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The Center for Global Migration Studies

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Colleen Woods Appointed New Director of Center



Colleen Woods, Associate Professor of History at the University of Maryland, will take the reins as the Director of the Center for Global Migration Studies in Fall 2021.

Colleen studies US history in a global context, with a special focus on Asia and the Pacific. Her research interests include: immigration, US Empire, transnational politics (anticommunism and communism), decolonization, and global imperial history.

Her first book, *Freedom Incorporated: American Imperialism and Philippine Independence in the Age of Decolonization* (Cornell University Press, 2020), argues that U.S.

imperialism and anticommunist politics were intertwined in the Philippines between the 1930s and the late 1950s.

She is currently working on a second project that will bring together histories of U.S. foreign affairs, labor, and capitalism through a study of U.S. military and military contractors recruitment of and reliance on low-wage Filipino labor in the post-war Pacific.

Colleen teaches graduate readings courses on U.S., U.S. in the World, and Global History and undergraduate courses on U.S. foreign affairs from the colonial era to the present, WWII in the Pacific, the Vietnam War, historical memory, as well as an undergraduate research seminar titled "State Secrets: Writing the History of the CIA."

Colleen's work has been supported by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR). Before joining the history faculty

at the University of Maryland, Woods spent the 2012-2013 academic years as a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of History at Amherst College. She received her Ph.D. in History from the University of Michigan in 2012.

After ten years at the helm, Julie Greene will step down as Director of the Center. With Ira Berlin, Julie co-founded the Center in 2011.

Julie will remain closely connected to the Center's work, serving on the Faculty Advisory Committee and the Leadership Council. She will also continue teaching the introductory course in Immigration and Migration Studies in the Fall 2021 semester.

We thank Julie for her leadership and vision.

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Making African America Symposium



Diasporic Migrations, Past and Present

In March 2021, the Center and its partners at the National Museum of African American History and Culture hosted *Making African America: A Virtual Symposium on Immigration and the Changing Dynamics of Blackness*.

The symposium, originally scheduled for April 2020, shifted to a virtual format in the wake of the global pandemic.

The inspiration for this project began with conversations between NMAAHC director Lonnie Bunch and the Center's late co-founder, Ira Berlin. Both were eager to explore the experiences and effects of the African diaspora.

Over three weeks, scholars, artists, archivists, and activists discussed a wide range of topics in the history and culture of Black diasporic immigrants. The symposium opened with remarks from Lonnie Bunch (Director of the Smithsonian Institution) and Bonnie Thornton Dill (Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities) recognizing the work of the Center's co-founder, Ira Berlin.

The twelve presentations contributed to rich, nuanced, and multi-disciplinary dialogue on Black immigration that we hope will serve and educate a broad

online public for years to come.

The recordings of each session are available for viewing both on [the symposium website](#) and at [this playlist link](#). As of April 1, the presentations had been viewed online 7,320 times. Viewers of the symposium came from 45 states and 21 countries.

Conference panelists are now planning for a future publication exploring how immigrants from Africa, the Caribbean, and Latin America have influenced African-American culture and society in the 20th and 21st centuries.

This next phase of the project will explore cutting edge scholarship at the intersection of immi-

gration history and the history of the African diaspora.

The Center is also exploring ways to continue its partnership with the Museum.

The conference was supported by a National Endowment for the Humanities collaborative research grant of has awarded a \$50,000.

MAKING AFRICAN AMERICA
A Virtual Symposium on Immigration and the Changing Dynamics of Blackness

March 2021
Presented by
The University of Maryland,
College Park
National Museum of African American
History and Culture
nmaahc.si.edu/MAA

Walter D. Dill

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES
CENTER FOR GLOBAL MIGRATION STUDIES

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY & CULTURE
Smithsonian

Center Updates

The second Global Labor Migration conference will be held in 2023 in Melbourne, Australia. The International Sociological Association has already awarded our partners \$50,000 to help fund the next conference. Details about the conference and a call for papers will be announced later this year.

Two students completed

the Immigration and Migration Studies transcript notation program in Spring 2021. A dozen more are in the pipeline for completion in the next two years.

Lauren Michalak, the Center's graduate assistant for three years, has been awarded a McNeil Fellowship at the Historical Society of Philadelphia. We'll

miss Lauren next year while she completes her dissertation but thank her for her enormous contributions to CGMS!

UMD undergraduates conducted 33 new oral history interviews. These will be processed and added to the [Archive of Immigrant Voices](#).



Tenth Anniversary Celebration

The Center will mark its tenth anniversary in July 2021.

Over the last decade, the Center has hosted twelve major conferences on a range of topics, including from public health, labor organizing, and birthright citizenship.

The Center has also sponsored numerous workshops and book

talks featuring scholars and activists.

Center staff have also launched several research projects and a major oral history collection.

Since 2013, the Center has offered undergraduates the opportunity to earn a transcript notation in Immigration and Migration Studies.

As we near our tenth anniversary, we look forward to expanding our outreach to our neighboring immigrant communities and to developing more scholarly resources.

Stay tuned for news about the celebration coming soon!

*Ten Years of
Research,
Education,
and
Outreach*

William Lopez Book Discussion

With on-campus events limited in the 2020-2021 academic year, the Center shifted to virtual events.

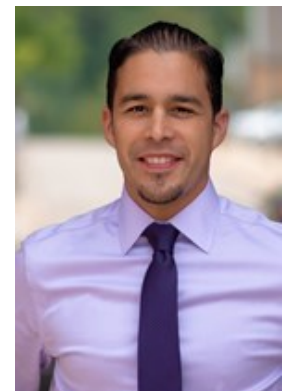
In November 2020, the Center invited Professor William D. Lopez of the University of Michigan for a virtual conversation about his new book, *Sepa-*

rated: Family and Community in the Aftermath of an Immigration Raid.

The wide-ranging conversation included a discussion of activist scholarship, possible policy changes under the new presidential administration, and the significance

of community-centered research.

The event was attended by thirty members of the University community.





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.

- We host a regular “Immigration in Film Series” to promote an understanding of the multiple experiences of immigrants.
- We sponsor a group that reads popular fiction about or by immigrants.
- We 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.

Martha Berlin and Marc Schliefer Join the Leadership Council

The Center for Global Migration Studies welcomed two new members to its Leadership Council, a board of outside advisors drawn from experts in migration studies, business, and community engagement.

Martha Berlin was a former Vice President of Westat, a nationally respected survey research organization headquartered in Rockville, MD.

For 35 years, she was one of the organization's most senior and successful survey managers. Among the

projects she directed the “National Assessment of Adult Literacy,” “Study of Reye Syndrome” (a devastating childhood illness that our research determined was caused by baby aspirin), and “Birth Defects and Military Service in Vietnam.” She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin.

Martha has been a longtime supporter of student achievement at UMD.

Marc Schliefer is the President of Equity Planning, Inc. and an accomplished and experienced

financial planner. He joined the family practice in 1979, and in 1984, he earned the prestigious Certified Financial Planner™ designation.

For over 30 years, Marc has built the firm on his core values and a commitment to placing his clients' needs above his own. He specializes in personal financial engineering, and his goal is to increase each client's wealth by creating and implementing tailored and effective financial strategies.