

UCL DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY



UCL

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

UCL Migration Research Unit



Migration Research Unit

Contents



Co-Directors' Report	1
MRU Research	2
Postgraduate Research	5
Msc in Global Migration	7
Artist in Residence	9
Events	10
Seminar Series	11
Selected Recent Publications	12
MRU Staff	15



Front Cover - Photo Credit:
Tibetan Buddhist Temple,
Vancouver, 2010. Dr Claire Dwyer.

Co-Directors' Report

The UCL Migration Research Unit (MRU) was first established by John Salt in 1988 focusing primarily on analysing European migration trends. The MRU now encompasses eleven staff members in addition to affiliated members and a growing number of PhD students working on migration. Research covers many different areas of interest including diasporas and transnationalism; asylum and refugees; national and international migration policies; measuring and mapping migration and ethnicity; theorising mobilities and development and migration. As this report indicates MRU members are active in research on migration in different contexts including Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Mexico, South Africa, Canada and are funded from a range of different sources.

In the academic year of 2010-2011 UCL's new MSc in Global Migration was launched, hosted by the MRU. As this report indicates the MRU is growing as a centre for academic research, teaching, dialogue and exchange on migration. MSc students have been active participants in organising activities including a new graduate student conference in 2012. Of particular note in the past academic year has been the presence of Leverhulme-funded Artist in Residence Liz Hingley who is working with several different MRU members on projects which develop photography as a visual methodology for studying migration.

**Dr Claire Dwyer & Professor John Salt
(Co-Directors, MRU)**



MRU Research

**Emeritus Professor John Salt
(Co-Director)**



John has continued to co-direct the Leverhulme Research Programme, *Migration and Ethnicity* (2003-2011), a joint programme with the University of Bristol involving eight research projects. Findings from the programme were published in *Global Migration, Ethnicity and Britishness*, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011).

John's major work continues as UK SOPEMI Correspondent to the OECD for whom he writes the Annual Report on International Migration and the UK. He has completed a number of commissioned reports from the Home Office including *European Migration Network: Satisfying Labour Demand Through Migration*, 2010 and *European Migration Network: Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics for the UK*, 2007.

**Dr Claire Dwyer
(Co-Director)**



In addition to completing two research projects on multiculturalism, Britishness and ethnicity for the Leverhulme Research Programme, Claire has primarily been working on a project on transnational suburban religious landscapes in London and Canada. Work in Canada has been carried out in collaboration with Professor David Ley (UBC) funded by Metropolis British Columbia and the Canadian High Commission Faculty Research Programme. In London, Claire has been working in collaboration with Professor David Gilbert (RHUL) and Dr Bindi Shah (University of Southampton) and with the MRU's Artist in Residence, Liz Hingley, on a participant photography project. Claire was plenary speaker at the Annual Metropolis Conference (Toronto 2011) and at the Association of American Geographers Conference (Seattle 2011).



MRU Research

Visiting Professor John Eade

John has continued to publish on ethnicity, diasporas and cities with a particular interest in religion. He has also developed a network of research into contemporary pilgrimage which incorporates multiple disciplinary perspectives and different faith traditions. In addition to organising two workshops on pilgrimage at UCL he has also initiated a new book series from Routledge.

Dr Alan Latham



Alan's primary research interests are in contemporary urbanism with particular interests in sociality, globalisation and corporeal mobility.

His current research focuses on how runners use and experience the city. In addition to supervising PhD students and MSc students in the MRU

he has also collaborated with John Salt on commissioned research on labour demand and migration for the Home Office.

Dr Charlotte Lemanski



Charlotte's primary research interests are in the changing dynamics and social structures of South African cities and the participation of the urban poor in urban governance in India and South Africa. Within the MRU Charlotte has collaborated with visiting scholar, Dr Daniel Conway (University of Loughborough), on a seminar series exploring migration from the UK to South Africa.

Dr Pablo Mateos



Pablo is a member of UCL's Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA) as well as the MRU. He is currently working on the project ENFOLD (Explaining, Modelling and Forecasting Global Dynamics) funded by the EPSRC. Pablo's other new area of research interest is on extraterritorial citizenship particularly focusing on Latin Americans and citizenship of the EU. Pablo has developed innovative research in this area particularly through the use of 'netography' via research on internet sites.

Dr JoAnn McGregor



JoAnn's recent research has investigated the social and political consequences of the rise of immigration detention and deportation in the UK through a research project on Zimbabwean detainees *Narrative and legacies of detention* funded by the Nuffield Foundation. A second project *Transnational politics of exile and solidarity* funded by the ESRC, provides an historical perspective on exile, by comparing the current Zimbabwe diaspora with the generation of exiles and students who fled during Zimbabwe's liberation war. This project has involved collaboration with the Department of History at the University of Zimbabwe where JoAnn was associate lecturer in 2010-2011. In 2011 the Bulawayo National Gallery hosted an exhibition of the liberation war photography of Zeno Nkobi, the outcome of collaboration



between JoAnn, the Mafela Trust and SAHA (the South African Historical Archives) and the Bulawayo Gallery. In 2011 JoAnn was also commissioned by the Government Office of Science's *Foresight* programme, to write a report on the links between migration, conflict and environmental change in the Zimbabwean context.

Dr Ben Page



Ben has broad interests in Africa and development but within the MRU his interests are focused on the activities of the African Diaspora, particularly those from Cameroon and Tanzania. Following on from a major project on diasporas and development undertaken in collaboration with Clare Mercer (LSE), he is now working on developing a project about house building in Cameroon by the diaspora which involves a visual methodology of 'house biographies'.

Dr Janet Dobson



Janet is a senior research associate with the MRU where her ongoing research focuses on children and migration within the UK.

Postgraduate Research

There are currently 16 students undertaking doctoral research within the MRU as members of the wider geography department and other students across UCL who are affiliated to the MRU.

Incoming students for the academic year 2011-12 include **Ruth Judge**, a full-time ESRC funded research student, whose research project is entitled '*From the Council Estate to the African Orphanage*'. Ruth's research considers the impact of schemes which foster encounters overseas for young people from low-income neighbourhoods drawing on theoretical ideas about cosmopolitanism, transnationalism and emotional geographies.



In 2011 **Lauren Wagner** defended her PhD on '*Negotiating diasporic mobilities and becomings: Interactions and practices of Europeans of Moroccan descent on holiday in Morocco*'. Lauren now has a research post at the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands.

In 2011 **Melissa Kelly**, from the University of Uppsala, Sweden, was a visiting graduate student in the MRU. Melissa is researching the experiences of Iranian migrants who have moved from Iran to Sweden to the UK (and sometimes subsequently to the US). Melissa's research uses an in-depth biographical narrative approach to exploring migration experiences.

Caitlin O'Neill Gutierrez

My doctoral research explores how young women from Mexican families living in the US articulate multiple identities. In particular I explore the importance of gender role expectations, degrees of 'Mexicanness' and feelings about in/formal education.



In 2009-2010 I conducted a year long in-depth ethnography in San Diego, California. I interviewed over sixty young women and volunteered with a state-wide program called Migrant Education.

My work seeks to contribute to critical feminist and postcolonial theories of identity formation and performativity in the US-Mexico 'borderlands'.

James Esson

'Trafficking in football from Ghana: race, masculinity and representation'.

My research focuses on the trafficking of West African males to Europe. I spent the second year of my PhD in Accra (Ghana) and Paris (France) undertaking ethnographic fieldwork.



The thesis provides an innovative theoretical approach to a contemporary migration issue by incorporating geographies of youth, race, gender and commodities within the context of trafficking.



Kimberley Claydon is a doctoral Researcher on the Migration and Global Demographics workstream of the ENFOLDing project (<http://enfolding.blogs.casa.ucl.ac.uk/>) which is based in CASA in the UCL Geography Department.

Her research interests are in global human migration modelling and her PhD develops quantitative models of global migration flows and stocks accounting for the most established theories on the causes of international migration.



Photo Credit: John Eade 2011



MSc Global Migration

In Autumn 2010 the new Msc in Global Migration was launched.

Based in the UCL Department of Geography's MRU and convened by Dr JoAnn McGregor the new masters is interdisciplinary and students can take courses in a wide range of different departments at UCL including Laws, Economics, Anthropology, SSEES, History, Spanish and Latin American Studies, Italian and the Institute of Child Health.

In the academic year 2010-2011 the course had 13 students coming from many different countries in Europe and North America. In the current academic year there are 18 students who have equally diverse regional backgrounds and educational and employment backgrounds. The MSc students have been a great asset to the MRU attending seminars and organising activities.

We are pleased to announce that the best dissertations by the MSc Global

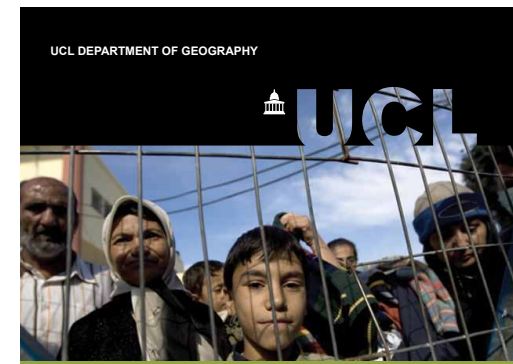
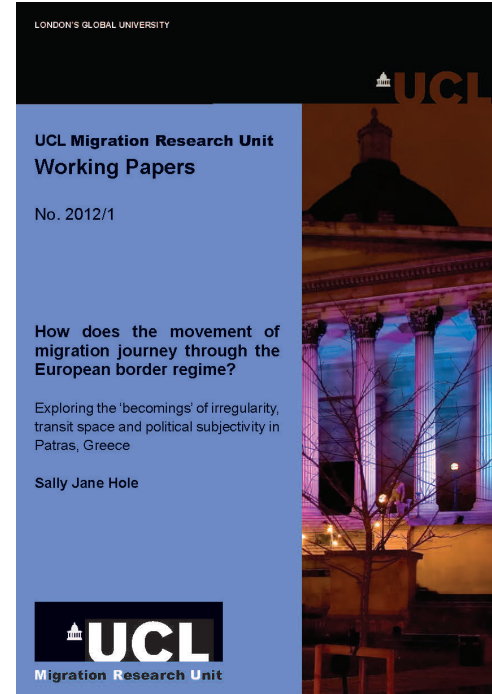


Migration students will be made available through our new working papers series which launched in 2012. The first five papers are available on the MRU website and include topics as diverse as spiritual remittances for British Bangladeshi Muslims; Filipina domestic workers in

London; the asylum system in Norway; 'irregularity' and transit space in Patras in Greece and the effects of migration in Sri Lanka.

In June 2012 three MSc students, Agata, Helen and Siril, organised an inaugural MRU Student conference *Migration, Human Rights and Security in Europe* at UCL. This successful conference attracted papers from nearly twenty graduate students from all over the UK and Europe and included a keynote lecture from the immigration advocacy group *Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID)*.

Students on the MSc in Global Migration have also founded a UCL branch of the organisation Student Action for Refugees (STAR) which works to support refugees through fundraising, volunteering and information sharing.



Migration, Human Rights and Security in Europe

UCL Migration Research Unit
Student Conference

11th June 2012
UCL

including a presentation by
Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID)

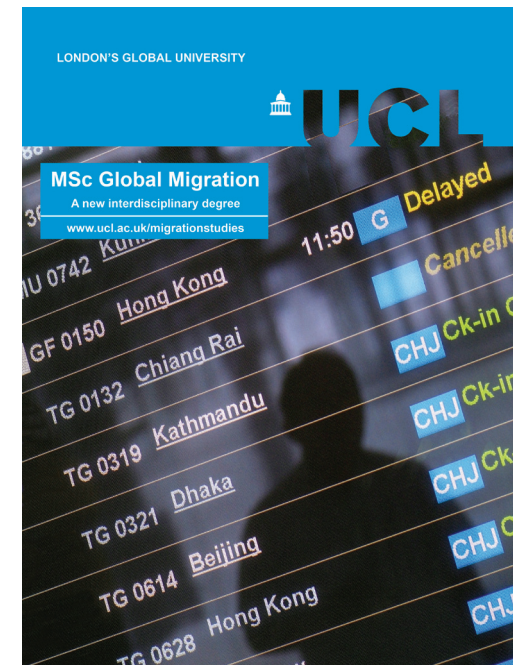




Photo Credit: Liz Hingley 2011

Artist in Residence

In January 2012 award-winning photographer Liz Hingley began a 12 month residency in the MRU funded by the Leverhulme Trust.



Liz Hingley's work includes *Under gods* a photographic portrait of two years spent with diverse religious communities along Birmingham's Soho Road. *Under gods* was published by Dewi Lewis in 2011. The work has been exhibited at the Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Host Gallery (London), and opens in Paris in July 2012. Alongside the exhibition

Liz has been curating an installation of religious objects sourced from migrant communities in Belleville in Paris which was shown at UCL in the 'Pearson Cubes' between February and June 2012.

Liz has led classes in visual methodologies for MSc students and presented her work to the MRU Seminar Series and to undergraduates studying migration. Within the MRU Liz is collaborating with Claire Dwyer on a participant photography project with older residents in Ealing about places of worship funded by a UCL Beacon Bursary. She is also working with JoAnn on an exhibition of archive campaign materials from Zimbabwean exiles in the UK. With Ben Page, Liz is working on a photo-story methodology for exploring houses built in Cameroon by the diaspora.



Religious traders in a secular city.
Photo Credit: Liz Hingley 2012



Photo Credit: Liz Hingley 2011



Photo Credit: Liz Hingley 2011

Events

As part of UCL's inaugural Migration Week (April 2011) the MRU hosted performances by the theatre group *ice&fire* of *Asylum Dialogues* and *On a Clear Day you can see Dover*. Organised by MRU graduate student, Gayle Munro, the performances were followed by a panel discussion with the director Sonja Linden, Sarah Mulley (IPPR), Jill Rutter (Refugee and Migrant Justice) and Mike Emberson (Migrant Helpline).

Pablo was on the organising committee for *Population Footprints 2011* a major UCL-Leverhulme Trust Symposium held at UCL in June 2011.

In March 2012, Claire Dwyer organised a workshop on *Negotiating Religion in Urban Space*. This workshop followed previous workshops which were held at UCL in 2010 and on *Faith in Suburbia* organised in partnership with RHUL in 2011. *Negotiating Religion in Urban Space* was sponsored by UCL's European Institute and organised as part of a series of workshops on *Negotiating Religion* at UCL.

In June 2012, MRU hosted its first student conference *Migration, Human Rights and Security in Europe* organised by students on the MSc in Global Migration and funded by UCL Graduate School, the UCL Department of Geography and UCL's Institute of Human Rights.

MRU is co-host of the CRONEM Conference (UCL / CRONEM) held at the University of Surrey, 26-27 June 2012, *The Future of Multiculturalism: Structures, Integration Policies and Practices*.

LONDON'S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

UCL

Workshop Series

NEGOTIATING RELIGION:
Inquiries into the History and Present of Religious Accommodation

Workshop 3
Negotiating Religion in Urban Space

THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Research Initiative Religion and Society @ UCL's Grand Challenge of Intercultural Interaction

gh ii gc



Photo Credit: Liz Hingley 2011

Seminar Series

MRU's Seminar Series runs in the Autumn and Spring Terms.

Speakers in Autumn 2011

Caitlin O'Neill
(MRU PhD student)
Coming of Age in the US? Becoming Mexican American.

Diego Bunge
(Visiting PhD student)
Migrant Occupational Mobility in Spain.

Professor John Salt
(Co-Director MRU)
UK Migration Policy Debates.

Darya Malyutina
(MRU PhD Student)
From racism to cosmopolitan sociability? Perceptions of others in the conditions of superdiversity by Russian-speaking migrants in London.

Speakers in Spring 2012

Liz Hingley
(MRU Leverhulme Artist in Residence).

Kim Claydon
(MRU PhD student)
Modelling global migration: a review of efforts to empirically test migration theories.

Dr JoAnn McGregor
(MRU)
Sentimental investment? Diasporic engagements, casino economics and the perils of urban property in Zimbabwe.

Dr Pablo Mateos
(MRU)
A netnography approach to migration: Investigating Spanish citizenship acquisition in on-line communities.

London Migration Research Group Seminars (LMRG)

As one of the co-hosts of the LMRG Seminar Series the MRU hosted seminars by:

Dr Daniel Conway
(Loughborough University)
A British Diaspora?: Migration, Whiteness and Identity Making by the British in South Africa, 1st November 2011.

Professor Mary Hickman
(London Metropolitan University)
The experiences and impacts of being 'suspect' for Irish communities and Muslim communities in Britain 1974-2007, 13th March 2012.

Selected Recent Publications

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Eckardt, F. & Eade, J., 2011, *The Ethnically Diverse City*. Berlin: Berlin Wissenschaft Verlag.

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Eade, J., 2011, 'From race to religion: multiculturalism and contested urban space' in Beaumont, J. and Butler, C., (Eds.), *Post-Secular Cities: Space, Theory and Practice*. London and New York: Continuum.

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Lemanski, C., 2011, 'Moving up the ladder or stuck at the bottom? Homeownership as a solution to poverty in South Africa', *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 35.1, pp57-77.

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Winney, B., Boumertit, A., Day, T., Davison, D., Echeta, C., Evseeva, I., Hutnik, K., Leslie, S., Nicodemus, K., Royrvik, E., Tonks, S., Yang, X., Cheshire, J., Longley, P., **Mateos, P.**, Groom, A., Relton, C., Bishop, T., Black, K., Northwood, E., Parkinson, E., Frayling, T., Steele, A., Sampson, J., King, T., Dixon, R., Middleton, D., Jennings, B., Bowden, R., Donnelly, P., & Bodmer, W., 2012, People of the British Isles: preliminary analysis of genotypes and surnames in a UK control population. *European Journal of Human Genetics*, 20, 203–210.

Lakha, F., Gorman D, **Mateos, P.**, 2011, Name analysis to classify populations by ethnicity in public health: Validation of Onomap in Scotland, *Public Health*, 125 (10), 688-696.

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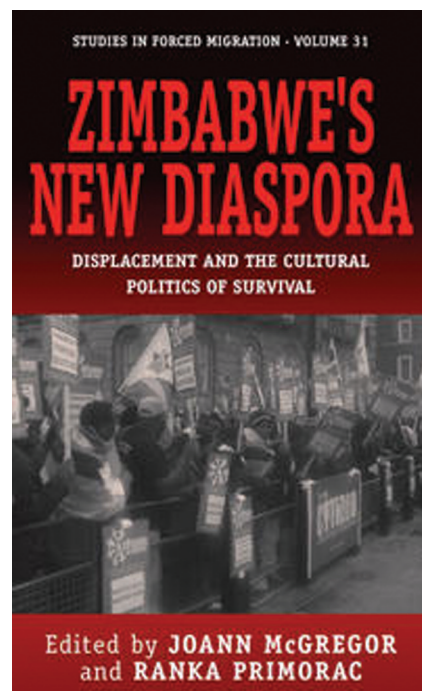
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McGregor, J., (forthcoming), Rethinking detention and deportability: removal centres as spaces of religious revival, *Political Geography*.



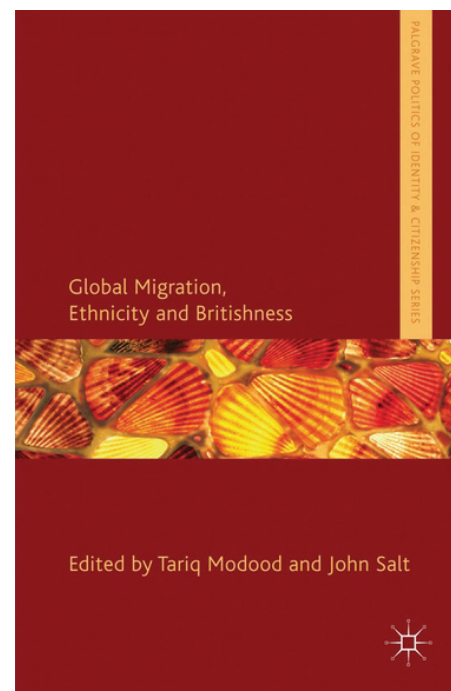
McGregor, J., (forthcoming), 'Rethinking the boundaries of the nation: histories of Cross Border Mobility and Zimbabwe's New "Diaspora"', *Critical African Studies*.

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Photo Credit: Claire Dwyer, Vancouver, 2010

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