## Note from the Director

Dear CMS Colleagues and Friends,

As we begin another year adjusting to the ever-shifting demands of the COVID-19 pandemic, I want to take a moment to share three of the many inspiring initiatives underway at the Centre for Migration Studies that speak to the continued commitment of our affiliates and staff to moving our work forward.

The newly launched **UBC Migration Data Hub**, created by Daniel Hiebert (Geography) and Sandra Schinnerl (Interdisciplinary Studies), will allow researchers, students, and immigration practitioners to visualize Canadian immigration data in the form of interactive dashboards. This is just the beginning of an ambitious plan to fill knowledge gaps on immigration and integration so stay tuned on this front!

A second brand-new initiative is the **CMS Working Paper Series** which will showcase the research conducted under the CMS umbrella. The editorial team, composed of Antje Ellermann and Matthew Wright in Political Science and Gaoheng Zhang in Italian Studies, welcome submissions from all CMS affiliates as well as community members who participate in the life of the centre. The Series' first set of issues will feature research projects funded by the CMS Faculty and Graduate Student Collaborations Grants awarded in the fall of 2021.

A third initiative I am excited to share with you is our new **Mentor in Residence Program**. Rima Wilkes (Sociology) will take on this inaugural position to support CMS graduate affiliates in navigating migration studies. You can learn more about all of these initiatives by checking out the links below.

This year will continue with the active in-person, online and hybrid programming of the past year (in case you missed some of these great discussions, check out our recordings). I am particularly excited to announce a third season of our **Global Migration Podcast**. This season's host will be Gabriele Dumpys Woolever (Geography) who will share stories and interviews with local temporary foreign workers. Later this spring, Gabriele will host a fourth season that will take a story-telling approach to the work and research of some of our CMS faculty affiliates and their community collaborators.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the events we have planned for 2022. If you are interested in learning more about the research and conversations happening at the CMS check out our Research Groups, all of which are open to new members. Graduate students are once again invited to present their work in our Migration Grad Student Power Hour which will continue throughout the new term.

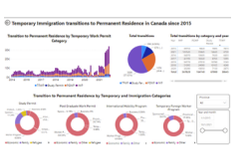
Wishing you all the very best for the New Year,

Antje Ellermann
Director, Centre for Migration Studies
Professor of Political Science

**CMS Season Three Podcast Series.**

The CMS is pleased to announce another season of its Global Migration Podcast. This season shares stories and interviews with local temporary foreign workers.

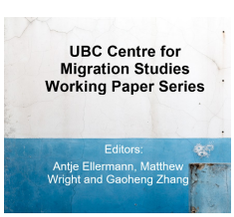
Learn more



**CMS Launches Canadian Immigration Data Visualization Dashboards.**

The CMS is pleased to announce the launch of its UBC Migration Data Hub with a series of nine interactive, searchable visual dashboards drawn from the Government of Canada's Open Government Portal.

Learn more




**CMS Working Paper Series now accepting submissions.**

The Centre for Migration Studies is excited to announce the launch of its Working Paper Series. Working papers share research-in-progress and are meant to invite scholarly discussion and feedback.

Learn more

**IRCC's Deputy Minister and Migration Policy Institute's co-founder share an armchair discussion on the migration dynamics of North America – video recording now available.**

This past Fall the Centre for Migration Studies co-sponsored two very successful hybrid symposia on migration and integration.

Learn more

**Centre for Migration Studies launches its Mentor in Residence Program.**

**Rima Wilkes**, Professor and Graduate Student Chair in the Department of Sociology, will take on this inaugural position to provide advice and support in navigating graduate studies in migration and mobility.

Learn more

UBC Centre for Migration Studies

**Faculty and Graduate Student Collaborations Grant Program creates exciting interdisciplinary research and publication opportunities.**

The inaugural launch of a new grant program within the CMS had an excellent response this Fall resulting in eleven grants of $1000 - $3000 being awarded to support faculty-graduate student research and publication collaborations.

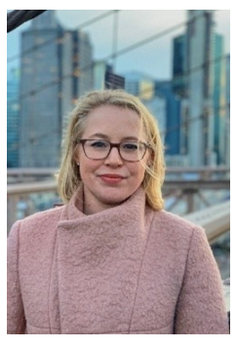
Learn more

SAR CANADA

**Supporting Scholars At Risk Canada.**

The UBC Centre for Migration Studies worked with the Scholars at Risk Network (SAR) and Scholars at Risk Canada (SAR-CAN) to map the short term non-refugee immigration pathways which might be suitable to support resettlement opportunities for Afghan scholars who are seeking protection and to make recommendations on future research and advocacy which might help longer term pathway opportunities.

Learn more

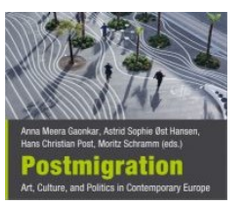


**CMS Executive Committee welcomes new graduate student representatives.**

The Centre for Migration Studies welcomes two new graduate student representatives **Lisa Brunner** (Educational Studies) and**Caitlyn Yates** (Anthropology) to its Executive Committee.

They not only represent graduate student affiliates but contribute to the overall stewardship of the CMS

Learn more




**Publications by CMS Faculty Affiliates.**

Dr. Markus Hallensleben (CENES), Dr. Efrat Arbel (Peter A Allard) and Dr. Yue Qian (Sociology), share their most recent publications.

Learn more

## Newly Released! CMS Season Three Podcast Series

The CMS is pleased to announce another season of its Global Migration Podcast Series. This season shares stories and interviews with local temporary foreign workers.

We interviewed Gabriele Dumpys Woolever, our new host for Season 3 to learn more about the series, and her interests in using sound and sanctuary as research method in studying migrants whose lives are made precarious by qualifications of the state. As an MA candidate in the Department of Geography working with Dr. Geraldine Pratt she has curated these stories of migration during the COVID-19 pandemic giving insight into the lives of temporary foreign workers

Tell us more about your interests in using podcasts as a research method:

Gabriele: Sound stories allow me to share with a broader public audience and not just within the academy. I like using sound in particular because it lends a different kind of intimacy as well.

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| What surprised you about the process? | Gabriele: I just love the things that people say. What happens when after enough time and conversations people will say the most honest and difficult things. I was surprised how important food was as a topic and how when speaking about their home places before Canada and to the things they were doing and sending back…all contributed meaning and delight in their lives and hearing the joy around that. |
| What did you learn? | Gabriele: Throughout the process I was challenged not just to listen but to listen differently. At first I still anticipated certain kinds of stories to come up and had certain expectations of how the people I interviewed would behave. I learned how much I still anticipated and then how much I misunderstood as a result. I had to become mindful to soften and sometimes dissolve the scripts for people so that I could fully listen. |

## Season Three highlights:

**Episode 01: Christina (Roommate Problems)**

A woman in Surrey is trapped between two forces: the controlling roommate that wouldn't let her leave their apartment for months because of COVID, and the government that will keep her unemployed if she moves out. How much can she do to make life bearable until either force lets up?

Listen here

**Episode 02: Samir (Because the System)**

After being exploited out of his job, a highly trained caregiver in Surrey seeks employment as an essential worker in the COVID economy. Yet he faces fake jobs, demands for bribes, and months of unemployment while waiting for the government to process his new work permit, and now he's running out of options to support his wife and two teenagers.

Listen here

**Episode 03: Sheila (Three Weeks Without You)**

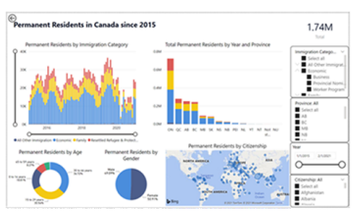
She's lost three jobs in a row and might have to leave Canada if it happens again. But after a few weeks out sick, a nanny in Kelowna gets an angry call from her employer threatening to fire her for being unreliable and worried about COVID. What she does next isn't in the script for temporary foreign workers.

Listen here

Gabriele will begin work on another Global Migration Podcast season that will take a story-telling approach to the work and research of some of our CMS faculty affiliates and their community collaborators.

For more information please contact admin.migration@ubc.ca.

## CMS Launches Canadian Immigration Data Visualization Dashboards




The CMS is pleased to announce the launch of its UBC Migration Data Hub with a series of nine interactive, searchable visual dashboards drawn from the Government of Canada's Open Government Portal. More than 20 different datasets available from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) are used to create visualizations that provide monthly updates on statistics related to permanent and temporary residents.

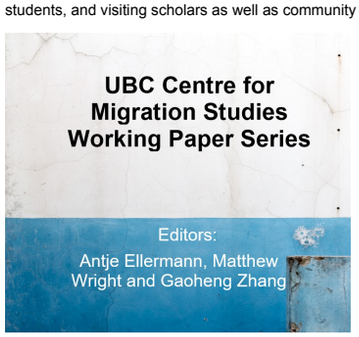
These dashboards allow users to quickly search for the information they want from these monthly open data reports and have them readily available in graphic form. It is an ideal tool for teaching and learning, research and for our community service providers interested in understanding immigration flows and trends. Dashboards provide not only general, national level information since 2015, but also breakdowns by province, metropolitan area, immigration program category, citizenship, gender, and age. It also allows users to specify the date range they wish to see in visual form as well.

Dashboards are updated monthly and drawn directly from government datasets making Canadian migration data more accessible and easier to manage. The CMS hopes to expand the data available on the UBC Migration Data Hub in future so be sure to check out the site and provide suggestions or comments to admin.migration@ubc.ca.

## CMS Working Paper Series now accepting submissions

The Centre for Migration Studies is excited to announce the launch of its Working Paper Series.

Working papers share research-in-progress and are meant to invite scholarly discussion and feedback. The *CMS Working Paper Series* invites submissions on migration, mobilities and settlement research across all disciplines. We welcome working papers from all CMS affiliated faculty, research associates, students, and visiting scholars as well as community members who participate in the life of the Centre.




All submissions undergo editorial review. Editors include Dr. Antje Ellermann and Dr. Matthew Wright (both Political Science) and Dr. Gaoheng Zhang (Italian Studies).

Papers included in *CMS Working Paper Series* are open access and inclusion in the series does not preclude publication elsewhere and authors retain their copyright.

Please see the style guidelines for details on formatting requirements. Visit the CMS Website for submission form and contact admin.migration@ubc.ca with any questions.

## IRCC's Deputy Minister and Migration Policy Institute's co-founder share an armchair discussion on the migration dynamics of North America – audio recording now available

This past fall the Centre for Migration Studies co-sponsored two very successful hybrid symposia on migration and integration. The two events had speakers coming to Vancouver from across North America to share their insights into the key trends they expect to see in Canadian migration policy supporting integration success during the post-Covid recovery phase, and how these compare with developments in other major migration destination countries.

An audio recording is available for the armchair discussion on **key emerging trends in migration policy** with **Catrina Tapley,** Deputy Minister, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and **Dr. Demetrios G. Papademetriou,** Convener, Transatlantic Council on Migration (TCM) and Co-founder and President Emeritus, Migration Policy Institute which was moderated by **Daniel Hiebert**, Professor of Geography, UBC.

The CMS is grateful for the co-sponsorship provided by the University of British Columbia (Killiam Connection Award program and Centre for Migration Studies), the Migration Policy Institute's Transatlantic Council on Migration, the Immigrant Employment Council of British Columbia, and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) which made these events possible.

## Centre for Migration Studies launches its Mentor in Residence Program

Recognizing that the study of migration and mobilities can take place through many disciplinary lenses and is also interdisciplinary in nature, the Centre for Migration Studies is launching a Mentor in Residence Program for CMS graduate student affiliates.

Rima Wilkes, Professor and Graduate Student Chair in the Department of Sociology will take on this inaugural position to provide advice and support in navigating graduate studies in migration related research. She will be available for informal conversations with interested graduate students and will lead a discussion on professional and academic development during one of the CMS Grad Student Power Hour Sessions this semester.

It's a wonderful opportunity to have someone to talk to about your research or graduate studies experience who has an understanding of the experience but also is not directly related to your work. We at the CMS are deeply grateful and excited to have Rima as our Mentor in Residence.

*"I'm looking forward to meeting you and learning more about the work that you are doing. This can be any and all topics. This can be any and all stages of the research process, whether you are just starting out or have been working on migration for many years. Please do not hesitate to get in touch!"*

*-Dr. Rima Wilkes*

Graduate students interested in talking with Dr. Wilkes should contact admin.migration@ubc.ca to schedule.

## Faculty and Graduate Student Collaborations Grant Program creates exciting interdisciplinary research and publication opportunities.

UBC
Centre for Migration Studies

The inaugural launch of a new grant program within the CMS had an excellent response this Fall resulting in eleven grants of $1000 - $3000 being awarded to support faculty-graduate student research and publication collaborations. Designed to encourage graduate students with an interest in migration across all disciplines to work with migration scholars, the new grant program supports 12 graduate students across 8 different departments across the university.

The range of topics is particularly impressive and speaks to the depth of expertise and scholarship on migration taking place at UBC. These research collaborations also provide an opportunity to submit to the CMS Working Paper Series as a way to provide additional graduate student mentorship in preparing research for publication.

A full list of grant recipients and their research topics can be found on the CMS website. Two brief profiles of research collaborations are featured below:

- Antje Ziethen, Assistant Professor and Ph.D Candidate Andisheh Ghaderi, Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies, are collaborating on a project entitled "**Literary representation of transatlantic trajectories, particularly between the African continent and the US, Brazil, and Canada**"

With a focus on African migration literature, the study demonstrates how the Americas have become an important site in contemporary African writing. The study analyses novels in English, French, Portuguese and creates an accompanying website with a set of interactive maps charting the migration journeys in fictional writing.

- Benjamin Bryce, Assistant Professor and M.A. graduate student Lucy Arrington, Department of History, are collaborating on a project entitled "**Enemy Aliens: Citizenship and Internment in Wartime Canada**."

  With support from the Centre for Migration Studies, this project seeks to explore the legal and prejudiced reasons behind the internment of Japanese, German, Austro-Hungarian (including Ukrainian), and Italian immigrants and Canadians, arguing that these two events were far more connected, both across groups and between the two world wars, than has been recognized.

## Supporting Scholar's At Risk Canada

The UBC Centre for Migration Studies worked with the Scholars at Risk Network (SAR) and Scholars at Risk Canada (SAR-CAN) to map the short term non-refugee immigration pathways which might be suitable to support resettlement opportunities for Afghan scholars who are seeking protection and to make recommendations on future research and advocacy which might help longer term pathway opportunities.

A team of UBC graduate students that included Lisa Brunner, PhD candidate, Faculty of Education, Melika Khajeh Hosseiny, MA candidate in Political Science, and Chandima Silva, MA candidate in Urban, Regional and Community Planning volunteered on the project. Antje Ellermann, UBC's Centre for Migration Studies Director and Professor of Political Science and Jenny Peterson, Asscociate Professor of Teaching in Political Science and Faculty Advisor, UBC SAR Human Rights Collective and UBC-SAR Advisory committee member volunteered their time to lead the project.

We asked on of our graduate student volunteers, Chandima Silva some questions about the project and his interest in helping the Scholar's at Risk Network.

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| Why were you interested in taking on this particular project? | My interest in this project stems from an academic and professional interest in immigration, citizenship and "rights to the city," as well as my lived experience as part of an economic migrant family to Canada. My father was a scholar from the Global South who did not find gainful employment when we migrated. Therefore, it was important to me that this research project prioritised the dignity of the scholars impacted by the situation in Afghanistan, and that our advocacy efforts appropriately reflected this. |
| What did you learn? | So much. That it is tough to juggle neoliberal and economic priorities with the bodily experience of migration, and thus it is difficult to privilege the desires of migrants. That writing a concise policy document really benefits from clear structure. However, the importance and dynamism of collaborative research was the most impactful lesson, and one I hope to engage in throughout my future career. |
| Please share any thoughts you might have on the Scholars at Risk Network and the importance of higher education advocacy in this area. | The Scholars at Risk Network is doing necessary work to ensure that outspoken voices and knowledge holders are not silenced by power, while advocating for their re- settlement in a safe country. Higher Education institutions in Canada, especially RIU (research intensive universities) are positioned to have significant leverage to impact immigration directions moving forward. The World University Service of Canada (WUSC) Student Refugee Program (SRP) is one such effort.<br><br>I think it is necessary for advocacy to entertain post-nationalism, and to establish advocacy processes that move beyond nation-state centred paradigms. This could be a shift to instead focus on higher education centred research and innovation migration that prioritises gainful and dignified opportunities, along with appropriate credential evaluation supported by universities, the provincial government (to identify local needs) and SAR. |

Lisa Brunner, who was also involved in the project has been involved in the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) Student Refugee Program (SRP) in some capacity for over a decade, including in a student-led campaign at Simon Fraser University to increase the annual number of sponsored students.

Lisa adds, "While not without its challenges, the continued expansion of the WUSC-SRP shows that post-secondary education institutions have the capacity to be much more actively involved with durable resettlement programs - if there is institutional will and support. The Canadian post-secondary system is already heavily involved in the recruitment, selection, and settlement of international students and staff/faculty alike; there are opportunities to build upon these existing processes for perhaps more just purposes, as well as have conversations about the shifting purpose of higher education institutions in society today."

Please contact admin.migration@ubc.ca if you would like to learn more about future CMS projects supporting the Scholars at Risk program.

## CMS Executive Committee welcomes new graduate student representatives

The Centre for Migration Studies welcomes two new graduate student representatives, Lisa Brunner and Caitlyn Yates, to its Executive Committee. They not only represent graduate student affiliates but contribute to the overall stewardship of the CMS. Learn more about their interests in migration and the reasons they became involved in the CMS.

## Lisa Brunner

PhD candidate, Educational Studies

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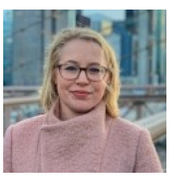
| Please share your personal interest in migration research: | I find the topic of migration fascinating because it touches on so many complex and overlapping ethical questions. I grew up in Pennsylvania where it was common for women from Amish and other local Anabaptist communities to cover their hair. However, I was a senior in high school during 9/11, and suddenly Muslim hijabs became an Islamophobic flashpoint. Why, I wondered, were they so different? This influenced my decision to study political science and women's studies. Volunteering with the United Farm Workers in a Texas border town was also a formative experience. Today, I am interested in the ethics of (im)migration selection and surveillance, especially as they relate to the growing role of non-state actors (e.g. post-secondary institutions) and artificial intelligence. |
| How have you benefitted from your affiliation with the CMS? | During my MA degree in Geography at Simon Fraser University, I learned a great deal through my involvement with the (now defunct) Metropolis BC research centre. When I began my PhD here at UBC, I tried to recreate some of that cross-disciplinary energy and scholarly fellowship by reestablishing the Liu Migration Graduate Student Network. We had a few successful meetings and events, but it was challenging to maintain the momentum after I went on two parental leaves. Upon my return, I was thrilled to see the robust Centre for Migration Studies backed by strong institutional support. As an inter/anti-disciplinary migration researcher, it is invaluable to have ongoing opportunities to engage with those outside my (current) discipline of Educational Studies. |
| What are some ways you hope other graduate students will engage with the CMS? | The Grad Student Power Hour is a great opportunity to network, learn about cutting- edge research, and practice presentation skills in a supportive, low-stakes environment. During the pandemic, we need all the human connection (whether virtual or in-person) we can get! We are all busy, but the chance encounters and inspirations which come out of such talks can be invaluable. I also think the Small Grants for Faculty-Graduate Student Research Collaborations is a great initiative. Personally, it allows me to learn from a professor in a different department from my own; I encourage students to keep an eye out for future opportunities. |

## Caitlyn Yates

PhD candidate, Anthropology



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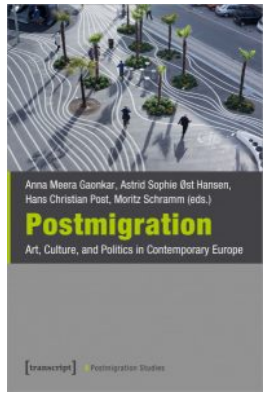
| Please share your personal interest in migration research: | I became interested in migration research about 10 years ago when I began working as a legal assistant for an immigration law firm. As I heard countless complex stories from my clients, I became frustrated by the legal system's inability to respond to the diversity of my clients' immigration experiences. Following my experience as a legal assistant, I opted not to go law school and rather to pursue a career of migration research on illegality, borders, and mobility in Latin America and the United States. Since then, I have had the opportunity to conduct ethnographic and policy-oriented fieldwork throughout Latin America and publish both academically and through public-oriented contexts on the diversity of experiences and challenges facing individuals in positions of mobility throughout the Western Hemisphere. I am currently continuing this research as a doctoral student in Anthropology at UBC. |
| How have you benefitted from your affiliation with the CMS? | Only a semester after I began my doctoral studies at UBC, the opening of the Centre for Migration Studies was officially announced. I jumped at the opportunity to connect and collaborate with the incredible and interdisciplinary affiliates of the centre. I have benefitted personally from learning about migration research being conducted throughout the university, the opportunity to workshop my doctoral proposal and gain invaluable feedback from colleagues, and the opportunity to learn from a number of colleagues both inside and outside of the centre on the critical research on which they work. Currently, as one of the two graduate student representatives on the Executive Committee of the CMS, I get a seat at the table where both administrative and operational decisions are made about the centre both now and going forward. I feel very grateful to be a part of the Centre for Migration Studies and to learn with the centre's affiliates as I continue my own studies. |
| What are some ways you hope other graduate students will engage with the CMS? | Having already benefitted personally from the CMS, it is certainly my hope that other graduate students will take advantage of the expertise, collaboration, feedback, and community that the centre offers. For UBC graduate students conducting migration related research, I would highly recommend attending and presenting at the Grad Student Power Hour colloquia series which is a great way to workshop doctoral proposals, working papers, or dissertation chapters. Additionally, the centre holds a multitude of events each semester which range from monthly lunches to talks on a broad range of topics related to migration and mobility. Finally, the centre's research groups and requests for proposals for funding offer excellent opportunities to not only network with CMS affiliates but also to receive funding for collaborative research on migration. In short, the CMS offers numerous avenues for graduate students to become involved, and I am fortunate to have benefitted from many of these opportunities. |

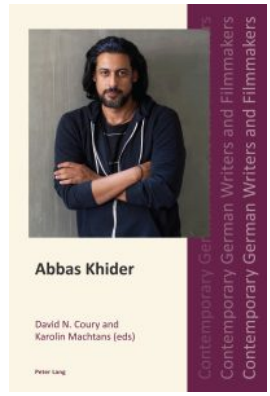
# Publications by CMS Faculty Affiliates

## Markus Hallensleben

Associate Professor, Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies

As part of his research on Postmigrant Narratives, he has published two new articles:




"Towards an Aesthetics of Postmigrant Narratives: Moving beyond the Politics of Territorial Belonging in Ilija Trojanow's Nach der Flucht (2017)." *Postmigration: Art, Culture and Politics in Contemporary Europe*. Eds. Anna Meera Gaonker et al. transcript: Bielefeld, 2021, pp. 197-219. *Postmigration Studies*.

Learn more

"Portraying the Refugee as a Transitional Figure of Plurality: The Performance of Gender and Ethnicity in the Post-Migrant Narratives of Abbas Khider's *Der falsche Inder* [*Village Indian*] and *Ohrfeige* [*Slap in the Face*]." *Abbas Khider*. Eds. David N. Coury and Karolin Machtans. Peter Lang Oxford, 2021. *Contemporary German Writers and Filmmakers*, vol. 5, pp. 53-73.

Learn more

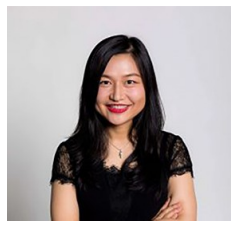
## Efrat Arbel

Associate Professor, Peter A Allard School of Law

Published an op ed in The Globe and Mail:

*The provinces need to end the horrific practice of detaining migrants in prisons.*

Learn more



## Yue Qian

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

New Publication:

Qian, Yue. (2021), *"Disruption or reproduction? Nativity, gender and online dating in Canada"*, Internet Research, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print.

Learn more

## CALL for NEWS

We invite all members of the Centre for Migration Studies to send in news items for inclusion in our next newsletter. We look forward to receiving news about new publications, professional appointments, or other honors, conferences / workshops organized, and major grants received.

Please include "member news" in the subject line of your email. We look forward to hearing from you!

**email to: admin.migration@ubc.ca**

*The UBC Centre for Migration Studies is generously supported by Excellence Funds from the Office of the Vice-President of Research and Innovation, the Faculty of Arts, the Departments of Political Science, Sociology, Geography, Anthropology, Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies, and the Peter A. Allard School of Law.*

[ Contact the UBC Centre for Migration Studies ]

**admin.migration@ubc.ca**

Visit Our Website