

# **CAMMIGRES**

## **Cambridge Migration Research Network**

### **The CAMMIGRES Forum\* - Report from the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014 planning meeting, with proposals for action**

*\*After some discussion at the meeting about what to call the 'Postgraduate Forum', we propose simply to call this 'The CAMMIGRES Forum'. This is more inclusive for public-engagement events, and also does not distinguish in a hierarchical way between early career and established academics and student members, who are all equally welcome to join and generate and/or participate in Forum activities. The distinction between the CAMMIGRES Network and Forum remains as discussed at the meeting: this relates to the need, in the first phase of the development of CAMMIGRES, for established academics who are part of the CAMMIGRES Network to focus on funding proposals, rather than on public-engagement and other academic community development activities.*

*In what follows we refer simply to 'the Forum'. If members disagree with this proposal, there will be the possibility for further discussion via the Forum email list!*

#### **1. Report from 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014 meeting**

- 34 postgraduate students and early career researchers with migration research interests attended the Forum planning meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February, at the Institute of Criminology. The attendee list is attached.
- Professors Madeleine Arnot and Loraine Gelsthorpe, founders of the CAMMIGRES Network, described the process of the establishment of the Cambridge Migration Research Network, and the network's aims.
- Jessica Wheeler, CAMMIGRES Research Associate described the relationship between the CAMMIGRES Network and the Forum and the cross-over between the two separate entities, which are both integral to the development of CAMMIGRES.
- Ed Anderson, PhD Student, and organiser of the Festival of Ideas 'Big Immigration Debate' facilitated a discussion on the proposed activities of the Forum.
- Everyone present completed a short questionnaire, describing their research interests, the network working groups they might be interested to be involved with, the kinds of activities they would like to take part in/organise, relevant skills they bring to the network, the level of involvement they would like, and their ideas for broadening the network.

## 2. Brief summary of presentations/discussions

- The CAMMIGRES Network is a new cross-disciplinary research community, currently made up of 40 University of Cambridge academics with active migration research interests. The Network has been convened in order to: 1) bring together disciplinarily diverse academics to develop innovative migration research proposals; 2) increase the depth, range and extent of migration research projects in Cambridge; 3) in the longer term, establish a centre for migration research in Cambridge.

A copy of Research Horizons, Feb 2014, Issue 23, which ‘Spotlights’ Cambridge Migration Research was distributed to all attendees (and can be accessed online: <http://www.cam.ac.uk/research/spotlight-on/migration>). This edition of Research Horizons arose as part of the development of the CAMMIGRES Network and gives a good impression of the diverse range of migration research interests represented within the Network.

- The CAMMIGRES Forum is intended to be a wider and public-facing entity. The Forum will be run by postgraduate students and early career researchers, with oversight, involvement, and support from Network founders and members. The forum will undertake a range of activities to enhance and develop migration research in Cambridge, from reading groups, to seminar series and open public film screenings and talks.
- Network members will be invited to join forum events and activities through notifications to the Network email list.
- When wider academic community involvement is warranted, Forum members will be invited to join Network working groups to be part of proposal development meetings and activities and to contribute to written proposals. For instance, Forum members will receive notifications where there are opportunities to apply for paid work with specific working groups (e.g. the preparation of literature reviews and translational work). Forum members may also be invited to present their own work to Network members during working group meetings. There might also be opportunities to ‘audit’ (i.e. observe) the development of funding proposals.
- Together the Network and the Forum will support the CAMMIGRES community of early career, established and student academics in Cambridge. The Forum and Network will each have separate mailing lists, to facilitate communication among and between Network and Forum members.
- The CAMMIGRES website (under construction) will contain sub-sections promoting both Network and Forum activities.
- The CAMMIGRES website will include directories of Network and Forum members, and we hope also a series of short research videos - ‘webcasts’. There will also be opportunities for blog posts, the promotion of up-coming events, CAMMIGRES news, and for a variety of online written content relating to migration research projects, talks, workshops, and seminars, alongside regular reports from CAMMIGRES reading groups, events and activities.
- We will advertise migration related activities to all members through the Network and Forum email lists and using the @cammigres twitter account. (We are presently developing protocols for the use of CAMMIGRES twitter and Facebook accounts).

### 3. The CAMMIGRES FORUM organisational structure

- We received 30 survey responses from attendees
- There are a few other members who could not attend the meeting but who would like to be included on the membership/ mailing list.
- A full list of currently registered members is attached (all now subscribed to the forum mailing list)
- Below we list activities proposed by Forum members in their survey responses. For each activity we list all members who indicated an interest in organising this kind of activity and we would like these members to meet soon to begin planning activities.

#### 3.1 Proposed activities, events and organisers:

- **Accessing small funds for events /activities**  
Faraz Ahmed
- **Festival of Ideas**  
Caitlin Ellis, Yu Qiu
- **Film making/web castings**  
Hira Amin, Katia Mace, Me-Linh Riemann, Sundeep Lidher, Yu Qiu
- **Film screenings**  
Emre Irdam, Ikuko Okubo, Nikolay Mintchev, Olimpia Squillaci, Yu Qiu
- **Funding applications/Proposal writing**  
Elif Cetin, Hanna Baumann, Liesbeth Corens, Madleina Daehnhardt, Magdalena Soffia, Me-Linh Riemann, Rudolph Ng
- **General support**  
Alireza Tabatabaie, Peter Walsh
- **Graduate workshop (e.g. via CRASH)**  
Ben Cartwright, Elif Cetin, Hanna Baumann, Madleina Daehnhardt, Magdalena Soffia, Maria Krisch, Rudolph Ng, Sundeep Lidher
- **Linking with existing forums/networks**  
Andrew Diver, Caitlin Ellis, Elif Cetin, Faraz Ahmed, Hanna Baumann, Magdalena Soffia, Maria Krisch, Olimpia Squillaci, Pablo Torres, Rudolph Ng
- **Literature reviews**  
Andrew Diver, Biljana Savikj, Elif Cetin, Faraz Ahmed, Filio Constantinou, Hanna Baumann, Katia Mace, Madleina Daehnhardt, Magdalena Soffia, Pablo Torres, Peter Walsh, Rudolph Ng, Yu Qiu
- **One-off events**  
Andrew Diver, Filio Constantinou, Tehmina Hammad, Yanjie Niu
- **Policy Briefings**  
Elif Cetin

- **Publications**  
Andrew Diver, Catalina Droppelmann, Elif Cetin, Hanna Baumann, Katia Mace, Madleina Daehnhardt
- **Public out-reach/NGOs /activism**  
Andrew Diver, Ben Cartwright, Catalina Droppelmann, Maria Krisch, Sundeep Lidher
- **Reading groups**  
Andrew Diver, Ben Cartwright, Emre Indam, Faraz Ahmed, Filio Constantinou, Hanna Baumann, Hira Amin, Magdalena Soffia, Maria Krisch, Nikolay Mintchev, Olimpia Squillaci, Sundeep Lidher
- **Seminar series/Workshops/Conference**  
Ben Cartwright, Biljana Savikj, Caitlin Ellis, Catalina Droppelmann, Elif Cetin, Emre Irdam, Faraz Ahmed, Hanna Baumann, Hira Amin, Ikuko Okubo, Katia Mace, Liesbeth Corens, Madleina Daehnhardt, Magdalena Soffia, Maria Krisch, Michael Clark, Olimpia Squillaci, Nikolay Mintchev, Pablo Torres, Rudolph Ng, Sundeep Lidher, Yu Qiu
- **Social media**  
Andrew Diver, Caitlin Ellis, Faraz Ahmed, Hira Amin, Liesbeth Corens, Me-Linh Riemann

## 3.2 Four organisational proposals:

### One: The Organising Group - membership and role

There are now six people who have kindly elected to oversee/co-organise the Forum's activities. We propose that this 'Organising group' meet/communicate on a regular basis. It will remain open so that other/new Forum members can join the group. In the first instance Ed Anderson will call a meeting for all six self-nominated organisers (as listed below):

Ed Anderson, History; Katia Mace, Education; Maria Krisch, Criminology; Sundeep Lidher, History; Faraz Ahmed, Public Health; Yu Qiu, Social Anthropology.

Representation: We think it is important to ensure a good mix of Organisers. The list of six self-nominated organisers offers this, in that this includes researchers who are at different stages in their studies/early careers; different genders; different disciplinary backgrounds/departmental affiliations, and different levels and kinds of academic/public engagement activity organising experience/skills.

Updates: The Organising group will take responsibility to report their activities to Forum members and also to CAMMIGRES Network founders (Lorraine and Madeleine), and Research Associate (Jessica), on a regular basis.

Autonomy: Beyond what is proposed in this document, we anticipate that the Organising group members will self-organise, with Madeleine, Lorraine and Jess providing an advisory/support role. Madeleine and Lorraine will also need to sign off the use of the annual budget (see below) and to approve any event at which the public and press are involved or where there is a use of University buildings.

To facilitate communication, Jess will attend the first Organising Group meeting to work out a system of regular reporting between Forum Organising Group and Network founders/RA. Jess can also communicate updates and notifications from Network members and keep up to date with the Forum events and activities via the Forum email list and/or by attending occasional Organising Group meetings.

Open participation: Forum members can participate in decision-making and can join the Organising group, which will remain open to newcomers. Forum members can respond to regular organising group notifications and reports/updates via the mailing list. Organisers will publicise meeting dates, times, venues and agendas so that other members can join these discussions if they want to contribute in person.

Press/accountability to the University: The CAMMIGRES founders, Organising Group, Network and Forum members must formulate a protocol for dealing with the press, and to ensure the reputation of the University is protected in relation to social media outputs, as well as during the course of any CAMMIGRES hosted activities and events.

## **Two: The Organising Group responsibilities:**

- i) Support and facilitate the development of activities and events - e.g. help set up preliminary meetings for a range of proposed activities/events (see below); maintain contact with the activities/events groups; support activities and events groups to access funding either via the CAMMIGRES Forum or Network, or via other University funding opportunities for public engagement/research activities (with oversight from the CAMMIGRES founders/Network members);
- ii) Review applications for funding for proposed Forum activities/events and notify Forum members of applications and recommendations for funding;
- iii) Support activity/events organising groups in accessing alternative University funding for where events require more funds than are available via the Forum funding pot, or where there are more proposed activities/events than can be funded;
- iv) Provide an annual budget statement to Loraine and Madeleine and keep records of funding applications, and report on Forum activities and events;
- v) Update the CAMMIGRES Forum membership lists/directories as people seek to join (or leave) the Forum;
- vi) Send out regular activities and events notifications and monitor discussions on the Forum email list. Send relevant notifications to the Facebook group (see below), twitter and website administrators;
- vii) Point of contact for enquiries about the CAMMIGRES Forum and its activities;
- viii) Regularly update CAMMIGRES members, via the Network and Forum email lists, reporting on progress in relation to proposed CAMMIGRES Forum events and activities and on future planning meeting dates/times/venues.

### **Three: Reporting to the Forum membership**

We propose that Forum Organising Group report back to Forum and Network members after their first meeting so that all CAMMIGRES members will know:

- how the Organising Group intends to function (and will be given a list of active Organisers and Forum members for March 2014) - confirming organisational proposals and describing procedures.
- whom to email in the first instance with Forum activity funding proposals;
- who to ask about Forum Organising group meetings (if they want to join the Organising group);
- where to refer friends/colleagues who are interested to join/find out more about the Forum;
- how the Organising Group will support the formation of various activities/events organising groups.
- who to ask for more information if someone is interested to join groups organising various events/activities...

### **Four: CAMMIGRES Forum funding decisions**

The aim is to promote a range of engaging, stimulating, quality activities and events and to support and encourage as many such migration related activities and events as possible.

A small budget is currently available for the first year. It will be important for the Organising Group to seek supplementary funds for Forum activities and/or to support various activities and events organisers in accessing such funds.

To ensure fairness in the allocation of limited funds, we propose the following simple process:

i) those seeking funding for relevant activities or events will send brief funding proposal details to the Organising group for review - this can be an email and needs to contain details of the proposed event/activities; relevance to the CAMMIGRES Forum; the breakdown of costs; details of those involved in organising the event and the anticipated audience.

ii) the Organising group will discuss proposals as they arise and will consider each on its own merits and in relation to: a) the availability of funds; b) other proposed/conducted events and activities already taking place as part of CAMMIGRES or elsewhere in the University. The Organising group will come to a decision about whether or not they think the Forum should:

- offer CAMMIGRES Forum funding for the activity - and how much - from the available pot;
- seek additional funding from the CAMMIGRES Network founders for the activity;

- try to support applications for supplementary funding for any proposed activity/event specifically designed for graduates/postdoctoral fellows from elsewhere in the University or beyond;
- not support this activity (because it is not sufficiently relevant to CAMMIGRES; is very similar to other recently hosted CAMMIGRES activities/events, etc).

iii) The Organising group will report recommendations to the whole Forum via the mailing list, summarising the proposed activity and their recommended decision (e.g. funding from the CAMMIGRES pot/support for seeking alternative funding, etc.) and their reasons for this decision.

iv) Forum members can respond to this decision in a limited time period - either supporting the Organising Group decision, or objecting. If there are no objections the Organising Group decision will stand and the activity will be funded/alternative funds sought, as recommended by the Organising Group. Any objections will be followed up by the Organising Group to seek an acceptable resolution.

v) Where Organising Group members are involved in organising specific activities or events they will abstain from Organising Group meetings discussing funding for these proposals.

vi) We propose to review these funding-related organisational processes and the use of Forum funds in six months time (**end August, 2014**).

## **4. Other notifications following from the first meeting:**

### **4.1. Facebook**

Pablo Torres has suggested setting up a Facebook page. Unless there are objections a link will be sent out via the mailing list shortly. However, before this goes live a protocol must be agreed with CAMMIGRES founders for acceptable usage of the account.

### **4.2. Film screening**

Sundeep Lidher has made a proposal to the Network founders to host a film screening of 'Riots Reframed' a film on the London riots of 2011, followed by a Q & A discussion with the director Fahim Ahim. The film includes historical and political analysis related to migration experiences in Britain. This has been made possible (at very low cost) because the film is already being screened at a local college in Cambridge on the same day.

The screening is due to take place on **Thursday 8th May at the New Divinity School, St John's College (capacity 180)**. The plan is to start at **6.30pm for drinks, with a 7pm start time for the film screening, and 8.30pm start time for post-screening discussion**.

St John's History Society are happy to part-sponsor the event and Sundeep is asking for a £60 contribution from the Forum, so that this can go ahead. This can then be pitched as a CAMMIGRES event and the Forum can get involved with the further organising and publicity for this event. This proposal will be put to the Organising Group's first meeting...

## **Please note:**

Please feel free to send comments on this report and its proposals and to let us know if there are other postgraduates and postdoctoral fellows who might be interested in joining the Forum.

Comments can be posted directly to the mailing list (and will be seen by all Forum members): [ucam-cammigres-forum@lists.cam.ac.uk](mailto:ucam-cammigres-forum@lists.cam.ac.uk)

Or you can email: [cammigres@gmail.com](mailto:cammigres@gmail.com) (these emails will be passed to the Organising Group).

## **This report was written by:**

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# ***CAMMIGRES Forum***

Cambridge Migration Research Forum

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