The Paradigm Shift of Urban and Housing Policy in South Korea

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This presentation will talk about why and how the urban & housing policy in South Korea has been changed to the recent “Urban Regeneration” paradigm from the redevelopment-oriented policy resulted in producing high-rise apartment housing complexes. To do so, it will summarize the brief history of the Korea’s urban development and explore its unique systems such as Jeonse (Korea’s popular rent system) and the Joint Redevelopment Program led by the Property Owners Association, which functioned as core mechanisms to achieve rapid urban growth. Then, it will highlight the social and economic backgrounds leading to the paradigm shift and discuss the current major issues in urban & housing policy such as rental market restructuring, affordable housing, and gentrification with some cases of urban regeneration project in Seoul.

Professor Jeeyeop Kim teaches urban planning/design theory and land use law at Department of Architecture, Ajou University in Korea. He studied architecture, urban design and urban planning at Sung-kyunkwan University, Seoul National University and Columbia University. He also received a Juris Doctor degree from Pace Law School and was admitted to the New York and New Jersey State bar. He has been involved in many research projects to consult the central and local governments in Korea and worked as a master planner for the Hangchon Village Urban Regeneration Project in Seoul. He serves as a commissioner in the Suwon City Planning Commission and in the New Town Development Commission under the Ministry of Land, Infrastructures and Transport.

3:30-5:00 PM, Thomson Hall #317

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