Save the Date: Conference on Female Agency, Mobility and Socio-cultural Change, June 11th-12th 2015

UNU-GCM invites you to save the date for our conference on Female Agency, Mobility and Socio-cultural Change. It will take place on June 11th – 12th 2015 in Barcelona. The conference will examine the feminisation of migration with a focus on themes such as: diasporas and transnationalism, labour and decent work, mobilisations, transnational families, female empowerment, visual representations and narratives of female mobility, as well as legal and policy responses. In addition to panel presentations, the conference will feature a photographic exhibition, a video presentation and roundtable featuring migrant women, and a film screening. Confirmed keynote speakers are: Professor Maggie O’Neill (Durham University), Professor Christiane Timmerman (University of Antwerp) and Dr. Maria Jaschok (University of Oxford). Further information can be found on the UNU-GCM website.

Seminar by Dr. Herman Bashiron Mendolicchio, Visiting Researcher

Herman Bashiron Mendolicchio, Post-Doctoral Visiting Researcher at UNU-GCM from January to April 2015, gave a research seminar on ‘Tracing Knowledge: Mobility, Borders and Visual Arts’ on Wednesday 15th April 2015. The seminar explored narratives and representations of experiences of migration and mobility through the lens of contemporary visual arts. The seminar reflected upon the capacity of contemporary visual arts to create alternative visions and modes of knowledge in relation to experiences of mobility and border representations. Based on an analysis of specific art projects, selected as case studies, the presentation focused on concepts, terms, meanings and feelings, which move away from mainstream narratives and open up other flows of knowledge.

Recent publications at UNU-GCM

The latest issue of Crossings: The Journal of Migration and Culture (Volume 5, Numbers 2 & 3) is now available in print. The Principal Editor of the journal is UNU-GCM Director, Parvati Nair, and this edition features articles by Research Fellow Valeria Bello and former Visiting Researcher (October to December 2014), Talha Jalal. Bello’s article, ‘Virtual Belongings, Dual Identities and Cultural Discomforts: The Role of Mediaspaces and Technospaces in the Integration of Migrants’ examines the impacts of new media and technologies on immigrant integration into host countries and perceptions that those left behind form about destination countries. Jalal’s article, ‘Reimagining the Refugee’, reflects upon the idea of making the refugee, rather than the citizen, the basis of our political-juridical framework.

Profile: Professor Christian Kaunert and Dr. Sarah Leonard, Visiting Researchers

UNU-GCM is pleased to welcome Professor Christian Kaunert (Professor of International Politics and Jean Monnet Professor in EU Justice and Home Affairs (July 2013), School of Humanities, University of Dundee) and Dr. Sarah Leonard (Senior Lecturer in Politics, School of Humanities, University of Dundee) as Visiting Researchers for the period April to July 2015. While at GCM, they will contribute to the Institute’s research programme on Statelessness and Transcontinental Migration. They will conduct a joint research project that aims to examine the extent, the modalities and the consequences of the securitisation of asylum and migration in the EU through security practices. The project will address pertinent issues that are currently at the centre of research and policy debates, namely the strengthening of border controls and the treatment of refugees in Europe.