

Jarislowsky Chair Newsletter

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Edited by: Kerri Neil

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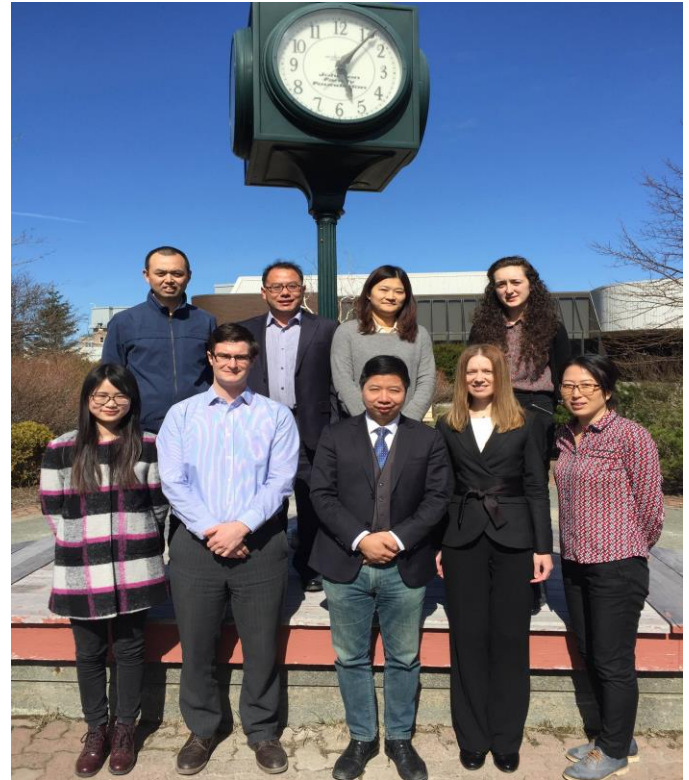
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AS THE STEPHEN JARISLOWSKY CHAIR IN CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION, DR. TONY FANG is dedicated to publishing cutting-edge research on the Canadian and Newfoundland and Labrador economies. Dr. Fang has been especially busy these past few months with projects focused on immigration, an obvious route through which the province can meet, in part, its goal of sustainable population growth.

Tony's Team

Weimin Dai is a visiting scholar from the School of Economics at Anhui University of Finance and Economics in China. Dai's work has focused on economic management, and he is a member of several economic associations in China.

Chi Jia is a visiting scholar from Zhejiang Gongshang University in Hangzhou, China, where she recently completed her PhD in Agricultural Economics Management.

Wang Mengjiao is a visiting graduate student from Kunming University of Science and Technology in China and her research has focused on multinational investment.

Kerri Neil has just completed her BA in Economics and Canadian Studies at Memorial University. She also works with Collaborative Applied Research in Economics (CARE) where she analyzes labour markets within this province.

Dr. Halina Sapeha is a post-doctoral fellow, working jointly with the Jarislowsky Chair on international migration projects and the Harris Centre on the Vital Signs project.

Gabriel Williams received an MA in Global Governance from the University of Waterloo. He has worked in policy research relating to temporary foreign workers, global migration, international students and Canadian Immigration policy.

Zhao Xiaoxia is a visiting scholar from the Shanghai Lixin University in China. She is currently working on a project focused on international trade and income inequality.

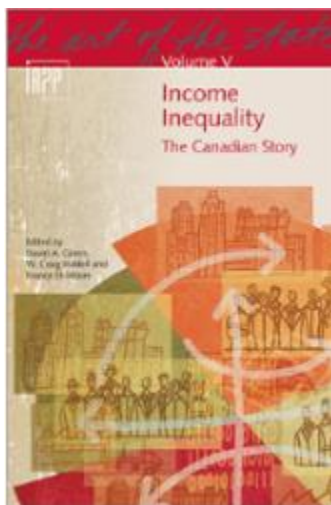
Hiayi Zhao is a visiting scholar from the Shanghai Lixin University of Commerce of China, and is working on a project to improve immigration and integration of Chinese people in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Theme 1

Income Inequality: The Canadian Story

Dr. Tony Fang's work on poverty dynamics of vulnerable groups in Canada has earned him a chapter in the recent Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) publication, ["Income Inequality: The Canadian Story"](#) Editors: David A. Green, W. Craig Riddell, France St-Hilaire. Given the growing concern over income inequality in Canada and elsewhere, it is important to have information on the transitions into and out of poverty, and the extent to which individuals are vulnerable to being persistently trapped in poverty.

Using five panels of the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics spanning the period 1993-2010, this paper documents the long-term trends of poverty dynamics of six vulnerable groups in Canada (Aboriginal persons; new immigrants; lone parents; persons with disabilities; unattached persons aged 45 to 64 living on their own; and youths aged 20 to 24 not in school) and the main determinants of their transitions into and out of poverty status. Potential policy initiatives are also discussed with relevance for each of the different vulnerable groups.



The book was officially launched on February 25th in Ottawa, with Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Jean-Yves Duclos, as guest of honor.

For more information on this publication, please visit <http://store.irpp.org/products/income-inequality-the-canadian-story>

Theme 2

NL Population Project

We are pleased to announce our team has been successful in receiving two projects as part of **The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy & Development's Newfoundland and**

Labrador Population Project. The population project is a multi-year project exploring a broad range of issues that result from the province's shifting demographics, and we are excited to be involved in this first phase.

Dr. Sapeha will be leading the project focused on ["Public Sector Delivery in Labrador."](#) With its sparse, decentralized population, public service delivery has been a challenge for service providers in Labrador. The objective of this project will be to explore best practices that would contribute to providing improved service delivery in this region. Specifically, Dr. Sapeha will develop a service delivery strategy framework, in consultation with service providers, to create a strategy that is useful and effective at serving the local population.

Gabriel Williams will be the lead researcher on the project, ["The Temporary Foreign Worker Program and Employers in Labrador."](#) This project aims to illuminate the experiences of employers using the Temporary Foreign Worker Program in the context of Labrador, where the demand for labour has vastly exceeded the supply, leading to a reliance from some businesses on temporary foreign workers. The objective of the project is to develop a more appropriate regional model in light of changing demographics, and provide recommendations to government and key stakeholders on how to implement such a model.



Theme 3

Pathways to Prosperity Project



Dr. Fang has recently accepted the role as a co-investigator on a Pathways to Prosperity project entitled, ["Warmth of Welcome: Australian, Canadian, and the US Immigration Systems Compared,"](#) along with Morley Gunderson, (University of Toronto), Arthur Sweetman (McMaster University), Ted McDonald (University of New Brunswick), Ather Akbari (St. Mary's University), Yolande Pottie-Sherman (Memorial University), and Carl Lin (Bucknell

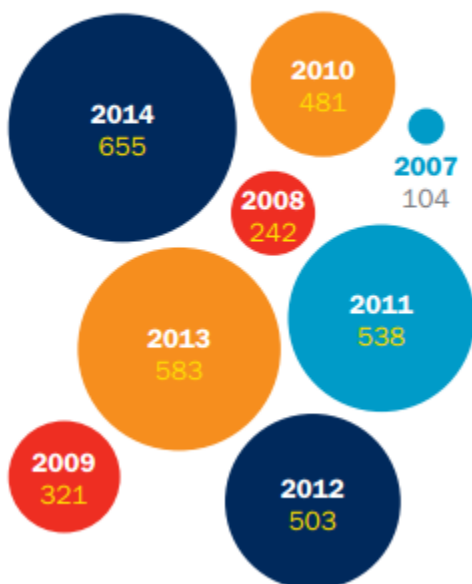
University). Their research will advance the frontier knowledge in international migration and global talent management, as well as in immigration selection and integration policies and their implications. The research team will also investigate the pattern of mixed population flows and identify solutions to enhance the positive while minimizing the negative social and economic impacts. Their findings will shed light on the relative success or failure of particular policy instruments and help improve immigrant selection and integration programs.

Theme 4

Projects in Progress

Kerri Neil will be spending the summer working on her project, ["Retaining Our Recruits – The Employer's Role."](#) With an aging labour force and declining youth population, there is concern regarding the province's future labour supply. To better protect our economy from commodity price volatility, there is also a need to change our business practices from inward to outward focused. Conveniently, solutions to both issues can be found by hiring more immigrants. Previous studies have found employers in this province are hesitant to hire immigrants, but with a changing economy, these studies need to be re-examined. Neil will be revisiting these studies, and through an employer attitude survey, will investigate employer's perceptions of hiring immigrants and what practices may be taken to persuade them to hire more.

Annual Provincial Nominees for immigration and their family members



Gabriel Williams is currently finalizing a paper entitled, ["The Shifting Landscape of Canadian Immigration Policy: A Critical Review of Current and Projected Immigration Policies."](#) In this paper, Williams argues that the immigration policy regime in Canada has shifted markedly since 2001, and is now characterized by increasing temporalization of the immigrant labour force, a high degree of securitization built into legislation, and unprecedented power and authority granted to ministers and the executive level of government. The paper offers expectations and policy considerations for each newcomer group, and recommendations on how to achieve the promises of a new Liberal government based on prior scholarly and policy literature.

Dr. Halina Sapeha is in the process of submitting a paper entitled, ["Migrants' Intention to Move or Stay in Their Initial Destination."](#) The objective of this paper is to find out what factors account for immigrants' intention to stay or leave their initial destination. The insight into such factors could help develop policy measures to deal with potential out-migration especially from the regions that view international migration as a solution to their demographic and economic difficulties. The study uses multinomial logistic regression to estimate the strength of association between migrants' intention to move and immigration category, human capital, economic and social factors.

In continuing her work researching Canadian policy at Ryerson University, Dr. Sapeha, Bryan Evans (Ryerson University) and Adam Welstead (Michigan Technological University) will have their work on ["Instruments, Knowledge and Expertise in Policy Work: A Case Study of Canadian Government and Non-Government Policy Workers"](#) presented at the [24th World Congress of Political Science](#), in Poznan, Poland in July. Based on a survey sent to both government and non-government policy workers in three Canadian provinces, this paper identifies the tools and strategies mobilized by them in the process of constructing policy. In addition, the paper analyzes and compares the formal education and experience of these policy makers. Drawing on this empirical work, the paper explores



several questions which have both theoretical and applied implications for policy work. This includes such questions as: are policy workers knowledge workers? What knowledge is valuable to the policy process? Which are more appropriate to policy work - specialists or generalists? Which tools are most common in policy work? This paper intersects with the theme of this Congress in that it probes questions relating to the asymmetry of power and capacity between, and even within, state and non-state policy work.

Gabriel Williams is currently working on a project entitled, [“Climate Change and Migration: A Literature Review,”](#) where he is analyzing research on the links between migration and climate change. Experts generally agree that changing weather patterns, rising sea levels, increased frequency of weather-related hazards, and competition over natural resources are determinants that affect peoples’ decisions to migrate. Changes in the climate interact with other casual factors, including political, environmental, economic, and social effects at the



macro-level. Micro- level effects, including household adaptive strategies, demographic factors, wealth, diasporic connections and preferences may also directly affect the decision to migrate. Despite the wealth of knowledge and scholarship on the topic, climate migration is plagued with vagueness and contested claims. This project will provide a state of the art review of the literature, including the causes, consequences, major findings, methodologies, data and policies on climate-induced migration. The goals will be to deliver a comprehensive report clarifying the complex issues relating to climate migration, provide a useful resource for future scholarship, and identify best practices in research on the subject.

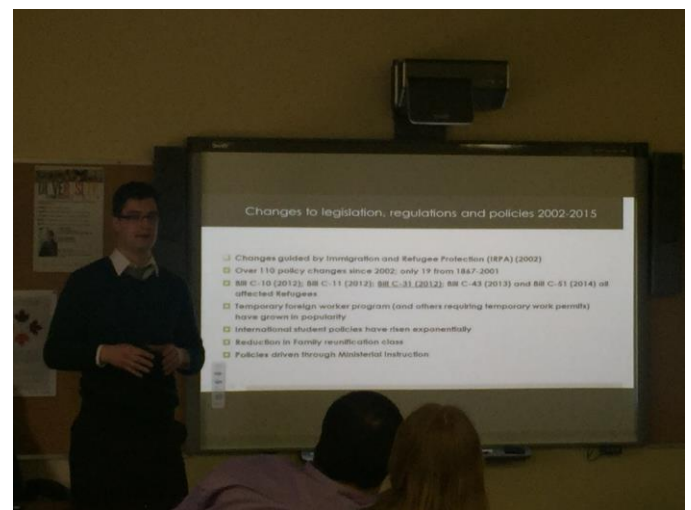
Halina Sapeha and Gabriel Williams are also in the final stages of finishing their paper, entitled, [“Devolution of Immigrant Selection Policy: Comparative Analysis of Subnational Immigration Programmes in Canada and Australia.”](#) The objective of this study is to examine the impact of devolution of immigrant selection policy on initial settlement patterns of economic migrants across Canada and Australia. The paper provides an overview of the trends and the history surrounding subnational/regional immigrant selection programmes, including why and how they came about, their goals and their design. The purpose of the paper is to analyze how successful these initiatives have been in changing initial settlement patterns in both countries.

Theme 5

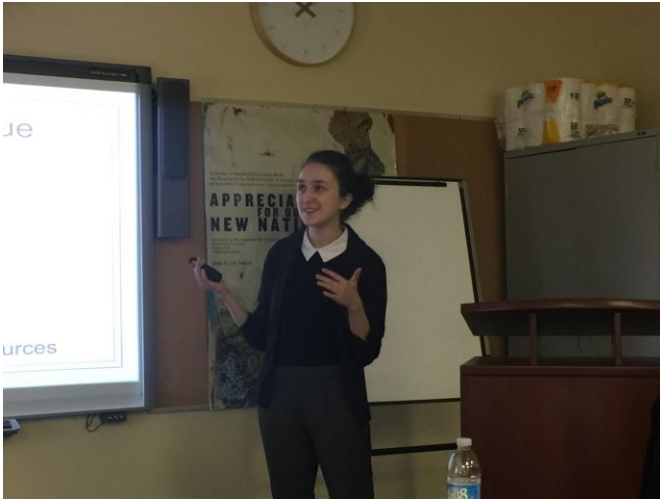
Events in the City

At the [Coordinating Committee for Newcomer Integration](#) meeting at the [Association for New Canadians](#) in St. John’s on Feb. 2nd, Tony’s research team presented their work on immigration in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Gabriel Williams presented [“The Shifting Landscape of Canadian Immigration Policy: A Critical Review of Current and Projected Immigration Policies.”](#) The presentation focused on how the new Liberal government’s proposed changes will affect immigration policies. The presentation provided potential impacts on newcomer groups, the labour market, employers nationally and specifically, employers in Newfoundland and Labrador.



Kerri Neil presented "[Retaining our Recruits: The Employer's Role.](#)" where she discussed the business case for hiring international students, which can help businesses break into the global market and increase non-energy exports in the province. Kerri argued that these are important steps towards diversifying the province's economy.



Dr. Halina Sapeha's presentation, "[Explaining Variation in Immigrant's Satisfaction with their Settlement Experience.](#)" focused on settlement satisfaction as one of the indicators of successful immigration programmes, and examined the link to immigrant retention. Halina's research examines the extent to which economic and social integration factors, human capital and area level factors are associated with immigrants' satisfaction with their settlement experience in



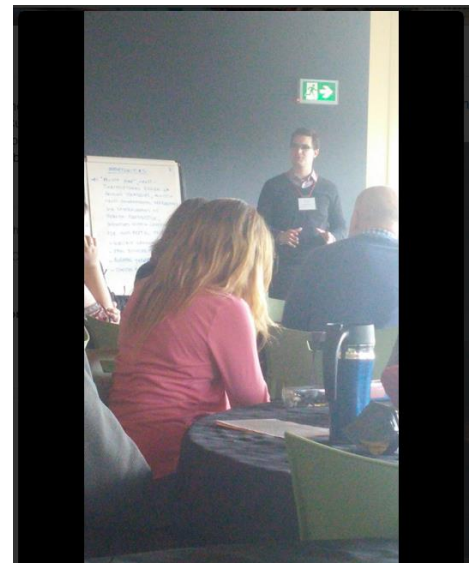
Canada.

On March 21st, several members of Dr. Fang's research team attended the [Association for New Canadians](#) celebration of [Multiculturalism Week](#). The event included a number of activities, including a Multicultural Forum centred on the theme "Everyone has a Story," where newcomers presented their resettlement experiences to attendees. The event was also an opportunity to unveil the ANC's Welcome Home Poster series, which featured portraits of newcomers highlighting their resettlement experiences here in the province.



Dr. Fang's research team was pleased to attend the [Harris Centre's "Northeast Avalon Regional Workshop,"](#) in beautiful Manuels. The workshop covered several themes including economic diversification, food security, and housing and homelessness.

The team was provided an opportunity to discuss the work they are doing on migration in the province, and hear ideas from a variety of public and private sector workers on research they would like to see done on this vital issue.



Theme 6

Awards Received

Dr. Fang was pleased to receive an **Internal Award from Memorial University** for his work on "[The Use and Impact of Job Search Procedures by Equity Groups in Canada](#)" at "A Fine Crowd: A Reception for Achievement in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences."



In his lecture, Michael Clair, Associate Director of Public Policy at The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, focused on the province's demographic profile, the evolution of immigration as a policy issues in Newfoundland and Labrador, and current migration challenges being faced by the province.



Theme 7

Guest Lectures

Besides being the Jarislowky Chair, Dr. Fang is also a professor in the Department of Economics at Memorial University teaching labour market economics to graduate students. Twice this semester, Dr. Fang has had the pleasure to invite guest lecturers to speak to the class on their experiences and work analyzing the Newfoundland and Labrador labour market.

Dr. Rob Greenwood, Executive Director of Public Engagement for Memorial University and of The Leslie Harris Centre of Regional Policy and Development, took the class on a journey through his life and his experiences working on labour market policy issues and through government decision-making processes.

Contact us

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