



## **SEMINAR TWO: INTERSECTIONAL SOLIDARITIES AND COALITION BUILDING**

**6 November 2020**

9:00 - 10:30 PST / 12:00 - 13:30 EST / 17:00 – 18:30 GMT

**Chair: Vincent Wong**, University of Toronto, Canada

**Speakers: Zrinka Bralo**, Director, Migrants Organize UK

**Rita Chadha**, Localising Equality UK

**Syed Hussan**, Migrant Workers Alliance for Change, Canada

**Deborah Lee**, Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, USA

**Annette Wong**, Chinese for Affirmative Action, USA

### **DISCUSSION THEMES**

- 1) How have you built political awareness and activism within a group whilst also bridging to others?
- 2) How have you built common narratives and actions in the face of often stringent resource constraints (time, money, emotion), competition and conflict?
- 3) How can stronger narratives be build that account for those differentially positioned across sexuality, gender, class, race, ability? What strategies are there to center the most marginalised in our campaigns / policies and what problems have you faced when this perspective meets the very different logics/objectives of urban, regional or national governance?

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#### **BIOGRAPHIES**

##### **Vincent Wong**

Vincent was the William C. Graham Research Associate at the International Human Rights Program at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He has advocated before the Federal Court, the Federal Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court of Canada, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and has provided expert testimony before numerous legislative bodies. He is currently a PhD candidate at Osgoode Hall Law School researching barriers to education for undocumented youth from a critical race perspective.

##### **Zrinka Bralo, Migrants Organise, UK**

Zrinka Bralo is CEO of Migrants Organise a self-help, organising platform for migrants and refugees acting for justice. Zrinka is a refugee from Sarajevo, where she worked with leading war correspondents as a journalist during the siege in the 90s. She is a founder of Women on the Move Awards that celebrates achievements of migrant and refugee women and Executive Chair of the National Refugee Welcome Board set up in September 2015 to organise and coordinate the civil society response to refugee crisis.

##### **Rita Chadha, Localising Equality, UK**

Rita Chadha is the Chief Executive of The Small Charities Coalition. She spent 11 years as chief executive of the Refugee and Migrant Forum of Essex and London, before becoming Director of the Migrant Rights Network and chief executive of the community interest company Localising Equality, which aims to help local authorities work better with refugee and migrant organisations.

##### **Syed Hussan, Migrant Workers Alliance for Change, Canada**

Syed Hussan is the coordinator of the Migrant Workers Alliance for Change, and a member of the Migrant Rights Network. He's an anti-racist, migrant justice organizer who supports Indigenous sovereignty. He has worked with No One Is Illegal, the End Immigration Detention Network and the Sanctuary City Movement.

##### **Deborah Lee, Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity, USA**

Rev. Deborah Lee became the Executive Director of the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity in 2018. Prior to becoming Executive Director, Rev. Lee served since 2009 as the Program Director for the Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity (and under its predecessor names: Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights and CLUE-CA). Rev. Lee has worked at the intersection of faith and social justice for over 25 years in popular education, community organizing and

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advocacy connecting issues of race, gender, economic justice, anti-militarism, LGBTQ inclusion and immigrant rights. She has consistently sought to strengthen the voice and role of faith communities in today's social movements.

#### **Annette Wong, Chinese Affirmative Action, USA**

Annette Wong is the Director of Programs at Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) where she oversees community initiatives that support low-income, limited-English proficient Chinese immigrant community members to be community and civic leaders, and meet everyday service needs around employment and immigration. Annette has been involved in the immigrant rights movement for over 10 years, working on immigration at the intersections. Annette holds a BA in Sociology, and an MA in Urban Economic Development.

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#### **External Resources**

Wong Tian An, "Black Liberation is Asian Liberation" (September 29, 2020), *Lausan*: <https://lausan.hk/2020/black-liberation-is-asian-liberation/>

'Racism', intersectionality and migration studies: framing some theoretical reflections <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1070289X.2014.950974?journalCode=gide20>

Interfaith movement for human integrity. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-JT-C9OV-mxM&feature=youtu.be>

Migrants Rights Network – Status for all campaign <https://migrantrights.ca/status-for-all/>

New Sanctuary Coalition – Free them all campaign <https://www.newsanctuarynyc.org/freethemall>

FIRM immigration charter <https://firmcharter.org.uk/>

## **SANCTUARY: WHAT NEXT?**

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#### **About the series:**

Sanctuary: What's Next? is a pioneering online seminar series taking place in November 2020. The overall aim is to take stock of and reinvigorate urban strategies of resistance to national and sub-national anti-migrant policies. Speakers include activists, advocates, NGOs, frontline workers and municipal government officials across pioneering sanctuary cities in the USA, Canada, and Europe.

The series will provide a platform to draw connections between the political economy of cities, the security practices at the heart of contemporary racial and colonial capitalism and the migration apparatus. In paying close attention to the messaging, practices, and tactics enacted by these organisers, there is much to learn about both the nature of the contemporary capitalist security state as well as how it might be possible to contest it.

#### **The organising team:**

Sanctuary: What's Next? An International Forum For, With and By Undocumented Migrants is convened by Dr Rachel Humphris (Queen Mary University of London), Graham Hudson (Ryerson University) and Kathy Coll (University of San Francisco).

It is part of the project 'Welcoming Cities? Understanding Sanctuary in Securitized States' funded by The Leverhulme Trust, UK.

#### **The series has been organised in partnership with:**

Angela Chan, Asian Law Caucus

<https://www.advancingjustice-alc.org/members/angela-chan/>

Kathleen Coll, University of San Francisco

<https://www.usfca.edu/faculty/kathleen-coll>

Graham Hudson, Ryerson University Toronto

<https://www.ryerson.ca/criminology/about-us/faculty-staff/faculty/hudson-graham/>

Rachel Humphris, Queen Mary, University of London

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/politics/staff/profiles/humphrisrachel.html>

Syed Hussan, Migrant Workers Alliance for Change

@hussansk

Peter Mancina, University of Oxford

<https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/people/peter-mancina>

Mac Scott, Carranza LLP

<https://www.carranza.on.ca/our-people/bio/macdonald-scott>