

"Cities Ancient, Medieval, Modern: An Economics Perspective."

The lecture drew from Professor Ioannides' past and current research regarding the structure of urban systems throughout the world. In particular, the lecture relied on the theme of social interactions, which integrates Professor Ioannides' research since he joined Tufts as the Max and Herta Neubauer Chair and Professor of Economics in 1995, and its adaptation in the context of modern information and communication technologies, in order to investigate changing patterns in city size distributions using contemporary international data (as reported in Ioannides *et al.* 2008 and his ongoing research with E. Tranos). The lecture also utilized his recent research on the structure of medieval Chinese cities and its consequences for modern Chinese cities (as reported in Ioannides and Zhang 2017), and his ongoing research on the consequences of trade for the sizes of ancient Greek cities and their political economy. The lecture ended with a brief focus on the consequences of the interactions approach to understanding and arresting urban decay, or for that matter, promoting redevelopment, in contemporary Athens. Professor Ioannides' research has been supported by Tufts University, via the Max and Herta Neubauer Chair, and the MacArthur Foundation, via the Research Network on Social interactions and Economic Disparities, directed by Kenneth J. Arrow and Steven N. Durlauf (1996-2006).