

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## Weekly Newsletter

### April 2014 – Volume 2, Issue 12

#### Important Reminders

##### Change in Operating Hours

Effective Monday, March 3, 2014, please note, the operational hours for the School of Public Policy and Administration office located in 119 McLaughlin College will be:

**Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:30pm**

**Friday, 9:30am-4:30pm.**

We are pleased to announce that a LAPS Student Advisor is now available at the School of Public Policy & Administration (SPPA) in McLaughlin College on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30am-4:30pm.

While drop-ins and all majors (including non-SPPA majors/minors) are welcome by the Rotating LAPS Advisor, you may request an appointment through the main SPPA Office at [lapssppa@yorku.ca](mailto:lapssppa@yorku.ca).

In your email please include your full name, York student ID number and a brief description of your questions to be addressed. If the rotating advisor will not be able to hold office hours, you will receive an email notification.

#### SPPA Events / News

##### PPAS 4200 Advanced Public Policy Analysis Student Mini-Conference

**April 2, 2014 | 3:30pm-7:30pm | 140 McLaughlin College**

Faculty, students, staff and alumni of SPPA and York University are invited to learn about the exciting research of some of our current senior undergraduate students. Students enrolled in Advanced Public Policy Analysis with Professor Jennifer Dalton during this past academic year had the opportunity to work on extensive original research throughout the duration of the course. This mini-conference will showcase the culmination of their work. Further details on student presentation titles will be forthcoming.

- 3:30pm-4:00pm: Doors open

- 4:00pm-4:05pm: Welcoming remarks with SPPA Director, Professor James Simeon
- 4:05pm-4:50pm: Panel A – Canada's Social Safety Net and Institutional Quality, Chair: Professor Ian Greene
- 4:50pm-5:35pm: Panel B – Law, Justice and Canadian Ideologies, Chair: Professor Jennifer Dalton
- 5:35pm-5:45pm: Refreshment Break
- 5:45pm-6:45pm: Panel C – Economic Policy and Institutional Developments, Chair: Professor Brenda Spotton Visano
- 6:45pm-7:15pm: Panel D – Environmental Policy, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Chair: Professor Bob Drummond
- 7:15pm-7:30pm: Conclusion and Thanks

For further information and to RSVP please contact Prof. Jennifer Dalton ([jedalton@yorku.ca](mailto:jedalton@yorku.ca)).

##### Food Drive for North York Harvest Food Bank



The Centre for Student Success and the York University NOISE Project (The New Opportunities for Innovative Student Engagement) has teamed up to organize a food drive in support of the North York Harvest Food Bank. The food collected through this drive will be provided to individuals and families seeking emergency food assistance, and help address hunger for those individuals living in the Jane & Finch community.

We invite you to participate and contribute to this worthy cause by donating food items for the drive, which runs Monday, March 17th to Friday, April 4th.

**The School of Public Policy and Administration's donation bin is located in 119 McLaughlin College, and will be available Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm and Friday 9:30am-4:30pm for donations.**

All donated amounts collected during this time period will be picked up and delivered to the North York Harvest Food Bank at the completion of the food drive.

Items to donate include:

- Grains, canned fish and meat, canned or dried beans, cooking oil, canned fruit and vegetables, fruit juice
- Cereals, healthy snacks and spreads, baby products such as formula, infant cereals, baby food, diapers, canned or powdered milk, spices and seasonings

We appreciate any contribution that you are able to make to help support the North York Harvest Food Bank.

Currently students in the Practicum course AP/PPAS 4995 6.0 are finishing their placement terms, and after lots of hard work, the results are starting to pay off. We have some early good news to share:

- **Anisa Vangjeli**, graduating student in the Management stream of our Bachelor of Public Administration (BPA) Specialized Honours program received a contract job offer for the position of Junior Strategy Specialist with the Strategy and Integration Branch of the Prevention Office at the Ontario Ministry of Labour;
- and **Reka Tokes** from the Public Administration stream of the Bridging Certificate for Internationally Educated Professionals in Business was the successful candidate in an open competition for the position of Learning Consultant in the Enterprise Services Strategic Business Unit, Talent Development Unit of the Ministry of Government Services.

Congratulations to both Anisa and Reka – we are all very proud of you!

## Seminars

### Refugee Rights Day

**Acknowledging and Advancing Refugee Rights in Canada**

**April 4<sup>th</sup> 2014, 12-2PM, Senior Common Room 140McL**

#### **Panelists:**

- Barbara Jackman, Barrister and Solicitor – Jackman, Nazami and Associates, Toronto
- Loly Rico, President – Canadian Council of Refugees, Toronto; Co-Director – FCJ Refugee Centre, Toronto
- Ken Sandhu, Interim Chairperson – Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ottawa

**Panel Moderator:** Professor James C. Simeon, Director – School of Public Policy and Administration, York University

Refugee Rights Day in Canada is held every year on April 4<sup>th</sup> to mark the day on which the Supreme Court of Canada issued its famous 1985 Singh decision that found

that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects the fundamental rights of refugees.

The Singh decision was one of the first cases that dealt with Section 7 of the Charter that guarantees, “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice.” The Court ruled that “Everyone” means all persons in Canada, including, refugees. The Court also ruled that refugee claimants are entitled to an oral hearing according to the principles of fundamental justice and international law.

This year’s distinguished expert panel will consider the current state of refugee rights in Canada. Come join us in acknowledging and recognizing Refugee Rights Day in Canada!

Co-sponsored by McLaughlin, Master’s Office, Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS) and School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA)

Everyone welcome, light refreshments provided. For further information, please contact Lorraine Myrie at x33825 or [lmurie@yorku.ca](mailto:lmurie@yorku.ca).

### Building Solidarity with Honduras Tour: Peoples’ Rights over Corporate Rights

Prominent Honduran human rights activist **Bertha Oliva**, general coordinator of the **Committee of Relatives of the Disappeared and Detained in Honduras (COFADEH)**, will be speaking in Toronto, Six Nations, Ottawa and Montreal the week of April 7 to 11, 2014

**Monday April 7, 12:30-2:30PM, McLaughlin College, Senior Common Room 140.**

Bertha will share first-hand accounts of deteriorating human rights in Honduras, militarization of the Central American country and its political crisis since the controversial November 2013 elections. She will report on the aggressive privatization and extraction of natural resources, and how that contributes to social conflict.

Violence and corruption in Honduras have reached an all-time high: 32 journalists have been murdered since 2009. According to “Honduras: Journalism in the Shadow of Impunity,” a recent report by PEN Canada, PEN International, and the International Human Rights Program at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Law, much of this violence is carried out by the state itself and its corrupt police force. Transparency International cites

Honduras as the most corrupt country in Central America and one of the most corrupt in the world.

The Canada-Honduras Free trade Agreement was signed on November 5 2013, despite political repression, increased militarization and controversial Canadian investments. Furthermore, the process of negotiating this agreement lacked transparency. For example, its official Environmental Impact Assessment, released in October, omitted any assessment of Canadian investments in Honduras – because this data is considered confidential.

Bertha Oliva's solidarity tour in Canada hopes to spark debate about the need to prioritize human rights and promote rights-based development, as opposed to considering only trade as a solution to the challenges facing people in the global south.

Organized by McLaughlin College, the Centre for Research on Latin American and the Caribbean (CERLAC), York University's Equity Department and the Centre for Human Rights. Everyone welcome, light refreshments provided. For further information, please contact Lorraine Myrie at x33825 or [lmyrie@yorku.ca](mailto:lmyrie@yorku.ca).

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### **April Activities at the Career Centre**

The Career Centre is pleased to provide you with the calendar of activities for the month of April 2014, please refer to our [online calendar](#).

**Summer Job Search** – Students looking to increase their chances of finding a summer job are invited to drop into the [YMCA's Summer Jobs Service](#) on Tuesday, April 8 and Thursday, April 24 from 1:30-3:30pm in 205 McLaughlin College. The YMCA Summer Jobs Service helps students connect with employers in the GTA for diverse summer opportunities. Students who are between the ages of 15 – 30, intending to return to school in the fall, and eligible to work in Canada (S.I.N. or work permit) are invited to drop-into this session and register with the Y. Students can browse through a list of job opportunities, fill out an application form and leave their resumé to apply for the positions of their choosing. Students may also wish to register for the Career Centre's [Putting Job Search Strategies into Action workshop](#) to assist them in succeeding in securing a great summer job. Students interested in a career in visual arts are invited to log into the [Career Conversations Webinar with Ingrid Chu, Writer & Curator, in New York City](#) on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. During this online interview, Ingrid Chu, York alumna, will share her personal story and how her career path took her from graduation to starting up a non-profit commissioning organization in New York. Ingrid will answer students' questions and share tips about following a career path in visual arts and living and

working in the United States. [Further Education](#) – April is the last chance, until September, for students to attend our Further Education workshop series. These five, highly targeted, 1-hour workshops, are designed to address the unique issues and concerns that students might have about their applications at each stage of the process. After attending these workshops, students will be well on their way to developing strong, persuasive application packages for the next steps of their education.

[Hire a York student for a 4, 8, 12 or 16 months](#) - You know first-hand the talent here at York - innovative skills, fresh ideas and exposure to the latest practices! York's [internships and co-op](#) include a number of programs in Accounting, Business & Public Administration, Computer Science & Information Technology, Engineering, Human Resources, and Science. If you have a relationship with an organization or know of a York alumna/us who would be interested in hiring a York intern or co-op student, please let me know. We will reach out to them with information about our programs and the myriad benefits of hiring a York student.

[TASTE](#) - York alumni who have graduated from Criminology, Marketing, Political Science, Finance, Accounting, Law, Women's Studies, Communication & Culture, Design, Environmental Studies, English, and Media Studies, have expressed interest in Taking A Student To Eat (TASTE) for a bite-sized mentoring opportunity. These [TASTE](#) lunches are a great way for students to learn about their career of interest from someone who is thriving in that field. Please share this unique opportunity with students and if you know an alumna/us who might be interested in sharing their career story, please encourage them to take part in TASTE!

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### **Canada: Place, Space and the Politics of Identity**

#### **A Graduate Student Conference, April 4 2014**

On behalf of the Director to the Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, we cordially invite you to attend the first interdisciplinary graduate student conference, themed "Canada: Place, Space, and the Politics of Identity" on **Friday, April 4, 2014 from 8:30am-5:00pm**, in Kaneff Tower.

The conference will feature presentations and panels by students from various visiting English, Visual Arts, History, Theatre and Performance Studies, Music and Political Science programs; as well as York University students from LAPS and Fine Arts. In lieu of a keynote speaker, there will be a keynote roundtable currently featuring Drs. David T. McNab and Leslie Sanders. The conference

program is attached to this e-mail for your reference. The conference CFP is also available at the conference site ([www.robartsconference.wordpress.com](http://www.robartsconference.wordpress.com)).

If you are a Faculty member interested in chairing a panel, please e-mail [Mario D'Agostino](mailto:Mario.D'Agostino) with the particular session name and we will add you to the program.

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### **2014 Cadario Lecture featuring Robert D. Putnam**

#### **"The Widening Opportunity Gap: Growing up rich and growing up poor in America today"**

On **April 7**, the School of Public Policy & Governance (University of Toronto) will host Robert D. Putnam in the Annual Cadario Lecture.

Robert D. Putnam is the Peter and Isabel Malkin Professor of Public Policy at Harvard, and the author of *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*, and more recently *Better Together: Restoring the American Community*, a study of promising new forms of social connectedness. His previous book, *Making Democracy Work*, was praised by the Economist as "a great work of social science, worthy to rank alongside de Tocqueville, Pareto and Weber."

The Hon. Senator Hugh Segal, Master-elect, Massey College, will respond to Prof. Putnam's address. Professor Carolyn Hughes Tuohy, Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Senior Fellow, SPPG, will moderate.

**When:** Monday April 7 from 5:30-7 pm

**Where:** MacMillan Theatre, 80 Queen's Park

**Tickets:** \$20 General, \$10 UofT affiliated, Free for UofT students

**Register here:** <http://cadarioputnam.eventbrite.ca>

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### **Dr. Ben Bernanke to Address the Economic Club of Canada**

A discussion with Dr. Bernanke (Former Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System): 8 Years of Crisis Management at the Federal Reserve and the Way Forward.

**Tuesday April 22 2014, 11:45am-1:30pm. The Sheraton Centre, Grand Ballroom, 123 Queen Street West**

\$150 Individual with tables of 10 available. Lunch will be served. Advance registration is required, numbers are

limited. To purchase tickets online or download PDF registration form visit [www.economicclub.ca](http://www.economicclub.ca)

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### **Why can't politics solve Canada's problems?**

I'll bet a tart reply is at the tip of your tongue. But you're not a Member of Parliament. They're the ones who craft the laws, direct the dollars, and pledge the loyalty. So why is their respect, popularity and usefulness so low? How did one of the world's most functional democracies go so wrong?

Alison Loat and Michael MacMillan, co-founders of the think tank, Samara, interviewed 80 former MPs and came up with some surprising observations about how politics is practiced in Canada.

Their new book, *Tragedy in the Commons*, asks: "What exactly do we want our Members of Parliament to be doing?"

Alison Loat and Michael MacMillan will speak at the Ramsay Breakfast on Tuesday, May 6. So please join us and in doing so, vote to get to the bottom of what's wrong at the top.

**When:** Tuesday, May 6, 2014

**Breakfast:** 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

**Food for Thought:** 8:00 a.m. - 8:40 a.m.

**Questions & Answers:** 8:40 a.m.

**Done and Gone:** 8:59 a.m.

**Where:** The University Club - 380 University Avenue, Toronto

**Price:** \$60.00 +hst and includes your copy of "Tragedy in the Commons"

Tables of 10 also available for \$600 +hst and include 10 copies of "Tragedy in the Commons"

To register, please click on the registration link below. If you register and find you can't attend, please give us 48 hours notice in advance, or unhappily, your payment will have to stick. To book your tickets, click [here](#).

## **Call for Papers / Proposals**

### **Policy & Politics Conference 2014**

The challenges of leadership and collaboration in the 21st Century

Bristol Marriot Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol

16th-17th September 2014

**Call for papers deadline May 31, 2014:**

The recent global financial crisis and associated austerity measures have led to a reconfiguration of the role of the state and a fundamental reshaping in the design and delivery of public services.

State and non-state actors are struggling to cope with the scale of change, the speed with which adjustments are being made and managing a range of 'wicked issues' in the absence of necessary resources. In this uncertain environment, policy issues and objectives are often ill-defined, constantly shifting and lack clear direction. There is also huge variability in the coping strategies and creative responses being enacted by public leaders in different contexts.

Partnerships, co-production and networks have been viewed as an antidote to the 'ungovernability' of complex issues in public and social policy. However, collaborative governance is also fraught with difficulties and pitfalls and raise questions about legitimacy, accountability and social justice. Within this context, the 2014 conference seeks to address questions around the themes of leadership and collaboration. We ask participants to interpret this call broadly but some key questions might include:

- What scope is there for creative leadership in contemporary policy and politics?
- How can leadership and/or collaboration drive innovation in the design and delivery of public services?
- What capacity do non-state actors have to influence policy and politics?
- What impact can leadership and collaboration have on legitimacy, accountability and social justice in public policy?
- What are the challenges for public leadership and collaboration in a global context?

Papers are invited in any areas of public or social policy. In writing their papers authors are re-requested to reflect on the conference theme.

Click [here](#) for conference details and to submit an abstract.

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### **York University's Centre for Refugee Studies: 9th Annual Student Conference**

**May 3-4, 2014**

At COSTI Immigrant Services, 760 College Street,  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6G 1C4

**Neither Here Nor There: Refugees, Forced Migration,  
and the Landscapes of Displacement**

This event offers graduate and upper year undergraduate students from various disciplines, as well as researchers and practitioners with a keen interest in migration and refugee issues, an opportunity to present and discuss research and other works with like-minded individuals in a collegial, supportive, and inclusive setting.

Refugees and forced migrants navigate a tumultuous series of landscapes—both physical and abstract—throughout their long, dramatic and uncertain journeys. Whether travelling from home to camp (and beyond), from legal protection to vulnerability, or from familiar social spaces to new and chaotic networks of relations, refugees and forced migrants act and are acted upon within complex constellations of power and agency. Studying and representing these complexities can be challenging for refugees, aid workers, and academics alike. In the course of these various passages, refugees frequently find themselves in the spaces "in between"—difficult to define, conceptually challenging, and often perilously vulnerable to exploitation.

This conference aims to use the multiple, rich understandings of the term "landscape" as a conceptual launch-pad from which to explore the many facets of forced migration. Through a sharing of research, knowledge, and experience from multiple perspectives, we hope to contribute a fresh voice to the understanding of global forced migration.

A selection of strong papers submitted to the conference will be considered for publication in a peer-reviewed CRS Student Caucus publication. If you are interested in having your submission considered for publication, please indicate this in your abstract submission. Only the best submissions from the conference will be considered for inclusion in this exciting inaugural publication.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:** Individuals or groups wishing to participate in the conference **MUST** submit a 250-word abstract **by April 15th, 2014** (both for Canadian and international submissions). Presenters who wish to be considered for publication in the CRS Student Caucus publication must send their completed papers to [crsstudentconference@gmail.com](mailto:crsstudentconference@gmail.com) by May 2nd, 2014.

For more information about presenting at the conference please contact [crsstudentconference@gmail.com](mailto:crsstudentconference@gmail.com) or you can visit [www.yorku.ca/crs](http://www.yorku.ca/crs).

For more information about registering for the conference and event details, please refer to our website <http://crsstudents.wordpress.com/>

## Contests

### Innovative 'IDeAs' wanted for making Ontario more accessible

#### **Innovative Designs for Accessibility (IDeA) competition**

York University students, along with students from other Ontario universities, are being challenged to put their creative minds to work to develop solutions that will make the world more accessible for persons with disabilities, including new ideas for devices, software, architectural design, awareness campaigns or policies.

[The Innovative Designs for Accessibility \(IDeA\) competition](#) is an initiative organized by the Council of Ontario Universities (COU), in partnership with the Government of Ontario. The province-wide competition is being overseen by the IDeA Working Group, comprised of representatives from engineering and design Faculties at several Ontario universities.

Students will vie for \$3,000 in prizes, with entries that must address barriers to accessibility in five categories: attitudinal, physical/structural, information and communications, technological, and systemic. The 2013-2014 IDeA Competition features a bonus prize of \$1,500 that will be awarded to the submission that best addresses barriers in para-sport and active living.

York students can find rules and registration information here. **The deadline for contest submissions is April 6.** Students interested in submitting their idea or concept should review the rules and criteria, register and then submit the concept by e-mail to [ideas@yorku.ca](mailto:ideas@yorku.ca) by the end of the business on April 6.

Submissions will first be evaluated by York University and then successful candidates will move on to a second round of judging conducted by a panel of experts in the five categories. Evaluations will be based on innovation, cost-effectiveness and practicality. Judges will also place a premium on entries whose format itself demonstrates consideration to accessibility issues.

In the spring, a selection of finalists will be invited by COU to showcase their designs at an event that will bring together key players from industry, academia, government, the investment community, entrepreneurs and students to pursue collaborative opportunities for innovation. More details on this event are forthcoming.

[Visit the IDeAS Rules and Regulations web page](#) for submission guidelines.

### York Region's "Make Rental Happen" Student Challenge

York Region is accepting entries for its Make Rental Happen Student Challenge. Open to all post-secondary students. Share your ideas on how to increase the availability of rental housing for a chance to win both recognition and cash prizes. See the [website](#) for details. **Challenge closes April 11 2014.**

### Gunn Award for Best Historical Essay on International Migration in Canada

**Closes April 30, 2014**

In their effort to preserve the legacy of Canada's immigration history and to support continued excellence in research in Canada on international migration, the International Migration Research Centre (IMRC) and the Canadian Immigration Historical Society (CIHS) are jointly offering a \$1000 award for a fourth-year or graduate-level research paper on the historical evolution of Canadian immigration policy or a historical analysis of Canadian immigration related to specific places, events, or communities.

The Gunn Award for the best historical essay on international migration in Canada is an interdisciplinary award, and will therefore consider papers from any discipline in the social sciences and humanities (e.g. sociology, political science, global studies, history, communication studies, etc.) that addresses international migration in Canada from a historical perspective. The award is national and will accept applications from graduating fourth-year students and graduate students enrolled in Canadian universities, in either French or English, from across the country. The paper will be reviewed by a committee made up of IMRC and CIHS associates/members. The award will be conferred jointly by the IMRC and the CIHS and will be given out annually in the fall.

Submission Format:

- Between 15-20 pages in length
- 1.5 line spacing
- Cover page with name and contact information (name should not appear on subsequent pages)
- Pages numbered
- Submissions in English or French
- Citation in APA or MLA style

Submit 4 copies by mail to the IMRC and 1 electronic submission to [imrc.wlu@gmail.com](mailto:imrc.wlu@gmail.com) by **April 30th**. For

more information about last year's winner, go to <http://imrc.ca/category/gunn-award/>

## Internships

### Council of the Federation Youth Internship

The Council of the Federation Secretariat is now accepting applications from across Canada for its 2014/2015 Youth Internship Program.

The Council of the Federation Youth Internship Program is aimed at encouraging young Canadians to more actively participate in public policy development, public service, government, and political life. It provides young people with hands-on work experience and an opportunity to improve their understanding of how intergovernmental relations operate in the Canadian federation.

Located in Ottawa, this paid internship begins in August 2014 and continues for a period of 12 months. Applicants must be aged 25 and under, have graduated from an undergraduate or graduate program at a recognized university, and be legally able to work in Canada. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in Canadian politics and federalism, and be able to communicate in English and French.

The application deadline is **May 29 2014**.

For more information and to download an application form, please go to [www.councilofthefederation.ca](http://www.councilofthefederation.ca).