

Chaire **Gordon**  
**Henderson** Chair

**Meredith TERRETTA**  
Professor of History (Arts)

**Activities 2016-2021**  
**Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights**

Human Rights Research and Education Centre  
University of Ottawa



uOttawa





The Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights was created in 1991, and is housed in the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa. As the first historian to hold the Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights, my five-year mandate (2016-2021) as chairholder was to examine the history of international refugee law and the innovative ways that both state and non-state actors — government officials, jurists, activists, and displaced populations — have put it to use since its interwar origins. The geographical focus of this research was Canada and the primary sourcing and hosting regions of refugees in Africa. My approach allowed me to build on my previous research on Africa, which is today the location of seven of the top ten source countries of refugees and four of the top ten hosting countries. While mobilizing knowledge of refugee history in Canada, I continued to research human rights history more broadly, as well as to develop courses on human rights history. Holding the chair provided me increased opportunities to contribute to local and international research partnerships and collaborations, and to enhance engagement with the public. The early impact of these contributions was noted by reviewers whose feedback supported my appointment as Full Professor this year.

In my work as Chairholder, I benefitted greatly from the HRREC that provides ideal nourishment for the interdisciplinary study of human rights, as well as vital support for the pursuit of international and cross-sector research partnerships in English and in French. Similarly, the HRREC supported my supervision and mentorship of students as well as providing a welcoming environment for international students at the doctoral level. Specifically, holding the Chair in the HRREC enhanced my graduate supervision and research assistant training, as well as course development in human rights history. Let me take this occasion to express my deep appreciation to John Packer, Director of HRREC and Neuberger-Jesin Professor of International Conflict Resolution (Common Law), to Viviana Fernandez, Assistant Director, and Caroline Faucher, Communications and Events Management Officer, as well as Kevin Kee, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Brian Ray, Vice-Dean Research, and Manon Bouladier-Major, Administrative Assistant of the Department of History, for their support and guidance during my tenure as chair.

The following specific outcomes in Research, Teaching, and Service highlight my mandate as The Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights:

## I. Research

These are the research funding grants I obtained and the deliverables I produced during my tenure as chair (detailed further below):

- As primary or co-investigator, I was awarded three SHRCC-funded projects (two Insight Development grants and one Partnership Development grant, in partnership with HRREC), totaling \$299,675.00.
- I was awarded funding by uOttawa (\$3,500.00) to invite Dr. Ernest Mvogo of the University of Douala to the University of Ottawa as part of the Visiting Researchers Program—Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal (launched in November 2019 by the University of Ottawa's Office of International Research).
- I coedited a volume on the world history of rights during the 20th and 21st centuries.
- I coedited a special issue on refuge seeking in Africa over a long timespan and broad geographical range.
- I coauthored a book on refugee hosting in Ottawa.
- I produced seven peer-reviewed journal articles on human rights, rights claims, advocate, lawyers, and colonialism/decolonization in flagship journals across multiple disciplines.
- I published five peer-reviewed book chapters on human rights, rights claims and law or legal advocacy.
- I authored or coauthored six publications for non-specialist readers.
- I produced five book reviews on scholarly histories of rights.
- I spoke—as an invited speaker and/or workshop or conference organizer or participant—24 times.
- I organized a Gordon F. Henderson Speakers' Series on Refuge Seeking and Displacement, bringing eight scholars and/or human rights practitioners from prestigious institutions around the world to uOttawa's HRREC.

## 1. RESEARCH FUNDING

### National

As the Gordon F. Henderson Chair, I contributed as principal investigator or co-investigator to two Ottawa-specific initiatives. The first project investigates whether Canada's Temporary Research Visa (TRV) issuance to African scholars poses an obstacle to internationalization and francophonie initiatives in Canada's leading research institutions. As principal investigator (with co-applicants Dr. Abdoulaye Gueye (University of Ottawa), Dr. Sarah Katz-Lavigne (University of Bayreuth), Dr. Nadège Compaoré (University of Toronto)), I was awarded a SSHRC Insight Development Grant in July 2020. This initiative integrates multidisciplinary expertise in history, sociology, international relations, and critical race theory to examine how visa policies and practices impact research collaboration, Ph.D. training and knowledge mobilization between Canada and Africa. We have developed a web application that will enable program directors, international offices, funded researchers, and other stakeholders to systematically collect qualitative data on visa refusals for invited African researchers. I look forward to working with HRREC to test this application, which, until now, has had little use due to the reduced mobility of researchers during the pandemic. Gordon F. Henderson funds contributed to this grant.

The second project was a collaboration as co-investigator with principal investigator Dr. Patti Tamara Lenard of the University of Ottawa's School of Political Studies. We successfully applied for a SSHRC Insight Development Grant (2019-2021) titled "Local Activism, Global Impact: A Case-Study of St. Joseph's (Ottawa) Parish Refugee Outreach Committee." The project objectives were to combine research in the Refugee Outreach Committee archives with oral history gathered from the committee's founding members. The approach has allowed us to better understand why Canadians become involved in refugee outreach, including private sponsorship initiatives, and how to mobilize policy to better support them in their work. With our research assistants, Stéfanie Morris and Karina Juma, both Common Law students working with the Refugee Hub and/or HRREC, we coauthored an interdisciplinary book summarizing our research findings: *Ordinary People, Extraordinary Action: Refuge Through Activism at Ottawa's St. Joseph's Parish*. The book is forthcoming with the University of Ottawa Press.

I am also co-investigator on a SSHRC funded partnership development grant (2019-2022) on Boko Haram, Islamic Protest and National Security. Both Gordon F. Henderson Chair funds and HRREC funds contributed to this partnership. Funding is further detailed below:

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June 2021—May 2022

**Insight Development Grant** | Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)

[Canada's Temporary Residence Visa Issuance to African Scholars: An Obstacle to Internationalisation and Francophonie?](#)

Type | Grant

Purpose | Operating

My Role | Principal Investigator

Funding total | \$48,949 (Canadian dollars)

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June 2019—May 2021

**Insight Development Grant** | SSHRC

[Local Activism, Global Impact: A Case-Study of St. Joseph's \(Ottawa\) Parish Refugee Outreach Committee](#)

Type | Grant

Purpose | Operating

Principal Investigator | Patti Tamara Lenard

My Role | Co-investigator

Funding total | \$50,832 (Canadian dollars)

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May 2018—May 2020

**Partnership Development Grant** | SSHRC

[Boko Haram, Islamic Protest and National Security](#)

Type | Grant

Purpose | Operating

Principal Investigator | Paul Lovejoy

My Role | Co-investigator

Funding Total | \$199,894.00 (Canadian dollars)

## Internal

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2021

Visiting Scholars Program | Office of the Vice-President, Research, University of Ottawa

International Research Training Group Pilot for Study of Force Migration

Type | Stipend

My Role | Coordinator and host

Funding Total | \$3,500.00 (Canadian dollars)

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## 2. DELIVERABLES

### Coedited Books

1. With Samuel Moyn. *The Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*. In Nehal Bhuta, Anthony Pagden and Mira Siegelberg, eds. *The Cambridge World History of Rights*. 5 Vols. Cambridge University Press. Under contract. Forthcoming 2023.

Spanning ancient history to the present, *Cambridge World History of Rights* aims to develop a historically and geographically comprehensive history of the concept of rights itself and to historicize both what we understand as rights in legal and political claims, and the ways in which our understanding of rights has changed over time.

### Coedited Special Issue

1. With Philip Janzen. "African Refuge." Special Issue of the *Canadian Journal of African Studies*, 55.3 (2021).

This special issue explores refuge seeking in Africa. It presents a comparative and transregional assessment of displaced populations in Africa over the last century. It focuses on the actions and ideas of displaced populations themselves as well as those of other historical actors. It is informed by a historical approach, but also includes work on current practices of refuge seeking and refugee-hosting both within Africa and among African communities outside the continent. Geographically, the contributions cover West, East, Central, and Southern Africa. (HRREC member Eric Allina also contributed an article.)

### Coauthored Book

1. With Stéfanie Morris, Karina Juma, and Patti Tamara Lenard. *Ordinary People, Extraordinary Action: Refuge through Activism at Ottawa's St. Joe's Parish*. University of Ottawa Press, forthcoming 2022.

### Articles

7. "Decolonizing International Law? Rights Claims, Political Prisoners, and Political Refugees during French and British Cameroons' Transition from Trust Territory to State." *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* (Duke University Press), 42.1, May 2022.

6. "Human Rights, Revolutionary Humanitarianism and African Liberation in 1970: Unsettling Discontinuities in Human Rights History." *Humanity: An International Journal of Human Rights, Humanitarianism, and Development* (University of Pennsylvania Press), forthcoming 2022.
5. "Heart Transplants, Legislating Death and Disruptive Anti-Apartheid Advocacy." *Law & History Review* (Cambridge University Press), forthcoming 2022.
4. With Philip Janzen. "Historical Perspectives on Contemporary Refuge Seeking in Africa." In *African Refuge*. Special Issue of the *Canadian Journal of African Studies* (Taylor & Francis), 55.3 (2021).
3. Terretta, Meredith and Benjamin Lawrance. "Sons of the Soil': Cause Lawyers, the Togo-Cameroun Mandates, and the Origins of Decolonization." *American Historical Review* (Oxford University Press), 125.5 (2019), 1709-1714.
2. "'In the Colonies, Black Lives Don't Matter' Legalism and Rights Claims Across the Interwar French Empire." *Journal of Contemporary History* (Sage Journals), 53.1 (2018), 12-37.
1. "Anticolonial Lawyering, Postwar Human Rights and Decolonization in Africa." *Canadian Journal of History* (University of Toronto Press) 52.3 (2017), 448-478.

## Book Chapters

5. "Human Rights Law and Colonialism." In Neha Jain and Mila Versteeg, eds. *Oxford Handbook of Comparative Human Rights Law*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Under contract. Forthcoming 2023.
4. "Claiming Land, Claiming Rights in Africa's Internationally Supervised Territories." In Charles Walton and Steven L. B. Jensen, eds. *Social Rights and the Politics of Obligation in History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Under contract. Forthcoming 2022.
3. "Direitos legais ou direitos humanos? Ativismo judicial, prisioneiros políticos e refugiados durante a transição dos Camarões franceses de protetorado a estado." In Hugo Gonçalves Dores, Ana Filipa Guardiao, Miguel Bandeira Jerónimo, José Pedro Monteiro, eds. *Os impérios do internacional: Perspectivas, Genealogias e Processos*. Lisbon: Almedina, 2020.
2. "Rights Claims and Legal Activism in the Internationally Supervised Territories of Colonial Era Africa." In Jean H. Quataert and Lora Wildenthal, eds. *The Routledge History of Human Rights*. New York: Routledge, 2019, 203-21. (HRREC members Lori Beaman and Adam Houston also contributed chapters, upon my recommendation to the editors.)
1. "The French Trials of Cléophas Kamitatu: Immigration, Politics, Leftist Activism, and Françafrique in 1970s Paris." In Benjamin Lawrance and Nathan Carpenter, eds. *Anxieties of the State: Africans in Exile Past and Present*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2018, 200-18.

## Online publications for non-specialist audiences

6. Meredith Terretta (October 2021). "Lawyers Crossing Borders: From Anti-Colonialism to Anti-Apartheid." *Transnational Solidarity Playbook*, [us-africabridgebuilding.org](http://us-africabridgebuilding.org).

5. Meredith Terretta (11 mai 2021). « Les ‘incidents raciaux’ sont des pinces à linge suspendues à une corde à linge de blancheur institutionnelle. » *Histoire engagée.ca : Là où le présent rencontre le passé.*
4. Meredith Terretta (23 March 2021). “Racial Incidents’ are Clothespins Hanging on a Clothesline of Institutional Whiteness.” *Active History: History Matters.*
3. Meredith Terretta and Melchisedek Chétima (2018). The US and France Back Cameroon’s Reign of Terror. *Africa Is a Country.*
2. Meredith Terretta (2017). Rogue Lawyers or Rights Lawyers? Strategies of Legal Activism during Africa’s Decolonization. *University of Toronto Press.*
1. Meredith Terretta. (2017). The Unfinished Business Between France and Cameroon. *Africa Is a Country.*

## Book reviews

5. Review of Samuel Fury Childs Daly, *A History of the Republic of Biafra: Law, Crime, and the Nigerian Civil War.* *Journal of Social History.* (2021).
4. Review of Bonny Ibhawoh, *Human Rights in Africa.* *American Historical Review* (2019).
3. Where are the Lawyers, the Activists, the Claimants and the Experts? Review of the book *The Making of International Human Rights: The 1960s, Decolonization, and the Reconstruction of Global Values* by Stephen L. B. Jensen. *The Human Rights Quarterly* 39.1 (2017).
2. Roundtable Review of Susan Pedersen, *The Guardians: The League of Nations and the Crisis of Empire* *H-Diplo* 18.2 (2016).
1. Review of Gregory Mann, *From Empires to NGOs in the West African Sahel: The Road to Nongovernmentality.* *The American Historical Review* 121.1 (2016).

## Keynote & Conference/Workshop Presentations (\*indicates invited)

24. \**“Human Rights Law and Colonialism.” Oxford Handbook on Comparative Human Rights workshop, University of Virginia School of Law, 8 June 2021.*
23. \**“On Lawyers, Decolonization, and International Law.” Writing Legal Lives | Histories of International Law workshop, Center for History and Economics, Harvard University, 28-30 April 2021.*
22. \**“Am I A Racist? Becoming an Ally or Activist against Racism / Suis-je raciste? Lutter contre le racisme en tant qu’allié(e) ou activiste,” 23 March 2021, University of Ottawa.*
21. \**“Environmental History in a Climate Change Present: From Local to Global.” Keynote to be delivered at the University of Ghana’s School of Arts Colloquium: Rethinking Ghana’s Environment: An Arts and Humanities Perspective, 1-2 April 2020 (cancelled due to COVID-19).*
20. \**“Human Rights, Decolonization, and Cold War Legal Strategies.” Global Legal Histories: A Symposium. Shelby Cullom Davis Center & Fung Global Fellows Program, Princeton University, 6-7 March 2020.*

19. \**"Decolonization."* *African Studies Review: African Studies Keywords Part II*, African Studies Association, Boston, 21-23 November 2019.
18. \**"Connected Histories of Violence and the Making of Our Times."* Plenary Session. *Connected Histories: Decolonization and the Twentieth Century*, Yale University: MacMillan Centre, 27 April 2019.
17. \**"The French Trials of Cléophas Kamitatu: Immigration Politics, Leftist Activism, and Françafrique in 1970s France."* Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, 26 April 2019.
16. *"Early Human Rights NGOs, Anticolonial Activists and Freedom of Movement in Decolonizing Africa."* *International Organizations and Decolonization Workshop*, Munich, Germany, January 24-26, 2019.
15. \**"Futures: African Studies and the Racial Politics of Knowledge Production, 1998 to 2028."* Board sponsored Roundtable, African Studies Association, Atlanta, GA, 29 November-1 December, 2018.
14. \**"Penser la révolution; faire le maquis: Dirigeants, combattants et civils aux fronts d'une guerre asymétrique au Cameroun."* *The Long Term: Tracing Legacies of Violence in Francophone Equatorial Africa Workshop*, Libreville, Gabon, November 22-26, 2018.
13. \*Roundtable on Bonny Ibhawoh's *Human Rights in Africa*: Author meets critic discussion with Bonny Ibhawoh, Dominique Marshall and Paul Unger, Carleton University, Ottawa, 4 October 2018.
12. \**"The Heart of the Matter: Changing Definitions of Death, International Anti-Apartheid Advocacy, and Transformative Law."* *Listening to the Rivonia Trial Workshop*, University of Witwatersrand, the France-South Africa Institute, & the Nelson Mandela Foundation, Johannesburg, 26-27 September 2018.
11. Panels on African Refuge organized for the Canadian Association of African Studies Conference, Queen's University, Kingston, ON, 3-6 May 2018: I developed a series of four panels on refugee-seeking as part of the Annual Conference of the Canadian Association of African Studies held at Queen's University. Among those whose papers I selected for the panels were seven researchers based at African universities (four of whom successfully obtained visas of entry to travel to Kingston). One important outcome of the panels is a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of African Studies* (coedited with Philip Janzen of the University of Florida) (see above).
10. \**"Thinking Historically about Human Rights at the Crossroads of the United Nations, the Cold War, and Africa's Decolonization."* Ottawa Historical Association, Ottawa, 13 March 2018.
9. \*Workshop on Thinking Historically About the Boundaries of Rights: Perspective on the US-Canada Safe Third Country Agreement with Katrina Gower, Deborah Mebude, Maggie St. Pierre, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, 20 January 2018.
8. *"Legislating Entry, Exit and Displacement to Prevent the Emergence of Refugee as a Protected Category in Late Imperial Africa."* African Studies Association, Chicago, 16-18 November 2017.
7. \*Roundtable on "Expert Witnessing in the Age of Trump: An African Studies Teach- In" with Iris Berger, Benjamin Lawrance, Carina Ray, Lynette Jackson, Robyn Barnard. African Studies Association, Chicago, 16-18 November 2017.

6. "Rhetoricizing Displacement and Exclusion in Late Imperial Africa." *Refugees and African History Workshop*, Burlington, VT, 4-5 October 2017.
5. "Anticolonial Lawyering, Postwar Human Rights, and Decolonization in Africa." Keynote Address. College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA, 27 September 2017.
4. "Rights Claims and Legal Activism in the Internationally Supervised Territories of Colonial Era Africa." *Routledge History of Human Rights Workshop*, Rice University, Houston, 25-27 May 2017.
3. "Legal Activism v. Rule of Law from Colonial to Independent Africa." *JurisTalk Series at Law and Legal Studies*, Carleton University, Ottawa, 16 March 2017.
2. "Finding Ground and Grounding Claims: Colonialism and the Law in Human Rights History." *Work-In-Progress Workshop*, University of Ottawa, 9 February 2017.
1. "Bursting at the Seams of a Common Humanity? Migration and Refuge in Historical Perspective." Keynote Address: *Launch of Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights*, University of Ottawa, 13 September 2016.

### **Gordon F. Henderson Speakers' Series Organized at HRREC**

1. Keith Watenpaugh, UC-Davis: "The Drowned, the Saved and the Forgotten: Genocide Survivors and the Foundations of Modern Humanitarianism," 15 September 2016.
2. Umut Oszu, Carleton University: "International Law and 'Population Transfer': A History of the Present," 20 October 2016.
3. Darcie Fontaine, University of South Florida: "Refugees, Sovereignty, and Humanitarian Anxiety: Regroupment Camps and the Limits of Universal Rights in the Algerian War of Independence," 11 November 2016.
4. Stephanie Bangarth, King's University College: "What has Human Rights Discourse Meant for Canadian Immigration and Refugee Policy," 12 January 2017.
5. Stephanie Pettigrew, Université du Nouveau-Brunswick : « Les Huguenots de la Nouvelle-France: Les réfugiés clandestins du XVIIe siècle », 15 February 2017.
6. Tricia Redeker-Hepner, University of Tennessee: "Transnational Political Histories and Contemporary Refugee Claims: Eritrea and its Diasporas," 6 April 2017.
7. Melchisedek Chétima, Université de Maroua (Cameroun) : « Pourquoi l'histoire est importante pour comprendre Boko Haram ? », 25 May 2017.
8. Felix Agbor Nkongho, University of Buea (Cameroon): "Human Rights and Humanitarian Situation in Anglophone Cameroon: How Can Canada Help?," 30 October 2018.

# Gordon F. Henderson Speaker Series on Refugee History

## Conférences Gordon F. Henderson sur l'histoire des réfugiés



AHL1500 | Initiation aux études interdisciplinaires en Arts (Hiver 2018)

**MAL HUMAIN, DROITS HUMAINS :**  
L'esclavage, le colonialisme et le génocide d'un point de vue historique

Eric Allina | Meredith Terretta (EN) | Micheline Lessard (FR) | Jan Grabowski

En trois sections de quatre semaines chacune, les étudiants apprendront comment les historiens abordent trois problèmes de l'humanité--l'esclavage, le colonialisme et le génocide--au fil d'une longue durée temporelle et à travers de vastes étendues géographiques.



Ce cours est développé avec le soutien du Centre de recherche et d'enseignement sur les droits de la personne.



Top right: Stephanie Bangarth (King's University College, University of Western Ontario) and Meredith Terretta; Bottom left: Umut Ozsü (Carleton University) and Meredith Terretta; Bottom right: Éric Allina (uOttawa), Audace Gatavu (Visiting researcher), Nicole Turmaine (OpenAIR), Meredith Terretta et Melchisedek Chétima (Gordon F. Henderson Postdoctoral Fellow 2017-2018).

## II. Course Development & Graduate/Postgraduate Supervision

### Course Development

Adding to my course offerings in African history, I developed courses on rights and/or refugee history at all levels of the curriculum. The courses I developed during my tenure as Gordon F. Henderson Chair are as follows:

#### 1. Human Rights in the Age of the Universal Declaration (3000-level)

In Fall 2016, I designed an online 3000-level course cross-listed in History and Law (HIS-DCC) called Human Rights in the Age of the Universal Declaration. In it, I guide students through the ways that universal human rights were bound up with colonialism in contradictory ways, even before the UN's adoption of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Rather than assuming normative concepts of universal rights as a given, the course focuses student learning on historical contingency, human agency, and the importance of social struggle, rights claiming, and contestation in defining human rights, even as supranational institutions (such as the UN) and NGOs sought to ensure their protection throughout the world. Due to procedural obstacles between Faculties around TA funding, I was unable to continue teaching this as a cross-listed course with DCC.

#### 2. Introduction to Interdisciplinary Study in the Arts (AHL) / Introduction to Global History (HIS): Human Wrongs, Human Rights: Slavery, Colonialism, and Genocide in Historical Perspective (1000-level)

I developed this course in Fall 2018 and recruited colleagues specializing in the history of genocide and slavery to teach it with me. This interactive, interdisciplinary lecture course addresses three global historical questions of slavery, colonialism, and genocide in three modules of four weeks each. We familiarize students with scholarly approaches to big questions spanning broad temporal and geographical ranges. In designing our lectures and course activities around these questions, we introduce students to the key concepts defined in the departmental program objectives, which include developing awareness of historical thinking, historical significance, primary source evidence, continuity and change, cause and consequence, historical perspective, and ethics in history.

In preparing to teach the course together in Fall 2019, HRREC member Dr. Eric Allina and I successfully applied for a Blended Learning Initiative from uOttawa's Teaching and Learning Support Service to integrate active learning activities and lectures. Students now engage with various material such as primary source readings, digitally interactive historical maps, documentary films, and podcasts, each assigned to familiarize them with a key concept, for example, terra nullius, the modern era concept of "land belonging to no one" that underwrote settler colonialism in various geographical settings. Dr. Allina and I further developed the online active learning delivery of the course this Fall 2020, incorporating a live chat function into course delivery.

#### 3. History Across Borders: A Twentieth-Century History of Refuge Seeking (4000-level)

In Winter 2020, I developed a 4000-level History Across Borders course titled A Twentieth-Century History of Refuge Seeking. Students blog (in advance of in-class discussion) about the assigned readings, and about the topics they select to independently research. Students participate in discussion either by commenting on peers' blogposts online, or orally in class. Students work in small groups on topics that they select within guiding parameters, uploading a three-part blog on the topic every three or four weeks. Their peers provide feedback either online or in class when groups present their research.

The course material juxtaposes memoirs, primary sources, and podcasts with scholarly historical and conceptual analyses of evolving activism, international, regional, and domestic laws that influence the experience and agency of refuge seekers, comparing and contrasting how historians and legal scholar approach the history of refugees, refuge seeking, and refugee laws, with the expressions of refugees themselves. Encouraged by the variety of material assigned, and familiar with working in focused groups on their collaborative projects, students become comfortable sharing personal experiences that shape their understanding of refugees and refuge seeking (experiential learning).

#### 4. Decolonizing Africa in an Internationalizing World (7000-level)

I developed this graduate-level seminar for Winter 2021. In it, students consider African decolonization within an internationalist or transregional framework, guided by big questions about sovereignty, race and racialization, federation, alienation of land, extraterritorial political sites beyond borders, transnational solidarities, and worldmaking. Historiographical aims of the seminar are: to articulate social history with internationalist history, to reperiodize decolonization, to examine its postcolonial aftermaths, and to question whether decolonization has been achieved. Secondary goals include exploration of the importance of colonial history to both former colonial powers and formerly colonized African states. Students gain historical understanding of the influence of Africa's decolonization on shifting global norms, such as on international human rights law and protocols. Students are encouraged to undertake comparative/transregional research for the final projects.

#### Graduate and Postgraduate Supervision

From January 2017 to the present, I have been supervising Jacob Tatsitsa, a Francophone doctoral student researching the decolonization of Cameroon. He has now completed his dissertation and will defend in Fall 2021. Gordon F. Henderson funds supported his study at uOttawa and his membership in HRREC provided him with a place to work and a sense of belonging. This was crucial to his successful completion of doctoral study. He will be only the second Africa-descended doctoral student to have completed a PhD in History at the University of Ottawa since the program's inception.

In 2017-2018, I supervised and mentored Dr. Melchisedek Chétima, a Francophone Gordon F. Henderson postdoctoral fellow (also hosted at HRREC). Dr. Chétima went on to be awarded a Banting Fellowship, and will be taking up a tenure track position in history at the University of Montréal in January 2022.

Since September 2018, I have been supervising Candide Nyondo, a Francophone doctoral student researching historical formations of urban identities in Kinshasa (D.R. Congo).

#### Research Assistants Hired with Gordon F. Henderson Funds

- Audace Gatavu (HRREC member) | 50 hours, research assistance  
Categorization and analysis of petitions sent from the inhabitants of the UN Trust Territory of Ruanda Urundi to the UN from circa 1946 to circa 1963.
- Phil Janzen | 50 hours, research and project assistance  
Short writing tasks (e.g.: the statement on Jan Grabowski) and assistance on two refugee history workshop and publication projects.

- Samantha Moyes | 50 hours, research assistance  
Categorization and analysis of petitions sent from the inhabitants of the UN Trust Territory of Tanganyika to the UN from circa 1946 to circa 1963; training of others on project.
- Elysa McConnell (HRREC member) | 10 hours, course development  
Development of online learning platforms and assignments for DCC 3111.
- Audace Gatavu (HRREC member) | 200 hours, assistance  
With the direction of the Canadian Association of African Studies.
- Abarna Selvarajah | 260 hours, assistance  
With collection of IRCC data on Temporary Residence Visa/Study permit issuance.
- Jacob Tatsitsa (HRREC member) | Multiple subventions from 2016-2021  
Assistance with interview transcription, file naming and translation.

### III. Service Engagements

#### Internal

In 2020-2021, I became a founding member of Histoire antiraciste uOttawa Antiracist History, an interdisciplinary group bringing together historians from across the faculties (Arts, Social Sciences, Education, and the uOttawa library) who share the purpose of thinking historically to confront racism, starting within our own university community.

While Gordon F. Henderson Chair, I served on the Research Development Program—Social Sciences and Humanities Committee (2018-2021), the HRREC Management Committee (2016-2021), and the University of Ottawa Scholars-At-Risk Committee (2018-present).

#### National

I am a member of the New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) Standing Committee where I am part of a multidisciplinary review panel evaluating interdisciplinary, collaborative applications submitted by early career researchers in the NFRF's inaugural Exploration stream.

In 2017 and 2018 I served as a member of the selection panel for the Canada Graduate Scholarships to Honour Nelson Mandela.

For three years (2017-2020), I served on the Wallace K. Ferguson committee of the Canadian Historical Association, which "recognizes the outstanding scholarly book in a field of history other than Canadian history."

I am an editorial board member of the International Themes and Issues Series of the University of Toronto Press.

In May 2017, the executive committee of the Canadian Association of African Studies (CAAS) elected me as President for 2018-2019 and therefore I also served on the Board as President-Elect (2017-2018) and as outgoing President (2019-2020). Under my leadership, the executive committee restructured, diversified, democratized, and revitalized the association. The CAAS has increased visibility across Canada and beyond while also becoming more welcoming to graduate students and early-career researchers.

## International

In 2019, I was appointed a member of the Editorial Review Board of *History in Africa*, an international peer-reviewed scholarly journal published by Cambridge University Press.

Since 2016, I have reviewed applications each year for membership in the School of Historical Studies of the Institute of Advanced Study (Princeton, New Jersey).

While Gordon F. Henderson Chair, I served on a number of Africa-related steering and program committees, for example as co-chair of the African Studies Association Program Committee Sub-theme “Interrogating African Studies” (2019-2020); and on the Organizing Committee of the 2017 Institute of African Studies and the African Heads of Mission Conference (Carleton University, 2016-2017).

I evaluated numerous manuscripts (books and articles) for scholarly journals and presses including, most recently, *The University of Chicago Press*; *The American Historical Review*; *The Journal of African History*; *Intervention and Statebuilding*; *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*; *The Journal of Global Security Studies*; *Refuge: Canada’s Journal on Refugees*; *The Journal of African Economic History*; and *French Colonial History*, among others.

While Gordon F. Henderson Chair, I was interviewed for radio programmes in Canada and abroad, including Radio-Canada, CBC’s *All in a Day*, Radio France Internationale’s *La Marche du Monde*, and France Culture’s *La Fabrique de l’histoire*.

I contribute expertise to the community at large by regularly providing expert testimony on country conditions on asylum cases. For example, I was invited in December 2018 to participate in a cross-sector Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum Meeting on Cameroon organized by the Social Sciences Research Council in New York.

October 2021  
Professor Meredith Terretta  
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Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights

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