

Land Lines

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The Lincoln Institute of Land Policy is a nonprofit educational institution established in 1974 to study and teach land policy and taxation. By supporting multidisciplinary educational, research and publications programs, the Institute brings together diverse viewpoints to expand the body of useful knowledge in two departments—valuation and taxation, and planning and development—and in the program on Latin America. Our goal is to make that knowledge comprehensible and accessible to citizens, policy makers and scholars in the United States, Latin America and throughout the world. The Lincoln Institute is an equal opportunity institution in employment and admissions.

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From the PRESIDENT

We are inaugurating our fourteenth volume year of *Land Lines* with a new look and feel—more color, more articles, more news about our faculty, and more announcements about our courses, publications and special projects.

In the past five years our educational programs have expanded to reach policy makers and practitioners in federal, state and local government throughout the United States and in many countries of Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia. Our faculty has developed a broad range of introductory and advanced professional development courses that explore both the theory and practice of land and tax policy.

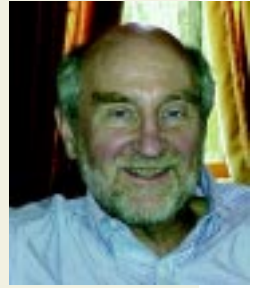
The Institute's Department of Valuation and Taxation, chaired by Joan Youngman, has three major goals: improving public and scholarly debate on the taxation of land value; addressing the economic impact, feasibility, political acceptability, and appropriate use of value-based taxes; and contributing to a better understanding of the valuation process for tax purposes. The local property tax is a major focus of the Institute's work, but we analyze a variety of revenue instruments, particularly with regard to their treatment of land value increments attributable to public investment.

The Department of Planning and Development, cochaired by Rosalind Greenstein and Armando Carbonell, links interests in the theory and practice of planning with an understanding of how land markets operate. Our concerns focus on urban and regional planning and design, land conservation, urban redevelopment, and the behavior of land markets, particularly the integration of urban and environmental systems; public and private roles in decisions involving land policy and land use; the effect of land markets and the institutions that support them on the city and its residents; and the role of land and real estate in the larger economy and in poverty alleviation.

Martim Smolka directs the Institute's Program on Latin America and the Caribbean, which focuses on five priority topics: value capture policies and implementation of instruments to mobilize land value increments; property taxation systems that can meet the needs of rapid urbanization; regulatory environments supporting large-scale urban intervention; security of tenure, regularization and urban upgrading programs; and urban land market forces, including spatial and social segregation, speculation, vacant land and related issues.

Each issue of *Land Lines* will continue to feature articles by faculty who share the ideas discussed and lessons learned in Institute-sponsored courses. In addition, we will announce upcoming courses, lectures and other programs that are open to a general audience, and we will keep you informed about new publications, web-based programs and other resources that address our work in land and tax policy.

We welcome your thoughts about this revised newsletter design, and we encourage you to share your copy with your colleagues. This complimentary newsletter, now being produced quarterly, is available to anyone who wants to join our mailing list. Please contact the Institute by email or by using the form on the inside back cover.



Jim Brown