

The ProDoc Program

«The Dynamics of Transcultural Management and Governance in Latin America» *
invites you to the public lecture of

Prof. Dr. Jorge Duany

Florida International University

Blurred Borders: Transnational Migration between the Hispanic Caribbean and the United States

Friday, October 5th, 2012, 4:15 pm. University of Bern, Hallerstrasse 6. Room 205



Large numbers of migrants throughout the world maintain multiple ties to their countries of origin. Chronicling the Cuban, Puerto Rican, and Dominican diasporas from the end of World War II to the present, Duany argues that each sending country's relationship to the United States shapes the transnational experience for each migrant group, from legal status and migratory patterns to work activities and the connections migrants retain with their home countries.

Blending extensive ethnographic, archival, and survey research, Duany proposes that contemporary migration challenges the traditional concept of the nation-state. Increasing numbers of immigrants and their descendants lead what Duany calls “bifocal” lives, bridging two or more states, markets, languages, and cultures throughout their lives. Even as nations attempt to draw their boundaries more clearly, the ceaseless movement of transnational migrants, Duany argues, requires the rethinking of conventional equations between birthplace and residence, identity and citizenship, borders and boundaries.

Jorge Duany is the Director of the Cuban Research Institute and Professor in the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies at Florida International University in Miami . He previously served as Acting Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Professor at the University of Puerto Rico. He earned his Ph.D. in Latin American Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. He has published extensively on migration, ethnicity, race, nationalism, and transnationalism in the Caribbean and the United States. His latest books are titled *Blurred Borders: Transnational Migration between the Hispanic Caribbean and the United States* (2011) and *La nación en vaivén: Identidad, migración y cultura popular en Puerto Rico* (2010). He recently coedited a volume on *Puerto Rican Florida* (2010) and *How the United States Racializes Latinos: White Hegemony and Its Consequences* (2009). He previously published *The Puerto Rican Nation on the Move: Identities on the Island and in the United States* (2002).

* The ProDoc is a program initiated by Prof. Dr. Yvette Sánchez and Prof. Corinne A. Pernet, Ph.D. (University of St. Gallen), Prof. Dr. Marc Hufty (IHEID), PD Dr. Stephan Rist (University of Bern), and Prof. Dr. Aline Helg (University of Geneva). It is funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. See: <http://www.cls.unisg.ch/es-ES/ProDoc.aspx>