

# Public Goods, Commodification and Rising Inequality

Organized by

David Grusky, Stanford University and Ravi Kanbur, Cornell University

2-3 November, 2017

Location:

Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (IRiSS) at 30 Alta Road, Stanford, CA 94305

Sponsors:

Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University

Center on Poverty and Inequality, Stanford University

Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University

75 min sessions; 3 papers per session; 15 mins per presentation, 30 mins floor discussion

## 2 November, 2017

8.30-9.00 Registration

9.00-9.15 Opening

Ravi Kanbur, Cornell, and David Grusky, Stanford

9.15-10.30 Session I *Extractive Logics, Minimalist States, and the Social Contract*

Chair: David Grusky, Stanford

Saskia Sassen, Columbia

“The Rise of Extractive Logics in our Economies”

Michelle Anderson, Stanford

“Testing the Nightwatchman State in America's Poorest Cities”

Maurizio Bussolo, World Bank

“Leveling the Playing Field: Distributional Tensions and Consequences for the Social Contract in Europe”

10.30-11.00 Break

11.00-12.15 Session II *Cooperation and Egalitarianism*

Chair: Ravi Kanbur, Cornell

Ran Abramitzky, Stanford

“The Mystery of the Kibbutz: Egalitarian Principles in a Capitalist World”

Theodore Lechterman, Stanford  
“Is the Private Provision of Public Goods Illegitimate?”

Varun Gauri, World Bank  
“Cooperation is a Source of Distributive Justice”

12.15-1.15 Lunch

1.15-2.30 Session III *Privatization*

Chair: Wendy Espeland, Northwestern

Claire Dunning, Stanford  
“Historicizing Privatization and Inequality in the Recent American Past”

Debra Satz, Stanford  
“What’s Wrong with Privatization? The Case of Schools”

Cristobal Young, Stanford  
“Patients as Consumers in the New Market for Medicine”

2.30-3.00 Break

3.00-4.15 Session IV *Charitable Giving and Philanthropy*

Chair: Vida Maralani, Cornell

Abigail Payne, Melbourne  
“Charitable Giving and Support of Privately Provided Public Goods”

Rob Reich, Stanford  
“Dangerous Liaisons? Big Philanthropy and the Provision of Public Goods”

Jim Andreoni, UCSD  
“Is American Philanthropy Making us Poorer? The Costs and Consequences of Donor  
Advised Funds”

7.00 *Conference Dinner*

Speakers: Mark Granovetter, Stanford and Kim Weeden, Cornell

### **3 November, 2017**

9.15-10.30 Session V *Property and Property Rights*

Chair: Abigail Payne, Melbourne

Neil Fligstein, Berkeley  
“Keeping up with the Jones's”

Marion Fourcade, Berkeley  
“Faust in the Digital Era”

- Anthony Zhang, Stanford  
 “Depreciating Licenses”
- 10.30-11.00 Break
- 11.00-12.15 Session VI *Inequality, Identity and Local Public Goods*
- Chair: David Grusky, Stanford
- Maitreesh Ghatak, LSE  
 “Inequality and Identity Salience”
- Amrita Dhillon, King’s College London  
 “Caste Identity and Productivity”
- Pranab Bardhan, Berkeley  
 “Inequality and Local Public Goods and Environmental Resources”
- 12.15-1.15 Lunch
- 1.15-2.30 Session VII *Education and Inequality*
- Chair: David Grusky, Stanford
- Wendy Espeland, Northwestern  
 “University Rankings and the Commodification of Status”
- Neil Lewis, Cornell  
 “Can People 'Like Me' Go to College? Inequality and Academic Motivation”
- Hazel Markus, Stanford  
 “Rising Inequality and the Academic and Social Experience of College Students”
- 2.30-3.00 Break
- 3.00-4.15 Session VIII *Family Decisions, Mobility and Investment*
- Chair: Ravi Kanbur, Cornell
- Vida Maralani, Cornell  
 “Demography, Family Income Dynamics, and Child Investment”
- Petra Persson, Stanford  
 “Family Location Decisions and Intergenerational Insurance”
- Florencia Torche, Stanford  
 “Educational reform and inequality in a privatized educational system”
- 4.15-4.30 Conference Closing
- David Grusky, Stanford and Ravi Kanbur, Cornell