René Kreichauf  
PhD Researcher, Vrije Universiteit Brussel  
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018  
Refugees in the City: The Role of Refugees in the Reconfiguration of the Urban and the Development of Local Asylum  
This presentation exemplifies how the city, its institutions and society shape the arrival of refugees and how refugee migration impacts and reconfigures the urban. It focuses on current conflicts between national politics, local responses and immigrants' interests in the US and the EU in the field of immigration and asylum to illustrate that the recent arrival of refugees push local administrations, communities and organizations to develop progressive strategies and policies of compassion contrasting hostile state politics. Its main argument is that the arrival of refugees results in the rescaling of the urban and the re-positioning of the city as both an actor in immigration debates and as a context to study immigration processes.

Geci Karuri-Sebina, PhD  
Research Associate, Institute for Economic Research on Innovation  
Associate, South African Cities Network  
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018  
Geci Karuri-Sebina is an African urban dweller and thinker. Professionally, she was most recently the Executive Manager: Programmes at South African Cities Network, a peer-based think tank established by South Africa's largest cities to focus on improving urban development and governance. Geci holds Master's degrees in Urban Planning, and in Architecture & Urban Design, both from UCLA, and a PhD from the University of Witwatersrand (planning and innovation systems). Her interests span a range of development foresight, policy, planning and practice topics, particularly relating to urban governance, the built environment and innovation systems. She has over two decades’ experience working and publishing in these fields, including co-editing the *Innovation Africa* book series (Emerald Books 2016, 2019).

*DANA ROOM*  
*11:30AM-12:45PM*  
*LUNCH PROVIDED*