

MICHAEL SEMAN

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Education

Ph.D., Urban Planning and Public Policy

University of Texas at Arlington: May 2014

Dissertation: *What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Denton, Texas' music scene as economic cluster and its broader implications for the city's economy*

Chair: Carl Grodach, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Urban Planning/Public Policy, UTA

Committee: Enid Arvidson, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Urban Planning/Public Policy, UTA
Richard Florida, Ph.D., Professor, Business and Creativity, University of Toronto
Rod Hissong, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Urban Planning/Public Policy, UTA

M.S., Applied Geography with a minor in Applied Economics

University of North Texas: August 2007

Thesis: *More buildings about songs and food: A case study of Omaha's Slowdown project*

B.S., Secondary Education: English

Pennsylvania State University: May 1991

Recent Professional Experience

Director of Creative Industries Research and Policy Oct 2016 – Current
University of Colorado Denver College of Arts and Media, Denver, CO

Senior Research Associate, Economics Research Group Mar 2011 – Current
(Formerly "Center for Economic Development and Research")
University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Research Associate, Institute of Urban Studies Aug 2009 – Mar 2011
University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX

Research Associate (UNT staff position) Jan 2008 – Aug 2009
Center for Economic Development and Research
University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Research Assistant, Center for Economic Development and Research Aug 2006 – Aug 2007
University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Research Assistant, Dr. Murray D. Rice May 2006 – Aug 2006
University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Department Assistant, Department of Geography Aug 2005 – May 2006
University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Books

- Seman, M. (Under Contract). *What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Music scenes and their power to transform urban economies and landscapes*. University of Texas Press: Austin, TX.
- Hracs, B., Seman, M., Virani, T. (Eds.). (2016). *The production and consumption of music in the digital age*. Routledge Studies in Human Geography. Routledge: New York, NY.

Refereed Publications

- Seman, M. and Carroll, M. (2017). "The creative economies of Texas metropolitan regions: A comparative analysis before, during, and after the recession." *Growth and Change: A Journal of Urban and Regional Policy* (Accepted – Forthcoming).
- Seman, M. (2015). "What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead? An examination of a music scene as economic cluster." *Artivate: A Journal of Entrepreneurship in the Arts*, 4(2): 33-49.
- Grodach, C. and Seman, M. (2013). "The cultural economy in recession: Examining the U.S. experience." *Cities*, 33: 15-28.
- Seman, M. (2010). "How a music scene functioned as a tool for urban redevelopment: A case study of Omaha's Slowdown project." *City, Culture and Society*, 1(4): 207-215.
- Weinstein, B. L. and Seman, M. (2009). "Has the North American Free Trade Agreement fulfilled its promise? A macro-level assessment after 15 years." *Regional Science Policy and Practice*, 1(2): 177-186.
- Seman, M. (2008). "No country for old developers: The strange tale of an arts boom, bohemians, and 'Marfalafel' in the high desert of Marfa, Texas." *Applied Research in Economic Development*, 5(3): 25-31.
- Rice, M. D., Seman, M., and Green, M. B. (2008). "Regional information and influence networks: The geography of corporate board membership in Texas." *Industrial Geographer*, 5(1): 1-20.

Professional Reports

- Seman, M., Carroll, M., and Weinstein, B. L. (May 2016). "The economic impacts and urban influence of the AT&T Performing Arts Center." University of North Texas Economics Research Group.
- Seman, M., Rous, J., and Kalyan, V. (August 2015). "The economic impacts of the University of North Texas." Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Weinstein, B. L. and Seman, M. (April 2015). "Water and economic development: Why the Integrated Pipeline Project (IPL) is critical for the future growth of the North Texas region." Maguire Energy Institute, Southern Methodist University. Prepared for the Tarrant Regional Water District.

Professional Reports (Continued)

- Gray, M., Seman, M., and Drake, J. (February 2015). "GREAT Homes and housing initiatives: Impact assessment." Prepared for The City of Garland Department of Housing and Community Services. Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Clower, T. L., Bomba, M. S., and Seman, M. (with authors from associated universities). (August 2013). "Examining use of existing public rights-of-way for high-speed passenger rail and freight transportation." Prepared for the Texas Department of Public Transportation. University of Texas at Arlington, University of Texas at Austin, Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas, and Texas Southern University.
- Weinstein, B., Clower, T. L., and Seman, M. (December 2012). "Trinity Groves: Estimated economic, fiscal, and developmental impacts of a potential talent magnet and culinary industry cluster." Weinstein, Clower, and Associates.
- "The economic impact of general aviation in Texas." (December 2011). Prepared for the Texas Department of Transportation. Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Seman, M. (August 2010). "From rodeos to indie rock: The economic and fiscal impacts of selected cultural events in Denton, Texas." Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Seman, M., Hendershot, P., Klein, A., Pope, K. V., and Shakya, S. (June 2010). "The Emergence project: Artisan heritage incubator & retail center feasibility and design study for Quitman, Texas." Institute of Urban Studies, University of Texas at Arlington.
- Arndt, J. C., Morgan, C., Overman, J. H., Clower, T. L., Weinstein, B. L., and Seman, M. (September 2009). "Transportation, social and economic impacts of light and commuter rail." Texas Transportation Institute, Texas A&M University.
- Seman, M. (July 2009). "North Texas state fair & rodeo: The economic impacts of existing activities and preliminary feasibility assessment for new fairgrounds and expo center." Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Weinstein, B. L., Clower, T. L., and Seman, M. (October 2008). "The current and potential economic and fiscal impacts of Texas' moving media industry: How to improve Texas' competitive position." Prepared for the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Clower, T. L., Seman, M., and Weinstein, B. L. (May 2008). "The healthcare services industry in Tarrant County: Industry overview and projected employment growth in specified occupations." Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.
- Clower, T. L., Weinstein, B. L., and Seman, M. (November 2007). "Assessment of the potential fiscal impacts of existing and proposed transit-oriented development in the Dallas Area Rapid Transit service area." Center for Economic Development and Research, University of North Texas.

Other Writing

Seman, M. (March 17, 2016). "Interview with Mercury Rev." *We Denton Do It*.

Seman, M. (July 10, 2014). "How a Tiny Record Label Jump-Started One Midwestern City's Arts Economy." *CityLab*.

Seman, M. (April 17, 2014). "What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?..." *Artisan Economy Initiative*. Portland State University.

Seman, M. (January 4, 2013). "Flint Local 432 and the remarkable power of a great music venue." *CityLab*.

Seman, M. (May 18, 2012). "When a music scene leads to a boom." *CityLab*.

Seman, M. (April 16, 2012). "Incubating the scene with DIY all-ages venues." *Artisan Economy Initiative*. Portland State University.

Seman, M. (February 29, 2012). "Clustering around a beer economy in Asheville." *Artisan Economy Initiative*. Portland State University.

Seman, M. (February 27, 2012). "How Birmingham became an indie rock destination." *CityLab*.

Seman, M. (December 15, 2011). "Bicycling towards urban economic development." *Artisan Economy Initiative*. Portland State University.

Seman, M. (September 19, 2011). "How art, culture, and community drove transit oriented development in Santa Fe." *CityLab*.

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings

May 2017: Tempe, Arizona

"Punk rock entrepreneurship and the value of all-ages DIY music venues in urban economies." Paper presented at the 5th Biennial Pave Symposium on Entrepreneurship and the Arts.

October 2014: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

"What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Denton, Texas' music scene as economic cluster and its broader implications for the city's economy." Paper presented at the 54th Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.

April 2013: Los Angeles, California

"What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Denton, Texas' music scene as economic cluster and its broader implications for the city's economy." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

November 2011: Miami, Florida

"Incubating the scene: The DIY all-ages venue as music scene building block and economic development ingredient." Paper presented at the 58th Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International.

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings (Continued)

October 2011: Salt Lake City, Utah

“How a music scene functioned as a tool for urban redevelopment: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Paper presented at the 52nd Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.

June 2011: Toronto, Ontario

“Incubating the scene: The DIY all-ages venue as music scene building block and economic development ingredient.” Paper presented at the Experience the Creative Economy conference hosted by the Martin Prosperity Institute.

April 2011: Seattle, Washington

“How a music scene functioned as a tool for urban redevelopment: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers.

July 2010: Ericeira, Portugal

“Impacts of toll roads on a regional economy: Suggested measures and a case study.” Paper presented at the IGU Applied Geography Commission (Co-authored with Terry L. Clower, Bernard L. Weinstein, and Doug Matheson – did not attend).

February 2009: Cartagena, Colombia

“Has the North American Free Trade Agreement fulfilled its promise? An assessment after 15 years.” Paper presented at the First Conference of the Regional Science Association of the Americas (Co-authored with Bernard L. Weinstein – did not attend).

November 2008: Adelaide, SA, Australia

“The impact of industrial specialization on regional city growth in U.S. Micropolitan Statistical Areas.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Australia-New Zealand Regional Science Association (Co-authored with Terry L. Clower – did not attend).

September 2007: Denver, CO

“More buildings about songs and food: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain-Great Plains Division of the Association of American Geographers.

February 2007: Denton, TX

“More buildings about songs and food: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Paper presented at University of North Texas’ Canada-US Corporate Geography Conference.

October 2006: Norman, OK

“More buildings about songs and food: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Division of the Association of American Geographers.

Invited Presentations

May 2017: Denton, Texas

“Forming Arts Friendly Communities: Live Music.” Panel discussion presented by the Denton Chamber of Commerce for the 2017 Thrive Denton Business Summit.

Invited Presentations (Continued)

April 2017: Kenosha, Wisconsin

Discussion via Skype with steering committee members of the Kenosha Creative Economy Strategic Plan concerning how to address local music scenes for economic and community development.

October 2016: Eau Claire, Wisconsin

"The Economics of Creating a Music Scene." Keynote delivered for the 2016 Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Fall Conference.

October 2016: Eau Claire, Wisconsin

"The Economics of Creating a Music Scene." Keynote delivered for the Eau Claire Music Summit; "Our Music Economy – Where Next?" Panel discussion (Moderator) presented by the Eau Claire Music Summit.

April 2016: Denver, Colorado

"The Value of Music Communities." Panel discussion presented by the University of Colorado, Denver's College of Arts & Media's Music Business program for their 2015 Annual Music and Entertainment Industry Studies Music Business Seminar.

October 2015: Washington, D.C.

"USA Meets the World: Aligning Global Music Strategies." Roundtable discussion presented by the Global Cultural Districts Network at the 1st Annual Music Cities Convention.

October 2014: Beverly Hills, California

"Fireside Chat." Question and answer session with Creative Artists Agency's Information Technology Department concerning career development and cultural production landscape shifts. Cisco Jabber videoconference incorporating Denton, Beverly Hills, Nashville, New York, and London.

October 2014: Denton, Texas

"What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Music scenes as economic clusters and their influence on urban economies and landscapes." Seminar presented at the University of North Texas Department of Geography.

August 2014: Taos, New Mexico

"A monumental shift: Urban symbology in the postmodern American Southwest." Guest lecture for Southern Methodist University's SMU-in-Taos class, "Defining the Southwest."

February 2014: Denton, Texas

Lead urban economics discussion after screening of the film, *Detropia* in the "Doc Spot Film Series" sponsored by the University of North Texas Media Library.

November 2013: Chicago, Illinois

"What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Music scenes as economic clusters and their broader implications for urban economies." Seminar presented at Center for Urban Research and Learning, Loyola University Chicago.

August 2013: Indianapolis, Indiana

"What if Hewlett and Packard had started a band instead?... Denton, Texas' music scene as economic cluster and its broader implications for the city's economy." Presentation for We Are City [SUMMIT] 2013.

Invited Presentations (Continued)

January 2013: Denton, TX

“Music, money, and new media: How is it going to work?” Panel session sponsored by the University of North Texas College of Music and the Institute for the Advancement of the Arts.

October 2012: Denton, TX

“Denton’s creative economy: An assessment and a way forward.” Keynote presentation for the Denton Creatives Mixer sponsored by Kevin Roden, Denton City Council Member, District 1.

October 2012: Austin, TX

“Potential economic impacts of stem cell research and therapies in Texas.” Presentation for the 3rd Annual Stem Cell Research Symposium

March 2009: Denton, TX

“Indie rock and urban redevelopment: Connecting the dots.” Presentation for the NX35 Music Conference

November 2008: Omaha, NE

“More buildings about songs and food: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Presentation for the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s Geography Department

August 2008: Dallas, TX

“More buildings about songs and food: A case study of Omaha’s Slowdown project.” Presentation for the DFW Association of Business Economics

Instruction

MUSC 3615: Music Cities

University of Colorado Denver Department of Music & Entertainment Industry Studies, Denver, CO
Substitute Lecturer, Spring 2017

GEOG 4030: British Isles Field School (Human/Urban Geography)

University of North Texas Department of Geography, Denton, TX
Adjunct Professor, Summer 2014 (Travel Abroad)

ECON 4250: Economic and Community Development

University of North Texas Department of Economics, Denton, TX
Substitute Lecturer, Spring 2013

AECO 4230: Introduction to Social Science Research

University of North Texas Department of Applied Economics, Denton, TX
Adjunct Instructor, Fall 2010 – Fall 2011

AECO 4090: The Political Economy of Texas

University of North Texas Department of Applied Economics, Denton, TX
Substitute Lecturer, Spring 2009 – Fall 2011

AECO 4080: Principles of Economic & Community Development

University of North Texas Department of Applied Economics, Denton, TX
Substitute Lecturer, Spring 2009 – Fall 2011

Instruction (Continued)

GEOG 1710: Earth Science Lab
University of North Texas Department of Geography, Denton, TX
Instructor, Summer 2007 – Fall 2007

Funded Research

April 2017: \$30,000

Performance assessment of the Arts in Society grant program.
University of Colorado Denver College of Arts and Media
(Principal Investigator)

December 2015: \$52,000

Economic impact analysis of the AT&T Performing Arts Center.
University of North Texas Center for Economic Development and Research
(Proposal author and lead research associate)

February 2009: \$11,100

Design study and impact analysis for an artisan heritage incubator & retail center in Quitman, TX.
University of Texas at Arlington Institute of Urban Studies
(Proposal author and lead research associate)

Grants and Awards

\$6,726: Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship, University of Texas at Arlington, May 2013

\$200: Travel Grant, Urban Geography Specialty Group, AAG, April 2011

University Scholar, University of Texas at Arlington, 2010 – 2011

\$250: Travel Grant, University of North Texas, September 2007

\$250: Terry Jordan Award, Department of Geography, University of North Texas, May 2007

\$1,000: Field Study Grant, University of North Texas, February 2007

Activities

Speaking Engagements – Creative Class Group

Contact Reham Alexander: reham@creativeclass.com

Summer 2014 – Current

AAG Conference Session Co-Organizer/Co-Chair

“‘This must be the place’: The evolving economic geography of music”
Three sessions with 13 presenters and two discussants

Spring 2013

Artisan Economy Initiative Member

Portland State University

Fall 2011 – Current

Activities (Continued)

Contributing Writer
CityLab

Summer 2011 – Current

Daytime Programmer
35 Denton/Oaktopia

Spring 2010 – Spring 2013; Fall 2015 – Current

Planned more than 20 discussion panels incorporating over 80 participants covering topics related to cultural planning, urban development, gender issues, tech entrepreneurship, and the music, art, and film industries for the annual music festival.

Article/Manuscript Reviewer

Fall 2007 – Current

City, Culture and Society, Southwestern Geographer, Cities, Regional Studies, Industrial Geographer, Regional Studies, Economic Geography, Journal of Planning Literature

Faculty Search Committee Member, Student Representative

Fall 2009 – Spring 2010

University of Texas at Arlington

Professional Affiliations

Association of American Geographers
Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning
American Planning Association

Media Commentary and Consulting

North Denver Tribune. “Integrating the arts into Denver’s growth.” (April 17th, 2017).

The Denver Post. “How artist-friendly is Denver? Talking with Michael Seman about the future of our cultural scene.” (December 22nd, 2016).

Denverite. “What DIY spaces like Denver’s Rhinocerosopolis and Glob do that others don’t — and what their options are now.” (December 12th, 2016).

Westword. “Musician and urban planning expert on the economic and social value of DIY spaces.” (December 9th, 2016).

Denverite. “Denver Fire shuts down DIY arts space Rhinocerosopolis.” (December 8th, 2016).

Leader-Telegram. “Event to focus on local music scene, how it drives the economy.” (October 25th, 2016).

Volume One. “The state of the scene.” (October 19th, 2016 – On-camera and text component).

WKSU 89.7 (NPR). “The new sound of the old Goodyear Theater could transform East Akron.” (September 22nd, 2016).

Volume One. “Eau Claire’s creative example.” (September 21st, 2016).

Denton Record-Chronicle. “Music scene subject of meeting.” (August 22nd, 2016).

Media Commentary and Consulting (Continued)

Dallas Morning News. "Meet Cross Roads, the small town in booming DFW." (June 23rd, 2016).

Washington City Paper. "A more perfect union?" (April 1st, 2016).

New Republic. "The sinister history of the Belle and Sebastian email list." (January 28th, 2016).

Cincinnati City Beat. "Disappearing DIY." (December 16th, 2015).

Volume One. "Music capital of the North: Eau Claire, Wisconsin." (July 8th, 2015).

WBAP 820 AM. On-air interview regarding DFW region's growth. (March 30th, 2015).

Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "Regaining Atlanta's momentum." (February 8th, 2015).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "People pumped about prices." (January 10th, 2015).

Dallas Morning News. "Guess who's hiring? Government." (January 5th, 2015).

Austin American-Statesmen. "Lower oil prices a threat to Texas economy." (December 18th, 2014).

Chicago Reader. "Why did Animal Kingdom have to die?" (September 25th, 2014).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Some unsure of data in report." (September 11th, 2014).

The Washington Post. "Meet the man who studies indie music economies." (September 8th, 2014).

The Washington Post. "Can indie music save your neighborhood?" (September 8th, 2014).

Blue Sky Window. "Building an economy-sized conversation." (February 2014).

Denton Live. "Defining Denton." (July 2013).

CityLab. "Class divided cities: Houston edition." (March 2013).

CityLab. "Class divided cities: Dallas edition." (March 2013).

Denton Business Chronicle. "Creative economy." (August 2012).

The North Texan. "Cultural impact." (Summer 2012).

The North Texan. "Music scenes spurring urban economies." (June 5th, 2012 – Online edition).

National Public Radio. *Planet Money*: "The indie-rock club behind Omaha's \$100 million creative boom." (June 3rd, 2011).

Wired. "The reviving downtowns." (June, 2011).

CBSDFW.com. "35 Conferette tries to spur economic growth with music." (March 14th, 2011).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Festival drumming up Denton business." (March 5th, 2011).

Media Commentary and Consulting (Continued)

Dallas Observer "DC9 at Night" blog. "35 Conferette will affect Denton's economic future."
(March 4th, 2011).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Beyond the scenes: House shows are where the heart of DIY is."
(December 11th, 2010).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Pop-up parks challenge thinking." (September 18th, 2010).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Leaders voice A-train concerns: Night, weekend service supported by
community." (June 24th, 2010).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "NX35's future rests on finances." (March 20th, 2010).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Panel discusses rise in popularity of local house show scene."
(March 14th, 2010).

Dallas Observer "DC9 at Night" blog. "Yesterday at NX35: House shows and social networking
make a mark in the DFW scene." (March 14th, 2010).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Panel dissects future of local music." (March 12th, 2010).

Dallas Observer "DC9 at Night" blog. "Yesterday at NX35: Things kick off with a discussion of the
arts." (March 12th, 2010).

KERA "Art & Seek" blog. NX35: "Day one day panels." (March 11th, 2010).

Dallas Observer. "North by unrest: Chris Flemmons wants to put Denton music on the map with
NX35 - if it doesn't kill him first." (March 11th, 2010).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Work for festival starts in earnest." (January 18th, 2010).

NBCDFW.com. "How will the arts develop?" (January 2nd, 2010 – On-camera and text component).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "The night comes alive: Area east of square getting boost from
restaurants, clubs." (September 19th, 2009).

Dallas Morning News. "North Texas state fair looking for room to stretch its legs."
(August 15th, 2009).

Dallas Morning News. "NX35 festival unplugs." (March 16th, 2009).

Dallas Observer "DC9 at Night" blog. "Yesterday at NX35: Mike Seman's thoughts on indie rock
and urban development." (March 13th, 2009).

Denton Record-Chronicle. "Local music in the spotlight at NX35 conference."
(February 22nd, 2009).

References

Carl Grodach, Ph.D.
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Queensland University of Technology
QUT Science and Engineering Faculty
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Brisbane, QLD 4001
Phone: +61-7-3138-9987
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Rotman School of Management
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School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs
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