

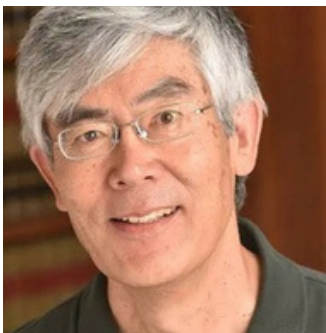
[Register Here](#)

**Center for the Study of International Migration, UC Los Angeles
Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, UC San Diego
Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative, UC Berkeley
Global Migration Center, UC Davis**

Borders and Belonging: Toward a Fair Immigration Policy

Friday, February 20, 2026 | 12:00PM - 1:30PM Pacific Time

Will be held in person (Bunche 10383) and via Zoom



Hiroshi Motomura

Hiroshi Motomura is the Susan Westerberg Prager Distinguished Professor of Law and Faculty Co-Director of the Center for Immigration Law and Policy at the UCLA School of Law. He is the author of *Immigration Outside the Law* (Oxford 2014), *Americans in Waiting* (Oxford 2006), and the co-author of *Immigration and Citizenship: Process and Policy* (West 10th ed. forthcoming 2026). He has received several university teaching awards and is one of 26 U.S. law professors profiled in *What the Best Law Teachers Do* (Harvard 2013). Hiroshi is a founding director of the Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN) and was a director of the National Immigration Law Center from 2011 through 2020. He has testified in Congress, served on the ABA Commission on Immigration, and has volunteered in litigation and advocacy, including the campaign that led to DACA. Hiroshi is a Nonresident Scholar of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and is on the *International Migration Review* editorial board. He was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Residency to write his new book, *Borders and Belonging: Toward a Fair Immigration Policy* (Oxford 2025). Hiroshi is co-host of the podcast, *Unsettled: Immigration in Turbulent Times* and is featured in the Try Guys video, *The Try Guys Try Immigrating to America*.



Discussant: Irene I. Vega (Associate Professor of Sociology, UC Irvine)



In *Borders and Belonging*, Hiroshi Motomura offers a complex and fair-minded account of immigration, its root causes, and the varying responses to it. Taking stock of the issue's complexity, while giving credence to the opinions of immigration critics, he tackles a series of important questions that, when answered, will move us closer to a more realistic and sustainable immigration policy. Motomura begins by affirming a basic concept—national borders—and asks when they might be ethical borders, fostering fairness but also responding realistically to migration patterns and to the political forces that migration generates. In a nation with ethical borders, who should be let in or kept out? How should people forced to migrate be treated? Should newcomers be admitted temporarily or permanently? How should those with lawful immigration status be treated? What is the best role for enforcement in immigration policy? To what extent does the arrival of newcomers hurt long-time residents? What are the "root causes" of immigration and how can we address them?

For more information please email duranasaydee@ucla.edu