



Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond OBE celebrates her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at the lecture named in her honour

## RSC celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and two other milestones

In 1982 the Refugee Studies Programme (as the Centre was then known) started with a weekly seminar as an off-shoot of a three-year research fellowship given to Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond by the Overseas Development Administration (the precursor to the UK Department for International Development). It rapidly gained momentum as a focal point for the study of refugee issues, into which input from refugees and host government officials was crucial. From the beginning a balance was kept between academic and practitioner so that research undertaken by the Programme was of relevance to all concerned with refugee policies. The Refugee Studies Programme sought to become an international forum of fresh directions in policy and practice.

Fast forward 30 years and the RSC's Anniversary Conference on 'Understanding Global Refugee Policy' in December 2012 continued our tradition of promoting interdisciplinary and collaborative work to offer new and valuable insights for scholars, policymakers and practitioners. James Milner, in a plenary speech, underscored the Centre's aim of bridging the divides between scholarship, policy and practice, citing David Turton, a former director of the Centre, who once argued that 'there is no justification for studying, and attempting to understand, the causes of human suffering if the purpose of one's study is not, ultimately, to find ways of relieving and preventing that suffering'.

The previous month, the RSC held the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture which also focussed on global-level policymaking processes, as Professor Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar, Co-Director of Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation, spoke on 'The architecture of refugee protection'. The lecture coincided with the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond, in whose name the annual event was established, and the happy occasion was marked by a reception and photographic exhibition. Both events served to remind us of the great kindness and sup-

port shown by colleagues and friends of the Centre, and we are very grateful for all the generous comments that we have since received.

A third milestone in the past few months was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Forced Migration Review*. In November 1987 the first issue of a newsletter was published by the RSC in response to a call for a forum for information exchange between researchers and practitioners. That newsletter, originally called the *Refugee Participation Network newsletter*, became *Forced Migration Review*, and is still going strong today. To mark 25 years of debate, learning and advocacy, the FMR Editors are compiling a collection of articles by researchers, policymakers and practitioners who have written for and supported FMR through the years. These articles will reflect on what has changed – or has not changed – in relation to many of the themes covered by FMR and its predecessor RPN.

*Podcasts of the opening and closing plenaries from the RSC 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference and the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture are available to download from their respective event pages at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events). We are commemorating our anniversary through the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Barbara Harrell-Bond Fund: full details on page 2. Read the FMR 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary collection at [www.fmreview.org/25th-anniversary](http://www.fmreview.org/25th-anniversary)*



Front cover of the FMR 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary collection

## Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh awarded IASFM Lisa Gilad Prize

The International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM) has awarded Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh the Lisa Gilad Prize for 'the most innovative and thoughtful contribution to the advancement of refugee studies', 2011-2012. The prize was awarded at the 2013 biennial IASFM meeting in Kolkata in recognition of Elena's article 'The pragmatics of performance: putting "faith" in aid in the Sahrawi refugee camps', published in the Special Issue of the *Journal of Refugee Studies* on Faith-Based Humanitarianism in Contexts of Forced Displacement (vol. 24, issue 3).

## Debating Development

A new blog 'Debating Development' was launched in January 2013, promising an interesting new forum to communicate and discuss research being carried out at the University's Department of International Development, of which the RSC is a part. The blog will feature regular contributions from staff at the RSC; forthcoming posts will include Dr Kirsten McConachie on 'Policies and possibilities on the Thai-Burma Border'.

Visit the blog at <http://blog.qeh.ox.ac.uk/>

## New faces and farewells at the Centre

For over a decade the RSC has endeavoured to raise funds for an endowed post in international refugee and human rights law. In February last year, after raising a total of £750,000, the Social Science Division agreed to make up the remaining amount required. The closing date for applications for the Andrew W Mellon University Lectureship in International Human Rights and Refugee Law – named in honour of our first donor – was on 9 January 2013. Interviews are scheduled for 28 February and it is hoped that the new appointee will take up his/her post in October 2013.

Elsewhere, Tom Scott-Smith and Alexandra Molton joined the RSC in January as Teaching Assistant and Communications Assistant respectively. Jenny Allsop also joined in January as Research Assistant working on the project 'In protracted limbo: transitions to adulthood of former unaccompanied asylum-seeking children'. The position is jointly funded by the Department of Social Policy and Intervention and the RSC. We are currently recruiting for an Assistant to the International Summer School and Conferences Manager.

Finally, we are sad to announce that Dr Nando Sigona has departed after almost five years at the RSC for a new position as Birmingham Fellow at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity, School of



Dr Nando Sigona has joined the University of Birmingham

Social Policy, University of Birmingham, where he will continue his research on statelessness, diasporas and immigration and citizenship regimes in the EU, and on transitions to adulthood of former unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in Europe.

Nando will continue to teach on the MSc in Migration Studies at the University of Oxford and will remain engaged in various projects with researchers at the University. We wish him all the best.

For profiles of all members of staff working at the RSC, visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/people](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/people)

## 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Barbara Harrell-Bond Fund

*Supporting a new generation of research, teaching and practice in refugee studies*

In celebration of the RSC's anniversary, the Centre has launched the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Barbara Harrell-Bond Fund to support the development of the next generation of research, teaching and practice in refugee studies.

The Fund will support four key objectives to which donors can allocate their contributions, helping us to sustain support for the most talented students and practitioners, especially those from the global South, as well as ensuring the continuation and furthering of our efforts to advance refugee issues and develop a global community of academics, policy-makers and practitioners working in the field of forced migration.

The four objectives of the fund are:

- to endow the Annual Harrell-Bond

Lecture in perpetuity

- to endow a full scholarship for the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies
- to fund bursaries for the International Summer School
- to maintain and develop our policy and outreach activities.

It is our strong belief that the ability to study at Oxford, and at the RSC, should not be dependent on a student's personal financial means, but on their academic potential. While the RSC's successes in the last 30 years are many, the challenges currently facing the University as a whole, and the RSC's place within it, are great. In light of unprecedented government cuts, traditional funding sources for student support are in decline, as is research council support for new research and outreach

activity. Much of our work therefore continues to depend on external funding.

**We encourage you to make a contribution to these efforts, which have the potential to bring sustained, long-term benefits to the practice and discipline of refugee studies – and help improve the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people.**

For more information, please visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/about-us/anniversary-fund](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/about-us/anniversary-fund)



## Humanitarian Innovation Project

*Researching the role of technology, innovation and the private sector in refugee protection*

### Project launch

On 15 November 2012 the Humanitarian Innovation Project (HIP) was launched at the Department of International Development. The panel discussion included presentations by Dr Alexander Betts on 'Humanitarian innovation and refugee protection', Louise Bloom on 'Building a humanitarian innovation database', and Dr Naohiko Omata on 'Refugee livelihoods and private sector engagement in Uganda'. The inaugural conference of the Humanitarian Innovation Project was held on 26 November 2012 at St Anne's College with participants from the public, private and NGO sectors.

### HIP Solutions Database

The HIP Solutions Database, [www.oxhip.org/database](http://www.oxhip.org/database), showcases examples of innovations taken from a diverse range of sources, individuals and organisations, with the possibility of use and/or wider diffusion in the humanitarian sector, and will be developed further as the project continues. If you would like to submit any entries to the database, provide feedback or would like to be part of a focus discus-

sion then please contact [hiproject@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hiproject@qeh.ox.ac.uk).

### Latest news

Our medium-term strategy 2013-2014 and newsletter are now available to download from the HIP website. We will be starting fieldwork in Uganda this month in three sites. Keep up-to-date with the progress of our work through our blog, regular news items and publications at [www.oxhip.org](http://www.oxhip.org). You can also write to us with any comments or thoughts you would like to share with the project at [hiproject@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hiproject@qeh.ox.ac.uk).

### Publications

Betts, A., Bloom, L. and Omata, N. (2012) [Humanitarian innovation and refugee protection](#), RSC Working Paper.

Omata, N. (2012) [Refugee livelihoods and the private sector: Ugandan case study](#), RSC Working Paper.

*For more information, visit the project website at [www.oxhip.org](http://www.oxhip.org)*



*Ambassador Swing speaking at the seminar*

## Special seminar by Ambassador Swing

Ambassador William Lacy Swing, Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), gave a special lecture for the RSC on 'Migration consequences of complex crises' at St Anne's College on 15 October 2012, reflecting upon the nuanced and complex relationship between crises and mobility.

*A podcast of the event is available to download from the RSC website at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/migration-consequences-complex-crises](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/migration-consequences-complex-crises)*

## Refuge from inhumanity

On 11-12 February 2013 an expert conference held jointly with the Refugee Law Initiative (London) – and hosted by All Souls College (Oxford) – took place, breaking new ground by exploring the role of international humanitarian law (IHL) in the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers.

A high-level event, it brought together exciting new contributions from more than twenty leading specialists in the fields of IHL and refugee law – including experts from the ICRC and UNHCR – to take stock of recent developments in law and practice, and to cultivate new approaches to the topic.

It is intended that an edited volume in the 'International Refugee Law' book series based on the conference proceedings will be published later in 2013.

*For more information about the event and to download a podcast of one of the panel sessions, visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/refuge-from-inhumanity-conference](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/refuge-from-inhumanity-conference)*

## Forthcoming events



15-16 March 2013

[Short Course – Palestine refugees and international law](#)

This two-day course places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime.

22-23 March 2013

[International Conference – Development-induced displacement and resettlement: bridging research and practice, filling the knowledge gaps](#)

This conference aims to revive discussions on DIDR and to facilitate critical engagement with the current impasse.

11-12 April 2013

[International Symposium – Within and beyond citizenship: lived experiences of contemporary membership](#)

This is the first of two symposia which aim to investigate the relationship between legal status, rights and belonging.

30 April 2013

[Special Seminar – Rapid responses to emergencies](#)

The RSC welcomes Andrew Douglas Bates, the founder and ex-chair of MapAction, to deliver a special seminar.

8 May 2013

[Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture – Tracks across sand: the dispossession of the ̣Khomani San of the southern Kalahari](#)

The RSC welcomes Hugh Brody, anthropologist, filmmaker and writer, to deliver the Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture.

1-19 July 2013

[International Summer School in Forced Migration](#)

Applications are now open for the International Summer School in Forced Migration 2013. Book online today.

*For more information, calls for papers, and to register for events, visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events)*

## Forced Migration Review: Preventing displacement



Front cover of FMR 41: Preventing displacement

Being displaced puts people at a higher risk of being both impoverished and unable to enjoy their human rights. This is worth preventing – though it is important to preserve the possibility of displacement when that is a choice, or indeed a necessity. Some of the articles in this latest issue of FMR look at how to manage situations that might cause displacement so as to make staying a better option, while others look at the legal and institutional context within which all this occurs. FMR 41 is online at [www.fmreview.org/preventing](http://www.fmreview.org/preventing).

This issue also includes a range of articles on other subjects such as North Koreans in China, East Africans adapting to the UK, the Rohingya, slum evictions in Tanzania, the Nansen Initiative, and a new methodology – developed for the World Bank by a study team led by the RSC's Professor Roger Zetter – for assessing the costs and impacts of displacement.

### Forthcoming FMR themes in 2013

- Sexual orientation and gender identity and the protection of forced migrants
- Fragile states and forced migration
- Detention and deportation
- Crisis migration

See [www.fmreview.org/forthcoming](http://www.fmreview.org/forthcoming) for full details.

Keep up to date with FMR issues: sign up for email alerts at [www.fmreview.org/request/alerts](http://www.fmreview.org/request/alerts), email us at [fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

## New books on pastoralism and deportation

Two new books co-edited by RSC staff are now available to order.

*Modern Pastoralism and Conservation: Old Problems, New Challenges*, co-edited by Professor Dawn Chatty, presents new pastoral research from Africa, the Middle East and Asia, addresses the nature and viability of pastoralism in practice and examines current pastoral conditions in diverse locations.

*The Social, Political and Historical Contours of Deportation*, co-edited by Dr Matthew J Gibney, examines the historical, institutional and social dimensions of the relationship between deportation and citizenship in liberal democracies.

For more information about the books and how to order them, visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/latest-books](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/latest-books)



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## World Disasters Report

Professor Roger Zetter edited the latest edition of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) World Disasters Report.

The report focuses on 'forced migration and displacement' and discusses the causes and consequences of forced migration associated with different displacement situations and their impact on the health, dignity and rights of migrants.

Other RSC contributors to the report include Dr Nando Sigona, Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh and Maurice Herson.

Download the report at [www.ifrc.org/publications-and-reports/world-disasters-report](http://www.ifrc.org/publications-and-reports/world-disasters-report)

## Local faith communities and resilience

During 2012 Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh led research on faith-based humanitarianism as part of the Joint Learning Initiative (JLI) on Faith and Local Communities. A scoping survey on 'Local faith communities and the promotion of resilience in humanitarian situations' was identified as a key resource for UNHCR's Dialogue on Faith and Protection held in Geneva, 12-13 December 2012.

Download the scoping survey and accompanying policy note at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications)

## New journal articles

Chatty, D. and Mansour, N. (2012) **Displaced Iraqis: Predicaments and Perceptions in Exile in the Middle East**, *Refugee*, 28 (1): 97-107.

Chatty, D., Mansour, N., Yassin, N. (2013) **Bedouin in Lebanon: Social Discrimination, Political Exclusion and Compromised Health Care**, *Social Science and Medicine*. Advance access.

Omata, N. (2012) **Community Resilience or Shared Destitution? Refugees' Internal Assistance in a Deteriorating Economic Environment**, *Community Development Journal*. Advance access.

Gibney, M. J. (2012) **'A Very Transcendental Power': Denaturalization and the Liberalization of Citizenship in the United Kingdom**, *Political Studies*. Advance access.

## New papers and reports

Jones, W., Soares de Oliveira, R. and Verhoeven, H. (2013) **Africa's illiberal state-builders**, *RSC Working Paper*.

Betts, A. and Jones, W. (2012) **The transnational exile complex: how to think about African diaspora politics**, *RSC Working Paper*.

Bauman, E. and Deardorff Miller, S. (2012) **Comprehensive literature review of Global Public Policy: creating a framework for understanding Global Refugee Policy**, *RSC Working Paper*.

Download at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/working-papers](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/working-papers)