

Association Newsletter

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Raleigh Bailey

Carol Young

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SAVE THE DATE – ARSP 3rd Annual Conference June 2nd and 3rd, 2011 Boston University

The Third Annual Conference for the Association for Refugee Service Professionals will be held at Boston University, June 2nd and 3rd, 2011.

The conference will be hosted by the Boston University School of Theology, the Boston Theological Institute, and Refugee Immigration Ministry of Boston.

This year's conference will again focus on professional growth for our membership. We have a number of exciting workshops planned.

ARSP has made arrangements with Boston University for a block of dorm rooms to be available for those who wish to stay on campus. Rooms



overlook the Boston skyline and the Charles River.

ARSP Board of Directors for 2011

At its annual Board meeting held in New York City on December 3rd and 4th, 2010, four new Board Members were elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Association for Refugee Service Professionals for the calendar year 2011.

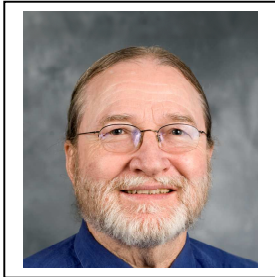
Please welcome Raleigh Bailey, Caitriona Lyons,

Carol Young and Ruth Bersin to the Board for 2011.

Other business included assignment of committee chairs for the upcoming year, discussion of our goals of professional certification, and a renewed commitment to provide educational opportunities

for our membership.

Raleigh Bailey



Raleigh Bailey, Ph.D., was founding Director of the Center for New North Carolinians (CNNC) at UNCG and Senior Research Scientist in the School of Human Environmental Sciences at UNCG. In 2001, CNNC was established by the UNC Board of Governors to be a resource to the state university system in immigrant outreach, research, and training. In 2003 he received the lifetime

achievement award from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Refugee Program for service to refugees, and in 2008 he received the Outstanding Leadership Award from the North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service. In 2010 he began his sixteenth year as overseer of the AmeriCorps ACCESS Project (Accessing Cross Cultural Education Service Systems)

based at CNNC. He stepped down from the Center Director position in January, 2010, but continues as a Senior Research Scientist in the School of Human Environmental Sciences, focusing on immigrant related research, and continues to oversee the AmeriCorps Projects of the Center. In March of 2010 the Governor's Office of the State of North Carolina awarded him the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Bio (continued)

During 1993 and 1994, Raleigh administered the Casa Guadalupe Hispanic Outreach Project for Catholic Social Services in Winston-Salem. From 1989 to 1993, he lived in Southeast Asia: first in Thailand where he administered an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) refugee training program through the Department of State; and then in Cambodia where he administered a USAID funded prosthetics project for

land mine victims. Prior to that, 1984-89, Raleigh served as Director of Refugee Programs for Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas. During that time he directed the initial Montagnard resettlement project in the US. The project received a White House Presidential Citation. From 1976 to 1984, Raleigh was an education and training specialist with the Head Start State Training Office at NC A & T State

University. Prior to that, he taught anthropology at Guilford College. He has an undergraduate degree from Florida Southern College and a theological degree from Boston University. His doctoral work at Hartford Seminary Foundation was in anthropology of religion. He was born in Miami, Florida.

Carol Young

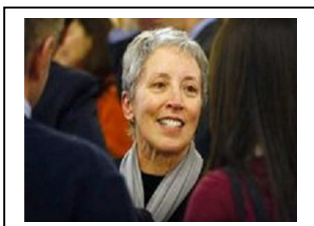
Carol Young served as the Executive Director of Kentucky Refugee Ministries from 1999 through December 2009. Kentucky Refugee Ministries is a local affiliate of Church World Service and Episcopal Migration Ministries. Prior to her position as Executive Director, Carol served as a Case Manager from 1992-1999.

Carol's previous experience was in education, serving as an Enrichment Teacher, Educational Examiner, and Research Assistant/ Psychometrician.

Carol has a B.A. in Psychology, from Regis College, Weston, Massachusetts, and a

Certificate in Non-Profit Management, from Bellarmine University.

Carol served on the Louisville Metro Office of International Affairs, from 2002 – 2009, and serves as co-chair of Mayor-Elect Fisher's International team for 2010.



Ruth Bersin

The Rev. Ruth H. Bersin, M.A.R., M.Div., D. Min, Ph.D. is an Episcopal Priest with experience as a teacher and in the business world. She has extensive experience in immigration issues. She has worked in the nonprofit sector since 1975 and is a Certified Fund Raising Executive with extensive experience in marketing and fund raising. She is currently the Executive Director of Refugee Immigration Ministry in Boston. She was Executive Director for English Life Line from 1989-1992 and served as a Civilian clergy person on the Yokosuka Navy Base at that time. Dr. Bersin is a clinical member of American Association of Pastoral Counselors and a Certified Fund Raising Executive. She has training as a chaplain in a reform school, in a medical center and she

received a trauma certificate from the Trauma Center in Brookline. In addition, she received specialized training for police chaplaincy in 1996 following her work as Team Leader for the National Organization of Victim Assistance in response to the Oklahoma City bombing. She has provided training for volunteer chaplains for detention centers across the country. In collaboration with the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants she organized a conference for Refugee Service Providers. She is serving on the National Association for Refugee Service Professionals and on the National Advisory Committee for Episcopal Migration Ministries.

Dr. Bersin has written on Spirituality in the Recovery Process after Traumatic Experience and has given

papers on the subject to numerous conferences including the Episcopal East Coast Military Chaplains Conference, Association of Trauma Stress Specialists, and American Association of Pastoral Counselors. She has published an article: "Healing Traumatic Memories: A Spiritual Journey." in Theological Literacy for the 21st Century, Eerdmans, 2002 and "Life Beyond the Gates." in The Antioch Agenda, Andover Newton Theological School and The Boston Theological Institute, New Delhi, 2007. Her dissertation topic: *"Community-based Resettlement: Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Asylees Rebuild Their Lives with the Help of Congregations and Community."*



Caitriona Lyons

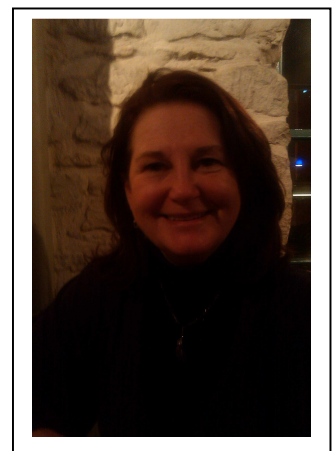
Caitriona Lyons, began her work in the area of refugee and immigration programs many years ago and is privileged to be working for the US refugee program. She is currently the Refugee Program Coordinator for the State of Texas Health and Human, Services Commission.

Prior to this, she worked in the Government Relations department within the Texas Department of Human

Services as an immigration specialist. She has extensive work experience in the non-profit sector including the direction of a refugee resettlement program in Austin for USCCB.

Caitriona has a master's in Human Services Administration from St. Edward's University and is a licensed social worker. She is the past President for the State Coordinator's of

Refugee Resettlement association and currently serves on the executive board. In June 2006, Caitriona was awarded Outstanding American by Choice by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services for her work with immigrants and refugees in Texas.



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“The Other Side of Resettlement”

In early 2007, after a decade of domestic resettlement experience, I came to the personal realization that it was time for change. Knowing that I wanted to remain in the refugee field, I came to work in the Bangkok Overseas Processing Entity (OPE) and learn about “the other side” of resettlement.

The overseas processing of refugees had always remained a somewhat vague process during my time in the U.S. I now understand more clearly that each processing post faces its own unique challenges and operating environment. As an example, the recent shutdown of Thailand’s main international airport for a week due to political protests has resulted in a number of refugees being unable to depart. While there are standard operating procedures, just as in domestic resettlement, the ability to remain flexible and adapt quickly to change is key.

I have also been impressed by the level of coordination that is critical with partners like UNHCR, IOM, BPRM, USCIS and the RPC (to name only a few) to move a case from initial referral to prescreening to USCIS interview and finally on to departure.

In the U.S., I envisioned cases as being relatively static as they applied for the USRAP, but my time here has assured me that refugees go on living their lives during the sometimes lengthy process – births, deaths, marriages, divorces and other life changing events do happen. And all impact a refugee’s processing time.

My work has given me the chance to visit several of the camps here in Thailand and, just as with my domestic experience, the best part of my work with the OPE has been the opportunity to work one-on-one with the refugees and witness their amazing resilience in the midst of hardship.

Here more about working the other side of resettlement at our June Conference in Boston.

*Lisa David
Processing Manager
OPE/Bangkok*

ARSP to Schedule an International Educational Visit in 2011

The recent survey of our membership revealed Kathmandu, Jordan, and Kenya as the top sites for our next Educational Trip.

Thus our committee is beginning preparations for a trip to view processing of refugees overseas.

ARSP has been in contact with the overseas entities and depending upon costs and/or world events our plans will continue for a visit in 2011.

This will provide an excellent opportunity to see firsthand how

refugees are processed.

Watch for upcoming details about our trip.



Last year’s ARSP trip to Mae La Camp Thailand