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## Foreword and Acknowledgments: About the STUDY SPACE project

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**Foreword and Acknowledgments:  
About the STUDY SPACE Project**

*Colin Crawford*

**Study Space: Evaluations of Human Habitats and Habits in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**, is an intensive series of workshops, held at diverse locations around the world, the goal of which is to acquire a deeper understanding of the legal, policy and human challenges posed by the global growth of megacities. **Study Space** intends, at various times and in different places, to provide a vehicle for progressive scholars and graduate students from varied backgrounds and disciplines to study, learn and seek to understand experientially this trend in all of its implications – for identity and self-determination, for participatory democracy, for equality and social justice, for human health, for the environment, for livable cities and for manageable land use.

To that end, **Study Space I: Entering the 21st Century: Challenges and Opportunities of Panama's Explosive Urban Growth**, was held in La Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá, from December 9-15, 2007. Its primary sponsors were the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, Georgia State University College of Law (CMG), and Latina & Latino Critical Legal Theory, Inc. (LatCrit). In addition, this first **Study Space** was blessed with the co-sponsorship of the Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science, University of Miami. **Study Space I** could not have happened without the benefit of the conceptual and organizational work of Dr. Daniel Suman, a member of the Rosenstiel faculty. Dr. Suman's deep and broad knowledge of Panamá, its people, culture and environment helped inform every aspect of **Study Space I** and for his tireless work to make the week a success, he deserves hearty thanks. In addition, it would be remiss not to thank Dean

Steven J. Kaminshine and the Georgia State University College of Law for the institutional and financial support that helped launch **Study Space I** and the entire **Study Space** project.

It is anticipated that the co-sponsorship model will continue to characterize the **Study Space** project. **Study Space II: Property, the Environment, and Cultural Diversity** in Colombia, was held in Bogotá, Colombia, from March 9-15, 2008, under the joint sponsorship of the CMG and Lat-Crit, along with the Faculty of Law at the Universidad de los Andes; those proceedings will be published in an edition of Inter-American Law Review at the University of Miami. **Study Space III** is planned for Denver, Colorado, USA, in December 2008, with the joint sponsorship of its Sturm College of Law; **Study Space IV** is scheduled for Medellin, Colombia, in March 2009, in collaboration with the law and other faculties at the Universidad EAFIT in that city. Through this cooperative, cross-national, and cross-institutional model, the **Study Space** project seeks to build a body of comparative law and related disciplinary scholarship addressing –in the broadest sense –the consequences of global urbanization and related social, economic, and environmental change. **Study Space** is, moreover, by no means, a closed project. It is one that aims constantly to reach out and create new institutional partners and cross-national working relations to address its central themes. On behalf of those previously and currently involved in the collaborative **Study Space** project, let me conclude by saying that we look Forward to your comments, criticisms, and future participation.



