CCIS Center for Comparative Immigration Studies

UCLA Center for the Study of International Migration

Transnational Social Protection: Changing Social Welfare in a World on the Move

Friday, May 17, 2024 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM Pacific Time Will be held via Zoom



Author: Erica Dobbs

Erica Dobbs is Assistant Professor of Politics at Pomona College, and a faculty affiliate of the European Union Center of California. Her work broadly focuses on how migration changes the dynamics of citizenship and political representation, particularly in "new destination" countries where immigration is a relatively new phenomenon.



Author: Peggy Levitt

Peggy Levitt is the Mildred Lane Kemper Professor of Sociology at Wellesley College. She is a co-founder of the Global (De)Centre. Her book Transnational Social Protection: Transforming Social Welfare in a World on the Move (co-authored with Erica Dobbs, Ken Sun, and Ruxandra Paul) was published by Oxford University Press in 2023. Her forthcoming book, Move Over, Mona Lisa. Move Over, Jane Eyre: Making the World's Universities,



Discussant: Jean-Michel Lafleur

Jean-Michel Lafleur is Associate Professor at the University of Liège (Belgium), Associate Director of its Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies (CEDEM) and a Senior Research Associate at the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FRS-FNRS). Jean-Michel's areas of expertise are the transnational dimension of contemporary migration, immigrant social protection, and citizenship and political participation of minorities. Since April 2022, Jean-Michel is the Coordinator of the IMISCOE International Migration Research Network.

Increasing numbers of individuals live for long periods outside their countries of citizenship without full rights or voice as long-term residents without membership. More and more people also live as long-term members without residence, residing outside their native country while still participating in its political and economic life. Over the past three decades, scholars have examined the many kinds of transnational social fields that emerge as a result – i.e., networks, relationships, and institutions that operate across borders. Migrants and non-migrants co-construct these to earn their livelihoods, claim their political rights and fulfill their political responsibilities, and to protect and provide basic care for their families. These dynamics fundamentally challenge nationally-based social welfare systems in ways that we are just beginning to understand. Our talk, based on our new book that is co-authored with Ken Sun and Ruxandra Paul will synthesize research on transnational social protection, discuss recent theoretical developments, and offer a new conceptual framework to analyze the interplay of protection, precarity, and transnational migration.

Register Here

For more information please email w2tam@ucsd.edu