PEOPLE

Director
(Until June 2016)
David Hollenbach, S.J.
UNIVERSITY CHAIR IN HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE

Associate Directors
(Until June 2016; Co-Directors since June 2016)
Daniel Kanstroom
PROFESSOR, LAW SCHOOL
M. Brinton Lykes
PROFESSOR, COMMUNITY-CULTURAL PSYCHOLOGY, LYNCH SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Staff
Timothy Karcz, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Aimee Mayer-Salins, SUPERVISING ATTORNEY, POST-DEPORTATION HUMAN RIGHTS (UNTIL 2016)
Bonnie Waldron, STAFF ASSISTANT

Research Professor
Maryanne Loughry, ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS REFUGEES

Fellows
Kalina Brabeck, MIGRATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS
Rachel Rosenbloom, POST-DEPORTATION HUMAN RIGHTS
Ricardo Falla Sánchez, POST-DEPORTATION HUMAN RIGHTS
Ramsay Liem, MARTÍN-BARÓ FUND FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Students
Sriya Bhattacharyya, PH.D. COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, 2017
Sara Al-Maashouq, LAW SCHOOL, 2017
Gabriel Corpus, M.A. COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, 2018
Tahirah Dean, LAW SCHOOL, 2017
Sriya Bhattacharyya, PH.D. COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, 2017
Maria Cristina Fernández, WOODS COLLEGE OF ADVANCING STUDIES, 2018
Kevin Ferreira, PH.D., APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, 2018
Jessica Franco, MORRISSEY COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES, 2015
Katherine Horgan, LAW SCHOOL, 2017
Jani Hou, LAW SCHOOL, 2017
Jennifer Lang, LAW SCHOOL, 2017
Lilianna Mamani Condori, SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY, 2017
Graham Markiewicz, LAW SCHOOL, 2016
Kristin McAlpin, LAW SCHOOL, 2017
Gloria McGillen, M.A. COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY, 2017
Kelly Morgan, LAW SCHOOL, 2018
Daniel Quick, MORRISSEY COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES, 2016
Emily Sosrodjojo, LYNCH SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, CLASS OF 2017
Gabriela Távara Vásquez, PH.D. APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY, 2017
Eleanor Vorys, MORRISSEY COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES, 2016

Affiliated Faculty
Thomas Crea, BOSTON COLLEGE, SOCIAL WORK
James Keenan, BOSTON COLLEGE, THEOLOGY
Mary Holper, BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL
Stephen Pope, BOSTON COLLEGE, THEOLOGY
Lisa Patel Stevens, BOSTON COLLEGE, EDUCATION
Katharine Young, BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL
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BC Professor of History Marilynn Johnson discusses her new book at an event on November 16th.
Dear Friends,

We at the Center are excited to have completed another busy and productive year here at Boston College, with research, policy and academic initiatives on various fronts. Our work continues against the backdrop of mass forced migration in many areas of the world and the ongoing failure of the US government to pass any substantive immigration reform.

Reading headlines this past year, it is painfully clear that human rights are being denied to migrants across the globe. Numbers of forced migrants continue to be at levels unseen since World War II. Here in the US, political discourse regarding immigration has sunk to depths reminiscent of the rise of the nativist and bigoted Know Nothing party of the mid-19th century. At the federal level, the US has continued its psychologically damaging policies of detention of mothers with children and deportation is all too often used as a blunt tool to punish indiscriminately and disproportionally. In Europe and elsewhere, desperate people from the Middle East, Africa and South Asia are risking everything, including their lives, to flee the horrors of war and destitute poverty to reach the chance of a better life as asylum seekers, only to be detained and diverted in countless cases, with efforts focused more on deterrence than on the merits of human rights claims.

The Center has, with its research and educational programs, continued to systematize knowledge about the effects of these policies on migrations as well as advocate for them. Central to these advocacy efforts are our development of policy briefs, such as on the dangers of family detention, and also with the promotion of a new Declaration on the Rights of Expelled and Deported Persons. We have also continued to bring speakers to campus to address such pressing social issues, including our popular “Conversations on Race and Racism” series this past fall, which addressed various aspects of institutional racism that continues to marginalize people of color while failing to ensure the human rights of all living within our borders. More information on that series and our many other events can be found in this report.

Our multifaceted Migration and Human Rights Project (MHRP) continued its ongoing work and collaborations this year. Three Center researchers collaborated on a policy brief entitled “Incarceration of Undocumented Families: A Policy Statement by the Society for Community Research and Action.” The brief outlines the suffering of families and children caused by US detention policies and advocates for effective alternative measures. More on this may be found in the MHRP section of this report.

We were also excited to host an implementation conference of the Declaration on the Rights of Expelled and Deported Persons in April 2016. Human rights activists and practitioners discussed various aspects of the Declaration and strategized ways to implement it in international circles in the future.

In addition, the MHRP has continued to add to its Know Your Rights Tool Kit this year. The Tool Kit provides educational materials for teachers of English for Speakers of Other Languages. These resources help teachers integrate understandings of human rights and political advocacy into their curriculum through participatory pedagogical methods. The current modules, which now number four, are posted on our website’s Resources section along with the rest of the Tool Kit. More about this resource may be found in the MHRP section of this report.

MHRP researchers also produced a report this past year based on a multiple year participatory and action research project with local NGOs. The report, “Migrant Families and Language: ‘...The person who speaks two languages has double the value,’” is available in both English and Spanish. It explores Boston-area, Latino immigrant families’ intergenerational family experiences with bilingualism as well as some of the many challenges parents who are not proficient English speakers encounter in accessing health, education and other services needed to ensure their own and their families’ wellbeing.

The MHRP’s work in Guatemala has grown, including a new partnership with the Jesuit University Rafael Landívar (URL). BC and URL researchers developed a pilot project at three URL rural campuses. Faculty and students from each campus...
honed skills in participatory action research methodology to partner with local migrants and their families to study participants’ experiences with migration, territory and subjectivities towards developing collaborative actions in response to problems identified through these PAR processes. Our partnership with the URL will continue into the next academic year.

Our longtime project Zacualpa, El Quiché, Guatemala continued to provide legal and pastoral assistance to people affected by the migration of family members. Two of our longtime staff members had the opportunity to travel to Boston this past April to present their Guatemalan work at BC and in the Boston area. The project also put out two reports this past year, one on our census research through which we documented quantitative and qualitative aspects of migration and its economic and familial effects in the Zacualpa area, and another documenting tools and reflections on working with the youth of Zacualpa in our accompaniment work there. These are both available for viewing in the Resources section of the Center’s website.

Center Research Professor Maryanne Loughry RSM visited the offices of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) in South Africa for consultations and visits with BC School of Social Work interns. The JRS South Africa livelihoods project continues to operate with improved efficacy due to better evaluation and data capture made possible by the Center’s research and recommendations on the program. In December 2015, David Hollenbach also helped launch JRS’ Mercy in Motion campaign, which aims to provide 100,000 refugee children and youth with access to education by the year 2020, with a lecture titled “A Spirituality of Accompaniment: What We Can Learn from the Jesuit Refugee Service.”

In the academic realm, the Center’s graduate certificate program in Human Rights and International Justice was conferred on six additional students from across BC’s graduate and professional schools this year, bringing the total number of certificate recipients to 48 since the program began nearly 10 years ago. Our interdisciplinary seminar in human rights and international justice also saw record interest this past spring, as demand was nearly double the seats available in the course.

We were pleased to once again fund human rights-related research through our summer research grant program, providing grants to three graduate students and an undergraduate this year. They will present their research findings on campus this coming academic year.

We wish to express our gratitude once again to an anonymous foundation which has been very generous in its continued support of much of the work described in this report.

Finally, we send our best wishes to longtime Center director David Hollenbach, as he departs Boston College to become the Pedro Arrupe Distinguished Research Professor in Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and a senior fellow at their Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs. We are very grateful to David for his many contributions to the founding and development of the cutting-edge, interdisciplinary teaching and research that the Center has developed over the past eleven years. We will miss him and wish him much continued success in his future endeavors.

We invite you to learn more about the initiatives mentioned here, and many others, in the rest of this annual report. As always, even more information may be found in our Center’s newsletters and in the Migration and Human Rights Project’s annual reports on our website, as well as in the Resources section of our website. As always, those in the greater Boston area are most cordially invited to attend our many programs.

We sincerely thank you for your continued interest in the Center and in our work to protect the rights of the marginalized and displaced people of our world.

With best regards,

Daniel Kanstroom and M. Brinton Lykes
Co-Directors
Center for Human Rights and International Justice
The Center for Human Rights and International Justice at Boston College has a distinctive approach to addressing international human rights challenges.

Our model recognizes the interplay of religion, politics, law, economics, and mental health in any nation or community’s efforts to protect human rights or to rebuild following the trauma of conflict or injustice. In particular, the Center is distinguished by its:

- Interdisciplinary Cooperation
- Integration of Religious and Ethical Awareness
- Researcher and Practitioner Collaboration
- Policy Recommendation Development

Through interdisciplinary training programs, applied research, and the interaction of scholars with practitioners, the Center is nurturing a new generation of human rights scholars and practitioners who draw upon the strengths of many disciplines, and the wisdom of rigorous ethical training in the attainment of human rights and international justice.

**Faculty Profiles**

**David Hollenbach**

David Hollenbach, S.J. is the director of the Center and holds the Human Rights and International Justice University Chair at Boston College. His research interests are in the foundations of Christian social ethics, especially human rights in the context of humanitarian crises and the displacement of refugees.

**Maryanne Loughry**

Maryanne Loughry is Sister of Mercy, psychologist, and Research Professor at the Center. She is associate director of Jesuit Refugee Service Australia. Her research interests include urban refugees and how to respond to their needs.

**Daniel Kanstroom**

Daniel Kanstroom is Professor of Law, Director of the International Human Rights Program, and Associate Director of Center. His research interests include comparative citizenship, immigration and deportation law, and international human rights law.

**M. Brinton Lykes**

M. Brinton Lykes is Professor of Community Cultural Psychology at the Lynch School of Education and Associate Director of the Center. Her research interests include gender, culture and the effects of the state-sponsored terror.
Here are brief descriptions of each of the Center’s current projects. More information on these projects is available on our website at: http://www.bc.edu/humanrights/projects.

Migration and Human Rights

Ethical Issues Raised by the Plight of Displaced Persons and Refugees

Refugee Studies, led by Professor David Hollenbach, S.J.

There are an estimated 63.5 million or more refugees and internally displaced people in the world today, driven from their homes by civil and international conflicts and natural disasters. Coping with the plight of refugees and displaced persons, with their effects on the communities that receive them, and with the tasks of reconciliation and reconstruction in the aftermath of conflicts raises fundamental questions of moral responsibility and action for scholars and practitioners alike.

In this project, the Center, in collaborations with academic and practitioner organizations, identifies and analyzes the multidimensional issues raised by forced migration confronting those who seek to aid forced migrants in the African context. Greater clarity about these important ethical issues will inform the development of more effective political and humanitarian responses.

Forced Migrants, in Collaboration with the Jesuit Refugee Service

Documentation, Program Development and Networking with the Jesuit Refugee Service, led by Professor David Hollenbach, S.J. and Professor Maryanne Loughry, RSM

Responding to the overwhelming trend of refugees now living in urban areas in their countries of refuge rather than in camps, Boston College is working with Jesuit Refugee Service as JRS develops guiding principles and social programming for meeting the challenges faced by refugees, be they urban or camped. The project also aims to provide deeper reflection on the social and ethical issues confronting refugee agencies as they develop best practices for responding to the needs of refugees.

The Post-Deportation Human Rights Project

Deportation Issues, led by Professor Daniel Kanstroom and Supervising Attorney Jessica Chicco

Longtime legal residents can be deported on the basis of relatively minor criminal convictions without any opportunity to present evidence of their family ties, employment history or rehabilitation. Through direct representation, research, legal and policy analysis, as well as outreach to lawyers, community groups, and policy-makers, the project’s ultimate goal is to reintroduce legal predictability, proportionality, compassion, and respect for family unity into the deportation laws and policies of the United States.

Human Rights of Migrants: Transnational and Mixed Families Project

Participatory Action Research and Community-based Education as Resources for Documentation, Activism and Policy Change, led by Professor M. Brinton Lykes and Attorney Jessica Chicco

The project brings together Central American immigrant community members, lawyers, psychologists, educators and social workers in participatory action research processes to document the effects of the upsurge of immigration enforcement on migrants and their
families. A primary aim is to develop research and advocacy skills among immigrant communities, and to publish detailed reports on the effects of detention and deportation on transnational mixed-status families that can contribute to a more comprehensive understanding, improve services available to them, and develop human rights documentation for sustained and effective advocacy.

**Migration and Human Rights Project, Zacualpa, Guatemala**

*Community-based Participatory Action Research and Legal Advocacy, led by Professor M. Brinton Lykes, Sister Clara Agustín García and Attorney Jessica Chicco*

This is a collaborative project between local Zacualpans, Guatemala-based researchers and religious leaders, and Boston College-based students, faculty, and legal staff. The project has various aims as it studies social, political and psychological factors contributing to migration among the local population and seeks to offer assistance to them where practical. The project also seeks to work with those who have returned to Zacualpa—either voluntarily or through deportation—to explore varied uses of their social capital in developing local initiatives and creating more life options for those living in Guatemala.

**Gender and Human Rights in Contexts of Transition**

**Gender and Reparations: Understanding women’s struggles for justice, historical memory and redress: A study of gender and reparation in postwar Guatemala**

*Led by York U. Professor Alison Crosby and Professor M. Brinton Lykes*

This project examines the nature and forms of reparation for women survivors of sexual violence during the 36-year long armed conflict in Guatemala, within a context of ongoing structural impunity, militarism and gender-based violence. The project aims to bring new understandings of gender and reparations in the aftermath of truth-telling processes through an examination of the implementation of the National Reparations Program in Guatemala from the standpoint of women survivors of sexual violence during the armed conflict.

**Creative Resources in Conflict and Post Conflict Contexts**

*Led by Professor M. Brinton Lykes and York U. Professor Alison Crosby*

This project explores the transformative potential of creative methodologies, including the creative arts (drawing, collage, storytelling), embodied practices (massage, human sculptures, role plays, theatre), and beliefs and practices from the Mayan cosmovision (ceremonies and rituals), in psychosocial and feminist accompaniment processes that seek to liberate the potential of Mayan women in Guatemala to act on their own behalf as protagonists of their lives.
The Center’s Migration and Human Rights Project (MHRP), an umbrella project with several components, had another productive year of cutting edge interdisciplinary research and educational tools to support the human rights of vulnerable groups of immigrant communities, both here in greater Boston and beyond. Below is a brief synopsis of this year’s activities; more in-depth information may be found in the 2015-2016 MHRP annual report online at www.bc.edu/centers/humanrights/news/newsletter

The project team has worked hard this past year and has had many accomplishments to celebrate, however the realities of a world where the human rights of migrants are continually under siege are a continual reminder of work that still needs to be done. The number of displaced people fleeing violence, oppression, poverty, and, increasingly, the effects of climate change continues to increase to unprecedented levels. Over 65 million people worldwide have been forced to leave their homes and families for an uncertain fate. As the bodies of children have washed up on the shores of the Mediterranean in the public eye, governments across the globe have struggled to conceive of and operationalize humane, effective responses. In the US, political debate over immigration has veered into absurd talk of a new wall and mass deportations, while President Obama’s Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) program which would have provided protection from deportation to as many as five million undocumented immigrants and allowed them to legally work in the United States, has been blocked with the recent tie vote by the Supreme Court. Their fate remains in a precarious, anxiety-ridden limbo.

The project’s work, both within the US and internationally, has continued to focus on these and related problems, and the project has actively engaged in a wide range of activities, both theoretical and practical, to address them. Most broadly, the project continued to brainstorm, develop, and publicize our Declaration on the Rights of Expelled and Deported Persons. It
hosted a third working conference in April 2016 about the Declaration, with a focus on modalities of implementation. MHRP co-director Daniel Kanstroom gave several public presentations about the Declaration this past year, including presentations at New York University, Columbia University, the University of California-Santa Cruz, and the University of New Hampshire. He also participated in a workshop at Harvard Law School, comparing the Declaration to the “Draft Articles on the Expulsion of Aliens,” promulgated by the International Law Commission of the United Nations. The project will continue work in this area in the future.

Also this year, Kanstroom along with MHRP co-director M. Brinton Lykes published their new book, The New Deportations Delirium: Interdisciplinary Responses (NYU Press 2015). They presented it at BC in November 2015, together with BC Professor of History Marilynn Johnson, who presented her book, The New Bostonians: How Immigrants have transformed the Metro Area since the 1960s (University of Massachusetts Press 2015).

The project’s trailblazing legal work in support of the rights of deported people also continued, supported by its able Supervising Attorney, Aimee Mayer-Salins, and Daniel Kanstroom. The project is immensely grateful to Aimee for her diligent and excellent legal work, her organizational talents, supervisory skills, and good humor that helped with its legal projects during this past year, and wishes her the best as she transitions to private practice over the summer of 2016. It is hoped and expected that she will continue to work with us on some of the cases she has handled this year and on new challenges that will inevitably arise.

Also this past year, MHRP co-director M. Brinton Lykes continued to coordinate and participate in our community-based participatory and action research in the US and Guatemala. We have developed new additions to our “Know Your Rights (KYR) Tool Kit” to help address the fact that deportation still threatens undocumented and mixed-status families with separation, and graduation rates for foreign-born students remain low. The Tool Kit bundles rights and legal literacy content into an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) resource. The Tool Kit now features four modules in total: Basic Human Rights; Knowing Your Rights in a Car Stop; Protecting Families in Cases of Separation; and Understanding the US School System, and is available on our website along with important introductory guidance at www.bc.edu/centers/humanrights/resources/esol-kyr-toolkit.

The MHRP’s ongoing project in the Quiché region of Guatemala has also continued its work on access to legal services, assistance in locating relatives caught in the US detention system, and pastoral work with adults and children whose family members have migrated to the US or other places. Two of our Guatemalan partners, Luisa Hernández Simaj and José Daniel Chich González, visited Boston this past year and described their work in a series of public lectures, including one at BC.
The Center and the Instituto de Investigación y Proyección Globales y Territoriales (IDGT) of the Rafael Landivar University in Guatemala collaborated on a pilot project with three rural campuses in El Quiché, Quetzaltenango, and Huehuetenango. Teams of students and faculty from each campus partnered with local communities to explore participants’ experiences at the interface of migration, territory and subjectivities through participatory action research processes. A final report on this initiative will be published in the fall.

As part of the Ethical Issues Raised By the Plight Of Refugees and Other Displaced Persons project of the MHRP, departing Center Director David Hollenbach, S.J. completed his stay at the Library of Congress as Maguire Chair in Ethics and American History in January 2016. He presented a lecture at the Library of Congress on April 24 summarizing his research, entitled “Humanity in Crisis: Ethical Responsibilities to People Displaced by War.” The television outlet PBS covered the lecture and interviewed Hollenbach in their program Religion and Ethics Newsweekly, in a segment titled “Ethical Obligations to Displaced People” broadcast on May 20, 2016. Hollenbach’s book on the ethics of responses to refugees is nearing completion and he presented some of its themes at a July 2016 conference at the Center for Migration Studies in New York. This conference is in preparation for the UN Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants in September 2016.

Hollenbach’s work with Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) also continued when he helped launch JRS’s Mercy in Motion project with a December 2015 lecture titled “A Spirituality of Accompaniment: What We Can Learn from the Jesuit Refugee Service.” He also published “A Future beyond Borders: Reimagining the Nation State and the Church” in a book exploring the theological approaches to migration, Living with(out) Borders: Catholic Theological Ethics on the Migrations of Peoples, edited by Agnes Brazal and Maria Teresa Dávila.

Center Research Professor Maryanne Loughry traveled to South Africa for consultations with JRS. Boston College School of Social Work interns have been placed at their offices there, and JRS’ livelihoods program continues to operate with improved efficiency and efficacy after implementing recommendation by Loughry and Center Affiliated Faculty Member Thomas Crea.
The Ignacio Martín-Baró Fund for Mental Health and Human Rights (MBF) continued as a special partner project of the Center in 2015-2016. The MBF was founded over 25 years ago when Ignacio Martín-Baró, S.J., one of six Jesuits who along with two of their companions were murdered at the University of Central America in El Salvador by a squadron of the US-backed military government of El Salvador.

The MBF once again this year funded small grassroots projects around the world that realize community-based human rights work at the nexus of social psychology. The grants support progressive, locally-oriented groups that are challenging institutional repression and confronting the mental health consequences of violence and injustice in their communities. Through these grants the MBF continues to give living embodiment to Fr. Ignacio’s philosophy, to “construct a new person in a new society.” The result is a fostering of psychological well-being, social consciousness, and progressive social change in communities affected by structural violence and social injustice around the world.

The MBF raised an additional $21,000 for grantmaking this year at its annual spring Bowl-a-thon held in April 2016 in Cambridge, MA.

Below is a snapshot of the nine projects that were supported by the Fund in 2016. More information may be found in the MBF’s annual newsletter, available on its website at www.martinbarofund.org.
CEDECOT, Chiapas, Mexico: The Center of Experimentation for Tzeltal Community Development (CEDECOT) in Chiapas, Mexico aims to promote alternative development and social justice among a poor and marginalized population, where women, mostly illiterate, have historically been oppressed and disempowered. Specific projects address developing appropriate technology such as stoves, ovens, solar dryers, community economics like bread production, processing and conserving food, nutrition, and food security promotion of home gardens, raising chickens, etc. Through their grant, CEDECOT will conduct a series of workshops in each of the four communities they serve, focusing on gender equality, human and women’s rights, social leadership skills, and the exchange of experiences.

COFAMIDE, El Salvador: El Comité de Familiares de Migrantes Fallecidos y Desaparecidos (COFAMIDE), El Salvador, is a grassroots organization founded and led by family members of individuals who have disappeared or perished along the journey from El Salvador to the U.S. Each year, thousands of migrants face extortion, trafficking, assault, and other human rights violations along the journey. As victims supporting victims, the group’s leadership team will also hold their own self-care workshops to help sustain and strengthen the organization. They offer members psychosocial support as well as advocacy and legal training to help them assert their rights domestically and internationally as relatives of disappeared persons.

FAMDEGUA, Guatemala: The Association of Relatives of Detained-Disappeared of Guatemala (FAMDEGUA, in Spanish) is a leading human rights organization in Guatemala that works tirelessly to denounce human rights violations and determine the whereabouts of the many thousands of people disappeared during the country’s civil war. This year, FAMDEGUA will launch a series of workshops for Maya women, relatives of disappeared people in the Alta Verapaz region, in order to create a climate of trust, solidarity, and cooperation both individually and collectively. Alta Verapaz, on a former military base, is where some of the largest mass graves have been uncovered to date in Guatemala. FAMDEGUA has been a key plaintiff in this and many other cases in legal efforts for transitional justice in recent years.

Freedom Summer Palestine, Palestine: The Freedom Summer project offers the youth of the Aida refugee camp a range of cultural and educational activities designed to enhance their creativity and leadership abilities in their community. A site of past conflicts with Israeli authorities, the camp’s youth have suffered from human rights violations and lack of opportunity. Artistic and cultural training includes photography, music and dance, theater, and creative writing activities “to reveal the true image” of the Palestinian community in its struggle for human rights. The youth will be involved in documentation of the impact of the separation wall on residents of the camp, and will coordinate their activities with others in the community opposing the wall.

Kyabaan Association, Inc., Philippines: Kyabaan works to support indigenous youth in the southernmost island of the Philippines, Mindanao, a site where US-assisted counter-terrorism operations have resulted in “extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, torture and community dislocations.” Those who suffer the most are children, driven into the “hinterlands” by the fighting and stripped of their daily routines, including schooling. Kyabaan launched a community gardening program, trained teachers and community leaders on how to respond to the effects of military patrols on children, conducted community forums, and arranged medical examinations. This year, they will offer training in barefoot psychology, informed by indigenous spirituality, to teachers and community leaders involved in advocating for protection of the community’s ancestral lands and mineral rights.
Snapshot of Projects Supported by the Martín-Baró Fund in 2016:

**Mobile Expressive Therapies Program • Palestine • $7,000**
With the support of the Martín-Baró Fund, in 2015 the Mobile Expressive Therapies program initiative was able to train 25 kindergarten teachers and counselors in the West Bank to work with students from age seven to twelve with emotional, behavioral, and physical disabilities in refugee camps, schools, and community centers. The Fund’s Expressive Therapy gives ways for the students and their families to relieve stress and anxiety and experience joy while maximizing resilience among the context of an increasingly harsh Israeli occupation that has seen heightened violence, racist rhetoric, and violations of human rights in the past years.

**NOMADESC • Colombia • $6,639**
NOMADESC works to protect and serve the Afro-Colombian community of El Valle de Cauca, Colombia, a population that was the target of paramilitary massacres in 2000. Working to reconstruct the lives of women in this community, next year the initiative will hold memorials for those lost in the massacres, workshops on human rights, psychosocial accompaniment, and recovery of ancestral practices, and facilitate peace talks between the government and the FARC rebels. The dialogue will seek to engage other insurgent groups, pushing for demands of true social transformation and lasting peace in Colombia.

**Project Hajra • Queens, NY • $7,000**
Project Hajra is a Queens-based grassroots mobilization of Muslim women confronting the complex realities of domestic, community, and state sponsored violence. Looking at the intersections of interpersonal and gender violence with economic injustice, the initiative has fostered as growing community of conversation that has spun off satellite groups for economic and gender justice in South and Central Asian communities. It has also launched “Pressured Diamonds: Chai and Conversations” for youth organizing around gender rights, LGBT issues, and opposing state-sponsored violence. The project in 2016 hopes to spread its network to other Queens-based and national organizations against family and state violence.

**Proyecto Buena Semilla • Guatemala • $7,000**
Since 2014, Buena Semilla has held Women’s Circles in five marginalized Mam- and K’iche-Mayan communities in the Western Highlands of Guatemala, giving women a place to face the conditions of poverty, food insecurity, lack of social services, problems with child pregnancy and economic participation, and domestic violence in the region. Providing economic opportunity, cognitive-behavioral therapy, and arts-based activities, the project has helped to empower these communities. The group hosts some 20 circles a year, monthly workshops on leadership, mental and maternal health, and bimonthly workshops on agriculture and handicraft production for household economic and food security.
A brief overview of selected events hosted by the Center during the 2015-2016 academic year. More detailed summaries of the following presentations may be found on the Center’s semi-annual newsletters, available on the Center’s website.

On **September 16, 2015**, the Center hosted a presentation from Center Associate Director Brinton Lykes and BC Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Center Affiliated Faculty Member Ramsay Liem on the current situation in North Korea and South Korea. Liem participated in WomenCrossDMZ, an event for International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament, in which women crossed the Demilitarized Zone between the nations. They walked to call attention to the long-lasting nature of the conflict, serve as a reminder of the families left separated, and emphasize the importance of women’s inclusion in peace summits on the peninsula. Lykes concluded by describing the impact of the walk from an academic perspective, as well as the relevance of the grassroots activism it represented.

On **September 23, 2015**, the Center hosted a presentation from Associate Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service in Australia, Maryanne Loughry, RSM; BC Professor of Social Work Westy Egmont; and BC School of Theology and Ministry student Daniel Corrou, S.J., focusing on the Syrian refugee crisis. Corrou began, and argued that, because of Lebanon’s decision not to place refugees in camps, living situations for refugees as well as aid efforts were improvised. Professor Loughry described the situation in Syria, including the many internally displaced persons, and pushed back against the characterization of the situation as a European refugee crisis, clarifying that most refugees are staying within the Middle East, and that the real crisis is the ongoing conflict. Professor Egmont concluded by arguing that resettlement is a less ideal solution than resolving the conflict generating refugees, and that more needs to be done to meet the needs of refugees overall.

On **October 30, 2015**, BC Professors Shawn McGuffey and Lynn Johnson opened the “Conversations on ‘Race’ and Racism” series, speaking about the challenges they face teaching about race, gender, and class oppression on a predominantly white campus. They found that white students often need to acquire general knowledge and initial awareness of racial issues, whereas students of color are already cognizant, and need a language and a space to express their emotions. They highlighted the role of framing curriculum and information within a social context, and the importance of knowing who the students are who make up the class and what their needs are.

On **October 13, 2015**, the Center, in coordination with Witness for Peace, welcomed Ariel Dacal Díaz, a popular educator from Cuba, to discuss the implications of the historical tension that characterizes the newly reopened US-Cuba relationship. Diaz explained how the conflict arose after Cubans perceived the United States’ attempts to exert political and economic influence over them as exploitative. He identified some of the gains and problems
of the Cuban socialist revolution, and emphasized the importance of an interactive dialogue between the US and Cuba regarding different ways to live and structure society going forward, rather than either side imposing its own vision on the other.

On November 5, 2015, Boston College Law School Dean Vincent Rougeau reflected on his experiences as an African-American and as a dean, and how those experiences have shaped his perspective in his work. He highlighted that generosity of spirit and a willingness to denounce one singular group’s way of being as “the correct one” allows for the entrance of new members to a more inclusive community. Additionally, Rougeau expressed that communities and institutions that do not foreground issues of inclusion have the effect of empowering one group of people over another, even without purposefully or explicitly excluding groups. He cited the Law School’s introduction of an Assistant Dean for External Relations, Diversity, and Inclusion as a major step towards creating an inclusive community, stating that this signals to students and the broader community that BC is aware of these issues, and is actively searching for solutions.

On November 16, 2015, the Center hosted a book launch and discussion for BC Professor of History Marilynn Johnson and her book *The New Bostonians: How Immigrants Have Transformed the Metro Area since the 1960s*, as well as for the Center’s Associate Directors Brinton Lykes and Dan Kanstroom, coeditors of *The New Deportations Delirium: Interdisciplinary Responses*. In her book, Johnson examines the Immigration Act of 1965 and the ways in which the influx of immigrants from Asia, Africa, and Latin America have greatly changed and contributed to the renaissance of the Boston area, though they do not always reap the same benefits as previous immigrant groups did. Lykes and Kanstroom’s
book provides an exposition of a conversation between judges, psychologists, lawyers, social workers, educators and more on the controversial realities of migrant deportation; a problematic example is the fact that many deportees who have in the United States their entire lives are sent “back home” to impoverished nations and communities to which they may share no linguistic, cultural, or familial ties.

On **December 5, 2015**, Alice McIntyre, Professor of Elementary Education at Hellenic College, concluded the “Conversations on ‘Race’ and Racism” series with her talk on white privilege and institutional change. McIntyre spoke from her own experience as a teacher and activist, which started after the Boston busing crisis of the 1970s. She warns that people who do not recognize their own privilege, or their participation in “white talk,” which avoids self-criticism among white people in particular, inhibit productive conversations about race. Center Associate Director M. Brinton Lykes then reminded the panel that, just as with the Zulu concept of “ubuntu” suggests, we as individuals co-create each other. The pair called for coherency in the definition and understanding of structural racism, and the importance of creating new systems while actively protesting the current one’s shortcomings.

On **January 27, 2016**, the Center welcomed Claudia Escobar, a former Guatemalan judge and current Scholar at Risk at Harvard University’s Radcliffe Institute. She addressed the struggle in Guatemala for judicial independence. Outlining the consistent human rights violations, shortage of education, corruption, inequity, and impunity that plagues Guatemalan society, Escobar went on to explain her own encounter with corrupt politicians.
who tried to bribe her, and how all these phenomena fit together. When she publicly denounced the bribe attempt, she received threats and she and her family were forced to seek refuge in the United States. She went on to describe how UN intervention through the group CICIG, as well as civil society participation which helped remove the president and vice president amidst corruption charges, offers some hope to make judicial appointments in Guatemala more transparent, fighting against the influence of drug lords, coopted politicians, and other criminal elements.

On February 9, 2016, Gustavo Morello, S.J., Assistant Professor of Sociology, hosted a talk about his new book: The Catholic Church and Argentina’s Dirty War. He described the August 1976 kidnapping and subsequent torture of Father James Weeks and five seminarians by the Argentinian government and explored the role of the Catholic Church and its complacency or collaboration with state terrorism against Catholic social actors and members of the clergy between 1976-1983. Morello researched how the Church used Catholic rhetoric to justify violence and rationalize silence. He argued the differing attitudes of Catholics in the face of state terrorism were related to the ways in which believers came to terms with the religious reformation of the Argentinian society in the second half of the 20th century. As such, he categorized Catholics into three categories: Anti-Secular, Institutional, or Committed Catholics, depending on how they saw the proper relationship between church and state, which in turn informed how they framed the state violence being committed.

On April 12, 2016, the Center welcomed Luisa Hernández Simaj and José Daniel Chich to Boston College from the Office for Research and Promotion of the Rights of the Migrant in the Parish of the Holy Spirit in Zacualpa, El Quiché, Guatemala. The two longtime staff members presented on their accompaniment work with people affected by migration there over the past seven years, having attended to some 452 cases since the project’s inception.
Awards and Honors

David Hollenbach, S.J.

**Civitas Dei Medal**, Villanova University, 2015


Books

Daniel Kanstroom and M. Brinton Lykes (eds.)


Electronic Media

David Hollenbach, S.J.


Encyclopedia Entries

Daniel Kanstroom


Final Reports

M. Brinton Lykes


“Migrant Families and Language: ‘...the person who speaks two languages has double the value’. Las familias migrante y el lenguaje: ‘...el que habla dos lenguas vale por dos.’” With
Presentations

David Hollenbach, S.J.


Daniel Kanstroom


M. Brinton Lykes


Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

David Hollenbach, S.J.


Daniel Kanstroom


“Human Rights for All is Better Than Citizenship Rights for Some.” EUDO FORUM European University Institute. 2015.


M. Brinton Lykes

“Mayan young women and photovoice: Exposing state violence(s) and gendered migration in rural Guatemala.” With R. Sánchez Ares. Community Psychology in Global Perspective. 2016.


BOOK CHAPTERS/CONTRIBUTIONS

David Hollenbach, S.J.


Daniel Kanstroom and M. Brinton Lykes

“Migration, Detention, and Deportation: Dilemmas and Responses.” In The New Deportations Delirium: Interdisciplinary Responses. 2015.

M. Brinton Lykes

“Community-based and Participatory Action Research: Community psychology collaborations within and across borders.” In Handbook of Community Psychology. 2016.


**Summer Research Grants**

The Center’s Summer Research Grant program assists Boston College students at both the undergraduate and graduate level in various disciplines to pursue research, very often abroad, on topics related to human rights and international justice. The grant recipients submit a report of their findings and present these findings on the BC campus in the subsequent academic year. Here are the recipients of the 2016 awards and their topics of investigation:

- **Omeed Alidadi**, Political Science & Islamic Civilization and Societies, Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences ‘18
  “Stateless in Kuwait: The Bidun and Their Right to Educate”

- **Colleen Melaugh**, Master’s of Theological Studies, School of Theology and Ministry ‘17
  “The Liberative Impact of Microcredit Loans and Small Businesses”

- **Gabriela Távara**, Ph.D. candidate, Applied Developmental and Educational Psychology, Lynch School of Education ‘18
  “What is Left when you are 'Left Behind'? Accompanying Mayan Women whose Family Members have Migrated North”

The 4th annual Kelsey Rennebohm Memorial Fellowship Award:

- **Maya Perlmann**, Master’s of Social Work, School of Social Work ‘17
  “Sudanese Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Jordan: An Assessment of Needs and Resources”

**Seminar**

The Center’s interdisciplinary graduate seminar in human rights includes students from various disciplines across the university, including law, psychology, social work, history, theology and education. This past year saw a record number of applicants for the by permission only seminar, with nearly 40 applicants seeking the 20 available seats in the spring 2016 seminar, which was led by departing Center Director David Hollenbach, S.J. New Center Co-Directors Daniel Kanstroom and M. Brinton Lykes will co-teach the seminar in the spring 2017 semester.
Certificate

The Center continued to administer the Certificate in Interdisciplinary Human Rights to students in BC’s graduate and professional schools. An additional six students earned the certificate by completing requirements in 2016. This year’s recipients are the following:

- **Nicole Cardamone**, Juris Doctor, Law School
- **Alexandra Carroll**, Master of Theological Studies, School of Theology and Ministry
- **Kevin Ferreira**, Ph.D. candidate, Applied Developmental & Educational Psychology, Lynch School of Education
- **Shaun Glaze**, Ph.D. candidate, Applied Developmental & Educational Psychology, Lynch School of Education
- **Wend-Nongdo Justin Ilboudo, S.J.**, Licentiate in Sacred Theology, School of Theology and Ministry
- **Léocadie Lushombo**, Ph.D. candidate, Theological Ethics, Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences

Semester in Practice: International Human Rights Program

This past year the human rights externship program, Semester in Practice: International Human Rights, was once again administered through the law school. Six students completed the spring program, placed at international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as leading Israeli human rights NGO Adalah, and Ecuador for Asylum Access, which represents asylum seekers from all over the world.

On April 12th, the Center welcomed Luisa Hernández Simaj and José Daniel Chich to Boston College from the Office for Research and Promotion of the Rights of the Migrant in the Parish of the Holy Spirit in Zacualpa, El Quiché, Guatemala.
The Center for Human Rights and International Justice is grateful for the generous grants and gifts our donors both named and anonymous. Your commitment to human rights makes it possible for us to continue to work through educational programs, research and advocacy.

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