MAPPING
HUMAN
MIGRATION:
SETTING THE
EDUCATIONAL
AGENDA









WHO WE ARE









































































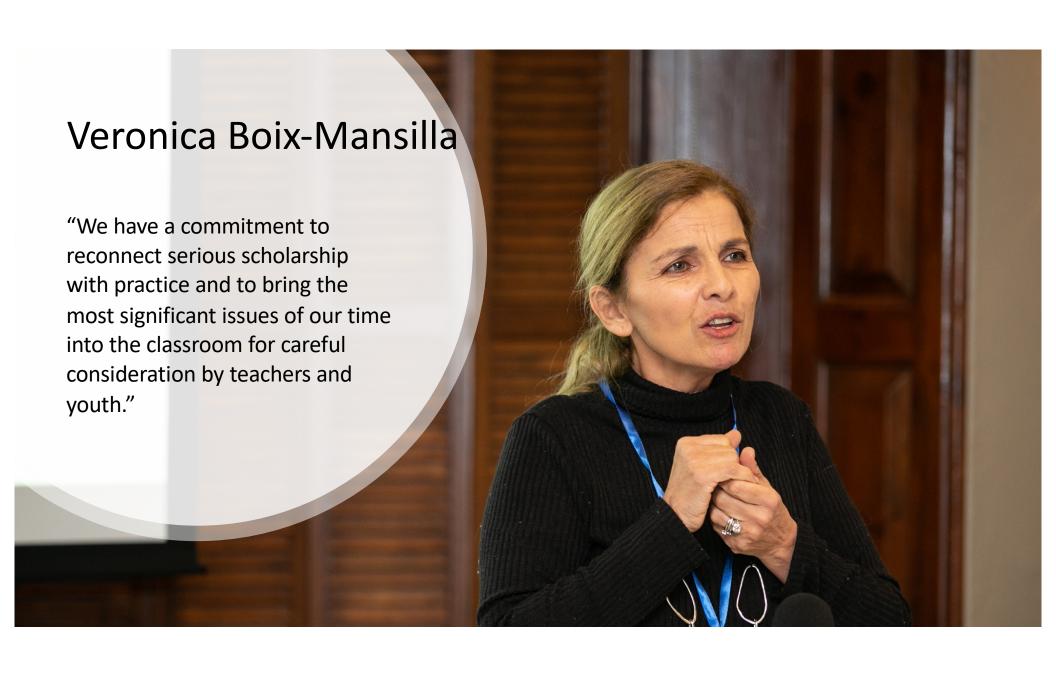












Marcelo Suárez-Orozco

"How do we complicate that which is familiar without the drive or the impulse to be vulgar in the reductionism of the issues at stake? How do we acknowledge the human complexity that has gone into the making of immigration as a defining issue in our cities, in our schools"

"Immigration, we love it, looking backwards. It's photoshopped, it's nice, looking backwards. In the here and now, at every turn, there has been massive anxiety."



Pedro Noguera

"One of the questions we have to come back to is what should schools be doing? Once we know who we are teaching, or what we think we know about them, then what should we do with their resources, their culture, their linguistic resources?"

"Things do occur in cycles and my hope is that one day we will get out of this cycle that we are in but who knows when that will happen, and until that time, we have to figure out what to do and how to respond. Schools are going to need lots of help in that work."

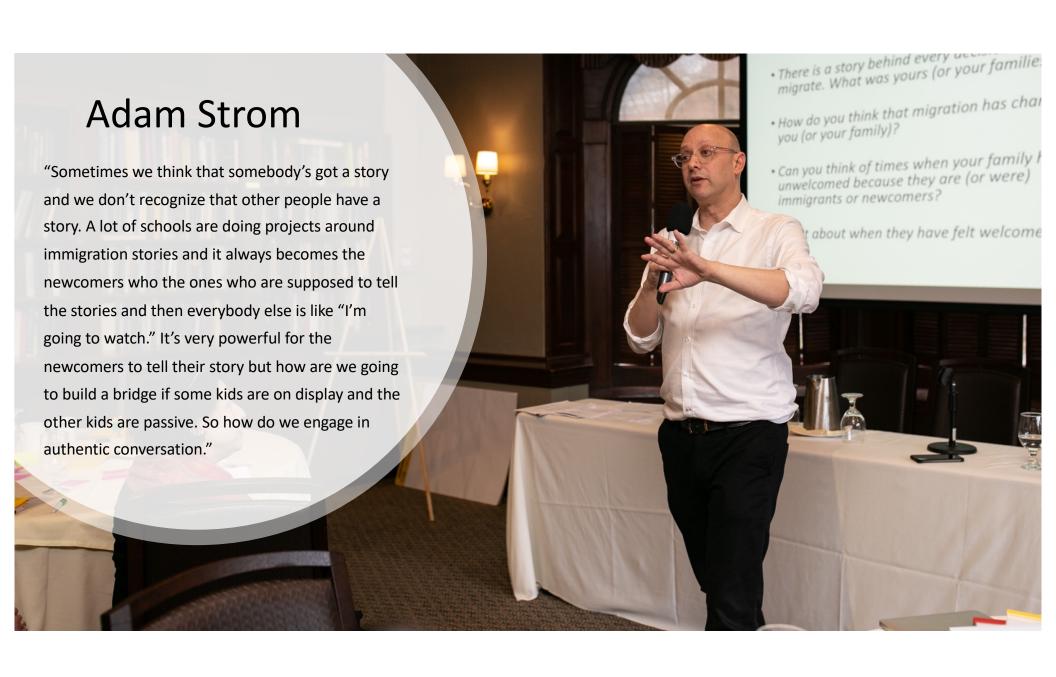


MIGRATION STORIES

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF STORIES IN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN MIGRATION?



Nancy Lemke, Only 8 1/2 of Millions









Moving Stories Activity

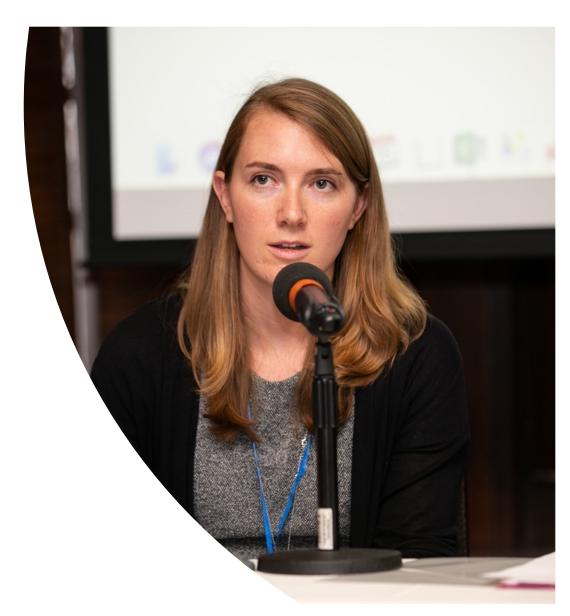


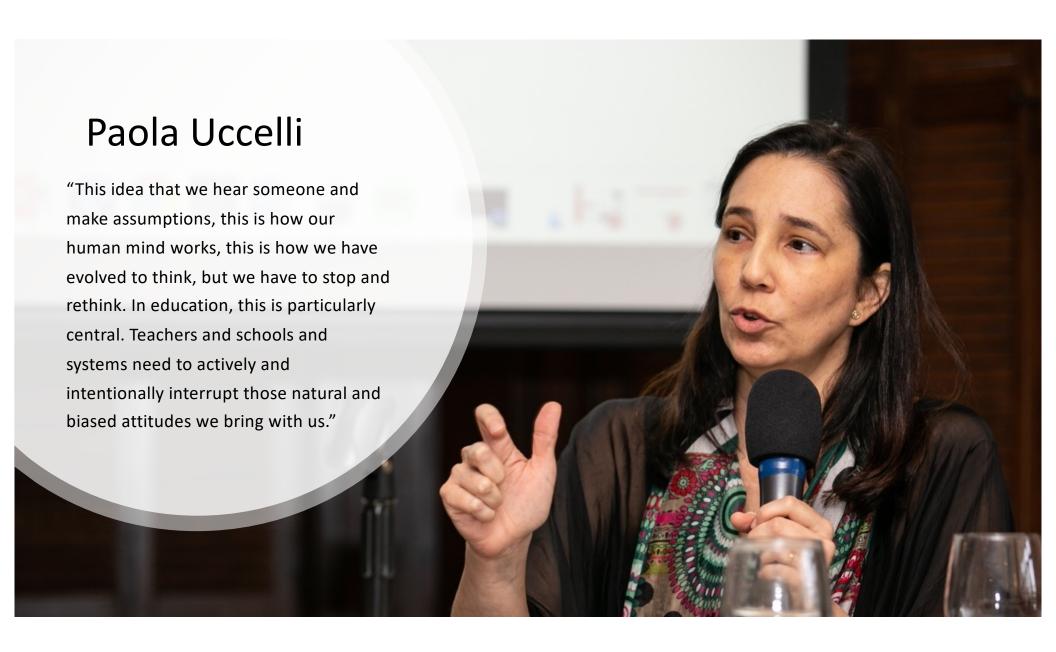
Carola Suárez-Orozco

"What do these toxic narratives do? They otherize, they distance. They make it 'them' versus 'us.' They reinforce lots of prejudicial attitudes. We all have our prejudgments in there, it's hard to get away from them, and it simply reinforces those ideas. And it legitimizes all sorts of exclusionary practices and policies. It also serves to divide our society. If it's 'us' versus 'them,' then there's division."

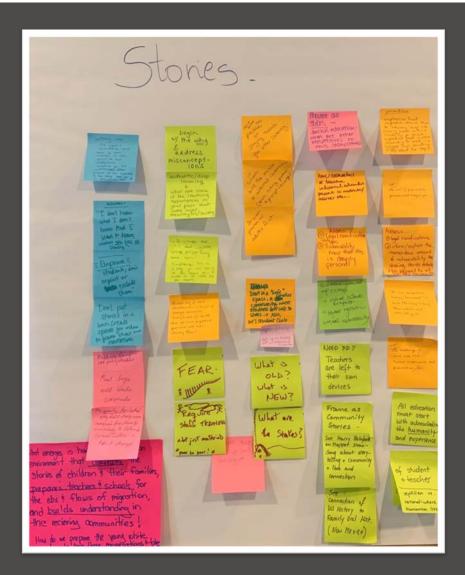
Elena Maker

"A lot of the students at our schools said, when we asked in what ways do you feel connected to other students at the school, they said 'because of our backgrounds, because of our ethnic backgrounds.' Then when we asked 'what is your moving story?' they said they did not have one or they did not know. That to me presents a paradox in that these kids feel connected to each other on some level because of their shared experience, but what is the school and society doing to shut down that conversation before it might have even begun."

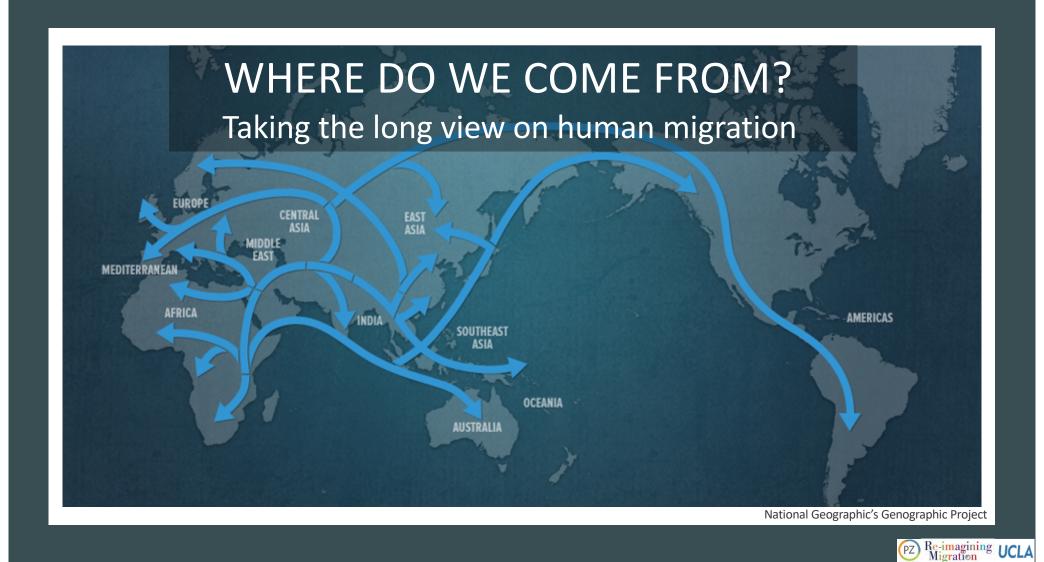














"If you know where to look and if you know what you're looking for, you can reconstruct the story of a society based on one person's DNA."

"By looking at DNA of people whose story was stolen from them, their identity was completely stolen, we can help them uncover their own migration story."



Emily Veres

"Behind each string are so many people – we acknowledged the whole but also the individual" (Emily's student)













WHY DO PEOPLE LEAVE THEIR HOME?

FORCES, CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES





Joanna Derby

"Migration flows are not unidirectional. We like to talk about it as if people leave their home country and they move to a host country and 'what was the dynamic in the home country that pushed you?' and 'what was the dynamic in the host country that pulled you?' ... Migration is actually more complicated than that. There are transnational ties that connect people, and there's often many more moves, people often move back and forth... For some people who decide to migrate the transnational ties are really formalized through agencies, through organizations that control movements and for others it's more informal information that is shared between family members and friends."

Judi Freeman

"What do we do in this world that we can't make any sense of right now. I bring that up because my students are really, really struggling with this. I think they're stuck... They're stuck in a way that I haven't seen them stuck since I started teaching. And they're stuck because everything is coming at them... It's all about the lack of control over their world. The students trying to make sense of the world when information is coming at them from so many different angles and so many different places, don't (a) know where to start, (b) what's real and what isn't, and (c) even if they can figure those two things out, don't know what to do about it."



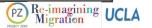
Photograph by: Kim Kyung-Hoon



JR. Giant Picnic

BORDERS

Exploring Exclusion, Inclusion, Meanings and Representations



Doris Sommer

"In Dream City everything is doubled, everything is various. You have no choice but to cross borders and speak in tongues. That's how you get from your mother to your father, from talking to one set of folks who think you're not black enough to another who figure you insufficiently white. It's the kind of town where the wise man says 'I' cautiously, because 'I' feels like too straight and singular a phoneme to represent the true multiplicity of his experience. Instead, citizens of Dream City prefer to use the collective pronoun 'we.'"

Zadie Smith, Speaking in Tongues



Arzu Mistry

"What are the visible and invisible borders? Race is a border, language is a border, gender and identity there are so many borders around that. What I have been reading is making me think — what is my position in relation to that border? Am I engaging with the border by being in it? Am I looking at the border from a side of superiority? Am I looking at the border from a side of inferiority?"





Lynn Russell

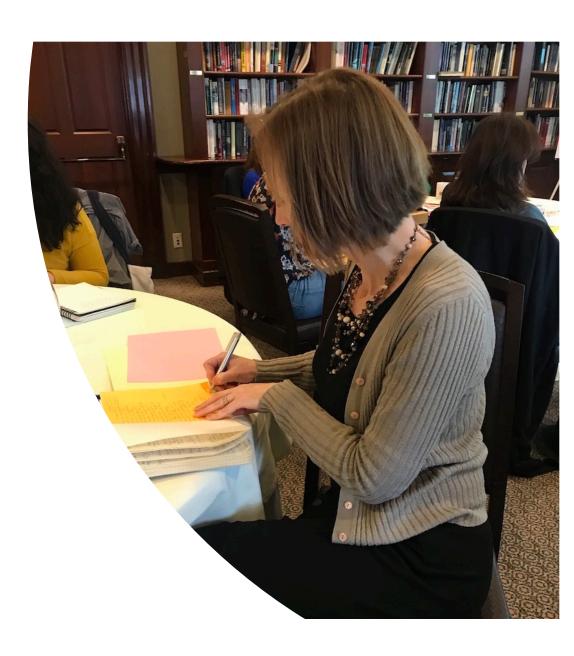
"We are here always to build bridges, open people's and students' minds, rather than to close things down."

"Art and storytelling help develop empathy, understanding, and help people take perspective."



Liz Dawes-Duraisingh and Sheya Sarah

"Have you ever been stopped from entering or visiting a place? If so, what did it feel like? If not, how do you think it might feel like to be prohibited from entering a place of crossing a border? These could range from country or state borders to more everyday borders like fences, gates, walls, or even social borders that are invisible. How, if at all, is you movement restricted in your everyday life?"



Stephanie Norby

"The danger some children and families might be in for telling their own stories makes it important to tell these stories (stories through art and history) so they can see that there is a connection and they can learn how other people have managed to overcome similar kinds of problems."

"The other thing that museums or libraries or other community organizations can do is they can be part of having a conversation about another kind of world."



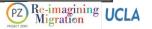






AMBIGUOUS STATUS

Who is responsible for people in the in-betweens?



Jacqueline Bhabha

"Nobody is born ambiguous. People are made to feel ambiguous. There is a humanitarian right to protection if your own state turns into an abuser or a predator."

"The belief in obligations to strangers is very deep rooted... This idea that we have duties to outsiders is not just a left-wing mantra, it is a very deeply held human, religious, and spiritual conviction."



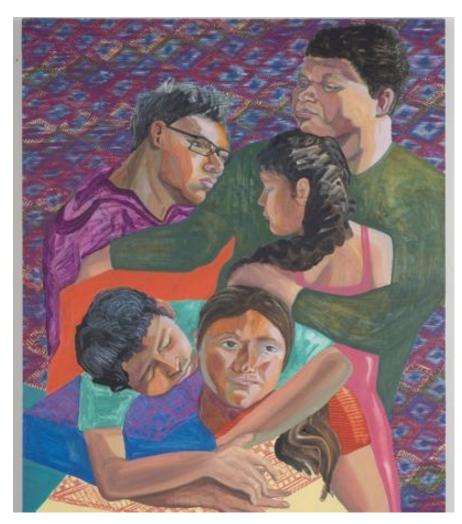
Viola Georgi

"Deportations from schools and kindergartens, even kindergartens, are particularly inhumane because they break the function of these facilities as protective spaces for children. Not only the deported child but also the whole school environment is traumatized. Fortunately, deportations executed from classrooms by the police are extremely seldom in Germany. But what's happening every day in Germany and European classrooms at this moment is that students, new classmates show up and disappear just all of a sudden. So that's something children these days really have to deal with."



THE WHOLE CHILD

Understanding Immigrant
Learners-Language, SocioEmotional, and Civic Perspectives







Carola Suárez-Orozco

"One of the advantages of immigrant children, one of the true sources of resilience, is that ability to take perspective. If we're fish in a bowl, we only know the water, we can't see another way of being or imagine another space. And immigrant children are forced into (multiple spaces). It is a distinct advantage, that's the up side. The down side is that you can never fully not question what you're in, the place you're in."

Priya Tahiliana

"62% of educators noted indirect effects on other students. So on the students who are sitting in a seat where one day the seat next to them was empty. So a student who is a US citizen, who is a classmate of this other student... sees how the next day the other student is not there. I don't think we often think about how are other students in these classroom environments being affected and we talk a lot about wanting to be inclusive and the narrative of exclusion but there are many students who are being very inclusive of these students and they do miss when these students are suddenly no longer in their environment, they are their friends, they are their classmates, they are their peers, so that absence is really felt strongly by the students and by the school community."

"84% of educators thought that these issues (about migration) needed to be discussed in their school and with the school community and 73% said that they had not done so"





RECEIVING AND INTEGRATION

A Conversation



John Rogers

"Students who are feeling the effects of the threat of immigration enforcement deeply, their own sense of anxiety about their wellbeing, about their future, also about their need to take responsibility if their parents were deported. In some cases, principles talked about students whose parents were deported and then having to live on their own and somehow make do. In many cases, principles talked about, since these are high school students, the anxiety and stress about needing to care for or worrying about needing to care for their younger siblings."











Photography credits to Lindsey Michelle Williams



