

**Annual Report Template  
for Organized Research Units**

Office of the Vice-President Research & Innovation  
York University

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Please see the Annual Report Guide for additional instructions to complete the Template. Note that Annual Reports for 2011-12 are due by **Thursday, May 10, 2012**.

Centre for Refugee Studies  
Annual Report  
July 1, 2011 – April 30, 2012

1. Contact Information

Director	Susan McGrath
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Email	<a href="mailto:smcgrath@yorku.ca">smcgrath@yorku.ca</a>
Campus address	8 <sup>th</sup> Floor, YRT
Admin contact	Michele Millard
ORU Website	<a href="http://www.yorku.ca/crs">www.yorku.ca/crs</a>

2. Faculty Representation

Faculty of Liberal and Professional Studies; Osgoode Hall Law School, Faculty of Environmental Studies, Glendon College, Faculty of Health, Faculty of Education

3. Charter dates: First Charter: 1988; last renewal: 05/2009.

4. Mandate

The Centre for Refugee Studies is engaged in research on refugee issues; it informs public discussion as well as policy development and practice innovation by international, governmental, advocacy and service organizations; and it supports teaching in refugee and migration studies. Refugee studies is conceived in broad terms, as being concerned with the displacement of populations and individuals across and within borders, for reasons of persecution, expulsion, violence, violation of fundamental human rights and loss of essential human security and livelihood. It covers not only accommodation, protection, and assistance for refugees through asylum, settlement, resettlement and reintegration, but also the prevention of displacement. Its approach is necessarily interdisciplinary and respects diversity in perspectives.

5. Membership and Governance

Active members (York faculty)			
First Name	Last Name	Date of Entry	Date of Leaving

Howard	Adelman		Dec. 2015
Uzo	Anucha	Sept. 17 2007	Sept. 2013
Ranu	Basu	June 13 2005	Oct. 2012
Nergis	Canefe	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2012
Michael	Creal	Dec. 2 2002	Dec. 2012
Don	Dippo		Oct. 2013
Marcela	Duran	Sept. 22 2008	Sept. 2014
Tony	Fang	April 12 2011	April 2014
Wenona	Giles	Dec. 2 2002	Dec. 2012
Luin	Goldring	Dec. 2 2002	Dec. 2012
Luann	Good Gingrich	July 29 2008	Jun. 2014
Ian	Greene		Dec. 2012
Mohammed	Hassan	Aug. 2001	Aug. 2012
Jennifer	Hyndman	Aug. 26 2002	Aug. 2012
Michaela	Hynie	Jan 16 2009	Jan 2012
Pablo	Idahosa	Feb. 16 2000	Dec. 2012
Ilan	Kapoor	1999	Dec. 2012
Gerald	Kernerman	Feb. 14 2006	Feb. 2012
Kyle	Killian	Feb. 14 2006	Feb. 2015
Janice	Kim	April 12 2011	April 2014
Lawrence	Lam	Dec. 2 2002	Dec. 2012
Michael	Lanphier	Dec. 2 2002	Dec. 2012
Paul	Lovejoy	Sept. 12 1999	Dec. 2012
Libby	Lunstrum	July 29 2008	Jun. 2015
Willem	Maas	Sept. 17 2007	Sept. 2013
Susan	McGrath	June 13 2001	Dec. 2013
David	Murray	Feb. 18 2011	Feb. 2014
Obiora	Okafor	Jan. 2001	Dec. 2012
Peter	Penz	1999	Dec. 2013
Valerie	Preston	Jan. 20 2001	Jan. 2015
Fahimul	Quadir	Dec. 20 2002	Dec. 2012
Sean	Rehaag	5/14/2009	May 2012
Robin	Roth	March 28 2012	March 2015
James	Simeon	June 7 2007	Jun. 2013
Alan B.	Simmons	? - ? 1999-	Dec. 2012
Dagmar	Soennecken	Mar 17 2008	Mar. 2013
Daphne	Winland	Apr. 12 2002	Dec. 2012
Patricia	Wood	Mar 17 2008	Mar. 2013
Anna	Zalik	Sept. 17 2007	Sept. 2013

Other members (Scholars)

First Name	Last Name	Date of Entry	Date of Leaving
Iman	Ahmed	Sept. 20 2010	Sept. 2013
Sharryn	Aiken	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2012
Sasha	Baglay	Jan 2009	May 2012
Raj	Bardouille	Sept. 26 2005	Sept. 2013
Pablo	Bose	Aug. 26 2002	Sept. 2014
Zilia	Castrillon	Sept. 29 2010	Sept. 2013
Rudhramoorthy	Cheran	Feb. 16 2000	Sept. 2014
Tom	Clark	Dec. 2 2002	Dec. 2012
Janet	Cleveland	Sept. 17 2007	Sept. 2010
Bruce	Collet	Sept. 2004	Dec. 2012
Milner	James	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2014
Audrey	Macklin		Dec. 2012
Peter	Nyers	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2014
Dryden-Peterson	Sarah	March 2 2010	Jan. 2013
Natalia	Vasquez	Sept. 29 2010	Sept. 2013

Student Members

**CRS GRADUATE FELLOWS** are graduate students at York University who are enrolled in the Diploma in Refugee and Migration Studies. There were 54 graduate students in total enrolled in the Diploma Program.

**CRS Student Caucus for 2011-12**

Chair: President: Oana Petrica, Vice-President: Abetha Mahalingam, Conference Co-Organizer: Christie Oh, Conference Co-Organizer: Chizuru Nobe Ghelani, Assistant Conference Co-Organizer: Jessica Anderson, Undergraduate Student Representatives: Geralda Bray, Undergraduate Student Representative: Rosemarie Edward; Active members: Emily Hostland, Santiago Rodriguez, Astrid Escrig Pinol, Kim Veller, Kataryna Patsak, Lindsay Allen

**2011-2012 GARAs:** Oana Petrica, Negin Dahya, Faida Abu-Ghazaleh, Joseph Monywaar, Marian Turniawan, Chizuru Ghelani Bahreini, Wesley Oakes, William Payne, Julie Young, Zilia Castrillon, Elio Sergnese, Faith Chaput, Deane O'Leary, Yanique Williams, Kristin Tokarsky, Katuscia oya, Nomusa Taylor-Dube, Samia Tecele, Jessica Anderson, Petra Diop, Danielle Bishop, Rebecca Houwer, Jennifer Smith, Ryan Hackett, Nevena Dragevic, Eric Leung, Darri Gepilano, Geetika Bagga

**CRS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS** are York undergraduate students enrolled in the Certificate in Refugee and Migration Studies and/or engaged in the following projects or initiatives of CRS. There were 102 Certificate students in 2011-2012.

York undergraduate students who are actively involved in the York branch of World

University Services of Canada (WUSC).

**2011-2012 WUSC Committee (Keele campus):** Diana Rad co-chair, Vincent Lieres Co-chair

Sergie Ursal Treasurer, Mohamud Siraji SRP Coordinator, Tanya Mpala Secretary

York undergraduate students who are employed in CRS projects under York University's and York International's work study programs.

**2011-2012 Workstudy students:** Joseph Monywaar, Mohamed Siraji, Karim Ali, Julia Pyryeskina, John Panther Anyieth

Executive Committee members

Susan McGrath, Director

James Simeon, Deputy Director, Faculty Representative

Wenona Giles, Faculty Representative

Jennifer Hyndman, Associate Director, Faculty Representative

Nergis Canefe, Associate Director, Faculty Representative

Christina Clark-Kazak, Faculty Representative

Ranu Basu, Faculty Representative

Don Dippo, Faculty Representative

Fahim Quadir, Faculty Representative

Luann Good Gingrich, Faculty Representative

Sean Rehaag, Faculty Representative

Oana Petrica, Student Representative

Michele Millard, Centre Coordinator (consulting member)

Fundraising Advisory Board members

Howard Adelman

Susan Davis

Shirley Freek

Susan McGrath

Robert Rubinstein

6. Annual Progress in Fulfilling Mandate

New Funding Proposals:

CRS worked collaboratively with faculty members at York and Canadian and international universities, non-governmental organisations and three York ORUs (CERLAC, YIHR, CERIS) in the submission of a total of 15 grant applications mainly to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). These included 4 major grant proposals, 3 successful proposals to SSHRC's Aid to Workshops and Conferences grants, 1 successful proposal to SSHRC's Aid to Scholarly Journals, 1 SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant, 2 SSHRC Insight Grants and 1 SSHRC Insight Development Grant. An internal grant to York's Academic Innovation Fund was also successful. CRS supported two other grants with PIs at other universities. The value of grants awarded this past year is \$4,761,711. See Appendix 1 for full details.

## Ongoing Research Project

CRS hosts the seven year SSHRC Strategic Knowledge Research Cluster Grant, the Refugee Research Network (RRN) led by PI Susan McGrath and awarded in 2008 (\$2.1 million). Wenona Giles and Jennifer Hyndman are co-applicants and members of the RRN Executive and Management Committees and lead research clusters. CRS faculty members James Simeon, Don Dippo, Michael Barutciski, Christina Clark-Kazak, Ranu Basu, Nergis Canefe, Michaela Hynie, Libby Lunstrum and Anna Zalik are active in the RRN. A mid-term review was conducted by SSHRC this past year and funding for the last three years of the grant has been secured. The RRN supports a global network of refugee research centres with partners in Johannesburg, Washington, Chicago, Oxford, Tehran, Bogota, Sydney, Cairo, Kolkata and Kampala. UNHCR is also an institutional partner. The RRN also hosts eight research clusters – details at [www.refugeeresearch.net](http://www.refugeeresearch.net) . *See Appendix 1 for more information on RRN activities.*

## Conferences/workshops

In collaboration with CERIS, CRS hosted 19 seminars during the fall and winter semesters attracting York faculty and students, Seneca College students and practitioners in the settlement sector averaging about 30 participants per seminar. Deputy Director James Simeon provided direction and presenters included leading scholars in the field along with representatives of UNHCR, the Canadian judiciary and the Immigration and Refugee Board. CRS also organized 4 workshops and a graduate conference. Three of the workshops were held in Kenya. *All details are in Appendix 1.*

## Knowledge Mobilization/Outreach

- i) In addition to its own list, CRS maintains listservs for the Canadian Council for Refugees, Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS), International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM) and provides secretariat support to CARFMS and IASFM.
- ii) CRS communicates through Facebook (Refugee Research Network) and Twitter.
- iii) CRS maintains a You Tube channel which currently hosts 44 Podcasts
- iv) The CRS website ([www.yorku.ca/crs](http://www.yorku.ca/crs)) had over 10,000 visitors and the Refugee Research Network ([www.refugeeresearch.net](http://www.refugeeresearch.net)) had 18,177 visitors in the past year.
- v) CRS referred media requests to appropriate faculty members 4 times last year.
- vi) CRS is supporting UNHCR Canada in its public education campaign to raise awareness of the contributions of refugees to Canada and highlight issues relevant to refugees. CRS Director Susan McGrath wrote an op-ed for the Embassy Magazine published on March 14 which was re-published by Rabble on March 22, 2012 and was widely distributed.

## Student support

CRS research projects employed 28 York graduate students as Graduate Assistants and Research Assistants (listed above). Opportunities for skill development included literature reviews, data analysis, conference/workshop organizing, journal management, annotated

bibliographies and report writing. CRS has a student caucus of 20 active members led this year by doctoral student Oana Petrica. They have their own website at <http://crsstudents.wordpress.com/> which provides more detail. They organized the annual student conference in April at York; details are available at their website <http://crsstudents.wordpress.com/annual-conference/>. Through the RRN, we support the New Scholars' Network which has over 400 members (primarily graduate students and practitioners) and communicates through a listserv, Facebook, Google group and the RRN website. The NSN has launched its own website (<http://newscholarsnetwork.wordpress.com/>) and initiated an e-journal *The Refugee Review*. The title of the first journal issue is "Social Movements and the Politics of Refugees and Forced Migration".

CRS is supporting two undergraduate **student bursary programs**. One developed in collaboration with UNHCR Canada where the UNHCR committed to provide \$500 annually over three years, matched by York faculty donations to York students who have Convention Refugee status. A second bursary is supported by CRS and is directed at York students who are refugee claimants but have not yet secured status. Each bursary will offer \$1,500 per year to one student.

CRS and CERIS were jointly awarded a **2 year Post-doctoral Fellowship** by York University and the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation. Dr. Amrita Hari was hired in December 2011 to study the mixed flows of temporary migrants to Canada and the transitions in status that they experience. She is being supervised by CERIS Director Valerie Preston and CRS Director Susan McGrath. A research advisory group of faculty members has been formed.

#### Education programs

- i) CRS Summer School – a self-funded, week long intensive program on forced migration offered annually in May. Led in 2011 by Wenona Giles with 42 participants from 12 countries.
- ii) Graduate Diploma in Refugee and Migration Studies – a concentrated research and study program in the area of refugee and migration studies offered through FGS for York graduate students. 52 are currently enrolled.
- iii) Undergraduate Certificate in Refugee and Migration Studies – a concentrated research and study program in the area of refugee and migration studies offered to York undergraduate students. 102 students are currently enrolled.
- iv) Continuing Education Certificate in Refugee and Forced Migration Issues - initiated in 2008 to provide training to workers in the settlement sector in the GTA. Initially a partnership with the Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture and held at York and CCVT, the program is now being revised into an online format and will be offered in November 2012 to workers across Canada.

*Refuge: Canada's Periodical on Refugees* is an academic journal published by CRS. It is the only North American journal focused on refugee issues and one of the few in the world. The current Editor-in-chief is CRS faculty member Michael Barutciski of Glendon. *Refuge* published two editions this past year: 27(1) was a general issue and 27(2) focused on Higher Education for Refugees with Sarah Dryden-Peterson and Wenona Giles as guest editors.

CRS Resource Library. Located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of YRT, the library houses the CRS collection of key books, articles and grey material. Since support from Scott library was not provided, we have hired a part-time librarian who works with workstudy students to catalogue the collection and digitize relevant paper documents and grey material.

## 7. Financial Accountability

(see enclosed Excel Workbook for details of statements submitted)

## 8. Objectives for Upcoming Year

Funding proposals planned:

- i) BHER to submit a multi-million dollar, non-peer reviewed funding proposal to the MasterCard Foundation to support the initiative: *Building primary/secondary teaching capacities in the Dadaab refugee camps and locally in Dadaab*. Wenona Giles and Don Dippo are providing leadership with the support of Resource Development Officer Aida Orgocka.
- ii) CRS will support the development of applications for funding to sustain York's role in the education project for refugees along the Thai Burma border in collaboration with the Australian Catholic University. Two foundation proposals are expected to be submitted.
- iii) *Displacement in Colombia: Advancing Knowledge, Building Canadian-Latin American Networks and Enhancing Policy*. If the SSHRC LOI to the Partnership Grant program is awarded, CRS members Susan McGrath, Alan Simmons and Michele Millard will work with colleagues at CERLAC and Javeriana University to develop the full proposal. Eduardo Canel of CERLAC is the PI. If not granted, other funding opportunities will be explored for a workshop in Bogota in the coming year.
- iv) *Strengthening the role of social work in the post-genocide recovery of Rwanda* (\$250,000) to be re-submitted to SSHRC Partnership Development Program. PI is Susan McGrath; CRS will manage if awarded.
- v) A proposal to the SSHRC Connection Grants program of \$25,000 to support the *2013 Critical Issues in International Refugee Law* led by James Simeon is planned
- vi) A proposal to the SSHRC Connection Grants program of \$25,000 to support the *Becoming Canadian* workshop led by Jennifer Dalton.
- vii) A proposal to the SSHCR Partnership Grant program to support the sustainability of the RRN is expected. The emphasis of the program has yet to be determined but the RRN research centre partners are committed to a collaborative network expected to be affiliated with IASFM.
- viii) Online Research and Teaching Tool & Practitioners' Forum Website – this initiative led by James Simeon has been a collaboration of Canadian and European scholars developing tools to support research and teaching in the field of forced migration. The project is extensive and funding to support and sustain it will be sought. A LA&PS internal internationalization seed grant and a SSHRC Insight grant are being considered. The pilot website is accessible at <http://rfmsot.apps01.yorku.ca/home/>

#### Conferences/Workshops planned

- i) *Re-imagining social policy toward transnational social support* workshop to be held October 11-12 at York University. Luann Good Gingrich has the lead, about 30 academic participants from Canada, US, Europe and Taiwan are expected.
- ii) The annual RRN workshop of RRN members will be held in Kolkata, India prior to the IASFM biennial conference in January 2013.
- iii) The annual graduate student conference will be held in April 2013. Modest support is provided by CRS; the students organize the conference and secure supplementary funding.
- iv) The 2013 Conference on Critical Issues in International Refugee Law will be held at York in the spring of 2013. Participants are Canadian and international scholars, legal practitioners and judiciary members.
- v) The 2013 Summer School will be organized for delivery in May 2013 with Christina Clark-Kazak (CRS executive committee member from Glendon) as the faculty organizer.
- vi) *Becoming Canadian* – a workshop to compare the displacement, settlement and integration experiences of Aboriginal Canadians and newcomers to Canada is being organized by Jennifer Dalton, CRS Scholar.

#### Fundraising

With the support of Shirley Freek of York's Development Office, a resource development group that includes founding director Howard Adelman and friends of CRS Susan Davis and Robert Rubinstein has been formed to develop a plan to profile Canadians who have come as refugees and the contributions they have made to Canadian society. The group is currently extending its network and a plan for development is expected by the fall of 2012.

#### Knowledge Mobilization

The current Kmb activities listed above will be continued. We are consulting with a Kmb expert to assist in the development of a Strategic Kmb Plan for CRS and the RRN which is expected to be in place by September 2012. Michele Millard will attend the Canadian Kmb conference in Ottawa in June to support this initiative.

#### Visitors Planned

Yukari Ando, Assistant Professor of Law at Osaka University, April-May 2012

Dr Leili Golafshani, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Queensland, May 2012

Katie Kuschminder, doctoral student and Research Fellow, Migration and Development, Maastricht Graduate School of Governance, will be at CRS for the 2012-13 academic year.

Professor Taghi Azadarmaki, Social Science Faculty, University of Tehran, September 2012-March 2013

Dr. Mehri Bahar, Social Science Faculty, University of Tehran, September 2012-March 2013

Patricia Ward, Field Researcher, UNHCR Small Grants Programme, Fulbright Fellowship, fall of 2012

#### Visitors Pending Funding

Sanghita Datta, Jawaharlal Nehru University, proposal to Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute



Bo Liu, Guangzhou University, proposal to Sino-Canadian Cooperation Project  
Peter Fitzmaurice, National University of Ireland, proposal to Dobbin Scholarship program,  
Ireland Canada University Foundation

#### RRN development

We will continue to develop and support the Refugee Research Network initiatives including the engagement of research centres, academics and new scholars, support for existing and emerging research clusters, the improvements and intensification of the website and the development of a plan for sustainability.

#### CRS Resource Library

The hours of our part-time librarian have been increased and we expect that the cataloguing of the collection could be completed in the coming year. In collaboration with CERLAC, CERIS and YCISS, the library is kept open on a part-time basis with work study students.

#### 9. Other relevant items the Director wishes to report

I am stepping down after eight years as Director of CRS. When appointed, I was directed by the VPRI to “grow” CRS and we are now a thriving research and education unit with strong local and global ties. I want to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of CRS Coordinator Michele Millard who brought not only management skills and understanding of the Canadian settlement sector but has been a constant source of creativity and innovation. We have worked in close partnership in developing the capacity of CRS. CRS is fortunate to have a committed group of faculty members; I particularly want to recognize the support and contributions of the members of the CRS Executive Committee especially Wenona Giles who served as Deputy Director for several years and has provided strong scholarly leadership to CRS and the Refugee Research Network. This past year, James Simeon served as Deputy Director providing leadership to CRS and the field. He has kindly agreed to serve as Acting Director for 2012-13 when a search for a new director will be held. The CRS EC is full of faculty members who have the potential to serve as strong directors in the future. I will focus my energies on the RRN. The RRN (SSHRC Knowledge Cluster grant awarded in 2008) has been crucial to our development, allowing for initiatives such as the BHER and the LANFM, the funding of students, the development of our IT capacity, the engagement of academics nationally and internationally, the provision of administrative assistance to help with the financial management of all of our projects and resource development capacity. The sustainability of CRS requires major initiatives such as the RRN.

#### 10. Appendix 1 – Additional Information about Progress in Fulfilling Mandate

#### 11. Appendix 2 – Individual Member Contributions