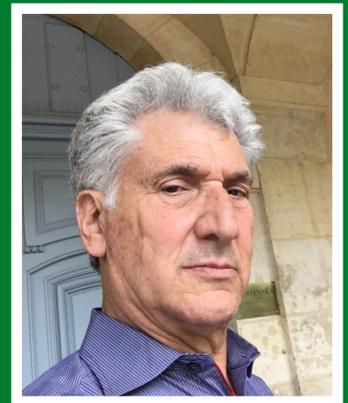# Research Seminar

Beyond Hype and Despair:
Developing Healthy Communities in the Era of Intelligent Tools

John Zysman
University of California, Berkeley & Berkeley Rountable on the International Economy

There is much we do not know and cannot know about the socioeconomic impacts of intelligent machines. In his talk, based on joint work with Martin Kenney and Laura Tyson, John Zysman will lay out a research agenda for understanding the consequences of the current, next stage in the digital transformation, centered on artificial intelligence. Among the theses he will discuss are: The impacts will be driven by business strategies that differ by sector and country. "Good jobs" strategies are possible; it is important to identify and strengthen the factors, including policies, that encourage them. Demographics will certainly affect the outcomes. Powerfully and importantly, the narratives about the benefits and costs of the technologies will affect the speed and breadth of the deployment of intelligent tools. And understanding the political economy of intelligent tools requires having more than a hand-waving grasp of the digital transformation itself.

Prof. Dr. John Zysman is professor emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, where from 1974 until 2015, he had been professor of Political Science. He has worked on strategies for economic development and innovation, resulting in (among other books and articles) his classic *Governments, Markets, and Growth: Financial Systems and the Politics of Industrial Change* (Cornell UP, 1983) and more recently *21st Century Manufacturing* (UNIDO 2013), *Can Green Sustain Growth? From the Religion to the Reality of Sustainable Prosperity* (Stanford UP, 2013), and *A Third Globalization: Can Wealthy Countries Stay Rich?* (Oxford UP, 2013) as well as "Intelligent Tools and Digital Platforms" (*Intereconomics*, 2018). As founding co-director of the Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy (BRIE), John continues to bridge academic research and public as well as private sector engagement. He has served on an array of public sector advisory boards from the Director's Executive Advisory Board at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories through the large-scale European Commission Public Private Partnership program on the Future of the Internet. John has extensive experience in helping corporations develop and implement cross-border strategies and alliances in the high-technology sector. He supported and helped design programs for major American companies to develop corporate relations with Asian and European governments, including training programs for senior Chinese officials. He has also worked with start-up firms in Europe and the United States. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science at MIT, after studying Economics at Essex (England), and earning his Bachelor with a concentration in Social Studies at Harvard.

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