

UBC Centre for Migration Studies

# Annual Report 2023-2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Centre for Migration Studies

[MIGRATION.UBC.CA](https://migration.ubc.ca)



# Land Acknowledgment

The UBC Centre for Migration Studies (CMS) is an interdisciplinary network committed to advancing the study of migration, mobilities, and belonging. It is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. Our work extends across unceded Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) and other Coast Salish territories in what is commonly known as Metro Vancouver. We recognize the vast diversity of Indigenous people and acknowledge the heterogeneity in their opinions, representation, needs and desires. We honour the original Nations who have always cared for these lands, waters and air and continue to do so today.

Coast Salish peoples have historically occupied these lands since time immemorial. Yet, narratives of belonging rarely grapple with the fact that belonging is negotiated on stolen land. The UBC Centre for Migration Studies brings settler colonialism into the center of debates on social belonging in Vancouver. Decolonization is also a key point in our relationship with our community partners, often in direct contact with migrants.

As a non-Indigenous organization which is part of a colonial institution, we also acknowledge that education and research have caused and still cause harm. We aspire to minimize these harms and challenge ongoing settler colonial power dynamics through internal processes to change ourselves. Our gratitude is only a starting point and necessitates a continuous commitment to learning and accountability. As we do so ourselves, we encourage readers to acknowledge that the land on which we reside was taken by a settler-colonial state, and to reflect on what it means to live on stolen land and what our roles and responsibilities are as uninvited guests on Native homelands.

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Cover image:  
Skwetsimeltxw Willard "Buddy" Joseph teaching Salish Weaving during one of the Weaving Workshops organized by CMS on May 4, 2024, as part of the "Weaving Relations through Stories" project. Photo by Kousaku Yui.

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## Message from the Co-Directors

**As we reflect on the past year at the Centre for Migration Studies, we take pride in the strides we've made to catalyze collaborative research, advance training, and foster cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral dialogue on critical migration issues.** By exploring intersections of belonging, mobility, and transnationalism, forging research partnerships across academia and the settlement sector, learning from Indigenous elders, and establishing a graduate certificate program, this year has been both challenging and transformative for the Centre.

One of the most significant developments was the appointment of Dr. Irene Bloemraad as the President's Excellence Chair in Global Migration and CMS Co-Director, effective July 2024. Dr. Bloemraad's globally influential research on migration and citizenship, along with her leadership and expertise in public engagement, will enhance the Centre's reputation for research excellence and publicly engaged scholarship.

Another landmark achievement has been the development of the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies, set to launch in September 2024. This Senate-

approved certificate program represents a significant step forward for the Centre, offering interdisciplinary training in migration research, preparing students for careers in the migration and integration sectors beyond academia, and fostering a diverse, inclusive community.

Reflecting our commitment to deepening community engagement, we hosted our inaugural CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day in October 2023. Held in partnership with AMSSA and the Metro Vancouver immigration and settlement sector, the event centered on themes of decolonization and mutual understanding. This gathering laid a foundation for long-term relationships among CMS faculty and graduate student researchers, staff, and sector organizations, creating a framework for future collaborations that will guide our efforts in the years to come.

This spring, we held our annual research conference in partnership with the Faculty of Social Sciences of Hong Kong Baptist University. The two-day event showcased leading voices in migration research, including keynote speaker Nina Glick Schiller, and united scholars from UBC and Hong Kong to examine pressing questions of



migration and mobility in today's interconnected world.

We deepened our learning from Indigenous elders through the Weaving Workshop Series, part of the Building Relations Through Stories project. Co-sponsored by CMS research groups and the Bridging Divides research program, this three-part event was led by Skwxwú7mesh master weavers Chepximiya Siyam' Chief Janice George and Skwetsimeltxw Willard 'Buddy' Joseph. The workshops introduced participants to Skwxwú7mesh wool weaving, blending hands-on practice with insights into the art's cultural and ceremonial significance, honoring Indigenous knowledge of these lands.

Over the past year, CMS has expanded its staff, adding a Communications Specialist and an Operations Manager while expanding the role of our Engagement Strategist. This growth strengthens CMS's organizational capacity and positions us to advance interdisciplinary migration research in Canada and beyond, deepen community engagement, and amplify our policy influence.

In 2023-24, the Centre also fostered dialogue, learning, and professional development through recurring events like the Speaker Series, Graduate Fellows Symposium, Professional Development workshops, and the CMS Working Paper Series, as well as creative initiatives such as the annual Art Competition.

In the coming year, CMS will launch new public outreach and data initiatives to leverage its expertise, aiming to expand policy influence and societal impact. The CMS Migration Insights series will present affiliates' research in concise, visually engaging briefs, making complex findings accessible to broader audiences. Additionally, CMS

is partnering with the Institute for Research on Public Policy and Concordia University's Institute for Research on Migration and Society on the Canada's Changing Immigration Landscape project, enhancing policy debates with evidence-based insights through data briefs, policy briefs, and reports. We will also expand the Bridging Divides program on migrant integration by growing the CMS research team for this four-university collaboration. Further investments in data analysis capabilities will help CMS generate advanced data-driven knowledge and enrich training.

We are grateful for ongoing support from the UBC Faculty of Arts; sponsorship from the Departments of Political Science, Sociology, Geography, Anthropology, Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies, and the Peter A. Allard School of Law; as well as the GCRC program of the Office of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation, and the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. To our affiliates and partners, your contributions have been invaluable, and we look forward to all that we will accomplish together in the coming year.

As we look ahead, we reaffirm our commitment to advancing collaborative migration research that bridges disciplines and remains publicly relevant. The UBC Centre for Migration Studies will continue to be a space for rigorous scholarship, reciprocal collaboration, initiatives to decolonize migration studies, and impactful engagement with policy and community partners. Together, we aim to forge new pathways to understand and address the complexities of migration in polarized societies, confident that the coming year will bring even greater opportunities for innovation and leadership in migration research.



**PROF. ANTJE ELLERMANN & PROF. IRENE BLOEMRAAD**

UBC Centre for Migration Studies Co-Directors

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# About CMS

<div>2023-24</div> <div>By the numbers</div>		<div>39</div> <div>UBC Units Represented</div>
<div>96</div> <div>Faculty and Postdoctoral Affiliates</div>	<div>78</div> <div>Graduate Student Affiliates</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Lower Mainland Affiliates &amp; Visiting Scholars</div>
<div>29</div> <div>Events Hosted</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Events Co-Sponsored</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Research Groups</div>
<div>4</div> <div>Active Community Partners</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Active Academic Partners</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Active Research Grants</div>
<div>2</div> <div>Working Papers Published</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Graduate Students Employed</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Award Competitions Organized</div>



# History, Guiding Principles, and Vision

Since its formal establishment in 2020, CMS has served as an incubator for transformative research within the academy and beyond. With our faculty affiliates, graduate student affiliates, and numerous community practitioners and partners, we work together to facilitate publicly-engaged dialogue that fosters inclusive and just communities. CMS does this through a rich and diverse array of research collaborations and programming initiatives. We facilitate numerous events each year, hosting lectures, workshops, conferences, and other activities within the UBC community and beyond.

In the university, CMS supports research and training through research conferences, thematic research groups, and initiatives such as the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies and the Working Paper Series. With partners in the settlement sector, neighbourhood organizations, and policy-making bodies, we strive to ground our scholarly research in relationships with people and institutions engaged firsthand in migration matters. Our programming and research also embody our fundamental commitment to exploring ways to decolonize migration studies by grappling with the intersections of migration, settler colonialism, empire, and Indigeneity.

CMS was initiated as the “Migration Cluster” in 2018 through competitive funding from the UBC Vice-President’s Office, Research and Innovation (VPRI). The cluster developed quickly in size and in scope; with generous additional funding from departmental sponsors (matched by the Faculty of Arts), the cluster was formalized as an interdisciplinary research centre in the Faculty of Arts in 2020 and received Senate approval in 2021. In 2021, it was again awarded competitive funding from the VPRI.

This is the fourth annual report for CMS. It covers the 2023-24 fiscal and academic year.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Foster** reciprocal and transformative research collaborations among migration scholars from different disciplines and institutions, and between migration scholars and practitioners.
- **Decolonize** migration studies.
- **Build** an inclusive community, based on values of reciprocity and relationality, respect and integrity, equity and justice, and accountability.
- **Facilitate** meaningful learning by holding space for reflexivity, uncertainty, complexity, lived experience, and recognizing the social embeddedness of learning.

## Vision

At CMS, we envision a world where mobility is embraced as part of the human experience, and where people belong regardless of their migration status.

## Governance

CMS is led by Co-Director, Antje Ellermann (Professor of Political Science) and Co-Director, Irene Bloemraad (President's Excellence Chair in Global Migration and Professor of Political Science and Sociology). The Centre is governed by a 17-member Executive Committee, which includes the Co-Directors. The composition of the Executive Committee reflects the broad interdisciplinary commitments and vision that are foundational to the Centre. It includes all university ranks and, in the 2023-24 academic year, was comprised of faculty from nine academic units. The Executive Committee provides guidance for CMS decision-making on matters including strategic direction, compliance and accountability, and programs and initiatives. Executive Committee members also adjudicate internal competitions for grants, awards, conference placements, and fellowships offered by CMS. CMS Governance Guidelines provide the terms and protocols of Executive Committee membership.

At present, one committee seat is allocated to each CMS departmental sponsor (indicated by \*) and to the coordinator of each CMS Research Group (indicated by °). In addition, there are seats for a Policy Liaison, a Community Liaison, a Community Representative, and two Graduate Student Representatives.

In 2023-24, these were the Executive Committee members: **Efrat Arbel** (Associate Professor, Allard School of Law)\*; **Alexia Bloch** (Professor and Head, Anthropology)\*; **Amanda Cheong** (Assistant Professor, Sociology)\*; **María Cervantes** (PhD Candidate, Geography), Graduate Representative; **Katie Crocker** (CEO of AMMSA – Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC), Community Representative; **Antje Ellermann** (Professor, Political Science), Co-Director°; **Suzanne Huot** (Associate Professor, Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy)°; **Sean Lauer** (Professor, Sociology), Community Liaison; **Geraldine Pratt**

(Professor and Head, Geography)\*; **Pasang Sherpa** (Assistant Professor, Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies; Asian Studies); **Matthew Wright** (Associate Professor, Political Science )°; **Helena Zeweri** (Assistant Professor, Anthropology)\*; **Gaoheng Zhang** (Associate Professor, French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies)°; **Antje Ziethen** (Assistant Professor, French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies)°; **Elizabeth “Biz” Nijdam** (Assistant Professor of Teaching, Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies)°; **Vince Hopkins** (Assistant Professor, Political Science)\*; **Rose Xueqing Zhang** (PhD Candidate, Sociology), Graduate Representative.



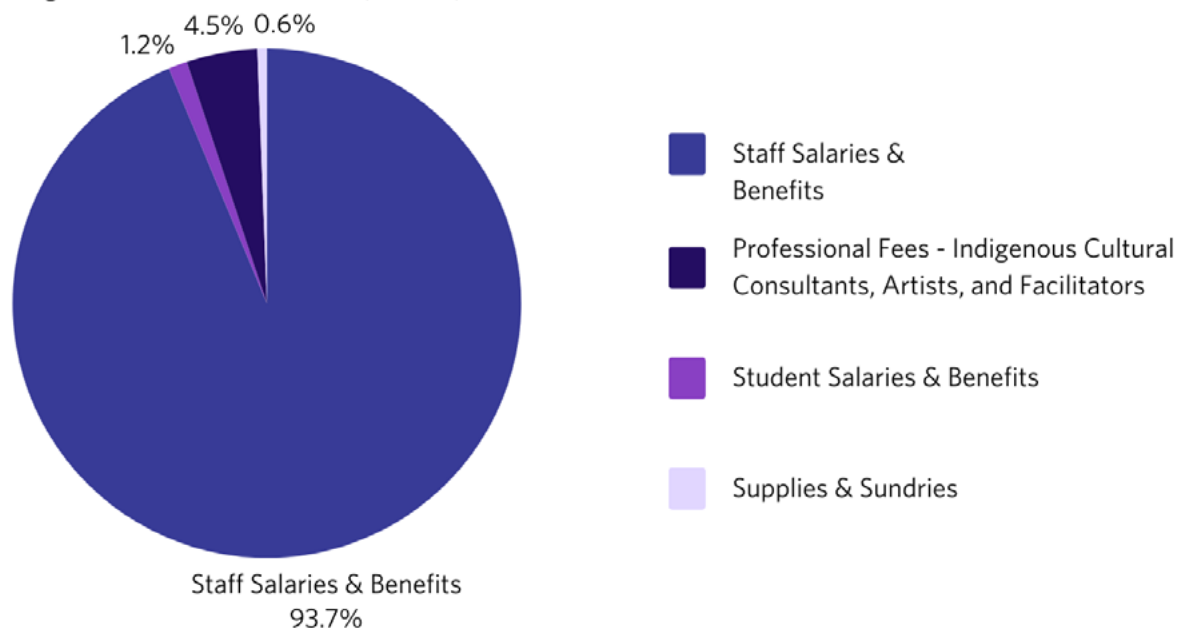
# Financial Resources

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ACADEMIC UNITS & FACULTY OF ARTS					
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Academic Units	\$43,000	\$61,000	\$62,000	\$61,000	\$61,000
Faculty of Arts	\$43,000	\$58,000	\$58,000	\$58,000	\$58,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$86,000</b>	<b>\$119,000</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>	<b>\$119,000</b>	<b>\$119,000</b>

## CMS PROGRAM FUNDS (ANNUAL SPONSORS)

As a Faculty of Arts Research Centre, CMS is supported by annual funds from the UBC Faculty of Arts, the Departments of Political Science, Sociology, Geography, and Anthropology, Department of Central Eastern and Northern European Studies, the Peter A. Allard School of Law, and an Anonymous Donor. These funds are used primarily to support staff salaries and other consulting costs, including Indigenous Cultural Consultants that work across CMS projects. 2023/24 marked the fourth year of our 5-year term as a Centre.

Professional Fees - Indigenous Cultural Consultants, Artists, and Facilitators



Program Budget Expense Distribution in 2023-24

### GCRC FUNDS (GRANTS FOR CATALYZING RESEARCH CLUSTERS)

CMS funds most of its programming through a competitively awarded GCRC Established Cluster Grant from the UBC Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI). Programming expenditures include the cost of Centre events and initiatives; CMS research group programming; funds to support graduate student training, awards, and travel; competitive seed funding for new research projects, and matching funds to leverage external grant applications.

GCRC FY24 CATEGORIES & PERCENTAGES			
	Total	Percentage	Rounded Percentage
Governance and EDI Support & Training	\$6,783.00	4.85%	5%
Graduate Student Employment & Benefits	\$58,726.87	42.03%	42%
Postdoctoral Employment & Benefits	\$8,689.73	6.22%	6%
Professional Services, Knowledge Mobilisation & Regulatory Requirements	\$14,000.00	10.02%	10%
Travel, Equipment & Materials	\$15,473.36	11.07%	11%
Research Facilities & Resources	\$28,866.53	20.66%	21%
Management & Administration (Staff Costs)	\$7,184.58	5.14%	5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$139,724.07</b>		<b>100%</b>

### CFREF FUNDS (CANADA FIRST RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FUNDS)

2023-24 saw the activation of the Bridging Divides research program, funded by Canada First Research Excellence Funds (CFREF). While the 7-year award totals \$12.4 million, the first year has been an on-ramp season with core researchers establishing their personnel (postdocs and graduate students) and starting their research projects, and CMS hiring staff roles to support the extensive administration of the program. Knowledge mobilization and public programming have already begun, particularly through our community and Indigenous partnerships.

CFREF FY24 CATEGORIES & PERCENTAGES			
	Total	Percentage	Rounded Percentage
Graduate Student Employment & Benefits	\$23,072.25	12.95%	13%
Postdoctoral Employment & Benefits	\$63,931.34	35.88%	36%
Professional Services, Knowledge Mobilisation & Regulatory Requirements	\$7,648.64	4.29%	4%
Travel, Equipment & Materials	\$22,343.39	12.54%	13%
Research Facilities & Resources	\$10,553.50	5.92%	6%
Management & Administration (Staff Costs)	\$50,649.35	28.42%	28%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$178,198.47</b>		<b>100%</b>



## Human Resources



In 2023-24, CMS personnel grew to include a total of two full-time and two part-time staff, two postdoctoral fellows, plus various student staff in GAA roles.

Gabriele Dumpys Woolever continued as the full-time **Research Manager, Programs and Initiatives**. The Research Manager works with the Director(s) to support CMS research projects and programming. The position oversees the annual calendar of events and initiatives; operates the Grad Fellows and/or Graduate Certificate program; manages the Centre's research grants and budgets; supports grant-writing and other communications activities; and supervises the Program & Administrative Assistant, the Communications Specialist, and Graduate Administrative Assistants.

Atmaza Chattopadhyay continued as the full-time **Program and Administrative Assistant (PAA)**. The PAA works under the direction of the Research Manager to provide event planning and coordination, expense processing and documentation, marketing support, and physical infrastructure support. Chattopadhyay played a crucial role in maintaining

Centre activities when the Research Manager was on leave Sept-Nov 2023.

The **Engagement Strategist** position continues to be held by Javier Ojer, expanding to 0.7 FTE in March 2024. This role works with individuals and organizations from across UBC and Metro Vancouver to explore ways in which community-university relationships can be deepened, decolonized, and more fruitfully re-imagined. The Engagement Strategist is co-supervised by CMS Co-Director Ellermann and the CMS Community Representative (AMSSA CEO, Katie Crocker).

In January 2024, we welcomed Marie Frileux into a new **Communications Specialist** role, which quickly expanded from from 0.6 to 0.9 FTE. This position creates, coordinates, and implements CMS promotional materials and social media content, the Weekly Update, website news features and announcements, and the Annual Report. Frileux has worked to establish a strategic communications plan and brand identity for CMS within UBC Arts Communications.

Two **Postdoctoral Fellows** began on the Bridging Divides research program in October 2023. Lisa Brunner (PhD, UBC Educational Studies) holds a full-time fellowship, and Sandra Schinnerl (PhD, UBC Political Science) holds a part-time fellowship.

#### Various **Graduate Administrative**

**Assistants (GAAs)** were employed throughout the academic year. Atreyi Bhattacharjee (PhD Candidate, Allard Law) provided administrative and events support, which was especially crucial during the Research Manager's leave from Sept-Nov 2023. She also supported the Borders Research Group. Ritwik Bhattacharjee (PhD Candidate, Interdisciplinary Studies) provided critical communications support during the fall as well. Fiana Kawane (PhD Candidate, English Language & Literatures) served as the Editorial Assistant for the Working Paper Series and supported other editorial and events tasks. Tori Shucheng Yang (PhD Candidate, Sociology), Ziwen Mei (PhD student, Language and Literacy Education), and Chieh Lu (PhD Candidate, Educational Studies) supported CMS events. Claudia Serrano (PhD student, Political Science) supported the Migration-Indigeneity

Research Group, as well as the Belonging in Unceded Territory research project. Cindy Robin (PhD Candidate, Political Science) also worked on Belonging in Unceded Territory, and Natasha Damiano (PhD Candidate, Rehabilitation Sciences) worked with the Community-University Partnerships Group. Kousaku Yui (PhD student, Philosophy) was CMS event photographer. Deepakjot Singh (BS student, Mathematics and Computer Science) worked on the CMS website as a Work-Learn student.





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# Collaborative, Interdisciplinary Research

Migration studies, as a broad-based research field, has evolved at the intersection of various disciplines, including sociology, political science, anthropology, geography, law, economics, education, history, demography, cultural studies, and health studies. To pursue its mission, the Centre is committed to illuminating complex questions surrounding migration and belonging by strengthening collaborative and interdisciplinary research. This approach fosters critical inquiry and engagement with diverse perspectives. At CMS, it is made possible through multiple initiatives that generate collaborations beyond departmental confines, at local, national and international levels.

These initiatives include CMS affiliation and research groups, partnerships with academic institutions, the publication of open source Working Papers, and the organization of events such as the Annual Research Conference, the Speaker Series, and the International Art Competition.

CMS is committed to excellence in migration and mobility studies. Through the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies (a segue from the Grad Fellows

Program), we now offer interdisciplinary, inclusive, and decolonizing academic training to graduate students enrolled in any UBC graduate program who have an active interest in migration and mobilities. Our graduate training and engagement initiatives aim to enhance students' fluency in interdisciplinary migration research and their ability to disseminate knowledge to scholarly, community, and policy audiences.

Through these efforts, the Centre aims to create a vibrant and inclusive research community dedicated to advancing the field of migration studies and to have an impact on policy and practice at the local, national, and international levels.

*Catalyze collaborations  
at local, national, and  
international levels*

## Irene Bloemraad Appointed CMS Co-Director



Photo by Kousaku Yui

This year, we were delighted to announce the appointment of Dr. Irene Bloemraad as Co-Director of CMS, effective July 1, 2024. Dr. Bloemraad joins UBC as the President's Excellence Chair in Global Migration and as a Professor in the Departments of Political Science and Sociology. In addition to her roles at UBC, Dr. Bloemraad will continue co-directing the Boundaries, Membership, and Belonging program at the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, a global research organization based in Canada. In her new position as CMS Co-Director, Dr. Bloemraad will collaborate with Dr. Antje Ellermann to guide the Centre's strategic direction, research initiatives, and partnerships. This appointment marks a pivotal moment for the Centre, underscoring CMS's commitment to attracting top-tier talent and fostering a vibrant academic environment. We are confident that Dr. Bloemraad's contributions will significantly enhance

the Centre's position within the global migration and mobilities research community, and position CMS as a leader in decolonization initiatives. Join us in welcoming her to UBC.

### Representative Publications

- Bloemraad, I. (2006). *Becoming a Citizen: Incorporating Immigrants and Refugees in the United States and Canada*. University of California Press.
- Bloemraad, I., Chaudhary, A.R., & Gleeson, S. (2022). "Immigrant Organizations," *Annual Review of Sociology* 48: 319-341.
- Bloemraad, I. & Voss, K. (2020). "Movement or Moment? Lessons from the Pro-immigrant Movement in the United States and Contemporary Challenges," *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 46(4): 683-704.

## About Dr. Irene Bloemraad

Dr. Bloemraad comes to the Centre as an internationally recognized expert on migration and citizenship. Her research as a political sociologist focuses on how immigrants become incorporated into the political communities where they live, and the consequences of migration for politics and understandings of membership. She has investigated why immigrants become citizens and how citizenship helps immigrants' political, civic, social and economic incorporation, comparing dynamics in Canada, the United States and various European countries. In other work, she examines the opportunities and barriers that shape immigrants' engagement with community-based organizations, as well as the effects of non-profit organizations on immigrants' integration and political voice. She has also explored the extent to which public attitudes about noncitizens, including those in irregular legal status, shift based on whether an issue is framed as being about human rights, family, economic impact, or a nation's values.

Dr. Bloemraad's research publications span the fields of sociology, political science, history, and ethnic/migration studies. She has authored or co-edited five books, including *The Oxford Handbook of Citizenship* (2017), *Rallying for Immigrant Rights* (2011), and *Becoming a Citizen* (2006). Two dozen of Bloemraad's academic publications have over 100 citations or more, a remarkable record of impact in the migration field. In 2014-15, she served as a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences panel, reporting on the integration of immigrants into U.S. society. In 2020-21, she served as the elected chair of the International Migration section of the American Sociological Association. Her research has garnered multiple awards, including in 2018, when the leading North American migration journal, *International Migration Review*, named her its "Featured Scholar" of the year.

Prior to joining UBC, Dr. Bloemraad was the Class of 1951 Professor of Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, and the founding Director of the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative. She is also the past Chair and Director of the Canadian Studies program.

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*"One pressing issue in migration research today is the mismatch between the millions who want to cross borders and the political pressure to keep them out. CMS can offer evidence-backed research to clarify this and illuminate the ethical trade-offs of different policies."*

*"I'm also inspired by CMS's decolonizing initiatives, which tackle the challenging question of what it means to be a migrant in places like Canada and Vancouver, on unceded territories. Few research centres globally address such questions, and CMS is a clear leader in this area."*

**PROF. IRENE BLOEMRAAD**  
CMS Co-Director

## Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides



### Bridging Divides

In Spring 2023, CMS was awarded \$12.4 million in Canada First Research Excellence Funds (CFREF)

as a partner in the research program, “Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides,” led by Toronto Metropolitan University. The Bridging Divides program is dedicated to building a new understanding of the challenges and opportunities that migrant integration poses in Canada and beyond, at a time when technological transformations are rapidly changing the way we work, live, and connect to each other locally and across borders. This award will generate an unprecedented Canada-wide research program on migrant integration and will serve to strengthen CMS’ financial capacities and research excellence.

Eight UBC researchers are currently members of the core team, including UBC Project Director and CMS Co-Director, Antje Ellermann (Political Science), CMS Co-Director, Irene Bloemraad (Political Science and Sociology), CMS affiliates Dan Hiebert (Geography), Vince Hopkins (Political Science), Suzanne Huot (Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy), and Sean Lauer (Sociology), plus UBC faculty Elizabeth Saewyc (School of Nursing), and Abdul-Fatawu Abdulai (School of Nursing).

These UBC team members are part of an intersectoral, inter-disciplinary consortium led by Toronto Metropolitan University, with additional partners at University of Alberta and Concordia University. Together they will help Bridging Divides generate novel insights and usable knowledge in four thematic areas: 1) Immigrant Health and Well-Being, 2) Employment and Lifelong Learning, 3) Place and Infrastructure, and 4) Citizenship and Participation.

The program will focus on the urban context, including both large urban centres and small- and mid-sized cities, as these are the main destinations

of both newcomers and settled immigrants. 2023-24 saw the beginning of all the projects.

The seven-year funding includes the hire in January 2024 of the CMS Communications Specialist, primarily to support the project and the work of the Centre more broadly. CFREF also allowed us to continue the position of the Engagement Strategist beyond its pilot period, and to increase its work from 0.5 to 0.7 FTE as of March 2024. A full-time Operations Manager role has been developed and is being filled in June 2024.

### BRIDGING DIVIDES RESEARCH PROJECTS

#### Building Relations through Stories

Lead: Antje Ellermann

This project is an Indigenous-led project facilitating the gathering of previously less accessible traditional knowledge to be passed on to future generations through a docuseries and a children’s book. Chief Janice George will invite all 16 hereditary chiefs of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Nation to participate in talking circles, supporting Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh self-determination and fostering stronger relationships between newcomers, Canadian-born settlers, and the Squamish Nation.

#### Immigration Health and Well-Being: Population-Based Analysis to Inform Policy and Practice

Lead: Elizabeth Saewyc

To address immigrant health disparities, policy solutions are urgently needed. This project explicates preventable health inequities experienced by immigrant communities in Canada. Consultation with multiple partners identifies mental health and youth sexual health as the main influences on these priority health issues. The project uses large-scale health surveys in Canada to track trends in health disparities among migrant populations.



### **Immigration, Social Infrastructure, and Relationship Formation**

**Lead: Sean Lauer**

This project investigates how social infrastructure encourages the formation of relationships and shared activities, leads to the formation of lasting connections, fosters mutual support and collaboration, and promotes cross-boundary social integration. The research focuses on how relationships form within “mediated social infrastructure,” which refers to the formal structuring of interactions. Studying these dynamics provides insights into segregation and integration in social spaces.

### **Individual and Structural Barriers to Citizenship Acquisition**

**Lead: Vince Hopkins**

This project investigates the decline in Canadian citizenship acquisition, especially among disadvantaged newcomers. It focuses on understanding the administrative burdens that newcomers face when navigating the citizenship process, and the implications of deterring eligible immigrants from applying for citizenship. This research seeks to support the design of more inclusive and low-burden pathways to Canadian citizenship through interviews, surveys, and analysis of administrative records.

### **Managing Occupational Balance in Platform and Remote Work**

**Lead: Suzanne Huot**

This project focuses on the everyday occupational experiences of immigrant workers in different facets of the platform economy (including remote work). It aims to understand how they perceive and navigate their employment and daily routines when engaged in ‘non-traditional’ forms of work in relation to contemporary and dominant discourses on gig work.

### **Narratives of Citizenship**

**Lead: Antje Ellermann**

Citizenship represents a collective identity that is imagined through, and reproduced by, state-sponsored narratives. These narratives are: instilled by various institutions; often differ from lived experience; can obscure inequities in access and belonging; and foster a selective form of patriotism. This project explores the meaning of Canadian citizenship, drawing on data from partnerships with service organizations, perspectives of policymakers, and analysis of Canadian citizenship guides.

### **Naturalization Ceremonies**

**Lead: Antje Ellermann**

Naturalization ceremonies signal the integration of new citizens into the national community and serve as educational platforms, transmitting the narratives and values attached to national identity. This project examines how naturalization ceremonies influence new citizens’ perceptions of national identity through analyzing discourse, surveys, interviews, and collaborations.

### **Superdiversity in Canadian Cities**

**Lead: Daniel Hiebert**

Most international migrants settle in cities, leading to “super-diversity.” This concept captures the complex and evolving layers of nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, and other traits that define urban populations. The project involves developing a website that enables users to interact with sophisticated data about social complexity in Canada’s 6 largest metropolitan areas.

## Weaving Workshop Series

In spring 2024, CMS was honored to host a series of weaving workshops led by Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (*Squamish*) master weavers and community leaders, Chepximiya Siyam' Chief Janice George and Skwetsimeltxw Willard 'Buddy' Joseph.

This workshop series unfolded over three consecutive Saturdays, offering a total of 9 hours of immersive, hands-on instruction. It was co-sponsored by the Bridging Divides research program, the CMS Narratives Research Group, the CMS Migration & Indigeneity Research Group, and the Borders Research Group.

This special event was dedicated to fostering cultural awareness through the ancestral art of Coast Salish wool weaving, which brings with it many insights into living on these unceded Coast Salish territories. Chepximiya Siyam' Janice George, a hereditary chief, museum curator, and educator, alongside Skwetsimeltxw Willard 'Buddy' Joseph, former director of Squamish Housing and Capital Projects, shared their extensive knowledge and cultural heritage, making the workshop series a memorable and meaningful experience for all involved. The master weavers shared how they themselves only encountered traditional weaving practices as adults: its absence from the communities of their younger days was one of the attempted erasures of colonialism. Their reclamation of it was a foundation from which to teach Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh youth and others about their own heritage, besides educating non-Indigenous people about the practice and place in which they are situated.

Throughout the series, participants learned basic Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh weaving step by step, starting with properly warping the loom, progressing through various fundamental techniques (twill, diamond twill, etc.), and concluding with learning

how to tuck threads and remove the weaving from the loom. Importantly, there are no knots in this weaving practice. Rather, each thread is suspended in continuous relation with the others without being closed off. Each attendee crafted their own wool wall hanging, embedding personal creativity into a textile of cultural significance.

During the workshops, Chief Janice George and Elder Buddy Joseph also discussed the profound significance of woven robes in ceremonial practices, emphasizing their symbolic importance within the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh culture, as well as their place in contemporary First Nations society. They shared insights into how weavers draw inspiration from the land, incorporating natural elements and landscapes into their designs. This enriched the participants' understanding of connections between the weaving techniques they were learning and the broader cultural and spiritual practices of the community.

CMS was deeply honoured and grateful to have had this opportunity to learn from Chepximiya Siyam' Janice George and Skwetsimeltxw Willard 'Buddy' Joseph; we hope to carry the seeds of these practices and teachings and continue to learn from them, with humility.

19

Attendees

2

Indigenous Cultural  
Facilitators

3

Workshop  
Sessions







## CMS Affiliation

At the heart of the CMS community is our dynamic collective of affiliates. CMS affiliates include UBC faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students; faculty and students from universities in the BC Lower Mainland; visiting scholars and students; and practitioners from immigration sector organizations. This rich capacity to partner across disciplines and contexts is what makes CMS affiliation special – deepening and multiplying the programs, publications, and relationships that are possible.

In 2023-24, our network of affiliates numbered 96 UBC faculty and postdoctoral fellows and 78 graduate students. They represented 39 units across the university. (See Appendices B and C for a full list of affiliates and departments.)

Affiliation with CMS carries multiple benefits. Faculty affiliates are eligible to apply for internal CMS workshop competitions, research funds, and other awards. We provide many opportunities for connection and relationship building, allowing affiliates to explore new research partnerships. We also offer research support to faculty affiliates through the management and administration of specific grants. Through initiatives like the Working Paper Series, the Annual Research Conference, and other channels, we communicate and celebrate our

affiliates' research projects to a wider audience.

Our graduate student affiliates gain critical experience working directly with faculty, research experts, and community partners. They are eligible for the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies (and previously, the Grad Fellows Program), which formalizes an academic record of affiliates' engagement when certificate requirements are met. They are also eligible for CMS conference paper competitions, travel awards, and opportunities to participate in CMS governance. They can become members of CMS Research Groups and are priority candidates for GAA roles. Likewise, they benefit from non-academic training opportunities via occasional internships with community organizations. In 2023-24, affiliates had the chance to workshop their research through the public-facing Grad Student Power Hour Series and participate in the competitive Graduate Fellows program, which offered mentorship, enhanced programming involvement, and cohort-building experiences. These opportunities are now integrated into the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies, providing a comprehensive and enriching academic journey.





## Research Groups

CMS research groups are open to all of our affiliates, including faculty, students, and community partners. Groups are formally proposed by affiliates with a desire to focus on specific themes in migration, and receive approval from the Executive Committee. CMS provides funding to research groups for their own event programming and research initiatives, which the Centre promotes and helps administratively support. Research group coordinators are granted a seat on the Executive Committee.

### BORDERS

The Borders Research Group includes 30 members from 10 disciplines and aims to advance interdisciplinary dialogues about border regimes and the lived experience of borders through reading seminars, speaker events, and written and creative expression. The group seeks to expand its understanding of the many ways borders can be conceptualized: as physical spaces that monitor, manage, and limit human mobility; as a set of bureaucratic practices and logics; and as historical formations that are deeply entangled with colonialism and empire in all of its forms. The group values the work of artists, community leaders, community activists, and advocates in amplifying critical analyses of bordering practices today. Group members' research spans a range of topics including but not limited to: the securitization of borders, cross-border labour mobility, the mediation of gender and sexuality, the externalization of sovereignty, carceral border regimes, and resistance and political mobilization. In 2023-24, the group was led by **Helena Zeweri** (Assistant Professor, Anthropology).

The Borders research group organized several key events throughout the academic year. It hosted a reading session on "Coloniality, Migration, and Maritime Worlds", discussing the work of Dr. Mawani and Dr. Obeegadoo. Guest lectures included Dr. Renisa Mawani, with her talk "Enemies of Empire: Commerce and Confinement in Colonial

India, Burma, and Siam, 1914-1920," and Dr. Nikhita Obeegadoo, discussing Mauritian author Nathacha Appanah's novel *Tropique de la violence*. A virtual screening of the documentary "Safe Haven" took place in February 2024, followed by a discussion with Dr. Alison Mountz and Lisa Molomot. Dr. Lisa Sundstrom spoke about Russian migration to Georgia post-Russian invasion of Ukraine and Dr. Omid Tofighian and Elahe Zivardar presented on "Creative Resistance Against Australian Border Violence," in an event co-sponsored by Green College and the



Ahmadian Lectures at UBC. The group also produced two issues of its zine, titled *The Poetics and Politics of Borders: An Archive*, which has featured graduate student essays and recaps of the group's activities.

### CIRCULATION: AFRICA AND ITS DIASPORAS

The Circulation: Africa and its Diasporas Research Group includes 21 faculty and graduate students from 10 disciplines. It focuses on migration to/ from/on the African continent, and on the resulting circulation of objects, languages, and ideas between the continent and its diasporas in Asia, the Americas, and Europe. The group aims to foster a scholarly community for collaborative research, publications, and grant proposals while engaging with community partners in Vancouver. Additionally, it seeks to enhance the visibility and relevance of African (Migration) Studies and African Diaspora Studies at UBC, ultimately contributing to a sustainable institutional structure for these fields. The group is co-led by **Antje Ziethen** (Assistant Professor, French, Hispanic, & Italian Studies), and **Calisto Mudzingwa** (Sessional Lecturer, Linguistics and African Studies).

This year, the Circulation: Africa and its Diasporas research group hosted two major events. The first was a roundtable discussion titled “Harmony in Action: Bridging Communities at UBC,” featuring representatives from five African community organizations in Metro Vancouver. The second event, in collaboration with the CMS Mobilities Research Group, was a talk by Dr. Duncan Yoon (NYU-Gallatin) on “History and Symbol in Africa-China Relations.”

## COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Community-University Partnerships group included 23 members from 14 disciplines and focuses on developing strong collaborative partnerships between academics and community members. To that end, the group fosters a community-university approach in CMS and facilitates research collaborations between academic and community partners that lead to the development of grant proposals. Areas of research include migrant integration and inclusion; language, literacy, and linguistics; undocumented migration and statelessness; community-engaged research; and survey research. In 2023-24, the group was led by **Suzanne Huot** (Associate Professor, Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy).

This year, the research group hosted two panel discussion events: “‘Citizen Alien’ or ‘Alien Citizen’? Dialoguing Lived Citizenship through Collaborative Ethnography and Perspectives on Immigrant Employment and the Future of Work,” held in conjunction with Bridging Divides. The research group concluded its activities at the end of the 2023-24 academic year, reflecting the fact that community-focused work has successfully been integrated into many aspects of CMS’ work. Collaborators will continue to have ample opportunities for engagement with community-university partnerships.

## MIGRATION AND INDIGENEITY

The Migration and Indigeneity Research Group is home to 15 members from 10 disciplines and

is committed to advancing the Indigenization of migration studies, both through teaching and research. The research group explores the intersection of migration studies and Indigeneity through reading, discussing, teaching, writing, and engaging in dialogue with scholars and activists. Areas of research focus include topics such as settler colonialism and decolonization; borders and sovereignty; and Indigenous Studies.

In 2023-24, the group was led by Centre Co-Director, **Antje Ellermann** (Professor, Political Science).

## MOBILITIES

The Mobilities Research Group has 35 members from 13 disciplines and aims to produce new lines of inquiry within mobility analysis through humanistic, interpretive, multilingual, culturally sensitive scholarship on multiple and intersecting mobilities from both the humanities and social sciences. By addressing the complex mediums and meanings of mobilities and immobilities, the group foregrounds mobility within cultural, historical, media, and literary studies of the circulation of humans, objects, ideas, and images. Research areas include topics such as climate migration; gender and migration; digital and media studies; diasporas and transnationalism; and history of migration. In 2023-24, the group was co-led by **Megan Daniels** (Assistant Professor, Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Studies) and **Gaoheng Zhang** (Assistant Professor, Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies).

Among the main events of the year, the research group collaborated with the Narratives Research Group on the International Art Competition, which included a poetry award. They also organized Dr. Colom-Montero’s lecture titled “Overtourism and Culture: The Resident Gaze” and co-sponsored Dr. Heba Abd El Gawad’s visit to the Department of Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies (AMNE).

## NARRATIVES

The Narratives Research Group includes 23

members from 15 disciplines and is interested in any social, political, artistic, practical, and theoretical implications pertaining to narratives of migration and belonging and the politics of belonging. By investigating settler, migrant, refugee, and Indigenous narratives, the group seeks to identify alternative narratives that critically and constructively challenge Eurocentric notions of settlement, ownership, and identity. In order to foster a viewpoint of decolonized social belonging, the focus is on questioning binary and place-based concepts of hybridity, diversity, integration, settlement, and Indigenous belonging, as they appear in literature, film, and other media. The primary area of investigation is transformative aesthetics that renegotiate and change political perspectives and play a crucial part in challenging collective core narratives in plural societies. In 2023-24, the research group was led by **Elizabeth “Biz” Nijdam**, Assistant Professor of Teaching in Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies.

This year, the group hosted and co-hosted UBC speakers focused on migration narratives and the role of narratives in understanding migration. It organized several significant events, including a Climate Migration Workshop in collaboration with

the Mobilities Group and two comics projects with the UBC Comics Studies Cluster. The Narratives Research Group also hosted the CMS-co-sponsored “Games for Decolonization” Workshop (March 21-23, 2024), an interdisciplinary forum examining the intersections between board games and discourses of settler colonialism, decolonization, Indigenous sovereignty, and social justice. A primary outcome of this workshop was the launch of the Tarot for Decolonization Project.

## POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR

The Political Behaviour Research Group has 7 members from 2 disciplines and focuses on current research in immigration related to political behaviour and political attitudes. This is broadly construed so as to be inclusive of work that analyzes immigrants and minority members as units of analysis, as well as more mainstream public opinion work. Areas of research include integration and inclusion; immigration politics and policy; public opinion; and citizenship. In 2023-24, the group was led by **Matthew Wright** (Associate Professor, Political Science).

## Academic Partners

CMS maintains fruitful partnerships with other migration centres and university organizations across Canada and beyond. Together we foster research engagement and scholarly dialogue from our diverse geographies and methods of expertise. In 2023-24, CMS academic partners included:

**Toronto Metropolitan University** (Bridging Divides research program); **Concordia University** (Bridging Divides research program); **University of Alberta** (Bridging Divides research program); and **Hong Kong Baptist University Faculty of Social Sciences** (CMS International Research Conference).



## CMS International Research Conference 2024

In May 2024, CMS partnered with Hong Kong Baptist University Faculty of Social Sciences to host our annual International Research Conference.

The 2-day conference was designed to serve as a platform for established and emerging scholars to explore the intricate dynamics of migration and mobility in today's interconnected world. The 2024 theme, "Belonging and Mobility in a Transnational World," encapsulated the complex interplay between identity, movement, and connectivity across borders. The conference included 5 thematic panels across both days, with conference partner HKBU faculty members presenting alongside CMS faculty and graduate affiliates. Collectively, 20 researchers addressed topics ranging from barriers to education faced by former refugees and the role of gaming in transnational migratory experience, to questions of migrant labour mobility in the platform economy and friendship dynamics among Chinese LGBTQ+ migrants in North America. The conference also featured a professional development roundtable on academic publishing, offering a valuable and pragmatic conversation from across disciplines and career experience levels about this key aspect of academic life.

A special highlight of the conference was the in-person keynote address by renowned migration scholar, Professor **Nina Glick Schiller**. Her talk, titled "The End of Migration as We Know It: Studying and Opposing Regimes of Dehumanization," explored how today's intense anti-migration politics are influencing migration regimes to produce ones characterized by rightless labour and permanent transience.

In a powerful manifesto, Glick Schiller discussed growing awareness among migration scholars, activists, and policymakers of a new phase of dehumanizing migration. She addressed the way

migration regimes increasingly favour certain "desirable" migrants, while other migrants are increasingly marginalized. According to Glick Schiller, this reflects a broader reorganization of capital accumulation, and the creation of a dispossariat: "If you are displaced [...], you are disposable." Migration scholarship, she argued, needs to reflect current realities, rather than outdated theories based on past regimes of permanent settlement with rights. 85 attendees joined in-person, with more than two dozen online.

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*"We are living in a moment of politics that values the categorizing power of the nation-state over human lives."*

### PROF. NINA GLICK SCHILLER

Emeritus Professor, University of Manchester, UK and University of New Hampshire, USA

85

Attendees

10

UBC Departments  
Represented

5

Presentation  
Panels

1

Keynote  
Presentation

1

Publishing Panel





## Working Paper Series

Launched in the 2021-22 academic year, our open access Working Paper Series (WPS) aims to foster academic discussion and showcase original research on migration and mobilities across all disciplines. The series, which is housed on the CMS website, features work from CMS-affiliated faculty, students, visiting scholars, and community members actively engaged with the Centre. In 2023-24, we published two additional working papers.

### 2023-24 Publications:

- “Mapping African Migration Literature Across the Atlantic,” by Andisheh Ghaderi and Antje Ziethen
- “Factors That Influence the Educational Aspirations of Young Adult Women from Refugee Backgrounds,” by Sonja Aicha van der Putten

In 2023-24, the WPS continued to be overseen by an interdisciplinary team of faculty editors comprised

of CMS Co-Director **Antje Ellermann** (Professor, Political Science), **Alessandra Santos** (Associate Professor, French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies), **Matthew Wright** (Associate Professor, Political Science), and **Gaoheng Zhang** (Associate Professor, Italian Studies). In 2023-24, **Fiana Kawane** (PhD Candidate, English Language & Literatures) served as Editorial Assistant and **Gabriele Dumpys Woolever** (Research Manager) provided editorial and copy-editing support.

With the close of the 2023-24 academic year, the series will be archived on our website and our publication work will transition to the Migration Insights Series, continuing our commitment to sharing innovative research and encouraging academic dialogue.

## Speaker Series

The 2023/24 Speaker Series “Integration Reimagined,” included four speaker events and aimed to foster alternative and critical perspectives on questions of integration and belonging in contexts of immigration.

In October, **Jaeeun Kim**, Professor of Sociology at the University of Michigan, gave a lecture titled “Repertoires of Redemption: Migration, Asylum, and Religion in the Era of Involuntary Immobility,” highlighting how migration governance, transnational religion, and politics of humanitarianism are navigated. She explored the practical, legal, and moral challenges that immigration bureaucrats, religious actors, and asylum-seekers face through the cases of ethnic Korean migrants from China who apply for asylum in the US as Christians.

**Adrian Favell**, Director of the Radical Humanities Laboratory at University College Cork, joined us in November to present his work in critical migration studies, underlining how complacent mainstream conceptions have contributed to the worsening of global inequalities and restrictive borders. His lecture, titled “The Dangers of the Immigrant Integration Paradigm,” explored how the dominant North Atlantic conception of “immigrant integration” works to reproduce colonial and Eurocentric ideas of multi-racial progress.

**Willem Schinkel**, Professor of Social Theory at Erasmus University Rotterdam, gave a virtual lecture in February titled “Migration as Debt.” He argued that migration is becoming an object of concern only as an effect of accounting, reproducing colonial



divides. He explored this through the context of EU-ropean registration, and the problematization and management of migration, providing ways to consider the coloniality of knowledge production in migration studies and what its decolonization might mean in practice.

Closing the series in March, **Miriam Ticktin**, Professor of Anthropology at CUNY Graduate Center, lectured on her research into the

contradictions raised by the concept of occupation in her talk titled “Migrant Occupations: Practices of Freedom?” In a global political context, which favors practices of containment, she traced a series of antiracist and decolonial struggles against enclosures. Ticktin examined spatial occupations by migrants and their fight for the freedom to stay, challenging regimes of private property and nation-state governance.

## International Art Competition



Artwork First Prize: Rosalie Dipsu, *Make Your Way*, 2023

First launched in early 2021, the CMS International Art Competition is part of an effort to open a conversation with established and emerging artists on topics of migration and mobility. We believe that artists and artwork play a vital role in fostering our understanding of migration and mobility (broadly understood), as well as in shaping the public narratives around this critical aspect of everyday human life and history.

The CMS International Art Competition is organized by the CMS Mobilities and Narratives Research

Groups, and headed by Dr. **Gaoheng Zhang** (Department of French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies). The competition is open to anyone and includes cash prizes in different categories. This year, CMS awarded the Artwork First Prize to **Rosalie Dipsu** for her digital illustration, *Make Your Way* (2023); the Artwork Honourable Mention to **Harem Tahir** for his painting, *Seeking Safety* (2023), and the Poetry First Prize to **Jiaqi Wang** for her poem titled “Territory Is a Trampoline” (2023).

# *Train the next generation of migration researchers & professionals*

## Graduate Student Engagement and Training

### GRAD FELLOWS PROGRAM

In October, we welcomed our second annual cohort of Graduate Fellows for the 2023-24 academic year. This year marked significant growth in the applicant pool, with 33% more than the prior year. Applicants from 17 disciplines applied, and each of the 11 selected members of the cohort were from different disciplines. As before, the program offered an interdisciplinary community where students from any UBC graduate degree program are supported to expand and deepen their migration studies in various ways. Fellows receive a financial award, cross-disciplinary mentorship, and opportunities to present their research in the Grad Power Hour series and the spring Symposium, which they co-organize with the CMS Research Manager. They participate in various CMS speaker events and research group meetings, playing a vital role in our academic community and contributing to the relationships and initiatives that underpin the Centre's research excellence. Our 2023/24 Fellows were: **Astou Thiam** (PhD student, Occupational Therapy & Occupational Science); **Chieh Lü** (PhD Candidate, Educational Studies); **Emma Stirling-Cameron** (Master's student, School of Population and Public Health); **Fabiola del Rincon Fernandez** (PhD student, French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies); **Guntas Kaur** (PhD student, Sociology); **Lin Zeng**, (MA student, Anthropology); **María Cervantes** (PhD Candidate, Geography); **Naomi Maldonado-Rodriguez** (PhD Candidate, Kinesiology); **Quinton Huang** (MA student, History); **Temitayo Olarewaju** (PhD student, Allard School of Law); **Ziwen Mei** (PhD student, Language & Literacy Education).

With the close of the 2023-24 academic year, Grad Fellows Program activities are now being folded into the core seminar (ASTU 505) of the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies.

### GRAD POWER HOUR

In 2023-24, our Grad Power Hour series gave graduate students the opportunity to present their research to peers and faculty members in a lunchtime setting with significant time for discussion and feedback. In Nov 2023, PhD student, **Temitayo Olarewaju** (Allard School of Law) presented his paper, "Land Grabbing Encounters Forcible Displacement: Exploring Intersections, Implications, and Solutions." Using a case study of alleged land grabbing in a district of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, he examined how land grabs frequently create significant social problems, arguing that they fall within the purview of the Rome Statute, which prohibits forcible displacement as a crime against humanity. In Feb 2024, PhD student, **Ziwen Mei** (Language and Literacy Education) presented her in-progress research, "Negotiating Identity and Family Language Policy: Rural Migrant Workers and Floating Children in Urban China." With nearly 2,000 regional languages in China, but only Mandarin Chinese officially legitimized for communication across public domains, Mei's study sought to understand how migrant workers use language to negotiate nuanced power dynamics between their individual agency and social and familial structures.



# Development of the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies

Graduate training has been a cornerstone of CMS's mission since our inception. With our Graduate Fellows Program as a foundation, we imagined further ways to expand graduate training into a recognized credential, which would reflect and cohere students' engagement in migration scholarship. In 2023-24, we received Senate approval for the new Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies. This was no small feat: we undertook hours of consultation and feedback with grad students, assessing the potential value and desired content of such a program; we met with curriculum development colleagues and reviewed potential course offerings from numerous faculty affiliates; we worked closely with Graduate Studies, the Faculty of Arts, and other administrative offices to develop a set of program requirements and options that were viable, desirable, and in line with CMS core principles. In spring, the Graduate Certificate in Migration Studies was formally approved, with the first pool of applicants to be enrolled starting September 2024.

What does the new program look like? It emphasizes

multi- and interdisciplinary training, career advancement through professional development, and the cultivation of a diverse, inclusive, and engaged community. The Graduate Certificate is an academic credit program, open to students at UBC who are admitted to or enrolled in any UBC graduate program. It allows students to pursue a migration studies credential alongside their degree program, with a requirement of 10 course credits. Nine of these credits are considered electives, drawing from approved migration courses across UBC disciplines. In order to make the program accessible, some credits may be counted from the student's degree program or prior-completed courses. The program coheres around a required one-credit core seminar, which meets bi-weekly across the entire academic year. Co-taught by the CMS Co-Directors, the seminar brings together each new annual cohort of up to 15 students from diverse experiential and disciplinary backgrounds. The seminar uniquely allows students the opportunity to present and hone their own research in an interdisciplinary context, framing questions and approaches not available within a single home discipline. In this supportive environment, they also encounter critical inquiry around decolonizing migration studies, including Indigenous leaders and elders as guest speakers. Other guests include leaders from nonprofit organizations and government offices working in the immigration field, which exposes students to vocations beyond the academy that engage migration studies.

We are excited to transition our graduate training work from the Grad Fellows program into the Grad Certificate Program starting in 2024/25, and look forward to welcoming our first cohort of students.



## GRAD FELLOWS SYMPOSIUM

On March 1st, the 2023-24 cohort of CMS Grad Fellows presented the second annual CMS Grad Fellows Symposium. This full-day event, held in the Peña Room at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, featured thought-provoking research talks by 11 emerging migration scholars from 11 different disciplines. They explored critical issues of migration, identity, health, and community building. The Fellows collaboratively planned the symposium with the guidance and support of the CMS Research Manager, which provided opportunities for organizing a complex public event and exchanging interdisciplinary research. Presentations were organized into three thematic panels.

The opening panel, "Voices of Migration: Language and Identity," explored language, identity, and migration. **Chieh Lü** presented her research, "Global Governmentality of Language and International Students' Subjectivity in Higher Education," highlighting challenges faced by international students. **María Cervantes** discussed "How to Build a Highly Skilled Migrant," focusing on migration policies. "Negotiating Identity and Family Language Planning in Rural-Urban Migration" by **Ziwen Mei** examined rural-urban migration's impact on Chinese families. **Fabiola del Rincón Fernández's** "Mapping as a Decolonial Practice in Latin American Art(i) Facts" added a creative dimension and exploration of decoloniality and migration.

The second panel, "Exploring the Intersection of Land, Place, and Migration," considered topics related to land, place, and migration. **Tayo Olarewaju's** "Land Grabbing Meets Forcible Displacement in International Criminal Law: An Illustrative Example of Cambodia" delved into legal issues of displacement. **Guntas Kaur's** "Re-assessing Early Sikh Migration Histories on Turtle Island: An Anti-colonial and Critical Solidarity Perspective" challenged historical migration narratives. **Quinton Huang's** "Toward a Global Framework of Refugee Subjectivity" focused on postwar Hong Kong. **Lin Zeng's** "Solidarity through Stand Up Comedy:

Transnational Chinese Queer Feminists in Vancouver and Beyond" highlighted comedy's role in migrant integration.

The third panel, "Building Healthy Communities: Perspectives on Migrant Health and Well-Being," addressed migrant health. **Astou Thiam** discussed "Politics of Immigrant Integration for French-Speaking Community in Greater Vancouver," focusing on the francophone community. **Naomi Maldonado-Rodriguez** presented "Integrating Understandings of Forced Migration into Health Research," exploring policy impacts on health access. **Emma Stirling-Cameron's** "The Influence of US-Mexico Border Policies on the Perinatal and Infant Health of Migrant Women in Tijuana, Mexico" examined border policies' health effects.

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*"Hosting and organizing the symposium was an insightful exercise in interdisciplinary collaboration. We managed to get creative and find ways to work together that gave everyone the opportunity to contribute and shape the day. I really enjoyed getting to know the other fellows during the duration of the program, and the challenge of organizing the symposium, while balancing our other research and teaching activities made us understand each other better. It was exciting to learn about the research other fellows are doing, and I was glad to find new collaborators and friends through this experience."*



### MARÍA CERVANTES

CMS Grad Fellow 2023-24, PhD  
Candidate, Geography



## BEST GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

The Migration & Mobilities Best Graduate Paper Award, launched by CMS in 2023-24, is a competition designed to recognize and celebrate the academic excellence of affiliates graduate students. This award offers emerging scholars a unique platform to share their research with the academic community and beyond.

The award winner receives a \$400 cash prize and has their winning paper published in the CMS Working Paper Series (WPS), subject to review and recommended revisions by the WPS editors. This combination of financial reward and publication opportunity aims to significantly advance the winner's academic and professional career.

This year, **Tori Shucheng Yang** (PhD candidate, Sociology) received the award for her paper titled "Rethinking Queer Migration: The Case of Skilled Chinese LGBTQ+ Migrants in North America." Yang's research examines how the sexuality of skilled Chinese LGBTQ+ migrants in North America evolves throughout their migration journey, emphasizing the need for a broader understanding of how identity intersects with different modes of migration beyond sexual orientation.



# 04

## Community Engagement

With CMS in a stage of growth, 2023-24 marked a pivotal transition towards a more holistic, long-term approach to our vision and plans for community engagement. We have continued to explore ways to catalyze CMS-community collaborations, and initiatives that honor and support our intentions towards decolonization and relational approaches.

The successes of the past year include our ongoing work with the CMS Community Advisory Board (CAB); the first annual CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day (with key partner, AMSSA); our close partnerships with AMSSA and CEN (the Community Engagement Network at UBC); plus specific research projects with community partners led by CMS affiliates.

The external components of our engagement strategy help us identify actions and collaborations

that bring accountability to the intersection of our research relations with the community and our decolonizing aspirations. Yet through our active and reflective work, we have also learned that balancing our internal (organizational) and external (community) practices around engagement is crucial for achieving our long-term goals. In alignment with the outcomes of our 2023-24 efforts, we will implement an assessment process internal to CMS, focused on decolonizing elements of our internal operations as they relate to our community engagement initiatives and specific projects with community partners. This will enable us to critically examine our organizational practices as a key aspect of our community collaborations.





# *Building a long-term purpose for CMS's engagement work*

## Community Advisory Board

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) provides a bridge between CMS, Metro Vancouver, and broader community entities in BC with an interest in research and other economic, political, and social issues surrounding migration. Meeting twice a year, they function as an auxiliary layer of governance for CMS, working with the Executive Committee to advise on research priorities in the region and on building productive partnerships between researchers and the community. This includes appropriate practices for managing fair and equitable research partnerships.

In 2023-2024, our work with the CAB continued to strengthen our relationships with the local settlement sector. Through our CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day in fall, our meeting in spring, and additional online sessions, we started to collectively build a Collaboration Framework based on:

- **Mutual Understanding:** Looking at exploring and addressing the realities of the Sector and Academia when it comes to community-based research, particularly those unknown aspects that shape some of the barriers and common misunderstandings that are present in our relationships and collaborations.
- **Research Connections:** Aiming at finding common research interests between the Sector Research Agenda and CMS affiliates' initiatives in order to make connections that can develop within and beyond the CMS-CAB work.
- **Capacity Building:** Brainstorming ideas to build each other's capacity so research collaborations and partnerships can address and overcome, as much as possible, the barriers and common

misunderstandings that may impact specific collaborations between the Sector and Academia.

Based on the idea that 'we are all community,' we started to invite CMS research affiliates to the CAB gatherings, in order to start deconstructing the perception that the university is distinct from 'community.' Our vision for the future is a Community Advisory Board that brings together researchers and representatives from settlement organizations, fostering holistic advice and contributions through relationality and mutual understanding. 2023-24 CAB participants included:

**Alexia Bloch**, UBC Anthropology; **Huda Bolbolan**, South Vancouver Neighbourhood House; **Lisa Brunner**, CMS Postdoctoral Research Fellow; **Arvinder Bubber**, A.S. Bubber & Associates; **Anastasia Chyz-Lesage**, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (Western Region); **Katie Crocker**, Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA), EC Community Liaison; **Kat Cureton**, UBC Community Engagement Network; **Antje Ellermann**, CMS Co-Director; **Lily Grewal**, BC Government (Immigrant Integration Vancouver); **Vince Hopkins**, UBC Political Science; **Vandna Joshi**, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society; **Norm Leech**, Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House; **Jing Liu**, Chimo Community Services; **Calisto Mudzingwa**, S.U.C.C.E.S.S; **Elizabeth "Biz" Nijdam**, UBC Department of Central, Eastern, and Northern European Studies; **Javier Ojer**, CMS Engagement Strategist; **Yusra Qadir**, Mothers Matter Centre; **Sandra Schinnerl**, CMS Postdoctoral Research Fellow; **Kathy Sherrell**, ISSofBC; **Sean Lauer**, UBC Sociology, EC Community Liaison; **Olga Stachova**, MOSAIC; **Antje Ziethen**, UBC Department of French, Hispanic and Italian Studies.

## CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day

On October 26th, 2023, we hosted the inaugural CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day in partnership with AMSSA. Centered on the themes of "Decolonization" and "Mutual Understanding," the event sought to establish a robust foundation for long-term relationships between organizations in the immigration settlement sector and CMS researchers, graduate students, and staff. The event supported the creation of a blueprint for following years, collecting information that was used throughout the rest of the year to build our Collaboration Framework. As a first iteration of many "Research Days" to come, the main successes included the connections made that day and the content and questions collected from participants.

### Decolonization

As we explore decolonizing practices, we need to grapple with the realities of current colonialism and our participation in it. We need to define our role based on a practical understanding of 'Decolonization' as the divestment from institutional colonial practices and structures, and 'Indigenization' as the reinstatement of Indigenous ways. A key question raised was: "Who has to do what, and why?"

When it comes to research, two fundamental questions were suggested as practical approaches to 'decolonizing research,' which garnered lots of support:

- *Will this research re-create colonialism, and harm or support the healing?*
- *Who gets to ask the research question(s) and set and validate the methodology?*

### Mutual Understanding

We emphasized exploring typical dynamics between researchers and members of the settlement sector in order to address, through relationality, recurrent issues happening in their collaborations. We invited participants to particularly shed light in particular on what they believe might be unfamiliar realities for each other.

Panelists and participants brought up structural realities that highly impact and condition research collaborations between academy and the sector, as well as conceptions around "community-based" research that might not be equally understood by both sides.

From ideas to build research capacity and establish projects where co-creation and co-funding are key approaches, to art as research methodology and the political realm of research and partnership, participants suggested key areas for CMS to work on as we develop a better understanding of the sector.

50

Attendees

27

Immigration and Settlement  
Sector Professionals

1

Keynote  
Presentation

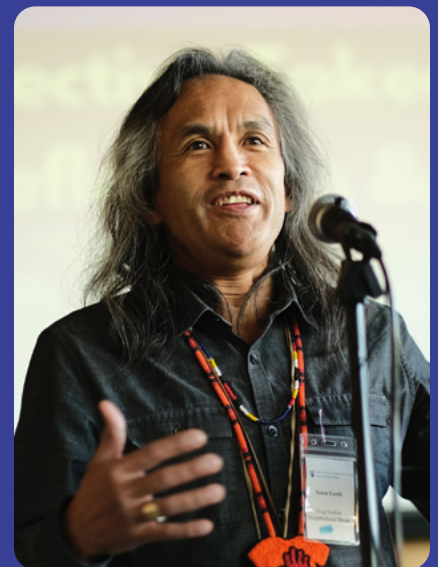
2

Presentation Panels

1

Roundtable  
Activity





# *Rooting our findings in “lived experiences”*

Rooting our findings in the lived experiences of immigrants is foundational to CMS’s work. Our collaboration with the Community Advisory Board (CAB) supports this by bringing perspectives and voices to CMS that are often absent from academic discussions. During 2023-24, we introduced CMS’s Graphic Narratives of Migration project to the CAB, showcasing how we can translate community insights and voices into our research methodology through art.

As we continue to incorporate decolonizing elements into our engagement work, we have begun exploring the idea of enhancing the concept of “lived experience” to include our own experience as a colonial institution in times of reconciliation. This inward exploration is based on the understanding that the impacts on immigrants’ lived experiences are deeply connected to the colonial structures and practices inherent in research and education. This concept will be further developed as part of our ongoing process of self-reflection.

## Community Partners

CMS collaborates with a range of community partners to better understand the diverse impacts of migration in real-world contexts. These relationships inform and deepen our analyses – shaping the outcomes of our work and those of our partners in reciprocal, shared ways. In 2023/24, the following partners were active collaborators on CMS Research Projects or other initiatives.

**AMSSA (Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC)** is a provincial umbrella organization association that provides resources and support to over 90 member agencies that serve newcomers to the region. In addition to AMSSA’s formative relationship with CMS and representation in CMS Governance, AMSSA CEO Katie Crocker serves as the co-supervisor of the CMS Engagement Strategist, a unique staff role that bridges collaborative work between the community and the academy. In 2023/24, AMSSA partnered with CMS on the first CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day, and also continued their role as a partner in the Belonging in Unceded Territory research project.

### **FHNH (Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House)**

plays a leadership role in building a healthy and engaged neighbourhood by connecting people and strengthening their capacity to create change. In 2023/24, FHNH continued their role as a partner in the Belonging in Unceded Territory research project,

### **ISSofBC (Immigrant Services Society of BC)**

is a provider of settlement support services for immigrants and refugees in BC. In 2023/24, ISSofBC continued their role as a partner in the Belonging in Unceded Territory project

**S.U.C.C.E.S.S. (Social Service Agency, BC)** promotes the well-being of Canadians and immigrants and encourages their full participation in community affairs in the spirit of multiculturalism. In 2023/24, CMS facilitated a MITACS-sponsored research internship at SUCCESS for a CMS graduate affiliate.





## Stories of Partnership: AMSSA and CMS

The partnership between CMS and AMSSA was featured in the inaugural session of UBC's Community Engagement Network (CEN) "Stories of Partnerships" series. The series' objective is to highlight community-university partnerships that exemplify reciprocity, and to foster a culture of continuous learning in community engagement practices by providing an opportunity for UBC staff to gain insights directly from community partners.

With AMSSA being highlighted as a robust, long-standing CMS community partner, the joys and hardships of community-university relationships were shared in an open, honest conversation. An audience of community engagement practitioners learned about the development of this collaboration, including some of its unique features: the participation of AMSSA's CEO on the CMS' Executive Committee; the dual-reporting role of the CMS Engagement Strategist; the integration of decolonial approaches; and the intentionality of being self-reflective and promptly addressing the inevitable misalignments that arise in this type of partnership.

Attendees from both UBC and community organizations reported key takeaways, such as: a deeper understanding of the power dynamics between community partners and the university; the impact that developing and maintaining quality relationships has on community engagement work at large; and the fact that community partners are experts in their fields in the way that academics are in theirs.

Through informal conversations on the day of the event, participants also expressed feeling inspired and having learned practical ways to approach community collaborations.

This event is also a consequence of another important partnership, that of CMS with the UBC Community Engagement Network (CEN). Other relevant collaborations with CEN in 2023-24 included CMS' seat at CEN's Advisory Committee and a direct collaboration in and funding of "UBC Reads Sustainability with Jody Wilson-Raybould."



# 05

## Policy Outreach

In 2023-24, CMS engaged in valuable policy outreach activities and invested significantly in building our capacity for more engagement.

In November 2023, CMS Co-Director Ellermann spent two days at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), participating in meetings with the Directors and Directors General from different branches, aligned with their respective research interests. Alongside other university leads from the Bridging Divides research program, Ellermann presented a range of research projects, fostering meaningful dialogue and engagement with IRCC leadership.

In other collaborative work alongside Bridging Divides partners, CMS co-sponsored a policy roundtable in April 2024 (organized by the University of Toronto Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy), titled “Canadian Citizenship in Transition: Trends, Debates, and Challenges.” Four expert panelists from the academy, government, and nonprofit sector discussed increasingly urgent matters, including: the decline in Canada’s naturalization rate; consequences of changing immigration policies on newcomers’ access to citizenship; the positionality of new Canadians and their access (or lack thereof) to economic, social, and political power; and conflicting ideas of what constitutes “good” citizenship and Canadian national identity.

Later in spring – and perhaps most notably – CMS was invited to join a select delegation to Ottawa for UBC’s “Day on the Hill,” in which senior UBC administration and lead researchers met with lawmakers to discuss relevant areas of policy concern and scholarly expertise. (See p. 39 for more about this occasion.)

Alongside these activities, CMS invested in building its policy outreach capacity in 2023-24 with the creation of a Communications Specialist staff role. This position, which was filled in January, has been responsible for developing a strategic communications plan with the Director(s). While this has included cohering the look and feel of CMS’ visual identity and promotional materials, more importantly, it has allowed creative pursuit of ways to leverage the existing expertise of CMS research into more effective knowledge mobilization initiatives. The Communications Specialist has been building connections with larger UBC communications offices, developed our social media presence, pursued opportunities for CMS researchers’ work to be amplified, and laid the groundwork to execute new initiatives in the coming year (such as public-facing briefs that distil relevant research into accessible and impactful formats for policymakers’ use). With these efforts and a growing media relations presence, we look forward to continued growth in policy outreach.

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*Engaging the public  
in evidence-based conversations*

## UBC “Day on the Hill”

On April 29th, CMS Co-Director **Dr. Antje Ellermann** and CMS Postdoctoral Research Fellow **Dr. Lisa Brunner** engaged in a productive “Day on the Hill” in Ottawa. Joined by UBC officials **Dr. Rehan Sadiq** (Provost and VP, Academic, UBC Okanagan), **Dr. Christiane Hoppmann** (Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Arts), and **Adriaan de Jager** (Associate VP, Government Relations and Community Engagement), the group showcased the rich interdisciplinary, intersectoral, and community-engaged research conducted through the CMS.

One topic of discussion was CMS’s exploration of decolonizing migration studies by supporting community-engaged research and programming that centers on the intersection of migration, settler colonialism, and Indigeneity. Dr. Ellermann shared insights from the Belonging in Unceded Territory project, which highlights the importance of acknowledging settler colonialism and integrating Indigenous knowledge into discussions on social belonging in Vancouver.

The group also highlighted the Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides research program. Dr. Ellermann and Dr. Brunner discussed their current Bridging Divides work on immigrant naturalization and citizenship education. Dr. Brunner additionally shared findings from her PhD dissertation, which focused on the ethics of Canada’s higher education-migration nexus and the retention of international students as immigrants.

By demonstrating CMS’ excellence in migration and mobilities research, the delegation positioned UBC as a resource to policy makers and legislators on migration issues.

The CMS team is very grateful for the insightful conversations with the following stakeholders: **Scott Harris** (Associate Deputy Minister, IRCC), **Louise Baird** (Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic



and Program Policy, IRCC), **Catherine Scott** (Assistant Deputy Minister, Settlement, Integration & Francophone Affairs, IRCC), **Julie Spattz** (Senior Director of Temporary



Economic Immigration, IRCC), **Youmy Han** (Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Minister, IRCC), **The Honourable Mobina Jaffer** (Senator for British Columbia), **Joyce Murray** (Member of Parliament for Vancouver Quadra), and **Sukh Dhaliwal** (Member of Parliament for Surrey-Newton and Chair, Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration).



# Digital Engagement

## WEBSITE | WWW.MIGRATION.UBC.CA

The CMS website serves as a central hub for information about the Centre, offering news updates, event announcements, research projects, and details about affiliates and community partners. Between June 1, 2023, and June 1, 2024, the website attracted 17,018 unique users, generating 53,053 page views. Visitors primarily hailed from Canada, the United States, India, the United Kingdom, Germany, China, and Hong Kong.



Acquisition overview  
June 1, 2023 - June 1, 2024



Audience top countries  
June 1, 2023 - June 1, 2024

## SOCIAL MEDIA

In 2023-24, CMS leveraged multiple social media platforms, including X (formerly Twitter), LinkedIn, and YouTube, to share information widely. These channels were instrumental in promoting events, announcements, opportunities, and research findings. As of June 2024, CMS had 1,415 followers on X (a 7% increase since January 2024) and 974 followers on LinkedIn (a 25% increase since January 2024).

## NEWSLETTER

Our “Weekly Update” newsletter is sent to 539 subscribers (as June 2024), including academics, graduate students, community partners, and policymakers. This newsletter highlights upcoming events, important announcements, and opportunities within and beyond CMS. It keeps stakeholders informed and engaged with the Centre’s activities. In 2023-24, CMS sent 42 issues from March 21, 2024 to May 30, 2024, with an average open rate of 58.65% and an average click rate of 8.38%.

# 06

## Further Information

### Appendix A: Funding and Support

#### **UBC SPONSOR UNITS** · *pledged annual funds and in-kind contributions*

Department of Anthropology  
 Department of Central, Eastern and Northern European Studies  
 Department of Geography  
 Department of Political Science  
 Department of Sociology  
 Faculty of Arts Dean's Office  
 Peter A. Allard School of Law  
 Anonymous Donor

#### **GCRC FUNDS** · *Grants for Catalysing Research Clusters*

CMS programming is supported by competitively awarded funds from the GCRC Competition, provided by the UBC Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI). 2023-24 was the first year of a 2-year grant from GCRC totalling \$200,000.

#### **OTHER UBC SUPPORT** · *occasional programming funds, in-kind contributions, or event co-sponsorships*

Centre for European Studies  
 Community Engagement Network  
 Department of Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies  
 Green College Leading Scholars Series  
 School of Public Policy and Global Affairs

#### **EXTERNAL SUPPORT** · *occasional programming funds, in-kind contributions, or event co-sponsorships*

AMSSA (Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC)  
 Hong Kong Baptist University, Faculty of Social Sciences  
 Michael Smith Health Research BC  
 MOSAIC: Settlement and Employment Services for Newcomers  
 S.U.C.C.E.S.S.  
 Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture

#### **RESEARCH GRANTS**

In 2023-24, CMS central research was funded by existing grants from the following entities:  
 CFREF (Canada First Research Excellence Funds)

- Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides (\$12.4 million over 7 years)
- SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council)
- Belonging in Unceded Territory (Partnership Development Grant – \$200,000 over 3 years [extended])
  - Complex Migration Flows and Multiple Drivers in Comparative Perspective ("MEMO") (Partnership Grant – \$56,400 over 3 years)

## Appendix B: CMS Affiliates (as of June 2024)

### UBC FACULTY AFFILIATES

1. Afsoun Afsahi, Assistant Professor, Political Science
2. Nora Angeles, Associate Professor, School of Community & Regional Planning
3. Efrat Arbel, Associate Professor, Allard School of Law
4. Gage Averill, Professor, Ethnomusicology; Provost & Vice-President Academic
5. Jemima Baada, Assistant Professor, Geography
6. Erin Baines, Professor, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
7. George Belliveau, Professor, Language & Literacy Education
8. Alexia Bloch, Professor, Anthropology
9. Irene Bloemraad, Professor, Political Science, Sociology; CMS Co-Director
10. Sophie Borwein, Assistant Professor, Political Science
11. Marie-Eve Bouchard, Assistant Professor, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
12. Katherine Bowers, Associate Professor, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
13. Benjamin Bryce, Associate Professor, History
14. Amanda Cardoso, Lecturer, Linguistics
15. Anna Casas Aguilar, Assistant Professor, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
16. Amanda Cheong, Assistant Professor, Sociology
17. John Christopoulos, Associate Professor, History
18. Gillian Creese, Professor Emerita, Sociology
19. John Culbert, Sessional Lecturer, English Language & Literatures, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
20. Arianna Dagnino, Sessional Lecturer, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
21. Megan Daniels, Assistant Professor, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies
22. Catherine Dauvergne, Professor, Allard School of Law
23. Franco De Angelis, Professor, Classical, Near Eastern & Religious Studies
24. Antje Ellermann, Professor, Political Science; CMS Co-Director
25. Eagle Glassheim, Professor, History
26. Benjamin Goold, Professor, Allard School of Law
27. David Gramling, Professor, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
28. David Green, Professor, Vancouver School of Economics
29. Markus Hallensleben, Associate Professor, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
30. Amira Halperin, Sessional Lecturer, Sociology
31. Bethany Hastie, Associate Professor, Allard School of Law
32. Dan Hiebert, Professor Emeritus, Geography
33. Vince Hopkins, Assistant Professor, Political Science
34. Suzanne Huot, Associate Professor, Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
35. Mohamed Ibrahim, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work
36. Richard Johnston, Professor Emeritus, Political Science
37. Anna Jurkevics, Assistant Professor, Political Science
38. Aryan Karimi, Assistant Professor, Sociology
39. Asha Kaushal, Associate Professor, Allard School of Law
40. Peter Klein, Professor, Graduate School of Journalism
41. Uma Kumar, Lecturer, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
42. Sean Lauer, Professor, Sociology



43. **Barbara Lee**, Assistant Professor, School of Social Work
44. **Christopher Lee**, Associate Professor, English Language & Literatures
45. **Dorothee Leensing**, Sessional Lecturer, Educational Technologies; Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice
46. **Guofang Li**, Professor, Language & Literacy Education
47. **Xiaojun Li**, Associate Professor, Political Science
48. **Neda Maghbouleh**, Associate Professor, Sociology
49. **Minelle Mahtani**, Associate Professor, Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice
50. **Renisa Mawani**, Professor, Sociology
51. **Anne Murphy**, Associate Professor, History
52. **Elizabeth “Biz” Nijdam**, Assistant Professor of Teaching, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
53. **Sofia Noori**, Assistant Professor, Educational Studies
54. **Karen O'Regan**, Sessional Instructor, English Language Institute
55. **Nikhita Obeegadoo**, Assistant Professor, Language & World Literatures (UBC Okanagan)
56. **Kai Ostwald**, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs, Political Science
57. **Jenny Peterson**, Associate Professor of Teaching, Political Science
58. **Geraldine Pratt**, Professor, Geography
59. **Yue Qian**, Associate Professor, Sociology
60. **Lisa Richlen**, Sessional Lecturer, Sociology
61. **Oral Robinson**, Lecturer, Sociology
62. **Alessandra Santos**, Associate Professor, Theatre & Film
63. **Elif Sari**, Assistant Professor, Anthropology
64. **Thomas Schneider**, Professor, Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Studies
65. **Marc-David Seidel**, Associate Professor, Sauder School of Business
66. **Hongxia Shan**, Associate Professor, Educational Studies
67. **Pasang Sherpa**, Assistant Professor, Asian Studies, Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies
68. **Sara Shneiderman**, Associate Professor, Anthropology, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
69. **Munir Squires**, Assistant Professor, Vancouver School of Economics
70. **Michelle Stack**, Associate Professor, Educational Studies; Academic Director, UBC Learning Exchange
71. **Guy Stecklov**, Professor, Sociology
72. **Juanita Sundberg**, Associate Professor, Geography
73. **Ania Switzer**, Sessional Lecturer, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
74. **Alison Taylor**, Professor, Educational Studies
75. **Alice Te Punga Somerville**, Professor, English Language & Literatures, Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies
76. **Heidi Tworek**, Professor, History
77. **Claudio Vellutini**, Assistant Professor, School of Music
78. **Shannon Ward**, Assistant Professor, Community, Culture & Global Studies
79. **Rima Wilkes**, Professor, Sociology
80. **Matthew Wright**, Associate Professor, Political Science
81. **Miu Chung Yan**, Professor, School of Social Work
82. **Christina Yi**, Associate Professor, Asian Studies
83. **Ayaka Yoshimizu**, Associate Professor, Asian Studies
84. **Henry Yu**, Professor, History
85. **Helena Zeweri**, Assistant Professor, Anthropology
86. **Gaoheng Zhang**, Associate Professor, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies

87. Antje Ziethen, Associate Professor, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies

## UBC POSTDOCTORAL AFFILIATES

1. Lisa Brunner, Postdoctoral Fellow, Educational Studies
2. Monique Gagne, Research Associate, School for Population & Public Health
3. Shahin Kassam, Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Nursing
4. Kevin Lee, Killam Postdoctoral Fellow, Political Science
5. Jennifer Ma, Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Social Work
6. Ashrafuzzaman Md, Postdoctoral Fellow, Anthropology; Associate Professor, University of Chittagong
7. Kashif Raza, Postdoctoral Fellow, Educational Studies
8. Sandra Schinnerl, Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Migration Studies
9. Jessica Templeman, Postdoctoral Fellow, Allard School of Law

## GRADUATE & UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AFFILIATES

Blue text indicates 2023-24 Grad Fellows

1. Saher Ahmed, Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies
2. Emily Amburgey, Anthropology
3. Tolulope Babatunde, Educational Studies
4. Anam Bashir, School of Community & Regional Planning
5. Allen Baylosis, Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice
6. Atreyi Bhattacharjee, Allard School of Law
7. Ritwik Bhattacharjee, Interdisciplinary Studies
8. Mahashewta Bhattacharya, Anthropology
9. Manlin Cai, Sociology
10. Amarildo Ceka, School of Population & Public Health
11. [Maria Cervantes, Geography](#)
12. Meghna Chatterjee, English Language & Literatures
13. Zarin Masah Chowdhury, Language & World Literatures
14. Max Cohen, Geography
15. Natasha Damiano, Rehabilitation Sciences
16. Maya Daurio, Anthropology
17. Eric de Roulet, Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies (UBC Okanagan)
18. Aysan Dehghani, Political Science
19. [Fabiola del Rincón Fernández, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies](#)
20. Anne-Cécile Delaisse, Rehabilitation Sciences, Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
21. Sarah Depatie, Political Science
22. Ajibola Fabusuyi, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
23. Jon Gill, International Relations
24. Yu Guo, Educational Studies
25. Nehal Gupta, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
26. [Quinton Huang, History](#)
27. Henrik Jacobson, Political Science
28. Maria Jaramillo, School of Population & Public Health
29. Molly Joeck, Allard School of Law
30. [Guntas Kaur, Sociology](#)

31. Fiana Kawane, English Language & Literatures
32. Ibukun Kayode, Interdisciplinary Studies
33. Bahar Khazei, Educational Studies
34. Louisa-May Khoo, School of Community & Regional Planning
35. Yeonjoo Kim, Educational Studies
36. Hilal Kina, Anthropology
37. Jisun Lee, Geography
38. Jing Li, Anthropology
39. Sophie Liu, Sociology
40. Jimmy Lo, Theatre & Film
41. Chieh Lü, Educational Studies
42. Naomi Maldonado-Rodriguez, School of Kinesiology
43. Khayria Mansouri, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
44. Brett Matsushita, Sociology
45. Ziwen Mei, Language & Literacy Education
46. Meghna Mohandas, School of Community & Regional Planning
47. Zachary Nanji, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
48. Stephen Odoi, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
49. Temitayo Olarewaju, Allard School of Law
50. James Pangilinan, Geography
51. Francesca Pegorer, Anthropology
52. Nicholas Phin, Political Science
53. Ritica Ramesh, Political Science
54. Atieh Razavi Yekta, Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
55. Cindy Robin, Political Science
56. Daniel Rojas, Political Science
57. Mirta Roncagalli, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
58. Alex Ross, Educational Studies
59. Lorenia Salgado-Leos, French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
60. Lara Sarlak, Anthropology
61. Claudia Serrano, Political Science
62. Monir Shahzeidi, School of Kinesiology
63. Saguna Shankar, School of Library, Archival & Information Studies
64. Abena Somiah, Geography
65. Lorah Steichen, Geography
66. Emma Stirling-Cameron, School of Population & Public Health
67. Robert Straughan, Political Science
68. Cheuk Him Ryan Sun, History
69. Astou Thiam, Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
70. Karen Lok Yi Wong, School of Social Work
71. Tori Yang, Sociology
72. Caitlyn Yates, Anthropology
73. Jiin Yoo, Educational Studies
74. Lin Zeng, Anthropology
75. Rose Xueqing Zhang, Sociology
76. Yijia Zhang, Sociology
77. Salta Zhumatova, Political Science



78. Sabine Zimmermann, Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies

## **LOWER MAINLAND AFFILIATES & VISITING SCHOLARS**

1. Berglind Ásgeirsdóttir, 2021 Visiting Scholar
2. Regina Baeza Martinez, Master's Student, Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Simon Fraser University
3. Thea Bracewell, 2022 Practitioner Fellow, School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
4. Nancy Clark, 2023-24 Visiting Scholar, CMS; Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria
5. Katie Crocker, Chief Executive Officer, Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA)
6. Eline De Rooij, Assistant Professor, Political Science, Simon Fraser University
7. Evelyn Encalda Grez, Assistant Professor, Sociology-Labour Studies Program, Simon Fraser University
8. Tarik Englmann, 2022 Visiting International Research Student, CMS; MA Student, Political Science, University of Kassel
9. Abu Fakhri, PhD Candidate, Sociology & Anthropology, Simon Fraser University
10. Aude-Claire Fourot, Associate Professor, Political Science, Urban Studies, Simon Fraser University
11. Jenny Francis, Instructor, Geography, Langara College
12. Eirini Giannarakis, PhD Candidate, Sociology, George Mason University
13. Lois Klassen, Postdoctoral Fellow, Simon Fraser University
14. Mathias Kruse, 2021 Visiting International Student, CMS; PhD Candidate, Political Science & Sociology, Aarhus University
15. Nigel Mantou Lou, Assistant Professor, Psychology, University of Victoria
16. Christina Page, Instructor, Melville School of Business, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
17. Mark Pickup, Associate Professor, Political Science, Simon Fraser University
18. Marie Sandberg, 2021 Visiting Scholar, CMS; Associate Professor, European Ethnology, Director, Centre for Advanced Migration Studies (AMIS), University of Copenhagen
19. Sule Tomkinson, 2023 Visiting Scholar, CMS; Associate Professor, Université Laval
20. Sonja van der Putten, PhD, Educational Theory & Practice, Simon Fraser University
21. Lynn Weaver, MA, Global Leadership, Royal Roads University
22. Steven Weldon, Associate Professor, Political Science, Simon Fraser University
23. Anea Wilbur, Assistant Professor, Adult Education, University of the Fraser Valley

## Appendix C: UBC Units Represented by CMS Affiliates

1. Allard School of Law
2. Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Studies
3. Anthropology
4. Art History, Visual Art & Theory
5. Asian Studies
6. Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies
7. Community, Culture & Global Studies — UBC Okanagan
8. Educational Studies
9. Educational Technology
10. English Language Institute
11. English Language & Literatures
12. French, Hispanic & Italian Studies
13. Geography
14. History
15. Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies
16. Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality & Social Justice
17. Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies — UBC Okanagan
18. Interdisciplinary Studies
19. International Relations
20. Language & Literacy Education
21. Language & World Literatures — UBC Okanagan
22. Linguistics
23. Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
24. Political Science
25. Rehabilitation Sciences
26. Sauder School of Business
27. School of Community & Regional Planning
28. School of Creative Writing
29. School of Journalism, Writing & Media
30. School of Kinesiology
31. School of Library, Archival & Information Studies
32. School of Music
33. School of Nursing
34. School of Population & Public Health
35. School of Public Policy & Global Affairs
36. School of Social Work
37. Sociology
38. Theatre & Film
39. Vancouver School of Economics

## Appendix D: Institutional Partners

### PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

#### Active in 2023-24

- Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA)
- Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House (FHNH)
- Immigrant Services Society of BC (ISSofBC)
- S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

#### Previously Active

- Association of Neighbourhood Houses BC (ANHBC)
- BC Francophone Immigration Network (RIFCB)
- Immigrant Employment Council of BC (IEC-BC)
- Migrant Workers Centre BC Society (MWCBC)
- MOSAIC
- Options Community Services
- World University Services of Canada (WUSC-UBC)

### ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

#### Currently Active

- Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration & Integration (CERC Migration), Toronto Metropolitan University
- Centre for the Study of Politics and Immigration (CSPI), Concordia University
- University of Alberta
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Hong Kong Baptist University

#### Previously Active

- School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy & Politics (HAPP), Queen's University Belfast



## Appendix E: Catalogue of Events

*All events organized by the Centre for Migration Studies and its Research Groups unless otherwise noted.*

### 1. SEPT 11 | Community Luncheon

Community luncheons are our regular lunch-time networking events for CMS faculty, students, staff, visiting scholars, community partners, and interested newcomers. They offer an ongoing opportunity to gather and re-connect face-to-face as well as to meet new colleagues and friends.

### 2. SEPT 12 | AIA Lecture: The Many Voices of the Mediterranean: Archaeologies of Trade, Fishing, and Displacement in Southeast Sicily by Dr. Elizabeth S. Greene (co-sponsored)

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) lecture was delivered by Elizabeth S. Green (Professor, Maritime Archaeology, Brock University; Classical Association of Canada 2023-2024 National Lecturer; and President, Archaeological Institute of America). The talk interweaved past and present maritime realities of southeast Sicily through an examination of an ancient shipwreck, a historic fishing boat, and a contemporary boat carrying displaced peoples across the central Mediterranean passage. These case studies offered snapshots of persistent mobilities and entanglements of past and present connectivity that define the maritime traditions of the Mediterranean.

*Co-sponsored by UBC Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Studies (AMNE), the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA), and the Classical Association of Canada (CAC)*

### 3. OCT 12 | Professional Development Event: A Conversation with Anastasia Chyz-LeSage

The first instalment of our Professional Development Event series was led by Anastasia Chyz-LeSage (Director, Integration, Settlement Network, British Columbia-Yukon, BCY; Immigration Refugees & Citizenship Canada, IRCC). The event explored the real-world applications, implications, and vocations in migration work outside the academy.

### 4. OCT 16 | Speaker Series - Repertoires of Redemption: Migration, Asylum, and Religion in the Era of Involuntary Immobility with Jaeun Kim

In our inaugural event for the 2023-24 Speaker Series, "Integration Reimagined," we welcomed visiting speaker Jaeun Kim (Associate Professor, Sociology; Professor of Law, by Courtesy, University of Michigan). By highlighting the challenges impacting ethnic Korean asylum-seekers applying as Christians to migrate from China to the U.S., the talk offered key insights on migration governance, transnational religion, and politics of humanitarianism.

### 5. OCT 17 | Enemies of Empire: Commerce and Confinement in Colonial India, Burma and Siam, 1914-1920 with Renisa Mawani

The first event of the Borders Group Speaker Series featured a talk by Renisa Mawani (Canada Research Chair, Colonial Legal Histories; Professor of Sociology, UBC). The talk examined how colonial officials sought to redraw and control maritime and land-based borders in India, Burma, and Siam during the World War I period. By offering a legal history through family biography, the event illuminated the violent effects of the Ingress into India Ordinance from 1914 that criminalized merchants and traders in India, Burma, and Siam.  
*Organized by the CMS Borders Research Group*

**6. OCT 19 | Outreach and Data Collection: Best Practices to Engage Newcomers in Canada (co-sponsored)**

This professional development session introduced participants to the importance of qualitative research for Local Immigration Partnerships (LIPs), research study design and ethical guidelines, data collection tools and techniques, newcomer outreach and data collection, and communication and application of research findings. The event featured speakers Doug Olthof (Co-Lead, National — LIP Secretariat, Municipality of Jasper), Antje Ellermann (Director, CMS; Professor, Political Science, UBC), and Dale Ballucci (Associate Professor, Sociology, Western University).

*Organized by the National Local Immigration Partnerships (LIP) Secretariat*

**7. OCT 26 | CMS-Sector Research Collaborations Day**

The first annual event featured a day filled with talks, discussion panels, and roundtables focusing on creating mutual understanding between CMS and the settlement sector in hopes of research-related collaborations. The day-long programming brought together community leaders, UBC faculty, and graduate students, including members from the CMS Community Advisory Board, CMS Research Groups and Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA) at the Creekside Community Centre.

*Organized in partnership with Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA) and Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides.*

**8. OCT 27 | An Archipelagic Node in Global Migration: A Literary Case Study from the Indian Ocean with Nikhita Obeegadoo**

The second event of the Borders Group Speaker Series featured a talk by Nikhita Obeegadoo (Assistant Professor, Languages & World Literatures, UBC Okanagan). Through an examination of the novel *Tropique de la violence* (2016) by Nathacha Appanah, the talk highlighted the novel's positionality as a French-language novel written by a Mauritian author about the island of Mayotte within the complex web of a global imaginary of migration and colonial mutilation.

*Organized by the CMS Borders Research Group*

**9. NOV 6 | Speaker Series - The Dangers of the Immigrant Integration Paradigm with Adrian Favell**

For the second event of our 2023-24 Speaker Series, "Integration Reimagined," we welcomed visiting speaker Adrian Favell (Director, Radical Humanities Laboratory, University College Cork). The talk explored how the dominant North Atlantic conception of "immigrant integration" works to reproduce colonial and Eurocentric ideas of multi-racial progress. From a critical migration studies lens amidst the exhaustion of liberal developmental models, the talk underlined the limitations of mainstream conceptions of migration and their role in the worsening of global inequalities and restrictive borders.

**10. NOV 8 | Community Luncheon**

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**11. NOV 16 | Marseille, Mediterranean Ports, and Migratory Routes to South America, 1892-1932" Research Colloquium by Dr. Benjamin Bryce (co-sponsored)**

The talk by Benjamin Bryce (Associate Professor, History; Chair, Latin American Studies program, UBC) highlighted the role of the Société générale des transports maritimes in shaping Italian, Spanish, and Syrian migration to Buenos Aires in the late and early twentieth centuries. By centring travel and the role of shipping companies in opening up new sources of migration in eastern Europe, the Middle East, and different regions of Spain and Italy, this talk cast light on significant but under-considered factors in the history of global migration.

*Co-sponsored by the UBC Centre for European Studies*

## 12. NOV 23 | Grad Power Hour: Temitayo Olarewaju

Temitayo Olarewaju (PhD Student, Peter A. Allard School of Law, UBC) employed the framework of international criminal law to understand the intricate relationship between land and migration through issues such as resource scarcity and conflicts that trigger migration. By analyzing the case of alleged land grabbing in Dey Krahorm, Chamkarmorn district of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, the paper emphasized the need for a nuanced understanding of forcible displacement within national and international legal frameworks.

## 13. NOV 28 | A Multi-Sector World Café to promote the Mental Health of Refugees in BC

The Multi-Sector World Café mobilized knowledge about integrated mental health services and supports for people that have experienced migration such as refugees by bringing together multidisciplinary community members such as service users, health practitioners, settlement service providers, and policy makers. Continuing deliberative dialogues over the several months that preceded the event with settlement service organizations, mental health practitioners, and policy experts, the café-style event centred a participatory method and facilitated exchange on the role of integrated mental health care for refugee mental health and wellbeing.

*Co-organized by CMS Visiting Scholar, Nancy Clark (Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, University of Victoria), with Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture (VAST) and Michael Smith Health Research BC*

## 14. NOV 29 | 'Citizen Alien' or 'Alien Citizen'? Dialoguing Lived Citizenship Through Collaborative Autoethnography

The session featured a dialogue between CMS Affiliate Natasha Damiano (PhD Candidate, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, UBC), Ozlem Atar (Teaching Fellow, Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, Queen's University), and Esra Ari (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Mount Royal University) about the continuum of political membership categories. Through self-reflexive examination of how markers of specific categories of citizenship are blurred in the everyday lives of immigrants, the event invited participants to explore the fluid areas between "citizen" and "alien" as reflected in critical citizenship literature.

*Organized by the CMS Community-University Partnerships Research Group*

## 15. DEC 4 | Could we laugh colonialism away? Using Egyptian comics to confront the colonial histories of its ancient past

Egyptian heritage and museum specialist Heba Abd el Gawad (Research Fellow, the Institute of Archaeology, University College of London) gave a talk that showcased the outcomes of the partnership between UK Arts and Humanities Research Council Egypt's Dispersed Heritage project and contemporary Egyptian comic artists in confronting colonial implications of the export of Egyptian heritage to the world. The event introduced Egyptian lived experience as an approach that was adopted to amplify the voices, views, and validity of Egyptian community of descent regarding their ancestral heritage held by foreign institutions.



*Co-organized by the CMS Mobilities Research Group and Department of Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Studies*

**16. JAN 15 | Overtourism and Culture in Europe: The Resident Gaze with Guillem Colom-Montero**

This talk by Guillem Colom-Montero (Lecturer, Hispanic Studies, School of Modern Languages & Cultures; Co-Director, 'Discourses of Sustainability,' College of Arts & Humanities, University of Glasgow) focused on the impacts of overtourism through the concept of the 'resident gaze' in contemporary Europe. Focusing on cultural and grassroots production, the talk highlighted a turn to 'the resident' at the core of the new historical moment of overtourism in Spain, Portugal, England, Scotland, and Italy.

*Organized by the CMS Mobilities Research Group*

**17. JAN 29 | Community Luncheon**

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**18. FEB 5 | Speaker Series - Migration as Debt with Willem Schinkel**

As part of our 2023-24 Speaker Series, "Integration Reimagined," Willem Schinkel (Professor, Social Theory, Erasmus University Rotterdam) spoke about EU-ropean registration, problematization, and management of migration. By introducing the concept of 'double bookkeeping,' Schinkel presented migration as a modality of debt. The talk provided fruitful ways to consider the colonality of knowledge production in migration studies, and what its decolonization might mean in practice rather than in theory.

**19. FEB 8 | Harmony in Action: Bridging Communities at UBC**

This community-engaged initiative gathered leaders of Black African diaspora communities in British Columbia to share their impactful work, challenges, and strategies. The event hosted speakers from five local organizations, Lawrence Chidzambwa (Great Zimbabwe Cultural Association of British Columbia, ZICUSO BC), Godwin Ude (Kingdom Acts Foundation), Isaac Phiri (Faith Impact Ministries International), Jean-Bruno Nkondi (Le Relais Francophone) and Osakue Ukponrefe (Edo Friends of British Columbia Association).

*Organized by the CMS Circulation: Africa & its Diasporas Research Group*

**20. FEB 14 | CES Speaker Series: Language Test as Border Work with Kamran Khan (co-sponsored)**

Kamran Khan (Associate Professor, Language, Social Justice & Education, University of Birmingham) delivered a talk on the broader notions of justice that are impacted through the social meaning of language test scores. This talk outlined the role of security in shifting the terrain of language tests as education assessments to more ideological and securitised purposes which exacerbate differences between those deemed integrated and unintegrated citizens.

*Co-sponsored by UBC Centre for European Studies*

**21. FEB 15 | Grad Student Power Hour: Ziwen Mei**

Ziwen Mei (PhD student, Language & Literacy Education) investigated identity negotiation and family language policy of rural-migrant families against the macro backdrop of rural-urban labour mobility. Drawing

on a Bourdieusan lens of capital, the study foregrounded agentive capacities of marginalized migrant groups in asserting their identities and languages in the context of rural migrant families in urban China.

## 22. FEB 26 | Perspectives on Immigrant Employment and the Future of Work (Panel Discussion)

As part of the Bridging Divides Project, CMS hosted a hybrid employment-focused panel addressing issues related to immigrants' labour market integration, employment services and the future of work. The event featured speakers Hongxia Shan (Associate Professor, Department of Educational Studies, UBC), Nancy Clark (Director, Social Justice Studies; Associate Professor, Faculty of Human & Social Development, School of Nursing, University of Victoria), Vince Hopkins (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, UBC) and Suzanne Huot (Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy, UBC).

*Organized by the CMS Community-University Partnership Research Group and co-sponsored by Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides.*

## 23. FEB 29 | History and Symbol in Africa and China Relations with Duncan M. Yoon

In this talk, Duncan M. Yoon (Assistant Professor, NYU – Gallatin) drew from the recently published, *China in Twentieth- and Twenty-First Century African Literature* (Cambridge University Press), to examine the controversial symbol of China in African literature. Yoon demonstrated how African creative voices engage with globalization in an increasingly multipolar world.

*Co-organized by the CMS Circulation: Africa & its Diasporas and CMS Mobilities Research Groups*

## 24. FEB 29 | *Safe Haven* Film Screening

*Safe Haven*, a film directed by Peabody Award winning filmmaker Lisa Molomot and produced by Alison Mountz (Professor, Canada Research Chair of Global Migration, Wilfred Laurier University), was presented in a virtual screening. *Safe Haven* weaves together powerful stories from both sides of the US – Canada border as American war resisters sought safe haven in Canada during both the Vietnam and Iraq wars.

*Organized by the CMS Borders Research Group*

## 25. MAR 1 | CMS Grad Fellows Symposium 2024

The 2023-24 cohort of CMS Grad Fellows presented their research in this day-long public symposium at the Peña Room, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The event featured engaging and multi-disciplinary research talks by eleven emerging migration scholars representing eleven different disciplines at UBC. Their research was organized into three panels on relevant topics in migration studies: Voices of Migration: Language and Identity; Exploring the Intersection of Land, Place and Migration; Building Healthy Communities: Perspectives on Migrant Health and Well-Being.

*Co-organized by CMS Grad Fellows*

## 26. MAR 7 | Exodus: Russian Repression and Social 'Movement' with Lisa Sundstrom

Dr. Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom (Professor, Political Science, UBC) gave a talk focusing on a new trend in Russian civil society: escaping. The talk considered how social movement theory sheds light on the dilemmas faced by Russian civil society groups by using examples from feminist and environmental activism, and opposition to Russia's war on Ukraine.

*Organized by the CMS Borders Research Group*

**27. MAR 8 | Professional Development Event | A Conversation with Olga Stachova**

As part of the Professional Development Series exploring the real-world applications and vocations in migration work outside the academy, CMS hosted a conversation with Olga Stachova (CEO, MOSAIC). Participants learned from Stachova's 20 years of experience managing a fast-growing, broad-scope nonprofit organization, as well as operational expertise in program design, delivery, and evaluation.

**28. MAR 11 | Speaker Series - Migrant Occupations: Practices of Freedom? with Miriam Ticktin**

The fourth and final event of our 2023-24 CMS Speaker Series, "Integration Reimagined," featured a talk by Miriam Ticktin (Professor, Anthropology, CUNY Graduate Center). The talk traced 'forms of commoning,' referring to antiracist and decolonial struggles against spatial enclosures. Ticktin looked at occupations of buildings and land by migrants, fighting for the freedom not just to move but to stay, challenging regimes of private property and nation-state governance. The talk explored these alternative political-spatial formations across Calais, Paris, Athens, and New York City.

**29. MAR 13 | UBC Reads Sustainability: Live with Jody Wilson-Raybould (co-sponsored)**

The event featured a talk by bestselling author Jody Wilson-Raybould (former Member of Parliament; former Minister of Justice; and Attorney General of Canada) on decolonizing Canada and working towards climate justice. Focusing on her book, *True Reconciliation: How to be a Force for Change*, the event was facilitated by the Honourable Steven Point (Chancellor, UBC; former Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia; and member of the Skowkale First Nation) and emceed by Kristin Kozar (Executive Director, Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre; member of the Hwlitsum First Nation with familial ties to Penelekut, Lummi Tribe and the Musqueam Indian Band).

*Presented in partnership between CMS, Edith Lando Virtual Learning Centre, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Education, Indian Residential School History & Dialogue Centre, Office of Wellbeing Strategy, Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, Peter A. Allard School of Law, Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, UBC Community Engagement, UBC Okanagan Library, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre and UBC Sustainability Hub.*

**30. MAR 13 | Migrating Through Uncertainty: Navigating Healthcare and Wellness Among Elderly Immigrants in the Covid-19 Era (co-sponsored)**

In this talk, Lu Wang (Professor, Department of Geography & Environmental Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University) highlighted the outcomes of community-based research about the coping strategies adopted by older Chinese immigrants during the COVID-19 pandemic and their diverse health practices. The event focused on the implications for service delivery, practice, use of technology and health policy concerning older immigrants.

*Organized by the UBC Learning Exchange in partnership with the CMS and the UBC Department of Educational Studies.*

**31. MAR 13 | CES Speaker Series: Follow the Bodies: Feminist Political Economy of War and Peace with Aida Hozic (co-sponsored)**

The event featured a talk by Aida Hozic (Associate Professor, International Relations, University of Florida). Situated within feminist political economy of conflict and post-conflict recovery, the lecture highlighted how wars and their aftermath are not isolated phenomena; rather, they are integral to the global political economy and its gendered and racial hierarchies. By looking at wars in the post-Cold War period from the former Yugoslavia to contemporary Ukraine, the lecture addressed lasting effects of wars and militarization on



gender relations, political representation, and processes of social reproduction.

*Organized and co-sponsored by the Centre for European Studies*

**32. MAR 20 | Creative Resistance Against Australian Border Violence: The Politics of Shared Philosophical Activity with Omid Tofighian and Elahe Zivardar**

In this talk, Omid Tofighian (Adjunct Lecturer, University of New South Wales; Honorary Research Fellow, Birkbeck Law, University of London) and Elahe Zivardar (award-winning Iranian artist, architectural designer, journalist, and documentary film maker) introduced the idea of a shared philosophical activity in the face of Australian border violence on the Nauru offshore refugee prison. The event focused on how collaborations with refugees can produce new forms of epistemic activism; new possibilities for engaging with border violence in intellectually transformative ways; and different forms of creative resistance within carceral spaces.

*Co-sponsored by the CMS Borders Research Group, Green College, and Alireza Ahmadian Lectures in Iranian & Persianate Studies.*

**33. MAR 20 | CES Speaker Series: Indigenous Energy Diplomacy in the Arctic: Probing the Complexity with Cases in Sápmi and the Inuvialuit Region with Rauna Kuokkanen (co-sponsored)**

The event featured a talk by Rauna Kuokkanen (Sámi; Research Professor, Arctic Indigenous Studies, University of Lapland; Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto). This talk illustrated the diverse landscape of contemporary Indigenous energy diplomacy. The specific focus was on Sámi reindeer herding in Norway vis-à-vis wind industry and the energy security development in the Inuvialuit settlement region in the Northwest Territories, Canada.

*Organized and co-sponsored by the Centre for European Studies.*

**34. MAR 21-22 | Games for Decolonization Workshop (co-sponsored)**

The Games and Decolonization Workshop was an interdisciplinary forum dedicated to examining the intersections between board games and discourses of settler colonialism, decolonization, Indigenous sovereignty, and social justice. This two-day event brought together Indigenous and settler scholars to engage in critical conversations regarding the role of gaming cultures and tarot in the work of decolonization and social justice. The programming featured Ta7taliya Michelle Nahanee (Squamish; Decolonial Designer; Educator), Christopher Marmolejo (Author; Decolonial Tarot Practitioner), Mimi Khúc (Writer; Tarot Designer; Wellness & Disability Studies Scholar, University of Toronto), and Evan Torner (Associate Professor, German Studies, Film & Media Studies, University of Cincinnati).

*Cosponsored by UBC Department of Central, Eastern & Northern European Studies (CENES), the Waterloo Centre for German Studies, German Studies Canada, UBC Comics Studies Cluster, the UBC Centre for European Studies, and the CMS Narratives Research Group. Partially supported by ISoTL Seed support.*

**35. APR 8 | Canadian Citizenship in Transition: Trends, Debates, and Challenges (co-sponsored)**

This hybrid event at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (University of Toronto) hosted a panel of experts to speak on trends, debates, and challenges in Canadian citizenship. The panel featured speakers Andrew Griffith (author; former Director General for Citizenship and Multiculturalism; Fellow, Environics Institute), Daniel Bernhard (Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Canadian Citizenship), Samina Sami (Chief Executive Officer, COSTI Immigrant Services), and Audrey Macklin (Professor of Law; Chair in Human Rights, University of Toronto).

*Co-sponsored by CMS, the Harney Program in Ethnic Immigration & Pluralism Studies, the Canadian International*

*Council – Toronto Branch, and Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides.*

**36. APR 16 | 2024 Burge Lecture | “Blood, Borders and Diaspora’s Horizons” with Dr. Rachel Leow (co-sponsored)**

The 2024 Burge Lecture, an annual endowed lecture organized by the History Graduate Students Association, was delivered by Rachel Leow (Associate Professor, Modern East Asian History, Cambridge University). The lecture delved into an event from 1949, telling the story of two individuals whose connected lives were violently sundered by hardening borders between China and Southeast Asia. The individuals' fates offer a lens on the long historical entanglements of this location, and their violent foreclosure in an era of mass racialized deportation, nationalism, revolution and civil war.

*Organized and hosted by the Department of History and co-sponsored by CMS, Department of Asian Studies, the Public Humanities Hub, the Asian Canadian & Asian Migration Program, the Center for Chinese Research, and the Center for Southeast Asian Research.*

**37. APR 20, 27, MAY 4 | Weaving Workshop Series**

CMS was honoured to host an in-person workshop series with Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) master weavers and community leaders of the L'hen Awtxw Weaving House, Chepximiya Siyam' Chief Janice George and Skwetsimeltxw Willard 'Buddy' Joseph. Over the course of three Saturday sessions, participants learned the techniques of Skwxwú7mesh wool weaving, a practice that foregrounded many insights into living on these unceded territories. The workshop was grounded in nexwniwchet, traditional teachings that address the cultural and historical significance of this intricate weaving style.

*Organized by CMS and co-sponsored by Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides.*

**38. APR 20 | Community Luncheon**

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**39. MAY 15-16 | CMS International Research Conference 2024 with Hong Kong Baptist University Faculty of Social Sciences**

Our International Research Conference 2024 in collaboration with Hong Kong Baptist University Faculty of Social Sciences took place at the x<sup>w</sup>θəθiqətəm or Place of Many Trees, Liu Institute for Global Issues, on May 15-16. This annual conference served as a platform for scholars and practitioners to explore the intricate dynamics of migration and mobility in today's interconnected world. Our 2024 theme, "Belonging and Mobility in a Transnational World," encapsulated the complex interplay between identity, movement, and connectivity across borders. The conference included a keynote address from Nina Glick Schiller (Director, Cosmopolitan Cultures Institute, University of Manchester), along with 5 thematic presentation panels.

*Organized in collaboration with the Hong Kong Baptist University, Faculty of Social Sciences.*

**40. MAY 22 | Pandemic Return, Reintegration and Re-migration of Nepali Migrant Workers (co-sponsored)**

This event featured a talk by Richa Shivakoti (Research Lead, Migration Governance; Canada Excellence Research Chair in Migration & Integration, Toronto Metropolitan University). Shivakoti examined the case of Nepal, a highly remittance-dependent economy (accounting for around 27% of the GDP), to understand the

consequences of the large-scale return of migrant workers to their home countries post-pandemic.

*Organized by the UBC Himalaya Program, and co-sponsored by CMS, the School of Public Policy & Global Affairs, the Department of Asian Studies, and the Institute for Asian Research, UBC.*

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## Acknowledgments

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