



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2008

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MICHIGAN HIGHER ED CONSORTIUM HOSTS DETROIT SYMPOSIUM ON RESCUING LOW PERFORMING CITIES

East Lansing, MI—Identifying effective policies to deal with the emptying of cities is the focus of an academic symposium being hosted by the [Michigan Higher Education Land Policy \(MIHELP\) Consortium](#) today at the McGregor Memorial Center on the campus of Wayne State University in Detroit. The “Rescuing Low Performing Cities” event is bringing together members of the intellectual community, leaders of thought and community leaders to help understand the depth of the problem and to develop a new generation of strategies for economic development.

The inability to adapt to a rapidly changing world has forced many in less performing regions into significant hardship—poverty, joblessness and diminished quality of life. Michigan, Ohio and other states have experienced the emptying and shrinking of its cities in spite of abundant natural resource, cultural and institutional assets. For communities to thrive in the New Economy, the wealth of knowledge of the intellectual community and the leaders of thought need to be synergized.

Symposium presentations and panel discussion topics include:

- Quantifying Emptying Cities
- The Political Reality of Low Performing Cities
- Civic Discourse and Mindset Change about Cities
- Strategies to Deal with Emptying Cities
- An Urban Policy Agenda to Address Shrinking Cities
- MIHELP and Other Universities Role in Rescuing Low Performing Cities

The MIHELP Consortium is managed by the Land Policy Institute at Michigan State University. It is the first statewide initiative of its kind as a multi-university, inter-disciplinary, public-private partnership designed to address the fundamental research and outreach void in urban and metropolitan issues in Michigan. The Consortium includes faculty from Michigan State University, Grand Valley State University, Wayne State University, and soon, the University of Michigan.

The Land Policy Institute focuses on research and outreach related to land use and strategic growth in the New Economy. The Institute delivers innovative solutions, transitioning knowledge from land use experts to the community. The Land Policy Institute was founded in 2006.

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For more information about MIHELP, go to www.mihelp.org.

To learn more about the MSU Land Policy Institute, visit www.landpolicy.msu.edu.