

Dr. Manuel Pastor, CHAMPION FOR EQUITY AWARD



Advancement Project California is extremely proud to honor **Dr. Manuel Pastor** with the **Champion for Equity Award**. He has been a stalwart academic and research partner for many years. Most recently, he has served on the Steering Committee for our groundbreaking Race Counts Initiative. A leading light of Los Angeles' progressive community, Manuel is known for his community-centered approach to research and for bridging the worlds of academia and frontline grassroots organizations.

Manuel is Professor of Sociology and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. He directs two centers at USC: the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity (PERE) and the Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII). Dr. Pastor holds an economics Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and is the inaugural holder of the Turpanjian Chair in Civil Society and Social Change at USC. Previously, he was the founding director of the Center for Justice, Tolerance, and Community at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Dr. Pastor's research has focused on issues of the economic, environmental and social conditions facing low-income urban communities – and the social movements seeking to change those realities. His recent book *Equity, Growth, and Community: What the Nation Can Learn from America's Metro Areas*, co-authored with Chris Benner, argues that inequality stunts economic growth and how bringing together equity and growth requires concerted local action. It offers a powerful prescription for our national challenges of slow job growth, rising economic inequality, and sharp political polarization. He also recently co-edited the book, *Unsettled Americans: Metropolitan Context and Civic Leadership for Immigrant Integration* with John Mollenkopf, which offers a comparative study and detailed analyses of immigrant incorporation efforts across seven different U.S. metro regions.

Other works by Dr. Pastor include: *Just Growth: Inclusion and Prosperity in America's Metropolitan Regions*, co-authored with Chris; *Uncommon Common Ground: Race and America's Future*, co-authored with Angela Glover Blackwell and Stewart Kwoh; and *This Could Be the Start of Something Big: How Social Movements for Regional Equity are Transforming Metropolitan America*, co-authored with Chris Benner and Martha Matsuoka.

Manuel speaks frequently on issues of demographic change, economic inequality, and community empowerment. He has contributed opinion pieces to the Los Angeles Times