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The UNU Council approves the new name and revised concept of the UNU Institute in Barcelona



On 22 April 2013, the Council of the United Nations University approved the new name and revised concept of the United Nations University Institute in Barcelona, henceforth the United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM). As the youngest institute of the UNU family and the only one located in the Mediterranean region, it was noted that this Institute had already commenced work on its research programmes that focus on questions of culture, migration and media in the Mediterranean region, with the aim of holding a first public event in September 2013. It was also noted that UNU-GCM will host the first workshop of the UNU Network on Migration in June 2013 at its offices in the Sant Pau Art Nouveau Site, with the attendance of researchers on migration from various UNU Institutes across the globe.

Buscando Respeto: learning about immigrant youth gang-members



Academics, youth justice officials, prison officers, and others with personal experience of youth gang-membership joined UNU-GCM to revisit notions of gang-membership in Barcelona and Madrid. On 10th April 2013, in the modernist Sant Pau complex, the bank of experts offered insights into a variety of issues around the membership of 'las bandas' or 'los pandilleros'.

The event was much enriched by the contributions from the personal experiences of individuals from a wide variety of perspectives, and accepted mainstream assumptions about gangs and gang-membership were challenged. This discussion was the first in a series of 'Open Forum' events, in which UNU-GCM brings together a range of persons to discuss questions relating to migration, mobility and media which might not usually be able to talk together and indeed, provides online access to those discussions and viewpoints which might not usually be heard. A recording of the event can be accessed at: <http://gcm.unu.edu/index.php/events/podcasts>.

Monthly profile: Dr. Tendayi Bloom, Research Fellow at UNU-GCM



Tendayi Bloom is a political theorist who has taught and published in the fields of Political Theory, Ethics, and Politics. She is interested in the nature of non-citizenship, and how existing systems can be used to improve rights-acquisition for non-citizens. Methodologically, she is interested in using a multidisciplinary approach to uncover new perspectives on existing debates, and to bring together concerns from the field and from activists with academia. In this, she is supported by experience working directly with a range of migration stakeholders in a range of contexts. She is also interested in the use of internet technologies to open debate to wider audiences, and between a wider range of stakeholders, and ways in which such technologies can support rights-acquisition for non-citizens.

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