

07 NOVEMBER 2025

CONFERENCE

CARE FOR THOSE UNCARED FOR

Labour, Labourers and Labour Protection

OPENING KEYNOTE

HANNAH LEWIS University of Sheffield

Restoring freedom in hyper-precarious migrant lives

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

PANELS BOOK LAUNCH ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

This international and interdisciplinary conference looks at how migrant workers are seen as a source of labour but not as human beings who provide their labour. Derived from this cognition default, drawing on case studies from several Asian major hubs for labour migration, this conference aims to examine migrant workers' working conditions and labour protection (or the lack of) in order to know how to combine fine-grained academic analysis with evidence-based advocacy.



CNAM 2 rue Conté, 75003 Paris
SALON D'HONNEUR
Gate 39 - Level 1



Programme and registration

<https://careforuncared.sciencesconf.org>



AEGIS
Advancement of
Equality, Gender, and
Inclusion Studies



le cnam



09:00 - 09:15

WELCOME GREETINGS AND REGISTRATION

09:15 - 09:30

OPENING REMARKS

Beatrice Zani (CNRS/LISE), **Isabelle Cockel** (University of Portsmouth), **Magali Croese** (CNAM/LISE)

09:30 - 11:00

OPENING KEYNOTE

Hannah Lewis (University of Sheffield): Restoring Freedom in Hyper-precarious Migrant Lives

11:00 - 13:00

PANEL I

LABOUR, LABOURERS AND THEIR WORKING CONDITIONS: IMMOBILITY IN EVERYDAY PRACTICES

Chair: **Yong Li** (Université de Rouen/DySoLab)
 Discussants : **Ettore Recchi** (Sciences Po/CRIS) and **Camille Schmoll** (EHESS/Géographie-cités)

- **Isabelle Cockel** (University of Portsmouth): Nikah Siri and Temporality: Indonesian Migrant Workers' Intimacy and Mobility in Taiwan,
- **Beatrice Zani** (CNRS/LISE): Precarity at Sea: Migrant Labour, Deregulation, and the Global Fish Supply Chain, CNRS
- **Hsunhui Tseng** (National Cheng Kung University): Work-Life (im)balance: the Precarious Labor of Immigrant Single Mothers in Taiwan
- **Nguyen Thi Than Ha** (National Cheng Kung University): Close the Loop: Labour Migration Legislation and Its Impact on Migrant Workers' Everyday Life in Taiwan

13:00 - 14:30

LUNCH & BOOK LAUNCH

LIVING ACROSS CONNECTIVITY: INTIMACY, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ACTIVISM OF EAST ASIAN MIGRANTS ONLINE AND OFFLINE (ANTHEM PRESS, 2024)

Contributions from (online):

- **Isabelle Cockel** (University of Portsmouth) and **Beatrice Zani** (CNRS/LISE): An Emerging Field: the Fusion and Compression of the Online and Offline Worlds and Migrant Workers' Grassroots Activism
- **Pablo Ampuero Ruiz** (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam): Empowerment, Self-reification and Economic Aspirations through Media among Migrant Workers in Southern China
- **An Huy Tran** (Bielefeld University): Fusing Offline and Online Realities: the Negotiation of Sexualities among Male Vietnamese Migrants in Japan
- **Yong Li** (Université de Rouen/DySoLab): Feminine Digital Entrepreneurship: the E-commerce of Infant Milk Formula among Chinese Migrant Women in France
- **Amélie Keyser-Verreault** (Academia Sinica): Gender, Self-transformation and Digital platforms: Female Taiwanese International Students' Screen-mediated Communication with their Parents

14:30 - 16:00

PANEL II

LABOUR RIGHTS PROTECTION: AGENCY, ADVOCACY AND CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

Chair : **Maxime Quijoux** (CNRS/LISE)
 Discussants : **Gilles Guilleux** (Université Paris Cité/CESSMA) and **Catherine Spieser** (CNRS/LISE)

- **Magali Croese** (CNAM/LISE): Ethical Recruitment of Migrant Workers: Care Strategies across the Foreign Employment Industry in South and Southeast Asia
- **Matthew Anderson** (University of Portsmouth): Power and Empowerment in Garment Supply Chains: An Investigation of Fair Purchasing Practices
- **Chen Lee** (National Taiwan University): Drifting or Rooted? Local Connections of Undocumented Workers in Mountain

16:00 - 17:00

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

TURN RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE: INSIGHTS FROM PRACTITIONERS AND POLICY MAKERS

Facilitator: **Aziz Ahammout**, RHSF (Human Resources Without Borders)

17:00 - 18:00

CONCLUDING REMARKS, PUBLICATION PLAN AND COCKTAIL PARTY

ABSTRACTS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Restoring Freedom in Hyper-precarious Migrant Lives

Hannah Lewis (University of Sheffield, UK)

This paper will consider hyper-precarity, why exceptionalising narratives and frameworks of trafficking and modern slavery may undermine efforts to build migrants' rights and access to decent work, and what the alternatives are for building up care-based approaches within our own research, and more widely. In the first part, I will outline our approach to hyper-precarity as a way to theorise the multidimensional, overlapping employment and immigration insecurities which deepen precarity in unfree labour and differentiate migrants from a wider, global precariat. I will consider the development and uses of hyper-precarity 10 years on from 'Hyper-precarious migrant lives' (2015). In the second part, the paper will explore how individualised victimhood mobilised in policy, legal and practice responses to modern slavery and human trafficking helps governments and non-governmental organisations determine who can be considered vulnerable and worthy of 'rescue' interventions to restore 'freedom'. Victimhood also serves to maintain focus on 'protection and prosecution' while avoiding consideration of improving migration governance as a key avenue for prevention of severe exploitation. In the third part, I return to hyper-precarity as a lens not only for recognising and analysing complex causes, but also as a platform to organise collective responses to the structural production of migrant exploitation, including by addressing epistemic justice within research and scholarship addressing exclusion and harm.

Hannah Lewis is Senior Lecturer in Sociology in the School of Sociological Studies, Politics and International Relations, University of Sheffield. Her research has explored the intersection of immigration and employment precarity, freedom and unfreedom in migrant and refugee work and leisure, and faith responses to modern slavery. Her recent research projects include Horizon 2020 project MIMY, migrant youth arts inclusion collaboration, and Volunteers and Vulnerabilities: the Politics of Policing Partnerships. She is co-author of *Precarious Lives: Forced Labour, Exploitation and Asylum* (Policy Press, 2014), and co-editor of *Vulnerability, Exploitation and Migrants* (Palgrave, 2015) and *The Modern Slavery Agenda* (Policy Press, 2019).

Nikah Siri and Temporality: Indonesian Migrant Workers' Intimacy and Mobility in Taiwan

Isabelle Cockel (University of Portsmouth, UK)

This research addresses a critical question: How do Indonesian migrant workers navigate the conflict between securing employment and engaging in intimate relationships while working abroad? Using the experiences of Indonesian workers in Taiwan as a case study, this research argues that Nikah Siri, an unregistered marriage conducted according to Islamic rituals, is employed by couples as a temporary solution to alleviate feelings of shame (zina) and to reduce the stigma associated with children born out of non-marital sexual relationships. However, Nikah Siri is a double-edged sword. While it temporarily frees couples from restrictive social norms, it also exposes them to the governmentality of both Taiwan and Indonesia. This is especially significant for migrant women, who may face the stigma of pre- or extramarital pregnancy, and for children whose rights to nationality and a secure upbringing may be jeopardized.

Isabelle Cockel is Senior Lecturer in East Asian and International Development Studies at the University of Portsmouth. Her research focuses on labour and marriage migration in East Asia. She focuses on how the state instrumentalises immigration for political and economic interests. She is currently the Secretary-General of the European Association of Taiwan Studies (2018- 2025).

Precarity at Sea: Migrant Labour, Deregulation, and the Global Fish Supply Chain

Beatrice Zani (CNRS/LISE, France)

This paper examines the globalized labor regime of the fish supply chain through the experiences of Southeast Asian migrant workers on foreign-flagged fishing vessels. Based on ethnographic research in Taiwan, Singapore, and Indonesia, it explores how labor emerges within and reinforces overlapping "gray zones" of circulation, work, and deregulation. These ambiguous spaces facilitate exploitative conditions marked by racialized hierarchies, mobility restrictions, and socio-economic inequalities. While employers and recruiters exploit these regulatory gaps to maximize profits and control labor, migrant workers also navigate and reshape these structures to secure limited socio-economic opportunities. The paper situates these findings within debates on labor precarity and global supply chains, extending Kimberly Hoang's Spiderweb Capitalism to show how the fish supply chain operates through informal practices and regulatory loopholes. It argues that these globalized labor regimes blur the boundaries between legality and illegality, formality and informality, creating precarious and shifting workspaces in contemporary Asian capitalism.

Beatrice Zani is a sociologist and an ethnographer, junior research fellow at CNRS/Interdisciplinary Unit for Economic Sociology (LISE). Drawing on the case study of transnational labor in the Asian fishing and shipping sectors (China, Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia), her ongoing research explores the link between labor and commodity mobilities, global work and supply chains, informality and digitality in the transformation of capitalism and globalization. She's the PI of the ANR-funded project FORSEA : Migrations and Forced Labor in the Maritime Economies of Globalized Asia (2026-2029).

Work-Life (im)balance: the Precarious Labor of Immigrant Single Mothers in Taiwan

Hsun-hui Tseng (National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan)

The proliferation of transnational marriage brokerage in the 1990s led to a substantial influx of marriage migrants from China and Southeast Asia to Taiwan. Over the past two decades, however, the region has witnessed a notable surge in transnational divorces. These immigrant single mothers confront dual moral and economic burdens stemming from the social stigma attached to divorced foreign spouses and a lack of economic and cultural capital to compete for higher-paying jobs in the local labor market. Consequently, many of these single mothers opt for employment in the low-end or underground economy, such as the 3D industry (dangerous, dirty, and difficult). Struggling to balance childcare responsibilities with work commitments, some choose to send their children back to their natal families, while others endeavor to raise their children in Taiwan. Drawing on data gathered from 36 interviews with immigrant single mothers who serve as primary caregivers and breadwinners residing in Taiwan, this paper examines how these single mothers employ the parenting strategies to secure their maternal citizenship. I argue that this maternal citizenship is not only racialized and stratified but also contingent on their ceaseless and uncelebrated maternal labor. Their maternal labor can be characterized by precarity due to economic instability and limited time available for fostering intimacy with their children. Failing to balance the demands of childcare and work invites social scrutiny regarding their qualification as "good mothers" and results in further social discrimination, grounded in racial and class differences. Immigrant single mothers often encounter more substantial challenges than their local counterparts due to limited support from their natal families and language barriers that hinder their access to legal resources in the first place. As a result, transnational divorced families exhibit a more complicated family dynamic than local ones. Through a comprehensive analysis of the narratives and stories shared by these immigrant single mothers, this paper endeavors to dispel stereotypical depictions of divorced marriage migrants as "runaway brides" or irresponsible mothers, shedding light on the understudied but emerging phenomenon of transnational divorces in Asia.

Hsun-hui Tseng is Assistant Professor in the Department of Taiwanese Literature and the Associate Director of the Center for Gender and Women's Studies at National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan. She obtained her Ph.D in Anthropology from the University of Washington in the US. Her teaching and research interests cover family and marriage, motherhood, sex work, and migration in East and Southeast Asia, including labor and marriage migration and student mobility. Her works can be found in Asian Anthropology, Cross-Currents: East Asian History and Cultural Review, China Quarterly, and edited volumes like Cultural Politics of Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Asia and Human Trafficking in Asia: Forcing Issues, Framing Agendas.

Close the Loop: Labour Migration Legislation and Its Impact on Everyday Life

Nguyễn Thị Thanh Hà (Kaohsiung Technology University, Taiwan)

This paper aims to answer the question as to how labour migration legislation affects migrant workers' life on the ground. Taking a historical approach, this paper begins by overviewing the establishment of labour migration legislation in Taiwan. It explores how legislations concerning economic productivity, law and order, public health, healthcare provision, demographic growth and border control are combined into a growing body of legislation throughout the past three decades. This paper argues that whilst it is intended to reap the fruit of affordable migrant labour, it is also designed to forestall the forging of the migrant community by denying family reunion and residency. Afterwards, employing an anthropological method, this paper presents data collected from migrant workers' everyday routines and analyses how they are derived from, or in defiance against, the state's legislation, their brokers or employers' micro- management or their inter-personal dynamic. Setting a dialogue between the top-down control and the bottom-up agency allows us to gauge the impact of 'governing at a distance' as argued by Tseng and Wang (2013) and an array of actors that play a role in the reinforcement or mitigation of this impact.

Nguyễn Thị Thanh Hà is Adjunct Assistant Professor at Kaohsiung Technology University. She obtained her PhD in history from the National Cheng Kung University. A former migrant worker at an electronics factory, a migrant spouse and an entrepreneur specialising in Vietnamese cuisines, she is renowned for teaching the Vietnamese language to Chinese speakers in Taiwan. She is an author of Vietnamese language instruction books and opinion leader in the Vietnamese migrant community.

Ethical Recruitment of Migrant Workers: Care Strategies across the Foreign Employment Industry in South and Southeast Asia

Magali Croese (CNAM/LISE, France)

Corporations and governments are urged to take actions to protect human rights in global supply chains. Countries around the world are indeed legislating to expand company's responsibility outside its walls¹. Before due diligence obligations were adopted, corporate social responsibility (CSR) already forged new relationships between activists, corporations and CSR service providers. When voluntary CSR engagement turned into legal requirements in some countries, social practices were generated with a performative effect on evolving norms. With the rise of corporate due diligence and duty of vigilance acts, this managerialization of laws continues within corporate spaces and beyond. Transnational corporations adopt private standards to comply with these new regulations and require their subcontractors and suppliers to have the same compliance wherever they operate. But this transnational governance has shown its limits: the capacity of workers to seize these rights and organize to defend them cannot be built outside the domestic governance. In fact, literature shows that private transnational standards circumvent the governance of local institutions and ignore the network of social agents evolving outside the walls of the company. Little work has been released about how workers and the other actors in global supply chains interact with these new regulations and corporate practices in Asia, and merely none on specific and detailed processes like the regulated recruitment of migrant workers. Our work unveils the forms of ethicalisation that occur within the migration industry in Asia, looking especially at the migrant workers' mobility when recruited abroad. Through chains crossing several geographies, from client companies in France to factory workers recruited in Nepal, through vendors' production plants in Malaysia, our research pinpoints first the tension between the increasing obligation of control along global supply chains and their extreme flexibility. It also sheds light on the emergence of ethical professionals as a new category of social agents alongside the traditional brokers in Asia, while questioning the agency of the recruited workers whose rights protection is imposed at a transnational level.

Magali Croese is a PhD candidate in sociology of work at Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers (CNAM) and a member of LISE (a joint research unit CNAM-CNRS). Her doctoral research focuses on recruitment in global chains. Before joining CNAM, she had a 15-year career in human resources management and social risks in Europe then in Asia Pacific where she resided for 9 years. She joined Human Resources Without Borders (RHSF) in 2018 to work on the prevention of forced labour and child labour through action research.

Power and Empowerment in Garment Supply Chains: An Investigation of Fair Purchasing Practices

Matthew Anderson (University of Portsmouth, UK)

This paper investigates supply chain responses to unfair trading practices (UTPs) in garment value chains. We present a comparative case study analysis of emerging best practices across a range of areas including: lead times, payment details, prices, discounts, technical specifications, volumes and stock management. Our study investigates the supply chains of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and their role in creating an enabling environment for fair purchasing practices in the garment and textiles sector. In this paper, we explore the experience of Fair Trade organisations and how they have translated Fair Trade principles into practice in their value chains. In particular, we focus on the implementation of responsible purchasing practices related to: Equal Partnership, Collaborative Production Planning and Fair Payment Terms. We argue that an explicit focus on power is often missing from previous studies and provides a vital connection between theory and practice. While Fair Trade organisations are not unique in supporting fair purchasing practices, the Fair Trade Principles provide an important tool to embed social and economic empowerment in responsible business theory and supply chain practices.

Matthew Anderson is Senior Lecturer in Business Ethics at Faculty of Business and Law, University of Portsmouth. He is Deputy Director and Impact Lead for the Agile Centre for Equitable Sustainability.

Drifting or Rooted? Local Connections of Undocumented Workers in Mountain Agriculture

Chen Lee (National Taiwan University, Taiwan)

Migrant workers—particularly those who are undocumented—are frequently portrayed in scholarship as precarious, exploitable, and excluded from host societies. Drawing on a three-year ethnographic study, including six months of participant observation and interviews with undocumented workers in Taiwan's high-mountain agricultural sector, this paper argues that while the guest worker regime renders migrant labor temporary, the persistent demand for seasonal labor in the cash crop sector fosters conditions for social embeddedness.

These labor needs—shaped by immigration policies, ultra-low fertility rates, and uneven regional economic development—create opportunities for migrant workers to integrate into local communities. In rural areas, seasonal agricultural demand and flexible labor arrangements depend heavily on tightly knit community networks, which expand through the incorporation of migrant workers' own social ties. Such networks enable undocumented workers to establish a degree of social rootedness, affording them access to resources and, to some extent, bargaining power within the informal labor market, despite their legal exclusion.

However, this embeddedness remains fragile. Integration is constrained by the temporariness imposed by the guest worker regime. The tension between local inclusion and legal exclusion highlights a central contradiction in Taiwan's migration governance: migrant workers are indispensable to rural economies yet are denied pathways to permanence. These findings challenge the prevailing assumption of migrant workers as merely transient and reveal the vulnerability of their rootedness under exclusionary state policies.

Chen Lee is a research assistant at the Department of Geography of National Taiwan University. He received his MA in Sociology from National Tsing Hua University. His research focuses on migrant workers and rural communities in Taiwan. He has also assisted with projects on the cultural history of popular music in Taiwan, including the influence of U.S. military clubs during the Cold War and the rise of disco under martial law. His master's thesis received recognition from the Association for Taiwan Social Studies (Honorable mention in Critical and Practical Graduate Theses, 2024) and the Cultural Studies Association of Taiwan (Graduate Thesis Award, 2025).

Empowerment, Self-reification and Economic Aspirations through Media among Migrant Workers in Southern China

Pablo Ampuero Ruiz (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

Digital media has become central to the lives of migrant workers. Instead of thinking of their digital migration as an epiphenomenon of geographic migration, scholars have insisted on looking at digital social media as a place that is also inhabited. Building on these notions, I describe how migrant workers in southern China make use of digital media to affect their material conditions of existence. One way of doing so is through collective empowerment, aiming at sociopolitical action. Here, online communities and campaigns conducted by labour nongovernmental organizations play a crucial role in promoting a collective identity among migrant workers, in many cases linking their predicaments with global struggles. Conversely,

12there are also collective and individual dynamics of reification and self-reification of migrant subjects, through which social stereotypes are (re)produced as a form of economic value through social media. In these cases, short-video apps, such as TikTok and Kuaishou, provide platforms for self-commodification or for the promotion of commercial goods and services through a commodified subject. In its most extreme form, self-reification is at the base of the whole matrix of incubators, sponsors, producers and creators of viral content known as the wanghong economy, akin to that of 'influencers'. Through ethnographic vignettes and a critical appreciation of the concept of reification (Verdinglichung), I explore the ways in which individuals 'reinvent' themselves through digital platforms in the pursuit of economic aspirations.

Pablo Ampuero Ruiz is Assistant Professor in the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Visiting Fellow of the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) in Leiden, and Adjunct Researcher in Chile's Millenium Nucleus on the Impacts of China in Latin America (ICLAC). He practices the disciplines of economic anthropology and global history, and he is currently developing a research agenda exploring the links between finance and transition minerals in the production of a 'green economy' between China and South America.

Fusing Offline and Online Realities: the Negotiation of Sexualities among Male Vietnamese Migrants in Japan

An Huy Tran (Bielefeld University, Germany)

The relationship between transnational migration and the digital world has been further complicated by increasing transnationalism and recent developments in information technologies. While migrants' utilization of the virtual sphere as a door to transnational connections, communication and business activities has been thoroughly studied, less attention has been paid to how migrants engage with virtual platforms sexually. This chapter contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of contemporary migrants' engagement with sexuality by inquiring into how male Vietnamese migrants in Japan negotiate their sexual desirability and status during migration and uses such a perspective as a vantage point to inquire into the intertwinement of the online and offline realities in migrants' social world. The chapter explores the different tactics and strategies that Vietnamese migrant men employ to negotiate their sexual capital and argues that migrant men's negotiation of sexualities is largely curtailed by the juxtaposition of and switching between virtual and physical realities. Migrant men use social media and online dating platforms as important mediums through which their foreignness can be put in a more positive light and their engagements with sexualities in terms of desirability, practice and identity in the offline reality can be enhanced. The virtual domain of social media and online dating applications, thus, provide migrants with more agency and bargaining power to negotiate their sexualities in the offline social world.

An Huy Tran is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Faculty of Sociology, Bielefeld University. His research project inquires into the experiences of male Vietnamese migrants in contemporary Japan from a qualitative perspective. Tran's research interests also include: transnationalism, intersectionality, qualitative research methods, brokerage/ intermediaries in migration, the migration industry.

Feminine Digital Entrepreneurship: the E-commerce of Infant Milk Formula among Chinese Migrant Women in France

Yong Li (Université de Rouen, DySoLab)

In the wake of the melamine infant formula scandal in China, many Chinese migrant women in France, some of whom are highly educated, have become involved in the e-commerce of the French-branded formula. Using smartphones and social media apps, these women work as personal shoppers for their customers in China, called daigou-ers. This chapter proposes to conceptualize the daigou trade as feminine digital entrepreneurship, which is defined by a deep interweaving between digital technologies and women's agency, capital, conditions and dispositions. Taking the e-commerce of infant formula as a paradigmatic case, the chapter analyses the gender labour of digital entrepreneurs, the social consequences of digital entrepreneurship for migrant women, as well as the evolution of the daigou trade and its possible demise in a changing sociotechnical environment. The chapter shows the empowering potential and internal contradictions of feminine digital entrepreneurship. It calls for a materialist approach that links both online and offline realities as well as the affects and effects of economic activities to understand the gendered and embodied experiences of migrant women.

Yong Li is a sociologist, researcher at Université de Rouen, DySoLab. He is also a fellow of the French Collaborative Institute on Migration. His research interests include student mobility, career paths of skilled migrants, experiences of discrimination and racism of people of Asian origin in France, migrant entrepreneurship, social ramification of the food safety scandals in mainland China.

Gender, Self-transformation and Digital Platforms: Female Taiwanese International Students' Screen-mediated Communication with their Parents

Amélie Keyser-Verreault (Academia Sinica, Taiwan)

This chapter aims to explore female Taiwanese international students' experience of living in Western countries, focusing on how they construct a digital intimacy with their parents. While these women must deal with the various and conflicting norms of Taiwan and Western societies, a huge majority of participants emphasized that they felt a sense of freedom as a result of their international mobility. I contend that because this felt freedom is highly gender specific, it clashes with mainstream aesthetic judgements and gendered norms in Taiwan's sociocultural context. Thus, despite their self-transformation, participants often prefer and adopt a selective and limited level of communication with their parents through digital media. In other words, while affective and material factors are important in this restricted online communication, it is the factor of gender that highly impacts emotional and financial considerations. Participants' affective attachment to their families and the financial support provided by parents for their daughters' overseas studies are often influenced by the factor of gender. Due to the sharp contrast between Taiwan and these host countries regarding gender and womanhood, participants were, to different degrees, unwilling or unable to share their gender-related self-transformation with their parents on digital platforms.

Amélie Keyser-Verreault is an anthropologist researching body politics and gender with a focus on the family, migration and resistance in East Asia. She's permanent researcher at Academia Sinica in Taiwan. She also has a deep interest in qualitative art-based, decolonial and intersectional methodologies. She is currently working on three research projects. Firstly, in the context of an ultra-low birth rate and hyper aging population, she analyzes the reluctance of young Taiwanese to start a family. Secondly, she is working on the emergence of postnatal care centers in Taiwan and the resulting technologization and digitization of the postnatal period. Thirdly, she is conducting an exploratory research project with highly-skilled Taiwanese migrants in Japan on the impact of intimacy in their migratory journeys. Dr Keyser-Verreault has spent several years doing fieldwork in Taiwan and Japan and she returns to conducting fieldwork every year.