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# The Center for Global Migration Studies

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## Christina Getrich Named Center's Associate Director

In Fall 2017, the Center for Global Migration Studies welcomed its new Associate Director, Christina Getrich. Christina is also Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Maryland, College Park. Her research examines Latino health disparities and the incorporation of mixed-immigration status families into U.S. society.

Christina brings to the Center her expertise in community outreach and scholarship. Her work explores the lived and embodied experiences of immigration policies and enforcement practices in order to determine how Latino immigrants, their children, and advocates maneuver to fight for broader social inclusion.

By creating this Associate Director position, the Center strengthens and broadens its leadership team. As Associate Director, Christina will advise on all strategic planning and will play a particular role in shaping the Center's community outreach work.

Before joining the faculty at UMD, Christina conducted research for more than 15 years with Latinos in the Southwest. Her newest project explores the health and well-being of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients in Maryland. She is leading a team of



UMD graduate and undergraduate anthropology students to determine how this population's access to care, health conditions, and overall well-being have changed as a result of DACA.

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## Global Labor Migration Network



**Join us in  
Amsterdam  
in June 2019  
for the  
inaugural  
summit!**

Last year, the Center created a global and interdisciplinary network of scholars focused on contemporary and historical labor migration called the Global Labor Migration Network.

Because global labor migration is shaping the lives of millions, and because it is receiving unprecedented attention by scholars, the time is right for an international and interdisciplinary scholarly network. This network unites social scientists and humanities scholars because connecting the work being done on labor migration in the contemporary world with those historicizing the phenomenon will lend the project much power, insight, and cross-fertilization.

To join the network or to learn more about it, visit <https://go.umd.edu/fwi>.

In April 2017, the Center hosted the inaugural

workshop of the Global Labor Migration Network, an event that featured both academics from five continents as well as a discussion with policymakers seeking better ways to regulate labor migration.

The keynote address was offered by Ruth Milkman (CUNY Graduate Center) who discussed precarity for global migrants in the 21st century U.S. labor market. The workshop also included a lunchtime talk with Brian Finnegan, AFL-CIO Global Worker Rights Coordinator, on the policy implications of global labor migration research.

The workshop served as a launching pad for the upcoming 2019 Global Labor Migration summit to be held in Amsterdam. The summit will include a range of presentation formats: brief papers,

roundtables, and open conversations.

For more information on the summit or for instructions on submitting an application to present, please visit <https://go.umd.edu/xmL>.

In the future, the Global Labor Migration project will generate intellectual dialogue, faculty and student exchanges, collaborative projects, virtual communities, workshops, conferences, and publications.



## SS St. Louis Film Screening and Discussion

In October, the Center co-sponsored a screening of the film *Complicit* that explored the story of Jewish refugees from Germany aboard the *SS St. Louis* who were denied entry at ports around the world. The event drew a large crowd from the campus and surrounding area.

After the screening, Professor Jeffrey Herf of the UMD Department of His-

tory and Dr. Diane Afoumado of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum of offered historical context and commentary.

Several of the survivors from the *SS St. Louis* voyage also attended the screening and engaged the audience in a question-and-answer period.

Filmmaker and UMD alumnus Robert Krakow

invited audience members to connect the historical events to contemporary refugee crises.

This event was co-sponsored by the Nathan and Jeannette Miller Center for Historical Studies and the Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies.



## Census 2020: Race and Whose Power “Counts”

The Center’s April 2018 conference, *Census 2020: Race and Whose Power “Counts,”* will explore racial categories in the upcoming census and the implications for which and how Americans will be counted.

The conference will bring together leading scholars, public officials, students, activists, and community members to

discuss the census categories.

Conference panelists will discuss how racial categories are created, how they reflect the politics of contemporary and historical America, and how they shape the experiences of citizenship, identity formation, and belonging.

Melissa Noble, Kenan Sahin Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will offer a keynote address that puts the racial categories in the U.S. census in historical and international perspective.

**“How well does the Census capture the racial complexity of the United States?”**

## New for Students: Immigration History Food Festival and Internship Opportunities

In May 2017, the Center hosted its first annual Ethnic Food Festival. Watch the calendar for the 2018 date.

Students from Dr. Robert Chiles’s immigration history course delighted crowds of visitors with dishes from around the

world. The course, along with the oral history capstone course, is one of the classes required as part of the Immigration and Migration Studies transcript notation.

Beginning in the 2017-18 academic year, UMD students will have the

opportunity to engage in experiential learning through the Center’s many partnerships. Students may conduct research or complete internships at a wide range of policy, community, or service organizations.





We're on Facebook and Twitter!  
Follow us and we'll keep you  
informed of upcoming events!

Each month, the Center sponsors a number of events to bring together students, faculty, and the public. All of these programs are open to the public.

- It hosts a regular “Immigration in Film Series” to promote an understanding of the multiple experiences of immigrants.
- It sponsors a group that reads popular fiction about or by immigrants.
- It welcomes researchers and scholars to share their work in informal presentations or seminars.

For more information about these events, follow us on our social media accounts or check in on our webpage. If you would like to be added to our listserv, please email us at [globalmigration@umd.edu](mailto:globalmigration@umd.edu).

## **New Collaboration with the Smithsonian’s Museum of African American History and Culture**

In 2020, the Center will collaborate with the Smithsonian’s Museum of African American History and Culture on a conference tentatively called *African Americans and American Africans* that will explore the experience of migrants from the African diaspora.

The conference will consist of two days of events with both traditional scholarly panels and innovative community-scholar-artist panels. One

panel will focus on the local African diasporic communities in Maryland and DC.

Both the academic and community panels will highlight how scholars can learn from migrant communities and will explore best practices for collecting and preserving oral and material

histories from these migrants.

The conference will lead to the publication of an edited volume based on the scholarship featured throughout the event.

