

# Participant Profiles

Class of 2022

LSE**Cities**

Executive MSc in Cities





# EXECUTIVE MSC IN CITIES

For the last decade, LSE Cities has brought together some of the world's leading urban thinkers and practitioners in its annual Urban Age programme in cities across the globe, from Mumbai to Johannesburg, Rio de Janeiro and New York. Internationalism is at the core of our research and teaching.

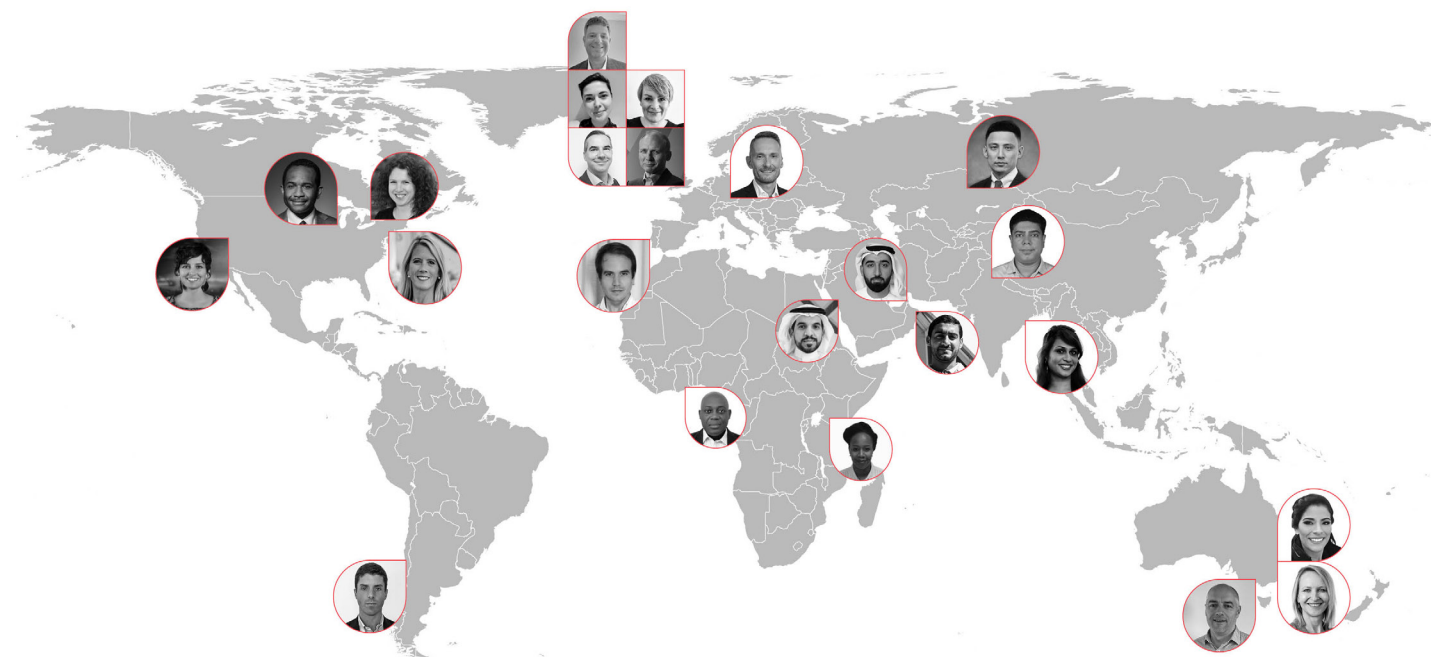
Now in its seventh year, the Executive MSc in Cities will see 23 professionals from 18 cities convene for five teaching modules to explore how they and their organisations can deliver effective change in their cities.

Representing diverse sectors including government, urban design, planning, social development, infrastructure, finance, and architecture, the class of 2022 embodies the necessary sectoral diversity to deal with the cross cutting challenges and opportunities that today's cities are facing.

[exec.lsecities@lse.ac.uk](mailto:exec.lsecities@lse.ac.uk)

## Spatial distribution of the class of 2022

---



# PARTICIPANTS

Abdulaziz AlJaziri	4
Amy Matrai	4
Assim Al Saqri	5
Ayan Zikirin	5
Bruno Sarret	6
Charles Windeyer	6
Claudia Garcia Holguin	7
Eden Tekpor Gbeckor-Kove	7
Elizabeth Wambui Mungai	8
Fahad Albuliheshi	8
Gonzalo Hevia	9
Manish Thakre	9
Marianna Southwick	10
Mark Eric Butt	10
Megan K. Miller	11
Patrick Hamacher	11
Pedro Volante	12
Preeti Prada Panigrahi	12
Richard Punt	13
Robyn Brown	13
Ryan K. Priester	14
Sandra Heyn	14
Twila J. Fisher	15



# Abdulaziz AlJaziri

a.k.al-jaziri@lse.ac.uk

Abdulaziz was appointed the Deputy CEO and Chief Operations Officer of the Dubai Future Foundation (DFF) in 2017. As Deputy CEO and Chief Operations Officer, AlJaziri leads a number of projects at DFF in partnership with Government, Private Sector and Academia.

In DFF, Abdulaziz leads the Research, Content Dissemination, Capacity Building and Design and Acceleration streams. His focus is to support Dubai leaders better navigate the future, develop high-quality content about the future, equip generations to come with skills of the future and foster an innovation ecosystem that develops experiments.

Abdulaziz is part of the integral team behind the Museum of the Future. Additionally, he has led, managed and launched DFF's AREA 2071 in 2016, an innovative ecosystem where a diverse set of partners design the future.

*Deputy CEO*

*Dubai Future Foundation*

*Dubai*



# Amy Matrai

m.h.matrai@lse.ac.uk

Amy works as Delivery Lead at Made Tech. Her role focuses on advancing digital capabilities across local government services in the UK. As a consultant, Amy has been working to enable organisational transformation, digital adoption, and service improvement in the public sector. Her current role follows from enabling digital transformation for the English National Health Service.

Alongside professional engagements, Amy maintains a decade-long commitment to frontline volunteering with London's homeless and vulnerably housed adults. It had shaped her interest in co-designing with those most affected by the interventions, services, and policies in urban settings. She is drawn to interdisciplinary problems of place-making and belonging, migration and the rise of nationalism, colonialism and climate change-driven displacement. As co-facilitator to the London node of the global Design Justice Network, Amy welcomes fellow practitioners to critically examine their work through the lens of design justice and the co-liberation of communities.

Amy holds academic qualifications in Communications (Corvinus University of Budapest – Hungary), where her research focused on education of children in orphan care, and that of young offenders.

*Delivery Lead*

*Made Tech / Design  
Justice Network*

*London*





# Assim Al Saqri

a.al-saqri@lse.ac.uk

---

*Head of Communication*

*Oman Sail*

*Muscat*

Assim is the Head of Communication at Oman Sail, a leading sailing and sport events' organiser based in Muscat, Oman. In this role, Assim oversees the planning and implementation of strategic communication programmes, global media operations and stakeholder value creation. An integral part of the role is strategically aligning the organisation to local and global frameworks such as Oman's Vision 2040, and global trends in terms of socio-economic impact, health, sustainability and the environment. Throughout his service at Oman Sail, Assim implemented effective campaigns at varying levels around the world, putting Oman in the global spotlight, and enabling the organisation to earn multiple credible accolades, the last of which was being named the "Best Sport Event Organiser of the Year" in 2022 by the prestigious Sport Industry Awards SPIA.

Assim has been involved in driving economic and societal impact through the Omani government's diversification programme pertaining to sport tourism, Tanfeedh Initiative 4 from 2016 - 2019, and in measuring the soft and hard impact in cities, inbound tourism, population lifestyle, SMEs' development and sport performance in collaboration with reputable impact measurement consultancy agencies. He holds an academic B.A in Translation (Sultan Qaboos University - Oman).



# Ayan Zikirin

a.zikirin@lse.ac.uk

---

*Deputy General  
Director for Business  
Development*

*BI Group*

*Astana*

Ayan is Deputy General Director of Development at the largest construction company in Kazakhstan specializing in social, transport, and engineering infrastructure. In this position, he is responsible for the development and scaling of the company's products such as cultural, sports, tourism, and academic facilities, as well as urban transport projects. Moreover, within Ayan's mentoring has been organized a group of specialists that actively interacts with the city authorities in the development of comprehensive urban plans.

Ayan was invited as chairman of the architectural competition for the elaboration of development plans for the Turkistan city. He is also the originator of the construction of advanced-format schools in the Republic of Kazakhstan through public-private partnerships, which were included in the overall plan of the Ministry of Education for the construction of 1000 schools in Kazakhstan until 2027.

He holds academic qualifications in economics (Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan) and an MA in tourism and hospitality (Cezar Ritz, Switzerland).



# Bruno Sarret

b.sarret@lse.ac.uk

---

*Architect*

*Systra*

*London*

Bruno is an architect working for Systra, a global engineering firm specialized in urban transportation projects. As head of the Mass Rapid Transit department at Systra for over 10 years, he managed a multidisciplinary team of architects, urban planners and engineers, specialized in the design of large transportation infrastructures projects.

Within Systra, he has promoted a more holistic approach to Urban Transport design, crossing bridges between technical issues and social/urban ones. His department has been involved on various projects located around the world: New Delhi Line 7 MRT project in India; the planning of two new metro lines in Makkah, Saudi Arabia; global transportation feasibility plan for the city of Jeddah in Saudi Arabia; Dubai's elevated metro system; Singapore Circle Line, among others.

At present, he is the Lead Design Manager on the Hs2 Old oak Common Station located in West London, a project currently under construction. It is through his significant involvement on these transportation projects that his interest extended towards more global urban issues, specifically the relationship between public transport and the urban realm.



# Charles Windeyer

c.t.windeyer@lse.ac.uk

---

*Precinct Director*

*Suburban Rail Loop  
Authority*

*Melbourne*

Charles is a Precinct Director at the State Government of Victoria's Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA). The SRLA is responsible for delivering Melbourne's Suburban Rail Loop (SRL), an ambitious integrated transport and precinct development project that will reshape the city. As Precinct Director, Charles is responsible for building consensus around urban change and for identifying, aligning and sequencing the planning and investment to unlock and shape the growth catalysed by the new rail connections.

In his role as advocate for SRL Precincts, Charles will be a custodian of coherent and compelling place visions and will guide the delivery of vibrant, distinctive and future focused precincts around SRL stations. Charles joined the SRLA early in its formation, moving from a long private sector consulting career in property and development, advising on urban renewal masterplanning, property strategies and development joint ventures.

Prior to consulting he practiced as an architect and spent time working in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Aboriginal Lands in remote South Australia in a housing management and community development role.

Charles has academic qualifications in Environmental Design (University of Canberra) and Architecture (University of Melbourne)



# Claudia Garcia Holguin

c.garcia-holguin@lse.ac.uk

---

*Director - Consulting*

*Gocta Group*

*Sydney*

Claudia has over twelve years' experience in large-scale transport and urban renewal projects in Australia and overseas for government and the private sector. She is currently an independent consultant to Transport for New South Wales (Australia), advising on how to assess and value the economic benefits of public realm improvements associated with transport projects. She is also co-managing investments in real assets and technology.

Claudia has previously worked in government and for PwC, AECOM, and EY. Claudia's professional focus is project development, strategic policy advice (infrastructure plans, investment prioritisation, evaluation frameworks), demand modelling, transport planning, economics, finance and funding, business cases, investment assurance, sell/buy-side due diligence, and market engagement.

Claudia's experience is multi-modal (ferries, buses, rail, ports, motorways), across greenfield and brownfield sites, and in projects that include property development. An example is her recent role leading the Strategic and Final Business Cases for the Circular Quay Renewal project, Australia's most iconic location and transport interchange. Other significant projects include Sydney's Central Station Renewal, Northern Beaches B-Line buses, and Western Harbour Tunnel motorway.

Claudia holds a Bachelor of Economics Honours (First Class) from Macquarie University and a certificate in Real Estate Economics and Finance from London School of Economics.



# Eden Tekpor Gbeckor-Kove

e.t.gbeckor-kove@lse.ac.uk

---

*Head of Physical Planning  
Department*

*Accra Metropolitan  
Assembly*

*Accra*

Eden is currently the head of Physical Planning Department at the Accra Metropolitan Assembly, Ghana. He is responsible for the physical planning and human settlement development within the metropolis. He coordinates activities and projects of departments and other agencies including non-governmental organizations to ensure compliance with planning standards, prepares and revises spatial plans to guide future physical development. He promotes policy dialogue among key stakeholders in the public and private sectors and public education activities. Coordinator of a project in Developing Risk Management Approaches for Climate Risk (Developing Insurability Project).

He serves as a Regional Leader on the newly formed International Advisory Board on the Special Program for Urban Regional Studies (SPURS), Massachusetts Institutes of Technology (MIT).

Eden holds a Bachelors degree in Planning from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and a Masters degree in Human Settlement from KU Leuven, Belgium. He was a Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow in Special Program in Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS), Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).





# Elizabeth Wambui Mungai

e.w.mungai@lse.ac.uk

---

*Urban Infrastructure  
Manager*

*Nairobi Metropolitan  
Services*

*Nairobi*

Elizabeth is an experienced urban infrastructure manager with demonstrated history of working in the housing and urban development sector. She is driven to deliver infrastructure developments hinged on elements of circularity and sustainability which helps cities become more resilient, competitive and livable. During her work at the renowned Two Rivers Development a mixed-use urban node, she demonstrated competence for driving execution in adopting international best practices to deliver results in highly complex market settings.

Most Recently, Elizabeth offered technical support to development of urban infrastructure resilience strategies for Nairobi, under Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP), where she supported the formulation and implementation of urban development plans for the establishment and operation of institutional arrangements for urban infrastructure investments.

Elizabeth works for Nairobi Metropolitan Services (NMS) where she is responsible for providing technical assistance on sustainable management and restoration of Parks in Nairobi CBD, which has committed to breaking the 'decline-and-restore' cycle pattern of open spaces, through rebuilding facilities in the public realm by renewal of landscapes, infrastructure and facilities to ensure they are environmentally sustainable. In 2019 she set up a practice Urban Know that works collaboratively on local and international projects. Combining her strong skills in engaging local partners involved in Urban Infrastructure Development projects.



# Fahad Albuliheshi

f.albuliheshi@lse.ac.uk

---

*Senior Mayor of  
Madinah & Executive  
CEO of Madinah Region  
Development Authority,  
MDA, Saudi Arabia*

*Ministry of Muncipal and  
Rular Affairs and Housing*

*Madinah*

Mayor Fahad Albuliheshi has served the people of Madinah as a Executive Chairman of Madinah Development Authority MDA, and now also as the Mayor of the Region in Saudi Arabia. He is leading the development programs, strategies, plans and projects of the future development of the city in coordination with the development partners to build the region and the city of Madinah as a stronger, healthier, and modernized city that delivers for all their citizens, visitors and investors. Through his service, he has achieved satisfactory results of how city can be well developed, planned, and directed towards a better, healthier and more prosperous future. MDA has successfully accomplished a variety of achievements, such as the Platinum Certification of the World Council on City Data (WCCD), occupying the 4th rank on regionally and the 73rd internationally of the IMD Smart City Index 2021, as well as obtaining the Global Gold and Silver Awards for Livable Sustainable Communities 2018, among other awards.

Madinah city is experiencing currently real challenge to respond efficiently to the facts that people need more than high quality homes, employment, efficient and sufficient public services, and recreational facilities to be able to achieve economic prosperity and enjoy healthy and meaningful lives. The challenge of the future development of Madinah needs special intervention capabilities, new sorts of resilient development and creative strategies, thoughtful innovative expertise, and sustainable resources. Urban changes should be directed towards a wide-ranging vision to achieve a substantial better quality of life for all; a quality of life that promotes social inclusion and effective city governance, and drives inclusive local development, recognizing the critical role that cities can play in successfully response to the current ecological and climate challenge.



# Gonzalo Hevia

[g.hevia-valdes@lse.ac.uk](mailto:g.hevia-valdes@lse.ac.uk)

---

*Head of Housing and  
Public Space*

*Municipality of Las  
Condes*

*Santiago de Chile*

Gonzalo leads the Housing and Public Space Department at the Municipality of Las Condes in Santiago, Chile. From there, he oversees strategic planning tackling complex urban issues such as housing deficit and urban segregation. As part of his tasks, he must lead projects ranging in scale, from urban regeneration, public space design, sustainable mobility, and urban resilience, which in turn have a strong innovative and participatory component. Las Condes has a population of more than 300,000 people and is characterized by its broad territorial diversity, much like a small-scaled city with residential areas, financial districts, urban parks, and modern transportation infrastructure. Within this diversity, there are also areas that have considerable social needs and problems to be solved.

Gonzalo holds a degree in Architecture from the Pontificia Universidad Católica of Chile and completed a Certificate Program in Integrated Urban Planning. He has extensive city planning and project management experience in both public and private sectors and has a strong public duty and determination to generate urban public policies that help develop fair and integrated cities.



# Manish Thakre

[m.thakre@lse.ac.uk](mailto:m.thakre@lse.ac.uk)

---

*Head Urban Programme  
and Policy*

*Save the Children India*

*Delhi*

Manish works as the Head of Urban Programme and Policy at Save the Children India. He is responsible for Programme development and research, resource mobilization, external engagement, and forging partnerships with Government, Corporates, and Think Tanks for collaborative work. He provides technical support and advice to the Programme Teams at the State Project Offices to ensure timely implementation and delivery of programs. He works closely with Research, Advocacy, Campaign, and Communication team to build and undertake research, advocacy, and campaigns linked to the issues of urbanization and its impact on children. He has over 18 years of experience in the social and development sector.

Before Save the Children, he worked with private consulting companies in social and market research, infrastructure and engineering, etc. He holds a Master's and M. Phil. Degrees in Applied Geography from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).



# Marianna Southwick

m.c.southwick@lse.ac.uk

---

*Australia Precincts Lead*

*Mott MacDonald*

*Sydney*

Marianna is Australia Precincts Lead for Mott MacDonald, a global engineering, management, and development consultancy. Precincts is an Australia-wide initiative focussing on city-shaping place, precinct, and urban development programs which optimise economic, environmental, social, and cultural outcomes. The role includes opportunities to work at significant scale across Australia (and Asia Pacific), integrating the exceptional advisory and technical expertise of colleagues, and working in collaboration and partnership with public and private sectors to address complex urban challenges and create thriving places and communities.

Prior to this, Marianna held multiple senior executive roles within the New South Wales Government. She led multidisciplinary place and portfolio initiatives across economic development, health, innovation, education, cultural, sports, tourism, mixed-use and transport-catalysed precincts. She holds non-executive and advisory roles, including Urban Development Committee Member and Chair, Precinct Subcommittee for the Urban Development Institute of Australia, and board member and Chair, Property and Development Committee for a leading independent school.

She has qualifications in governance (Australian Institute of Company Directors), project leadership (Australia Institute of Project Management) and landscape architecture (University of New South Wales).



# Mark Eric Butt

m.e.butt@lse.ac.uk

---

*Lawyer, Partner*

*GSK STOCKMANN*

*Munich*

Mark is a lawyer specialised in Urban Planning and Environmental Law. He is Partner at GSK STOCKMANN, one of Germany's leading law firms for Real Estate and Infrastructure Projects. Mark advises investors, developers and public sector clients on often large-scale real estate and urban development projects. His focus lies on strategic and legal advice on Urban Planning and Permitting procedures. At his firm, he has had several management functions, including Member of the Management Board as Head of the Projects & Public Sector group.

Prior to joining GSK STOCKMANN, Mark worked for the Bavarian State Ministry of Environmental Affairs. Mark was born in Germany into a German-British family. He studied Law and Politics at the University of Regensburg (Germany) and Aberdeen University (Scotland). He holds a PhD in International Environmental Law from the University of Regensburg.





# Megan K. Miller

m.k.miller1@lse.ac.uk

---

*Senior Advisor*

*Burning Man Project*

*Black Rock City*

As Senior Advisor to Burning Man Project, Megan provides leadership and strategic direction for the nonprofit organization that produces Black Rock City, an annual gathering in the remote desert that attracts nearly 80,000 citizens dedicated to participation, communal effort, civic responsibility, and self-expression. Burning Man Project supports a growing global network of makers, artists and community leaders, including ambassadors in 44 U.S. states and 37 countries. For nearly a decade, Megan served as Director of Communications, overseeing public and media relations for Burning Man during a period of rich experimentation and rapidly growing influence in areas such as public art, civic leadership, event production, urban planning, and design.

Megan's earlier career included work in environmental protection and HIV/AIDS prevention, on political campaigns, and as staff to a member of the United States Senate. Born and raised in Juneau, Alaska, Megan earned a Bachelor's degree in English & Art History from McGill University in Montreal, Quebec. She was a 2007 graduate of the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs, a competitive, cross-sector leadership training program. She currently sits on the Board of Trustees of the Western States Arts Federation.



# Patrick Hamacher

p.hamacher@lse.ac.uk

---

*Independent*

*London*

Patrick was most recently the Director of Council Initiatives for the Metropolitan King County Council in Seattle, WA, USA. In this role he led a number of high-profile and politically sensitive projects that typically spanned multiple years. This includes serving as the Legislative Branch staff director for a multi-billion USD rebuild of Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, WA, USA; serving as the Staff Director for King County's Decennial Charter Review Commission and serving as the Project Manager for King County's Decennial Redistricting Commission.

A public policy and finance professional, Patrick has twenty years experience in local government in the United States and has also previously served King County as the Director of Legislative Analysis and Staff Lead for the County's Budget and Fiscal Management Committee. In addition, Patrick has served on the Board of King County's Deferred Compensation Program, a Committee Member for the Committee of Ethics of the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada and has extensive experience training other public finance professionals on Ethics. Patrick has significant academic experience studying at Michigan State University, Central Michigan University and Western Michigan University. Patrick relocated to the United Kingdom with his family in October 2021.



# Pedro Volante

p.tavares-volante@lse.ac.uk

---

*Partner*

*GWIC*

*Lisbon*

Pedro is the Managing Partner of GWIC, an EPC Consultancy Company that provides support to public and private entities in the planning, development, and management of engineering projects worldwide. The company is headquartered in Lisbon (Portugal) and has also established offices in Luanda (Angola), Maputo (Mozambique), and San José (Costa Rica). Pedro has been involved in several large infrastructure projects in Angola, Brazil, Portugal, Mozambique, Costa Rica, Algeria, Ecuador, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Guatemala.

He holds academic qualifications in Civil Engineering (BSc and MSc - University of Coimbra, in Portugal, with recognition by the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), Economics (Post-Graduation Degree in Finance, with specialization in Management and Real Estate Finance by ISCTE, Portugal, and a MSc in Management also by ISCTE). Pedro is a registered Professional Engineer in Angola, Brazil, Mozambique and Portugal, and a registered Professional Economist in Portugal. He also holds the title of European Engineer.



# Preeti Prada Panigrahi

p.p.panigrahi@lse.ac.uk

---

*Director*

*Socratus Foundation*

*Bhubaneswar*

Preeti is a Social Policy Strategist leading participatory governance efforts to strengthen slum infrastructure up-gradation for 3000 informal settlements under the world's most extensive slum up-gradation program with the Government of Odisha - JagaMission. A Senior Manager with Janaagraha Center for Citizenship & Democracy - she believes in strengthening cities through active citizenship and empowered city governments. Previously, she managed the India programs for the Bernard van Leer Foundation, an independent foundation working worldwide to inspire and inform large-scale action to improve the health, protection, and well-being of children.

Her over a decade of experience includes national and state programs aimed at: (a) Developing social policies, and practices to strengthen early childcare and learning for children from indigenous communities within the National Early Childhood Care and Education Policy 2013. (b) Reducing child poverty; through policy advocacy for a safe and healthy environment for young children growing up in urban poverty across twenty-three cities in the country. (c) Public policies and processes to strengthen the fiscal health of city governments - that would support 25% earmarking of municipal funds for slum up-gradation and service delivery. (d) Social Protection coverage to mitigate the impact of COVID -19 pandemic on migrants and urban poor.



# Richard Punt

r.k.punt@lse.ac.uk

---

Richard is an adviser and consultant to the professional services markets. He has extensive experience of business strategy and transformation, both as a practitioner and in leadership roles. At Deloitte, he was a consulting partner for 15 years specialising in strategy and organisation design, working with a range of global clients. As managing partner for strategy and for clients & markets, he was involved in developing and implementing many of the firm's key global strategies.

At Allen & Overy, he built Peerpoint from start up to one of the leading platforms for consultant lawyers. At Thomson Reuters, he was chief strategy officer focused on the impact of technology on both disrupting and enhancing professional services. Throughout his career, he was worked across many geographic markets.

Richard is a graduate in Geography from St Catharine's College, Cambridge and a Chartered Accountant. He has been a Young Global Leader at the World Economic Forum. He is a trustee of the Kennedy Trust for Rheumatology Research.

---

*Managing Director*

*Professional Markets*

*London*



# Robyn Brown

r.brown11@lse.ac.uk

---

Robyn is an Urban Planner and Professional Land Economist with nearly 20 years of planning, economic development and ICI market experience. Ms. Brown, as Director and Senior Practice Lead in the Real Estate Economics and Planning group, leads a group of planners, economists and GIS specialists, using her extensive knowledge and experience in the real estate market to assist clients with their planning and real estate needs.

Previously to joining IBI Group, Ms. Brown worked as a sales representative at DTZ Barnicke, a nationally represented commercial real estate brokerage. Focusing land acquisition and leasing, Robyn participated in the disposition of over 500 acres of development land across the Canada along with portfolio analysis, industrial leasing and real estate disposition strategies. Robyn's work at IBI Group includes market, economic and development feasibility studies for public and private clients across the North America, Europe and the Middle-East.

---

*Director - Sr. Practice  
Lead - Planning*

*IBI Group*

*Toronto*





## Ryan K. Priester

r.k.priester@lse.ac.uk

---

Ryan focuses on the Economic Development portfolio within the Chicago Commitment portfolio. Through this work, he supports Place-based initiatives in historically marginalized communities within the city of Chicago. He presently serves on the steering committee of We Rise Together and the Chicago Racial Justice Pooled Fund.

Prior to joining MacArthur, Ryan served as the Director of Community Programs at the University of Chicago's Office of Civic Engagement. In that role, Ryan led the work of the Community Programs Accelerator, which supports nonprofits whose work benefits South Side neighborhoods in Chicago.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Chicago, where he graduated as a Carnegie-Mellon scholar and pursued graduate studies at the University of Chicago's Divinity School in Philosophy of Religion.

---

*Program Officer, Chicago Commitment*

*John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation*

*Chicago*



## Sandra Heyn

s.heyne@lse.ac.uk

---

Sandra is an Administrative Director at the German Historical Institute London, a research institute of the German Max Weber foundation. Having served in the public service in various countries and in different roles, she gathered an extensive experience in human resources, budget and finance, and facility management.

Furthermore, due to her master studies in sustainable development cooperation, she has a sound knowledge of the pillars of sustainability and applies this consistently in her work. Having lived in various cities in Africa, she saw firsthand how fast-growing cities are facing challenges providing adequate services and opportunities for their citizens.

Sandra is particularly interested in the mega trends of urbanization, sustainability and digitalization, and the role they play in shaping cities.

---

*Administrative Director*

*German Historical Institute London*

*London*



# Twila J. Fisher

t.fisher@lse.ac.uk

Twila was hired by The Hill School in 2015 to lead the then-newly created Hobart's Run initiative, bringing with her compelling experience in public administration, economic and real estate development, non-profit management, and community organizing. She soon implemented various community startup to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood, earning her the Rotary of Pottstown's "Person of the Year" award in 2017. She also launched several signature incentive programs and annual events to encourage local revitalization, reduce neighborhood crime, increase homeownership, and improve streetscapes.

Prior to The Hill School, Twila developed extensive nonprofit and public sector experience, working for 20 years in the City of Reading, Pennsylvania. She has been a licensed real estate agent and investor since 2005 and is fluent in Spanish. She currently serves on six local boards and committees in various capacities.

*Director of Community  
and Economic  
Development*

*The Hill School*

*Philadelphia*





LSE Cities is an international centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science that carries out research, conferences, graduate and executive education and outreach activities in London and abroad. Its mission is to study how people and cities interact in a rapidly urbanising world, focusing on how the physical form and design of cities impacts on society, culture and the environment. Extending LSE's century-old commitment to the understanding of urban society, LSE Cities investigates how complex urban systems are responding to the pressures of growth, change and globalisation with new infrastructures of design and governance that both complement and threaten social and environmental equity.

[lse.ac.uk/cities](http://lse.ac.uk/cities)  
@LSECities

