

SOM NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIOLOGY OF MIGRATION CLUSTER
(CANADIAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION)



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CO-CONVENORS' MESSAGE

Welcome to the 4th issue of the SOM News! This News gives you a heads-up of the upcoming CSA Sociology of Migration sessions where many of the SOM members are presenting. We are also announcing the winners of the 2026 SOM best student paper awards.

Finally, many thanks to those of you who sent in their contributions for the current issue of the SOM News. It is our great pleasure to showcase SOM members' recent publications and accomplishments.

INFORMATION ON MIGRATION SESSIONS AT THE 2026 CSA ANNUAL MEETING

We are less than one week away from the 2026 CSA annual meeting (the in-person component) at Dalhousie University in Halifax (June 10-13). We look forward to seeing you at SOM sessions which will be held between June 12 and 13!

This year, we are organizing 5 SOM-affiliated sessions on specific topics such as gender and migration, immigrant integration, and migration theory. Below is a list of all the SOM sessions.

June 12th, 2026, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

(SOM1) Advancing Theories of Migration

This SOM research cluster session showcases five papers that critique/advance the existing theories of migration. The first two papers employ forms of discourse analysis to examine immigration sentiment and shifts among the Conservative Party of Canada and in an online component of the Indian anti-immigration movement. The third paper incorporates administration and bureaucracy in conceptualization of immigration. Drawing from interviews, the final two papers focus immigrant experiences post-migration. The first introduces the concept of collective fantasy to theorize the construction of Iranians imaginaries of the West and how this changes upon arrival in Canada through negative encounters such as islamophobia. The second uses critical race theory to examine how racism and microaggressions experienced by international students.

Session Chair: Lisa Kaida, McMaster University

Presentations (5)

The (Far) Rightward Shifts of the Conservative Party of Canada's Migration Discourses and Policies

John Carlaw, Toronto Metropolitan University

Critical Phenomenology of Citizenship and Protest: Critical discourse analysis of an online anti-immigration movement in India

Chetna Khandelwal, University of Calgary

The Administrative Dilemmas of Migration Management

Nathan Ly, Cornell University

Dreaming the West: The Construction and Transformation of Migration Imaginary among Middle-Class Iranians

Sara Hormozinejad, University of Toronto

Racism and Microaggressions Among International Students in a Small Ontario City:
Implications for Multiculturalism and Global Education

Anthony Mensah, Trent University

June 13th, 2026, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2017

(SOM2) Recent Developments in Gender and Migration Research

This SOM research cluster session includes papers that consider a multitude of factors related to gender and migration. The first paper examines the role of race and conditions of entry for women's self-identification in Canada. The second paper uses ethnographic, policy research, and a feminist standpoint to argue that climate-induced displacement is an epistemological crisis. Drawing on feminist theories, the final paper reconceptualizes settlement work as labour that sustains both local communities and the state's settlement objectives.

Session Chair: Hamid Akbary, University of Lethbridge

Presentations (3)

Wages of Whiteness contra Refugee in the 21st Century: Afghan and Ukrainian Women's

Self-Identification as (non)Refugees in Canada

Aryan Karimi, University of British Columbia

Epistemologies of Survival: Community Knowledge, Climate Displacement, and Sociological Imagination in the Global South

Oleena Chaudhuri, York University

The Hidden Labour Regime of Settlement: Gendered Social Reproduction and Precarious Newcomer Work in Northern Ontario

Katherine Pendakis, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador

June 13th, 2026, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM ADT

Seminar Room 2017

(SOM3a) Evidence-based Research on Immigrant Integration I

This SOM research cluster session features papers on various aspects of social integration of immigrants. The first paper examines loneliness as an indicator of both immigrant health and social integration among immigrants with disabilities. The second and third papers use the 2020 General Social Survey data to analyze feelings of national pride and immigrant identity. The fourth paper investigates Hong Kong parents' shifts in values and practices upon arrival in Canada.

Session Chair: Max Stick, Mount Saint Vincent University

Presentations (4)

Social Isolation and Loneliness Among Immigrants with Disabilities
Allison Leauge, Statistics Canada

Immigrant, Discrimination and Pride for Canadian Society: A Cross-Sectional Analysis
Using the Canadian GSS
Era Rana, Western University

Divergence Without Detachment: Value Discrepancy and National Pride Across
Immigrant Generations in Canada
Capri Kong, University of British Columbia

Reworking Parenting and Family Belonging: Hong Kong Migrant Families in Vancouver
After the 2019 Political Crisis
Jocelyn Chu, University of British Columbia

June 13th, 2026, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM ADT
Seminar Room 2017

(SOM3b) Evidence-based Research on Immigrant Integration II

This SOM research cluster contributes to discussions on the immigrant economic integration including labour market outcomes, poverty, inequality, and discrimination. All papers use quantitative approaches, but they examine a wide range of topics such as religious differences in economic integration, occupational clustering by visible minority status, and the persistence of poverty over time, the relationship between housing tenure and emigration and the link between educational attainment and perceptions of discrimination.

Session Chair: Ka U Ng, Saint Mary's University

Presentations (4)

Occupational Niches of Recently Graduated Visible and Non-Visible Minority Students
in Canada: Who Takes the Low-Status Jobs?
Fernando Mata, University of Ottawa

Refugee Poverty in Quebec: Vulnerability Shaped by the Immigration and Refugee
Protection Act and Life Trajectories in the Host Society
Marcus Fraga, Université Laval

The politics of home: Attitudes toward immigration and housing market competition
Terhas Ghebretacle and Thomas Soehl, McGill University

More Education, More Discrimination? The Integration Paradox for Asians in the United
States
Vanessa Zhu, University of Toronto

June 13th, 2026, 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2017

(SOM4) Sociology of Migration: Politics, Citizenship and Public Perceptions on Immigration

SOM research cluster's open session examines the political dimensions, issues of citizenship, and perceptions of immigration. The first paper examines interest in both host- and home-country politics among Syrian refugees in Canada. The second paper examines how Canadian political discourse constructs different refugee groups and how these constructions shape facets of refugee admission and settlement. The third paper adopts a qualitative approach to explore how lived experiences shape naturalization decisions. The fourth paper focuses on the prevalence of myths about migration among security services and armed forces.

Session Chair: Shirin Khayambashi, Toronto Metropolitan University

Presentations (4)

Politics Between Here and There: Political Interest in Syria and Canada Among Syrian Refugees in Canada

Ka U Ng, Saint Mary's University

Compassion Without Equality: Afghan and Ukrainian Displacement in Canadian Politics

Hamid Akbary, University of Lethbridge

To Naturalize or Not? A Comparative Study of Naturalization Decisions among Migrants in Canada

Sara Hormozinejad, Toronto Metropolitan University, University of Toronto; Deepa Nagari, Toronto Metropolitan University

When Contact Is Not Enough: Migration Myths among Security and Armed Forces

Marketa Seidlova, University of Defence

And don't forget to attend the SOM cluster meeting on June 13, right after the SOM3b session. We look forward to seeing you!

June 13th, 2026, 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2017

(SOM-RC) Sociology of Migration Research Cluster Meeting

Members of the CSA are invited to attend this brief but important Sociology of Migration Research Cluster meeting. The winner of the best student paper award for the SOM cluster will be announced. Come prepared to share new ideas and to propose possible themes for sessions and panels for the 2027 annual CSA meeting of the Sociology of Migration Cluster. The mission of the Sociology of Migration Cluster, and the CSA-related sessions, is to cultivate diverse and enriching conversations that bring together students, faculty, independent researchers, and research institutes/centers from across Canada together to share research results and policy-relevant developments.

Session Organizers: Max Stick, Mount Saint Vincent University; Shirin Khayambashi, Toronto Metropolitan University; Lisa Kaida, McMaster University

In addition to the SOM cluster sessions, there also are 16 sessions listed on the CSA program with MIG and OMN abbreviations pertaining to migration research. These sessions are not affiliated with the Sociology of Migration cluster. Persons interested in participating in these sessions can find summaries of these sessions posted on the CSA conference website.

(MIG1) Community-Engaged Migration Research

June 2nd, 2026, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM ADT

Virtual Zoom Room 5

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/bb1abfdb-b3ce-41a4-8628-c142fdf94f7a>

(MIG2) Forced and Precarious Migration

June 10th, 2026, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/5b33e6b5-e687-4f22-b301-f84dca05b879>

(MIG3) Privilege and Precarity: Examining Middle-Class Migration

June 11th, 2026, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/096af6f9-3624-489a-9c5c-6de9110d6c>

(MIG4) Borders, Migration, and Transnationalism in a Post-globalization Era

June 2nd, 2026, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/d7015d33-5384-44f6-adb6-c716356f258c>

(MIG5) Decentering the Northern Gaze: Southern Epistemologies in Migration Studies

June 11th, 2026, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/81a09852-2454-4a6d-8382-95858c2dcd5b>

(MIG6) Digital Migration Regimes: Navigating Technology and Belonging

June 10th, 2026, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/cb8b6fa3-c71b-4a2c-82d1-0b71d41ce154>

(MIG7a) Negotiating Belonging in Settler Societies: Race, Migration, and Nation-Making in Canada

June 11th, 2026, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/56941639-04f3-48ae-a8a2-653b7d5daec2>

(MIG7b) Differential Exclusion and Refugee Belonging: Lived Experiences in Canada

June 11th, 2026, 3:15 PM - 4:45 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/fd1466e2-3e90-4a4b-bc5a-a4aab5c2681f>

(MIG7c) Diasporic Ties and Micro-Politics: Belonging in Divided Societies

June 12th, 2026, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/eac7f46b-cffd-49a1-92b8-31c986a7f23d>

(MIG7d) Care, Control, and Contestation: Community Advocacy in an Era of Devolved Migration Governance

June 12th, 2026, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/330098e9-4eb5-4fdc-8e2b-50280af98807>

(MIG7e) Transforming the City: Migrant-led Inclusion amid Structural Barriers

June 12th, 2026, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/22086efc-218a-4768-a393-ffc7d6472570>

(MIG8) Diaspora in Motion: Disrupting the Bounded Definition

June 2nd, 2026, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM ADT

Virtual Zoom Room 5

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/16ac841a-228a-414c-8187-806145f607c6>

(MIG9b) Diasporic Resistance and Transnational Experiences in a Post-Colonial World I

June 10th, 2026, 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/76507d75-acc8-487a-b516-f59103c7459e>

(MIG9a) Diasporic Resistance and Transnational Experiences in a Post-Colonial World II

June 10th, 2026, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM ADT

Seminar Room 2118

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/10f7eb5b-2d43-49ad-81a7-e7fbc4db7ce2>

(OMN1a) Immigration Pathways and Perceptions I

June 1st, 2026, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM ADT

Virtual Zoom Room 5

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/56dfdf75-2b4c-4740-8728-db9e6f7f473d>

(OMN1b) Immigration Pathways and Perceptions II

June 1st, 2026, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM ADT

Virtual Zoom Room 5

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/schedule/ff91f0d0-18a0-4710-b17a-707a6d463e32>

SOM BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD 2026

We are pleased to announce this year's Sociology of Migration research cluster best student paper award winners:

Oleena Chaudhuri (York University)

“Epistemologies of Survival: Rethinking Displacement Governance and Epistemic Justice in the Sundarbans”

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/abstracts/3128e34a-ffe1-424c-8172-f04981e7d696>

Sara Hormozinejad (University of Toronto)

“Dreaming the West: How Migration Imaginaries are Constructed and Transformed Among Middle-Class Iranians”

<https://event.fourwaves.com/2026-csa-scs-annual-conference/abstracts/d0caccaf-9123-4615-851d-a32c0ce537d1>

Many thanks to students who submitted their papers to the 2026 SOM best student paper competition. Also, we thank three reviewers who kindly agreed to evaluate the submissions.

MEMBER NEWS & RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Names of the contributors are in bold letters.

1) RECENT ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS (e.g. ARTICLES, REPORTS)

1A) REFERRED PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Akter, Lucky, **Mohammad Azizur Rahman**, and Subrata Banarjee. 2026. “Childhood Sexual Abuse in Bangladesh: An Exploratory Empirical Study of Lived Experiences of Childhood Sexual Abuse Survivors in Tangail, Bangladesh.” *Violence Against Women*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10778012261438124>

Asefi, Ferdouse. 2026. “‘We’re More than Our Own Trauma’: The Identity Formation Processes of the Afghan Diaspora in Canada.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 1–19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2026.2628299>

Chen, Zhenxiang, and Danan Gu. 2026. “Migrants’ Reference Group Selection: Insights from the Multidimensional Assimilation Framework.” *Chine Sociological Review* 58(1):84–116.

Chen, Zhenxiang, and Wanyang Hu. 2026. “Determinants and Consequences of Dual Frames of Reference among Rural-to-Urban Migrants in China.” *Population, Space and Place* 32(1):1–18.

Chen, Zhenxiang, and Chenyu Liu. 2026. "Revealing Migration Selectivity through the Combination of Intention and Preparation: Evidence from African Migration." *International Migration* 64(3):e70157. <https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.70157>

Chen, Zhenxiang. 2026. "Exploring the Link between Religious Beliefs and Participation in a Global Setting: Barriers and Facilitators for Immigrants in Realizing Their Religious Commitment." *International Journal of Sociology* 56(1):27–54. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00207659.2026.2614835>

Chen, Zhenxiang. 2026. "Exploring Trust in Fellow Townsmen among Migrants and Return Migrants: Testing Selection and Integration/Reintegration Hypotheses." *Asian Population Studies* 22(1):49–66. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17441730.2024.2441536>

Coustore, Capucine. 2026. "Contradicting Processes of Migrantization and Citizenisation: Analyzing the Extent of Nationality Privilege in the Context of French Migration in Quebec, Canada." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2026.2613081>

Hormozinejad, Sara. 2026. "Migrants as Homo Affectus: How Emotion Shapes Return Migration among Iranians." *Emotion, Space and Society* 59(101155):1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.emospa.2026.101155>

Hu, Wanyang, and **Zhenxiang Chen.** 2026. "The Role of Expectation Fulfillment in Migrants' Return Migration Intentions: Encouragement or Deterrent?" *Population, Space and Place* 32(1):1–25.

Igarashi, Hiroki. In press. "Intra-Racial Privilege: Japanese Migrant Families Negotiating Global Racial Hierarchies in Malaysia." In *Privilege in Migration: Mobilities, Inequalities, and the Urban Context*, edited by H. Zaban and F. Buhr. Springer.

Kaida, Lisa, Monica Boyd, and Soli Dubash. 2026. "Black-White Occupational Segregation in Canada: Insights from Socio-Economic Factors, Gender and Place." *Population, Space and Place* 32(3):e70258. <https://doi.org/10.1002/psp.70258>

Liu, Sophie Xiaoyi, and Aryan Karimi. 2026. "Refugee Integration Goes Transnational: Afghans and Ukrainians Prepare for Integration in Canada before and after Arrival." *Global Networks* 26(1). <https://doi.org/10.1111/glob.70042>

Soehl, Thomas, **Zhenxiang Chen,** and Aaron Erlich. 2026. "Promises and Limits of Using Targeted Social Media Advertising to Sample Global Migrant Populations: Nigerians at Home and Abroad." *Sociological Methods and Research* 55(1):268–298.

Swiss, Liam, Heather Dicks, and **Lisa Kaida**. 2026. "Immigrant Remittances and Foreign Aid: Working Together in the Interest of Global Development?" Canadian Journal of Development Studies 47(1):101-122. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02255189.2026.2625947>

Vaghefi, Sanam. 2025. "Paradoxes of Racial Capital: An Autoethnography of the Boundaries of Turkish Citizenship and Nationality." Third World Quarterly 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2025.2600562>

2) RECENT AWARDS & ACCOLADE

Sara Hormozinejad (University of Toronto) has been awarded the Bridging Divides Scholar Exchange Fellowship by the Migrant Integration in the Mid-21st Century: Bridging Divides program at Toronto Metropolitan University. As part of the fellowship, she will be hosted at the Centre for Migration Studies at the University of British Columbia in fall 2026.

Jihad (Rosty) Othman (University of Manitoba) was awarded a fully funded Conference travel award for the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, the Arab Center, Doha, Qatar, Fifth Arab Graduate Student Conference (AGSC), April 11-13, 2026. (postponed due to the war in the Middle East).

Mohammad Azizur Rahman (Texas A&M International University) received the University Research Grant (URG), Texas A&M International University.

3) OTHER NEWS

Lori Wilkinson & Rosty Othman presented a paper "From Myths to Factual Measures: An Evidence-Based Strategy to Address Racism and Xenophobia" at Trier University, German and Canadian Perspectives. Trier, Germany, 20-22 May 2026.

FINALE

If you have suggestions for SOM activities outside the CSA annual meetings and contents for the SOM News, please reach out to us at som@csa-scs.ca. The next newsletter will be sent to persons on our listserv account in December 2026.

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Stay connected!

To join our list, contact us at som@csa-scs.ca

SOM cluster webpage: <https://www.csa-scs.ca/sociology-of-migration>