



E-Gazette

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Graduate destinations: MPP graduate Lisa Jacobsen (USA)

Learning New Perspectives

Hi! My name is Lisa Jacobson. I live in Alexandria, Virginia, USA, and I work in Washington, D.C. I came to the Graduate School of Governance at Maastricht University as a mid-career professional, having already worked in the public sector in the U.S. for several years, primarily for the U.S. Government. Though I already had a master's degree in a related discipline, I chose to pursue an MPP at Maastricht to keep current in the field of public policy and to gain new perspectives by studying in a European setting. I am currently employed by the U.S. State Department where I work as a program



manager of an assistance program that helps countries to develop strategic trade controls and enhance border security in order to meet international standards and mandates. I believe that it is important to understand the viewpoints of others in the world in order to take on the challenges of the future in a more cooperative fashion. I found that the MGSoG was a great place for critically examining public policy issues and discussing solutions. The facilities at UM were state-of-the-art; the faculty was well-qualified and accomplished in their field; the class programmes were multi-disciplinary; and the class discussions were always thought-provoking. So, regardless of where you are in your career path – whether just starting out or at mid-career -- I would highly recommend pursuing a master's programme at the MGSoG for gaining valuable insight into the current issues in the field of public policy and for learning new perspectives.

[Please click here to learn about our graduate destinations >>](#)

**Short + intensive + high-level scientists + field experts + debate =
Advanced Academic Update** (*Workers Without Borders: Rethinking
Economic Migration*)

On March 18 and 19 the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance hosted the second Advanced Academic Update called “Workers Without Borders: Rethinking Economic Migration”. The Update was built around four themes, being *Migration Trends*, *Migration Management*, *Remittances* and *Migration and Development*. For each of the themes, high-level scientists and policy makers were invited to speak on the current state of the art, which resulted in an interesting multidisciplinary programme.

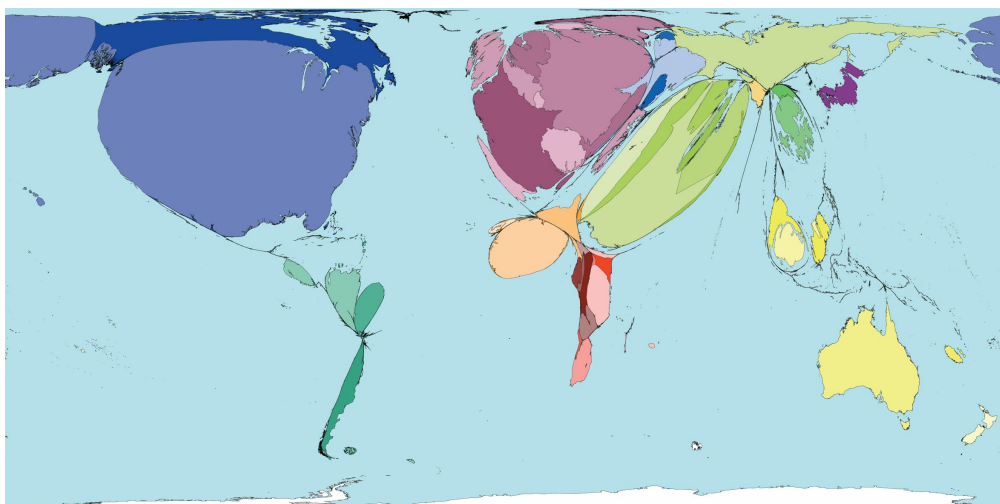
Khalid Koser (The Brookings Institute) opened the event with a comprehensive talk on the main dimensions and dynamics of migration, followed by Hildegard Schneider (Maastricht University) with an insightful legal overview of European and international migration policy. The afternoon session was more policy oriented, with Sandra Pratt (former European Commission) and Rita Süßmuth (former President of the German Federal Parliament) reviewing the difficult reality of policy making and highlighting the main challenges. Jaap Dronkers (European University Institute) completed the afternoon with an analysis of the social economic integration of immigrants in the EU.

The first day of the Advanced Academic Update was round up with a debate on *brain drain*. Oded Stark (a.o. University of Bonn) introduced the topic with a short lecture in which he modelled the mechanisms of brain drain, indicating the gains and losses of migration of the highly skilled for both the host and home country. After the introduction, moderator Jo Ritzen (Maastricht University) introduced the panel of experts who lively debated on the model displayed and the topics brought in by the participants. The day was closed with a dinner and an enlightening dinner speech from Deputy Minister Ms. Nebahat Albayrak (Deputy Minister of Justice, The Netherlands).

The programme of the second day started early with the session on remittances. Samuel Munzele Maimbo (World Bank) opened the day focusing on the role of remittances in conflict regions, followed by an analysis of Catalina Amuedo-Dorantes (San Diego State University) highlighting the impact of regulations on remittance flows. The final session on migration and development started with a presentation from Chris de Neubourg (MGSOG) on the impediments to migration. Subsequently, Oded Stark (o.a. University of Bonn) enlightened the audience with his model on the dynamics of migration with as main determinant the relative deprivation of people within their (sub) population. Frederic Docquier (IRES) moved the analysis to the macro-level using a CGE model where he introduced a large migration shock in order to estimate the potential impact of such a shock in the long run. Next, Hillel Rapoport (Bar-Ilan University) empirically analysed the self-selection patterns of Mexican migrants to the USA, indicating the importance of exposure to migration within the Mexican network as determinant for migration and substitute to education as main determining factor. Finally, Hein de Haas (Oxford University) linked back to

the first day of the AAU with an overview of different more theoretical perspectives on migration.

After two long but interesting days, both speakers and audience headed home with more than enough material to digest. We would like to thank the participants and speakers for their contribution to this AAU. We at the School certainly enjoyed the AAU, and based on the positive response from both participants and speakers, we will look forward to host a follow up AAU in the future.



Net Immigration Across the World (Source: www.worldmapper.org)

MGSoG Online Course Governance & Political Science about to start!

We will once again offer its online course on Governance & Political Science. The course will last for 7 weeks and will take place from the 28th of April until the 17th of June, 2008. The admission fee is €200 for external participants. Interested fellows and students will be exempted from this fee.

The content of the course will explore key concepts in political science and how they relate to the study of governance in different fields of political science. It is organized as an introductory exploration to the wider study of politics and presupposes little or no knowledge of politics or governance and their diverse literatures and methodologies of investigation. The course will be organized on the basis of 5 content modules. The first is an introduction to what is politics and how is it studied. It is followed by three modules corresponding to three sub-fields of political research; namely, states and political systems, policy and public administration, international relations and regional integration. Finally, there is a module on the methodology and techniques of political research which, among other topics, discusses the unique characteristics of political analysis. In this course, governance is integrated into the study of politics both as an object of analysis and, crucially, as an analytical approach that cross-cuts all three sub-fields/foci of political research mentioned above. In this respect the course differs from a traditional introduction to politics as it discusses not only how the variety of macro-theoretical, meso-theoretical and methodological approaches relate to the study of governance but also how studying governance brings a

conceptually and analytically richer perspective into the study of governing societies.

If you interested in following this course, please follow these 2 steps:

1. Complete the compulsory entry-test, which you can access by [clicking here](#).
2. Contact the course coordinator (martin.rehm@governance.unimaas.nl), in order to receive more detailed information.

We hope to be able to welcome you soon to the online course!

Nice to meet you... Floor Bergmans (Student Affairs Officer)



Hello there!

Let me introduce myself; I'm Floortje Bergmans. The 'new' member of the Student Affairs Office. I started last year, 1 November 2007. Since September last year me and my partner moved to Maastricht because of his work for DSM. Before that we lived in Delft. In Delft I worked for the Technical University of Delft, the Faculty of Industrial Engineering, as a Servicedesk Coordinator. Together with a team of 8 colleagues we'd answered different kind of questions concerning student facilities, logistics, IT problems, etcetera. I did that for almost two years with great fun and enthusiasm. Moving to the most Southern city of Holland was a relieving experience.

After the busy and hectic atmosphere in the 'Randstad', Maastricht is very cozy and relaxing. Almost like living in a village. We bought our first home and are still working in and around it. It's a bit more work than we thought at first. But really satisfying. As for my new job here at the School of Governance I am really having a great time.

Nice colleagues, challenging and diverse work on a daily base! I hope to continue being a member of the staff for at least the next few years.

Greets Floor

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