

**Statelessness Intensive Course**  
**Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness**  
**Melbourne Law School | The University of Melbourne**  
**4-8 February 2019**

**Welcome Drinks | Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

17:30-19:00 St Mary's College, 871 Swanston St, Melbourne

*We hope you can join us for this informal meet and greet with light refreshments. Please report to St Mary's College Reception and follow signs to the function room.*

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Unless otherwise stated, all sessions for the duration of the course will take place here:

**\*\*Room 611, Level 6, Melbourne Law School, 185 Pelham Street, Carlton\*\***

**DAY 1 | Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

**Concepts and Framework**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter/s</b>
8:30 – 9:00	<i>Tea, coffee and registration</i>	
9:00 – 10:00	Welcome, introductions, course overview	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
10:00 – 11:00	Introduction to Statelessness: Causes and Consequences	<b>Erika Feller</b>
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Morning tea</i>	
11:30 – 13:00	Nationality and Citizenship: Key Concepts	<b>Kim Rubenstein</b>
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00 – 15:30	The International Legal Framework: Overview	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
16:00 – 17:30	UNHCR Mandate/I Belong Campaign	<b>Radha Govil</b>
17:30-19:00	Welcome Reception Room 920, Level 9, Melbourne Law School	<b>Peter McMullin</b> <b>Gillian Triggs</b>

**DAY 2 | Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Causes and Impact**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter/s</b>
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome to Day 2	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
9:15 – 11:00	Statelessness, Minorities and Discrimination	<b>Amal De Chickera</b>
<i>11:00 - 11:15</i>	<i>Morning tea</i>	
11:15 - 13:00	Childhood Statelessness	<b>John Tobin</b> <b>Sophie Shugg</b> <b>Janepicha Cheva-</b> <b>Isarakul</b>
<i>13:00 - 13:45</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:45 – 14:30	Statelessness Exercise	<b>Radha Govil</b>
14:30 – 15:45	Gender and Statelessness	<b>Deirdre Brennan</b>
<i>15:45 – 16:15</i>	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
16:15 - 17:30	Statelessness, Security and Citizenship Stripping	<b>Radha Govil</b> <b>Timnah Baker</b>

**DAY 3 | Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Statelessness in Context**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenters</b>
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome to Day 3	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
9:15 – 10:30	Statelessness in Australia	<b>Michelle Foster</b> <b>Katie Robertson</b> <b>Sarah Dale</b>
<i>10:30 – 11:00</i>	<i>Morning tea</i>	
11:00-12:30	Statelessness in the Asia Pacific Region: Countries and Themes	<b>Jelvas Musau</b> <b>Amal de Chickera</b> <b>Christoph Sperfeldt</b> <b>Susan Kneebone</b>
<i>12:30 -13:30</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
13.30-14.30	Statelessness: National Case Studies: the region and beyond	Facilitator: <b>Jelvas Musau</b> Speakers: <b>Lalita Yawangsan</b> <b>Herve Kuate</b> <b>Ravi Hemadri</b>
14.30 - 15.30	Mobility/Nomadic Peoples	<b>Christoph Sperfeldt</b> <b>Janepicha Cheva-Isarakul</b> <b>Helen Brunt</b>
<i>15.30 - 16.00</i>	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
16.00 - 17.30	Regional Group Work	

**DAY 4 | Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Addressing Statelessness**

Session	Topic	Presenters
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome to Day 4	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
9:15 - 11:00	Protecting Stateless Persons on the Move: Statelessness and Forced Migration	<b>Michelle Foster</b> <b>Radha Govil</b>
<i>11:00 - 11:30</i>	<i>Morning tea</i>	
11:30 - 12:30	Addressing Statelessness through Development / SDGs	<b>Christoph Sperfeldt</b> <b>Amal de Chickera</b>
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i> <i>Groups work on ‘elevator pitch’ over lunch*</i>	<b>Linda McSweeney</b> Media Advisor University of Melbourne
13:30-15:00	Addressing Statelessness through Advocacy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Elevator Pitch Report Back</li> <li>b. Overview</li> <li>c. Networks</li> <li>d. Multimedia: ‘Behind the Wire’</li> <li>e. Education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>facil.</i> <b>Linda McSweeney</b></li> <li>b. <b>Amal de Chickera</b></li> <li>c. <b>Davina Wadley</b></li> <li>d. <b>Andre Dao, Michael Green</b></li> <li>e. <b>Deirdre Brennan</b></li> </ul>
15:00-16.00	<i>Afternoon tea / travel to Melbourne Immigration Museum</i>	
16:00-17:00	Guided Tour of Melbourne Immigration Museum	
18.00 -21:30	Course Dinner @ EPOCHA 49 Rathdowne Street, Carlton (Drinks from 18:00; food from 18:30)	<b>David Manne</b> (speech)

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*\* We gratefully acknowledge the European Network on Statelessness and the Institute for Statelessness and Inclusion for the idea of an elevator pitch in this context.*

## DAY 5 | Friday 8th February

### Next Steps

Session	Topic	Presenter/s
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome to Day 5	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
9:15 - 10:00	Revision / Quiz	<b>Radha Govil</b>
10:00 - 10:45	The Lived Experience of Statelessness: Reflections	<b>Rabia Hussein</b>
<i>10:45 - 11:15</i>	<i>Morning Tea</i>	
11:15 – 12:45	Regional Action Plans: Group work	
12:45 - 13:45pm	Report Back Groups	Facilitator: <b>Michelle Foster</b>
<i>13:45 - 15:00</i>	<i>Lunch, Certificates, Evaluation</i>	<b>Michelle Foster</b>
15:00-15:15	Intensive Close	<b>Michelle Foster</b>

# Statelessness Intensive Lecturers

## Professor Michelle Foster



Michelle Foster is a Professor and the inaugural Director of the Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness at Melbourne Law School. Michelle has published widely in the field of international refugee law, including *International Refugee Law and Socio-Economic Rights: Refuge from Deprivation* (CUP, 2007) and, with James Hathaway, *The Law of Refugee Status, Second Edition*, (CUP, 2014). Michelle's most recent publications explore various legal issues concerning the recognition and protection of stateless persons, including a monograph with Professor Helene Lambert, entitled *The Protection of Stateless Persons in International Refugee Law* (forthcoming OUP, 2018). Michelle teaches Refugee Law and International Refugee Law at Melbourne Law School, and in 2017 taught in the International Summer School in Forced Migration at Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre.

## Dr Christoph Sperfeldt



Christoph Sperfeldt is a Senior Research Fellow at the Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness. He completed his PhD at the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet), Australian National University. Christoph came to the issue of statelessness from a bottom-up perspective, examining the development and peace implications resulting from the marginalisation of vulnerable populations. Christoph brings to the role more than ten years of experience in researching and working on human rights, statelessness and transitional justice, predominantly in the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to joining the Centre, he was Deputy Director at the Asian International Justice Initiative, a joint program of the East-West Center and the WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University, where he supported human rights and rule of law capacity development in Southeast Asia; and Senior Advisor with the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Cambodia. Christoph has published widely in the field of human rights and transitional justice.

## Timnah Baker



Timnah Rachel Baker (BA/LLB Monash University and LLM Boston College) commenced as a Research Fellow at the Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness on the 1st March 2018. She is currently a PhD candidate at Sydney Law School. From 2009 - 2017 she was based at Harvard University as a Research Associate for the International Migration Policy and Law Analysis (IMPALA) project, and was a Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

## Deirdre Brennan



Deirdre Brennan (BSc University College Cork and MA Utrecht University) is a PhD candidate at the Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness. Prior to joining the Centre Deirdre worked in a variety of research roles in this field, including the Statelessness Programme's 2014 Thailand Project on the nexus between statelessness and human trafficking, the 2015 Equal Rights Trust publication on gender discrimination in nationality laws, and most recently as a research fellow with the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion where she co-authored a children's book on childhood statelessness.

Deirdre's doctoral thesis focuses on activism among stateless communities in Nepal and the potential impact of the social movement there to eradicate gender discriminatory nationality laws. Her research interests concern the intersections between feminism, statelessness and activism, stemming from her personal connection to the transformative work of pro-choice activists in Ireland.

## Amal de Chickera



Amal de Chickera is one of the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion's Co-Directors, leading the Institute's human rights engagement work. He also plays an important part in the ISI's work on childhood statelessness, gender discrimination and the Sustainable Development Agenda, and on the

Institute's engagement with civil society and the arts.

Amal has researched, advocated, written, spoken, delivered training and served as an expert on statelessness and related issues for the UN, NGOs and academia, since 2008. He is particularly interested in the nexus between statelessness and discrimination and its implications on access to other rights. Before co-founding the Institute, Amal provided the lead on the Equal Rights Trust's statelessness work. He was also one of the co-founders of the European Network on Statelessness, and is a founding member of Stages – a Sri Lankan theatre group. A human rights lawyer and member of the Sri Lankan Bar, Amal holds an LLM (Distinction) from University College London and an LLB (Hons.) from the University of Colombo.

### **Erika Feller**



From 2014 to 2017 Erika Feller held the appointment of Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne, and is currently a Professorial Fellow in the Melbourne School of Government, serving at the same time in various advisory capacities outside the University, including as a member of the Research Advisory Committee of the Humanitarian Advisory Group, a social enterprise working to elevate the profile of humanitarian action in Asia and the Pacific.

Erika's experience with the statelessness portfolio spans many years. She oversaw the protection policy and delivery in the UNHCR for over 13 years, first in her capacity as Director of the Division of International Protection and then as UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection.

Prior to these respective appointments she took on progressively senior positions within DIP, each of which regularly involved her in activities on behalf of stateless people. These activities included running a series of training courses on the statelessness protection framework for Government officials throughout the Baltic countries; undertaking advocacy missions to countries hosting large groups of stateless persons [eg. Vietnam and Thailand, Albania and Montenegro]; visiting stateless populations and discussing possible solutions with host states [notably the Rohingyas in Myanmar]; participating in consultations on the drafting of citizenship laws in an effort to avoid

statelessness [eg. in Sudan, prior to the breakup of the country]; overseeing promotional activities like the drafting of the joint UNHCR/IPU Handbook for Parliamentarians on Statelessness; addressing UN meetings in New York on statelessness; and engagement on numerous stateless cases under UNHCR's mandate.

### **Radha Govil**



Radha Govil is a Senior Legal Officer (Statelessness) in the Division of International Protection at UNHCR, where she has worked on issues relating to nationality and statelessness since 2010. Radha

has helped to develop UNHCR doctrine and policy on statelessness in a number of areas, including in relation to the definition of a stateless person under international law and the implementation framework for the #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness. Prior to working at UNHCR, Radha worked as a solicitor in Australia on issues of environment law at Mallesons Stephen Jaques (now King Wood Mallesons). She holds an LL.B. and a BA from the University of Melbourne and a Masters in Public International Law from the London School of Economics and Political Science, for which she was awarded the Lauterpacht/Higgins and Georg Schwarzenberger Prizes for Best Performance in International Law.

### **Professor Susan Kneebone**



Over the last decade Susan Kneebone's work has focussed on forced migration, including refugees, statelessness and citizenship, in South East Asia. In 2006, she was awarded,

with colleagues, an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant: 'Australia's Response to Trafficking in Women: Towards a Model for the Regulation of Forced Migration in the Asia-Pacific Region'. A second ARC Linkage Grant followed in 2009: 'Delivering Effective Protection to Victims and Prevention of Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region'. Additionally, in 2009 she received an ARC Discovery Grant as sole Chief Investigator: 'Law, Governance and Regulation of Intra-Regional Labour Migration in South East Asia: An Agenda for Protection and Development'.

As a result of these projects, Susan has

extensive experience researching in South East Asia. The issue of statelessness is a relevant vulnerability factor in human trafficking, especially regarding children of migrant workers and victims of forced marriage. The issue of citizenship is important to understanding the rights of migrant workers. Susan's current project focuses on the nationality and rights of children of marriage migrants, many of whom are stateless as a result of operation of laws. Through this project, her geographic focus extends to East Asia (Taiwan and South Korea) and her substantive focus statelessness and the rights of children.

### **Peter McMullin**



Peter McMullin has an extensive legal and business career encompassing prominent roles in both the public and private sectors. He is the current Chairman and Director of privately owned, diversified

investment company McMullin Group and Special Counsel for Cornwall Stodart Lawyers, specialising in improving outcomes for the firm and its clients by facilitating meaningful connections between like-minded people.

Throughout Peter's career, he has had a deep-seated interest in community affairs. He has consistently used his professional experience and network to further causes that he feels deeply and passionately about.

Peter's belief is that the private sector has an important role to play in the resolution of many of our pressing social issues. He has made a significant contribution throughout his career forging positive, constructive partnerships between the private sector and governments, the not-for-profit sector and educational institutions.

### **Jelvas Musau**



Jelvas Musau is currently the Senior Regional Protection Officer (Statelessness) with UNHCR Regional Office for South East Asia in Bangkok; a role that he has been on since January 2018. He has

previously worked in various capacities with UNHCR in Bangladesh, Iran, Kenya, Pakistan, Sudan, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. Prior to joining UNHCR, Jelvas practiced and taught law (Moi University), and was also involved in socio-legal research and

civic education in his native Kenya. He holds a LL.B from the University of Nairobi; a Postgraduate Diploma in Law from the Kenya School of Law, and a LL.M from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

### **Professor Kim Rubenstein**



Professor Kim Rubenstein was appointed a consultant to the Commonwealth in its redrafting of Australian citizenship legislation, resulting in the 2007 Act, and later was a member of the Independent

Expert Committee set up to review the Australian Citizenship Test that reported in 2008. In 2012 she was appointed an ANU Public Policy Fellow and was named in the first batch of Westpac '100 Women of Influence' Australian Financial Review awards for her work in public policy. In October 2013 she was awarded the inaugural Edna Ryan award for 'leading feminist changes in the public sphere'.

Kim's present research involves engaging with concepts of active citizenship with the support of two Australian Research Council grants. Her oral history Linkage Project on Trailblazing Women and the Law, with the National Library of Australia, the National Foundation for Australian Women, the Federal Court of Australia, the Family Court of Australia and the Australian Women Lawyers examines how the status of being a lawyer frames women's capacity to be active citizens. Her ARC Discovery Project on The Court as Archive examines the place of Superior Courts of Record within the context of public law and citizenship: 'Can current conceptualisations of the role of Chapter III courts be extended to deepen an understanding of their function as guardians and producers of the civic experience and expectations of the Australian litigants who come before them?'

Kim is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law and the Australian Academy of Social Sciences.

### **Sophie Shugg**



Sophie Shugg has a Master's Degree of International Development and joined Plan International Australia in 2014. Formally a social worker, Sophie has spent the last nine years working in Development, Emergency and Protracted Emergency contexts. She has worked in Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh,



Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Uganda, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands, as a Child Protection and Child Rights specialist with UNICEF, UNHCR WFP, Save the Children, and a number of local organisations.

Sophie provides Child Rights & Protection technical support across Plan International Australia's program portfolio. She also manages PIA's Global Digital Birth Registration portfolio, with current programs in Pakistan, Uganda and Indonesia. She is a member of Plan International's Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) global team, supporting counties responding to emergencies through rapid deployments and the development of global CPiE resources.

### **Professor John Tobin**



Professor John Tobin is the Francine McNiff Chair in International Human Rights Law at Melbourne Law School. He is an internationally recognised expert in human rights with special expertise in children's rights. In 2010, he was awarded the Barbara Falk Award for Teaching Excellence by the University of Melbourne and in 2011 he was awarded a national citation for outstanding contribution to student learning in the area of human rights.

Professor Tobin's expertise with respect to children's rights has particular salience for the Centre in light of the fact that UNHCR estimates that there is a stateless child being born at least every 10 minutes, and observes that the effects of being born stateless are profound especially in terms of access to the most basic of human rights such as medical care. Therefore, research and advocacy with regard to the link between children's rights and statelessness is essential to finding solutions to statelessness.

### **Emeritus Professor Gillian Triggs**



Emeritus Professor Gillian Triggs is a current Vice Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne. She was the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission from 2012-2017.

Gillian was Dean of the Faculty of Law and Challis Professor of International Law at the University of Sydney from 2007-12 and Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law

from 2005-7. She is a former Barrister with Seven Wentworth Chambers and a Governor of the College of Law.

Gillian has combined an academic career with international commercial legal practice and worked with governments and international organisations advising on human rights law. She is focused on the implementation in Australian law of the human rights treaties to which Australia is a party, and on working with nations in the Asia Pacific region on practical approaches to human rights.

Gillian also served the Commission as Acting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner from 1 August 2016 to 9 February 2017.

She is the author of many books and paper, including *International Law: Contemporary Principles and Practices* (Second Edition, 2011).

### **Davina Wadley**



Davina Wadley is Head of Human Rights Advocacy at Fisher Dore Lawyers. Davina's areas of practice include refugee law, administrative law, migration law, statelessness, citizenship law, indigenous justice, discrimination law, prisoner's rights and mental health law. She is currently running a number of test-case litigation matters specifically related to refugee law, citizenship law, statelessness and migration law.

In November 2016 Davina was appointed as the Founding Coordinator of the Statelessness Network Asia Pacific (SNAP), a civil society coalition that promotes collaboration and information sharing between stakeholders who are working to address statelessness in Asia and the Pacific. As SNAP's Coordinator, Davina manages the development and implementation of SNAP's activities, in consultation with the network's members and partners.

Davina works closely with a wide network of UN organisations, NGOs, academics and affected communities. She is regularly invited to provide presentations on emerging human rights issues and training on best practice models for the representation of persons from marginalised communities. Davina also frequently travels throughout Asia and the Pacific to undertake research and engage in consultations with other human rights practitioners.