

DePaul Migration Collaborative

Advocating for Justice,
Educating for the Future

Monthly Newsletter





Rob Paral Speaking at 1.30.24 Panel By Ronny Velasquez

WHO WE ARE: The DePaul Migration Collaborative engages scholars, practitioners, students and alumni to find solutions to society's most pressing problems in the areas of migration, mobility and human rights.

If you would like to continue to receive this newsletter, please [subscribe!](#)

Events

This Month with the DMC

February 20, 2024- The Central America Monitor: Groundbreaking Data on El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras- the DMC is hosting a bilingual event featuring Dr. Kennedy and her colleagues. Laura Andrade is the Executive Director of the Instituto Universitario de Opinión Pública (IUDOP) [University Institute of Public Opinion] at the Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas (UCA) in El Salvador. Lissette Vasquez is the Executive Director of the Myrna Mack Foundation [Fundación Myrna Mack]. Migdonia Ayestas is the Director of the National Violence Observatory [Observatorio Nacional de Violencia, ONV] of the University Institute of Democracy, Peace and Security [Instituto Universitario en Democracia, Paz y Seguridad, IUDPAS] at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH). Come learn about the Central America Monitor and its focus to advance human rights, justice, security and transparency in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras through data.

RSVP: [Here](#)

DMC

DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2024
TIME: 12:00 - 2:00 PM
LOCATION: ARTS & LETTERS 206


THE DEPAUL MIGRATION COLLABORATIVE PRESENTS

THE CENTRAL AMERICA MONITOR: GROUND BREAKING DATA ON EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, AND HONDURAS


Belize

GUATEMALA

HONDURAS



EL SALVADOR



Come learn about the Central American Monitor (CAM), a collaborative research project implemented by the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH), the Myrna Mack Foundation (FMM) in Guatemala, and the Central American University José Simeón Cañas (UCA) in El Salvador. To advance human rights, justice, security and transparency in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, it tracks progress, setbacks and stagnation in seven areas. DMC funded practitioner Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy and her colleagues will share a sample of this data and contextualize it with current events in each country and how it relates to migration to the US and elsewhere.

Contact Us: migration@depaul.edu RSVP W/ QR CODE

Save the Date

April 11, 2024- Cities and Migration: Plans, Policies, and Action (All-Day)-Sign-ups will be available by the end of this month on events.depaul.edu, Dehub, and Eventbrite. Look out for this announcement on our social media!



Save The Date

DePaul Migration Collaborative

Cities and Migration: Plans, Policies, and Action

Date: April 11, 2024
Location: DePaul Student Center, 3rd Floor
Time: 8:30- 5:00pm

The DePaul Migration Collaborative's Second Annual convening brings experts, nonprofit leaders, students, scholars of migration, policy makers, and legal advisors to discuss contemporary migration flows to cities in our *Cities and Migration: Plans, Policies, and Action*. The symposium answers urgent and timely questions related to youth, health, law, housing, data collection, and labor with innovative solutions. Together, we can empower our cities to remain locations of welcome!

DMC Partner Events

February 15, 2024 Webinar & Panel Discussion: Early Childhood Development and Learning for

Children Affected by Conflict and Crisis Refugee and Migrant Education Network is hosting a webinar related to youth affected by conflict.

RSVP: [Here](#)

New DMC Opportunities

Event Assistant Student Position: The DMC is eagerly seeking a student to join our team and support us as we plan our second annual symposium. If interested in reading more and starting the application, please check out the campus job board.

Link to [Campus Job Board](#)

Call for Applications coming soon for Practitioners in Residence and Solutions Lab grantees.

-[Reframing Refugees Project – DePaul Migration Collaborative](#)

- [Solutions Lab – DePaul Migration Collaborative](#)

News

DMC Hosts Panel on Chicago Response to Recent Arrivals

On Tuesday, January 30th, the DePaul Migration Collaborative (DMC) hosted a thought-provoking panel addressing the multifaceted issues surrounding recent migrants in Chicago engaging over 50 participants. The panelists included DMC Practitioners in Residence, Rob Paral of Rob Paral and Associates, a policy consultant and Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, a Country Conditions Expert and Social Scientist. They were accompanied by Laura Rodríguez Presa from the Chicago Tribune, and Breandán Magee, Senior Director of Programs for the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR). The insightful conversation was moderated by Dr. Jesse Mumm of DePaul's Latin American and Latino Studies Program.

Each panelist delivered a concise presentation, covering their involvement with recent arrivals. The event explored reasons migrants may flee their home countries, migrant experiences at the US-Mexico border, the journey of migrants being bussed to northern cities, and the unique situation of Ukrainian refugees in the Chicago area. Tensions between migrants and host communities were also examined, especially regarding available housing and shelter. Another theme included in the discussion was the examination of current federal and state laws and responses to the migrant situation. The panel also demonstrated the indispensable role of nonprofits in responding to these challenges, providing essential advocacy, resources, and legal services. This event not only offered valuable insights into the current migration events but also fostered an open dialogue on the legal aspects, enhancing participants' understanding of the broader context.



Moderator: Jesse Mumm with Panelists: Breandan Magee, Laura Rodriguez Presa, Elizabeth Kennedy and Rob Paral by Dominique Cressler

DMC participates in DePaul's Innovation Day

The DMC was selected to participate in DePaul University's 2024 Innovation Day Showcase. This event showcases and celebrates DePaul's efforts towards 'Innovation for Social Good'. Jill Nyhof-Rodriguez and Dominique Cressler represented the DMC and discussed the environmental impact on forced migration and how DMC programs are addressing the needs of migrants across the city. Our very own Solutions Lab Grantee Dr. Black led the panel on AI and Social Good and our steering committee members and even past interns were there sharing other work they are doing.

You can read a full recap of the event [HERE](#).



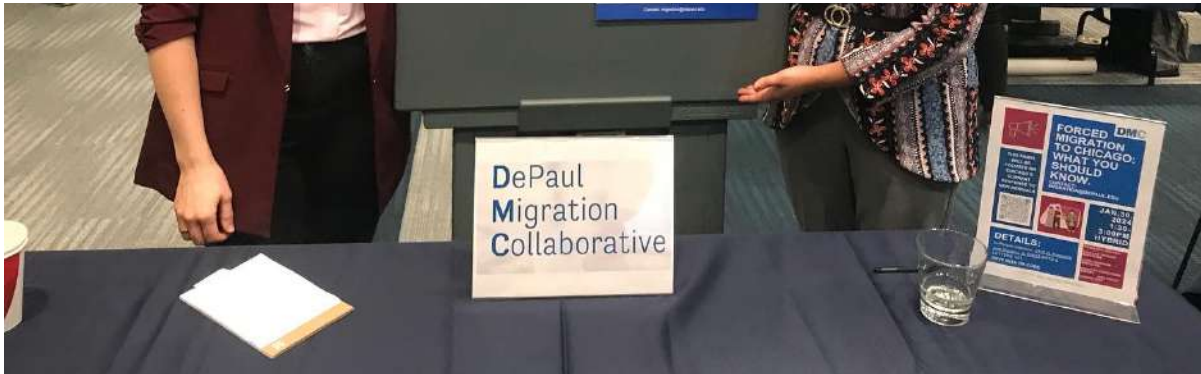


Photo "DMC Staff at Innovation Day 2024" by Jill Nyhof Rodriguez

Students Join PIRs through Research Assistantships

Angelique Lara is working with Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy. (Image 1)

"My interest in migration comes down to three personal connections I have my family history, my lived experience in Latin America, and moving to Chicago amidst a massive influx of migrants. These three factors, in combination, make me feel extremely passionate about helping migrants and providing them with the resources they are not sufficiently granted. Immigrants, like every other human being, deserve empathy, asylum, and support, especially during challenging times. I look forward to supporting the DMC in upholding the values of justice, advocacy, and education."

Rosbel Garza is working with Rob Paral. (Image 2)

"The most rewarding part of working with the DePaul Migration Collaborative has definitely been the opportunity to pursue and help produce locally relevant research relating to immigration. Rather than simply doing immigration research in Chicago, the DMC has allowed me to do immigration research *on* Chicago, capitalizing upon my local context and my academic interests."



Country Conditions Expert Witness Training

What to expect of reports

- ⌘ Can build over time and tailor to different cases
- ⌘ Attorneys are usually willing to assist as much as you'd like them to do*
- ⌘ Introductory paragraphs
- ⌘ Background and Qualifications
- ⌘ Opinions
- ⌘ Case Facts
- ⌘ Actors: authorities, death squads, organized crime, private individuals
- ⌘ Types of violence
- ⌘ Targeting
- ⌘ Lack of internal flight alternatives
- ⌘ Harms to deportees
- ⌘ Current administration



The DePaul Migration Collaborative (DMC) recently organized a training session for faculty members from across the Chicago area on 1/25, led by Dr. Elizabeth Kennedy, Practitioner in Residence with the DMC. Dr. Kennedy, recognized for her expertise in the country conditions of Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, comprehensively covered the role of country conditions experts and their significance in the asylum process.

The training was especially valuable for faculty who want to assist those seeking asylum but did not have knowledge of the asylum court system. Faculty attended from DePaul, Northwestern, and UIC. Dr. Kennedy detailed how to connect with an asylum case, how to turn research into country condition reports, and what to expect when testifying in the courtroom.

This interactive session not only equipped faculty members with practical knowledge but also fostered a sense of community among the participants, reinforcing the DMC's commitment to addressing migration challenges by connecting with service opportunities.



Legality of Using Police as Border Agents

Rev Dr. Craig Mousin speaks in podcast about lawsuit related to policing of borders and immigrants.

Check it out



Island to Liberty: A Cuban Journey to the U.S.

DePaul professor Anuradha Rana and students, including past DMC intern, Julian Trejo Bax work with Illinois Community for Displaced Immigrants (ICDI) to share the story of one migrant's experience waiting on a work permit.

Check it out

Request PIR Elizabeth Kennedy or Rob Paral to speak in your classrooms with this [form](#).

In Case You Missed It

Calls to Action

Volunteer with the Resurrection Project- Join at the TPS/EAD workshops! They will continue every Tues-Fri from February 20, 2024 through at least the end of April 2024. We are beginning the next phase of workshops which will give opportunities to potential applicants outside of the city shelter system. For more information on how you can get involved and help applicants register for the workshops, please see the links below.

Sign Up: [Here](#)

Contact Congress Representatives to Reject H.R. 2 Bill

Learn more about how H.R. 2 would eviscerate U.S. Asylum protections [here](#) and [here](#)

Join the Meet Me at the Mission and DCSA in serving the Catholic Charities Tuesday Night Supper at 721 N. LaSalle St. Participants will help to prep and serve a hot meal to guests who may be experiencing homelessness or are recently arrived migrant families. Come ready for a meaningful Vincentian service experience.

March 26, 1-Day Service Immersion: Chicago Responses to Migration. Deadline to apply March 1, 2024. Apply [here](#).

Migration News

Without Paywalls

- <https://wgntv.com/news/wgn-investigates/ctu-american-federation-of-teachers-ask-for-federal-help-for-migrant-student-needs/>
- [Denver exploring possibility of hiring immigrants | Immigration | denvergazette.com](#)
- [Inside U.S. Foreign Policy Seminar: Refugees and Migration \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [The Long Journey North From Guatemala - New Lines Magazine](#)
- <https://depauliaonline.com/68013/uncategorized/nuestro-momento-de-bendicion-familia-migrante-encuentra-un-hogar-con-la-ayuda-de-una-profesora-de-depaul/>
- [NIJC-Analysis-Border-Provisions-2024 Supplemental_February-5-2024.pdf \(immigrantjustice.org\)](#)

With Paywalls

- ["Do I Have to Come Here Injured or Dead?" | The New Yorker](#)
- <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/02/07/opinion/immigration-border-bill.html>



Contact Us: migration@depaul.edu

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