

Model descriptions:

- At the center is climate justice, equity, and health promotion.
- Neighborhoods – people, animals, trees, and homes – are nested underneath. Around the edges, all age groups thrive.

Trends discussed:

- Energy transformation
- Democratization of technology
- Learning across a lifetime, and sectors, adaptive learning
- Community resilience
- Communities working together with a good government could move things forward
- Signals among the young: simpler lifestyles, drop off in driving, sharing, caring about the environment, caring about grandparents



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Earth in a box

Model description:

World is trapped in the box (data): expansion of population and global equity may drive a more reasonable and organic network for these data resources.

Trends discussed:

- Democratization: power of social media, and how that can be used by all individuals all the way up to larger organizations.
- Eco-systemic thinking: we don't have a univariate world and univariate data; public attention in recent months through videos or narratives telling stories

can have global impact.

- Moving mechanistic to holistic: we have an interconnected mechanistic system with top-down data, that's where we would be headed.
- Interconnections with big data to individual actions on the ground: how to mediate between the two?
- Uneven access to data: paths may diverge between those who have the data and those who don't. But there is hopeful movement in how people are rethinking engagement and digital democracy. Markets are beginning to detect these signals and respond to them. How do we influence those markets? There are both hopeful signs and disturbing signs.



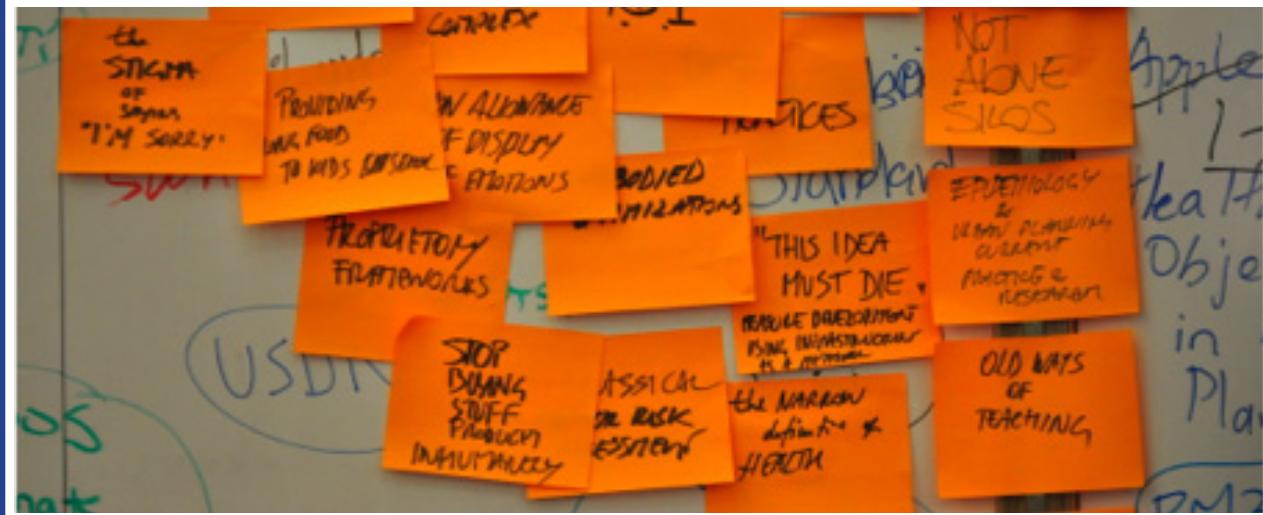
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Group discussion: Ideas ready to retire

- Doing things along in silos
 - Old ways of training people in epidemiology and urban planning
 - Old ways of education in general which stops the joy of learning
 - Old ways of doing conferences and collaborations
 - Current geography of theory
 - Cost benefit analysis
 - Performance measures
 - Best practices
 - Simplifying realities
 - Physical indicators (without the social)
 - A narrow or reductionist idea of health
 - Return on investment
 - The push for monitoring to optimize our bodies' performance and cycles
 - Classical risk assessments
 - Embarrassment with emotion
 - Concrete frameworks (e.g. resilience)
 - Prison industrial complex, patriarchy, and patriotism
 - Consuming products made inhumanely
 - Society's association of intelligence with ethics
 - How we feed our kids at school
 - Stigma of saying sorry

Lessons learned from the discussion:

- Integrate many perspectives and stakeholders.
 - Change the process of research and systems.
 - Embrace all different ways of knowing other than the rational intellectual (emotional).
 - Allow authenticity: for people to feel and say what they really think.
 - Retrain ourselves and the next generation to think differently.
 - Include a broad range of geographies beyond major cities in place research.
 - Adapt lessons learned from other places to local realities.
 - Complex understanding gives you simple solutions.
 - Use social indicators when assessing the built environment, not just physical.
 - Allow for multiple frameworks and definitions (e.g. resilience).
 - Restorative justice for vulnerable groups (e.g. poor people, people of color).
 - School food should be healthier and better quality.



Session 6: Slices of life

Aim: Imagine life in 2040, its consequences and possibilities.

Exercise: Small groups explore one slice of life (a concept) assigned to them, including: 103, 22nd floor, needle, terminal, VIPs.

Discussion questions were given in three-parts:

- **Part 1:** Imagine what life means around this concept, what sort of life/lives are defined by it, and the implications, consequences, and possibilities that might unfold around it. Explore as many layers, expand through as many boundaries, and connect to as many aspects of life as possible.
- **Part 2:** What are the possible consequences that you have observed? What are the new relationships between health and place? What are the new aspects of these relationships? What are the new manifestations/problems/solutions that may unfold?
- **Part 3:** How can you start researching these phenomena of today? What sort of research effort could be started today to be better prepared for the uncertain tomorrow you have explored through this concept?

"The future is already here, it's just not equally distributed" –William Gibson, science fiction writer



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103 (years old)

- Group determined that '103' would be the average life expectancy in 25 years. In research terms group asked, what do we need to do to reach that?
- Group multiplied 103 by the US population to get 51 billion, which happens to be the current National Institute of Health (NIH) budget. If that \$51 billion was used for a new Health Promotion Agency instead of NIH, to reach this goal, what would we need to do?
- Linking that to health and place research agenda: focus on what's working in places, build up the assets, there're no place in the world that's a complete deficit, community based action research has to include ecological adaptive resilience framework.



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22nd floor (democratized design in a seamless building)

- Democratizing the design process: how does it change the relationship between health and place?
- First, group looked at immediate process oriented outcomes, rather than health outcomes.
- Second, group tried to understand what environments are conducive to all people's health as part of their life course, like social cohesion, connectedness, green space, air quality, and research for these areas that work for everyone.
- To have an seamless 22nd floor, a lot of things have to change for us to get there: How we would purchase the space in the building? How would we encourage people to live there? That led to the idea of democratization.
- How would we spatially represent a democratic environment as seamless? As consensus?
- Democratization might lead to some interesting paradoxes.



Needle (context-dependent interventions/acupuncture)

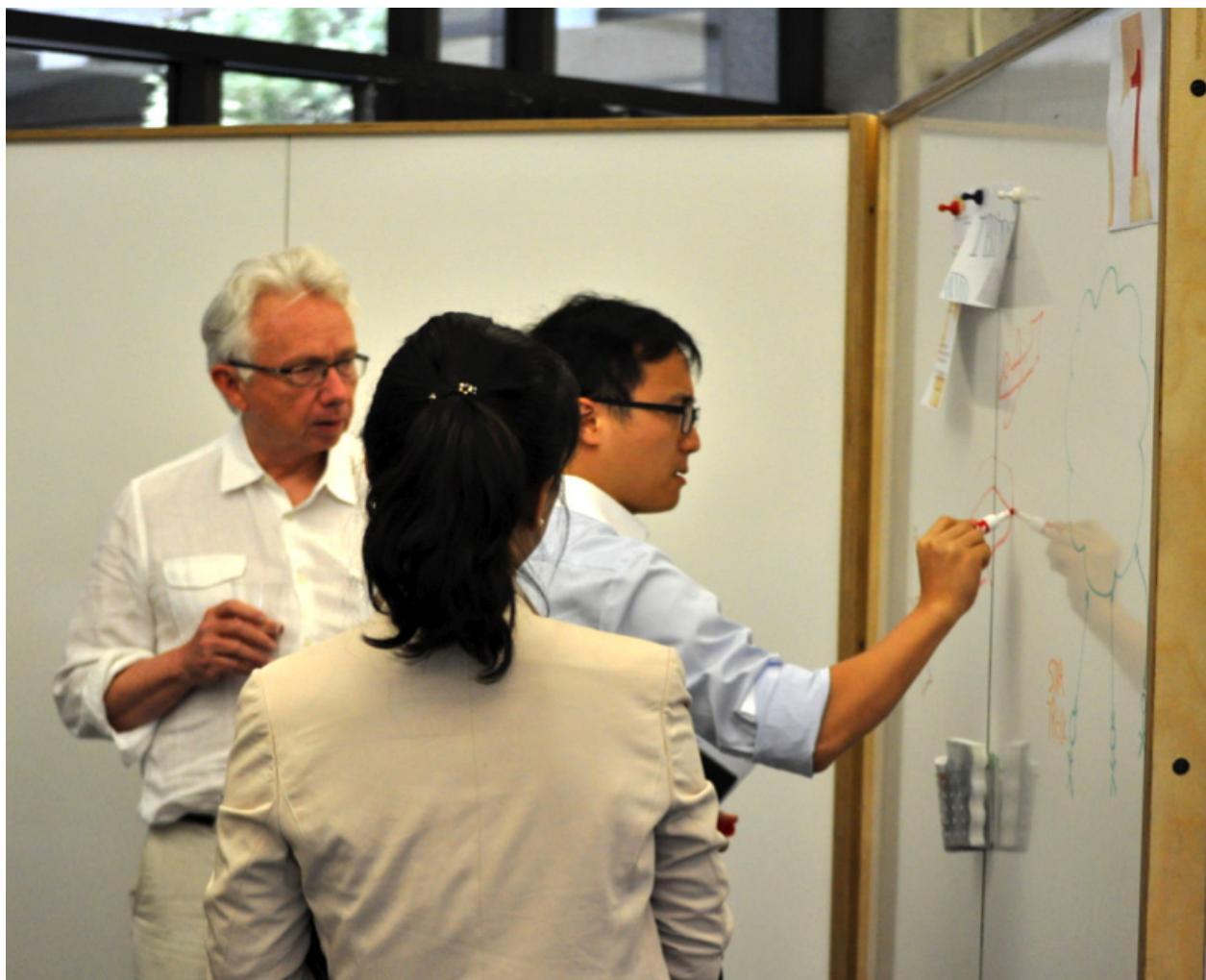
- Looking towards creating initiatives that are very context dependent.
- Interventions would be like insertions, in cases of place selections, where we see accumulation of problems and disadvantage over time, there would be a cluster of interventions to make them healthier.
- Although an intervention someplace else, on a system level may be needed, but the whole thing really works if we understand the whole place.
- There needs to be a shift in how people in this field work (e.g. should be more Interdisciplinary). There is still have a long way to go with that.
- Good-enough practices, let's research that how humans interact with environments.
- We need assessment tools that integrate community health and resource assessments.
- Another big factor is climate change related stressors that are much more difficult to solve once they get bigger.
- Using natural experiments to better understand how we respond to those and what might be effective preventative interventions.



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Terminal (resilience against uncertainty, increased mobility)

- We tend to think in linear ways but it doesn't work if we have to think about the future. We have to think about it in terms of cycles through materials and energy.
- Our big research question was looking at resilience., for future research, we need to ask the question of how to build resilience against uncertainties and, changes.
- Three broad areas include infrastructure, financial or physical, and also social (cultural, family, health) – and nature – try to give dimensions to that resilience.
- 1.1 billion people will be tourists by 2030. 12% of our total economy in the world are tourism. This might lead to homogenization of culture. How can culture and authenticity flourish with that kind of movement? International interactions would also include infectious diseases.



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VIPs (interventions for children and vulnerable populations)

- Who will be the VIPs in 2040?
- Group talked about protecting good leadership, keeping leaders accountable to the larger interest and not just their own. Not just the “one percent” but VIPs on all strata. Potentially abolish pyramids and have nested systems structure of leadership.
- By addressing these issues with upcoming generations, we might right these cycles of inequality.
- Solutions include: joint strategic health interventions, interventions on children and vulnerable populations to eliminate health disparities, translation to policy and planning decision makers. The VIPs, in this case the most vulnerable populations, would enjoy better outcomes.



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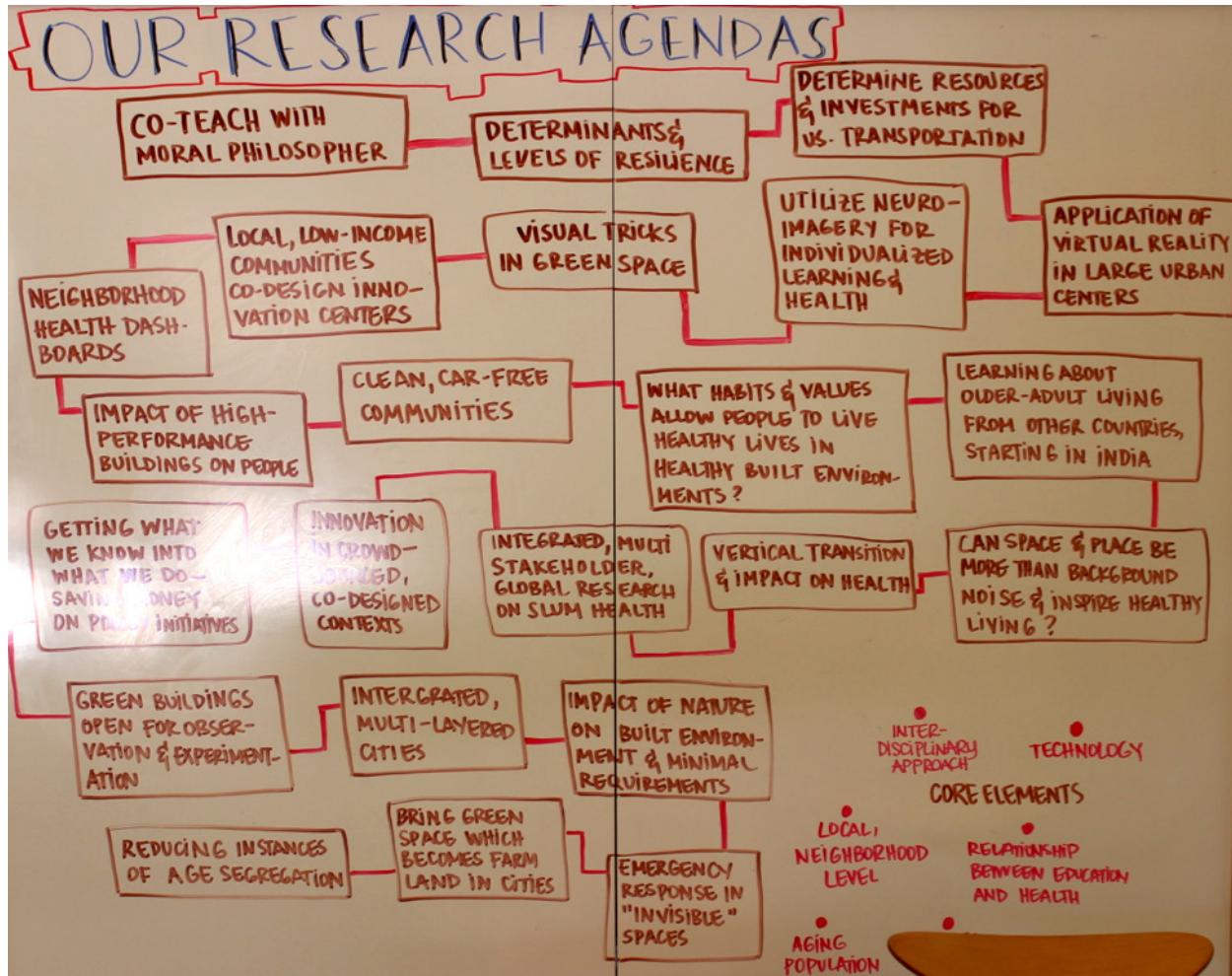
Session 7: Individual research possibilities

Aim: To identify a NEW individual research interest.

Exercise: Participants individually develop their own research agenda, guided by the following questions:

- How can this domain – the one defined within the blurred boundaries of “health and place” – leap forward 25 years?
- How can your inquiry, research, study, practice, collaboration make a dent in the way this domain will evolve?

Participants share their proposed research effort to large group in two-minutes.

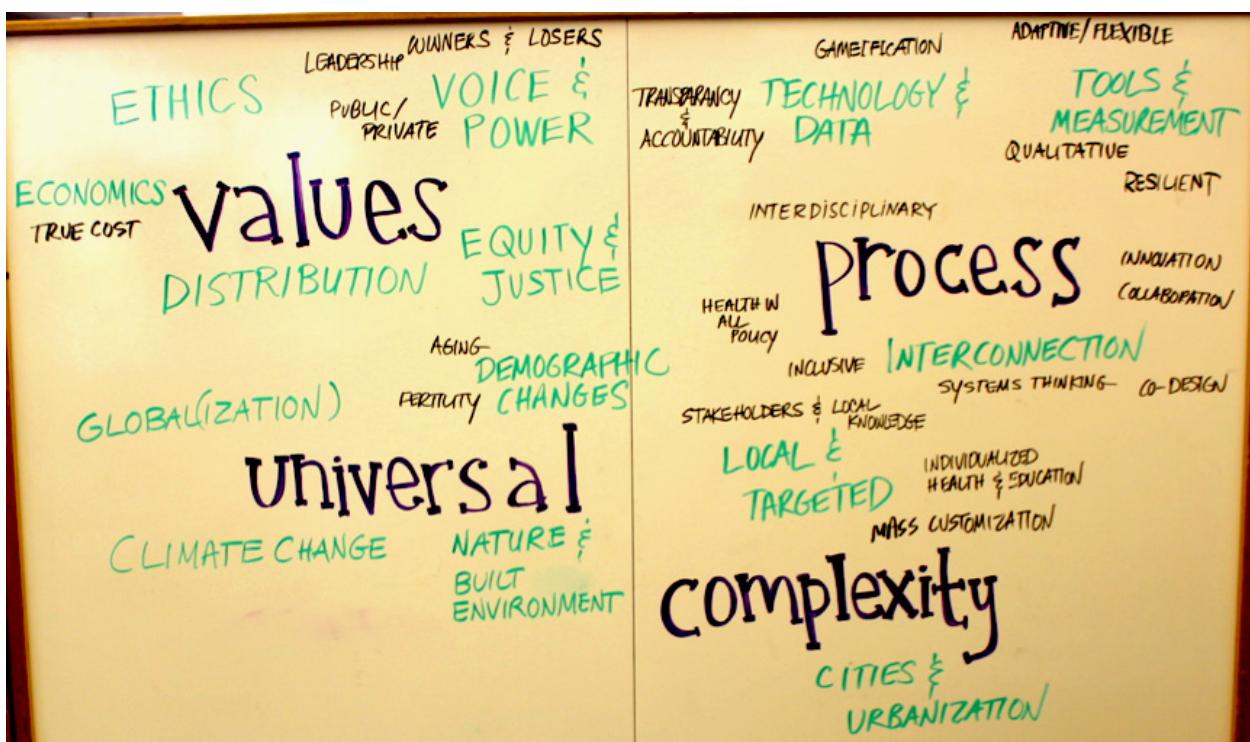
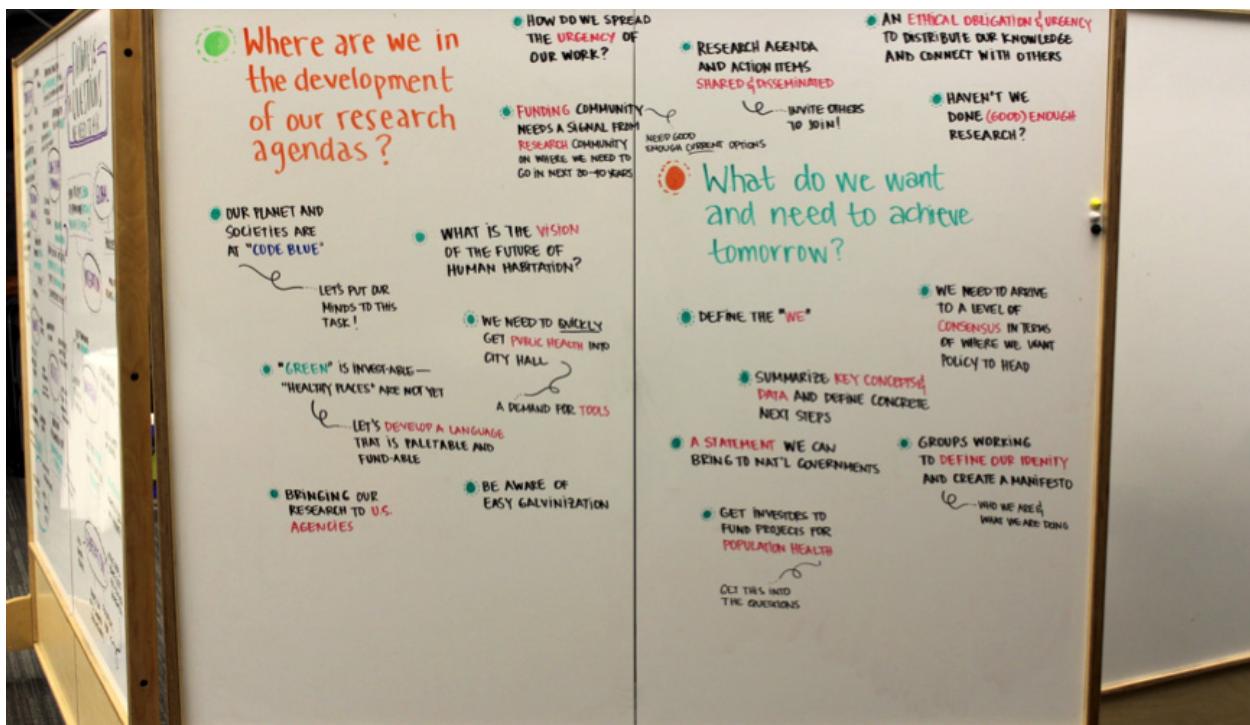


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Session 8: Conference structure and outcome proposals

Aim: Decide on how to structure the remainder of the conference, group research proposals, or outcomes.

Exercise: Roundtable discussion. Where do you think we are? What would you like to achieve tomorrow? Where do you think the group can move tomorrow?



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DAY 3: JUNE 24, 2015

Session 9: Groups looking at self-defined issues

Aim: Discuss key points from proposals and how to take the work forward.

Exercise: Break into 4 groups of 3-6 people on the following self-defined areas:

- Visibility and communication
- Research group agendas
- Individual research agendas
- Vision statement



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Visibility and communication

Outcomes

- Hire a marketing firm to create product demand (stakeholder specific marketing)
- Scenario planning and mapping
- Cities: policies, actions, and investments
- Tools for measurement (Neighborhood Dashboard)

Actions

- Find collaborators and early partner sites: where do we invest... to promote health equity? To win Boston Olympic bid? To establish our legacy?
- Start executing at the local level, then replicate
- Neighborhood Dashboard graph – start at one case, and expand



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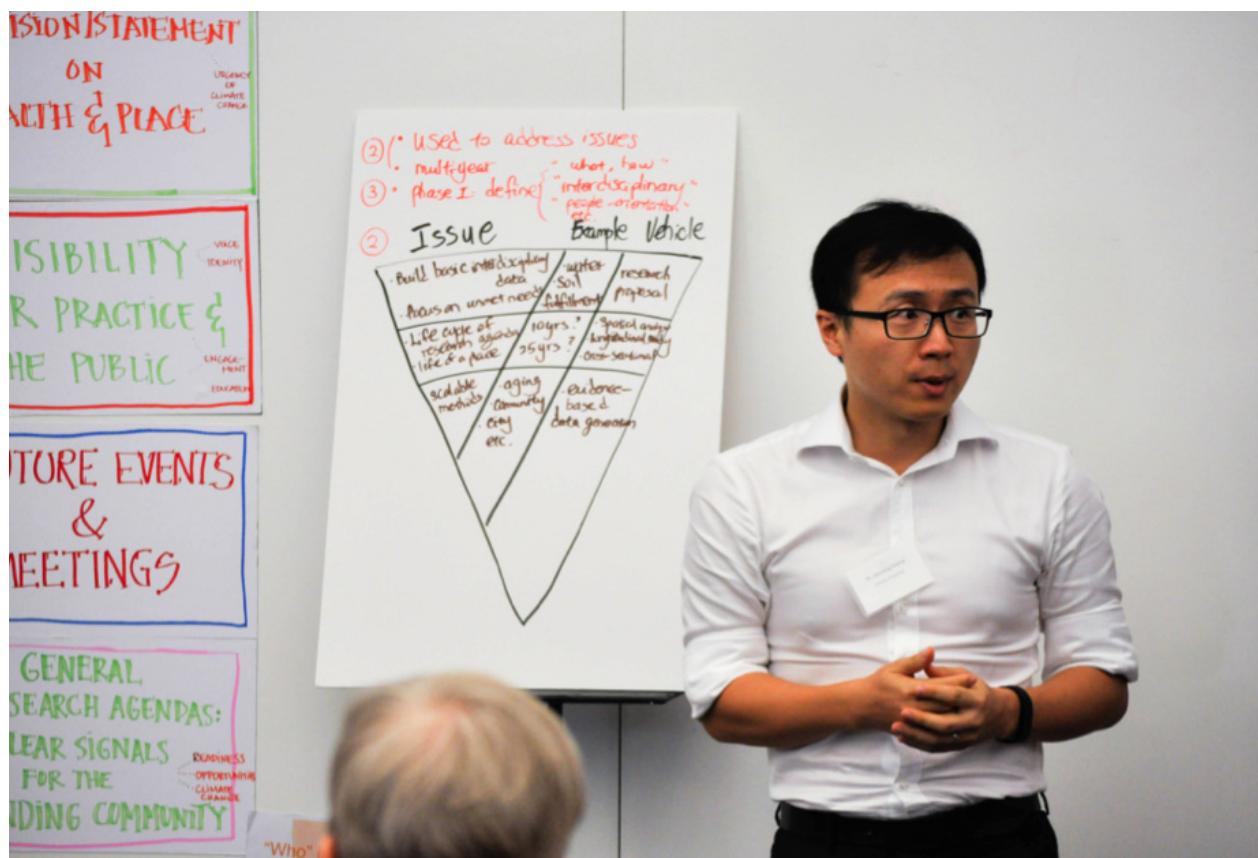
Group research agendas

Outcomes

- Leadership, funding, and institutional framework diagram
- Collectively serving the people involved and end users

Actions

- Use research to address relevant issues
- Multi-year projects
- Develop projects that go beyond research articles and are carried through to execution, completing the lifecycle of the research agenda
- Learn from examples and models of institutional frameworks, e.g. MIT Media Lab, Mayors' Coalition
- Seek funding of large multi-disciplinary teams – putting everyone into the same space
- Collect data and make it visible: be clear how you can use it, and have an assessment stage to know if it works in a specific environment (fully use data)



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Individual research agendas

Outcomes

- Theory and research; practice and policy
- How individual research agendas may be changed and enhanced based on what we have learned together

Actions

- Collaborations and joint research projects between group members
- Engaging practitioners in Singapore around this topic
- WHO guidelines in housing and health
- Prototyping and urban solutions for some of these ideas
- Convening of researchers, practitioners, and government agencies to try to get realistic practices and policies in place
- Urban prototyping of what we are meant to do – translating research into practice
- Singapore and India as starting places, perhaps also China



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Vision statement

Outcomes

- At a meeting held at Harvard University on June 22-24, 2015, 30 international experts in urban planning and health came together to explore and advance the role of health and place in design practice today.
- One outcome of the conference is the following statement:
 - All people have the right to live, grow, learn, work, and play in places that support health
 - People, politics, and policies shape places, and places shape opportunities for health
 - Climate change is an urgent threat to health and equity, and must be an opportunity to design places that advance health, economic, and social justice
 - Design, research, policy, and health communities must work together to promote healthy, equitable, and resilient places for all

Actions

- Call on the federal government to promote training of young professionals. NIH/NSF fund 10 centers for health and place (career track)
- Circulate the vision statement:
 - Put on HAPI conference website
 - Distribute to deans of GSD, and the deans of schools of public health
 - Post on blogs
 - Send to governors of MA and CA, NSW, and Pope Francis
 - Teach in classes
 - Send to university administrators



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APPENDICES

Attendee Biographies

Dr. Gary Adamkiewicz** is Assistant Professor of Environmental Health and Exposure Disparities at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, where much of his work focuses on environmental exposures within low-income communities. Dr. Adamkiewicz also serves as the Healthy Cities Program Leader at the Harvard Center for Health and the Global Environment, where he directs studies examining the intersection between sustainability and environmental health. Dr. Adamkiewicz is a member of the Science Advisory Committee for the National Center for Healthy Housing, and has served on EPA's Environmental Justice Technical Guidance Review Panel, under the auspices of the agency's Science Advisory Board. He has also served as an advisor to the World Health Organization's effort to establish indoor air quality guidelines. Dr. Adamkiewicz holds a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Master of Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Julia Africa* is a Program Leader of the Nature, Health, and the Built Environment (NHBE) program at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. In this role, she examines the ways in which nature and natural design cues in urban settings support psychological and physiological health and resilience. She translates these insights into urban design and planning practices that are site-sensitive, ecologically ethical, and health-promoting. She is currently conducting research in China, Japan, and in the US on behalf of the National Park Service. Africa is a member of the steering committee for the Biophilic Cities Network and the board of the International Society of Nature and Forest Medicine.

Dr. Antwi Akom is an Associate Professor of Environmental Sociology, Public Health, and STEM Education at San Francisco State University and is a Co-Founder of the Institute for Sustainable Economic, Educational, and Environmental Design (I-SEEED), which focuses on building sustainable cities and schools. Professor Akom has collaborated with schools, community groups, policy makers, and researchers to improve the lives and living conditions of poor people of color around the world. He is nationally and internationally recognized for his work on culturally and community responsive STEM pedagogy including research and studies on GIS mapping and technological innovation, food security/justice, race and education, community-driven sustainable development, and youth participatory action research.

Rachel Banay* is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Environmental Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Her research examines how features of the built and natural environments affect health behaviors and outcomes. She previously helped conduct evaluations of federal programs in education, health, labor and housing at the research firm Abt Associates in Cambridge, MA. She received her MPH from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and her BA from Harvard College.

Dr. Nisha Botchwey is an Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr. Botchwey's research currently focuses on topics including health and the built environment, public engagement methodologies, faith-based and secular organizations, and health equity. She has won distinctions including an NSF ADVANCE Woman of Excellence Faculty Award, a Hesburgh Award Teaching Fellowship from Georgia Tech, and a Rockefeller-Penn Fellowship from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing. She also serves on the Advisory Board to the Director of the Centers of Disease Control Prevention and is co-Director of the National Academy of Environmental Design's Research Committee.

Dana Bourland is the Vice President of the Environment program area at The JPB Foundation, a New York-based national philanthropy. The mission of the Foundation is "to enhance the quality of life in the United States through transformational initiatives that promote the health of communities," and one of the major areas of focus for the program is energy efficiency in low-income communities. Prior to this role, she oversaw environmental strategy as Vice President of Green Initiatives for Enterprise Community Partners, a national organization that creates opportunities for low- and moderate-income people through affordable housing.

Chuan Hao (Alex) Chen[◊] (Conference Team) is a MD and anthropology PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania. Trained in architecture and biological sciences at Cornell and design research at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, his interests span the issues of space, health, and culture. At HAPI, Alex works as a research assistant on healthy places guidelines and case studies, where he is developing an understanding of how to realize health goals through the build environment. With additional experiences in graphic design, digital media, and ethnographic research methods, he hopes to study issues of political economy and cultural relations in health that are embedded in the material environment.

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Dr. Jason Corburn is an Associate Professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning and School of Public Health at UC Berkeley. He directs the Center for Global Healthy Cities and co-directs the Global Metropolitan Studies initiative. His research focuses on the links between environmental health and social justice in cities, notions of expertise in science-based policy making, and the role of local knowledge in addressing environmental and public health problems. He seeks to build partnerships between urban residents, professional scientists, and decision-makers to generate policy and planning solutions that improve the qualities of cities and the well-being of their residents, particularly the poor and people of color. Dr. Corburn is currently a leader of the Richmond Health Equity Partnership, a coalition that includes the City of Richmond, California, the Contra Costa County Public Health Department, West County Unified School District and a number of non-profit organizations all working to reduce health inequities in Richmond.

Dr. Angie Cradock is a Deputy Director at the Harvard School of Public Health Prevention Research Center on Nutrition and Physical Activity (HPRC) and a Senior Research Scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health, where her research is primarily focused on the social and environmental factors associated with physical activity and nutrition behaviors among youth. Specific areas of interest include school and neighborhood environments, community-based intervention research, and policy research.

Mr. Michael Crowley is a Senior Program Officer for the US Program at the Institute for Sustainable Communities, which helps communities around the world address environmental, economic, and social challenges to build a better future shaped and shared by all. Mr. Crowley works to build the capacity of local practitioners in climate adaptation, transportation, energy efficiency, and sustainability leadership through peer-learning workshops and targeted on-the-ground technical assistance. Previously, he was the Sustainability Program Manager at Environmental Health & Engineering (EH&E), an environmental consulting firm in Needham, MA, and was the Assistant Director of the Harvard University Green Campus Initiative (now the Office for Sustainability), where he established a green building program, managed a \$12 million revolving loan fund for energy conservation projects, and led the strategic planning effort to develop a greenhouse gas reduction commitment for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

John Dalzell is a Senior Architect for Sustainable Development at the Boston Redevelopment Authority where he leads their green building and sustainable development initiatives. In May 2015, he launched the Mayor's E+ Green

Building Demonstration Program to test the feasibility of urban environmental, energy, and equity positive (E+) residential prototypes in Boston neighborhoods. He is also a member of the US Green Building Council Board of Directors where he provides perspectives on urban design, city and community development to the national Board. He served as a nationally elected member of the USGBC's LEED for Neighborhood Development Core Committee, is the co-chair of the USGBC Location & Planning Technical Advisory Group (LP TAG), and a Founding Board Member of the USGBC Massachusetts Chapter.

Dr. Zhao Dong is a Postdoctoral Fellow and Lab Manager in the aquatic biogeochemistry lab at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Her research interests include: prioritizing environmental health risks of pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) in the environment, mercury exposure through fish consumption, and the Gellyfish, a gel-based equilibrium sampler for simultaneous determination of multiple free metal ions. She is also the designer for the Aquatic Biogeochemistry Research Group and Grand Lake Watershed Mercury Study websites. She received her M.S. and Sc.D. from the Harvard School of Public Health.

Dr. Ann Forsyth (Conference Team)** is a Professor of Urban Planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and a Senior Faculty Fellow at Harvard's Joint Center for Housing Studies. Trained in planning and architecture, she works mainly on the social aspects of physical planning and urban development. Dr. Forsyth's contributions have been to analyze the success of planned alternatives to sprawl, particularly exploring the tensions between social and ecological values in urban design. Several issues provide a focus for some of her more detailed investigations: suburban design, walkability, affordable housing, social diversity, and appropriate green space. In doing this work she has created a number of tools and methods in planning—an urban design inventory, GIS protocols, health impact assessments, and participatory planning techniques. Her education includes a B.Sc. in architecture from the University of Sydney, M.A. in urban planning and Ph.D. in city and regional planning from Cornell.

David Fukuzawa is the Managing Director of Kresge Foundation's Health Program, which seeks to create access and opportunity in underserved communities, improve the health of low-income people, support artistic expression, increase college achievement, assist in the revitalization of Detroit, and advance methods for addressing global climate change. Mr. Fukuzawa has more than 20 years of experience in philanthropy, with a special focus on vulnerable children and youth. Mr. Fukuzawa holds a bachelor's degree from Yale, a master of divinity degree from Catholic Theological

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Union in Chicago, and a master of science in administration degree from Central Michigan University.

Dr. Limin Hee is the Director of Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC), a think-tank for liveable and sustainable cities, where she has oversight of research strategies, initiatives, and collaborations. At CLC, she helps bring to fruition the Urban Systems Studies series, which delve deep into the transformation of Singapore in the last 50 years. She was the project leader for a collaborative project with the Urban Land Institute: "10 Principles for Liveable High Density Cities," which was recognized as a milestone research project at the 2013 MND Sustainable Urban Living Congress. Dr. Hee also led an MND study on Community Engagement for Development Projects, which was presented to the Public Engagement Network of Singapore. She has previously taught at the School of Design and Environment at the National University of Singapore, and was a Principal Investigator at the Centre for Sustainable Asian Cities.

Dr. Christopher Herbert is Director of the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University. A key focus of his research is on the financial and demographic dimensions of homeownership, and the implications for homeownership policy of the recession, housing bust, and foreclosure crisis. He led the team responsible for producing the Center's annual State of the Nation's Housing and its biannual America's Rental Housing reports, essential resources for both public and private decision makers in the housing industry. Dr. Herbert is also a Lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Design in the Department of Urban Planning and Design. He holds a PhD and Masters in Public Policy from Harvard University, and a BA in History from Dartmouth College.

Dr. Jianxiang Huang is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Planning and Design at the University of Hong Kong. His primary interest is in sustainable design and his research focuses on the impact of dense cities on microclimate and thermal comfort. Dr. Huang is the author of CityComfort+, a computer simulation tool that is uniquely equipped to assess annual-hourly human comfort at micro-scale. He is the recipient of awards from the Society of College and University Planning (SCUP), International Downtown Association (IDA), the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and the Boston Society of Architects (BSA). He holds a Doctor of Design from Harvard University, a Master in City Planning from MIT, a M.Arch and a B.Arch from Tsinghua University.

Pamela Hung is a Program Associate for Health and Wellness at the Boston Foundation, Greater Boston's community foundation of 100 years. The Boston Foundation makes grants to nonprofits to address the region's critical

challenges and serves as a civic hub where ideas and common agendas are developed. In her role, Pamela evaluates grant proposals and co-manages over \$1 million of investments for the health strategy, which aims to increase access to physical activity and healthy foods for underserved youth. Pamela also co-manages the *Health Starts at Home* initiative, which seeks to bring together health and housing partners to improve children's health outcomes through housing stabilization. She has a Masters of Science in Epidemiology from the Harvard Chan School of Public Health and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern University with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematical Methods in Social Sciences.

Dr. Richard Jackson is a Professor and Chair at the Fielding School of Public Health at the University of California, Los Angeles. For nine years he was Director of the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health in Atlanta. In October, 2011 he was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He served in the highest California Public Health position where he advanced the state's disease preparedness efforts and public health effort to reverse the obesity epidemic. He has received the Breast Cancer Fund's *Hero Award*, as well as *Lifetime Achievement Awards* from the Public Health Law Association, and the New Partners for Smart Growth. In October, 2012 he received the John Heinz Award for Leadership in the Environment.

Dr. Peter James is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health trained in environmental health and epidemiology. James has focused his research on the causal effects of contextual factors, including green space, urban sprawl, neighborhood walkability, food access, air pollution, and socioeconomic factors on physical activity, dietary patterns, body mass index, diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, mental health, and all-cause mortality. He has over 7 years of experience working with the Nurses' Health Study cohorts, as well as the Framingham Heart Study and the Southern Community Cohort Study, and has aided in the creation of many of the geographic-based variables these studies. Peter has also worked with Boston's Regional Planning Agency, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, to apply pioneering quantitative methods to integrate health into the planning process through Health Impact Assessment. More recently, he is applying his expertise in processing large datasets to develop skills and methodologies to assess streaming, high spatio-temporal resolution objective measures of location and behavior to traditional cohort measures to understand behavioral risk factors for chronic disease.

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Joy Jing[◊] (Conference Team) is pursuing a joint concentration in Environmental Science and Public Policy (ESPP) and Architecture (HAA), as well as a secondary field in Economics at Harvard College. Her interests are in the areas of sustainable design and urban planning, particularly in topics of low/zero-energy buildings and micro apartments. During her internship at Studio2Sustain, she researched and applied Living Building Challenge 3.0 (LBC) standards and requirements to an ongoing project. The project, Welcome Center at the Lloyd Center of the Environment in Dartmouth, MA, is posed to be the first fully LBC certified building in southern Massachusetts. She currently assists in research and administrative tasks at the HAPI project.

Linyan Li* is a third-year doctoral student at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Ms. Li's current research focus is on assessing population exposures that occur indoor, during transit as well as in the surrounding community. With close connection with Harvard School of Design, she has been also involved in researches that add health perspectives into the design of housing, buildings and communities.

David Mah** is a Lecturer in Landscape Architecture at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. Previously, he taught at Cornell University's departments of Architecture as well as City and Regional Planning (2007 - 2010). He has also taught design studio within the postgraduate design, Landscape Urbanism program at the Architectural Association in London (2004 - 2007) and has conducted design workshops at the Peking University's Graduate School of Landscape Architecture in China and Konkuk University in Korea. Mah has worked within a number of international design practices including FOA and Zaha Hadid Architects where he was engaged in the design and delivery of a number of large landscape and master planning as well as architectural projects in the United Kingdom, Singapore and Spain. He has also been collaborating with Leire Asensio Villoria as asensio_mah, a multi-disciplinary design collaborative active in the design of architecture, landscape design and master planning, since 2002.

John McCartin[◊] (Conference Team) is a Baltimore native and current Master of Urban Planning candidate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. In 2011, He earned a BA in Urban Studies from Vassar College, where he organized the re-use of persistently vacant storefronts in downtown Poughkeepsie. He returned to Baltimore after college, working in local government and staffing a City Councilman on urban development matters. In 2013, John left for Glasgow, Scotland to study urban theory and industrial landscapes as a Fulbright postgraduate researcher. He continues that work at the GSD, particularly in planning for manufacturing spaces and following the emergent role of service sector unions in the

urban planning process.

Dr. Rebecca Miles is a Professor of Urban & Regional Planning at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Her research areas include housing, neighborhoods and health; rapid urbanization and aging populations; planning and public health, safety, and well-being; and development and social policy. She has published widely in health, social science, and planning journals, and has worked abroad in Ethiopia, Mali, Egypt, Jordan, Gaza and the West Bank. She holds a Ph.D. in Development Sociology and Master's in Regional Planning from Cornell University, and a B.A. in History of Science from Harvard University.

Dr. Jennifer Molinsky is a Senior Research Associate at the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University and Lecturer at the Graduate School of Design. At the Joint Center, she works on housing policy and planning issues including homeownership, housing for older adults, and land use regulation. Dr. Molinsky has experience in urban planning from the research, municipal, nonprofit, and citizen planning perspectives, having served as Chief Planner for Long Range Planning in Newton, MA; researcher at Lincoln Institute of Land Policy; Associate Director of Issues at the Municipal Art Society of New York, and as a member of the Planning Board in Cambridge as well as other local planning committees. She holds a Ph.D. in Urban Planning from MIT, a Masters of Public Affairs-Urban and Regional Planning from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton, and a B.A. from Yale.

Janessa Mulepati (Conference Team) is the Executive Assistant for the Department of Urban Planning and Design at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She assists the chair with projects and administrative tasks, and helps coordinate department meetings/events.

Yannis Orfanos* (Conference Team) is a Research Associate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he is the Computational Design Lead for the Health and Places Initiatives and a core group member of the Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure. His work focuses on applied research, computational urbanism, and using data to address urban sustainability challenges. Yannis has worked within a number of international design practices in London, Barcelona, and Athens, including KPF Associates and Prof. Pollalis Inc. Yannis is an Envision Sustainability Professional & Trainer (ENV SP) by Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure and a Registered Architect in UK (ARB). His education includes a degree in Architectural Engineering and MPhil in Architecture from National Technical University of Athens, and MArch in Architecture and Urbanism from Architectural Association Design Research Lab.

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Naree Phinyawatana is the Director of Atelier Ten's Bangkok and Singapore offices, a firm that provides environmental design consultants and building services engineers to develop high- performance and sustainable design within the built environment. Her expertise includes environmental design, daylighting and façade optimization, and extensive knowledge in sustainable master planning and infrastructure. She holds a Master in Design Studies and a Doctor of Design in Building Technology from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University. She has taught at Harvard University, Yale University, and University of Pennsylvania. She currently teaches at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok.

Dr. Chris Pyke is the Chief Operating Officer for Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB) at the U.S. Green Building Council. He helps lead GRESB's global business strategy and the development of information technologies to inform and accelerate market transformation, including the Green Building Information Gateway. Prior to joining GRESB, he was the Vice President for Research at the US Green Building Council, the National Director of Climate Change Services for CTG Energetics, Inc. and a research scientist with the US EPA's Global Change Research Program. While serving at US EPA, Dr. Pyke co-chaired the U.S. Climate Change Science Program's Interagency Working Group on Human Contributions and Responses to Climate Change. He also serves in a number of technical advisory roles, including representing the United States for greenhouse gas mitigation issues related to residential and commercial buildings on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. He holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in Geography from the University of California Santa Barbara and a B.S. from the College of William and Mary.

Dr. Yang (Sophia) Qiu is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Health and the Global Environment at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, focusing primarily on interactions between physical space and population health at the Nature, Health, and the Built Environment team. Currently, Dr. Qiu is leading the Center's effort in research translation through multidisciplinary collaborations in China and Asia Pacific. She was also a part of an effort to understand the health effect of energy-efficient retrofitting on urban public housing in the U.S. through the Green Housing Study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Her earlier work has motivated the CDC and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to grant her a self-designed project on qualitative evaluation of healthy housing programs in 10 U.S. cities. Dr. Qiu obtained her Doctor of Science degree from the Department of Environmental Health and her Master of Science degree from the Department of Global Health, both at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Dr. Samina Raja is an Associate Professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University at Buffalo, SUNY. Her research focuses on understanding the role of planning and policy in building sustainable food systems and healthy communities. She is the Principal Investigator of the Food Systems Planning and Healthy Communities Lab ("Food Lab"). Dr. Raja is currently directing Growing Food Connections, a comprehensive five-year initiative funded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to build capacity of local governments to strengthen food systems. Dr. Raja also serves on the steering committee of the Food Interest Group (FIG) of the American Planning Association whose mission is to advance the practice of food systems planning within the profession.

Emily Salomon* (**Conference Team**) is a research associate with the Health and Places Initiative at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design (GSD), where she specializes in communications. Prior to joining the GSD, she was Research Associate at the Center for Housing Policy in Washington, DC, where she focused on the connections between affordable housing, land use, and transportation policy, and affordable housing for older adults. At the Housing Partnership Network, she managed a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development housing counseling grant program. Salomon was involved in the Leadership for Healthy Communities program at the International City and County Management Association (ICMA), focused on local government policies to promote food access and physical activity through community design. She holds a masters degree in community development and planning from Clark University.

Ms. Aekta Shah is currently the Program Director of Technology and Youth Engagement at the Institute for Sustainable Economic, Educational and Environmental Design (I-SEEED). At I-SEEED, Aekta is engaged in research and development on issues including technology, GIS mapping, education, and sustainable community development. Prior to joining I-SEEED, she worked with Boston Public School District as a researcher and case study writer and was previously the Director of Youth Programs at the Institute at the Golden Gate, a partnership of the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Committed to providing college and career opportunities to traditionally underserved youth, Aekta has been recognized by organizations such as the Aspen Institute, Green for All, Bioneers and has presented for the UN on issues of sustainable development and education. She holds an Ed.M in Education Policy and Management from Harvard and a B.A. in Developmental Psychology and Education from Dartmouth College.

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Laura Smead* (**Conference Team**) is a research associate in urban planning for the Health and Places Initiative at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. With master's degrees in both in urban planning and psychology, Ms. Smead has specialized knowledge on health, aging, climate change, and sustainable urban planning. Her contributions to the Health and Places Initiative include being the primary author of research briefs on health and place, and contributing to the development of a new suite of health impact assessment tools for planners. Ms. Smead's professional history includes research, statistics, and analysis work in higher education (UC Irvine, London School of Economics, Northeastern University), as well as planning and design experience (City of Cambridge, City of Somerville, Boston Cyclists Union, Larry Koff and Associates).

Dr. Jack Spengler** is the Akira Yamaguchi Professor of Environmental Health and Human Habitation and Director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, as well as Director of the Sustainability and Environmental Management Program at the Harvard Extension School. He has conducted research on indoor and outdoor air pollution health effects and a variety of sustainability issues. Dr. Spengler is a member of Harvard's Greenhouse Gases Executive Committee. He served on the National Academies' NRC committee "Green Schools: Attributes for Health and Learning" (Chair) and the IOM committee on "Effect of Climate Change on Indoor Air Quality and Public Health" (Chair). In 2003, Spengler received a Heinz Award for the Environment, and an honorary doctorate from the Technical University of Denmark.

Dr. Susan Thompson is a Professor of Planning and Director of the Healthy Built Environments Program in the City Futures Research Centre at University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. She has worked as a planner in Australia for over 30 years and is Director of the Healthy Built Environments Program in the City Futures Research Centre. The Program focuses on planning, designing and building environments that support people's health and well-being as part of everyday life. In 2014, Dr. Thompson was appointed to the NSW Minister for Health's Advisory Committee on Preventive Health - the first urban planner to serve on this committee. Dr. Thompson writes a regular column on healthy built environments in 'New Planner' - the NSW journal of the Planning Institute of Australia. She is a frequent contributor to professional practice forums on different issues including healthy urban planning, cultural diversity and community safety.

Linda Powers Tomasso* is a Project Associate for the Health and Places Initiative at the Harvard University T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She conducts environmental

policy research at the Center for Health and the Global Environment, where she applies her distinct research areas on sustainable land use in urban expansion and standards for incorporating healthy materials into rapidly growing built environments to southeastern China. She has consulted on sustainable international development projects for the development banks and international NGOs, notably in the Andean countries and China. Linda holds Masters degrees from Harvard Extension School's Program in Sustainability and Environmental Management and the Georgetown School of Foreign Service.

Maurizio Travaglini (**Conference Team**) is the Founder and Director of Architects of Group Genius. In the past 10 years, he has designed and facilitated over 200 collaborative working sessions in different countries and cultures to address a variety of problems: from conceiving, designing, and launching new products, services, or policies to strategy formulation; from leadership development to individual and group learning. His approach to co-design is based on the way the physical architecture, as well as the process, social and content architectures, interact with one another. Before founding Architects Of Group Genius, Maurizio spent 15 years working in six different countries using the four languages he speaks for Nokia, J.P. Morgan, and Accenture. He holds a degree in Economics and Business Management from Bocconi University in Milan. He is the co-author of the article: "Unlocking the Slices of Genius in Your Organization," part of the HBS Centennial publication Handbook of Leadership Theory and Practice.

Dr. Yifan Yu is a Professor at Tongji University Department of Urban Planning and the Vice-President of the Urban Planning Association of Shanghai.. She is also a Research Project Director at the Natural Science Foundation of China, as well as a Research Fellow of Université Paris-Sorbonne. Her publications include "*The Morphology of Habitation*", "*Social Housing's Double-Marginalization Trap*", and "*Approaches to Urban Design*". She received her PhD from Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris.

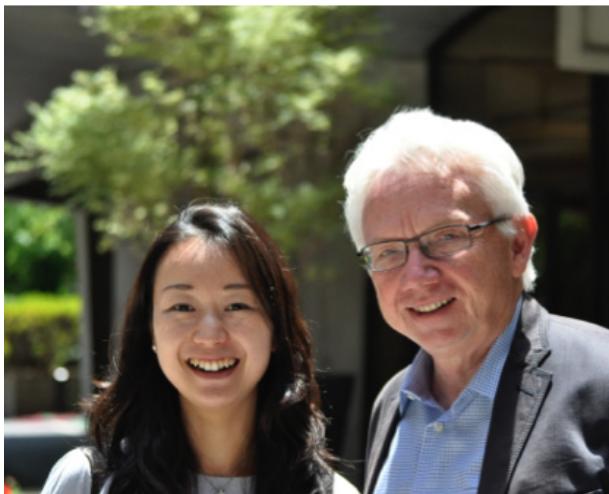
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