Most experts agree that there are major problems with the country's current immigration system, but efforts to reform those policies - from visa backlogs to DREAMer youth to more effective enforcement and border security - have been derailed by partisan politics. Immigration is a hotly contested issue, and the extent to which researchers can provide social science evidence on immigration policy and immigrant integration, they can help advance the conversation. UCR Professor Karthick Ramakrishnan will present findings from his latest book, The New Immigration Federalism, with important lessons from California for other states and Washington, DC.

Karthick Ramakrishnan is Professor of Public Policy and Political Science at UCR, where he also serves as Associate Dean of the School of Public Policy. His research focuses on civic participation, immigration policy, and the politics of race, ethnicity, and immigration in the United States. Ramakrishnan directs the National Asian American Survey and is founder of AAPIdata.com, which seeks to make policy-relevant data on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders more accessible. He is founding editor of the Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, an official journal of the American Political Science Association.

Ramakrishnan received his Ph.D. in politics from Princeton, and has held fellowships at the Russell Sage Foundation, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Public Policy Institute of California. A dynamic speaker, he has been featured in over 1,000 news stories and programs, including the New York Times, Economist, Los Angeles Times, PBS Newshour, MSNBC, CNN, and the CBS Evening News with Scott Pelley.