WE ARE HERE BECAUSE YOU WERE THERE: Imperial Migration from the Marshall Islands to Arkansas

Marshall Islander migration to the United States soared in the mid-1980s in response to an international agreement between the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, a former U.S. territory. While the agreement marked the formal end of the colonization over the islands, the U.S. military remained. This created a Marshallese migration whose largest resettlement site is now Springdale, Arkansas.

Emily Mitchell-Eaton, the Patricia C. and Charles H. McGill III ’63 Visiting Assistant Professor of International Studies at Trinity College, explores the story of the Marshallese in Springdale and how the demographic landscape of this small town was reshaped.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Emily Mitchell-Eaton is a scholar of Pacific Islander migration, citizenship, race, and empire. She was the 2016-17 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow in the John E. Sawyer Seminar on Non-citizenship at the University of California at Santa Cruz. She received her Ph.D. in Geography, and a certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies, from Syracuse University in 2016. Her ongoing research focuses on postcolonial migration policies and immigrant-led social movements in the United States.