

## Media Release

November 4, 2016

### **McKendy Memorial Lecture Monday, Nov. 7** **“Contemporary Human Trafficking: Ways of Seeing and Not** **Seeing the Real Survivors and Stories”** **Dr. Maria De Angelis**

Dr. Maria De Angelis, senior lecturer in the Social Justice Program at Leeds Beckett University in the United Kingdom and author of *Human Trafficking: Women's Stories of Agency*, will deliver the John McKendy Memorial Lecture on Monday, November 7 at 7 pm in the Kinsella Auditorium, McCain Hall.

De Angelis believes that contemporary human trafficking is diverse and, given its broad acceptance as a type of migration, it can no longer be approached as a singular population flow with distinctive operators or be reduced to its historical and populist roots of sexual labour.

In her lecture, De Angelis will discuss the imposing narratives within the migration-crime-security relationship and their interpretive effects on “seeing” or “not seeing” the real survivors of trafficking. Her talk will critique political sub-narratives for separating trafficking from smuggling, asylum, and economic migration as a means of hiding the economic and social currency of a migrant labour force without rights of citizenship or belonging. She will also share stories of turning points in survivors’ life narratives which illustrate not only how survivors are “seen” or “not seen”, but which narratives survivors embrace to promote their political visibility.

De Angelis holds a bachelor of arts in social administration and a certificate of qualification in social work from the University of Lancaster, postgraduate certificates of distinction in social research and gender and women’s studies from the Universities of Hull and Bradford, and a doctorate from the department of criminology at the University of Hull.

Following her work with the National Probation Service, she lectured on community justice and criminology at the University of Bradford and Sheffield Hallam University before assuming her current position at Leeds Beckett University. She is a member of several professional bodies and research networks including the British Society of Criminology, the Women, Crime and Criminal Justice Network, and the Wilberforce Institute of Slavery and Emancipation. Her central research interest is in human trafficking, in particular, women's dual experiences of victimization and agency. She is also interested in how displaced and vulnerable groups, such as trafficking survivors, asylum seekers and refugees, rebuild their lives post-trauma.

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