Research Fellow Valeria Bello Elected to EISA Board
Research Fellow Valeria Bello has been elected to serve as a member of the Board of the European International Studies Association (EISA). EISA aims to bring together academics and others working in the field and subfields of international studies in Europe and beyond. It organises conferences for professionals and students at different stages of their careers and provides frameworks for facilitating networking, exchange and bridge-building among different European institutions. We congratulate Valeria on this achievement!

States of Being at the Border of Humanity Conference
Director Parvati Nair gave a paper entitled “The Razor’s Edge: Image and Corpo-reality at Europe’s Borders” at the States of Being at the Border of Humanity Conference in London on 6 September. The focus was on how the arts and the humanities, especially vital culture, allows for an ethical rethinking of human mobility and border practices.

European International Studies Association Pan-European Conference
At the EISA conference, which took place in Barcelona from September 13-16, Research Fellow Valeria Bello presented her work on prejudice and the role of different actors in constructing human mobility as a threat. Junior Research Fellow Janina Pescinski presented ongoing research on the criminalization of humanitarian assistance to migrants.

International Conference on Urban Health
On September 28, Junior Research Fellow Bavo Stevens presented on the health of refugees and asylum seekers in Bangkok as part of a panel including members of the UNU Migration Network at the International Conference on Urban Health in Coimbra, Portugal.

UNU-GCM Research in the Media
UNU-GCM researchers continue to actively share their research findings in the mainstream media. Junior Research Fellow Janina Pescinski published an article with open Democracy arguing that people who provide humanitarian assistance to migrants, even when in violation of local laws, are upholding human rights and acting as humanitarian citizens. Junior Research Fellow Bavo Stevens published an article in UNU’s online magazine Our World explaining how global environmental change is creating immobility “traps”. UNU-GCM has also published the policy report “Institutionalized Barriers to Inclusion: A Case Study of China’s Rural Migrant Workers in Urban Areas” by former intern Luoyi Zhou.

UNU-GCM Welcomes Alan Hodgson as Communications Consultant
Alan Hodgson joins the UNU-GCM team as Communications Consultant, to develop opportunities and products which help showcase the Institute’s work and expertise. Previously, Alan was the Corporate Communications Advisor for UNESCO-IHE. There he defined key strategic objectives, while developing and implementing multi-channel communications, as well as providing advice and support to research staff to best disseminate their project activities and results. He has worked for various international development organizations, more recently for the UN, including UNV, UNOPS and UNFCCC. He has developed skills across a variety of platforms and products (writing, audio-visual, intranets, websites, social media), as well as in project management and knowledge management. Alan holds an MA in ‘Society, Science and Technology’.

Welcoming Two PhD Interns
UNU-GCM is pleased to welcome two new interns, Jonathan Harouny and Tricia Magalotti, who are here as part of the Diaphora project. The Diaphora project is a European research and training platform for collaborative research on the nature of philosophical problems, their resilience, the sources of persistent divergence of expert opinion about them, and their relation to conflicts in the practical sphere. Jonathan is a Ph.D. student in philosophy, specializing in epistemic rationality, at the University of Stockholm, and Tricia is a Ph.D. student at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris. Jonathan and Tricia will contribute to UNU-GCM’s work on migration policy.