

# The Psychological Impact of Forced Displacement: Intervention, Research, and Policy Implications

A VIRTUAL COLLOQUIUM

**FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024**

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EST

The Institute for Professional Development (IPD) provides training to mental health providers to deliver trauma-informed, culturally responsive services to refugees, displaced persons, immigrants, and communities impacted by loss. IPD fosters collaborative research focused on the psychological impact of war, forced displacement, natural disasters, and loss.

*There is no fee for this event.*

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



### **JOHN THON MAJOK, MPA**

*Director, Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative  
Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars*

#### ***Four Resilience Factors: How Refugees Cope with Forced Displacement Challenges***

*John Thon Majok is the founder and director of the Wilson Center's Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative where he provides program leadership and strategic direction. Before he joined the Wilson Center in 2013, Majok developed strategic outreach plans for U.S. government exchange alumni at the U.S. Department of State and managed the study abroad scholarship program at the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. His perspectives on forced displacement are rooted in lived experience as a former South Sudanese refugee who lived for 13 years in refugee camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. His expertise encompasses forced migration issues of refugee resilience, education, resettlement, and integration among other topics.*



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## Breakout Group #1

**Navigating Limits to Adaptation: Forced Displacement  
vs. Proactive Migration in Africa**

**NFAMARA K. DAMPHA, Ph.D.**

*Lead Scientist and Director of Natural Capital Project at the University  
of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment*



## Breakout Group #2

**Translating Psychophysiological Research to Community-  
Based Interventions and Policy**

**LANA RUVOLO GRASSER, Ph.D.**

*Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the Neuroscience and Novel Therapeutics Unit within  
the Emotion and Development Branch at the National Institute of Mental Health*



## Breakout Group #3

**Education and Forced Migration: Experiences of Belonging  
and Inclusion among Resettled Refugees and Newcomers  
in the U.S.**

**S. GARNETT RUSSELL, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor & Director of International and Comparative Education (ICEd),  
Teachers College, Columbia University*



Credit: Sindayiganza Photography

## Breakout Group #4

**Mental Health Evaluations in Immigration Court**

**ADEYINKA M. AKINSULURE-SMITH, Ph.D., ABPP**

*Professor in the Department of Psychology at the City College of New York, the City  
University of New York (CUNY) and at the Graduate Center, CUNY*

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## Schedule

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### Opening & Introductions 1:00 PM - 1:15 PM

- **Phillip S. Wong, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Psychology, Director - Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program, Long Island University, Brooklyn
- **Dean Michael V. Pantalon, Ph.D.**  
Dean & University Professor, School of Health Professions, Long Island University
- **Joan W. Duncan, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Psychology, Founder & Co-Director, IPD, Long Island University, Brooklyn
- **Caroline S. Clauss-Ehlers, Ph.D., ABPP**  
Professor of Psychology, Co-Founder & Co-Director, IPD, Long Island University, Brooklyn

### Keynote Speaker 1:15 PM - 1:55 PM

- **John Thon Majok, MPA**

### Breakout Groups 2:00 PM - 2:35 PM

- GROUP 1: **Nfamara K. Dampha, Ph.D.**
- GROUP 2: **Lana Ruvolo Grasser, Ph.D.**
- GROUP 3: **S. Garnett Russell, Ph.D.**
- GROUP 4: **Adeyinka M. Akinsulure-Smith, Ph.D.**

### Wrap Up 2:35 PM - 2:55 PM

- **Breakout Group Summary Reports**
- **Group Discussion**

### Closing Remarks 2:55 PM - 3:00 PM