Multiple crises have been revealed during the global pandemic. Economic divisions have intensified, democratic deficits have deepened, and environmental catastrophes have multiplied. The various policy responses undertaken by nation states and the apparent lack of international coordination cast doubt on whether our global system can respond to these crises. For many, discussions about recovery focus on economic resilience, while others are calling for a more people-centric, inclusive recovery. Yet, as we have seen, these crises are not confined to national borders and nation states cannot act in isolation. With multiple crises continuing to emerge, is our capacity to have a united global system in peril? What role are nation states playing in stabilizing or destabilizing the global system? Are we witnessing a new paradigm of global policy making, and what are the implications of these crises for global policy making and domestic politics? Is recovery enough?

"Mapping the Global Dimensions of Policy 11 – Multiple Crises: Recovery, Reform, Transformation,” McMaster University’s eleventh annual Graduate Conference, invites contributions speaking to all questions raised at the intersections of globalization and policy studies. We welcome graduate students from all disciplines to submit proposals for a paper or poster presentation addressing any aspect of public policy that has a global dimension. This includes, but is not limited to, the disciplines of Political Science, International Development Studies, Sociology, Cultural Studies, History, Business, Geography, Law, Psychology, Environmental Studies, Labour Studies, Health Studies, and Philosophy.

The conference will be held March 11-12, 2022. We currently anticipate holding the conference at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, pending updates and recommendations by McMaster University, and Public Health agencies of Ontario and Canada.

Panels will be organized to group similar papers providing critical analysis on topics such as Migration, Health and Social Policy, Indigeneity, Economic Policy (including Finance and Trade), International Development Policy and Practice, Postcolonial, Decolonial and Feminist Politics, Social Movements, Labour issues, North-South Relations, the Environment, Infrastructure, Security, Austerity and Neoliberalism, International Organizations and Higher Education.

The conference draws upon McMaster’s expertise in international and comparative public policy to unpack the global dimensions of policy and bridge the gap between international relations, international political economy, and public policy.

To apply, please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words along with 2-3 keywords (e.g. ‘health policy,’ ‘climate change,’ ‘international law,’ etc.). Abstracts should include a title and details of the argument to be developed, the method of analysis to be used, types of evidence to be presented, the paper’s contribution to the literature or this year’s theme, and may include the style of presentation to be given.

Please submit abstracts at the following link. Deadline for proposals: November 26, 2021.

The conference is open to Masters and PhD students from any university. It provides the ideal setting to connect with fellow students and faculty in their research area, which can help foster networks and ongoing collaborations. Each participant will also receive in-depth feedback from a faculty discussant on their written papers. The conference also includes a professional development workshop designed specifically for graduate students interested in both academic and non-academic job markets.

Should the conference proceed in-person, some financial assistance is available to help cover travel expenses for those coming from outside of Hamilton. Accommodations can also be made for those unable to travel as a result of local public health restrictions.

For further information, please check out the conference website. If you have any questions, please send an email to globalization.conference@gmail.com.

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