



University
of Victoria

Centre for
Asia-Pacific Initiatives

An international interdisciplinary conference
from the **Migration & Mobility Program**

POST-CONFERENCE REPORT

Migration & Late Capitalism

Critical Intersections with the
Asia-Pacific and Beyond

June 11 – 13, 2015 | University of Victoria | Victoria, BC, Canada

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**University
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Asia-Pacific Initiatives

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On June 11th, 2015 the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives (CAPI) at the University of Victoria hosted a three-day conference entitled **“Migration and Late Capitalism: Critical Intersections with the Asia-Pacific and Beyond”**. This was the first of a series of conferences to be held as part of the Centre’s Migration & Mobility Program.

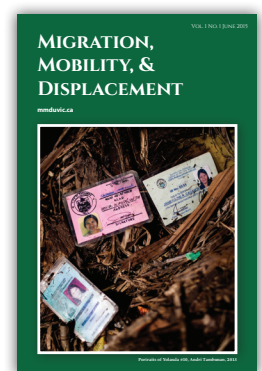
This conference summary reflects the planning process and communicates the themes for future research that emerged during the conference and is being made available to inform the planning of future events and research projects.

1. ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The intention of the conference was to bring together international scholars, graduate students, migrant activists and civil society leaders from around the world to engage in multidisciplinary discussions of the many challenges related to human migration in late capitalism, particularly with respect to the Asia-Pacific region. We chose late capitalism as we believe the concept, although controversial, captures fundamental transformations in contemporary capitalism: contemporary capitalism has moved beyond monopoly and industrial forms and is characterized increasingly by the diversification of final commodities, working conditions and the diversification of regime and governance mechanisms. The rules and patterns governing migratory movements are essential to the realization of this diversity.

It was hoped that by creating conducive conditions for discussion and debate, new scholarly understandings of the contemporary pressures of migration would be generated through actively promoting the transfer and exchange of knowledge among diverse audiences.

The conference attracted over 125 participants, including an eminent and diverse group of international academics, researchers, and migrant rights advocates, many of whom are leaders in their fields. More than sixty papers were presented including three keynote lectures that addressed the complexities of global migration, viewing the movement of peoples as a socioeconomic, political, human rights and social justice issue and in turn, creating new directions for theoretical and empirical scholarship.



The new e-journal published by the Migration & Mobility Program at the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives was launched on the first night of the conference. Two special editions featuring content from the conference have been planned.

Key themes included an examination of migration flows, experiences and strategies; the role of environmental degradation in human displacement and mobility with particular attention paid to Indigenous peoples; questions related to border security and surveillance; and diverse initiatives in the areas of policy advocacy, activism and mobilization.

It is felt by those who participated that the overall goal of the conference was realized, namely to organize a unique research event that would generate new and original scholarly understandings of global migrations that could inform the development of rights-based public policy and grassroots strategies, through actively promoting the transfer and exchange of knowledge by engaging diverse audiences. Here we reference the need to engage scholars with migrant advocates and activists to ensure that research, scholarship and the production of knowledge moves beyond a circular discourse.

2. EMERGING THEMES

Spatiality

Undocumented migrants are increasingly detained in hard-to-find detention centers; architectural designs as border space act as migration management. Migration management has seen the proliferation of borders. Migratory routes and geographies of migration have proliferated globally (for instance, circular migratory routes and complicated travel routes), which compels us to rethink migrations studies that have been modeled on south-north migration. Indigenous people have been experiencing displacement from their land under colonialism and colonization and the creation of reserves that are more than geographic zones, they are also imagined sites through which the category of “Indian” is produced.

Temporality

Permanent temporariness has become a norm in migrants’ experience of migration, leading to increasing precariousness, detention and expulsion of migrants. Under the logic of temporary migration, migrants are deemed good enough to work, but not good enough to stay. Migrants are put under a diversity of temporalities of migration, with hierarchies of status and citizenship rights.

Migrants as Protagonists

“Migrants as protagonists” insists on migrants being seen as agents of change through their struggles. This new way of positioning the migrant within theoretical frameworks will lead to new ways of imagining transnational spaces (for instance, trans-Pacific space) being opened up by migrants. As well, the “migrant as protagonist” offers new ways of understanding migrants’ engagement with their new communities, particularly with respect to political activism.

Relationships

We are confronted with a range of relationships in activism, advocacy and academic work: solidarity in the relationship between migrants and indigenous people; recommendation that advocates in their home countries look to indigenous experiences and issues where they are advocating; fraught relationships between activists, and academics and advocacy groups; and uneasy relations between activists and institutions such as the state, International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN.

Research Methodologies and Data

Research methodologies and data are about knowledge production and power. Questions need to be asked about who produces knowledge and how and whether to trust what is produced. When institutions that are embedded within capitalism have hidden agendas, migrants’ experiences do not



necessarily match the data produced by those institutions. Questions also need to be asked about legal and administrative categories such as documented/undocumented and citizen/migrant and their power of representation in research. Research methodologies need to capture the subjectivity of the displaced.

Members of the conference committee celebrate with the keynote speakers after the conference ended.

Left-to-right: Annalee Lepp (Gender Studies, Conference Committee Chair), Linda Tuhiwai Smith, Helen Lansdowne (CAPI), Sandro Mezzadra, Feng Xu (Political Science) and Tings Chak.

3. PEOPLE INVOLVED

Over 125 people participated in the conference, representing a diverse group of international scholars, graduate students, migrant activists and civil society leaders from around the world. The participants represented 15 countries, 30 academic institutions and 17 civil society organizations.

Organizing Committee

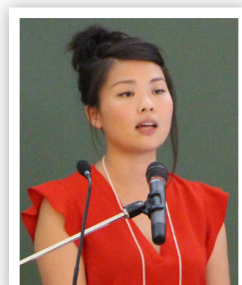
- Leslie Butt – Anthropology
- Christina Harris – CAPI Communications Officer
- Cassana Kelly – CAPI Conference Coordinator
- Helen Lansdowne – CAPI Associate Director
- Joel Legassie – CAPI Migration & Mobility Program Assistant
- Annalee Lepp – Gender Studies (Committee Chair)
- Jennifer Smith – Faculty of Law
- Feng Xu – Political Science

Student Volunteers

- George Benson
- Elsie Daoust
- Cory de Vries
- Cate Lawrence
- Raviv Litman
- Wrenna Robertson
- Annie Sudeko

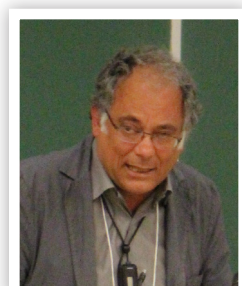
4. KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

We were honoured to have three exciting speakers present our public keynote lectures. All three were well attended and fascinating!



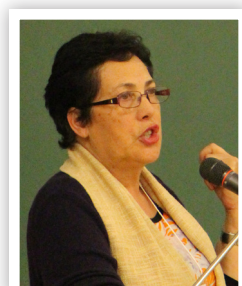
Tings Chak
Multidisciplinary Artist, Architect and Activist

Tings Chak is a multidisciplinary artist and architect based in Toronto. She holds a Master of Architecture from the University of Toronto, where she was awarded the Kuwabara-Jackman Thesis Gold Medal for her research on immigration detention centres. Her work draws inspiration from anti-colonial, migrant justice and spatial justice struggles. She is an organizer with No One is Illegal (Toronto) and the End Immigration Detention Network.



Sandro Mezzadra
University of Bologna, Department of Political and Social Sciences

Dr. Mezzadra is a foremost researcher on late capitalism and how it relates in Western Europe. Dr. Mezzadra's experience with migratory labour and how it relates to borders provided insight into deep seeded issues surrounding the mobility of migrating populations. Mezzadra recently published *Border as Method, or, the Multiplication of Labor* with Brett Neilsen.



Linda Tuhiwai Smith
Pro Vice-Chancellor Māori, University of Waikato


Linda Tuhiwai Smith is Professor of Education and Māori Development, Pro-Vice Chancellor Māori and Dean of the School of Māori and Pacific Development as well as the founding Director for Te Kotahi Research Institute at the University of Waikato in New Zealand. She is the President of the New Zealand Association for Research in Education, is a member of the Marsden Fund Council and Convener of the Social Sciences Assessment Panel, and is also a member of The Royal Society of New Zealand. Professor Smith was also recently a member of the New Zealand's


Health Research Council and Chair of the Māori Health Research Committee. Last year she was made an American Educational Research Association (AERA) Fellow and in 2013 was honoured in the New Zealand New Years Honours List – (CNZM) Companion of the Said Order for services to Māori and education. She has worked in the field of Māori Education and Health for many years as an educator and researcher and is well known for her work in Kaupapa Māori Research.

Professor Smith has published widely in journals and books. Her book, *Decolonising Methodologies Research and Indigenous Peoples*, has been an international best seller in the indigenous world since its publication in 1998. Professor Smith was a founding Joint Director of New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence from 2002-2007 and a Professor of Education at the University of Auckland. She is well known internationally as a public speaker. Professor Smith is from two tribes or iwi in New Zealand, Ngāti Awa and Ngāti Porou.

5. POSTERS

The conference and the public keynotes were publicized through a combination of networking, e-newsletters, website, social media and posters. We were successful in attracting a diverse group of participants, both local and international, as well as a significant local audience for the public keynotes.


University of Victoria


Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives

An international interdisciplinary conference
from the **Migration & Mobility Program**

Migration & Late Capitalism

Critical Intersections with the Asia-Pacific and Beyond

CONFERENCE

June 11–13, 2015
University of Victoria

Join researchers, activists and policymakers from diverse disciplinary and regional locations to discuss new theoretical directions, interdisciplinary approaches and critical dialogues on migration and mobility in the context of late capitalism in the Asia-Pacific region.

PUBLIC KEYNOTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 11 @ 7 PM
Undocumented:
The Architecture of Migrant Detention
Tings Chak No One Is Illegal – Toronto & the End Immigration Detention Network, Canada





FRIDAY, JUNE 12 @ 11 AM
What's at stake in the mobility of labour?
Borders, Migration & Late Capitalism
Sandro Mezzadra University of Bologna, Italy


FRIDAY, JUNE 12 @ 7 PM
Disappeared, banished, murdered & displaced
Climate change or neoliberal capitalism? What is happening to indigenous communities in the 21st century?
Linda Tuhiwai Smith University of Waikato, New Zealand


* ALL KEYNOTES ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – ALL ARE WELCOME!

FULL CONFERENCE DETAILS & REGISTRATION ONLINE
www.uvic.ca/capi

This conference and the Migration and Mobility Program have received funding from:


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from the **Migration & Mobility Program**

Migration & Late Capitalism

Critical Intersections with the Asia-Pacific and Beyond


CONFERENCE | JUNE 11–13, 2015 | UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Undocumented:

The Architecture of Migrant Detention

with Tings Chak
No One Is Illegal – Toronto & the End Immigration Detention Network, Canada

Since 2006, over 100,000 people have been jailed indefinitely in Canada, without charge or trial. This is the reality of immigration detention in Canada, a reality that is highly invisible. Migrants are incarcerated largely because they are undocumented. Likewise, there is little trace to be found of these sites of detention – drawings and photos are classified, access is extremely limited. The detention centres, too, are undocumented. This presentation will draw from the graphic novel, *Undocumented: The Architecture of Migrant Detention* (2014), which visualizes the spaces of confinement and questions the role of architecture in the control of migrant bodies. The locality and violence of these sites are contrasted with the stories of daily resistance among immigration detainees. This work is grounded in grassroots organizing in solidarity with immigration detainees through No One Is Illegal – Toronto and the End Immigration Detention Network.



PUBLIC KEYNOTE



Thursday, June 11 @ 7pm
University of Victoria,
Fraser Building, Room 159


Tings Chak is the author and artist of the graphic novel, *Undocumented: The Architecture of Migrant Detention*
www.undocumented.ca
www.endimmigrationdetention.com


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CONFERENCE | JUNE 11–13, 2015 | UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

What's at stake in the mobility of labour?

Borders, Migration & Late Capitalism

with Sandro Mezzadra
University of Bologna, Italy

The talk will start with a short discussion of some influential works on the mobility of labour in historical and contemporary capitalism. Drawing upon a book I recently published with Brett Neilson, *Border as Method, or the Multiplication of Labor*, I will then discuss the significance of the proliferation of borders in the global age from the point of view of 'late capitalism'. In the last part of the talk I will focus on the subjective scales of the politics of migration, providing instances from many parts of the world (including the Asia-Pacific region).







PUBLIC KEYNOTE

Friday, June 12 @ 11 am
University of Victoria,
Fraser Building, Room 159

Sandro Mezzadra is a professor at the University of Bologna (Italy) and the author of *Border as Method, or the Multiplication of Labor*. He is a leading researcher on labour, capitalism and migratory labour.

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CONFERENCE | JUNE 11–13, 2015 | UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Disappeared, banished, murdered & displaced

Climate change or neoliberal capitalism? What is happening to indigenous communities in the 21st century?

with Linda Tuhiwai Smith
University of Waikato, New Zealand

In the indigenous world it is difficult to ignore the scale and pervasiveness of on going colonialism, continuing displacement, the physical, social and cultural death of our women, our men and our children, our communities, languages and cultures. From Disappeared and murdered women, to high suicide rates, to forced closure of communities and environmental exile, many indigenous communities are struggling to stay alive while governments never seem to learn the lessons of past mistakes. This talk identifies a series of major displacements of indigenous populations across the Asia Pacific region, as well as discusses the policies of neoliberal indigeneity and how these policies and alliances across jurisdictions are leading to a new wave of displacement and erasure of indigenous peoples.



PUBLIC KEYNOTE

Friday, June 12 @ 7pm
University of Victoria,
Fraser Building, Room 159

Linda Tuhiwai Smith, the Vice-Chancellor Maori at the University of Waikato (New Zealand), is the author of *Decolonizing Methodologies: Research and Indigenous Peoples*

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Migration & Late Capitalism

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2015

5:30 pm	Registration & Welcome Reception Launch of <i>Migration, Mobility, & Displacement</i> FRASER LOUNGE REGISTERED CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS & INVITED GUESTS ONLY
7 pm	KEYNOTE Undocumented The Architecture of Migrant Detention Tings Chak No One Is Illegal – Toronto & the End Immigration Detention Network FRASER 159 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015

8:30 am	BREAKFAST FRASER LOUNGE Registration		
9 am	1A Contesting Conceptual Borders FRASER 158	1B Colonialism, Im/mobility & Displacement FRASER 157	1C Migrants' Struggles FRASER 152
10:30 am	COFFEE BREAK FRASER LOUNGE		
11 am	KEYNOTE What's at stake in the mobility of labour? Borders, Migration & Late Capitalism Sandro Mezzadra University of Bologna FRASER 159 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC		
12:30 pm	LUNCH FRASER LOUNGE		
1:30 pm	2A Border Crossings FRASER 158	2B Transnational Migration Flows FRASER 157	2C Theorizing Migration in Capitalism FRASER 152
3 pm	COFFEE BREAK FRASER LOUNGE		
3:30 pm	3A Gendered Mobilities FRASER 158	3B Border Controls FRASER 157	
5:30 pm	Reception at the First Peoples House REGISTERED CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS & INVITED GUESTS ONLY		
7 pm	ALBERT HUNG LECTURE Disappeared, banished, murdered and displaced Climate change or neoliberal capitalism? What is happening to indigenous communities in the 21 st century? Linda Tuhiwai Smith University of Waikato FRASER 159 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC		

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2015

8:30 am	BREAKFAST FRASER LOUNGE		
9:30 am	PLENARY Advocacy, Activism & the Academy ROUNDTABLES & DISCUSSION FRASER 159		
12 pm	LUNCH FRASER LOUNGE		
1 pm	4A Displacement & Self-Determination FRASER 158	4B Stories of Migration & Mobility FRASER 157	4C Discourses & Media FRASER 152
2:30 pm	COFFEE BREAK FRASER LOUNGE		
3 pm	5A Unexplored Mobilities FRASER 158	5B Transnational Institutions & Governance FRASER 157	
4:30 pm	CLOSING PLENARY Closing Thoughts and Reflections FRASER 159		
6 pm	Post-Conference Action Planning Meeting OFF CAMPUS PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED		

6. CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The three-day conference program consisted of three public keynote lectures, two plenaries and 13 sessions organized into five concurrent series.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2015

RECEPTION Registration & Welcome Reception

Join us to celebrate the opening of the conference and the launch of the new online journal *Migration, Mobility, & Displacement*.

KEYNOTE 1

Undocumented: The Architecture of Migrant Detention

Tings Chak – No One is Illegal (Toronto) & the End Immigration Detention Network

In the past six years, over 80,000 people have been jailed indefinitely in Canada, without charge or trial. This is the reality of immigration detention in Canada, a reality that is mostly invisible. Migrants are incarcerated because they are undocumented. Likewise, there is little trace to be found of these sites of detention — drawings and photos are classified; access is extremely limited. The detention centres, too, are undocumented. This presentation will highlight the graphic novel, *Undocumented: The Architecture of Migrant Detention*, which details the banality and violence of sites and contrasts them with stories of daily resistance among immigration detainees. This work is grounded in grassroots organizing in solidarity with immigration detainees through No One Is Illegal (Toronto) and the End Immigration Detention Network.

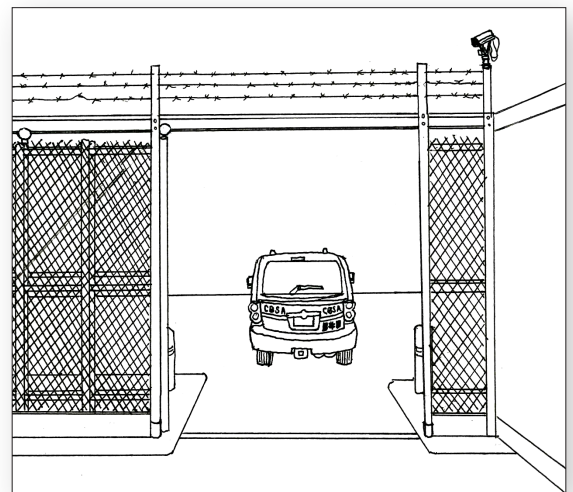


Image from *Undocumented: The Architecture of Migration Detention* by Tings Chak

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015

1A Contesting Conceptual Borders

Panel Chair: Jennifer Smith

- Sabina Chatterjee – York University
Laying Our Stories Bare: Racialized People, Colonization, and Decolonization in Canada
- Jo-Anne Lee – University of Victoria
North American Asian Feminist Studies: Precarious Border Crossing Pedagogy and Curricula
- Shanti Robertson – University of Western Sydney, Institute for Culture and Society
Statuses, temporalities, brokerages and the state: new directions for Australian migration research
- Reeta Tremblay – University of Victoria
Borders, Territoriality and Displacement in Conflict Zones: A Case Study of Citizenship and Property Rights of the Internally Displaced in Jammu and Kashmir (co-authored with Rekha Chowdhary)

1B Colonialism, Im/mobility & Displacement

Panel Chair: Leslie Butt

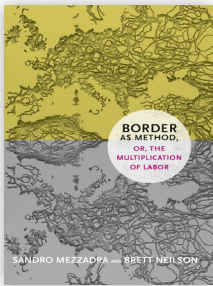
- Paul Castrodale – University of Victoria
From Supply Chain to Empire: Land, Migration and Value in Late Capitalism
- Sarah Hunt – Vancouver Island University
Re-thinking Reserves: Law, Space & Indigenous Resurgence
- Syed Hussan – Migrant Workers Alliance for Change
Stolen labour on stolen land

- Benjamin Lawrence – University of Victoria
UNDRIP, IFC Performance Standard 7 and Indigenous Rights in Cambodia

1C Migrants' Struggles

Panel Chair: Guoguang Wu

- Cenen Bagon – Committee for Domestic Workers' and Caregivers' Rights
Live-in Caregivers in Canada and Their Struggle for Landed Status Now!
- Annette Beech – Victoria Filipino Canadian Caregivers Association
Recent changes to Canada's Live-In Caregiver and Temporary Foreign Workers programs and their impact on workers
- Chandu Claver – Migrante BC & Bayan-Canada
Diaspora, Migration Experiences, and Organizing Work: The Migrant Filipino Experience
- Ellene Sana – Center for Migrant Advocacy
Migrant Workers Crossing Borders with Dignity: Advocating for the Rights and Dignity of Filipino Migrant Workers and Their Families



KEYNOTE 2

What's at stake in the mobility of labour? Borders, Migration & Late Capitalism

Sandro Mezzadra – University of Bologna

This lecture will begin with a short discussion of some influential works on the mobility of labor in historical and contemporary capitalism and draws upon Mezzadra's recently published book with Brett Neilson, *Border as Method, or, the Multiplication of Labor*. Following a discussion of the significance of the proliferation of borders in the global age from the point of view of "late" capitalism, the talk will focus on the subjective stakes of the politics of migration, providing instances from many parts of the world (including the Asia-Pacific region).

2A Border Crossings

Panel Chair: Marlea Clarke

- Jessica Ball – University of Victoria
Children and families on the move: Challenging dominant discourse about statelessness in the context of transnational labour movements in Indonesia (co-authored with Leslie Butt, University of Victoria, and Harriet Beazely, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia)
- Tyler Chartrand – York University
Disappearing Data on Migrant Workers: Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker and International Mobility Programs
- Johan Lindquist – Stockholm University
Migration Infrastructure and Labour Circulation in the Indonesian-Malaysian Oil Palm Complex
- Antje Missbach – Monash University
IOM's anti-people smuggling campaigns and their implications for asylum seekers' mobility and their search for protection in Indonesia and beyond

2B Transnational Migration Flows

Panel Chair: Cindy Ann Rose-Redwood

- Carolyn Choi – University of Southern California
Learning English in the 'First World' and 'Third World': South Korean Educational Migration to the U.S. and the Philippines
- Justin Kwan – University of British Columbia, Institute of Asian Research
Cross-Strait Flows and Interactions: The identity and belonging of Mainland Chinese in Taiwan
- Suhan Shim – University of British Columbia
Human Rights of Resident Koreans in Japan for Legal Status and Social Discrimination in Japanese Society Comparing with Yanbian Koreans in China (Korean Diapsora)

2C Theorizing Migration in Capitalism

Panel Chair: Victor V. Ramraj

- Thahn Phan – University of Victoria
Trans-Pacific Partnership and the movement of businesses in Vietnam: an outlook from the migration point of view
- Selim Reza – Flinders University
Labour Migration and Precarious Construction Work in Bangladesh: Myths and Realities of Neoliberalism
- Nandita Sharma – University of Hawaii at Manoa
Anti-Immigration Politics in the Postcolonial New World Order
- Kate Sheill – Independent Consultant, GAATW & Amnesty International
Current conceptual and practical challenges in working to address trafficking in persons

3A Gendered Mobilities

Panel Chair: Helen Lansdowne

- Gwen Chapman – University of British Columbia
& Sanzida Habib – Independent Scholar
Accessing Healthcare and Parenting Information in a Neoliberal Era: Experiences of Immigrant Women in Metro Vancouver
- Evelyn Encalada Grez – York University & Justice for Migrant Farm Workers
Transnational Emotions, Transnational Organizing for Migrant Justice
- Rhacel Parrenas – University of Southern California
The Gendered Citizenship of Migrant Domestic Workers
- Andreea Torre – University of the South Pacific & Alessio Cangiano – University of Oxford & the University of the South Pacific
Gendered mobilities, border controls and neoliberal agendas in contemporary Oceania

3B Border Controls

Panel Chair: Leslie Butt

- Nicole Constable – University of Pittsburgh
Surveillance and the Ins and Outs of Prison for Migrant Workers, Asylum Seekers, and Overstayers in Hong Kong
- Charity-Ann Hannan – Ryerson University
Towards a Sanctuary Province: Ending the abuse and exploitation of illegalized migrant workers in Ontario
- Sandy Irvine – Wilfred Laurier University
Overseeing Overseas: Governing Canada's extraterritorial migration policy directed towards illegal migration from Asia to Canada
- Corey Robinson – York University
Governing Irregular Migration Beyond the Border: Canada's Efforts to Combat Human Smuggling at Home and Abroad

RECEPTION

Pre-lecture reception with complimentary food and refreshments was held in the First Peoples House and followed by the Albert Hung Chao Hong lecture by Linda Tuhiwai Smith.



Conference participants and invited guests attended a reception in the Ceremonial Hall of UVic's First Peoples House prior to the Friday night keynote by Linda Tuhiwai Smith.

KEYNOTE 3

Disappeared, banished, murdered and displaced – Climate change or neoliberal capitalism? What is happening to indigenous communities in the 21st century?

Linda Tuhiwai Smith – University of Waikato

In the indigenous world it is difficult to ignore the scale and pervasiveness of on going colonialism, continuing displacement, the physical, social and cultural death of our women, our men and our children, our communities, languages and cultures. From Disappeared and murdered women, to high suicide rates, to forced closures of communities and environmental exile, many indigenous communities are struggling to stay alive while governments never seem to learn the lessons of past mistakes. This talk identifies a series of major displacements of indigenous populations across the Asia Pacific region, as well as discusses the policies of neoliberal indigeneity and how these policies and alliances across jurisdictions are leading to a new wave of displacement and exile of indigenous peoples.

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2015

PLENARY 1 Advocacy, Activism & the Academy: Roundtables and Discussion

These panels will promote dialogue on the conference themes and will provide an avenue for spirited and productive debates with conference delegates. Formed around central themes, each panel will be responding to a series of questions before opening the floor to the delegates.

Panel One – Moderator: Helen Lansdowne

- What are the biggest transformations that have occurred in the past decade around human displacement, transnational migration and mobility and what does that tell us about what we can expect in the future?
- If global capitalism and neo-colonialism is shaping everyday life for so many, what makes migration/mobility/displacement such an ongoing point of contention?
- Borders are unsafe places for many. What are some transformative technologies or human practices that can defuse this trend? Are there examples?

Panellists:

- Evelyn Encalda Grez – York University & Justice for Migrant Farm Workers
- Syed Hussan – Migrant Workers Alliance for Change
- Eni Lestari – International Migrants Alliance
- Johan Lindquist – Stockholm University
- Kate Sheill – Independent Consultant, GAATW & Amnesty International

Panel Two – Moderator: Annalee Lepp

- Where are sites for collaboration across stakeholders (researchers, policymakers, front-line workers and activists) that are most conducive to bringing about constructive change in the lives of mobile populations?
- What forms of mobilization make a difference and why? What are successful models and what can we learn from them?
- Massive movements and problems/concerns/priorities often trump local, hidden groups and important but overlooked problems/concerns/priorities. What is the best scale for thinking about problems/concerns/priorities?

Panellists:

- Rhacel Parrenas – University of Southern California
- Mary Purkey – Mae Sot Education Project
- Ellene Sana – Center for Migrant Advocacy
- Rachel Silvey – University of Toronto



The Running Wolves Drum Group from the Victoria Native Firendship welcomed the conference and Linda Tuhiwai Smith prior to her keynote address on Friday night.

4A Displacement & Self-Determination

Panel Chair: Jessica Ball

- Sean Ashley – Capilano University
Migration, Enclosure and State Capitalism along the Thai-Burmese Border
- Mary Purkey – Mae Sot Education Project
Seeking Self-Determination through Education: The Experience of the Burmese Migrant Community on the Thai-Burmese Border
- Chris Vasantkumar – Macquarie University
On the Ironic Consequences of Closed Borders: Tibet before and after 2008

4B Stories of Migration & Mobility

Panel Chair: Annalee Lepp

- Eni Lestari – International Migrants Alliance
Stories of Domestic Workers in Hong Kong
- Lisa Mitchell – University of Victoria
Beyond the Migrant Family: Childlessness and Mobile Filipinas
- Rachel Silvey – University of Toronto
Body/Market: Making and Managing Indonesian Overseas Labour Migrants

4C Discourses & Media

Panel Chair: Feng Xu

- Wei Bu – Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Institute of Journalism and Communications
Migrant Workers, Communication and Empowerment in China
- Julie Ham – Monash University
Constructing 'Asian-ness' in the Australian and Canadian sex industry

- Bindu Menon – Lady Shri Ram College for Women
Transnational Religious Publics: Migration, Visual Culture and Jama'at-e-Islami in South Asia and the Middle East
- Kilim Park – University of British Columbia, Institute of Asian Research
No Longer a "Damsel in Distress": Indonesian Migrant Women Returnees in Cities Renegotiating Their Identity

5A Unexplored Mobilities

Panel Chair: Melissa Gauthier

- Jessica Ball – University of Victoria & Sarah Moselle – UNESCO Asia-Pacific Region
Living Liminality: Myanmar Children Living as Forced Migrants in Thailand
- Denise Spitzer – University of Ottawa
Selling Entrepreneurship to Filipino and Indonesian Migrant Workers in Asia
- Huifang Wu – China Agricultural University
Dancing Solo: Women Left Behind in Rural China
- Brenda Yeoh – National University Singapore
Who Cares? Left-Behind? Children in the Absence of Migrant Mothers at the Southeast Asian End of the Global Care Chain

5B Transnational Institutions & Governance

Panel Chair: Lisa Mitchell

- Alessio Cangianno – University of Oxford and the University of the South Pacific & Andreea Torre – University of the South Pacific
Beyond the 'triple win' mantra: a critique of managed migration policies in the South Pacific
- Harrison Ellis – University of Victoria
Voluntary Assisted Return and Repatriation: A Collision of State Interests and Humanitarianism
- Christina Hamer – Bilkert University
Asylum and the Spectre of Settlement: When countries choose according to integration potential
- Caitlin Henry – University of Toronto
Balancing Human Rights at the Intersection of Migration, Health and Work

PLENARY 2 Closing Thoughts & Reflections from the Keynote Speakers

Moderator: Feng Xu

7. CALL FOR PAPERS

The Call for Papers was distributed in November 2014 with a deadline of February 27, 2015. We receive 45 responses to our call in addition to the 27 papers we solicited with specific invitations. Ultimately, the conference included presentations from 52 speakers.



CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

Migration and Late Capitalism: Critical Intersections with the Asia-Pacific and Beyond

June 11-13, 2015

University of Victoria, BC, Canada

Plenary Speakers:

Linda Tuhiwai Smith, University of Waikato | Sandro Mezzadra, University of Di Bologna
Tings Chak, University of Toronto and No One Is Illegal

The Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives' Migration and Mobility Program seeks paper proposals for an interdisciplinary conference to be held in June 2015. Deadline for submissions is February 27, 2015.

In 2013, the global migrant population was estimated at 232 million people or 3.2 per cent of the world population, up from 175 million in 2000 and 154 million in 1990. In the last two decades, scholars and policymakers have theorized and analyzed the causes, necessities, and consequences of this steady growth in transnational and regional mobile populations within the context of late capitalism, neo-colonialism, intensifying global circuits of power, and national security regimes. Migrant justice activists have simultaneously exposed and mobilized around transforming the punitive, dehumanizing, and exploitative laws and policies as they affect various categories of migrants—documented, undocumented, refugees, and asylum seekers.

The Migration and Mobility Program in the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives at the University of Victoria is pleased to host a three-day conference, which will bring together researchers, policymakers, and activists from diverse disciplinary and regional locations, including East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and North America. The purpose is to discuss new theoretical directions, interdisciplinary approaches, and critical dialogues on migration and mobility in the context of late capitalism with a particular, but not exclusive focus, on the geopolitics of the Asia-Pacific region. We are pleased to announce that we have received a \$25,000 SSHRC Connection Grant to support our plans to make this a dynamic and diverse conference.

Key themes to be explored include:

- Policy Advocacy, Activism, and Mobilization
- Border Security and Surveillance
- Colonialisms, Imperialisms, and Late Capitalisms
- Indigenous Displacement and Mobility
- Environmental Degradation
- Migration Flows, Experiences, and Strategies
- Religion and Migration

We especially welcome proposals for papers, presentations and workshops from civil society and community members, and ones that do not necessarily conform to typical academic conventions.

Submission Deadline: February 27, 2015



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Submission Instructions

To submit a proposal for a paper, workshop or complete panel, please send the following information to: MigrationConference@uvic.ca.

- Name of presenter(s)
- Institutional affiliation(s) or Organization(s)
- Contact Information (email)
- Title of paper, workshop, or panel
- Short abstract or description (no more than 200 words)
- For panel proposals please include a rationale for the panel as well as a title and brief description of each paper.

Submission Deadline: Friday, February 27, 2015

Registration

Registration will open on February 1st – fees include breakfasts, lunches, coffee and snacks.

Fees

Before April 15, 2015

\$100 – Early registration

\$150 – Early registration (*includes \$50 contribution to Community Member / Student Conference Fund)

After April 15, 2015

\$150 – Regular registration

\$200 – Regular registration (*includes \$50 contribution to Community Member / Student Conference Fund)

OTHER REGISTRATION CATEGORIES (*subsidized by Community Member / Student Conference Fund)

\$50 – Civil Society / Community Member registration

\$50 – Student registration

(*We encourage those who are financially able to contribute an extra \$50 to the Community Member / Student Conference Fund. This will help to make the conference accessible to community members/students who might not otherwise be able to attend.)

More Information

[Migration & Late Capitalism Conference](#) | MigrationConference@uvic.ca
[Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives](#) | [Migration and Mobility Program](#)



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8. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We gratefully acknowledge the financial contributions of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Albert Hung Chao Hong lecture series and the University of Victoria through the following units:

- Office of the Vice-President Research
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Social Science
- Department of Anthropology
- School of Environmental Studies
- Department of History
- Department of Political Science
- Department of Women's Studies
- Centre for Global Studies

9. NEXT STEPS

The conference organizing committee is committed to the development of three ways to disseminate the knowledge created at and through the conference, namely:

- **Migration and Late Capitalism Post-Conference Report** – to be disseminated to all participants with the explicit acknowledgement that it may be used by any person or organization involved in the Conference;
- **Short video** that is a montage of the full conference that will be completed in the next eight months and disseminated to everyone involved in the Conference ([link to video on Vimeo.com](#));
- **Special Edition of Migration, Mobility & Displacement (e-journal)**, with the potential for a graphic novel edition.

In addition, following on the success of the Migration and Late Capitalism conference, CAPI's Migration & Mobility Program has been asked to host the **2017 Canadian Association of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies**. The 10th Annual CARFMS Conference will be held at UVic May 18th–21st, 2017 on the theme of *"Forgotten Corridors – Global Displacement & the Politics of Engagement"*.

Theme Statement

Never before in modern history have so many people been forced to leave their homes and journey to other places for either permanent or temporary settlement. Much attention in the west has been directed at the steady flow of refugees leaving war torn countries and ending up on the shores of the Mediterranean. However, many displaced people remain neglected or forgotten, traveling little watched corridors en route to a temporary destination, or waiting in detention centers, refugee camps, or makeshift housing. Hierarchies of human mobility make many migrants' lives precarious, and demand attention, visibility and engagement necessary to make transformations.

The CARFMS17 conference invites researchers, policy makers and activists from diverse disciplines and regions to discuss the parameters of global displacement, especially the experiences of those taking routes less traveled, and to address the complex negotiations and obligations required for a politics of engagement.

CARFMS17 CONFERENCE
CONFÉRENCE ANNUELLE DE 2017

MAY 18–21, 2017
VICTORIA, BC

FORGOTTEN CORRIDORS

**Global Displacement &
the Politics of Engagement**



**10th Annual Conference of the
Canadian Association for Refugee
and Forced Migration Studies**

**Hosted by the Centre for
Asia-Pacific Initiatives at the
University of Victoria**



CARFMS / ACERMF



**University
of Victoria**

Centre for
Asia-Pacific Initiatives

www.carfms.org

10. CAPI'S MIGRATION & MOBILITY PROGRAM

The world is facing unprecedented levels of mobility and migration, and this increasing flow of workers from rural to urban areas and across country borders has deep and profound impacts on development. Once treated as separate issues, the intersections between migration and development are being increasingly recognized on the global stage.

CAPI is excited to support a dedicated Migration & Mobility Program (MMP), which brings together experts in the field from all over the world to share expertise and knowledge of migration and mobility issues related to Asia. The MMP's first two research projects have received funding from the Social Sciences, Humanities and Research Council of Canada.

The Migration & Late Capitalism conference extended the work of the MMP and began a wider discussion on the pressing issues of migration and mobility.

The MMP is also home to a new online, open access, peer-reviewed journal. We were thrilled to launch the inaugural issue of *Migration, Mobility, & Displacement* at the conference!

Hosted research projects

Women, migration and family

"Asian women, migration and family in the global era," is exploring the impact of migration on the family and reproductive lives of a new generation of skilled migrant women, particularly from Indonesia and the Philippines, who leave home to work abroad in Canada, Australia and Singapore. This research fills an important gap in scholarly understanding about migration and the effect it has on the family and on decisions concerning children within a new era of "global parenthood."

Leslie Butt (CAPI and Anthropology, UVic) and Lisa Mitchell (Anthropology, UVic) are working in collaboration with Nicole Constable (University of Pittsburgh) and Deirdre McKay (Department of Geography, Keele University, UK).

Stateless children in Indonesia

The research team, Leslie Butt (CAPI and Anthropology, UVic), Jessica Ball (Child and Youth Care, UVic) and geographer Harriot Beazley (USC, Australia), are exploring how migrant parents who travel illegally understand the idea of citizenship for their children. The team has travelled to Indonesia to interview Indonesian migrant parents who regularly work in Malaysia, often in disempowering and dangerous conditions. The team is investigating what options parents consider when they are faced with the expectation that they will register their children and conform to state expectations around citizenship and belonging, and what experiences of statelessness mean to them.

Open access migration journal

Migration, Mobility, & Displacement is an online, open-access, peer-reviewed journal. It seeks to publish original and innovative scholarly articles, juried thematic essays from migrant advocacy groups and practitioners, and visual essays that speak to migration, mobility and displacement that relate in diverse ways to the Asia-Pacific. The journal welcomes submissions from scholars and migrant advocacy groups that are publicly engaged, and who seek to address a range of issues facing migrants, mobile and displaced persons, and especially work which explores injustices and inequalities. This journal provides immediate open access to its content on the principle that making research freely available to the public supports a greater global exchange of knowledge.





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Migration & Mobility Program
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