**Form Name:** Bass Connections Immigration Pop-up RFP

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| **Project title (75 character maximum):** | **Migration and Deportation among Guatemalans in the U.S. and Guatemala City** |
| **Primary point of contact for project:** | Erik Wibbels, Robert O. Keohane Professor of Political Science |

**2. Project Description**

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| **Please provide a brief description of the project approach and goals, including a description of the planned research methods and activities. (4,000 character maximum)** | Historically, migration has had an important cyclical component, with migrants leaving and returning home many times in response to family needs in their communities of origin as well as opportunities at destination. In today's world, the circular nature of migration is often forced as governments are deporting millions of migrants every year. From the Turkish government's proposal to deport millions of displaced Syrians (NYT 9/10/2019), to the Trump administration's ongoing efforts to deport tens of thousands of Central Americans from the U.S. (WaPo 9/11/2019, WaPo 9/28/2019), it is increasingly important to understand the implications of deportation for the deported migrants themselves, the communities from which they are taken, as well as the communities to which they are forcibly returned. By providing insight into the experience of deportation on both sides of the U.S. border, our proposed Bass Connections project aims to provide timely input into crucial political, policy, and humanitarian issues.  This proposed project includes two related research prongs: First, primary research on how the historically unprecedented deportation of Guatemalan immigrants in the U.S. impacts recent deportees arriving in Guatemala and the communities to which they are returning; and second, parallel primary research on the experience of mass deportations within affected Central American immigrant communities in North Carolina. These prongs are united in an effort to understand the transnational nature and household impacts (both health and economic) of deportation. In addition, this research will engage Duke undergraduate and graduate students in primary research on one of the most pressing topics in domestic U.S. and international politics. Moreover, this research includes faculty across Political Science, Public Policy, and Economics at Duke as well as demographers and criminologists at RTI International. Our proposed project also leverages partnerships with Te Conecta (a Guatemalan NGO), and Church World Services (a U.S.-based NGO servicing refugee populations).  Prong 1: The U.S. is deporting 3-5 planes full of Guatemalans four days a week (NBC News 2018), yet there are virtually no systematic studies of the reintegration of recent deportees from the U.S. Many Guatemalan deportees face particularly stark reintegration challenges because they grew up in the U.S. Indeed, there is extremely scant research on deportees anywhere in the world. Building on ongoing survey and proposed experimental research between DevLab@Duke, RTI, and Te Conecta on job training and reintegration among deportees in Guatemala City, we aim to fill this research gap with follow-up interviews among deportees in order to understand the challenges this population faces as they are forcibly returned to Guatemala City.   Prong 2: In order to better understand how this surge in deportations is impacting Central American immigrant households in North Carolina, this research prong will partner with Church World Services (CWS) in Durham, NC to survey Guatemalan immigrant households. CWS has a long history of working with refugees and other immigrant populations across the state, and will provide entry into immigrant communities with large concentrations of Guatemalans. This component of the research will also build upon RTI's past work with migrant populations in North Carolina.  Our proposed parallel research efforts will engage Duke undergraduate and graduate students, faculty from multiple departments, as well as research partnerships beyond Duke to examine the Guatemalan deportation crisis from multiple dimensions - both from the perspective of recent deportees arriving in Guatemala City, and from the perspective of North Carolina's Guatemalan (and larger Latin American) immigrant community currently experiencing day-to-day life in a climate of mass deportation. |
| **What are anticipated outcomes from this project? (e.g., publications, website, app, data collection for further research/grant) (1,000 characters maximum)** | The anticipated outcomes include primary quantitative data (household-based surveys) and qualitative data (in depth interviews) among recent U.S. deportees in Guatemala as well as among Guatemalan immigrants in Durham, NC, and surrounding areas. In addition to the primary data collected, additional anticipated outcomes include at least one policy report, two publications, and proposals for further research funding (one funding proposal has already been submitted). Our proposed research will also inform the Guatemalan government. Recently, it requested a debriefing from our team's Guatemala Deportation Study and is eager for results. Finally, student researchers will obtain independent study credit for their participation in the project. In the process, student researchers will be involved in the development, implementation, and analysis of survey data, including key informant interviews, survey design, survey programming, database construction, and data analysis. |
| **Is this proposed project an extension of existing work or a new endeavor? (1,200 character maximum)** | The proposed project builds on existing longitudinal research between DevLab, RTI, and Te Conecta that surveys Guatemalan deportees from the U.S. as they arrive in Guatemala City. This project also builds on a separate funding proposal for experimental research on the effect of different job training strategies on deportees' reintegration. Likewise, the research builds on previous RTI research on undocumented migrants in North Carolina and CWS' ongoing work with refugee populations throughout the Triangle.  As noted above, our proposed Bass Connections research will also help to inform the Guatemalan government. During the past several months, the number of Guatemalan deportees arriving in Guatemala City has averaged more than 1,000 persons per week. However, little is known about the population of deportees reentering Guatemala. Our team's proposed research will help provide the basis for data-driven decision-making re. reintegration that will help guide Guatemalan policymakers.  In addition, the NC component will contribute to our existing research initiatives by informing our understanding of the impacts of mass deportation on families and individuals who remain in the U.S. |

**3. Team Composition**

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| **Team Leaders: Please list all team leaders below, including Name, Title, and Department/School.** | Erik Wibbels (Principal Investigator), Robert O. Keohane Professor of  Political Science and Co-Director DevLab@Duke University  Erica Field, Professor of Economics and Co-Director DevLab@Duke  University  Pamela Latimore, Senior Director for Research Development, Division for Applied Justice Research (AJR), RTI International  Jay Pearson, Assistant Professor, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke  University |
| **Team Contributors: Please list all team contributors below, including Name, Title, and Department/School.** | Catherine (Katie) Andrzejewski, Senior Research Scientist, DevLab@Duke  University  Katherine (Cas) Cogswell, Immigration Counselor, Church World Services  (CWS), Durham, NC  David Dow, Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Department of Political  Science and DevLab@Duke University  Christopher Inkpen, Demographer, RTI International  José Ordoñez, Te Conecta, Guatemala City, Guatemala  Wayne Pitts, Research Criminologist, RTI International |
| **PROJECT MANAGER: Do you plan to assign someone other than a faculty leader as a “project manager” for your team?** | Yes |
| **STUDENT PARTICIPATION: Ideally, how many graduate students would you select to participate on this team? (Numeric responses only, please)** | 2 |
| **Ideally, how many undergraduate students would you select to participate on this team? (Numeric responses only, please)** | 8 |
| **What would be the ideal composition of team members for this project? What majors, disciplines, skills, backgrounds, or perspectives would you like to have on the team? (1,200 characters maximum)** | Four undergraduates and one graduate student are envisioned to travel to  Guatemala for up to two weeks for the Guatemala research during spring  break or early summer (Prong 1), and at least four undergraduates and one  graduate student will engage in the N.C. component (Prong 2), totaling at  least 10 student researchers. Students will receive independent study  credit for their participation on the project, and a travel stipend (including  airfare and lodging costs) will be awarded for the Guatemala research  group.  This is an interdisciplinary project drawing from investigators trained across  the social sciences (e.g., Political Science, Economics, Demography,  Sociology, etc.) and with extensive experience in migration research as  well as quantitative and qualitative research methods. Students from  across the social sciences, including political science, economics,  sociology, anthropology, and public policy will likely be most interested.  Students from countries in Latin America (especially Guatemala or  elsewhere in Central America), and/or those with Spanish language skills  and interest in Central America and/or migration will be of most interest to the research project team. |
| **EXTERNAL PARTNERS: Will your team also include any external organizations or individuals as either partners, clients, study subjects, beneficiaries of the work, etc.?** | Yes |
| **Please name the individual(s) and/or organization(s), and provide a brief description of how you intend to engage them in the work. Please also note whether any of the team leaders have previously partnered with the individual(s)/organization(s), or whether this would be a new relationship. (1,200 character maximum)** | This proposed project will include researchers from Duke University (e.g.,  Erik Wibbels, Jay Pearson, Erica Field, and Katie Andrzejewski), Church  World Services (Cas Cogswell), RTI International (Pamela Latimore,  Christopher Inkpen, Wayne Pitts), and Te Conecta (José Ordoñez) in  Guatemala City.  DevLab@Duke has been working with RTI and Te Conecta in Guatemala  City on the ongoing longitudinal Guatemala Deportation Study as well as  recently proposed (but not yet funded) experimental research on the effects  of different job training strategies aimed at reintegrating deportees from the  U.S. into the Guatemalan workforce on work outcomes and prevention of  gang recruitment.  Church World Services has extensive connections in immigrant and  refugee communities across the state. CWS will meet with the rest of the  group on a biweekly basis to ensure that they can use this research to  improve their services and service outcomes for the Guatemalan immigrant  population, which seems to be under-represented in service access relative  to other Central American migrant groups. |

**4. Project Approach**

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| **Team approach: How will you facilitate collaborative research on the team? How often and in what format will the team meet? How will you divide tasks? How you will ensure effective management of the project (e.g., appoint a student as a project manager, assign that role to a faculty leader, etc.)? (1,500 character maximum)** | The two-pronged research effort will initially involve a shared independent  study to ensure baseline knowledge on deportation and its human impact.  Thereafter, we will collect primary data in both Guatemala and North  Carolina. One portion of the research team will build upon the ongoing  DevLab Guatemala Deportation Project with survey data analysis and  additional fieldwork. The other portion of the team will focus on primary  data collection about the impact of deportation among the Guatemalan  immigrant community in N.C.  The Guatemala portion of the project (Prong 1) will be organized out of  RTI's office in Guatemala City. Pamela Lattimore (RTI) will provide  high-level supervision and oversight. José Ordoñez (Te Conecta),  Christopher Inkpen (RTI), and Wayne Pitts (RTI) will participate in the  coordination of the Guatemala portion of the project, including facilitating  introductions for follow-up interviews with deportees, coordination with the  data collection team, and orientation re. the U.S. and Guatemalan  government agencies involved with the deportee population.  The N.C. portion of the project (Prong 2) will be organized out of Duke. The  Duke team will be co-led by Erik Wibbels, Katie Andrzejewski, and Cas  Cogswell (CWS). Cogswell, Wibbels, and Pitts will lead monthly team  meetings; Andrzejewski and Inkpen will lead weekly independent study  meetings and provide day-to-day project management. CWS will provide entry into Guatemalan communities across the state. |
| **Student opportunities: What might students gain from their participation (e.g., conducting research directly with subjects, contributing to publications, using language skills)? What unique and differentiated learning opportunities would be available for graduate students? (1,500 character maximum)** | Students will be directly involved in primary quantitative and qualitative  social science data collection and analysis in Durham, NC, and surrounding  areas, as well as among deportees arriving in Guatemala City from the  U.S. Prong 1, the Guatemala component, will include fieldwork in  Guatemalan communities where deportees from the U.S. to Guatemala are  going in large numbers, as well as analysis of existing survey data from the  ongoing Guatemala Deportation Project. Via Prong 2, the North Carolina  component, students will build on initial qualitative interviews to design an  original survey instrument, interview several hundred households, and  analyze the data to understand how the ongoing wave of deportations are  impacting Guatemalan immigrants' health and economic wellbeing.  Students in both prongs of the proposed research will also have the  opportunity to utilize Spanish language and fieldwork skills for this project.  Ultimately, our proposed project will provide Duke students with a unique  research experience on a timely, high profile, and sensitive topic - the  experiences of Central American deportees and an immigrant community experiencing deportation. |
| **Timeline and milestones: Identify the timeline for the project, including start, completion and major project milestones.** | The Guatemala portion of the project will begin in Spring semester 2020,  with the research team traveling to the Guatemala for follow-up interviews  of deportees over spring break, assuming we have made sufficient  progress. If additional time is necessary, fieldwork will occur during early  summer of 2020. The North Carolina portion of the project (Prong 2) will  also begin in Spring 2020. The entire research cycle will conclude by the end of the summer of 2020.  *(Internal note: if you are viewing this as a sample proposal, most projects start in summer or fall. This project had a spring start because it was part of an off-cycle call for proposals)* |

**5. Budget Estimate**

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| **Total Budget Request:** | $25,000 |
| **GRADUATE OR RESEARCH**  **ASSISTANTSHIP (PHD)** | $7,000 (Two half-time graduate RAs at heavily discounted rates. ) |
| **TRAVEL – DOMESTIC** | $3,000 (Local travel for Durham-based data collection team within North  Carolina) |
| **TRAVEL – INTERNATIONAL** | $15,000 (Estimated 10-day trip x 5 people to Guatemala [$2,500/per  person, $12,500 total], local travel [van rental] and other research team  expenses [e.g., meeting space, misc. supplies, etc.] within Guatemala  [$2,500].) |
| **OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING: Please briefly note below any other sources of project funds.** | RTI will pay for the time and effort of its researchers from its own funds. It is  also contributing monthly rent payments on an office for conducting  interviews at the Guatemala City airport from funding for its State  Department funded "Model Police Precincts" project in Guatemala.  DevLab@Duke will use its own resources to pay summer supplements to  grad RAs ($2k). |
| **Please name a Unit/Business Manager who could administer funds for project, if requested:** | Rita McCoy, Senior Grants and Contracts Administrator, Department of  Political Science |