

# Centre for Refugee Studies Annual Report 2019 – 2020

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### 1. Contact Information:

<b>Name of Director</b>	Sean Rehaag
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<b>Email address</b>	srehaag@osgoode.yorku.ca
<b>Campus address</b>	853 Kaneff Tower
<b>Administrative contact</b>	Michele Millard
<b>ORU website</b>	<a href="https://crs.info.yorku.ca/">https://crs.info.yorku.ca/</a>

### 2. Original and Current Charter Dates

Original Charter Date: 1988

Current Charter date: July 2015 - June 2020 (one-year extension to June 2021)

### 3. Mandate

The Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS) at York is an interdisciplinary community of researchers dedicated to advancing the well-being of refugees and others displaced by violence, persecution, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation through innovative research, education, and policy engagement. Since its inception in 1988, CRS has been recognized as an international leader in the creation, mobilization, and dissemination of new knowledge that addresses forced migration issues in local, national and global contexts.

Its vision for 2015-2020 is “to be the leading refugee studies and forced migration research centre in North America, producing and disseminating new knowledge and critical analysis that enhances protection for and the well-being of refugees and other displaced people through policy and practice”.

### 4. 2019-2020 Outstanding Accomplishments

This year saw the successful transfer of leadership from former Director Jennifer Hyndman to the current Director, Sean Rehaag. The transition was supported by the hard work of CRS Coordinator Michele Millard, whose extensive experience proved invaluable.

In his first year as CRS Director, Professor Rehaag was the principal applicant on three successful external grant applications, and a co-applicant on four further grant applications. CRS is particularly excited that among his successful applications is a SSHRC Insight Grant that will lead to the establishment of the *CRS Refugee Law Laboratory*. This laboratory will bring together researchers to undertake interdisciplinary empirical and quantitative work on refugee law, with a focus on the rapid development of artificial intelligence and machine assisted decision-making in the border control field. CRS anticipates that the grant will be leveraged as seed funding for other multi-year opportunities.

Overall, in 2019-20, CRS supported 12 external research grant applications by affiliated principal applicants, requesting over \$10 million in funding. Many of these applications are currently being adjudicated. We are especially pleased that four applications were submitted by emerging scholars without tenure track positions, who were only eligible to apply by virtue of their affiliation with CRS. Two of these emerging scholars have since been offered tenure track positions – and their record of external funding applications no doubt played a part in strengthening their files. Two further applications were by York faculty members who are emerging scholars and had not previously submitted external funding applications. CRS also supported a SSHRC postdoctoral application and a Law Foundation of Ontario Fellowship application for a practicing lawyer. The former was successful, and the latter is currently under review.

The year was a productive one for CRS affiliated researchers. In addition to the many other publications listed below, the year saw the culmination of the \$2.1 million SSHRC Cluster Grant project hosted at CRS, *Creating a Refugee Research Network: Globalizing Knowledge*. The project's final publication was a book reflecting on successes and challenges of the project: [\*Mobilizing Global Knowledge: Refugee Research in an Age of Displacement\*](#). Several CRS

faculty, staff, affiliates and students contributed to the book, which is available on an open-access basis to facilitate access by scholars in the Global South. CRS is very proud of the project, which laid the groundwork for one of the most extensive networks of scholars working on forced migration around the world – a network that we will continue to foster and support.

As usual, this year CRS welcomed visiting researchers from around the world and hosted many research events. One of our focuses was building links with other communities at York. As such, several CRS research events were co-hosted by other organizations, including:

- Canadian Association of Refugee Lawyers (Osgoode Branch)
- Canadian Forum on Civil Justice
- Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean
- Glendon College
- Hellenic Heritage Foundation
- Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security
- Osgoode Hall Law School
- Osgoode Outlaws
- Parkdale Community Legal Services
- Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies

As an example, CRS and the Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean identified an opportunity to collaborate on the issue of Central American asylum seekers, who face increasing challenges due to problematic US policies. Together we organized a well-attended public talk at the Toronto Public Library on the subject, with speakers from Canada, the US, and Mexico. This was followed by a workshop at York University bringing together activists and scholars to explore how university-based researchers can contribute to improved policy in this area.

The year was also busy for our student programs. We continued to work with students in our diploma and certificate programs, to support student refugees resettled through York's branch of World University Services Canada, to administer bursaries for refugee and non-status students, and to assist CRS Student Caucus with its yearly student conference. We are especially delighted that this year saw the creation of a new scholarship for graduate students working on the intersection between climate change and forced migration. We look forward to celebrating the launch of this scholarship, which will give us an occasion to recognize the contributions of Anthony Richmond, a remarkable scholar, and one of the founding members of CRS.

## **5. Challenges and Areas for Improvement**

### *Capacity:*

The biggest challenge that CRS faces is one that has been noted in several past annual reports: capacity. While CRS is grateful for the funding and support that we receive, current resources limit our ability to forward our agenda – and importantly, to pursue further resources.

The biggest bottleneck in terms of capacity is that the CRS Director position involves significant time commitments, yet Directors continue to have significant outside teaching and administrative responsibilities. Efforts should be made by the VPRI's office to ensure that home faculties and departments for institutional ORU Directors consider directing an ORU as a full administrative load, so that other administrative responsibilities are not added. Further resources also need to be freed up in terms of teaching. One option would be to provide additional teaching credits for ORU Directors (e.g. making ORU Directors comparable to York Research Chairs in terms of teaching load). Another option would be to provide teaching credits for ORU Associate Directors who could share the workload. Still another alternative – one that would preserve current teaching capacity by York faculty – would be to provide funding for ORUs to hire non-faculty Assistant Directors. The latter could be emerging scholars who have not yet secured tenure track positions, including contract faculty at York looking for opportunities to contribute in administrative and research capacities.

It is worth highlighting that it takes capacity to pursue further resources. The current CRS Director hopes to work with advancement on a fundraising strategy – but with all the other responsibilities and limited resources, this did not prove possible this year. It would be worth considering how to create additional capacity to pursue such opportunities within institutional ORUs.

#### *COVID-19:*

The second biggest challenge is one that we are all dealing with: how to respond to the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

CRS is still working out how to continue being a vibrant international research community at a time when in-person events and travel are not feasible. While we have continued with our core activities – including supporting our affiliates in their research and pursuing new funding opportunities – we are still in the early stages of developing online research and knowledge mobilization events. We are particularly appreciative of CRS Resource Centre Coordinator, Faida Abu-Ghazaleh, who has helped us maintain an online version of our longstanding weekly “Turkish Coffee” meetups, which have kept the CRS community connected during this time of social distancing.

While COVID-19 has no doubt resulted in many challenges, we also see this as a time of opportunity. Many external CRS affiliates are unable to attend our in-person events – especially refugees and other displaced people who cannot freely travel. Developing online venues for research and knowledge mobilization may provide these valued members of the CRS community with new ways to engage with us, which we hope to continue when we are once again able to gather in person.

Unfortunately, one of the challenges brought on by COVID-19 has exacerbated our capacity difficulties: because of the disruption, we had to cancel our non-credit Summer Course in May 2020. This had significant financial implications because we had to refund fees despite being

unable to recover most of the expenses (the salaries of the Course Director and Course Coordinator). We have a multi-year plan to recover. One part of that plan is to repurpose some of the resources that we have already paid for, and undertake curriculum redesign to make the course even better in the future. Ultimately, we are hopeful that many of those who were unable to participate this year will join us in future years, and that the Summer Course will continue to be as popular as ever. Nonetheless, because the Summer Course is revenue generating for CRS, this year's cancellation does pose some short-term challenges.

## 6. Financial Position

See Appendix 4.

## 7. Graduate Diplomas and Non-Degree Activities

	<b>Activity Type</b>	<b># Attendees</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<b>1</b>	CRS Summer Course (5 days annually, May)	64	York
<b>2</b>	CRS Diploma	123	York (FGS)
<b>3</b>	CRS Certificate	78	York (LAPS)

## 8. Current activities:

	<b>Activity Type</b>	<b># Attendees</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<b>1.</b>	CRS Annual Student Conference (October)	79	York
<b>2.</b>	CRS Seminar Series (Sept - April, approx. 15-20 events)	Avg. 20-25	York
<b>3.</b>	CRS workshops (3-4 per year)	Avg. 30	York
<b>4.</b>	CARFMS Conference (every other year)	Avg. 150	York, CARFMS, local host (held in different parts of Canada, CRS is the Secretariat)
<b>5.</b>	IASFM Conference (every other year)	Avg. 400-500	York, IASFM, local host (held in different parts of the world, CRS is the Secretariat)

## 9. Space Utilization

See Appendix 3.

## 10. Objectives for Upcoming Year

The main objective for CRS for 2020-21 is to complete our strategic planning and ORU re-chartering process. We had hoped to be in a position to provide an indication of likely directions by the time that this annual report was due. However, our strategic planning process has been delayed by the COVID-19 disruption. We are, nonetheless, on track to complete strategic planning over the summer, and we are confident that we will have an exciting set of objectives to propose in the re-chartering process in the fall.

In addition to re-chartering, in 2020-21 we will continue supporting CRS affiliated researchers with existing projects and with new external funding applications. We will also maintain and improve the CRS certificate and diploma programs. We expect to significantly expand our online knowledge mobilization efforts – including online workshops, lectures and conferences – in light of restrictions on in-person events.

While CRS is in a time of transition, we fully expect that by the end of next year, CRS will be well placed to embark on another five years as one of the world's leading international hubs for refugee and forced migration research that advances the rights and interests of refugees and other displaced people.

*Note: We are not listing our planned events, activities, visitors, etc, for 2020-21. This annual report has been prepared at the height of the COVID-19 disruption, and we are still working out how our plans must be modified.*

## APPENDIX 1: Active Members and Governance

<b>Executive Committee</b>	
<b>In-Person Meeting Date(s): Sept. 17, 2019; Feb. 5 2020 (Additional discussion and votes by email)</b>	
<b>Member</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
1. Christopher Kyriakides	Faculty, Department of Sociology
2. Don Dippo	Faculty, Faculty of Education
3. Dagmar Soennecken	Faculty, School of Public Policy and Administration
4. Jennifer Hyndman	Faculty, Departments of Social Science and Geography
5. Michaela Hynie	Faculty, Department of Psychology
6. Ozgun Topak	Faculty, Department of Social Science
7. Sean Rehaag	Faculty, Osgoode Hall Law School
8. Alexandra Mirowski	PhD candidate, Department of Sociology
9. Nicole Fernandez	MA candidate, Public and International Affairs

<b>Faculty Members</b>			
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Department</b>
1. Don	Dippo	Education	Education
2. Anna	Zalik	FES	FES
3. Mulry	Mondelice	Glendon	International Law
4. Imran	Ali	Health	Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research
5. Michaela	Hynie	Health	Psychology
6. Yuka	Nakamura	Health	Kinesiology
7. Aaida	Mamuji	LA&PS	Administrative Studies
8. Wenona	Giles (Emerita)	LA&PS	Anthropology
9. Antonio	Sorge	LA&PS	Anthropology
10. Daphne	Winland	LA&PS	Anthropology
11. Mohammed	Hassan	FES	Environmental Studies
12. Ranu	Basu	LA&PS	Geography
13. Valerie	Preston	LA&PS	Geography
14. Jennifer	Hyndman	LA&PS	Geography/Social Science
15. Andrea	Emberly	LA&PS	Humanities
16. Alison	Crosby	LA&PS	School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
17. Merouan	Merkouar	LA&PS	Social Science
18. Ozgun	Topak	LA&PS	Social Science
19. Chizuru	Ghelani	LA&PS	Social Work
20. Luann	Good Gingrich	LA&PS	Social Work
21. Susan	McGrath (Emerita)	LA&PS	Social Work
22. Luin	Goldring	LA&PS	Sociology

23. Christopher	Kyriakides	LA&PS	Sociology
24. James	Simeon	LA&PS	SPPA
25. Dagmar	Soennecken	LA&PS	SPPA
26. Nergis	Canefe	LA&PS	SPPA/Political Science
27. Willem	Maas	LA&PS	Political Science
28. Saptarishi	Bandopadhyay	Osgoode	Osgoode Law
29. Amar	Bhatia	Osgoode	Osgoode Law
30. Obiora	Okafor	Osgoode	Osgoode Law
31. Sean	Rehaag	Osgoode	Osgoode Law

<b>Other Members</b>			
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Membership Category</b>
1. Bree	Akesson	Associate Director and Associate Professor, Centre for Research on Security Practices; Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University	CRS Scholar
2. Idil	Atak	Prof. , Department of Criminology, Ryerson University	CRS Scholar
3. Laura	Bisaillon	Prof., Social and Behavioural Health Sciences, University of Toronto	CRS Scholar
4. Nimo	Bokore	Prof., School of Social Work, Carleton University	CRS Scholar
5. Pablo	Bose	Prof., Department of Geography, University of Vermont	CRS Scholar
6. Tom	Clark	Community Scholar	Community Scholar
7. Christina	Clark-Kazak	Associate Professor, School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa	CRS Scholar
8. Noheir	Elgendy	Former Prof. Urban Studies, Cairo University	Independent Scholar
9. Claire	Ellis	Community Scholar, ESPMI Network	Community Scholar
10. Hilary	Evans Cameron	SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow and Adjunct Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School	CRS Scholar
11. Adele	Garnier	Université Libre de Bruxelles	CRS Scholar
12. Lucio Manuel	Gomez de Sousa	Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences and Management, Universidade Aberta (Lisboa)	CRS Scholar
13. Sacha	Guney	Community Scholar	Community Scholar
14. Rola	Koubeissy	Independent Researcher	Independent Scholar
15. Michele	Manocchi	Researcher, University of Western Ontario	CRS Scholar
16. Kevin	McKague	Prof., Sannon School of Business, Cape Breton University	CRS Scholar
17. James	Milner	Prof., Political Science, Carleton University	CRS Scholar



18. Petra	Molnar	Barrister and Solicitor	Independent Scholar
19. Peter	Nyers	Associate Professor, Political Science, McMaster University	CRS Scholar
20. Oladapo Kayode	Opasina	Senior Research Consultant	Independent Scholar
21. Tiffany	Pollock	PostDoc, Children, Childhood and Youth Program, York University	CRS Scholar
22. Morgan	Poteet	Associate Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Mt. Allison University	CRS Scholar
23. Niloufar	Pourzand	PhD, Independent Researcher	Independent Scholar
24. Ajnesh	Prasad	Canada Research Chair (Tier II), School of Business, Royal Roads University	CRS Scholar
25. Fahim	Quadir	Vice Provost, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, Queen's University	CRS Scholar
26. Diane	Riskedahl	Sessional Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto	CRS Scholar
27. Althea-Maria	Rivas	University of Sussex	CRS Scholar
28. Justin	Rogers	Prof., Social Work, University of Bath	CRS Scholar
29. Fidaa	Shehada	Centennial College	CRS Scholar
30. Kathy	Sherrell	ISSofBC	Community Scholar
31. Richa	Shivakoti	Independent Researcher	Independent Scholar
32. Stephanie	Silverman	Lecturer, Trinity College in the University of Toronto	CRS Scholar
33. Ray	Silvius	Associate Professor, Political Science, University of Winnipeg	CRS Scholar
34. Craig	Smith	Munk School of Global Affairs	CRS Scholar
35. Abdul Aziz	Thabet	Emeritus Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry-School of Public Health - Al Quds University- Jerusalem	CRS Scholar
36. Sule	Tomkinson	Department of Political Science, Prof., Political Science, Université Laval	CRS Scholar
37. Luna	Vives	Assistant Professor, University of Laval	CRS Scholar
38. Stacey	Wilson-Forsberg	Associate Professor, Human Rights Human Diversity Program, Wilfrid Laurier University	CRS Scholar
39. Julie	Young	Assistant Professor, Geography, University of Lethbridge	CRS Scholar
40. Meron	Zelege	Associate Professor, University of Bayreuth	CRS Scholar

<b>Graduate Student Members</b>			
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Department/Institution</b>
1. Munira	Abdulwasi, PhD candidate, CRS Writing Fellow	Health	Kinesiology and Health Science, York University
2. Aytak	Akbari-Dibavar, PhD candidate	LA&PS	Political Science, York University
3. Melissa	Anderson, PhD candidate, CRS Writing Fellow	LA&PS	Socio-Legal Studies, York University
4. Ghuna	Bdiwi, PhD candidate	Law	Osgoode Hall Law School, York University
5. John	Carlaw, PhD candidate	LA&PS	Political Science, York University
6. Cansu	Dedeoglu, PhD candidate		Faculty of Information, University of Toronto
7. Mohamed	Duale, PhD candidate	Education	York University
8. Giulia	El Dardiry, PhD candidate		Anthropology, McGill University
9. Azin	Emami, PhD candidate, CRS Writing Fellow		Politics, York University
10. Merve	Erdilmen, PhD candidate		Political Science, McGill University
11. Michael	Gordon, PhD candidate		Political Science, McMaster University
12. Michelle	Lam, PhD candidate	Education	University of Manitoba
13. Rachel	McNally, MA candidate		Political Science, Carleton University
14. Aysegul	Ozgen, PhD candidate		Sociology, University at Buffalo, SUNY
15. William	Payne, PhD candidate	LA&PS	Geography, York University
16. Hiba	Sha'ath, PhD candidate		Geography, York University
17. Dina	Taha, PhD candidate	LA&PS	Sociology, York University
18. Pierre-Andre	Therault, PhD candidate	Law	Osgoode Hall Law School, York University
19. Biftu	Yousuf, PhD candidate	LA&PS	Geography, York University

## **Core Contributions of CRS Affiliated Scholars**

### **Ranu Basu**

#### *Publications*

- Basu, R (2020). Postcolonial Geographies. In: Kobayashi, A. (Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography*, 2nd edition. vol. 10, Elsevier, pp. 283–287. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-102295-5.10857-1>
- Basu, R., Asci, P (2020) Intermediary Cities of Refuge: From Istanbul to Kolkata in Thakur, R, Dutt, A, Pomeroy, G and Thakur S (eds) 'Urban and Regional Planning and Development: 20th century Forms and 21st century Transformations'
- Basu, R. (2019) Geopolitical framings of Subalterity in Education: Compounding a Neoliberalized Welfare State in Meusburger, P. (ed) *Geographies of Schooling*, Volume 14, Knowledge and Space, Springer.

#### *Media*

- May, 2019 Radio interview, Caimanera, Guantanamo, CUBA – on schools and the peace process.

#### *Presentations*

- *Educational Integration in a Tri-City Context*. *Canadian Association of Refugees and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)*, Interrogating Integration. York University, May 2019.
- *Subalterity in Education within the Context of Displacement*, Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS), York University, January 2019.

### **Nergis Canefe**

#### *Publications*

- Canefe, Nergis, *International Criminal Law and Limits of Universal Jurisdiction in the Global South: A Critical Discussion on Crimes Against Humanity*, 2020
- Canefe, Nergis, "Redefining State Sovereignty in the Context of Statelessness," in Nasreen Chowdhory, ed. *The Rohingya Crisis*, Springer Press, 2019
- Canefe, Nergis, "Dispossession, Precarity and Statehood in Contemporary Middle East," in Kenneth Christie and Marion Boulby, eds., *Human Security Reframed*, Berghan Press, 2019
- Canefe, Nergis, "Rethinking Displacement: Transitional Justice and Forced Migration Studies," in Susan McGrath and Julie Young, eds., *New Horizons in Forced Migration Studies*, University of Toronto Press, 2019

#### *Presentations*

- 2019 "Globalizing Histories of Displacement," Paper presenter at the International Workshop on A Century of Human Displacement and Dispossession, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- 2019 Invited Guest Lecturer, Center for Refugee Studies Summer School, Toronto, Canada "Ethics of Witnessing and Critical Thoughts on Methodologies of Work with Human Suffering." Toronto, Canada

## **Alison Crosby**

### *Presentations*

- Member of a joint CRS-CERLAC working group that organized a series of events in 2019-20 around the Central American migration crisis with invited speakers from Canada, the US and Mexico, including a public event on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020, *Central American Migrants in Limbo: Transit Experiences and Grassroots Responses*, and a workshop on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, *Researchers & Activists Working Together to Support Central American Migrants*.

## **Don Dippo**

### *Grants*

- Open Society Foundation, “Borderless Higher Education for Refugees”, May 2019 – May 2020, \$455,000 USD (administered by the Faculty of Education) – BHER has moved to Education, but CRS remains involved with dissemination and KM support.

### *Publications*

- Wenona Giles and Don Dippo, “Transitions from Knowledge Networked to Knowledge Engaged: Ethical Tensions and Dilemmas from the Global to the Local” for *Mobilizing Global Knowledge: Refugee Research in an Age of Displacement*. Susan McGrath and Julie Young (Co-Editors), University of Calgary Press, 2019.

### *Presentations*

- Don Dippo (Chair), Abdi Bashir, Kassahun Hiticha, Abulong Okello, Abdi Aden, Deka Shahow, Dahabo Ibrahim, “Pursuing Graduate Studies as Refugees, Part Two” (ZOOM from Dadaab, Kenya), Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS), York University, Toronto, May 2019.

## **Luann Good Gingrich**

### *Publications*

- 2019 Good Gingrich, L. & Enns, T., A reflexive view of refugee integration and inclusion: A case study of Mennonite Central Committee and the Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program. *Refuge: Canada’s Journal on Refugees/revue canadienne sur les réfugiés* 35(2), 9-23.
- 2019 Good Gingrich, L. & Young, J.E.E. Borders for profit: Transnational social exclusion and the production of the NAFTA border. *International Journal of Migration and Border Studies* 5(1/2), 64-81.
- 2019 Good Gingrich, L. *Refugee Newcomer Sponsorship and Social Inclusion: York U-MCC Ontario Research Report*. Kitchener, ON: Mennonite Central Committee Ontario (<https://mcccanada.ca/media/resources/10460>); *Refugee Newcomer Sponsorship and Social Inclusion: A Learning Resource*. Kitchener, ON: Mennonite Central Committee Ontario (<https://mcccanada.ca/media/resources/10461>).

### *Presentations*

- 2020 Differential inclusion, soft domination, and good intentions: A reflexive examination of refugee sponsoring relationships. Balsillie School of International Affairs, Lunch and Lecture Series. Waterloo, ON. January.
- 2019 The Paradox of Social Inclusion: A Reflexive Analysis of Common Sense. Canadian Sociological Association Annual Conference, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia. June.

- 2019 (With T. Enns & K. Perez). Religious heritage, institutionalized ethos, and synergies: Mennonite Central Committee and Canada's Private Sponsorship of Refugees Program. Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies Annual Conference, York University, Toronto, ON. May.

## Jennifer Hyndman

### Publications

- Hynie, M., S. McGrath, J. Bridekirk, A. Oda, N. Ives, J. Hyndman, N. Arya, Y. B. Shakya, J. Hanley, K. McKenzie (forthcoming) "What Role Does Type of Sponsorship Play in Early Integration Outcomes? Syrian Refugees Resettled in Six Canadian Cities", *Refuge* 35(2): 36-52.
- Weima, Y. and J. Hyndman (2019) "Humanitarian Government, Refugee Governance and Pushback: global and local approaches", in K. Mitchell et al. (eds.) *Handbook on Critical Geographies of Migration*. Edward Elgar Press, 30-44.
- Labman, S. and J. Hyndman (2019) "BVOR [Blended Visa Office-Referred Refugees] Briefing Note", May 1. At <https://crs.info.yorku.ca/files/2019/04/BVOR-Briefing-2019-May1.pdf>

### Presentations

- "Analyzing the Sponsors" in 'Global Prospects for Private and Community Sponsorship in Refugee Resettlement' at the International Metropolis Conference, Ottawa, June 24-28, 2019.
- "Private Refugee Sponsorship: the puzzle of BVORs", Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, York University, Toronto, May 14-16, 2019.
- "Situating Private Sponsors as Citizens in Canada's Syrian Resettlement Program" [co-presenters S. Labman & J. Zyfi] 17<sup>th</sup> IASFM Conference, Thessaloniki, Greece, July 24-27.

## Michaela Hynie

### Publications

- Hynie, M., Tuck A., Oda A., Agic, B., & McKenzie, K. (2020). Health care and the Canadian Syrian Resettlement Initiative: Understanding Syrian newcomers' needs and health care access in context. In A. Korntheuer, D. B. Maehler, P. Pritchard, & L. Wilkinson (Eds.), *Refugees in Canada and Germany: Responses in policy and practice* (pp 171-188). (GESIS-Schriftenreihe, 25). Köln: GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften. <https://doi.org/10.21241/ssoar.66728>
- Hynie, M., Nayak, P.K., Gomes, T., & Abdillah, I. (2019). Refugee sponsorship and Canada's immigration policy in times of climate change. In P. E. Perkins (Ed.), *Local and global climate justice: Activism in the Great Lakes watershed*. (pp. 95-107). New York: Routledge
- Hynie, M., McGrath, S., Bridekirk, J., Oda, A., Ives, N., Hyndman, J., Arya, N., Shakya, Y. B., Hanley, J., McKenzie, K., and SyRIA.lth. (2019). What role does type of sponsorship play in early integration outcomes? Syrian refugees resettled in six Canadian cities. *Refuge*, 35(2), 36-52.
- Tuck, A., Oda, A., Hynie, M., Bennett-AbuAyyash, C., Roche, B., Agic, B., & McKenzie, K. (2019). Unmet health care needs for Syrian refugees in Canada: A follow up study. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-019-00856-y>

### *Presentations*

- Hynie, M. (May, 2019). Global issues in forced migration. Presentation at Workshop on Forced Migration Research: From Theory to Practice in Promoting Migrant Well-Being organized by the Committee on Population and Committee on National Statistics, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, Washington, USA. <http://sites.nationalacademies.org/DBASSE/CPOP/Demography-of-Forced-Migration-and-Refugee-Movements/index.htm>
- Hynie, M. & SyRIA.lth (June, 2019). Probing private sponsorship and integration outcomes among Syrians in Canada: a longitudinal approach. International Metropolis Conference, Ottawa, Canada.

### **Christopher Kyriakides**

#### *Publications*

- Christopher Kyriakides, Arthur McLuhan, Karen Anderson, Lubna Bajjali, *Status Eligibilities: The Eligibility to Exist and Authority to Act in Refugee–Host Relations*, Social Forces, Volume 98, Issue 1, September 2019, Pages 279–302, <https://doi.org/10.1093/sf/soy109>
- Christopher Kyriakides, Arthur McLuhan, Karen Anderson, Lubna Bajjali and Noheir Elgendy, *(Mis)trusted Contact: Resettlement Knowledge Assets and the Third Space of Refugee Reception*, Refuge: Canada’s Journal on Refugees, Vol 35.2, Oct. 2019, pp 24-35

### **Susan McGrath**

#### *Publications*

- McGrath, S. & Young, J. (eds.) (2019). Mobilizing Global Knowledge: Refugee Research in an Era of Displacement. University of Calgary Press.
- Lee, Bill, Mirna Caranza, Susan McGrath and Ken Moffatt. (2019). Organizing within Communities That Have Experienced Collective Trauma: Tensions, Contradictions, and Possibilities. In Sarah Todd and Sébastien Savard (eds.) Canadian Perspectives on Community Development. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press, pp. 65-90.
- Hynie, Michaela, Susan McGrath, Jonathan Bridekirk, Anna Oda, Nicole Ives, Jennifer Hyndman, Neil Arya, Yogendra B. Shakya, Jill Hanley, Kwame McKenzie, and SyRIA.lth. (2019). What Role Does Type of Sponsorship Play in Early Integration Outcomes? Syrian Refugees Resettled in Six Canadian Cities. Refuge, 35(2), 36-52.
- Mukashema, I., Bokore, N., King, R., Husain, A., & McGrath, S., (2019). Challenges of Gender Mainstreaming in Collaborative Transnational Research. PEOPLE: International Journal of Social Sciences, 5(2), 252-268.

#### *Presentations*

- McGrath, S. Ives, N. Hynie, M. & Oda, A. (2019). How are Syrian refugees utilizing settlement services in Canada? Canadian Association for Refugee & Forced Migration Studies. Toronto, Canada, May 14-16, 2019.
- Data Modelling Workshop with Catholic Relief Services, July 16-17, 2019. A joint initiative of York’s Centre for Refugee Studies and the Virginia Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Center at Old Dominion University held at Old Dominion in Suffolk Virginia.

## Obiora Okafor

### Publications

- *Refugee Law after 9/11” sanctuary and Security in Canada and the US* (UBC Press, 2020)
- Report to the UN Human Rights Council June 2019 Session on the Criminalization of the Expression of Solidarity to Migrants and Refugees (as the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity)
- Report to the UN General Assembly October 2019 Session on the Criminalization of the Expression of Solidarity to Migrants and Refugees (as the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity)

## Sean Rehaag

### Grants

- “Fact-Finding in Immigration Detention Reviews”, SSHRC Connections, \$14,451
- “Canadian ‘Dreamers’ in Universities and Colleges: Seeking Education, Seeking Status”, SSHRC Partnership Engagement, \$24,226
- “Refugee Law Laboratory @CRS, SSHRC Insight”, \$203,162
- “The legal and humanitarian implications of Canada’s use of executive powers to close the Canadian border to refugees”, York University COVID-19 competition, \$5,000 (seed funding).

### Publications

- “A Snapshot of the Law in the Streets: Reflections of a Former Parkdale Academic Director” (2020) 32 *Journal of Law and Social Policy* 32.
- “Judicial Review of Refugee Determinations (II): Revisiting the Luck of the Draw” (2019) 45:1 *Queen’s Law Journal* 1
- [“Canada must not be complicit in the U.S. assault on Central American refugees”](#) in *The Conversation (Canada)* (28 July 2019), online, republished in *The Province* (6 August 2019) (with Francisco Rico Martinez)
- [“A growing source of Canadian asylum-seekers: US citizens whose parents were born elsewhere”](#) in *The Conversation (US)* (12 June 2019), online, republished in *The Houston Chronicle* (12 June 2019)

### Presentations

- “Recherche sur le système de détermination du statut de réfugié canadien”, Journée annuel de formation du Centre communautaire juridique de Montréal (Montreal, 2019)
- “Judgments v Reasons in Federal Court Refugee Claim Judicial Reviews: A Bad Precedent?”, Canadian Law and Society Association (Vancouver, 2019) (with Pierre-André Thériault)
- “Quantitative Research on Refugee Status Determination”, Building a Shared Agenda Workshop: Collaborating on Socio-Legal Research to Improve Refugee Status Decision-Making (Toronto, 2019)
- “Northern Triangle Refugee Claimants in Canada’s New Refugee Determination System”, Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (Toronto, 2019)
- “Experimenting with Credibility Assessments”, York University’s Centre for Refugee Studies, Annual General Meeting (Toronto, 2019), University of Manitoba’s Robson Hall Faculty of Law, Distinguished Visitor Lecture Series (Winnipeg, 2019) & University of Windsor’s Faculty of Law (Windsor, 2019)



## Craig Damian Smith

### Publications

- Smith, C., *Changing U.S. Policy and Safe-Third Country “Loophole” Drive Irregular Migration to Canada*, Migration Policy Institute, Oct 16, 2019  
<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/us-policy-safe-third-country-loophole-drive-irregular-migration-canada>
- Smith, C., Hoffman, S., *Will Canada Suspend Its Safe Third Country Agreement With the United States?* Foreign Policy, November 16, 2019  
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/11/06/canada-suspend-safe-third-country-immigration-united-states/>

### Presentations

- "On the Move in North America: Asylum Seekers in Canada, the US, and Mexico," Centre for Refugee Studies, York University, 26 November 2019.
- "'Caravans', Displacement in Central America, and the Future of the Safe Third Country Agreement: How Canada Can Cope with US Policy Change," Pathways to Prosperity Conference Plenary Panel, Montreal, 22 Nov 2018.

### Media

- "US Too Focused on 'Freezing Out Asylum Seekers' to Fix Deal with Canada: Researcher," [CBC Radio The Current](#), 5 November, 2019.
- "Craig Damian Smith explains parties positions on immigration & refugees," [CBC News Network](#), 11 Oct, 2019.
- "Experts say Scheer's planned to close border 'doomed to failure,'" [Global News](#), 9 Oct, 2019.
- "Experts surprised immigration didn't play more prominent role in federal leaders' debate," [Global News](#), 7 Oct, 2019.

## Dagmar Soennecken

### Grants

- 2019 [Vulnerabilities under the Global Protection Regime](#), H2020 grant (EU consortium lead: L. Leboeuf, MPI, Halle, Germany; 3 million Euros) plus: SSHRC/FRQS funding (\$ 250,000); successful co-applicant (one of three Canadian researchers, lead: D. Nakache, UofO). Status: funded (as of 2020, 3 years, CRS is the supporting ORU).

### Publications

- 2019 ["Patrolling the boundaries of belonging? Courts, law, and citizenship."](#) co-authored with L. Conant, A. Hofman, and L. Vanhala, in *Research Handbook on Law and Courts*, Elgar, eds. S. Sterrett and L. Walker, Elgar.

### Presentations

- 2019 "The refugee crisis in Europe in a comparative context - an opportunity for the advocacy community?" Council for Europeanists (CES), Madrid, June 20.
- 2019 "Refugee advocates, courts and public policy compared," International Political Science Association (IPSA) Research Committee (RC) #09, Prato, Italy, July 24 and Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) (pre-organized panel), Vancouver, June 5.



## Antonio Sorge

### *Presentations*

- 11/2019 Between Anxiety and Opportunity: Populist Reactions to “Rural Decline” in Italy. Joint Annual Meetings of the Canadian Anthropology Society/American Anthropological Association. Conference title: Changing Climates/Changer d’Air. Vancouver Convention Centre. Vancouver, BC.

## Ozgun Topak

### *Publications*

- Topak, ÖE.\* (2019) “Humanitarian and Human Rights Surveillance: The Challenge to Border Surveillance and Invisibility?”. *Surveillance & Society*. 17 (3/4): 382-404.
- Topak, ÖE. (2019) “Border Violence and Migrant Subjectivities” *Geopolitics*. Online first on June 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2019.1626828>
- Topak, ÖE. (2020). “Migration ‘Crisis’ and the Left: In Search of the Political,” in Robert Latham, Julian von Bargen, Niko Block and Adam Kingsmith, (eds.), *Challenging the Right, Augmenting the Left: Recasting Leftist Imagination*. Fernwood Publishing

### *Presentations*

- Topak, ÖE. (Invited) (2019) “Hotspot as a Biopolitical Border: Violence, Surveillance and Waiting in Mytilene Island” Politics of Migration in Turkey: Borders and Integration, Istanbul Commerce University & MiReKoc Conference. December 16, 2019.
- Topak, ÖE. (2019) “The Rise and Fall of Humanitarianism in the Mediterranean” International Metropolis Conference, Ottawa, Canada. June 24-28, 2019.
- Topak, ÖE. (2019) “Identification and Surveillance of Syrian Refugees”. 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mediterranean Studies Association International Congress, University of Crete, Greece. May 29- June 1, 2019.

## APPENDIX 2: Additional Accomplishments

### Funding Proposals Submitted (in review)

Prasanna Balasundaram (external affiliate P.I.), *Refugees as Transitional Justice Actors: A Toolkit for Empowerment and Engagement*, Law Foundation of Ontario, \$73,896 (CRS role: grant administrator)

Saptarishi Bandopadhyay (P.I.), *Creatures of Chaos, Creatures of Order: A history of the relationship between war, environmental collapse, and refugees before and after the emergence of climate change discourse (176-2018)*, SSHRC – IDG, \$50,535, (CRS role: grant administrator). Peer reviewed

Amar Bhatia (P.I.), Sean Rehaag (Co-App), *Measuring the Impact of Community Lawyering*, SSHRC – IDG, \$26,664, (CRS role: grant administrator), (CRS role: grant administrator). Peer reviewed

Chizuru Nobe-Ghelani (P.I.), *Renewing relations with local lands: Exploration of Indigenous and Refugee Relations with the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture*, SSHRC – PEG, \$24,995 (CRS role: grant administrator). Peer reviewed

Luin Goldring (Co-App), Harald Bauder (P.I. Ryerson University), *Cross sector co-creation of knowledge & understanding: Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research partnerships; Networks for research and/or related activities*, SSHRC Partnership, \$2,403,501, (CRS role: research partner, discount on CRS Summer Course registration, KM and dissemination support, workspace) Peer reviewed

Jennifer Hyndman (P.I.), *We are not “all in this together”: The impact of COVID-19 on recent refugee newcomers to Canada*, York University COVID-19 competition, \$18,698

Michaela Hynie (P.I.), *Advancing adolescent mothers' reproductive and sexual health rights*, Global Affairs Canada, \$10,227,707, (CRS role: grant administrator) – not funded

Michaela Hynie (P.I.), *COVID and Recent Newcomers: How are we doing?* MCU Covid-19 Rapid Research Fund, \$81,620, (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

Michaela Hynie (Co-App), Jennifer Bond (P.I.), *Refugee Sponsorship in Canada and Around the World: Insights and Issues in Comparative Perspective*, SSHRC Connections, \$24,947, (CRS role: dissemination and outreach support) Peer reviewed

Michaela Hynie (Co-App), Anna Ziersch (P.I., Flinders University), *Understanding and supporting migrant and refugee integration*, Australian Research Council, AUD\$583,085 (CRS role: research partner) Peer reviewed

Anna Purkey (P.I.), *Prosecuting Solidarity: The Courts and Criminalization of Assistance to Refugees in Europe*, SSHRC – IDG, \$72,097, (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

Craig Damian Smith (external affiliate P.I.), Sean Rehaag (Co-App), *Access to Justice for Refugee Claimants: Measuring the impact of refugee legal aid in Canada*, SSHRC – PEG, \$15,508, (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

Craig Damian Smith (Co-App, Canadian Partner), *Meet2Be - Migrants in Europe: Towards Policies and Practices for Sustainable Integration*, H2020 (UK) Peer reviewed

### Successful Applications Funded

Hilary Evans Cameron (P.I.), *MeetGary in Translation*, Law Foundation of Ontario, \$15,000 (CRS role: grant administrator) Not peer reviewed

Michaela Hynie (P.I.), *GAR Program Evaluation*, YMCA of Greater Toronto, \$50,000 (contract) (CRS role: grant administrator) Not peer reviewed

Sean Rehaag (P.I.), *Fact-Finding in Immigration Detention Reviews*, SSHRC Connections, \$14,451 (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

Sean Rehaag (P.I.), *Canadian "Dreamers" in Universities and Colleges: Seeking Education, Seeking Status*, SSHRC Partnership Engagement, \$24,226 (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

Sean Rehaag (P.I.), *Refugee Law Laboratory @CRS*, SSHRC Insight, \$203,162 (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

Sean Rehaag (P.I.), *The legal and humanitarian implications of Canada's use of executive powers to close the Canadian border to refugees*, York University COVID-19 competition, \$5,000 (seed funding).

Antonio Sorge (P.I.), *ReCentering the Mediterranean: Refugee Resettlement on the Sicilian Borderland*, SSHRC IDG, \$49,701 (CRS role: grant administrator) Peer reviewed

### Events hosted or organized

Total Count – Events: 20		
Category	Total Number Hosted/ Organized	Number Attending
Conference (Annual Student Conference)	1	69
Workshop (legal workshop)	1	20
Short Course: CRS Summer Course	1	64
Lecture: CRS Seminar Series	13	20-25 avg
Film Screening	1	25
Annual Howard Adelman Lecture	1	40
Book Launch	1	40
CRS Open House	1	35

## Publications

CRS, published 3 issues of *Refuge: Canada's journal on refugees*:

- Racialized Refuge (Vol 35.1)
- Refugee Sponsorship: Lessons learned, ways forward (Vol 35.2)
- General Issue with Symposium: Beyond the Global Compacts (Vol 36.1)

CRS produced 22 issues of the *Refugee Research Network Research Digest* that was broadly disseminated online to a global audience.

## Websites

CRS Website: <http://crs.info.yorku.ca/>

CRS Student Caucus Website: <http://crsstudents.wordpress.com>

CRS Summer Course Website: <http://crs.yorku.ca/summer/>

Canadian Association for the Study of Forced Migration (CARFMS) website: <http://carfms.org>

International Association for the Study in Forced Migration (IASFM) website: <http://iasfm.org>

Refugee Research Network website: <https://refugeereseach.net/>

Research in Context website: <https://refugeereseach.net/ms/research-in-context/>

## Twitter

CRS: <https://twitter.com/crsyorku> (1.8K followers)

CRS Director: <https://twitter.com/seanrehaag> (900 followers)

Refugee Research Network: <https://twitter.com/RefugeeResearch> (3.4K followers)

## Facebook

CRS: <https://www.facebook.com/CentreforRefugeeStudies>

CRS Summer Course: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/611304198899243/> (765 members)

Refugee Research Network: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/30614536012/> (41,7K members)

Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/138817499465045/> (3.8K members)

International Association for the Study of Forced Migration:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/450410108332979/> (11.1K members)

## Listervs

CRSNEWSLIST (557 subscribers)

CRSSTUDENTS (172 subscribers)

CCRLIST (1,107 subscribers)

CCRTOR (135 subscribers)

IASFM (559 subscribers)

CARFMS (288 subscribers)

## Youtube Channels

Refugee Research Network: <https://www.youtube.com/user/refugeereseach>

CARFMS: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdDjZTPR3TTD3ik9FcUXAgg/featured>

## Visitors

	Visitor	Home Institution	Position	Visit length	Space provided Y/N
1.	Fabio Pucci	Federal University of São Carlos	Doctoral Candidate	One year	Y
2.	Isabella Stingl	University of Zurich	Research Associate	Seven months	Y
3.	Rachel Humphris	School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham	Lecturer	Three months	Y
4.	Liam Thornton	UCD School of Law, Ireland	Lecturer	One month	Y
5.	Sandra Trebunia	School of Health and Social Care, University of Lincoln, UK	Doctoral Candidate	Six weeks	Y
6.	Asher Goldstein	LINKÖPING UNIVERSITET, ÖSTERGÖTLAND, SWEDEN (Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society)	Doctoral Candidate	Two weeks	Y
7.	Iffat Rahman	African Bar Association	Legal Researcher	Undetermined, due to COVID-19	N (due to COVID-19)

### APPENDIX 3: Space Utilization

CRS Offices					
Room #	Name of Occupant	Occupant Affiliation	Type of Workspace	Length and frequency of Occupancy	Notes
703	Anna Oda	Staff	Closed	To 2022, 5 days/week	Project Office
844	Kathryn Barber Kathryn Dennler	Staff	Closed with no ceiling	Unspecified, 3-5 days/week	CRS Programs (Summer Course/Refuge)
845	Johanna Reynolds	Staff	Closed	Unspecified, 5 days/week	SSHRC Project Office
846	Jennifer Hyndman	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Only office
848	M.K. Hassan	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 3-5 days/week	CRS Education Program Coordinator, only office
849	Michaela Hynie	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Only office
850	Assorted	Visiting Scholars	Closed	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Shared
851	Alison Crosby	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 2-3 days/week	Only office
852	Michele Millard	Staff	Closed	Unspecified, 5 days/week	CRS Coordinator
853	Sean Rehaag	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 3-5 days/week	CRS Director, only office
855	Susan McGrath (retired, but still PI of research projects), other Emerita	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 2-3 days/week	Only office
856	Assorted	Visiting Scholars	Closed	Unspecified, 3-5 days/week	
806	CRS Writing Fellows	Graduate Students	Closed	Unspecified, 3-5 days/week	
807	Assorted	Visiting Scholars	Closed with no ceiling	Unspecified, 5 days/week	
809	Wenona Giles	Faculty	Closed	Unspecified, 3-5 days/week	BHER Project Office
624	Faida Abu Ghazaleh	Staff	Open	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Resource Centre

Shared Space/Equipment				
Room #	Type of Space	Access	Length and frequency of Occupancy	Notes
8 <sup>th</sup> floor Common area	Open Space	Open	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Shared with floor ORUs for lunches, social events, small meetings, student spaces
Photocopier Room	Closed	Key pad	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Shared with floor ORUs
857	Closed	Key	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Meeting rooms shared with floor ORUs, available to other university departments, bookings controlled by ORU coordinators
830	Closed	Key	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Meeting rooms shared with floor ORUs, available to other university departments, bookings controlled by ORU coordinators
810	Closed	Key	Unspecified, 5 days/week	Meeting rooms shared with floor ORUs, available to other university departments, bookings controlled by ORU coordinators
624	Closed	Swipe card	Unspecified, 4 days/week	Resource Centre shared with CERLAC, CERIS and YCAR, also supported by the Homeless Hub, meeting rooms available for bookings, controlled by the resource centre coordinator

**Suggestions regarding space**

Space remains a precious commodity at CRS. The Refugee Lab (one faculty and three students) was installed in May 2019, bringing a surge of new energy to the 8<sup>th</sup> floor but also ‘borrowing’ carrells from the CRS grad student stock during the summer term.

Revisiting the CRS space policy and practice will be a vital dimension of the rechartering process, with priorities for space (re) established.