



CANADA'S PERIODICAL ON REFUGEES REFUGE

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Meeting The Refugee Challenge: Perspectives From the 2000 Summer Course

Introduction

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This is the third year we have dedicated a special issue of *Refuge* for participants and faculty of the Summer Course on Refugee Issues. The Summer Course issue provides a forum for sharing perspectives on the broad themes addressed in the seven day intensive programme. Launched in 1993 with financial assistance from the UNHCR, the Summer Course has hosted remarkably diverse groups of participants and faculty from every corner of the world. This year, in addition to a strong complement of faculty from York University and other Canadian institutions, guest

faculty included Carol Bachelor (UNHCR, Geneva), Dr. Paul Spiegel (Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta), Prof. Ogenga Otunnu (DePaul University, Chicago), Prof. Barbara Harrell-Bond (American University, Cairo) and Prof. V. Vijayakumar (National Law School of India University, Bangalore). Participants came from South Africa, Ethiopia, Egypt, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Australia, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United States as well as Canada and represented the full spectrum of institutional, academic, legal

and non-governmental sectors. As in previous years, the papers included in this special issue reflect the diversity that is intrinsic to the Summer Course itself.

Maki Katoh provides a critical perspective on refugee assistance, highlighting the need to transcend the dualistic "we versus they" mentality that informs so much of refugee work. Prof. V. Vijayakumar traces the historical antecedents and current dimensions of refugee protection in South Asia with particular reference to India, concluding with an interesting comparison of

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