

## **TIEDI Forum, October 7, 2011 Presenter's Bio**

### **Introduction**

[Dr. Philip Kelly](#) is the Principal Investigator for TIEDI. He is Associate Professor in Geography at York University, and former Domain Leader for Economic and Labour Market Integration at the CERIS - The Ontario Metropolis Centre. His research examines the consequences of migration and transnationalism for labour markets and workplaces, with a particular focus on the Filipino community in Toronto and sending areas in the Philippines.

[Joan Atlin](#) is the Director of Programs for the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC). She has over 20 years experience in the non-profit sector, with most of the last 10 years focused on policy, program, and advocacy work on the issue of labor market and licensing integration of internationally-trained professionals. Joan holds a Master's degree in Political Science from York University.

### **Presentation 1**

[Dr. Steven Tufts](#) is an Associate Professor of Geography at York University. He studies the role organized labour plays in economic development processes. Specifically, he has extensively researched Toronto's hotel sector, an industry employing a proportionately high number of immigrant workers. Dr. Tufts has explored the role organized labour plays in shaping economic development and training initiatives in the hospitality industry.

**Stella Park** is the Project Coordinator of TIEDI. She analyzes monthly LFS updates, factsheets and analytical reports. She responds to rapid data requests from community's stakeholder organizations and supervises TIEDI's graduate student analysts. In addition to working at York university, Stella is also studying towards her Ph.D. degree in Sociology in University of Toronto conducting research on the socioeconomic integration of children of immigrants in Canada.

**Sophia Lowe** is the Manager of Community Engagement and Knowledge Exchange at World Education Services. WES is a not for profit organization with over thirty years' experience evaluating international credentials. She frequently publishes and presents on issues related to immigration,

credential recognition and the labour market integration of immigrants in Canada. Sophia received her Master's degree from Ryerson University in the Immigration and Settlement Studies program.

**Dr. Rupa Banerjee** is an Assistant Professor in Human Resource Management at Ryerson University. Her research focuses on the social and economic integration of new immigrants in Canada. She is also interested in the employment outcomes of second generation Canadians. Currently Rupa is investigating the impact of post-migration human capital investment on new immigrants' workplace integration.

### **Presentation 2 (John Shields, Lucia Lo, Jelena Zikic)**

**Dr. John Shields** is Professor of Political Science and Co-Director of the MA program in Public Policy and Administration at Ryerson University. Professor Shields has extensive experience researching and working in the areas of immigration studies and labour market integration. He has specialized recently on restructuring and the challenges of labour market integration, and on service delivery and the shifting roles of NGOs.

**Dr. Lucia Lo** is Professor of Geography at York University. She was formerly Economics Domain Leader at CERIS - The Ontario Metropolis Centre, and was a member of the Research Management Committee of the Geomatics for Informed Decision Making, Network Centre of Excellence. She has worked on the labour market participation and performance of immigrants, their entrepreneurship and consumption behaviour, and their social and economic impacts on Canadian society.

**Dr. Jelena Zikic** is an Associate Professor of Human Resources Management at York University. Her research program focuses on career management issues, combining individual and organizational perspective. She is currently studying career transitions of immigrant professionals. Her recent work included studies on the role of human and social capital in the immigrant career transitions and their coping strategies. Her qualitative work looked at career issues and structural barriers facing foreign medical professionals as well as IT professionals.

### **Presentation 3 (Philip, Erika, Valerie, Tony)**

- **Philip** (see above)

**Erika Gates-Gasse** is the Policy and Research Coordinator for the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI). OCASI was formed in 1978 to act as a collective voice for immigrant-serving agencies and to coordinate response to shared needs and concerns. With a background in social justice, Erika has been involved in numerous research initiatives focused on immigrants and refugees, most recently the Making Ontario Home study that examines services available to, and usage by, immigrants and refugees.

[Dr. Valerie Preston](#) is Professor of Geography at York University and York Director of CERIS - The Ontario Metropolis Centre. She has published extensively about immigrants' economic integration with particular attention to the settlement experiences of immigrant women and the interrelations between immigrants' integration in the housing and labour markets.

[Dr. Tony Fang](#) is Associate Professor of Human Resources Management at York University. Previously he was a business and labour market analyst at Statistics Canada, and a research economist at Human Resource Development Canada. His research focuses on the labour market outcomes of recent immigrants to Canada, compensation and benefits, public and HR policy, union impact on wages, pay equity and employment equity.

#### ***TIEDI Student Research Assistants:***

- **Zainab Coovadia**, Undergraduate student, York University
- **Laura Lepper**, Geography Masters student, York University
- **Nathan Prier**, Geography Doctoral student, York University
- **Jeff Priest**, Geography Masters student, York University
- **Chris Vanden Berg**, Undergraduate student, York University