



MIGRANT SECURITY: 2010

Refereed proceedings of the national symposium titled
Migrant Security 2010: Citizenship and social inclusion in a transnational era

Hosted by the
Public Memory Research Centre
Faculty of Arts
The University of Southern Queensland

15-16 July 2010

On the lands of the Giabal and Jarowair

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|-----|
| Migrant Security 2010: Citizenship and social inclusion in a transnational era | 1 |
| An Interdisciplinary Culturally Responsive Methodology: A Samoan Perspective | 2 |
| Meaola Amituanai-Tolosa & Stuart McNaughton | 2 |
| Learning Literacy; Constructing Identity: Migrant and Refugee Participation in English Language Programs | 9 |
| Michael Atkinson | 9 |
| Meeting the Stranger Within: Considering a Pedagogy of Belonging | 17 |
| Jon Austin | 17 |
| Murder, Community Talk and Belonging: An exploration of Sudanese community responses to murder | 25 |
| Melanie Baak | 25 |
| Migration, Religion and Responses by Universities | 35 |
| Krzysztof Batorowicz & William Conwell | 35 |
| The Condition of ‘Permanent Temporariness’ for Salvadorans in the US and Koreans in Japan: A Study of Legal and Cultural Citizenship | 42 |
| William W. Castillo Guardado..... | 42 |
| ‘Going Back’: Homeland and Belonging for Greek Child Migrants | 49 |
| Alexandra Dellios | 49 |
| Proactive communication management beats hostile media exposure: training for multi-cultural community leaders in living with mass media | 56 |
| Lee Duffield & Shilpa Bannerjee | 56 |
| Behind the ‘Big Man’: Uncovering hidden migrant networks within Scandinavian-Australian sources | 65 |
| Mark Emmerson | 65 |
| Migrants Between Worlds: Inclusion, Identity and Australian Intercountry Adoption | 70 |
| Richard Gehrman..... | 70 |
| Framing a research project to explore the experiences of international staff in an Australian university | 77 |
| Sara Hammer, Gillian Colclough & Henk Huijser | 77 |
| Looking through the Gap in the Fence: A Discussion with Employers’ of Skilled Migrants | 84 |
| Michelle Harding..... | 84 |
| Gender, migration and human security: HIV vulnerability among rural to urban migrants in the People’s Republic of China | 91 |
| Anna Hayes | 91 |
| Johann Christian Heussler – German liberal (1820-1907) | 99 |
| Chris Herde | 99 |
| Catholicism and Alcoholism: The Irish Diaspora lived ethics of the Dropkick Murphys punk band | 106 |
| Kieran James & Bligh Grant | 106 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| The Dutch on the Tweed | 115 |
| Martin Jansen in de Wal | 115 |
| The importance of global immigration to South Korea’s nation branding strategies | 123 |
| Bongmi Kim | 123 |
| Rural Migrant Workers and Civil Society in China: case study of a migrant labour NGO | 130 |
| Peifeng Lin | 130 |
| Workplace Experiences of International Academic Staff in South Australian Universities | 137 |
| Nina Maadad & Nouné Melkounian | 137 |
| Rethinking Resentment: Political memory and identity in Australia’s Salvadoran community | 146 |
| Robert Mason | 146 |
| Migrant Symphonies – the symphonic contribution of resident British composers to Australian musical life | 153 |
| Rhoderick McNeill | 153 |
| Researching People Beyond the State: A Preliminary Study of German Expatriates in Hong Kong and Governance Performance | 159 |
| Thorsten Nieberg | 159 |
| A Pacific migrant experience: A case study on the impact of alcohol on migrant Niuean men to Auckland, New Zealand | 166 |
| Vili Hapaki Nosa, Peter Adams & Ian Hodges | 166 |
| Changing culture, changing practice: Securing a sense of self | 174 |
| Eleanor Peeler | 174 |
| Negotiating locals in Britain: The relationship between asylum seekers and the local British community in East Anglia | 182 |
| Sophia Rainbird | 182 |
| Exploring transnational sentiment through embodied practices of music and migratory movement | 189 |
| Kerri-Anne Sheehy | 189 |
| ‘Repatriation is a Must’: The Rastafari in Ethiopia | 196 |
| Maria Stratford | 196 |
| Investigating the role of Australian media in making Sudanese refugees feel ‘at home’: A case of advocating online media support to enable refugee settlement | 201 |
| Kitty Van Vuuren & Aparna Hebbani | 201 |
| The interplay of social context and personal attributes in immigrants’ adaptation and satisfaction with the move to Australia | 209 |
| Susan Ellen Watt, Marcella Ramelli & Mark Rubin | 209 |
| Work is a human right: seeking asylum, seeking employment | 217 |
| Rosemary Webb | 217 |

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**Public Memory Research Centre
Faculty of Arts, University of Southern Queensland**

The symposium convenors would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians,
the Giabal and Jarowair, on whose land this meeting takes place.
We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

The national symposium ‘Migrant Security: Citizenship and social inclusion in a transnational era’ was hosted by the University of Southern Queensland’s Toowoomba campus on the 15th and 16th July 2010. The symposium attracted delegates from across Australian universities, as well as delegates from New Zealand, the United States and Europe. In addition, presentations and papers were provided by governmental and non-governmental bodies affiliated with the provision of services for migrants and refugees. The conference proceedings that follow offer a selection of some of the over seventy papers presented during the two days of the main symposium. Each of the papers included in the proceedings have been double peer-reviewed in their entirety, prior to acceptance in this online collection.

Migration has been central to Toowoomba’s history for thousands of years, with a major Indigenous meeting place located close to the city. More recently, Toowoomba has welcomed large numbers of African refugees from various backgrounds. Indeed, twenty five per cent of Toowoomba’s overseas population has arrived within the last decade. The new presence of these visibly different and culturally diverse groups has prompted large proportions of the city to recall and to question the historical and contemporary nature of whiteness and blackness in the Darling Downs region and south-east Queensland. As such, it was particularly apposite that the symposium was hosted at the University of Southern Queensland.

The symposium probed new formulations of migrants’ experience of community and individual security through their engagement with civic life. It drew particular attention to the changing nature of belonging in modern societies, and the implication of this for citizenship. Contributors proved especially interested by the various forms of insecurity that prevented migrants from attaining a sense of inclusion and belonging, and how local and transnational networks might mitigate this. Key themes that are explored in the proceedings include the nature of inclusive education, the role of interculturality in the modern society, and ways to develop meaningful forms of cultural security and social.