

COMMITTEE ON POPULATION

Workshop on Forced Migration Research: From Theory to Practice in Promoting Migrant Well-Being

**National Academy of Sciences Building
Lecture Room
2101 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20418
May 21-22, 2019**

The purpose of this workshop is to bring fresh and innovative approaches in social demographic theory, methodology, data collection and analysis, and practice and applications to the forefront of the community of researchers and practitioners who are concerned with better understanding and assisting forced migrant populations. Workshop participants will share cutting-edge social demographic research and practice from around the globe, with the aim of creating a research and practice agenda for the field of forced migration in the 21st century – and improving research, analysis, data collection, and practices to make better progress in the health and well-being of forced migrants at every stage of their life course. The lessons that can be learned by the United States from global best practices will be emphasized throughout the workshop. After the workshop, the National Academies Press will publish a rapporteur-prepared proceedings volume that summarizes the workshop presentations and discussions.

Support for this workshop is provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

DAY 1: Tuesday, May 21, 2019

9:00-9:30 am

Welcome and Introductions

- Ellen Percy Kraly (Colgate University), *Workshop Co-chair*
- Holly E. Reed (Queens College, City University of New York), *Workshop Co-chair*
- Karabi Acharya (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)

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9:30-11:00 am

Setting the Stage: Critical Issues in Forced Migration Research

This session will set the stage for the discussion by laying out global and national trends and policies concerning forced migration and population displacement (e.g., protracted displacement, mixed migration, increased border security, smuggling and trafficking, burden sharing, etc.) and issues of importance in forced migration research, with a particular focus on global issues, U.S. domestic issues, and ethical issues in research with these populations. Speakers will address the benefits of international and comparative perspectives on forced migration for U.S. immigration policy and refugee programs.

Global Issues: Michaela Hynie (York University)

National Issues: Don Kerwin (Center for Migration Studies)

Ethical Issues: Christina Clark-Kazak (University of Ottawa)

Moderator/Discussant: Susan McGrath (York University)

11:00-11:20 am

BREAK

11:20 am-12:30 pm

Conceptual and Definitional Issues in Forced Migration Research

This session will focus on forced migrant categories, conceptualizations, and definitional issues. Some issues for discussion may include:

- *Categories of forced migrants by types of displacement (e.g., climate-induced migration, conflict-induced migration, development-induced migration, trafficked and smuggled persons, stateless persons, mixed migration flows)*
- *Internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees at various stages of migration (i.e., immediate crisis, camp-based vs. “self-settled” migrants, resettlement, repatriation)*
- *The blurring of categories and definitions (“who is a refugee?”)*
- *Tensions among legal definitions, demographic measures, and popular conceptions of forced migrants.*

Speakers will also address the implications of concepts and categories of forced migration and migrants for efforts to foster well-being and human security.

Speakers:

Irene Bloemraad (University of California, Berkeley)

Ellen Percy Kraly (Colgate University)

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Moderator/Discussant: Holly E. Reed (Queens College, City University of New York)

12:30-1:30 pm **LUNCH**

1:30-2:40 pm Issues and Innovations in Population Data Collection and Measurement I: Registration and Administrative Data

This session will address issues and innovations involved in the collection of social demographic data on forced migrants through registration and administrative data systems (including camp registers, community-based registrations, the UN Refugee Agency [UNHCR] and national government administrative databases, civil and vital registration systems, non-governmental organization [NGO] and resettlement agency databases, and other sources of administrative data). Speakers will identify the connections between initiatives in demographic data collection and programs to support and assist migrants.

Speakers: Marwan Khawaja (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia [UN-ESCWA])

Romesh Silva (United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA))

Moderator/Discussant: Ellen Percy Kraly (Colgate University)

2:40-3:00 pm **BREAK**

3:00-4:10 pm Issues and Innovations in Population Data Collection and Measurement II: Survey Research

Continuing the discussion on data collection, this session will focus particularly on innovations and new technologies in the collection of social demographic data on forced migrants via survey research methods, such as using existing nationally-representative surveys to identify forced migrants, special migration surveys and methodologies, and the potential to develop a global migration survey that would include forced migrants.

Speakers: **Jon Pedersen (Fafo Institute for Applied International Studies)**

Karen Pren (Princeton University)

Moderator/Discussant: Sarah Staveteig (U.S. State Department)

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4:10-5:00 pm **General Discussion: Cross-Cutting Issues in Forced Migration Research with a Focus on Conceptualization, Definitions, Data Collection, and Measurement**

Moderator: Ellen Percy Kraly (Colgate University)

5:00 pm **Adjournment**

DAY 2: Wednesday, May 22, 2019

9:00-10:30 am **Issues in Research Design and Analysis of Migrant Integration**

This session will emphasize cutting edge approaches to designing social demographic research among forced migrant populations, particularly in the study of migrant integration, and highlight the importance of flexible and cross-cutting methodologies and designs. The session will also address new and innovative approaches to data analysis. Speakers will consider the potential role of research results in informing programs of migrant and refugee settlement and integration, and the consequences for migrant health and well-being.

Speakers: Fernando Riosmena (University of Colorado at Boulder)

 Aimee Chin (University of Houston)

 Mark VanLandingham (Tulane University)

Moderator/Discussant: Pia Orrenius (Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas)

10:30-10:50 am **BREAK**

10:50 am-12:20 pm **Incorporating Demographic Research in Program Design, Monitoring, and Evaluation**

In this session, speakers will focus on how NGOs, international organizations, and local governments can best incorporate social demographic research into their program design, monitoring, and evaluation of program outcomes for programs in health, economic and social development, and education, among other areas. The goal is to use best practices from researchers and adapt these practices for various settings and contexts among forced migrant communities. This session will emphasize translating research into practice in order to address the health and well-being consequences of forced migration.

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Speakers: Jeannie Annan (International Rescue Committee)

Betsy Plum (New York Immigration Coalition)

Michael Wessells (Columbia University)

Moderator/Discussant: Susan McGrath (York University)

12:20-1:30 pm **LUNCH**

1:30-2:40 pm **Issues and Innovations in Population Modelling and Projections**

This session will focus on the innovative use of population modelling and projection methodologies for predicting future forced migration flows; understanding characteristics of forced migrant populations; and estimating their health, well-being, and other outcomes. Speakers will discuss existing analytic capacities to anticipate the impacts of forced migration for sending and receiving communities.

Speakers: Erika Frydenlund (Old Dominion University)

Raya Muttarak (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis)

Moderator/Discussant: Ellen Percy Kraly (Colgate University)

2:40-2:50 pm **BREAK**

2:50-4:00 pm **Looking to the Future and Critical Next Steps**

Speakers will discuss directions for future research and practice in the area of forced migration, with an emphasis on what has been learned throughout the two-day workshop. The goal will be to lay out an agenda for critical next steps in this area of population research and practice.

Speakers: Katharine Donato (Georgetown University)

Mark VanLandingham (Tulane University)

Moderator: Holly E. Reed (Queens College, City University of New York)

4:00 pm **Adjourn**