



# World On the Move

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION SECTION

SECTION NEWSLETTER

## MESSAGE FROM THE SECTION CHAIR

Zai Liang, University at Albany, SUNY



2024 marks a major milestone for our section as we celebrated our 30th anniversary in Montreal in August. As we begin our section's intellectual journey for the 4th decade, I am honored to share some of my thoughts with section members.

Let me begin with the 2024 Presidential Election in the United States. If the past is any guide, we are likely to usher in an era of anti-immigration climate and there is a critical role that we, as immigrations scholars, can play to help the public understand the real immigration story. To get the conversation started, I have invited our section members Ernesto Castaneda from American University and Matthew Blanton from University of Texas at Austin to contribute timely and powerful essays for our fall newsletter. Hope more of our members join this conversation in the coming year. One of the things I got out from reading these essays is that it is more important than ever that we practice public sociology to fight anti-immigration rhetoric and policies. Please allow me to quote ASA President Adia Harvey Wingfield who wrote two days after the election: "...may we remain courageous in using sociological knowledge in ways that benefit all of society."

As we enter the 4th decade of our section, like many of you, I have given some thoughts too about the future of our field. I hope our research activities continue to be more international, going beyond the border of the United States. When I first joined the field about 30 years ago, it was very much dominated by studies focusing on a few countries in the global north (the U.S. Canada, Germany etc.). Today the geographic landscape of international migration research has been foundationally transformed. Just look at the recent research projects conducted by a non-random sample of our section council members: Katherine Jensen's work on Syrian and Congolese refugees in Brazil, Jaeun Kim's comparative study of Koreans in Japan and China, and Jean Beaman's study of children of North African immigrants are some good examples. I am also reminded that the 2023 ASA book award went to Rhacel Salazar Parreñas' study on Migrant Domestic Work in Arab States. I am sure there are more of this line of work from our section members coming. Please keep that momentum going!

FALL/WINTER 2024

Volume 31, No. 1

Blanca A. Ramirez  
*IM WOM Section Editor*

Chen Liang  
*IM WOM Section Editor*

## In This Issue

Message from Chair

Section Officers

Call for Awards

30th Anniversary Photos

Featured Essays

Featured Newly Elected  
Members

Leadership &

Committee Updates

Member News

Recent Publications

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This is indeed a very transformative and eye-opening development that is certain to advance our field. Some say demography is the destiny. Recent data from the 2022 World Migration Report show that the largest shares of international migrants are in Asia and Europe (each accounts for about 30-31% of total international migrants in the world). The shares of international migrants in Africa and Latin America are 9% and 5.3%, respectively. In this new reality of global migration, I want to especially encourage scholars in the global south countries to become our section members, join our section activities, and facilitate collaborative work across the globe.

I continue to believe this is the best of times for the migration field, not only because the global reach of international migrants today, but also because rising availability of big data. The days when we only rely on census/traditional survey/administrative/ethnographic data are gone. Instead, we need to embrace the new and unprecedented digitalized reality of the 21st century. We need to use new computational tools to examine migration processes/outcomes from a variety of big data available today: Facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, mobile phone, data from google, tax returns and more. Fortunately, some of our colleagues are already taking advantage of this new development and indeed have produced exciting results. I do hope more members can join this endeavor to develop new theoretical models and test new hypotheses in the years to come.

I should note that our section committees are busy preparing for our 2025 meetings in Chicago. The DEIJ committee has been working tirelessly to revise some guidelines for our section awards in the hope of increasing diversity and inclusion of our award recipients. So when you submit your nominations for section awards this year, you will be asked to provide information related to our DEIJ mission. Capitalizing on the success of last year, the Mentoring and Professionalization Committee also has planned a series of events in the coming year. Here is a preview of some events. The first panel will be centered on the job market journey from the perspective of the hiring committee. The second panel will discuss the nexus between public sociology and international migration (very timely!). Of course, nothing is complete without our most popular “Mentoring Lunch” in Chicago. Finally, our Chair-Elect Jean Beaman has been leading a team of colleagues who produced four exciting section topics (and our roundtable session) for us next year. Stay tuned.

THANK YOU

I would like to offer my heart-felt thanks to our immediate past section leaders: Helen Marrow, David Cook-Martin and Jody Agius Vallejo who have provided sage advice and facilitated the leadership transition. I am incredibly grateful for our DEJI committee (chaired by Nadia Flores-Yeffal and Jaeun Kim) and Mentoring and Professionalization Committee (chaired by Andrew Le) for their hard work and dedication. Big thanks to all members of the Communications Committee (who are behind the sleek looking newsletter WOM among other things): Blanca A. Ramirez, Chen Liang (WOM Editors), Jean Beaman, Irina Chukhray, and Alice Silu Chen. Big thanks to Tiffnay Huang for her service of several years to our section and facilitating transition in the Communications Team. I am very much looking forward to working with Chair-Elect: Jean Beaman.



## IM Section Officers

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International Migration Review at 60:

*Evolving and Emerging Models of International Migration Research*

**Introduction**

Kraly, Ellen Percy; Menjivar, Cecilia, and Reed, Holly E. | International Migration Review at 60: Evolving and emerging models of international migration research

**Knowledge, Expertise, and Policy (with a Critical Angle)**

Arias Cubas, Magdalena; and Mudaliar, Sanushka | The glaring gap: Undervalued and unrecognized knowledges and expertise in international migration research

Natter, Katharina; and Welfens, Natalie | Why has migration research so little impact? Examining knowledge practices in migration policymaking and migration studies

Cichocka, Ewa | Imposed invisibility: Unraveling identities through negotiations of categories

Beaman, Jean; and Clerge, Orly | Ain't I a migrant?: Global Blackness and the future of migration studies

**Migration Theory**

Carling, Jorgen | Why do people migrate? Fresh takes on the foundational question of migration studies

Yang, Tori | Rethinking Queer migration: The case of skilled Chinese LGBTQ+ migrants in North America

Riosmena, Fernando | Overlap and interrelations between (im)mobility motivations

Thomas, Kevin J.A.; and Mara, Miracle | African migration at a crossroads: The social and theoretical implications of emerging international migration trends

Galli, Chiara; and Garip, Filiz | Bringing children to the center of migration theory

**Methods and Analysis**

Nawyn, Stephanie J.; He, Linlang; Chen, Jiquan; Axelrod, Mark; Irfan, Furqan; Ahmed, Fahad; Walker, Mary Anne | Mapping the future of migration and climate change science

DeWaard, Jack; Maharjan, Aminia; del Valle, Angel; Erulkar, Annabel; Mishra, Arabinda; Steidl, Catherine; Singh, Chandni; Riosmena, Fernando; Pinillos, Gabriela; Abel, Guy; Ha, Trang; Donato, Katharine; Madise, Nyovani; Nawrotzki, Raphael; Nevarez, Rene; McLeman, Robert; Abou Hussein, Salma | The Migration Intersections Grid (MIG): An organizing framework for migration research in and through the 21st century

**Assimilation and Transnationalism in Conversation**

Assimilation theories in the 21st century: Appraising academic debates and future challenges

Garapich, Michał P.; Jochymek, Anna; and Soborski, Rafat | Immigrants in the transnational far right: Integration through racism and negotiating white supremacy

**Borders and Bordering**

Benson, Michaela; and Sigona, Nando | Reimagining, rebordering, repositioning: intersections of the biopolitical and geopolitical in the UK's post-Brexit migration regime

Bautista-Chavez, Angie M.; Castañeda Pérez, Estefanía; Chan, Stephanie; and Mitra, Ankushi | Hierarchy in the politics of migration: Rethinking the state's power to regulate migration

**Legal Statutes and In-Between Legality**

Connor, Phillip | Protected, yet undocumented: The U.S. case of growing liminal immigration status and the theoretical, advocacy, and policy implications for the U.S. and beyond

Cruz-Rodolfo, Piñeiro, Hernández, Alberto; and Ibarra, Carlos S. | Commodifying passage: Ethnographic insights into migration, markets, and digital mediation at the Darién Gap and Mexico-Guatemala border

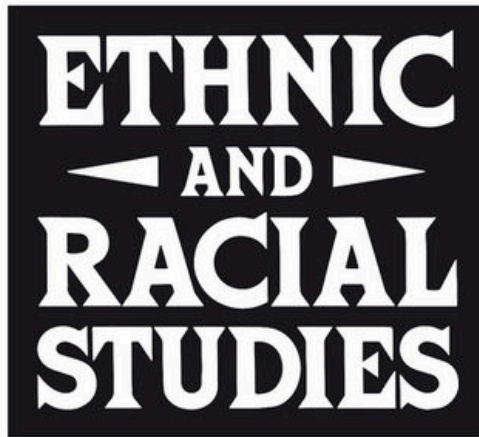
**Migrant Well-Being and Health**

Dondero, Molly; and Altman, Claire E. | The toll of exclusion on immigrants' health across the life course: Research advances and future directions




Jolivet, Dominique | Subjectivity in welfare mobilities: Rethinking welfare as a structure, a process, and an experience

Visit our website for more information about IMR:





Congratulations to the  
ASA International  
Migration Section  
on your  
30th Anniversary!

-  **High impact journal at the cutting edge of research in its key areas of interest.**
-  **Cutting edge empirical and theoretical contributions are welcomed from scholars at any career stage.**
-  **Articles focusing on South American countries are particularly sought.**

*Ethnic and Racial Studies*, an interdisciplinary journal focused on race, ethnicity and migration studies, accepts special issue proposals in the months of October and April. Proposals are welcome on all topics relevant to the journal, and in particular, those drawing on research focused on Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Indigeneity, and issues concerned with Postcolonialism and Decolonialism.

In preparing a proposal for *Ethnic and Racial Studies* please read the journal's Aims & Scope. Examples of previously published Special Issues can be found on the website.

Special Issues are usually focused on a research topic or question and comprised of 8 to 10 articles plus an editorial written by the guest editors. A significant degree of coherence is expected between the contributions that should be highlighted in the editorial. Non-standard formats may also be considered such as blogs, videos, interviews.

## Submitting a Proposal

Proposals for special issues can be submitted in the months of October and April. They should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief Professor John Solomos and Managing Editor Amanda Eastell-Bleakley at [ethnic@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:ethnic@surrey.ac.uk)

They will be reviewed by the editorial team based on fit to the Aims & Scope as well as quality, originality and coherence of the contributions and the issue as a whole. A decision can be expected in the month after submission. The journal may also ask for a revision of the proposal (e.g., to clarify certain aspects, or change the number of contributions) before it can be accepted.



2025 ASA INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION SECTION

*call for awards*

### **DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD**

Zai Liang (IM Chair), State University of New York, Albany, zliang@albany.edu  
Jean Beaman (IM Chair-Elect), CUNY Graduate Center, JEAN.BEAMAN84@gc.cuny.edu  
Jody Agius Vallejo (IM Past Chair), University of Southern California, vallejoj@dornsife.usc.edu

### **AWARD FOR PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY**

Elizabeth Vaquera (Co-chair), George Washington University, evaquera@gwu.edu  
Elizabeth Aranda (Co-chair), University of South Florida, earanda@usf.edu  
Stephanie Canizales, University of California, Berkeley, scanizales@berkeley.edu

### **THOMAS & ZNANIECKI BOOK AWARD**

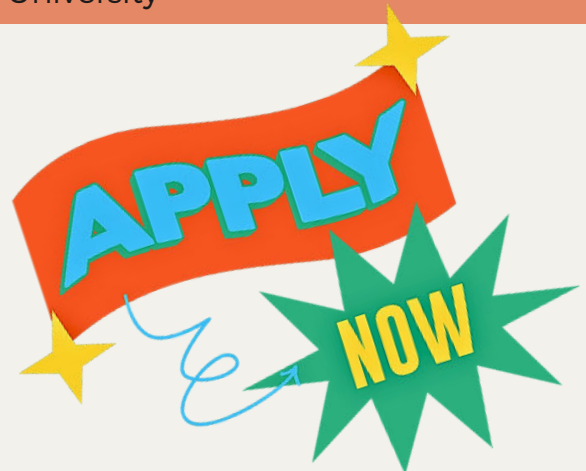
Angela Garcia (Co-Chair), University of Chicago, agarcia@uchicago.edu  
Ulrike Bialas (Co-Chair), Max Planck Institute, bialas@mmg.mpg.de  
Andrew Le, Arizona State University andrewnle@asu.edu  
Phil Kasinitz, CUNY Graduate Center pkasinitz@gc.cuny.edu

### **LOUIS WIRTH ARTICLE AWARD**

Jake Watson (Co-Chair), University of California, San Diego, j8watson@ucsd.edu  
Van Tran (Co-Chair), CUNY Graduate Center vtran@gc.cuny.edu  
Omid Asayesh, University of Calgary, amid.asayesh@ucalgary.ca  
Gabriela León-Pérez, Virginia Commonwealth University, gleonperez@vcu.edu  
Melanie Escue, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Pembroke, melanie.escue@uncp.edu

### **ARISTIDE ZOLBERG DISTINGUISHED STUDENT SCHOLAR AWARD**

Ariela Schachter (Chair), Washington University in St. Louis, ariela@wustl.edu  
Amy Lutz, Syracuse University, aclutz@syr.edu  
Qian He, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, qianhe@cuhk.edu.hk  
Soulit Chacko, solchacko@gmail.com, Boise State University

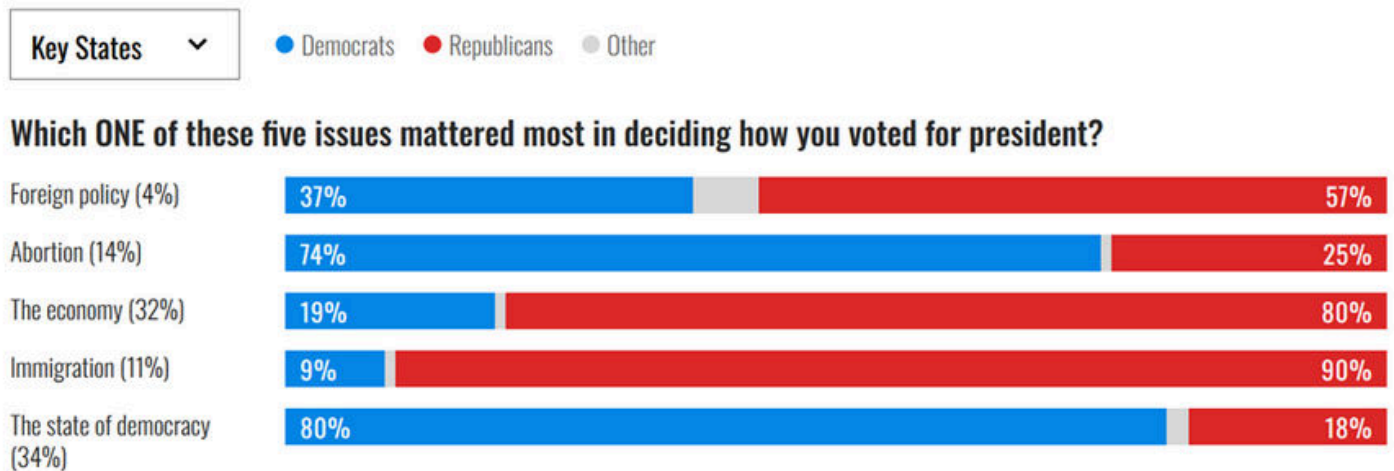


# SECTION ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION 30TH ANNIVERSARY

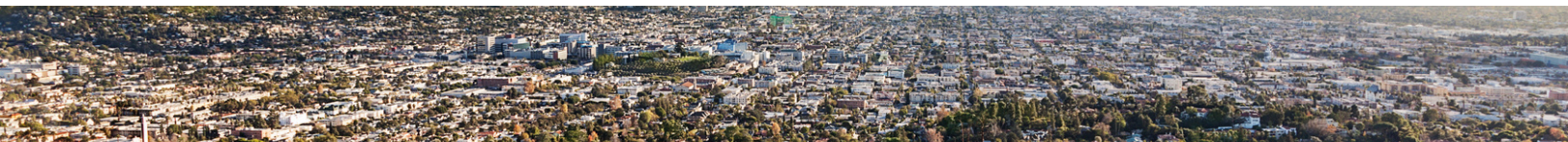
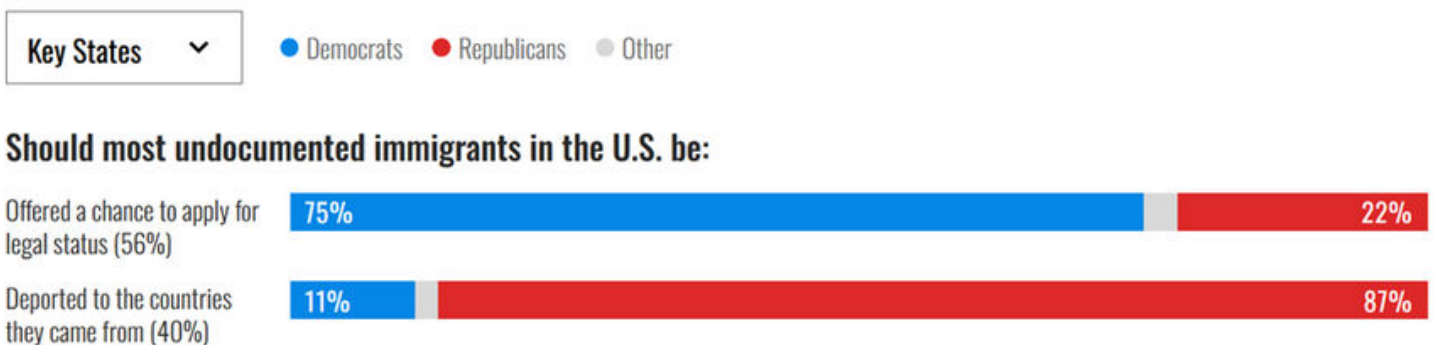


# IMMIGRATION AND THE 2024 ELECTIONS

Trump did not win because of the politicization of immigration. One reason for this is that only in a few polls did “immigration” rank as the main concern for over 50% of likely voters. Only a minority said they would vote for a presidential candidate solely on that issue. Those who did were over 70% Republican across polls. There was a similar dynamic regarding “economics.” It was misleading, both during the campaign and after the election, to assert that the primary concerns of the electorate are the economy and immigration. For example, an exit poll from ten key states conducted by [NBC](#) shows that only 11% of the electorate saw immigration as the issue that “mattered most” for their vote (when given only five possible issues), and of those voters, 90% of them were Republican.



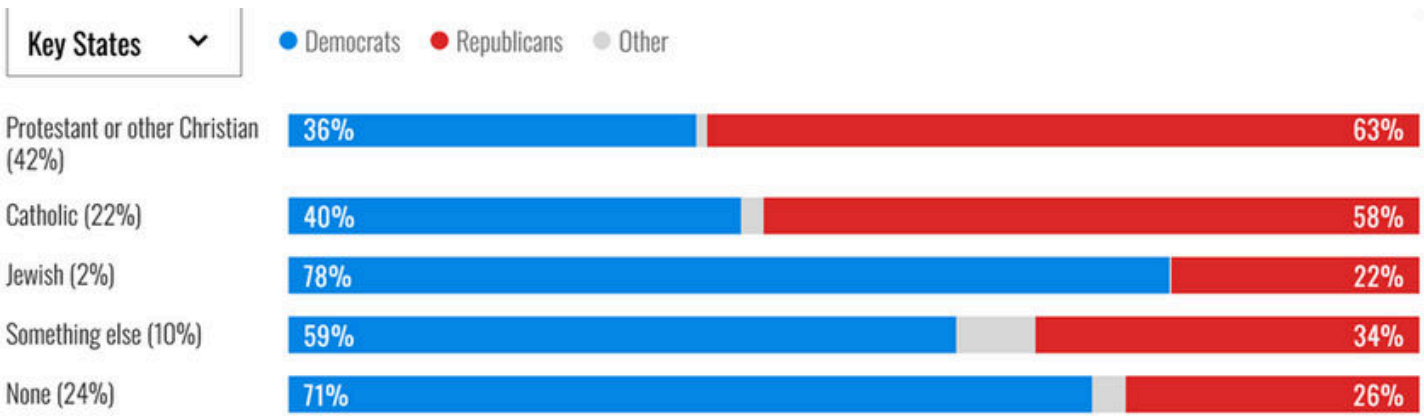
A different response to that poll sheds further light on the polarization along party lines regarding immigration policy: 75% of Democrats (and 56% of respondents overall) support offering a chance for undocumented immigrants to apply for legal status. In contrast, 87% of Republicans (40% of respondents overall) favor deportation.



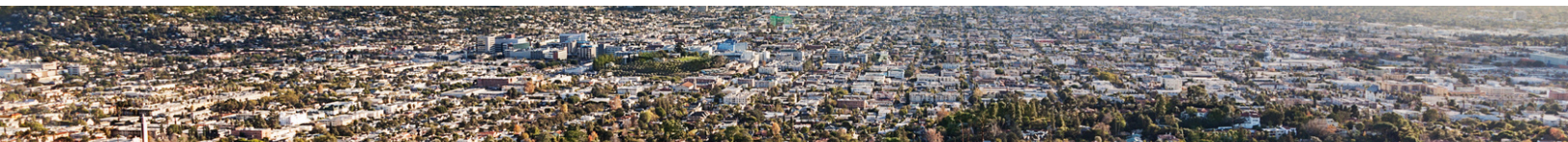
# IMMIGRATION AND THE 2024 ELECTIONS (CONT)



Immigration is not the weakness for Democrats that many make it to be. Still, the Harris campaign was hesitant to discuss immigration or border issues in detail. This is largely due to the narrative among mainstream media pundits and consultants, who believe that Trump’s “strengths” lie in the economy and immigration, as these same polls indicated that voters trusted Trump slightly more on these issues. However, this average was significantly impacted by Republican respondents; and the headlines failed to mention that respondents across party identification trusted Harris more on most other issues. Regardless of rhetoric or immigration policies presented by the Democrats (whether it was the bipartisan Senate deal or restriction on asylum seeking at the border), Trump supporters were always going to vote for Trump. As a result, the Harris campaign could have taken a stronger stance against the misinformation about immigrants that the Trump campaign consistently spread and that many others amplified. The MAGA base cannot be swayed by facts about the issue because they use the term “immigration” as code to promote a more White Christian Ethnostate. This goal was said or implied by Trump and his surrogates and is part of [Project 2025](#). Trump’s largest base of support was White men (60%), white people who never attended college 66%), and especially White Protestants/Christians (72%). Many understood Trump to be the White Christian Nationalist Candidate on the presidential ballot.



## Religion among white voters



# IMMIGRATION AND THE 2024 ELECTIONS (CONT)



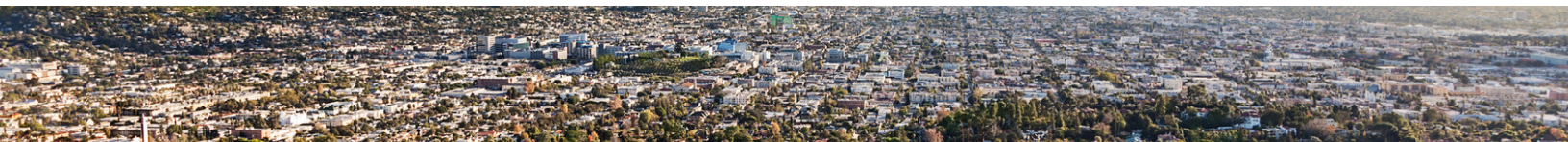
## What Does This All Mean for Immigration Scholars?

My point above indicates that we need to research immigration, racialization, and the politicization of religion in tandem. These processes are linked to each other by right-wing ideologues. Many of us look at immigration; some of us are starting to look again at the relationship between immigration policies and race, and key sociologists have coined and looked at the rise of White Christian Nationalism.

There is much misinformation about immigration trends and processes, and as a community, we have much to offer. Moderates and independents are open to learning more about immigration, and Democratic-leaning voters and spokespeople need more fact-based talking points. For this reason, Carina Cione and I recently published a book called “Immigration Realities: Challenging Common Misperceptions” (Columbia University Press 2024). This work condenses years of research on immigration, making it accessible for journalists, policymakers, students, and the public who want to access social science without facing paywalls or complicated jargon.

However, to be realistic, few people read books, much less academic books. Professors are less likely to assign books than before. Thus, to reach a wider audience, we have to write accessible pieces like op-eds, blogs, and newsletters and talk to the media. I encourage all of you to do so more often. If approached, agree to share your insights. It's important that people learn about our research findings to help shift the negative and inaccurate stereotypes about immigrants.

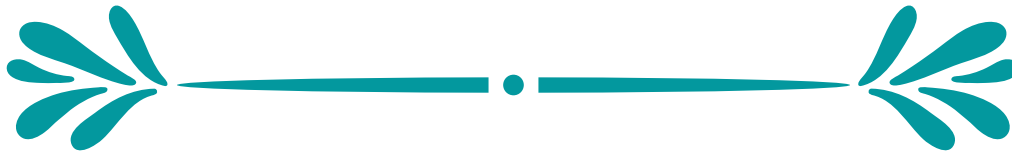
As we write and read books about recent immigrants, the immigrant rights movement, Dreamers, and similar topics, we tend to focus on immigrants who are left-leaning, progressive, and activists themselves. Some of us often assume that an increase in immigrants and children of immigrants would lead to a shift towards more liberal views among the electorate. This last election puts that assumption partly into question, but what does this mean for immigration studies? As we have collectively written about, immigrants adapt, acculturate, and become distinct from those in their countries of origin. Over time and across generations, many immigrants become culturally similar to Americans. This means that, eventually, the public opinion of immigrants tends to align with the national average and those of their neighbors and social circles. In a country where around half of the electorate leans Republican, it is likely that around half of Latinos, Asians, and other immigrant groups, particularly those in the third generation, would do the same—whether we like it or not. This is indeed evidence of integration and assimilation. Their voting patterns will increasingly be influenced by education levels, gender, geographic location, and religion, as they do for White Americans. To conclude, the results of this election were not determined by immigration policies or the misinformation around it. However, to animate its base with racist dog whistles, Trump vilified, scapegoated, and spread lies about immigrants and minorities. We need to combat these misconceptions. While naturalized citizens and U.S.-born Latino votes did not determine the election outcome, they were used to polarize the electorate, painting Haitians and Latino men as dangerous criminals. In response, some Latinos themselves spread hate speech as a way to pass and protect themselves.



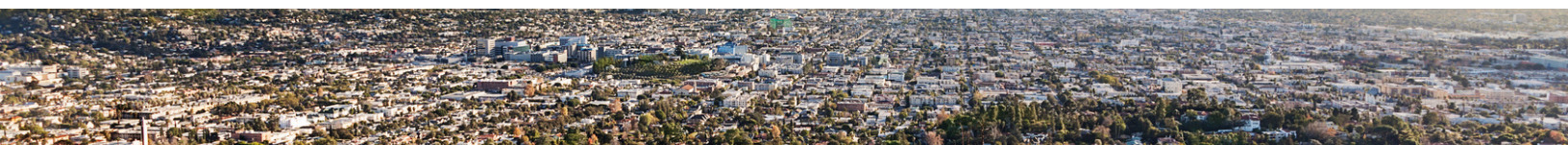
# IMMIGRATION AND THE 2024 ELECTIONS (CONT)



As we have documented well in sociology, many individuals draw symbolic boundaries, try to create distinctions, and avoid racialization and exclusion by trying to pass as White or White-adjacent in response to the stigmatization of whole categorical groups. Individuals in tenuous situations understand that adopting majority opinions and beliefs may be a survival strategy. This is caused by racism. We have collectively documented cases like this for a long time. However, among the public, there is a lack of understanding (even among immigrants, their children, and grandchildren) about immigration history and the common exclusion of newcomers. New immigrant groups are often framed as unassimilable, and once they do, many descendants of those groups repeat the pattern and exclude those who come after them. Our research is more relevant than ever as we teach our students, readers, and the public about the many positive outcomes brought about by immigration in the long term and about how immigration status does not equal morality. It is not that individuals want to be undocumented, but amidst strong labor demand in the U.S., a lack of legal pathways for many, and conflicts, and economic and political crises abroad, many find themselves in that situation.



Ernesto Castañeda is a Full Professor of Sociology at American University and Director of the Immigration Lab and the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies. Among his latest books, he published with Daniel Jenks, “Reunited: Family Separation and Central American Youth Migration” (Russell Sage Foundation 2024).



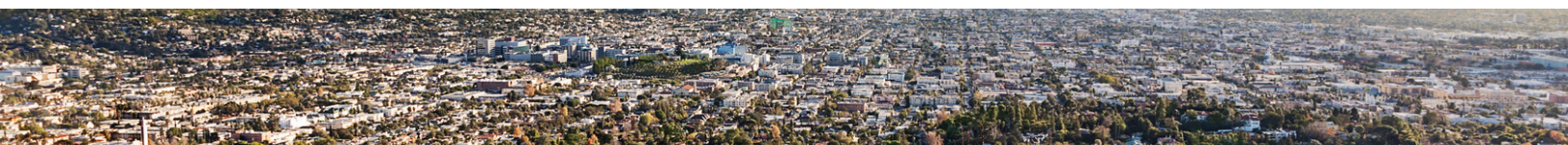
# A PUBLIC IMPERATIVE: MIGRATION SCHOLARSHIP IN ANTI-IMMIGRANT TIMES

In the last months of the turbulent 2024 United States presidential election, Donald Trump doubled down on his anti-immigrant message. In rallies across the country, transfixed followers waved campaign signs reading “Mass Deportation” or “End Migrant Crime,” and roared approvingly at Trump’s large, well-worn arsenal of racist one-liners and false claims. After a particularly egregious week-long run of baseless claims about legal Haitian migrants in Springfield Ohio, Trump told a crowd in Indiana: “you have to get them the hell out.” In a kind of call-and-response fervor, the adherents of a party that once billed itself as pro legal immigration replied with a chant: “Send them back.” The most important approval of this messaging, however, came on election night, when Donald Trump made gains among almost every demographic group in the country and cruised to an overwhelming victory in the electoral college and popular vote—the first Republican to do so in 20 years. The takeaway? In a context of widespread economic and cultural anxiety, the centuries old, tried and true tactic of agitating xenophobia and scapegoating immigrants for a wide set of problems is a winning strategy.

And it’s not just the United States. In Canada, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau recently admitted a mistake in the “balance” of immigration and reduced the country’s target for allowing new permanent residents in the next few years. In the EU, recent victories from nationalist parties have led to new, controversial policies aimed at suspending asylum claims and increasing deportations. Similarly, the Costa Rican government has rolled back the rights and protections of its growing population of asylum seekers. In an increasingly anti-immigrant global context, how should we as migration scholars respond?

When I worked as an organizer for an immigration reform campaign in 2013–15, I would often remark that there is no public issue in which ignorance and confidence meet more than in immigration. Countless individuals have strong opinions about the costs of immigration to their nation and the risk of immigrants in their communities—that are completely and utterly baseless. Ridiculous even. So how much more infuriating is it for those of us who read, think about, and study the issue every day. Those of us who have dedicated our lives to understanding this “world on the move.” It’s enough to make anyone with even a remote comprehension of the issue want to scream—or disengage completely. Disgust with creeping xenophobia and exhaustion from the daily assault on truth threatens to push us further up the ivory tower, exactly when we are needed most.

In light of the election results, we have an urgent moral obligation to use our knowledge, skills, and platforms to advocate for immigrants. Our responsibility is twofold. First, we must seek and create opportunities to speak directly to non-immigrants, distilling our scholarship and expertise in public forums. We can accomplish this by bringing our work into venues that reach everyday people—community centers, public schools, local media—emphasizing the economic benefits of immigration, highlighting America’s rich history as a nation of immigrants, and dispelling stubborn myths.

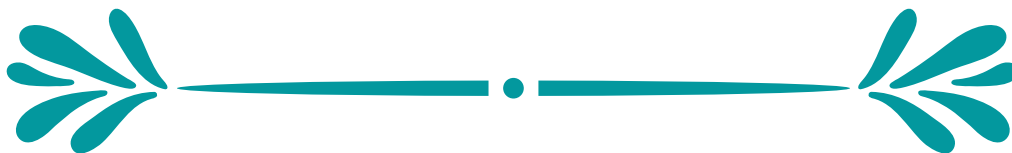


## A PUBLIC IMPERATIVE (CON'T)

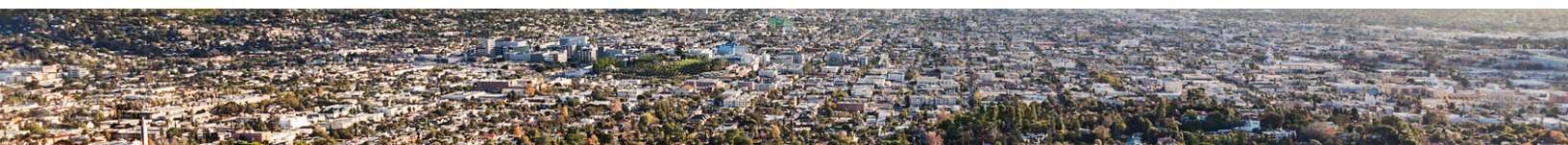
This public engagement is vital, especially as we face an administration promising mass deportation and detention, targeting even legal immigrants. Trump's actions will harm individuals, separate families, and traumatize communities. And so, the second part of our responsibility is to defend immigrants directly, as anti-immigrant policies intensify. Our section is exceptionally well positioned to do this. Our members conduct and publish groundbreaking research that sheds light on the economic, social, and psychological impacts of these policies. We can contribute to mental health initiatives that support immigrant families, offer expert testimony, collaborate with legal and advocacy groups to provide data that bolsters their efforts to protect immigrant rights, and engage directly with policymakers to influence humane and evidence-based immigration policies.

There are certainly structural obstacles to our involvement. Op-eds or amicus briefs count for little in advancing our careers. It is an obvious temptation, at any stage, to devote ourselves solely to those tasks that will bolster our CVs, that will earn us disciplinary currency. Otherwise, we perish. However, whether we like it or not, our research focus is inherently public and inextricably political. To ignore this imperative is at best lazy; at worse, unethical.

As we move forward in an increasingly anti-immigrant climate, migration scholars face a unique challenge. It will be difficult; we may feel tempted to give up, to think that our efforts don't make a difference. Yet we have an incredible resource in this 30-year-old community that is both home to the giants and pioneers of our field and warmly welcoming to newcomers like me. We must stand together, to support and amplify each other's work, to persist in our advocacy for migrants around the world. As our past chair Jody Vallejo recently reminded us, "Ultimately, the power of our dynamic field lies in its promise to contribute to a more just and equitable world."



Matthew Blanton is a Ph.D. candidate in sociology and demography at the University of Texas at Austin. Previously, he led a nonprofit organization in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala for five years and worked for the National Immigration Forum. His work has been published in *International Migration Review*, *Migration Studies*, and *The Sociological Quarterly*.





*Meet*  
**DR.  
CANIZALES**

The International Migration Section was the first section I joined in the ASA. I am honored to have been involved first as a section member, then graduate student representative, and now as a council member over the last ten years. I'll be the first to admit that my work is one of my favorite things about me (don't tell my therapist I said that), in large part because the study of international immigration and Latin American-origin migration to the US opened my own world up to me.

I am the daughter of Salvadoran immigrants who grew up as unaccompanied young people and Pico-Union/MacArthur Park, Los Angeles, where they later met in the mid-80s. My older sister and I were born in Los Angeles soon after. We didn't say we were Salvadoran to strangers. I don't remember being around too many strangers outside of school. I remember spending nearly all our free time at church and at the houses and apartments of our family members and family friends. Basically, other deeply religious Central Americans. It was common that most adults were monolingual Spanish speakers and that the kids spoke English to each other but Spanish to our parents. I remember our parents were mechanics, nannies or domestics, vendors or warehouse workers, or pastors—a whole lot of pastors.

My mom worked in banking, then real estate title, and we eventually moved to Orange County. My dad talked a lot about working in garment manufacturing, carpet installation, wallpaper delivery, and other such work. Still, for as long as I can remember, he had difficulty keeping a job. Once my younger brother and sister were born, my dad eventually stayed home to care for us kids to the best of his ability, which sometimes didn't feel much like care at all. We were closest to my maternal grandparents, but they were always going back and forth between LA or Orange County and El Salvador. I remember crying for my grandma a lot as a kid.

My mom's family, and my dad's, too, relied heavily on my mom for financial support. When my brother and sister were born, my mom did all could to keep my sister and I in private schools but when she couldn't afford to anymore, we moved schools often. Almost every year. My parents talked a lot about money, and it was typically my mom who managed to get us by. She got my siblings and I on WIC (I loved KIX cereal so much), free- and reduced-lunch, and got all the best deals on just about anything we needed.

When I got to UC Los Angeles, where I was a political science major, I was seventeen and understood very little about my world. I started to make sense of it in classes and through reading little-by-little. But when I took my first Sociology class, International Migration with Roger Waldinger, at the end of my third year, the pieces of the puzzle really started to fall into place. I read works about intergenerational and transnational immigrant families, the role of religion in immigrant communities, how women are expected to sacrifice on behalf of their families, however extended. I learned about immigrant parents' strategies for buffering children from discrimination, like instructing them on how to introduce themselves in public, or for bolstering children's mobility and well-being, like moving to neighborhoods with better schools or accessing public services. I learned about why my mom had seemingly better luck finding and keeping jobs than my dad, and why my dad responded to nearly every situation with anger.

Even though I didn't know much about my parents' childhoods or early arrivals in the U.S. because they didn't like talking about it with my siblings and me, we all lived and grew up in the shadow of their migration and transitions to adulthood experiences. The United States policy toward and treatment of Central Americans made these pathways so. It wasn't just us, though; it was the families (kin and fictive kin) we spent our free time with at church or in our private homes, too. And while much of the work I was reading at the time focused on Mexican immigrants, the then-burgeoning and now robust body of work on Central Americans was engaging and enlightening. It was liberating for me to be able to organize processes and outcomes and give name and structure to so many features of my life that seemed disorganized and without sense.

I received my PhD in Sociology at the University of Southern California, where I began researching Latin American-origin child migration to and child labor in the U.S. today. I focus much of my time thinking, reading, writing about unaccompanied Central American and Mexican origin child migration, child labor, and young people's coming of age with and without family support and guidance in the US. I recently published my first book, *Sin Padres, Ni Papeles: Unaccompanied Migrant Youth Coming of Age in the United States* on this topic in August 2024 with UC Press. I have a second book that's more specifically focused on the case of Indigenous Guatemalan youth's migration and coming of age, with a focus on the role of ethnoracial identity and language in shaping Maya youth's everyday lives within their local and transnational societies. This book is called *Everyday Futures: Language as Survival for Indigenous Youth in Diaspora*. It's coauthored with linguistic anthropologist Brendan H. O'Connor and is out with Stanford Press in August 2025.

While thinking through these processes, I've also had the honor of putting many of my ideas for solution for big social issues I've observed through my research into practice. I spent some years working with the California Department of Social Services in designing and implementing the first statewide and state government-funded integration program for unaccompanied children and their sponsors in California. I am now working with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on unaccompanied children's integration from a national perspective. It sometimes feels like I'm putting the conclusions of my papers and books into action, and that is so rewarding for me.

This work has also felt really rewarding for me in moments following one-on-one conversations or a community research presentation when someone tells me that they grew up under such conditions of child migration and labor and that the findings of the research resonate with them, helping to make sense of their own experiences. I love how big and broad, but also very specific and personal our research findings can be. It's so special. This is also what I most enjoy about teaching Immigration, Latina/o Sociology, and even Introduction to Sociology classes, where I can facilitate students' introduction to work that resonates with them, gives language to their lived experience, and inspires their curiosity for their own family and community histories and the systems and structures that have shaped their lives.

Much of my work has taken its form over the last few years. I spent most of my tenure track years at UC Merced in Central Valley of California, but transitioned to a position in Sociology at UC Berkeley this fall. I also took on the position of Faculty Director of the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative. I am honored to be able to carry on and build from Irene Bloemraad's legacy with [BIMI](#) I am deeply committed to community driven and publicly engaged scholarship, and I hope to bring that to my efforts to sustain and grow BIMI in the future. I take a lot of inspiration from other Sociologists fighting the good fight. Thinking here of scholars like Amada Armenta at UCLA's [Latino Policy and Politics Institute](#), Veronica Terriquez at UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center but especially in the work Veronica is doing through the [Latina Futures 2050 Lab](#), and Elizabeth Aranda's and Elizabeth Vaquera's [Im/migrant Well-being](#) Scholar Collaborative. There is much work to do, but we have strength in numbers and so many great leadership, advocacy, and activism models to follow.

*I am energized in knowing that I am on this journey with you.*





*Meet*  
**IRINA  
CHUKHRAY**

Irina Chukhray is a Ph.D. student in Sociology at University of California-Davis (UC Davis). Her mixed-method research focuses on immigrant youth who arrived in the United States before age 18 and their experience with college-going. She draws on the lens of social capital to understand the supports and constraints that immigrant youth encounter in their pursuit of postsecondary education. Her sociological inspiration derives initially from her own experience as an immigrant herself. Born originally in Ukraine, Irina struggled to navigate the college-going process because her family's knowledge was based on information from back home, which largely did not apply to the process in the United States. After becoming a first-generation college student at San Diego State University, Irina wanted to pursue a path that would allow her to help other immigrant youth successfully navigate the college-going process. She obtained her Master's degree in Sociology from Rice University and became a Research Analyst for the Houston Education Research Consortium, a nonprofit at the Kinder Institute for Urban Research. Following this, she became the Program Manager for an international collaborative study with OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development).

In preparing for her dissertation research at UC Davis, Irina found that very little data is collected on the college-going experiences of immigrant-origin youth. Existing data tend not to measure immigration status, nor the content, frequency, or mode of college-going conversations (e.g., email, text) with school agents and peers, or whether these conversations met students' needs. Very few datasets allow for arrival age disaggregation, and if they do, those datasets tend to have very limited measures on college-going. More broadly, available education datasets tend to have very limited measures of immigrant youth's background and immigration datasets tend to have limited education measures. These limitations and overall scarcity of data that captures immigrant youths' arrival age, legal status, and encounters with informational resources about college motivate Irina's dissertation. She collected original survey data from three higher education institutions (n=3,484), and she conducted over 50 interviews with immigrant youth. Her work has been supported by the Center for Studies in Higher Education at UC Berkeley, the Immigration Initiative at Harvard University, and the Transatlantic Fellows Program at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Birmingham, U.K.

# ELECTED SECTION LEADERS

## **Jean Beaman, CUNY Graduate Center Chair-Elect**



Jean Beaman is Chair-Elect of the IM section and Associate Professor of Sociology at CUNY Graduate Center. She recently joined the faculty from University of California-Santa Barbara. Her research is ethnographic in nature and focuses on race/ethnicity, racism, international migration, and state violence in both France and the United States. She is author of *Citizen Outsider: Children of North African Immigrants in France* (University of California Press, 2017), as well as numerous articles and book chapters. She is also an Associate Editor of the journal, *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* and a Corresponding Editor for the journal *Metropolitics/Metropolitiques*. She was a 2022-2023 fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, and a Co-PI for the Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar grant, "Race, Precarity, and Privilege: Migration in a Global Context" for 2020-2022.

## **Katherine Jensen, University of Wisconsin-Madison Council Member**



Katie Jensen is Assistant Professor of Sociology and International Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She researches racism and immigration in Latin America, with a focus on asylum governance in Brazil. She is the author of *The Color of Asylum: The Racial Politics of Safe Haven in Brazil* (University of Chicago Press, 2023). It was a finalist for the SSSP C. Wright Mills Award, along with other award recognitions. She has published in *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *American Behavioral Scientist*, and *Qualitative Sociology*, among other journals.



## IM SECTION COMMUNICATIONS TEAM



### **Chen Liang, Associate Editor**

Chen Liang is a PhD candidate in sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research examines how racialized immigrants struggle to obtain political power and influence, and how they refashion race relations in the process. Her dissertation uses a combination of ethnographic fieldwork and in-depth interviews to study Asian Americans' political incorporation and participation in Houston, Texas. Her research has been published in *Social Problems*, *Qualitative Sociology*, and *Sociological Perspective*.



### **Blanca A. Ramirez, Associate Editor**

Blanca is an assistant professor of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. Her research explores the broader consequences of the immigrant deportation regime, including the implications of local policies on immigration lawyering. Her multiple award-winning work has been published in *Social Problems*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, and *Violence Against Women*. Blanca earned her PhD in Sociology at the University of Southern California.



### **Irina, Website Designer**

Irina Chukhray is a Ph.D. student in Sociology at University of California-Davis (UC Davis). Her mixed-method research focuses on immigrant youth who arrived in the United States before age 18 and their experience with college-going. Her work has been supported by the Center for Studies in Higher Education at UC Berkeley, the Immigration Initiative at Harvard University, and the Transatlantic Fellows Program at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Birmingham, U.K.



### **Alice Silu, Communication Co-Ordinator**

Alice Silu received her B.A. in English and M.A in Sociology. Her research areas crosscut social demography, immigration, and Chinese diaspora. Her current research interests focus on the Chinese and international immigrants in Belt and Road Initiatives. In this area, she tries to examine the adaptation and integration in host society and the migration consequences at country of origin and destination.



### **Jean Beaman, Twitter Manager**

Jean Beaman is Chair-Elect of the IM section and Associate Professor of Sociology at CUNY Graduate Center. She recently joined the faculty from University of California-Santa Barbara.



## IM MENTORING & PROFESSIONALIZATION COMMITTEE



**Andrew N. Le (Chair)** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology in the T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics and Faculty Associate at The Asia Center at Arizona State University. He received my PhD from the Sociology Department at University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). His book project, *The Middle of Migration*, is an ethnographic study examining how the presence of migrant brokers changes the migration process in Vietnam. His work has been featured in the *Journal of Peasant Studies*, *Journal of Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Sociological Forum*, and *Social Currents*.



**Jesse Yeh** is an Assistant Professor of Instruction of Legal Studies at Northwestern University. Their research theorizes social differences and rightwing politics in the current post-neoliberal moment. Their current book project examines how everyday people engage with immigration and racial politics.



**Han Liu** is a Bridge-to-Faculty Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Sociology and Demography at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). Before joining UTSA, he was a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Population Studies and Training Center at Brown University, and he received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University at Albany. Han specializes in social stratification, international migration, population health, and spatial demography. Some of his recent work appeared in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *Population Research and Policy Review*, and *the Journal of Urban Health*.



**Cate Bowman** is an assistant professor of sociology at Austin College in Sherman, TX. Cate's research is at the crossroads of immigration policy and labor studies, with a specific focus on how and why U.S. immigration policy is changing from a family reunification and humanitarian-based model to one that increasingly privileges short-term immigration for labor purposes. Cate's research has focused on the J-1 Summer Work Travel and her more recent work interrogates the U.S. government's migrant labor data regime. She is a member of Migration that Works, a coalition of labor, migration, civil rights, anti-trafficking organizations and academics advancing a rights-based labor migration model and an external researcher on the United States Department of Agriculture's newly launched Farm Labor Stabilization and Protection (FLSP) Pilot Program.



**Sam Dinger** is a PhD candidate in Sociology at NYU. He is a scholar of forced migration and masculinities in the contemporary Arab world. His research uses ethnographic methods to explore how young Syrian men in Lebanon make tough decisions about their futures when facing dramatic deterioration in their legal status and economic security. Sam's book project, tentatively entitled *No Country for Young Men: Masculinity and Migrant Futures in Lebanon*, is under advance contract at the University of Chicago Press.



## IM DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE



### **Nadia Flores-Yeffal (Co-Chair)**

Nadia Y. Flores-Yeffal is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Texas Tech University and the Director of the Texas Tech Population Center. She received her M.A. in Demography in 2001 and her Ph.D. in Sociology in 2005 from the University of Pennsylvania. Flores-Yeffal is the author of the book, *Migration-Trust Networks: Social Cohesion in Mexican U.S.-Bound Emigration*, published in 2013 by Texas A&M University Press. Her current research focuses on issues related to the criminalization of immigrants and the role of social networks on issues related to health and migration.



### **Jaeun Kim (Co-Chair)**

Jaeun Kim is Korea Foundation Endowed Associate Professor of Sociology and Professor of Law (by Courtesy) at the University of Michigan. She studies race/ethnicity/nationalism and migration/citizenship from a transnational perspective. Kim is the author of the award-winning book, *Contested Embrace: Transborder Membership Politics in Twentieth-Century Korea* (Stanford University Press 2016). Her article won the 2019 ASA Theory Prize. She was a member of the Institute for Advanced Study (2016–2017) and a fellow at Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (2020–2021), where she now holds a permanent fellow position (2024–).



**Jane Lilly Lopez** is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Brigham Young University. Her scholarship probes the intersections of citizenship, international migration, law, community, and belonging. Her book, *Unauthorized Love: Mixed-Citizenship Couples Negotiating Intimacy, Immigration, and the State*, examines inequalities built into US family reunification law and their consequences for mixed-citizenship American couples living within and outside the US.



**Sharon Quinsa** is a scholar of social movements and migration and currently Associate Professor of Sociology at Grinnell College. She has conducted research and published on a wide range of topics, including migrant conservatism, transnational repression, and news discourse on immigration. Her first book, *Insurgent Communities: How Protests Create a Filipino Diaspora* (The University of Chicago Press, 2024), explains the dynamic process through which a diaspora is strategically constructed and looks to Filipinos in the United States and the Netherlands to argue that diasporas emerge through political activism.



**Carlo Handy Charles** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Windsor, a Visiting Scholar at the University of Michigan's Sociology Department, and a Fellow at the Institut Convergences Migrations, CNRS-Paris. His current book project examines the impacts of queer transnational relationships among Haitian migrants and nonmigrants across eight countries. His research has been supported by the Canadian Sociological Association, the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation, France's National Center for Scientific Research Foundation, Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## The Fourth Global Carework Summit

### “Histories and Futures of Care”

5-7 June 2025

Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

The Carework Network is taking this opportunity of its 25th anniversary to reflect on the histories and futures of carework research and the study of care more broadly during a bilingual (Spanish and English) three-day conference bringing together researchers and advocates from around the world.

The conference will explore how conversations about care have developed during this period and what factors have informed notable inflection points — not only discrete events such as the 2008 financial crisis and the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic but also more sustained dynamics such as environmental crises, pervasive neoliberal policies, the ongoing importance of migrant careworkers, the changing role of technologies and infrastructures, and renewed global reckonings with the effects of racism and colonialism.

We invite submissions that allow us to explore these histories together as well as their implications for the futures of care and care studies. We welcome proposals for the following submission types:

1. Individual paper proposals should include an abstract of 300 words and a brief (c. five entries) bibliography of work that has informed your research or with which you are in conversation.
2. Fully constituted panel proposals should describe the topic and relationship between papers in no more than 300 words. Additionally, include 300-word abstracts for each paper. Panels should have 3-5 papers. We encourage panels that bring together participants from different perspectives, disciplines, geographies, methodologies and/or that connect scholarly knowledge to public conversations.

All submissions should include title, name, contact information for author(s), institutional affiliation (if applicable), and occupational status (student, faculty, advocate, practitioner etc.). All submissions should include objectives or research questions; methodology, geographical or sectoral context, main findings and conclusions, and 4-5 keywords describing the research.

We welcome submissions in English or Spanish, from all academic disciplines, independent researchers, advocacy or non-profit organizations, and public and private sector organizations. We also encourage participation by undergraduate and graduate students.

Authors and panel organizers should submit a proposal for a paper or panel to [careworknetwork2025@gmail.com](mailto:careworknetwork2025@gmail.com) (by e-mail only) no later than September 1, 2024. If selected, you will be notified in October and expected to submit a full paper by April 1, 2025.

Questions about the Global Summit may be directed to [careworknetwork2025@gmail.com](mailto:careworknetwork2025@gmail.com)



# MEMBER NEWS

Min Zhou is serving as President of the Sociological Research Association (SRA, 2024-25).

Jacob Richard Thomas started the new position as Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, Corvinus University of Budapest.

Gabriela León-Pérez received a grant from the Jeffress Trust to create a community-academic partnership focused on mental health inequities among Latino youth.

Elizabeth Aranda was awarded a grant from the Russell Sage Foundation for her project, "Place-, Home-Making, and Incorporation After Post-Disaster Migration: The Case of Puerto Rican Climate Migrants to the U.S. and Return Migrants to Puerto Rico."

Chiara Galli received the Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Grant for the study "A Welcoming City? The Reception of Asylum-Seekers in Chicago," 2024-2025

*congrats*  
to our members!



# NEW PUBLICATIONS

Asayesh, O., & Kazemipur, A. (2024). Culture of Migration: A Theoretical Account with a Particular Focus on Iran. *Canadian Ethnic Studies* 56(1), 1-25. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/ces.2024.a921078>

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Cheong, Amanda R. (2024). "Who Counts as a Stateless Person? Nation-Statist Logics and the Liabilities of Potential Citizenship Elsewhere." *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2024.2404482>.

Cheong, Amanda R. (2024). "Racial Exclusion by Bureaucratic Omission: Enumerative Non-Recognition, Documentary Dispossession, and the Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar." *Social Problems*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spae003>.

Choi, Carolyn, and Sunmin Kim. 2024. "Category Traversing: Early Korean Immigrants Eluding the U.S. State." *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

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Doña-Reveco, C. 2024. Receiving Context and Policy Changes in the Transformation from an Emigration country to an Immigration country. The case of Chile. *The Palgrave Handbook of Global Social Problems*. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-68127-2\_135-1

Donato, Katharine M., Leslie Valentine, Amanda Carrico, Carol Wilson, Kimberly Rogers, and Timo Tonassi 2024 "Migration and Shifts in Tidal and River Channels in Bangladesh." *Vienna Yearbook of Population Research, Population and Climate Change*. Vol. 22 <https://doi.org/10.1553/p-d9pb-h22j>

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Ellen P. Kraly, Cecilia Menjivar, and Holly Reed. 2024. "International Migration Review at 60: Evolving and Emerging Models of International Migration Research." *International Migration Review* <https://doi.org/10.1177/01979183241274751>

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- Gracia, San Juanita, Tomas R. Jimenez, Seth M. Holmes, Irena Kogan, Anders Vassenden, Lawrence H. Yang, and Min Zhou. 2023. "Migration, Stigma, and Lived Experiences: A Conceptual Framework for Centering Lived Experiences." Pp. 75-97 in Lawrence H. Yang, Maureen A. Eger, and Bruce G. Link (eds.), *Migration Stigma: Understanding Prejudice, Discrimination, and Exclusion*. MIT Press and the Frankfurt Institute for Advanced Studies.
- Gu, Chien-Juh and Charles Crawford. 2024. "Hierarchical Social Distance: Social Attitudes toward Ethnic and Immigrant Groups in a Midwestern City." *Sociological Inquiry*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soin.12639>
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- Musalo, Karen., Anna O. Law, Annie Daher, Katharine M. Donato, and Chelsea Meiners 2024 "With Fear, Favor and Flawed Analysis: Decision-making in U.S. Immigration Courts." *Boston College Law Review* Vol 65, November,

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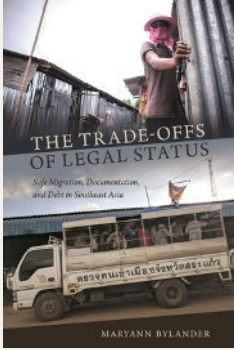
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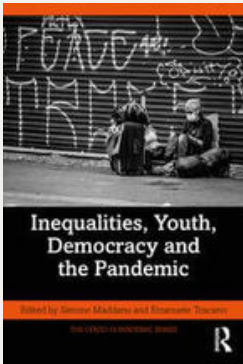
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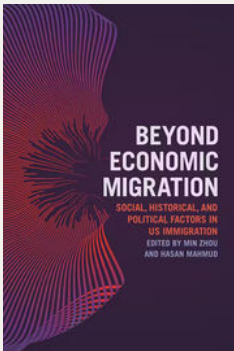
# NEW BOOKS



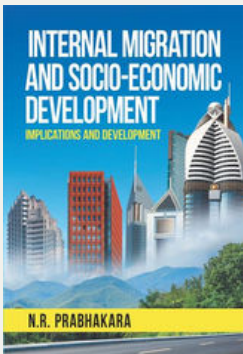
**The Trade-Offs of Legal Status: Safe Migration, Documentation, and Debt in Southeast Asia**  
By Maryann Bylander  
University of Hawai'i Press, 2024.



**“Rebuscarse la Vida” The Resourcefulness of Latinas Navigating COVID-19 in Philadelphia.**  
By Veronica Montes, Beatriz Padilla, Erika Busse  
Routledge, 2024.

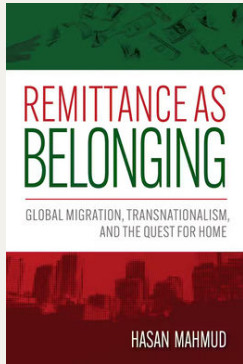


**Look Inside Beyond Economic Migration Social, Historical, and Political Factors in US Immigration**  
Edited by Min Zhou and Hasan Mahmud, 2023.  
New York University Press

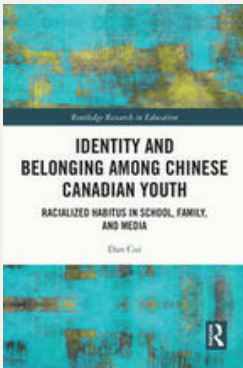


**Internal Migration And Socio-Economic Development: Implications and Development**  
By Prabhakara Narasandra  
Quantum Discovery Literary Agency, 2024.

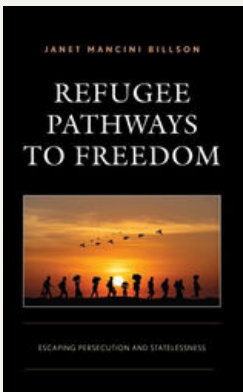
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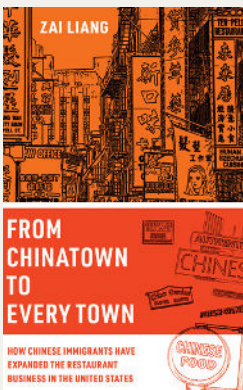
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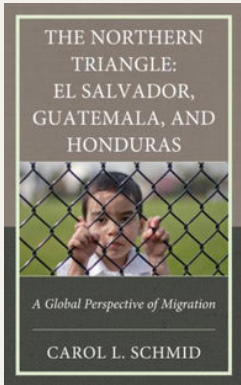


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