



## **Urban Systems Student Conference**

**Poverty, Urban Systems and Urban Inequality: A Conference in Honor of Jean Anyon**

**Friday, May 2, 2014**

**Paul Robeson Campus Center, Essex Room 231-232  
Rutgers University-Newark**

2014 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, and despite some progress, poverty remains as pernicious today as it was then. Although there have been numerous policies and programs designed to reduce or eradicate poverty, most have not significantly alleviated the problem. According to the late Jean Anyon, these programs failed because they failed to address the systemic, structural and political-economic causes of poverty, but rather treated its symptoms.

Jean Anyon served on the Rutgers University-Newark faculty from 1977-2002, and chaired its Department of Education for 17 years. From 2002-2013, she was Professor of Urban Education at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. As Jean Anyon's lifetime work examined the effects of poverty on a variety of urban systems, including education, environment and health, we believe that this conference provides not only the opportunity to remember her, but as importantly, to discuss her work in the context of the major cross-sectoral themes of the Urban Systems Program. In dozens of referred journal articles and numerous books, especially *Ghetto Schooling* (Teachers College Press, 1998) and *Radical Possibilities* (Routledge, 2005, 2013), Anyon argued that poverty is the most important factor affecting residents in cities, with its detrimental effects resulting in poor health, unhealthy environments, low-performing schools and low-performing students.

Unlike the first student run USYS conference, which put out a call for papers, this conference will be invitational. Part I will include internationally recognized keynote speakers and Urban Systems graduates, whose dissertations examine the interconnection among urban health, environment and education addressing the legacy of Jean Anyon's work for understanding and solving urban problems.

The last part of the conference will recognize Jean's contributions to Rutgers University-Newark and the CUNY Graduate Center with faculty and students honoring her legacy. Finally, Rutgers University-Newark will officially name the conference room in the Department of Urban Education after her.

Although the conference at first glance may appear to be related more to the education track of the Urban Systems Program than the other two tracks, we believe this is not the case. First, Jean Anyon's work is a prime example of the need to examine the relationships among education, health, environment and other urban systems in order to understand urban problems and their solutions. Second, all students in the program read her work in the core Urban Education Systems course. Finally, much of her work from 1980-1998 centered on New Jersey and Newark and used an urban systems approach central to her theoretical and empirical perspectives.

## Schedule

### ***8-8:40 Continental Breakfast***

#### ***8:45-9:10 Welcomes***

Karen Franck, Professor of Architecture, Director of the Urban Systems Program, New Jersey Institute of Technology

Kyle Farmbry, Interim Dean, Graduate School, Rutgers University-Newark

Urs Gauchat, Dean, College of Architecture and Design, New Jersey Institute of Technology

Susan Salmond, Dean, School of Nursing-Newark, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences

#### ***9:10-9:15 Introduction***

Mara Sidney, Associate Professor of Political Science and Jamie Lew, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, Interim Co-Directors, Education Track, Rutgers University-Newark

#### **Video Clip: Jean Anyon at the First Urban Systems Conference, June 2012**

#### ***9:15-9:30 Opening Remarks***

Alan Sadvnik, Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor of Education, Sociology and Public Affairs, Director, Education Track, Rutgers University-Newark

*Jean Anyon and the Urban Systems Approach: The Effects of Poverty on Urban Education, Environment and Health*

**9:30- 10:10 Lois Weis**, Distinguished Professor, School of Education, University of Buffalo  
Professor Weis is a leading sociologists of education, whose work on the effects of de-industrialization on cities and their residents has been central to understanding the relationship among education and other urban systems.

#### ***10:15-10:25 Coffee Break***

**10:30-11:10 Michelle Fine**, Distinguished Professor, Department of Psychology, CUNY Graduate Center

Professor Fine is a leading social psychologist, whose work on urban schooling and inequality has been central to understanding the effects of urban systems on the identities of urban residents.

**11:15-11:55 Roslyn Mickelson**, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Professor Mickelson is a leading sociologist of education, whose work on segregation, desegregation and re-segregation in Charlotte-Mecklenburg has analyzed the effects of urban demography, residential housing patterns, poverty and educational inequality.

**12:00-1:25 Lunch and Keynote: Mindy Thompson Fullilove**, Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Clinical Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University

Mindy Thompson Fullilove, MD, is a research psychiatrist at New York State Psychiatric Institute and a professor of clinical psychiatry and public health at Columbia University. She was educated at Bryn Mawr College (AB, 1971) and Columbia University (MS, 1971; MD 1978).

She is a board certified psychiatrist, having received her training at New York Hospital-Westchester Division (1978-1981) and Montefiore Hospital (1981-1982). She has conducted research on AIDS and other epidemics of poor communities, with a special interest in the relationship between the collapse of communities and decline in health.

From her research, she has published *Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America and What We Can Do About It*, and *The House of Joshua: Meditations on Family and Place*. She is co-author of Ernest Thompson's *Homeboy Came to Orange: A Story of People's Power* (1976) and Rodrick Wallace's *Collective Consciousness and Its Discontents* (2008).

She has received many awards, including inclusion in many “Best Doctors” and two honorary doctorates (Chatham College, 1999, and Bank Street College of Education, 2002). Her work on AIDS is featured in Jacob Levenson’s *The Secret Epidemic: The Story of AIDS in Black America*. Her current work focuses on the connection between urban function and mental health.

***1:30-2:30 Urban Systems Students and Graduates Panel I***

Chair, Sabrina Chase, Assistant Professor, Director, Health Track, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Science

Molly Makris, Post-doctoral Fellow, Rutgers University-Newark, Newark Schools Research Collaborative  
Gentrification, Education and Housing in Hoboken

Elizabeth Morrison Brown, Assistant Professor, William Paterson University  
Social Class, Neighborhood and Education in Jersey City

Yuri Jadotte, Assistant Professor, Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences  
Interprofessionalism and Urban Health Disparities

Cara Kronen, Lecturer, Borough of Manhattan Community College  
Education and Residential Segregation in Yonkers

***2:40-3:40 Urban Systems Students and Graduates Panel II***

Chair, Jeffrey Backstrand, Associate Research Professor and Director MPH Program, Rutgers University-Newark School of Public Affairs and Administration and RBHS School of Public Health

Elizabeth Rivera Rodas, Dissertation Fellow, Rutgers University-Newark  
Education and Housing in New York City

Hanaa Hamdi, Assistant Professor, Principal Investigator, Healthy Living Initiative, Newark  
Rutgers University, New Jersey Medical School, RBHS  
Poverty and Urban Health

Brian Engelman, Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Maryland  
Urban Influences on Suburban Gang Formation in New Jersey

Diane Hill, Assistant Chancellor for University-Community Partnerships and Principal  
Investigator, Newark Promise Neighborhood Grant (USDOE), Rutgers University-Newark  
The Newark Fairmount Promise Neighborhood Project: A Systemic Approach to the Reduction  
of Poverty

***3:45-3:55 Coffee Break***

***4:00-5:25 Remembering Jean Anyon***

Introduction: Jan Lewis, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University-Newark

Jane Califf, Former Director of Clinical Practice, Department of Urban Education, Rutgers  
University-Newark

Fran Bartowski, Professor of English, Rutgers University-Newark

Nancy Holmstrom, Professor Emerita of Philosophy, Rutgers University-Newark

Dorothy Knauer, Ph.D. student, Urban Systems, Rutgers University-Newark

Wendy Lutrell, Professor of Education, Program in Urban Education, CUNY Graduate Center

Anthony Picciano, Professor of Education, Director of the Program in Urban Education, CUNY  
Graduate Center Program in Urban Education, CUNY, Graduate Center (remembrance to be read  
by Wendy Lutrell)

Michael Dumas, Graduate, Program in Urban Education, CUNY Graduate Center, Assistant  
Professor of Education, New York University

Liza Pappas, Graduate, Program in Urban Education, CUNY Graduate Center, Analyst, New York City Independent Budget Office

Kiersten Greene, Graduate, Program in Urban Education, CUNY Graduate Center  
Assistant Professor, SUNY College at New Paltz

Amy Moran, Graduate, Program in Urban Education, CUNY Graduate Center, former Instructor,  
Department of Urban Education, Rutgers University-Newark

Janet Miller, Professor of English Education, Teachers College, Columbia University

Gary Anderson, Professor of Educational Administration, New York University

Julia Wrigley, Professor of Sociology, CUNY Graduate Center and Interim Associate Provost,  
CUNY

***Conclusion***

Clement Price, Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor of History, Rutgers  
University-Newark

***5:30-7:00 Reception and Dedication*** of Urban Ed Conference Room to be named the Jean  
Anyon Conference Room

Introduction: Arthur Powell, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Urban Education,  
Rutgers University-Newark

Jessie Anyon

**Please RSVP to [urbansystemsconference@gmail.com](mailto:urbansystemsconference@gmail.com) by April 4, 2014 if you  
plan to attend.**

**For further information or questions contact Kandi Berryman [\(973\) 353-3528](tel:9733533528)**