



2019-2020

Global Engagement Lecture Series
The Theme: Displaced Persons
Call for Proposals (MSU Internal)

Introduction and Goals:

The International Institute seeks to expand student awareness and understanding of the important issues facing societies around the world. To promote this goal, the Institute is seeking to fund a lecture series around the theme of Displaced Persons by offering funding to departments wishing to bring to campus outstanding scholars who can offer thoughtful and timely lectures around this topic.

MSU has 2 priority areas for strategic investment which the theme of displaced persons can be categorically included: 1) addressing disparity of all types: health, food, economic, education, and social & 2) securing our future including issues of food, water, and public health and safety. Around the world, refugees and displaced persons constitute one of the greatest challenges we face in addressing disparities among all people. Often this disparity can be caused by a lack of security brought on by drought and famine, ethnic conflicts, political instability, natural disasters, and/or economic opportunity. Mass migration is challenging our societies and MSU being a leader in global education, research, and outreach plays a key role in fostering an environment to address the issues of mass migration.

Description of Proposals Sought:

The global issues around refugees, internally displaced persons, persons displaced through natural disaster, and mass migrations of persons are consistently within the sphere of public debate and throughout history have constituted major crises. There are both empathetic and practical purposes for examining this issue through a year-long thematic approach to the topic. This call seeks to support departmental efforts to bring speakers on a *diversity* of topics related to the issues of displaced persons. The International Institute seek lecturers who offer insight into the issues and engage students, faculty, and the public on the vast landscape of inquiry regarding mass migration and/or displacement.

The International Institute is soliciting proposals for two different phases of the program which correspond to the 2019 Fall Semester and 2020 Spring Semester. The following sections of this call for proposals will outline the general considerations for diversity which surround the topic, the requirements necessary for submission, the selection criteria for evaluation, the award information, and the application and submission due dates and periods of performance. The International Institute, should an award be offered, will reimburse the department up to \$1,500 for the cost associated with inviting and hosting the lecturer. The \$1,500 will constitute a match as to illustrate departmental commitment to the lecture series. All questions may be directed to Bryan Farrell at bfarrell@international.msstate.edu or 662-325-5001.

Call for Proposals – Funding to Support Lecturers within the Theme of Displaced Persons

General Considerations for Diversity:

1. Types of Displaced Persons:
 - a. Refugees
 - b. Internally Displaced
 - c. Mass Migrants
2. Reasons for Displacement:
 - a. Economic Hardship
 - b. Political and Social Instability
 - c. Conflict
 - d. Natural Disasters
3. Topics:
 - a. Lived Experiences
 - b. Logistics/Considerations of Resettlement Management
 - c. Causal Assessments
 - d. Global Security and/or Regional Stability
 - e. Host Nation/Region Cultural, Economic, and/or Political Dynamics.

Requirements:

1. The visiting lecturer's itinerary should include direct engagement with students in classrooms and an open, public lecture. The event should occur during the 2019-2020 regular session.
2. The person must have the ability to travel to MSU. If the department wishes to bring in an international speaker, they must go through the visiting scholar procedures if a DS-2019 is required.

Application:

1. Applicant must submit a request for funding which includes:
 - a. A cover page with applicant's name, contact information, and home department
 - b. Proposed date of the lecture
 - c. A short summary about the speaker and topic of their lecture (2 pages max)
 - d. A brief description of the media strategy for event promotion (1 page max)
 - e. Statement of financial support from the Department or College (may be a signature line on the application document stating x amount will be pledged to host *Jane Doe*)
2. Application package should be no more than 5 pages including the cover letter and should be sent to Bryan Farrell at bfarrell@international.msstate.edu

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Selection Criteria:

The International Institute will review applications. Applicants will be awarded based on (1) overall diversity of topics presented over the course of the year, (2) the degree of matching funds, and (3) planned level of student classroom engagement for the speaker.

Preference will be given to those with firsthand experience and/or professional and academic work in the area. Any potential politically charged lectures should focus on a well-informed overview of implications based on empirical findings and not be utilized to assert a normative position on displaced persons.

Award Information:

Matching Funds, not to exceed: \$1,500

Number of Awards: 10 (5 per phase)

Application and Submission Information:

Due Date: Phase I due July 15, 2019. Phase II due December 1, 2019.

Period of Performance: Phase I August 15, 2019 to December 15, 2019. Phase II January 15, 2019 to April 15, 2019.