

**Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (CARFMS)**  
**Newsletter, Winter 2012**  
**www.carfms.org**

CARFMS Newsletter, Winter 2012

Dear CARFMS Members,

We are pleased to present to you the Winter 2012 CARFMS Newsletter. Enclosed you will find:

- About CARFMS
- Launch of CARFMS Website
- Greetings from the CARFMS 2012 President
- Introducing CARFMS Executive Committee Members
- Online Research and Teaching Tool for the Study of Forced Migration
- CARFMS 2012 Upcoming Conference at York University
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### **About CARFMS**

CARFMS was established in 2008 with the prime goal of fostering the development of an independent community of scholars focused on refugee and forced migration research in Canada. Multi-disciplinary in scope and inter-disciplinary in nature, CARFMS offers a uniquely welcoming environment as it seeks to establish active partnerships and collaborations within and among researchers, teachers, activists, practitioners, government policy makers and advocates. By supporting publications and holding conferences, workshops, symposiums, among other *fora*, CARFMS contributes to open and inclusive communications and networking opportunities on substantive issues relating to refugee and forced migration studies in Canada and more broadly the world. CARFMS, an integral part of the Refugee Research Network (RRN) (visit [www.refugeeresearch.net](http://www.refugeeresearch.net)), is sure to play an important role in the swiftly changing policies pertaining to refugees in Canada. The Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS), York University, maintains CARFMS' Secretariat.

Centre for Refugee Studies, York University  
8th Floor, York Research Tower  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario M3J 2P3  
Susan McGrath, Director +1 416 736-2100 (66662)  
Michele Millard, Coordinator, +1 416 736-2100 (30391)

### **CARFMS Website**

In November 2010, CARFMS launched its website! The user-friendly website provides the space for members to remain updated on developments. Our website also makes it easy to apply for membership in our association and to renew your membership online. We welcome your feedback and suggestions

on how our website can be developed further to meet the needs of all of the members of our Association.

Check periodically for updates!

Visit: [www.carfms.org](http://www.carfms.org)

## Greetings from Dr. James C. Simeon, President

Happy New Year Everyone!!

It has been extremely busy for the CARFMS Executive over the last six months or so and since our highly successful annual conference that was held at the Faculty of Law at McGill University. I should like to thank, once again, our hosts, Professor François Crépeau and Dr. Idil Atak, for organizing such a wonderful annual conference. They have set a new standard in annual conference planning and organizing for all future CARFMS conferences. Indeed, the 2012 CARFMS Annual Conference Planning Committee continues to draw its inspiration from our McGill University conference.



The title for our forthcoming annual conference is *“Restructuring Refuge and Settlement: Responding to the Global Dynamics of Displacement.”* It will be held from May 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> at York University, Toronto, Canada, and it is being hosted by our Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS). If you have not submitted your abstract for delivering a paper at our forthcoming annual conference, I encourage you to do so. The upcoming CARFMS Annual Conference will feature an outstanding line up of key note speakers and other special panels and activities. Please visit our online annual conference website to make your abstract submission and to register online. We are hoping to set a new record for attendance at our 2012 CARFMS Annual Conference and we do hope that you will be able to join us there and help us to achieve our goal.

CARFMS has a number of initiatives currently underway, in addition, to planning and organizing our next annual conference. For example, we have a Graduate Students Essay Competition currently underway, we are in the process of registering CARFMS as a not-for-profit association, we have a bilingual initiative in place, a new membership drive, and we are in the midst of the development of an online research and teaching tool and practitioners’ forum for all our members and those who study and teach, do research and/or other work in the field of refugee and forced migration studies.

I am very fortunate to be serving on the CARFMS Executive Committee with so many experienced, talented and gifted people. Our Immediate Past-President, Christina Clark-Kazak, is taking the lead on the registration of CARFMS as a not-for-profit association. Heather Johnson is taking the lead in amending our bylaws so that they meet the requirements for non-profit status. Gabrielle Lavigne is heading up our bilingualism committee and leading our bilingualism initiative. Jacqueline McAdam is chairing our Abstract Adjudication Committee and is in charge of promoting our 2012 CARFMS Annual Conference. Michele Millard is in charge of the development of our new CARFMS/ACERFM website, among many other things. And, I am responsible for the ongoing development of our online research and teaching tool and practitioners’ forum website. Others CARFMS Executive members are taking the lead in other areas.

We hope that you will enjoy this edition of our CARFMS Newsletter and welcome your comments, suggestions, and feedback on any of our Association's activities.

Please allow me to extend, once again, my very best wishes for 2012 and I hope to have an opportunity to meet with you in person at our forthcoming annual conference at York University.

Dr. James C. Simeon, President  
CARFMS

### **2011-2012 CARFMS Executive Committee Members**

CARFMS is very pleased to have the following dynamic group of people serving as members of the 2011-2012 Executive Committee. Coming from very diverse backgrounds, each brings a much needed perspective to the CARFMS's family.

- ✦ President: James C. Simeon, York University
- Past President: Christina Clark-Kazak, York University
- ✦ Secretary: Adriann Mary Moss
- ✦ Treasurer: Morgan Poteet, Mount Allison University
- ✦ Practitioner and Advocacy Partnership Officer: Angus Grant
- ✦ Policy Partnership Officer: Idil Atak, McGill University
- ✦ Communication Officer: Andrew Galley
- ✦ Events Officer: Jacqueline McAdam
- ✦ Director at large: Susan McGrath
- ✦ Director at large: Heather Johnson:
- ✦ Director at large: Gabrielle Lavigne:
- ✦ Student Directors:
  - Alexandra Ricard-Guay, McGill University
  - Anne-Claire Gayet, , McGill University
  - Heather Brady, York University

CARFMS Secretariat Coordinator: Michele Millard  
Administrative Assistant: Samia Teclé

To learn more about members of the CARFMS Executive Committee, please visit:

<http://www.carfms.org/exec>

### **Online Research and Teaching Tool (ORTT) for the Study of Refugees and Forced Migration**

Under the direction of the current CARFMS President, an online research and teaching tool is being developed to assist researchers, course directors, instructors and teachers in the field of refugee and forced migration studies. ORTT will include definitions of key terms, descriptions of the foremost concepts, an explanation of the use of various methodological approaches and theoretical frameworks in the field. In addition, there are also plans for the development of an online interactive Practitioners' Forum for those who work directly with refugees and other forced migrants. Developed to continually

expand with the ever-growing body of knowledge, ORTT will serve as an online practical resource for anyone, regardless of their level of knowledge and expertise, with an interest in refugee and forced migration studies. The online research and teaching tool will feature hyperlinks to a wide variety of sources that are currently available online such as websites, books, videos, maps, statistics, etc. ORTT, the first single site resource of its kind in the field, will be relevant for a wide range of interests and professional and occupational backgrounds, including: those who work directly with refugees and other forcibly displaced persons such as medical health care workers, social workers, community organizers and advocates, legal counsels, teachers, and NGO administrators and managers.

Stay tuned to the CARFMS website for more updates!

### **Upcoming Annual CARFMS 2012 Conference**

Preparations for the upcoming 2012 CARFMS Annual Conference are well underway. This year's focus is on "Restructuring Refuge and Settlement: Responding to the Global Dynamics of Displacement" – appropriately titled to highlight the current challenges confronting the significant policy changes and resource cuts that are taking place within Canada and in other States around the world. Further, as the forces of globalization continue to transform the patterns of human mobility, State policies are becoming ever more selective of who they choose as migrants. This exclusivity has created serious challenges for today's migrants, not only in Canada, but globally. The 2012 CARFMS Annual Conference will be held in Toronto, Canada, on the main Keele campus at York University from May 16th to May 18th. Bringing together a wide ranging group including researchers and academics, policymakers, refugee rights activists, NGOs and international organization officials, and all from diverse disciplinary and occupational backgrounds, the conference will address the following:

- ✚ Restructuring settlement: Local, national, comparative and international issues and concerns
- ✚ Restructuring refuge: Local, national, comparative and international issues and concerns
- ✚ Restructuring settlement and refuge: New approaches and theories

We welcome everyone's participation in this timely conference! If you have a great idea that you would like to share or you are simply interested in presenting a paper then we would like to hear from you. You still have time! Simply visit <http://carfmsconference.yorku.ca> to submit your 250-word abstract and a 100-word biography by January 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. The conference welcomes submissions of individual papers and proposals for panels.

For a more thorough description of the upcoming conference, please view our call for papers or to find out how to submit an abstract, visit:

<http://carfmsconference.yorku.ca/index.php?conference=carfms12&schedConf=carfms12>

### **Why Join CARFMS?**

- ✦ Participate in a community of scholars, researchers, advocates and policy-makers working on issues of forced migration and refugees
- ✦ Receive a paper subscription to [Refuge: Canada's Periodical on Refugees](#)
- ✦ Find out about job opportunities, lectures, conferences, publications, and other important information through our listserv, forums, and publications
- ✦ Discover others who are active in your area of research or policy advocacy through our online database of members
- ✦ Share and discuss your research with other academics, advocates and the NGO community online using our forums or in person at our annual conference
- ✦ The association is independent, interdisciplinary, and run by its membership and is dedicated to the advancement of refugee and forced migration studies
- ✦ Participate in the annual conference

So, do you want to join CARFMS? It's really simple! Visit the website and follow the directions. Don't miss your chance to be a part of an association making strides in the field of refugee and migration studies!

### **Selected List of Upcoming Conferences in the Field of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies**

[Human Trafficking, International Crime and National Security Conference](#), February 3-4, 2012, Goettingen, Germany

[CERIS - 14th National Metropolis Conference](#), February 29 - March 3, 2012, Toronto, Canada

[Access Denied: working on a new paradigm](#). International conference on social protection and migration, March 13-14, 2012, Amsterdam

2012 Centre for Refugee Studies [Graduate Student Conference](#) Power, Representation, and Identity: Narratives by, about, and around refugees and forcibly displaced persons April 20-21, 2012, York University, Toronto

[Asylum and Displacement in the Twenty-First Century: Performing Community, Crisis and Belonging](#), 20-21 April 2012, Royal Holloway, University of London

[Migrations and societies in Africa and the Middle East: a long term perspective](#), The 4th Global Migration History Conference, Rabat, 19-21 May 2012

[Canada and Refugee Resettlement Conference](#), June 2012, Richmond, British Columbia

[Minorities and the EU Eastern Enlargement: Past, Present and Future Experiences](#), 14th-15th June 2012, Centre for EU-Russia Studies/Euro College, University of Tartu, Estonia

### **Recent Publications**

If you would like to see your recent publications featured here for the next newsletter, please send your publication list to Michele Millard at [mmillard@yorku.ca](mailto:mmillard@yorku.ca).