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# Western

Centre for Research on  
Migration and Ethnic Relations

## 2015 Migration and Ethnic Relations Graduate Student Conference:

### Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Migration and Settlement

### Conference Program

April 9th 2015  
Western University  
London, Ontario

**8:30 - 8:35 AM: Opening Remarks by Dr. Stephanie Bangarth****8:35 - 10:05 AM: Panel I: Identity in Space and Time**Discussant: **Dr. Stephanie Bangarth**

Director of the Collaborative Graduate Program in Migration and Ethnic Relations  
Associate Professor in History at King's University College  
Adjunct Teaching Professor in the Department of History at Western

8:35 - 8:50 am *Shezan Muhammedi*, History, Western University**100% Canadian or Ugandan Canadian? An Exploration of Identity amongst Ugandan Asian Refugees in Canada**

Shezan is a Ph.D. Student in the History program and in the Migration and Ethnic Relations (MER) at the University of Western Ontario. He holds a Master's in History and MER (UWO, 2013) and a Bachelor of Arts in History (Queen's University, 2012). His research interests include: the resettlement of refugees in Canada, Canadian immigration history, digital history, immigrant and refugee integration and community services, and identity studies.

8:50- 9:05 am *Wajeha Chams*, Sociology, Western University**Living In a Transnational World: Identity Negotiation and Formation of Second- Generation Lebanese Young Adults Living In London Ontario**

Wajeha Chams is a M.A student in the Sociology program and the Migration and Ethnic Relations (MER) at the University of Western Ontario. She holds a B.A in Sociology from Western and currently completing her M.A and MER program. Her research interests lie in transnational identities, specifically of the children of immigrants, as well as immigrant integration and well being in the host countries.

9:05 - 9:20 am *Steve Marti*, History, Western University**Country and Country Call: European Conscripts and Reservists in Australia and Canada during the First World War**

Steve is a PhD Candidate in the Department of History at Western. His dissertation, titled "Embattled Communities: Voluntary Mobilization and Identity in Australia, Canada, and New Zealand, 1914-1918" examines the relationship between voluntary action and identity in the Anglo dominions of the British Empire. In particular, the dissertation examines how boundaries of race and ethnicity were reflected in voluntary mobilization.

9:20 - 9:35 am *Jon Malek*, History, Western University**Silangan Rising: Integration and Identity in the Winnipeg Filipino Community**

Jon Malek is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the University of Western Ontario, and is enrolled in the Migration and Ethnic Relations Collaborative Graduate Program. For the 2014-2015, he is a Research Affiliate at the University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities. His dissertation, "The Pearl of the Prairies: The History of the Winnipeg Filipina/o Community, 1959-2010," traces the history of the Filipino community in Winnipeg, and examines the workings of the community in a global, transnational context. Jon is also interested in immigration history, ethnic relations, global Filipino migration, and Asian history. He received his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Manitoba.

9:35 - 9:50 am *Belinda Ha*, Policy Studies, Ryerson University**Integration and Identity among the Second-Generation In Canada**

Belinda is a Ph.D. student in the Immigration, Settlement and Diaspora Policies stream of the Policy Studies program at Ryerson University. She holds a master's in Immigration and Settlement Studies from Ryerson University (2013) and an Honours Bachelor of Journalism (BJ) and History from Carleton University (2012). Her research interests relate to multiculturalism, second-generation youth in Canada, intergenerational relationships, and immigrant integration.

10:05 - 10:15 am Break 1

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**5:20 - 6:35 PM: Panel VI: Networks and Integration**Discussant: **Prof. Evelyn Encalada Grez**

Adjunct Professor at York University

Transnational Community Organizer and Labour Researcher

Co-founder of the Award Winning Collective "Justicia/Justice for Migrant Workers" (J4MW)

5:20 - 5:35 pm *Dingha Fobete*, Rural Development, Brandon University**Social Network Tools for Immigrant Attraction and Settlement in Rural Areas: The Case of Brandon, Manitoba**

Fobete has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from the University of Buea, Cameroon. He furthered his education in Germany where he obtained a Master Degree in Global Political Economy from the University of Kassel, Germany. Fobete worked with Middlewich Community Centre in the United Kingdom as coordinator and as a foreign news analyst for the Voice of African Radio, London. In 2009 worked as an intern for the Alberta Community and Co-operative Association in Edmonton, Alberta. He served as a researcher in support of co-operative development. Currently a student in the Masters of Rural Development program at Brandon University. In the summer of 2011, Fobete was a research student with the Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiative (MAFRI). During his research at MAFRI, he developed a tax sharing agreement for rural communities towards enhancing economic development. He also drafted a "joint-use partnership" agreement template for rural communities. Fobete published an article with the Manitoba Agricultural Society newsletter titled "An Outside View of Fairs in Manitoba". Fobete has also worked in different projects with the Rural Development Institute in Brandon. As part of his program of study, Fobete was part of the International Comparative Rural Policy Study in Quebec in which with other students published an article titled "*Social Capital: Networking for Stronger Rural Communities*" a reflection on the Politique Nationale de la Ruralité (2007-2014).

5:35 - 5:50 pm *Sonia Ben Soltane*, School of Social Work, McGill University**Urban Life Stories: Female North African Immigrants' Experiences in Receiving Cities**

Sonia Ben Soltane is a PhD candidate at the McGill School of Social Work. She holds a master's in Urban Studies and Theory of Law. Her research interest is immigration and integration policies in Canada-Quebec and in Europe. Her work explores the role of the city in the installation process of newcomer immigrants.

5:50 - 6:05 pm *Ban Kattan*, Development Studies, York University\* *Regrets***Serving Your Guests: Capacity Building of Local NGOs in Jordan**

Ban is an MA candidate in the Development Studies program and affiliate of the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University. She holds a bachelors degree in Gender and Women Studies (York, 2013) and another in business administration (AUS, 2007). Her research interests lie in Middle Eastern development, social entrepreneurship, and capacity building. She's involved in projects with Hivos Middle East and various local organization in Jordan and Iraq.

6:05 - 6:20 pm *Guliz Akkaymak*, Sociology, Western University**Network Development and Immigrant Associations in Toronto**

Guliz Akkaymak is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology and the Collaborative Graduate Program in Migration and Ethnic Relations at the University of Western Ontario, London. Her research interests include social inequality, sociology of work, studies on migration and ethnic relations, and sociology of education. She is the co-editor of *Neoliberal Transformation of Education in Turkey: Political and Ideological Analysis of Educational Reforms in the Age of the AKP* (2012) (with Kemal Inal).

**6:35 - 6:40 PM: Concluding Remarks by Dr. Victoria Esses**

Professor of Psychology and Director of the Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations at Western University

The Founding Director of the Collaborative Graduate Program in Migration and Ethnic Relations  
Principal Investigator of the Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) Partnership

**6:40 - 8:00 PM: Light Reception***The Wave*, next to McKellar Theatre

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**12:00 - 1:00 PM: Keynote Address****Evelyn Encalada Grez****Organizing Transnational Love among Mexican Migrant Farmworker Women**

Evelyn Encalada Grez is an adjunct university professor, transnational community organizer and labour researcher. For over thirteen years she has been working with migrant farmworkers from Mexico and Guatemala in rural Canada and with their families in their home communities. She co-founded the award winning collective called Justicia/Justice for Migrant Workers (J4MW) that is at the forefront of the migrant rights movement in the Canada. Evelyn has shared her knowledge as activist scholar for migrant justice in various venues, including at the United Nations in New York and Parliament Hill in Ottawa. She has published with Dr. Kerry Preibisch in "Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society" and "Citizenship Studies." She has also collaborated with Min Sook Lee on film projects that have given space to migrant farmworkers' voices and experiences in Canada. She brings her personal life experiences of displacement and migration from Chile to her work along with a deep sense of spirituality and respect for the mystical, sacred and ancestral.



Temporary Foreign Worker Programs in Canada not only structure flexible labour regimes for diverse industries but in the process also induce subjectivities and ways of being among "non-citizen" migrant workers. To a great extent, people are commodified as "just in time" workers and reduced to units of production. In this presentation I turn Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program and to the frontiers of the intimate and affective to demonstrate how the seasons and particularities of agricultural production in Canada, state policies and the global economy impact migrant women's emotions, desires and sexuality. Women manage a "transnational family economy" that is based on the management of their emotions and love across borders. By turning to the intimate and interiority of migrant women's lives we can discern their resistance and negotiations of multiple subjectivities beyond the migrant worker subject. This affective frontier also elucidates what is being called upon migrant women as transnational/global subjects but also of transnational organizing and research for activist-researchers alike.

**1:00 - 2:00 PM: Lunch Break***The Wave, next to McKellar Theatre***2:00 - 3:15 PM: Panel III: Refugees: Inclusion and Exclusion**

Discussant: **Dr. Valerian Marochko**  
Executive Director of London Cross Cultural Learner Centre

2:00 - 2:15 pm *Jaime Lenet, School of Social Work, McGill University***Alone and Staying That Way: The Exclusion of Unaccompanied Refugee Children from Canada's Family Reunification Provisions**

Jaime Lenet is a second year PhD student in the School of Social Work at McGill University. She holds an MSW from Carleton University, an MA in International Affairs from Carleton University, and a BA in Political Studies and History from Bishop's University. Her research interests are in the areas of forced migration, refugee determination, voluntary and non-voluntary forms of return migration, social policy analysis, and critical approaches to social work. Her dissertation will examine the return experiences of individuals refused refugee status in the global North. Jaime is a Course Instructor at McGill and a practicing social worker at The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. She has more than ten years of experience in providing frontline support to migrants in a variety of settings.

2:15 - 2:30 pm *Andrea Bobadilla, Health Sciences, Western University***Discursively Constructing The 'Other' In the Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act**

Andrea is a PhD student in the Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Program in the field of Health Promotion at Western University. After completing her master's in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at Western, she is continuing her research on intersections of Canadian immigration and health policy and its effects on migrant health. Her current research focus includes the health experiences of those in the Canadian Caregiver Program and gendered labour migration. Andrea is also part of a project with the School of Occupational Therapy on policies and discourses governing asylum-seeking populations, from which this presentation draws.

2:30 - 2:45 pm *Neil Bilotta, School of Social Work, McGill University***(Post)Colonialism and Refugee Resettlement for Congolese Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (URMs) In the Global North**

Neil is a PhD student School of Social Work, McGill University. He holds master's in Social Work (Smith College School of Social Work, USA, 2011) and Public Health -Health Sciences (John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, 2014). His area of interest lie in Global Social Work, particularly with unaccompanied youth affected by armed conflict, the effects of Eurocentrism on the refugee settlement process, and the agency and autonomy of unaccompanied refugee minors.

2:45 - 3:00 pm *Usman Javad, Political Science, Western University***Religious Persecution of the Ahmadiyya Community in Pakistan**

Usman is a MA student in the Department of Political Science at the University of Western Ontario. He holds a Bachelors of Science from the University of Toronto. His research interests lie in the persecution of minorities in developing countries. He will be presenting on the religious persecution of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan.

3:15 - 3:20 am **Break 3****3:20 - 4:15 PM: Panel IV: Settlement and Well-Being**

Discussant: **Dr. Suzanne Huot**  
Assistant Professor School of Occupational Therapy  
Member of London and Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership

3:20 - 3:35 pm *Natalia Lapshina, Psychology, Western University***Perceived Mental Health and Well-Being of Canadian Immigrants**

Natalia is a Ph.D. student in Psychology and the Collaborative Graduate Program in Migration and Ethnic Relations (MER) at the University of Western Ontario. Her research focuses on prejudice and employment discrimination against immigrants in Canada and mental health outcomes.



3:35 - 3:50 pm *Amani Elrofaie*, Education, Western University

### Socioeconomic Status, Family Relationships, and Parental Education as Determinants of Mental Health Symptoms in Diverse First, Second, and Third Generation Groups of Children

Amani is a MA Education candidate at Western University's Faculty of Education. She is an Ontario-certified teacher with a Bachelor of Education (Western U, 2013) and a Bachelor of Health Sciences with a minor in Creative Writing and Rhetoric (Western U, 2012). Her research interests lie in the expressions of child psychopathology among multi-cultural and multi-immigrant generation groups of children. Amani is involved in the Single Ceiling Project, a collaborative initiative between Western's Faculty of Education, the Children's Aid Society, Thames Valley District School Board, Merrymount Family Support Centre, and other community organizations to build capacity and foster mental health promotion, early prevention, and intervention for children.

3:50 - 4:05 pm *Mikaela Burgos*, Education, Western University

### Experiences of Newcomer Youth in the Home Environment

Mikaela is an M.A. student in the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Western Ontario. She holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology. Her research interests lie in immigrant integration, mental health, trauma and culture, and community-based research.

4:15 - 4:20 am Break 4

### 4:20 - 5:15 PM: Panel V: Migration and the Labour Force

Discussant: **Dr. Audra Bowlus**

Professor and Chair of the Department of Economics, Western University  
CIBC Faculty Fellow

4:20 - 4:35 pm *Kwan Ho Leung*, Policy Studies, Ryerson University

### Migrant Workers as Public Goods

Kwan Ho is a first-year PhD student in the interdisciplinary Policy Studies at Ryerson University. His main interests are Philippine women's labour migration experience as well as the relationship between migrant workers and their home countries. Prior to his current studies, Kwan Ho has received masters' degrees in Immigration and Settlement Studies (Ryerson, 2013), Theological studies (University of St. Michael's College, 2013), Psychology (Wayne State University, 1995), and Economics (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1991). Kwan Ho is also a full-time faculty member at George Brown College.

4:35 - 4:50 pm *Miguel Cardoso*, Economics, Western University

### A Study of International Migration: Looking Beyond OECD Countries

Miguel is a 3rd year Ph.D. student in the Economics Department at the University of Western Ontario. He holds a master's in International Economics and Finance (Ryerson, 2011). His research interests lie in migration, international trade and labour economics.

4:50 - 5:05 pm *Awish Aslam*, Sociology, Western University

### Good Luck Hunting: An Examination of the Labour Market Integration of Second Generation Ethnic Minority Immigrants

Awish is a first year MA student in the Sociology program and the Collaborative Graduate Program in Migration and Ethnic Relations (MER) at the University of Western Ontario. Her research interests include the areas of education, labour market integration, race-ethnicity, the experiences of second-generation immigrants, and school-work transitions.

5:15 - 5:20 pm Break 5

### 10:15 - 11:45 AM: Panel II: Mobility for Education and Institutional Change

Discussant: **Dr. Paul Tarc**

Assistant Professor, Critical Policy, Equity and Leadership Studies - CPELS Cluster,  
Faculty of Education, Western University  
Coordinator of International Education Specialization in Master of Professional Education

10:15 - 10:30 am *Peter Haastrup*, Policy Studies, Ryerson University

### Acculturative Stress and Nigerian International Students

Peter is a Ph.D. student in the Policy Studies Immigration Settlement and the Diaspora program at Ryerson University. He holds a Masters of Social Work Child and Family (University of Toledo), and Bachelors of Social Work (Ryerson University). His Research interests lie in Nigerian international student's migration to Canada, acculturative stress, social network, and mental health.

10:30 - 10:45 am *Phillipa Myers*, Education, Western University

### The Experiences of Latin American Students in Ontario Schools: Foundations for Future Research

Phillipa is a Ph.D. student in the Faculty of Education. She holds a masters of Professional Studies in Education from the State University of New York at New Paltz (2007). As well as a Bachelors of Education from York University and an Advanced Bachelors of Education from Nipissing University (2004). Her volunteer work includes her role as Vice-Chair of the Education Sub-council of the London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership. A former Ontario teacher, Phillipa's research interests focus on equity and social justice issues of immigrant students in schools.

10:45 - 11:00 am *Rashed Al-Haque*, Education, Western University

### Exploring the Relationship between Canadian Federal Citizenship and Immigration Policy and the Internationalization of Higher Education

Rashed is a PhD Candidate at Western University's Faculty of Education. He is enrolled in the faculty's Critical Policy, Equity and Leadership Studies cluster and is interested in the internationalization of higher education. His doctoral research examines the relationship between federal citizenship and immigration policy and the internationalization of higher education in Canada. He is also interested in the leadership practices of university administrators and global citizenship education within universities. Rashed is originally from Bangladesh and moved to Canada at the age of 18 after growing up in Kuwait.

11:00 - 11:15 am *Marion Ink*, *Sociology*, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris

### Studying the Formation of Cliques in International Student Houses: Comparative Ethnographical Researches in Paris, Chicago and Toronto

Marion is a PhD fellow in Sociology at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, in Paris. She has been invited by Professor Jeffrey Reitz, from the programme Ethnic, Immigration and Pluralism studies at the University of Toronto for the winter semester 2015. Since her Master degree, she has been researching on the social experiences of living together in international student houses. She has been leading ethnographical works in the International House of Paris, the International House of Chicago and the Graduate House of Toronto.

11:15 - 11:30 am *Abhilasha Duggal*, Education, Western University

### Encouraging Diversity and Multiculturalism in London, Ontario: A Case Study of Two Elementary Schools

Abbey is currently a doctoral student at the Faculty of Education program at Western University. She holds a Master of Education (2014, Western University), and a Masters of Arts in Public Policy (2002, University at Stony Brook). She was a former elementary school teacher in New York City. Her research interests lie in immigrant integration, theory and practice of multiculturalism, educational policy, leadership, inclusive education, critical race theory, equity and social justice.

11:45 - 12:00 am Break 2