

Recent Publications

by Ebonye Gussine Wilkins



REALIZING POSSIBILITIES FOR THE CONNECTED ECONOMY

Innovative Ideas to Tackle Extreme Inequality and Drive Enduring Prosperity

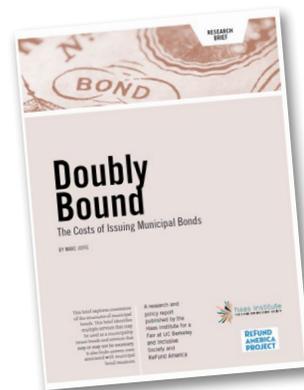
This hopeful and speculative essay was authored by Mark Gomez and argues that Americans are poised to enter a new era of enduring prosperity led by African Americans and immigrants, those who have previously been held back. The essay, released on July 4, just in time for the nation’s 239th celebration of independence, argues that a generation of tinkering by activists sparked significant gains for a modest number of workers—from industry union organizing to the San Francisco and Los Angeles \$15 wage standard campaigns—that can now be taken to scale assuring miserly paid workers economic security and strengthening an embattled middle class. The essay concludes that a ‘targeted universal’ strategy can ensure that the prosperous tech sector contributes to the economic vitality of sectors it relies on.



ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY AND TRANSFORMING GOVERNMENT

A Resource Guide to Put Ideas into Action

The Government Alliance on Race and Equity published two new publications in the fall of 2015. “Racial Equity Toolkit: An Opportunity to Operationalize Equity” explores how racial equity tools are designed to integrate explicit consideration of racial equity in decisions, including policies, practices, programs, and budgets. Use of the racial equity tool in government can help to develop strategies and actions that reduce racial inequities and improve success for all groups. When racial equity is not explicitly brought into operations and decision-making, racial inequities are likely to be perpetuated. Racial equity tools provide a structure for institutionalizing the consideration of racial equity. Use of a racial equity tool is a critical way in which government can normalize conversations about race, operationalize new behaviors and policies, and organize to achieve racial equity.



DOUBLY BOUND

The Costs of Issuing Municipal Bonds

This report highlights some of the complexities of municipal debt. Co-published by the Just Public Finance program at the Haas Institute and the Refund America Project at the Roosevelt Institute, the report details the fees that make up the cost of issuing bonds. The report discusses how fees can be made more consistent and less arbitrary, as the costs of issuing municipal bonds lack transparency and prohibits systemic analysis. Since it is difficult to obtain information about the costs of issuances, issuers have difficulty benchmarking the costs of issuance. The study offers a number of policy interventions. These suggestions include greater cost transparency and a template for standardized reporting in order to aggregate data and help issuers in negotiation. The brief also offers suggestions on how to obtain hard-to-find data, and an opportunity to share data with interested parties.



THE US FARM BILL

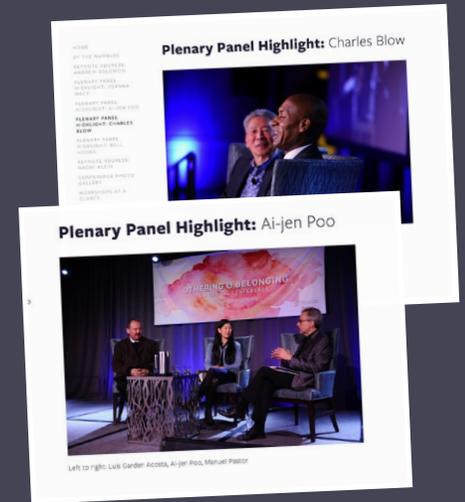
Corporate Power and Structural Racialization in the United States Food System

The Haas Institute's report examining the US Farm Bill, the cornerstone of food and agricultural legislation since its inception in 1933, finds that corporate control and structural racialization within the US food system leaves marginalized communities disproportionately impacted by the agricultural policies and outcomes generated by the Farm Bill. A companion research brief Facts and Findings summarizes the main findings and solutions that are found in the full report. The report and the research brief investigate the \$956 billion US Farm Bill. The report was written by Elsadig Elsheikh and Hossein Ayazi of the Global Justice Program. The report fills a void in food and agriculture policy research by providing a comprehensive and multidimensional analysis of the US Farm Bill and lifts up a series of short-term policy interventions and long-term strategies to address the major structural barriers in the United States food system.

STRUCTURING DEVELOPMENT FOR GREATER COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Analysis of an Opportunity Model for Developing the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay

This report recommends that a public-private partnership model with a Community Development Entity (CDE) be considered. A CDE is a duly-organized entity treated as a domestic corporation or partnership that has a primary mission of serving a low-income community. If a CDE were established and secured a development contract with UCB, the model would guarantee a share of project profits are reinvested in the Richmond community. This report is part of a larger body of research exploring ways in which the development process for the Berkeley Global Campus at Richmond Bay can be structured so that the development is aligned with community well-being and leveraged to reinvest substantial resources to the Richmond community.



OTHERING & BELONGING POST-CONFERENCE REPORT

The online post-conference report from our **2015 Othering & Belonging conference**, published in August, features recaps of plenary panels and keynote addresses, attendee testimonials, and all our conference videos and photos. The report is intended to provide an entry point and overview of the conference proceedings, while also offering an inspiration for the future of belonging. The report, which can be accessed at **otheringandbelonging.org**, also includes ways that anyone building a shared space can commit to fostering belonging by offering ideas on creating fully inclusive spaces, such as offering financial assistance, embracing religious diversity, securing language interpretation services, and much more.