

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY™

720 Fourth Avenue South

Stewart Hall 256

St. Cloud, MN 56301

c/o FRGIWM Director Stepen Phillion

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*The Global Goes Local:*

# THE SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF IMMIGRANT WORKERS AND FAMILIES IN MINNESOTA CONFERENCE

*April 12-13th*



*Sponsored by*

*the COSS Faculty Research Group  
on Immigrant Workers in Minnesota*

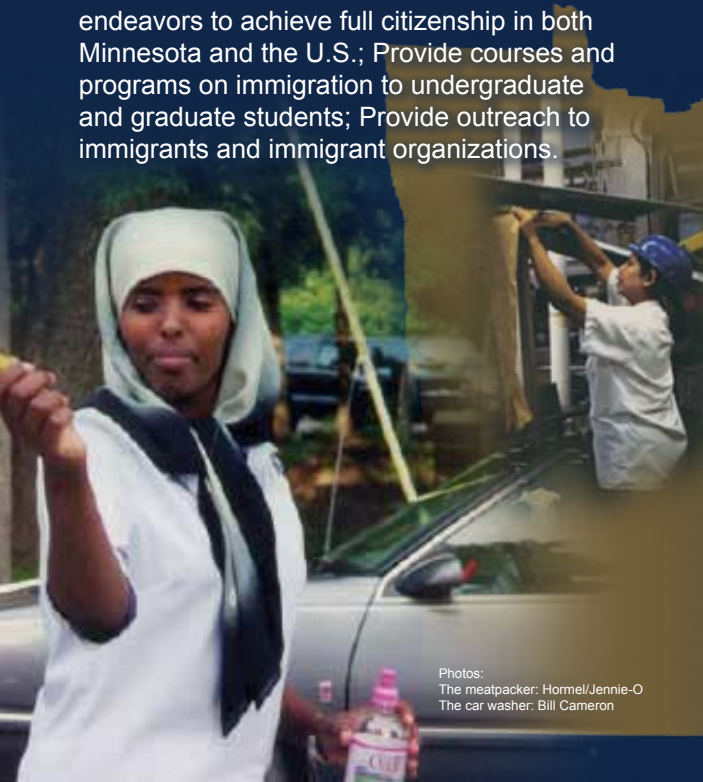
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## THE COSS FACULTY RESEARCH GROUP ON IMMIGRANT WORKERS IN MINNESOTA.

We are a group of primarily College of Social Sciences (COSS) faculty who collaborate with community based organizations on developing data of use to community and academics on the social conditions of immigrant workers in Minnesota and their communities. Our scope does not preclude research that extends beyond the scope of Minnesota, since plainly issues of why immigrant workers migrate to Minnesota and experience their respective social conditions are shaped by institutions and processes that are global in character.

### OUR MISSION:

Encourage and facilitate interdisciplinary research on immigrant workers' experiences in Minnesota's labor markets and their endeavors to achieve full citizenship in both Minnesota and the U.S.; Provide courses and programs on immigration to undergraduate and graduate students; Provide outreach to immigrants and immigrant organizations.



Photos:  
The meatpacker: Hormel/Jennie-O  
The car washer: Bill Cameron

## APRIL 12TH

**11 a.m. Panel:** *"Impacts of Immigration on Global Communities: Reflections of Social Scientists."* Orn Bodvarsson (ECON) and Mónica Garcia-Pérez (ECON), Atwood: Voyageurs North.

**12 Noon Kickoff Lecture:** *"Muslim Migrants' Stories on the Journey West."* Behzad Yaghmaian (Ramapo College), Atwood Little Theatre. Banquet starting at 1 p.m., Little Theatre Lobby.

**2 p.m. Panel:** *"New Communities of Color: Place in Small Towns and Rural Areas."* Chukwunyere Ugochukwu (CMTY), Atwood: Voyageurs North.

**3 p.m. Panel:** *"Crossing Multiple Borders: Opportunities and Challenges Facing New Immigrant Women Workers and Entrepreneurs in Minnesota"*. Ann Finan (SOC), Sandrine Zerbib (SOC), *"New Immigrant Farmers in the Midwest: An Exploration of the Challenges and Opportunities New immigrant Women face"*. and Margaret Villanueva (CMTY), Atwood: Glacier Room.

## APRIL 13TH

**9 a.m. Keynote Lecture:** *"Historical Comparisons of Immigrant Workers' Experiences in Minnesota."* Mary Wingerd (HIST), Atwood: Cascade Room.

**10 a.m. Panel:** *"Latino and East African Maintenance Workers' Battle for Health Care in the Twin Cities."* (SEIU Local 26), Atwood: Granite Room.

**11-12 Student Session:** *"Findings from the Field on Latino and Somali Immigrant Workers in Minnesota."*

Neil Panchmatia (SR): *"Somali Immigrants and Christian Social Service Organizations in Central Minnesota: A Discussion of Identity Negotiation in Religion."* Atwood: Voyageurs North.

Pat Offerdahl (SW): *"Not Having Your Family There With You: The Challenges that Somali Women Face in Resettling and Readjusting in Central Minnesota."* Atwood: Voyageurs North.

Maria Greaves (SW): *"The Challenges of Making Families for Latino Farmworkers in Stearns County."* Atwood: Voyageurs North.

Linda Gensheimer (SW): **(Discussant)**. Atwood: Voyageurs North.

**12 Noon Keynote Lecture/Lunch:** *"Challenges Facing Immigrant Workers in Minnesota Today."* Katherine Fennelly (UMN, Humphrey Center on Public Affairs). Atwood: Cascade Room.

**2 p.m. Panel:** *"Researching Labor Regimes for Latino Farm Workers in Stearns County."* Edward Greaves (POL) and Stephen Phillion (SOC). Atwood: Voyageurs North.

**2 p.m. Panel:** *"Businesses, Entrepreneurship, and Immigrant Workers."*

Mónica Garcia-Pérez (ECON): *"On Hiring Patterns and Wages on Immigrant and Native-owned Small Firms."* Atwood: Glacier.  
Mónica Segura-Schwartz (Catholic Charities): *"Contributions from Latino Professionals and Entrepreneurs in Central Minnesota."* Atwood: Glacier.

Mayuli Bales (Casa Guadalupe): *"Experiences of Cooperatives in Minnesota."* Atwood: Glacier.

**3 p.m. Panel:** *"Incorporation of Somali Workers into Minnesota's Labor Markets."* Ajay Panicker (SOC), Paul Greider (SOC), Isolde Mueller (FLL) and Abdi Mohamed (La Cruz Community Center), Mohamoud Mohamed, St. Cloud Area Somali Salvation Organization. Atwood: Voyageurs North.