

CENTRE FOR REFUGEE STUDIES

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This report covers the period of May 2004 to April 2005

Mandate

The Centre for Refugee Studies is engaged in research on refugee issues; it informs public discussion as well as policy development and practice innovation by international, governmental, advocacy and service organizations; and it supports teaching in refugee and migration studies. Refugee studies is conceived in broad terms, as being concerned with the displacement of populations and individuals across and within borders, for reasons of persecution, expulsion, violence, violation of fundamental human rights and loss of essential human security and livelihood. It covers not only accommodation, protection, and assistance for refugees through asylum, settlement, resettlement and reintegration, but also the prevention of displacement. Its approach is necessarily interdisciplinary and respects diversity in perspectives.

Organizational Structure and Staffing

The centre is managed by a Director with the support of a full-time Coordinator. They report to an 8-person Executive Committee, which represents all the constituencies of the centre, namely faculty members and associates, visiting scholars and research associates, students, and staff. The Executive Committee reports to still more broadly representative council of about 35 members, in which the ultimate decision-making authority of the centre is vested (within the rules of the university). Student members also belong to a formally recognized Student Caucus. Standing Rules govern the decision-making processes. During the past year, CRS affiliation criteria were revised putting more focus on the reciprocal nature of the relationship.

Susan McGrath completed her first year as CRS Director assisted by Michael Lanphier as Deputy Director and Lawrence Lam as Education Coordinator (with responsibility for the Diploma and Certificate programs). Prof. Sharryn Aiken, who joined the Faculty of Law at Queen's University in 2002, continued as Editor in Chief of the centre's journal *Refuge*. In the annual Summer Course on Refugee Issues, Bruce Collet took over as Summer Course Director.

Michele Millard replaced Myron McShane as Coordinator of the Centre in August 2004. The position of Resource Centre Coordinator, once filled by Donald Mitchell, remained empty due to budgetary constraints. CRS currently has 4 work-study students, two graduate assistants, and four research assistants on research projects. Shirley Fletcher has continued as Financial Officer.

The Centre had two visiting scholars during the year. Dr. Kohki Abe from Japan and Dr. Lucille Guilbert from Laval University in Quebec.

2004-2005 CRS Executive Committee

Shukria Dini, PhD student
Michael Lanphier, faculty, associate director
Haideh Moghissi, faculty
Mark Goodman, faculty
Pablo Bose, research associate and PhD student
V. Vijayakumar, research associate
Michael Creal, faculty, emeritus
Nergis Canefe, faculty
Larry Lam, faculty, education coordinator
Michele Millard, coordinator
Susan McGrath, director

York University Faculty Affiliated with the Centre (2004-2005)

The following are York Faculty Members associated with the Centre for Refugee Studies

Irving Abella	Ilan Kapoor
Howard Adelman	Philip Kelly
Vijay Agnew	Lawrence Lam
Ranu Basu	Michael Lanphier
Nergis Canefe	Paul Lovejoy
Michael Creal	David Paul Lumsden
Tania Das Gupta	Susan McGrath
David B. DeWitt	Haideh Moghissi
Jean-Pierre M.B. Diamani,	Obiora Okafor
Don Dippo	Peter Penz
Wenona Giles	Valerie Preston
Abbas H. Gnamo	Fahimul Quadir
Luin Goldring	Saeed Rahnema
Mark Goodman	Anthony Richmond
Ian Greene	Richard Saunders
Femida Handy	Alan B. Simmons
Mohammed Hassan	Penny Van Esterik
Pablo Idahosa	Daphne Winland
Lesley A. Jacobs	Yuklin Renita Wong
Nancy Johnston	

Activities in 2004-2005

Student Activities

Students are actively involved in a range of activities at the Centre and are increasingly more present using the computers and office space. Most of these students are enrolled in our

undergraduate certificate or graduate diploma programs. We have two Graduate Assistantships (GA), one provided by the VPRI and the other hired by the Centre. They provide valuable assistance in organizing our weekly seminars, providing research assistance to proposals, assisting with conference submissions, organizing CRS activities, and supporting student involvement in the Centre. Eight students were recruited as interns for the Summer Course, they assisted with the planning and administration of the course and in turn participated in the course with their fee waived. We also had a number of students volunteer at the Centre primarily working in the resource centre.

Student Caucus

The graduate students have formed a caucus that provides valuable peer support. Doctoral students Pablo Bose, James Cowan, Sasha Baglay and Bruce Collet have been particularly active in the caucus along with Martin Jones a graduate law student. In October 2004, the caucus organized a two day graduate student conference on refugee and forced migration issues. Attendance was excellent and the quality of papers presented was high. The conference is now an annual event, with the next conference planned for February 2006.

Conferences

Sudan Studies Association 24th Annual Conference

CRS committed to host the Sudan Studies Association 24th Annual Conference in August 2005. The Sudan Studies Association is an independent professional society founded in the United States in 1981. Membership is open to scholars, teachers, students, and others with interest in the Sudan. The Association exists primarily to promote Sudanese studies and scholarship. SSA works to foster closer ties among scholars particularly in the Sudan, North America, Europe, the Middle East and other places.

International Association for the Study of Forced Migration

The Centre submitted a successful bid to host the 10th Conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM). The multi-disciplinary International Research and Advisory Panel (IRAP) Conference was established by the Refugee Studies Programme, University of Oxford, in January 1990. Thereafter four annual conferences were held in Oxford, with attendance growing from 60 to over 200 by 1994. In that year the decision was taken to establish the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM) as an independent international professional association. IASFM has held five further conferences since 1996. The strength of these conferences has always been their multi-disciplinary character, their international composition, and the mix of researchers, policy makers and practitioners, including refugees themselves. Currently held every two years, they provide an interdisciplinary forum for intellectual exchange and communication among academic researchers, refugee professionals and policy makers, and stimulate debate on research priorities and policy issues. A particular emphasis is placed on the discussion of research in progress in an environment that allows

regional comparisons of findings. Martin Jones a York graduate law student will coordinate the conference for the Centre and is sitting on the planning committee. A website (IASFM10.org) has been set up and funding proposals are being developed. Susan McGrath has joined the Executive Committee of IASFM.

Canadian Council for Refugees

The Centre will also host the semi-annual consultation of the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR), Canada's umbrella NGO for immigrant and refugee issues. The consultation will be held concurrently with the IASFM conference to further encourage Canadian participation particularly with the international NGO sector.

Conference organizing committees were struck and the search for funding commenced, with particular attention paid to bringing international participants to all conferences.

Seminars

The regular "brown bag" seminars of CRS and other special events sponsored by CRS consisted of the following:

1. *"The Challenges of Private Refugee Sponsorship in Canada"* Guest Speaker: Martin Mark
2. *"The Image of Refugees and the National Imagination: A Brief Portrayal of Contemporary Legal and Social Discourses in Japan."* Guest Speaker: Kohki Abe
3. *"Between Fear and Hope: The Work of African Human Rights Defenders."* Guest Speakers: Hassan Shire and James Torh
4. *"Refugees' Learning Experiences in Camps and During Migration"* Guest Speaker: Professor Lucille Guilbert
5. *"Politics versus Humanitarianism: Refugees and IDPs from Darfur"* Guest Speaker: Howard Adelman
6. *"The Current State of Refugees in Canada"* Guest Speaker: Francisco Rico-Martinez
7. *"Access to professions and trades from a point of view of 'rights' and 'identity' discourse as opposed to merely as one of access to employment"* Guest Speaker: Uzma Shakir
8. *"The Refugee Claim of Jeremy Hinzman: Should he stay or should he go?" (The Status of Military Service Evaders in Canadian Refugee Law)* Guest Speaker: Martin Jones
9. *Development and Diaspora: Partition, Refugees, and the Politics of "Home"* Guest Speaker: Pablo Bose
10. *Book Signing and Presentation about Tom Clark's new book "Global Refugee Regime: Charity, Management and Human Rights"* Guest Speaker: Tom Clark
"Living and working in the Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut" Guest Speaker: Samer Abdelnour

11. *Presenting sexual orientation and HIV, including 'history' and issues/barriers* Guest Speaker: El-Farouk Khaki, Barrister and Solicitor
12. *The Sanctuary Movement: what it is and why it exists* Guest Speakers: Mary Jo Leddy and Michael Creal
13. *Global Apartheid in the 21st Century: Refugee Trends and Issues* Guest Speaker: Anthony Richmond
14. *The Material Culture of Chilean Exile: A Transnational Dialogue* Guest Speaker: Joan Simalchik
15. *Torture in the Age of Terror* Guest Speaker: Ezat Mossallanejad
16. *Panel Discussion: 20 Years After the Singh Decision: What Has Become of Refugee Rights in Canada?* With Guest Panelists: Michael Lanphier, Professor of Sociology; Gladys MacPherson, Director of the Immigration and Refugee Intensive Program at Osgoode Hall Law School; Debbie Hill-Corrigan, Executive Director of Sojourn House, a shelter for refugees.

Refuge

Refuge is an interdisciplinary scholarly journal published by CRS to provide a forum for discussion and critical reflection on refugee and forced migration issues. The editor is Prof. Sharryn Aiken of Queen's University Faculty of Law. This year the journal moved from 4 editions annually to two double issues per year. Refuge received three year SSHRC funding in 2005. The subscriber base is healthy and will continue to grow. The following issues were produced in 2004-2005:

Volume 22, No. 1. New Approaches to Asylum

Volume 22, No. 2. Betwixt and Between: Refugees and Stateless Persons in Limbo

Teaching and Training

Certificate and Diploma Programs

The Centre offers a Certificate in Refugee and Migration Studies at the undergraduate level and a Diplomal in Refugee and Migration Studies at the graduate level. The graduate diploma program had 42 students registered at the end of the teaching year and the parallel undergraduate Certificate program had 34 students registered. In the 2004-2005 academic year, there were a total of 49 new enrollments in both programs. The programs are supervised by Dr. Larry Lam with the assistance of a work study student.

CRS Summer Course

CRS annually offers an eight day intensive summer course in refugee studies. Mr. Bruce Collet managed the course during the 2004-2005 academic year. Over 120 applications were received from around the world for the course which was advertised to hold only 70. CRS staff necessarily had to apply some rigor to the awarding of seats due to this volume, which resulted in highly talented and experienced participant pool. In the end, the 2005 Summer Course had 72 participants (academics, field-based service providers, government and non-government organization representatives, UN representatives, advocates) who represented 13 countries.

Evaluations of the 2005 Summer Course were highly favorable. Participants gave the course overall a 1.63 rating on a 1-5 scale, where 1 = Excellent. Further, on the same scale

participants gave the simulation exercise a score of 1.71. The majority of the attendees found the course materials to be highly useful, and gave course faculty very favorable rankings. All in all the 2005 course was deemed to be a success.

Reclaiming the Evaluation Agenda

This one-day seminar on evaluation for agencies working with refugee communities was planned with the Ontario Council for Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI) and facilitated by Gersh Subhra, a senior lecturer from the School of Education, Health & Sciences, University of Derby, UK. Based on the success of the seminar, Professor Subhra and CRS are planning to develop a training program housed at OCASI and supported by CRS. Professor Subhra developed the evaluation approach with settlement sector agencies in the UK and has used it with agencies in the GTA. Effective evaluation is a major concern of the sector as they face increased measures of accountability from funders.

Research Projects

Research is central to the work of the Centre for Refugee Studies. The Centre's research has been characterized by its comprehensive approach to issues related to forced migration. Current faculty members involved in the Centre have determined the following research priorities.

The themes include:

- Canada's asylum policies and practices
- Global asylum needs, national practices, and international burden-sharing
- Refugee and diasporic communities and their internal, intranational and transnational relationships
- Peace implementation, return, reconciliation, reconstruction, and reintegration
- Globalization, development, environment, conflict, and displacement
- Sovereignty, civil conflict, and humanitarian intervention
- Refugee NGOs and IGOs: challenges and dilemmas

In addition, the following cross-cutting themes have been identified:

- Ethics, human rights, and public discourse
- Gender, women, and children
- Vulnerability and agency
- Emerging realities and potential futures

Several projects currently anchor the Centre. They are as follows.

SSHRC Strategic Cluster in Refugee Research

In the fall of 2004, Susan McGrath was the lead applicant on a successful SSHRC Cluster Grant (\$30,000). Working with four co-applicants from across the country, the project is designed to develop a network of scholars on refugee issues. Regional Consultations were held in Toronto, Edmonton and Montreal to develop a research agenda for Canada. To ensure this agenda is comprehensive and reflective of the needs of the field, we asked

researchers in academia and the NGO sector, practitioners and policy makers to participate in its development. Our goal was to identify the research needs and interests, and the strategies and the partnerships required to address them. Potential funding mechanisms were also explored. To support ongoing discussions about the clusters research, a Refugee Research Listserve was created, with over 140 subscribers from across Canada and internationally.

A poster was presented in Ottawa in February at a 2 day conference attended by Susan McGrath and Sharryn Aiken. A concept paper was submitted to SSHRC in the spring of 2005. The cluster proposes a systematic and dedicated space for the sustained interactive engagement of three sectors: Canadian and international researchers, NGO partners and government policy makers. This cross-sector approach will ensure that the issues identified are relevant to the refugee field, that the relationships to sustain the research are in place and that the dissemination will be timely and appropriate. SSHRC is working to secure more funding for the cluster program. The agenda developed and the relationships established continue to inform the work of the Centre.

African Human Rights Defenders Projects

This project is in the second phase of its development. It has been divided into two separate projects: West African Human Rights Defenders Project (WAHRDP) headed by CRS Research Associate James Torh; and the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP) headed by CRS Research Associate Hassan Shire Sheikh. Funding proposals have been submitted to IDRC for both projects.

The West African Human Rights Defenders Project is planning a regional conference in Dakar, Senegal for May 2005. The purpose is to create an effective network in West Africa that will enable co-ordination among various human rights activists and NGOs in the region. The launch of a coordination office that will co-ordinate and serve as a hub for research and activism in the sub region is also planned. The Third phase of the project is currently being developed in order to respond to the lack of an efficient and sustainable network.

The East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project recognizes the necessity for coordinated support for Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) at risk within the sub-region and plan to hold a regional conference on October 30 - November 4, 2005 in Entebbe, Uganda. The plan is to lay the foundation for the long-term legitimacy, recognition and credibility of the work of local HRDs, while continuing to minimize their short-term personal and material insecurity. The conference will bring together national coalitions of human rights defenders for regional consultations and networking.

Social cohesion and international migration in a globalizing era: transnational solidarities and newcomer incorporation in Canada

This project is in its final year of a Strategic Grant from SSHRCC. The project principal investigator is Michael Lanphier and the ten research sub-projects and the respective co-investigator teams are as follows:

The Latin American Group (Chileans, Columbians, Salvadorans, Guatemalans): Dr. Judith

Bernhard, Dr. Luin Goldring, Dr. Patricia Landolt;

Guatemalans in Vancouver and Latin Americans in Northern BC: Dr. Catherine Nolin

The Kurdish Group: Dr. Kh. Mohammed Hassan, Mr. Khashayar Hooshiyar, Dr. Michael Lanphier

Cambodians: Dr. Janet McLellan

Vietnamese: Dr. Louis-Jacques Dorais

Ethiopians: Dr. Frehiwot Tesfaye

Kosovars and Ismailis: Dr. Jennifer Hyndman

Filipinos: Dr. Philip Kelly

Croats: Dr. Daphne Winland

The Tamil Group: Dr. Sarah Wayland, Dr. R. Cheran

Fieldwork has been located in five settlement sites. Research has been conducted for the most part in Montréal, Toronto, and Vancouver, but in addition, Prince George, BC and Sudbury, have been used as field sites.

This year research has been devoted to the following topics:

Immigrant family settlement issues (such as access to healthcare, schools and employment opportunities) and Latin American institutional formation in the Toronto area;

Social and, to a lesser extent, economic transnationalism among Latin American newcomers in northern British Columbia;

Adaptation of Kurds to Canadian society in light of recent upheavals in the Iraqi homeland and the effect of these recent events on transnational activities, including plans to return;

Aspirations of Cambodian youth as well as longer-term social and economic adaptation of Cambodian arrivals during the 1980s; a video of social life and certain festival celebrations is being filmed in the later months of 2005.

Ethiopian community development as a mechanism of accommodation and adjustment to a new social-cultural environment;

For Kosovars and Ismailis in smaller urban centres in BC: impact of recent arrival status on transnationalism. The transnational activities of voluntary and involuntary Ismailis from East Africa have also been compared.

Among Filipinos: labour market experiences in Toronto, Filipino entrepreneurship in Toronto, labour market segmentation in the healthcare sector, the construction of class identities among deprofessionalized immigrants, and political integration and social integration.

For Croats: the establishment and revitalization of political associations; networking of Croatian groups with Canadian humanitarian organizations and relief agencies; immigrant and refugee services in Toronto; familial, financial, and political links to the homeland, and efforts of Croatian politicians in Canada to lobby for and coordinate investment in Croatia.

For Tamils: The major themes of the research are the extent of transnational involvement, (including remittances), family connections, and political activities.

For Vietnamese: Research addresses the history of migration, governmental support, community and religious organization, the integration of the young, transnational links, remittances, and return trips to Vietnam.

Although the funding of the project will terminate in early 2006, dissemination of research findings will continue in the form of presentation of papers at scholarly meetings as well as publication in professional journals. A comparative monograph is in its early planning stage. A list of published materials during the past year only is included.

Bernhard, J., P. Landolt and L. Goldring. 2005. "Transnational Multi-local families". Working Paper. Toronto: CERIS.

Nolin, Catherine. "Spatializing the immobility of Guatemalan transnationalism in Canada". *Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*, 29 (57 & 58), 2004, 267-288.

McLellan, Janet. "Cambodian Refugees in Ontario: Religious Identities, Social Cohesion and Transnational Linkages". *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, XXXVI, No. 2, 2004, pp. 101-118.

Kelly, P.F. "Class Struggle: Filipino Immigrants and the Quest for Identity". *The Philippine Reporter*, March 1-15. 12 ms pages. 2005.

Kelly, P.F. "Understanding Labour Market Segmentation: Filipina Healthcare Workers in Transnational Toronto" (with Silvia D'Addario). *Atlantic Metropolis Conference*. Halifax. November 19, 2004.

Cheran, R., co-authored with S. Aiken. "International Migration and Remittance: A Case Study of *Undiyal* (Tamil Money Transfer Network)". 2005.

Wayland, Sarah. "Nationalist Networks and Transnational Opportunities: The Sri Lankan Tamil Diaspora". *Review of International Studies* 30, 2004, 405-26.

Rebuilding Health in Rwanda

This is a Tier 2 University Partnerships in Cooperation and Development project funded through the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and Canadian International Development Agency. The Canadian Principal Investigator is David Cechetto,

Faculty of Medicine, University of Western Ontario. Susan McGrath is a co-investigator and is the Canadian lead of one of three project teams, Specialized Training in the Care of Women and Children Traumatized by Violence. York is a participant Canadian institution. The Rwandan partner is the Kigali Health Institute. The funding was announced in March 2005 and is valued at \$1.5M over six years.

Adapting a European Experiential Training Program for Settlement Workers at Risk of Vicarious Trauma and Burnout

Susan McGrath was awarded a York Internationalization Grant (\$7500) in December 2004 to develop this project. The goal is to improve the settlement experience of traumatized refugees and immigrants in Canada with the development of a training program for agency staff and government officials who work with them. The project will run a pilot of a successful training program developed in Europe by Dr. Lilla Hardi, a psychiatrist with the Cordelia Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims in Hungary, with workers in agencies in the settlement sector in the Toronto area. The training module will improve the capacity of York's social work students to work with refugees and immigrants who have experienced trauma. York also has an opportunity to provide professional training to interested workers in the settlement sector, the Immigration and Refugee Board and related fields. Sustainability of the program will be explored with the development of a non-degree course in York's Department of Continuing Education. Dean Lenton has contributed \$5000 to support this development.

Ethics of Development-Induced Displacement

This project is lead by former CRS Director Peter Penz. During the past year, the Ethics of Development-Induced Displacement (EDID) Project has focused primarily on dissemination and publication activities. On October 25-26, 2004, the EDID Project organized a workshop entitled "Ethics, Development and Displacement" at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. Participants included representatives from the Canadian policymaking, NGO, and business communities as well as academics and researchers from Carleton, York, Guelph, Trent, UBC, University of Toronto, the University of Florida, and the University of Ottawa. The workshop was highly successful and provided the EDID Project with an opportunity to receive feedback on a draft set of guiding principles on development-induced displacement, currently being prepared as a policy brief. Researchers associated with the EDID Project have also been involved in intensive work to prepare several academic publications over the past year. The first of these -- a collection of case studies on development-induced displacement -- will be launched by the University of British Columbia Press in Spring 2006, as a featured publication at the 2006 Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities. A second set of case studies is being prepared for publication by an Indian publisher (Manohar Press) for late fall 2006, while a third volume on the ethics of development and displacement will be released in early 2007.

Changing family dynamics in displaced communities of Islamic Origin: An Educational/Training Program

This successful project headed by Prof. Haideh Moghissi and funded by the Ford Foundation was completed in April 2005. The project created an interactive educational program for front-line researchers (academic and practitioners) in the Palestinian Territories. The program included (but was not confined to) researchers involved in a large comparative, cross-national Major Collaborative Research Initiative, MCRI project that was funded in 2001 by the Social Sciences and Humanities research Council of Canada (SSHRC),

The project objectives were:

- 1) to create an inclusive, interactive Educational/Training Program to share and exchange knowledge and expertise in three related areas: a) gender and family relations in an Islamic context; b) research methodology and ethics in relation to the study of gender and Islam and c) policy development and intervention with regards to gender and family instability and family violence;
- 2) to create a democratic consultative/collaborative forum for disseminating of research findings and sharing the knowledge acquired in the process of the SSHRC-funded research (MCRI) regarding family relations. Together, the Educational/Training Program and the Consultative/Collaborative forum seek to build new knowledge and to explore collective means of influence and intervention in the existing power relations and social conditions of women's lives.

Research Proposals

The following are new initiatives which have been submitted for funding and/or are being revised or developed for future submission.

Community Coalition for Enhancing Immigrant and Refugee Education and Services

A letter of intent was submitted to SSHRC's Community University Research Alliance program in December 2004. Dr. Don Dippo of the Faculty of Education has the lead and Bruce Collet a CRS Research Associate has provided research and writing support. The proposal is an innovative approach to addressing the needs of children in the Toronto school systems who struggle with the impacts of migration and re-settlement. It is a creative partnership of social service providers, teachers, parents and university researchers allowing for full participation by all constituents in the identification and implementation of community-based research projects.

Public Policies and Migration to Australia, Canada, the UK and the US

Dr. Lucia Lo of the Department of Geography at York and CERIS was the lead on the letter of intent submitted to the Population, Migration and Environment Foundation and the Metropolis Project. CRS and CERIS were part of an international network of major immigrant research institutions in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States organized to examine the limits and possibilities of public policies in influencing migration decisions between developing and developed countries. The primary purpose of this study is to understand the nature of the various macro, meso and micro factors and assess their importance to the migratory decisions made by immigrants and refugees. The LOI was one of eight selected by the funders and a more detailed proposal is to be submitted in May 2005.

Conflict Transformation Project: Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods and Grassroots Enterprise Development in Darfur and Southern Sudan

Dr. David Wheeler of the Institute for Research and Innovation for Sustainability (IRIS) and the Schulich School of Business has the lead on this project and Susan McGrath and CRS are collaborating along with universities in Sudan, the US and the UK. This is a proposal to promote sustainable livelihoods and grassroots enterprise development initiatives in Darfur and the South of Sudan. The ultimate objective is to create self-sustaining approaches to local economic development based on the human, social, ecological, physical and economic assets of Sudan and its people through the stimulation of self-replicating systems of capacity-building for sustainable enterprise and self-reliant livelihoods. This will in turn lead to enhanced physical, social and economic security for women and the poor more generally. Development funding is being sought from IDRC with discussions for potential long term funding being held with the World Bank and the International Labour Organization. The project will be presented at the Sudan Studies Association conference in August.

CCR/CRS Researcher

In collaboration with the Canadian Council for Refugees, CRS developed a proposal to fund a full-time researcher with expertise in community-based research. The researcher would act as research liaison between NGOs, CRS faculty and other academic and community researchers bringing together various stakeholders as community-based research interests and proposals are identified. In addition, the researcher would maintain a full time presence at the CRS Resource Centre, oversee the work of student library assistants (who are primarily engaged in cataloguing and responding to research queries), and collect or purchase resource materials for the resource centre in consultation with CRS. Work at identifying and approaching funders is currently under way.

Harnessing the World's Knowledge to Assist Refugees: The Vision for a Global Refugee Knowledge Centre

The Centre for Refugee Studies would like to build a Knowledge Centre unifying and leveraging the experience and efforts of the many organizations and individuals working all over the world to aid displaced populations. Its envisioned Knowledge Centre will work closely with existing resource centres (such as the one maintained at Oxford University) while at the same time developing collaborative relationships with lesser-known, but locally specialized research and resource centres interested in making their work available to a wider global audience. Being virtual, the facility can be used by anyone, anywhere; having some physical presence (at York University as well as at sister institutions overseas), it can host and organize events. A proposal was developed for the Aga Khan Foundation but was not carried forward by York University Foundation. The Centre continues to explore alternative funding possibilities.

A Multidisciplinary and Transatlantic Curriculum in Public Policy and Security International Program

Under the coordination of Dr. Liette Gilbert of the Faculty of Environmental Studies, CRS was part of a York University initiative submitted to the French America Cultural Exchange Foundation for Academic Partnerships proposing a three-trimester transatlantic program on international security. The other partners were the UCLA School of Public Affairs and Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris. The proposal was submitted in February 2005.

Proposal for the Establishment of a New Publication on Settlement

In January 2005, CRS submitted a proposal to the Director of the Settlement Division of Citizenship and Immigration for the creation and funding of a new periodical on settlement issues. The new publication was to serve as a bridge between the scholarly and community segments of the Canadian settlement sector. Although having a scholarly core, the publication would solicity commentary and contributions from the settlement sector at large and seek to forge ties between researchers and service providers. In April, the Centre was notified that the proposal had not been funded.