

Gilman Foreign Policy in Focus: Refugees & Migration Virtual Seminar Series

Seminar 5: Introduction to Foreign Policy in Focus: Refugees and Migration



Walid Mosaras

Program Coordinator, Every Campus a Refuge

Walid Mosarsaa graduated from Guilford College in 2016 and holds an MA in Religion focused on Peace and Justice Studies from the Earlham School of Religion. He joined the ECAR team early on as a volunteer, later becoming ECAR's inaugural program coordinator through an alumni fellowship with the Center for Principled Problem Solving. An advocate for refugee causes, Walid's passion comes from his background. He was born in Amman, Jordan, the grandson of Palestinian refugees fleeing Jerusalem in the 1948 War. Having witnessed the Second Intifada as a child in the West Bank, and firsthand the Syrian refugee crisis while visiting family in Jordan, Walid has been moved to dedicate his time, energy, and skills to help refugees. Walid is inspired by ECAR's approach to the global refugee crisis, and how it was able to mobilize college communities across the U.S. He also currently sits on the board of Every Campus A Refuge and is an at large member of the Board of Directors of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC).



Bosteya Jama

Ph.D Student at the School of Education at Indiana University

My name is Bosteya Jama. I am a driven and accomplished professional with a passion for Community Services. Throughout my career, I have gained extensive experience in working with the community as a refugee resettlement program for about 8 years. I have the strong work ethic and commitment to excellence, enabling them to deliver exceptional results and inspire those around me. In addition to my professional endeavors, I am dedicated to giving back to the community through various volunteer efforts and community outreach programs. I believe in the power of positive exchange and work tirelessly to make meaningful contributions to the world around us. Outside of my work and volunteering, I enjoy playing soccer and cricket. Whether it's exploring the great outdoors or trying a new recipe in the kitchen, I approach every unique experience with the same energy and enthusiasm that I have brought to my professional life. Overall, I am a well-rounded individual with a rich and diverse set of experiences and interests. I am a great team player and always looking for new and innovative ways to make a positive impact on the world.





Morgan Hoffman

Peace Corps Volunteer, Morocco

Morgan holds a MSW from Boston College, where she served as a counselor and graduate research associate for the Refugee and Immigrant Assistance Center. As an undergraduate student at Indiana University, she founded Room at the Table, a program designed to connect refugee families in and around Bloomington to their neighbors over communal dinners. This program was an opportunity for people to learn and connect with each other across cultural and linguistic divides. Morgan also served as president of Seeking Refuge, a student group on campus that raises awareness of issues related to forced migration. Morgan will be serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco in the fall.



Kiera Berdinner

*Program Officer for Domestic Resettlement, Office of Admissions
Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration at the U.S. Department of State*

Kiera Berdinner is a Program Officer for Domestic Resettlement in PRM's Office of Refugee Admissions, where she oversees agreements with national resettlement agencies to provide for initial reception and placement of refugees admitted to the United States, as well as a technical assistance project in support of community sponsorship. Ms. Berdinner also oversees the strategies and processes for placement of refugees admitted through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. During Operation Allies Welcome, she served as the State Department lead liaison to the interagency Resettlement Branch, as well as being the Placement Lead for OAW. Ms. Berdinner originally joined the Department of State in 2010 as a Presidential Management Fellow, and has served in the Office of the Refugee Coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, and on the policy team in the Refugee Affairs Division of DHS/USCIS. She holds an MPA as well as an MA in International Studies from the University of Washington in Seattle.

