March 2, 2007

JERUSALEM 2050 Presents

Just Jerusalem Visions for a Place of Peace

Just Jerusalem Competition Launch

Jointly sponsored by MIT's Center for International Studies and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning
MIT Announces “Just Jerusalem,” A Visionary Urban Design Competition

Cambridge, MA. March 2, 2007—MIT announces today the launch of “Just Jerusalem,” a competition that invites participants worldwide to submit urban plans and other creative works that consider novel ways to transform this fractious city into a place where contending ideas and citizenries co-exist in peaceful ways. An international panel of diplomats, researchers and professionals will jury the competition. The winning participants will be awarded fellowships at MIT, a prize equivalent to $50,000 each.

“We are thrilled to announce the launch of this visionary competition because it offers an opportunity to better urban conditions in one of the world’s most challenging and historic cities,” said Diane Davis, professor of political sociology and associate dean of the School of Architecture and Planning at MIT. “The competition’s goal is to move beyond the nation-state level of the conflict and reflect on the problems of daily livability, the right to the city, and citizenship in Jerusalem.”

The Just Jerusalem competition is structured to reward ideas and innovations produced from within a variety of disciplines, ranging from economics and political science to engineering, architecture and planning, and the arts. Winners of the competition in each of these five areas will become fellows at MIT. These fellowships will enable the winning innovators to further develop their creative works by drawing on technological and scholarly resources, and meeting with diplomats, venture capitalists and respected global leaders in science, technology, and politics to discuss the implementation of their ideas.

The competition itself is the culmination of Jerusalem 2050, a unique project that brings together Palestinian and Israeli scholars, activists, business leaders, youth, and others to discuss unconventional approaches toward solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Davis co-directs Jerusalem 2050 with Leila Farsakh, assistant professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts Boston and research affiliate at the Center for International Studies at MIT.

“The MIT Jerusalem project is an adventure in futurist planning. It could prove to be a visionary breakthrough in transcending the impasse in the current situation,” said Salim Tamari, director of the Institute for Jerusalem Studies and professor of sociology at Birzeit University, and jury member of the Just Jerusalem competition.
Tamari attended a Jerusalem 2050 Visionaries conference two years ago along with more than thirty researchers from American, European, Israeli, and Palestinian universities. It was at this conference that the groundwork for such a competition was laid.

"MIT prides itself on identifying and trying to solve some of the world's most intractable problems. In Jerusalem, we have embraced one of our greatest challenges yet," said Richard Samuels, Ford International Professor of Political Science and director of the Center for International Studies at MIT.

**About the competition**

Registration for the Just Jerusalem competition opens March 2, 2007, through the Jerusalem 2050 web site at http://web.mit.edu/cis/jerusalem2050/competition.html. Here participants will find guidelines for the competition and all related materials.

The submission deadline is December 31, 2007. The winning entries will be announced at a March 8, 2008 press conference.

**Jury Members** (full biographies are located on the Just Jerusalem web site at http://web.mit.edu/cis/jerusalem2050/jury_bios.html)

_Ute Meta Bauer_, associate professor and director of the visual arts program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

_Meron Benvenisti_, political scientist and former deputy mayor of Jerusalem

_Manuel Castells_, professor of sociology and professor of city and regional planning at the University of California, Berkeley

_Harvey Cox, Jr._, Hollis Professor of Divinity, Harvard Divinity School

_Herman Hertzberger_, architect and guest teacher at universities and architectural institutes worldwide

_William J. Mitchell_, professor of architecture and media arts and sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

_Sadako Ogata_, scholar in residence, the Ford Foundation

_Suha Ozkan_, a scholar on the theory and history of architecture, design, vernacular form and emergency housing

_Salim Tamari_, director of the Institute of Jerusalem Studies and professor of sociology at Birzeit University

**About Jerusalem 2050**

Jerusalem 2050 is jointly sponsored by MIT’s Center for International Studies and the department of Urban Studies and Planning. The project is made possible through the generous financial support of Mr. Jeffrey Silverman, an alumnus of MIT; and the following individuals and institutions: Mr. Rick Tavan; the Boston Foundation; the Graham Foundation; the Office of the MIT Provost; Dean’s Office, MIT School of Architecture and Planning; Dean’s Office, MIT School of the Humanities and Social Sciences; MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning; MIT Center for International Studies.

For more information, visit the Jerusalem 2050 web site: http://web.mit.edu/cis/jerusalem2050/
About the Center for International Studies at MIT
MIT's Center for International Studies, a dynamic international affairs research center, is home to a variety of research, education, and outreach programs. It seeks to bridge the worlds of the scholar and the policymaker by offering each a place to exchange perspectives, and by encouraging academics to work on policy-relevant problems. Center scholars, and the students they helped educate, have served at senior levels in every administration since the Kennedy years. They are today among the nation's most distinguished analysts and executives in government and the private sector.

About the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT
Since 1933, MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) have been training the best and the brightest. DUSP is committed to positive social change. Its moral vision is translated into professional education in distinct ways. It believes in the abilities of urban and regional institutions to steadily improve the quality of life of citizens. It emphasizes democratic decision-making involving both public and private actors, and acknowledges the necessity of government leadership to ensure greater social and economic equality. It fosters a positive approach to technological innovation as a major force of social change. DUSP trusts that the built environment can meet the needs of diverse populations and serve as a source of meaning in their daily lives.

A formal announcement of the competition will be made at a launch event on Friday, March 2, 4 PM EST at the MIT Media Lab Bartos Theatre.

Media Ops: Interview opportunities: Diane Davis and Leila Farsakh (co-directors of Jerusalem 2050), along with Just Jerusalem competition jury members and the keynote speaker Ira Katznelson (Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia University) are available for interviews immediate following the launch festivities (5:30 PM EST) Photo ops: Compelling images of Jerusalem will be presented as a slideshow.

Directions to the MIT Media Lab Bartos Theatre: The Media Lab is located on MIT Campus at 20 Ames Street, Cambridge, MA 02139. The Bartos Theater is down the central stairs on the lower level of the building. The nearest paid parking is at the Kendall Square Marriott Hotel. The Media Lab is a short walk from the Kendall Sq. T stop.

###
Diane Davis is associate dean of the School of Architecture and Planning and political sociology professor of urban studies and planning at MIT. She served as acting director (2003-2004) of the Program on Human Rights and Justice at MIT.

Davis’s research and teaching interests include the politics of urban policy, cities in conflict, the relationship between cities and national development, and the political conflicts among competing territorial jurisdictions in metropolitan areas (mainly in the developing world).

Recent research, supported by both the MacArthur Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation, examines the relationship between police impunity, deteriorating rule of law, and changing patterns and priorities of urban governance in countries undergoing democratic transition. A current project, undertaken with Jo Beall (Institute for Development Studies at the London School of Economics) is a comparative study of the development and urban policy challenges in cities wracked by conflict.

Her book publications include: *Discipline and Development: Middle Classes and Prosperity in East Asia and Latin America* (Cambridge University Press, 2004); *Irregular Armed Forces and Their Role in Policies and State Formation*, co-edited with Anthony Pereira (Cambridge University Press, 2003); and *Urban Leviathan: Mexico City in the Twentieth Century* (Temple University Press, 1994). She has been editor of the research annual *Political Power and Social Theory* (Elsevier Ltd.) for the past 15 years.
Richard Samuels

Richard J. Samuels is Ford International Professor of Political Science and director of the Center for International Studies at MIT. He is also the founding director of the MIT Japan Program. In 2001 he became Chairman of the Japan-US Friendship Commission, an independent Federal grant-making agency that supports Japanese studies and policy-oriented research in the United States. In 2005 he was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Samuels’ latest book, *Machiavelli’s Children: Leaders and Their Legacies in Italy and Japan* (Cornell University Press, 2003), a comparative political and economic history of political leadership in Italy and Japan, won the 2003 Marraro prize from the Society for Italian Historical Studies and the 2004 Jervis-Schroeder Prize for the best book in international history and politics, awarded by the International History and Politics section of the American Political Science Association.


Samuels received his PhD from MIT in 1980.
Ira Katznelson is Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia University. He is an Americanist whose work has straddled comparative politics and political theory, as well a political and social history. He returned to Columbia in the fall of 1994, where he had been an assistant and associate professor from 1969-1974. In the interim, he taught at the University of Chicago, chairing its department of political science from 1979-1982, and the Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, where he was dean from 1983-1989.

Katznelson’s research interests include: American politics, comparative politics, political theory, urban politics, European studies, race relations, class formation, ethnicity and religion, education, urban geography, identities and interests, social movements, and political parties.


Katznelson was president of the American Political Science Association in 2005-2006. Previously, he served as president of the politics and history section of APSA, president of the Social Science History Association, and chair of the Russell Sage Foundation Board of Trustees. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.
Leila Farsakh is assistant professor in political science at University of Massachusetts Boston and research affiliate at the Center for International Studies at MIT. She holds a PhD from the University of London (2003), and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge in the UK (1990).


In 2001 she won the Peace and Justice Award from the Cambridge Peace Commission (Cambridge, Mass).
Tali Hatuka

Tali Hatuka is an architect, urban designer and research fellow in MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Hatuka works primarily on social and architectural issues, and on the relationships between urban form, violence, everyday life and modern society. Her awards for research include the European Community Marie Curie Fellowship (2005-2008) and a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship (2004-2005).


She received her PhD from the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning at the Technion, Haifa, in 2005.
William J. Mitchell, professor of architecture and media arts and sciences at MIT, holds the Alexander W. Dreyfoos, Jr. (1954) Professorship and directs the Media Lab’s Smart Cities research group. He was formerly dean of the School of Architecture and Planning and head of the Program in Media Arts and Sciences, both at MIT.

Before coming to MIT, he was the G. Ware and Edythe M. Travelstead Professor of Architecture and director of the Master in Design Studies Program at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He previously served as head of the Architecture/Urban Design Program at UCLA’s Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning, and he has also taught at Yale, Carnegie-Mellon, and Cambridge Universities. In spring 1999 he was at the University of Virginia as Thomas Jefferson Professor.

Mitchell is a fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a recipient of honorary doctorates from the University of Melbourne and the New Jersey Institute of Technology. In 1997 he was awarded the annual Appreciation Prize of the Architectural Institute of Japan for his “achievements in the development of architectural design theory in the information age as well as worldwide promotion of CAD education.” Mitchell is currently chair of the National Academies Committee on Information Technology and Creativity.

He holds a BArch from the University of Melbourne, MED from Yale University, and MA from Cambridge University.
Salim Tamari

Salim Tamari is director of the Institute of Jerusalem Studies and professor of sociology at Birzeit University. He was also a visiting professor at University of California at Berkeley (2005, 2007), New York University (2001-2003), Cornell (1997), and University of Chicago (1991-92).


A collection of essays on the Contested Modernity of Palestine will be published by the University of California Press in 2007; Ihsan’s War: The Intimate Life of an Ottoman Soldier (in preparation, will be published in 2007); and Biography and Social History of Bilad al Sham (edited, will be published in February 2007, Beirut IPS).
Harvey Cox, Jr., is the Hollis Professor of Divinity, the oldest endowed professorship in America. He has been teaching at Harvard since 1965, both at HDS and in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. He received his A.B. with honors in history from the University of Pennsylvania, his B.D. from Yale University Divinity School, and his Ph.D. from Harvard University in history and philosophy of religion.

An American Baptist minister, he was the Protestant chaplain at Temple University and the campus minister at Oberlin College; he was also an ecumenical fraternal worker in Berlin for a year just after the Wall was built, passing regularly through “Checkpoint Charley” to facilitate communication between East and West. Later he was professor of theology and culture at Andover Newton Theological School. His book *The Secular City*, published in 1965, became an international bestseller and was translated into thirteen languages. His *Feast of Fools* was nominated for the National Book Prize.

Among his other books are *Many Mansions: A Christian’s Encounters with Other Faiths* (Beacon press, 1988), and the section on *Christianity in Our Religions* (Edited by Arvind Sharma, HarperSanFrancisco, 1993), a collection of articles by scholar-practitioners of the seven major world faiths and *Fire From Heaven* that traces the worldwide growth of Pentecostalism. His most recent books are: *Common Prayers: Faith, Family, and A Christian’s Journey Through the Jewish Year* and *When Jesus Came to Harvard: Making Moral Choices Today* (Houghton Mifflin, December 2004).

Among Cox’s interests are urbanization, theological developments in world Christianity, Jewish-Christian relations, and current spiritual movements in the global setting (especially in Latin America and Asia; and particularly the global growth of Pentecostalism). His current research project is the history of Christian interpretations of Islam.
Ute Meta Bauer

Ute Meta Bauer is currently associate professor and director of the Visual Arts Program at MIT. She has served as professor of theory, practice and mediation of contemporary art at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (1996–2006) and as founding director of the Office for Contemporary Art Norway in Oslo (2002-2005).

Bauer was artistic director for the 3rd Berlin Biennial for Contemporary Art (2003-2004) and was co-curator of Documenta11 (2000-2002) in the team of Okwui Enwezor.

She curated *Architectures of Discourse, Fundacio Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona* (2001) and *First Story—Women Building/New Narratives for the 21st Century* for the European Cultural Capital Porto 2001. Furthermore, she was editor of several art periodicals such as *META* (Stuttgart), *case* (Barcelona, Porto) and *Verkstedt* (Oslo).

She is advisor of a number of high profiled cultural boards such as the chairwomen of the Art Advisory Board of the Goethe Institute, a member of the International Board of the Bauhaus Foundation in Dessau and most recently was nominated as a member of the Curatorial Advisory Team of the 3rd Yokohama Triennale 2008.
Jerusalem 2050 is a unique visionary and problem-solving project jointly sponsored by MIT’s Department of Urban Studies & Planning and the Center for International Studies. By bringing together Palestinian and Israeli scholars, activists, business leaders, youth, and others, it seeks to understand what it would take to make Jerusalem, a city also known as Al Quds, claimed by two nations and central to three religions, a place of diversity and peace in which contending ideas and citizenries can co-exist in benign, yet creative, ways.

In order to break out of the stalemate that has reinforced the cycle of despair and conflict in Jerusalem and largely removed questions of urban livability from the public discourse, the Jerusalem 2050 project aims to bypass the standard route of negotiation between “representative” peoples and turn instead to the liberating potential of imagination and design. Rather than aiming for unity or synthesis among competing parties in their plans for the city, we will encourage the production of bold and “non-negotiated” visions for Jerusalem, with the assumption being that only through such methods can there emerge a shared understanding of the basic urban conditions necessary for a tolerant and culturally vibrant city to flower, independent of ethnic or religious partisanship.

Another goal of this project is to promote the use of design and other creative imaginings of space as techniques for arriving at a more positive social, political and economic organization of the city.
As the culmination of our many activities, the Jerusalem 2050 project is now ready to launch the Just Jerusalem Competition. The goal of the Just Jerusalem competition is to generate new approaches to, and potential solutions for, the many complex, seemingly intractable problems that the residents of Jerusalem face on a daily basis. By looking at future possibilities for a pluralist, just, and sustainable city shared by Palestinians and Israelis, we hope to encourage new ways of thinking about the many difficult issues and hardships faced by Jerusalemites, regardless of their faith or ethnicity.

The Just Jerusalem Competition entries will be evaluated by an international jury composed of the following dignitaries and professionals:

- **Ute Meta Bauer**, associate professor and director of the visual arts program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Meron Benvenisti**, political scientist and former deputy mayor of Jerusalem
- **Manuel Castells**, professor of sociology and professor of city and regional planning at the University of California, Berkeley
- **Harvey Cox, Jr.**, Hollis Professor of Divinity, Harvard Divinity School
- **Herman Hertzberger**, architect and guest teacher at universities and architectural institutes worldwide
- **William J. Mitchell**, professor of architecture and media arts and sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Sadako Ogata**, scholar in residence, the Ford Foundation
- **Suha Ozkan**, a scholar on theory and history of architecture, design, vernacular form and emergency housing
- **Salim Tamari**, director of the Institute of Jerusalem Studies and professor of sociology at Birzeit University