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Our cover image encapsulates the essence and vision of ARI

Through metamorphosis, the butterfly encourages clarity in mental processes, resulting in our continuous collective growth. The butterfly symbolises a proactive approach to change through knowledge.

We believe that total transformation and sharing of ideas attracts a common vision for a better future. We strive to share our insights with the whole world.
KNOWLEDGE IS A PROCESS...

The mission of the institute is to provide a world-class focus and resource for research on the Asian region, located at one of its communication hubs. ARI engages the social sciences broadly defined as especially interdisciplinary frontiers between and beyond disciplines. Through frequent provision of short term research appointments it seeks to be a space of encounters between the region and the world. With NUS it works particularly with Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Business, Law and Design to support research, conferences, lectures and graduate study at the highest level.

TRANSFORMATION OF VISION...

The Southeast Asian region needs centres of research and graduate training worthy of its place in the world and the diversity of its cultures. Asia more broadly needs institutions able to speak to the power centres of East and South Asia without being absorbed by them. The world of Social Sciences needs the balance of stronger voices and subtler demarcations from the part of the world in which reside most of its peoples and cultures. The Asia Research Institute seeks to address these needs from a uniquely advantageous situation in the heart of Southeast Asia, but equally enmeshed with China and India. It invites international scholars to address a broader audience through this portal. The Institute will engage with other parts of NUS, and with other institutes and the region, to support fundamental research of both an individual and the multilateral kind.
STIMULATING INTERDISCIPLINARY ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN GLOBAL IDEAS AND ASIAN CONTEXTS
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

ARI is embarking on its second five-year development cycle. Much has been accomplished in the first five years. It is now a recognized research centre in disciplines of interest and importance to scholars of Asia, and it has played a visible role in promoting collaboration among researchers in the region, as well as providing opportunities for young scholars in Asia and around the world to write, study and interact with leading experts in the field.

A number of challenges lie ahead. Fast socio-political and economic developments in Asia will require the Institute to respond, by looking at new issues and problems through the formation of new cluster groups or selection of new research focus. The Institute will also be moving to its new premises in the Bukit Timah campus, joining other Asian research institutes. This provides an opportunity for ARI to foster close collaboration with its sister institutes in a campus that is known for its links to the history of Singapore's higher education.

Looking at the achievements of the past, I believe that ARI is well placed to take up these challenges and move from strength to strength.

Management Board
The Management Board is the link between ARI and the University, with membership also from the scholarly and cultural worlds beyond NUS. It meets quarterly and determines the broadest outlines of the Institute's policies and procedures. Members are appointed for two-year terms

Chairman
Prof Lily Kong (till Jun 2005)
Vice-Provost (Education)
National University of Singapore

Prof Chong Chi Tat (from Jul 2005)
Member, Faculty of Science
National University of Singapore

Members
Prof Anthony Reid
Director, Asia Research Institute
National University of Singapore

Assoc Prof Tan Tai Yong
Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
National University of Singapore

Prof Wang Gungwu
Director, East Asian Institute
National University of Singapore

Prof Cheong Hin Fatt
Dean, School of Design and Environment
National University of Singapore

Prof Tan Cheng Han
Dean, Faculty of Law
National University of Singapore

Assoc Prof Kulwant Singh
Head, Department of Business Policy, School of Business
National University of Singapore

Mr K Kesavapany
Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
National University of Singapore

Ms Lee Chor Lin (till 30 Aug 2005)
Director, Singapore History Museum

Prof Lim Hock
Director, Temasek Lab
Deputy Director, Office of Research
National University of Singapore
INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD
MESSAGE FOR 2005

I take great pleasure in writing this message in my dual capacity as Chairman of the International Advisory Board and of the External Review Board.

First, although ARI is only five years old, it has already made its mark in the scholarly world. This is due, in large part, to its distinguished Director, Professor Anthony Reid. In only two years, he has established the Institute as an outstanding home for interdisciplinary research on Asia in this region. ARI has become a resource for scholars all over the world.

Second, in the past three years, the Institute has made substantial progress towards the Director's four strategic objectives, namely, to provide a world-class focus and resource for research on Asia; to encourage cutting-edge research and publication, particularly in the social sciences and humanities; to raise the stature of NUS, especially in the non-science areas; to the best international level; and to promote a research culture at NUS.

Third, looking to the future, the External Review Board has made a number of recommendations. Some of our most important recommendations include: fostering a productive tension between continuity and innovation; creating an open cluster as a source of innovation; doing more to engage Law, Business and Public Policy; strengthening partnerships with NUS entities; expanding the regional representation in ARI; and strengthening the ASEAN Fellowship Programme.

We believe that ARI has a bright future.

The IAB is a group of eminent international scholars with Asian research interests, who advise the Director and the University on the overall direction of ARI and its research programs. It met in Singapore in April 2003 and again in May 2005.

Chairman
Prof Tommy Koh
Chairman, Institute of Policy Studies
and
Ambassador at Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Board Members
Prof Cynthia Rose Banzon Bautista
Dean, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy
University of Philippines, Philippines

Prof Craig Calhoun
President, Social Science Research Council, USA

Prof Shiraishi Takeshi
(from 1 Oct 2004)
Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Japan

Prof Anthony Reid
Director, Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore,
Singapore

Prof James Scott
Sterling Professor of Political Science and Anthropology and
Director, Agrarian Studies,
Yale University, USA

Prof Pauline Yu
President, American Council of Learned Societies, New York, USA
DIRECTOR’S FOREWORD

This is the third “annual” report of the Asia Research Institute (previous versions covered 2002-3 and 2003-4), and the first to establish what should be a regular pattern of reports coinciding with the calendar year. 2005 was a critical year for ARI, since it embraced the end of my initial three-year term, and of the three-year plan the University had asked me to draw up to cover the formation and growth of the Institute. To help chart the next phase an External Review Board was convened in May, composed of the distinguished ARI International Advisory Board plus two NUS representatives (Prof Alan Chan and A/Prof Heng Chye Kiang).

This Review saluted the surprisingly rapid success of ARI in becoming what it called “the outstanding site of interdisciplinary research on Asia in the region”. It had particular words of praise for ARI’s high reputation, enabling it to attract both world-class scholars as visitors and “an impressive group” of younger scholars; for the ASEAN Fellows Program (“an important role in establishing NUS’ centrality to the academic future of the region”); and for the work of the clusters. It recognised the necessary and even productive tension between generating intellectual excitement through a broad program of conferences and visitors on the one hand, and more narrowly-focused concrete research objectives on the other, but placed rather more emphasis on the former, encouraging an ‘Open cluster’ to ensure constant innovation.

The ERB’s recommendations for improvement centred on “strengthening partnership” with NUS Faculties, by involving researchers more in teaching, and Faculty staff more in the research programs and selection procedures of ARI. During the year the Institute developed a 5-year plan for the next phase, addressing the key concerns of the ERB in two new ways. Firstly two tenure-track positions were advertised jointly with FASS, in Health Studies and Contemporary Islam, ensuring both a close cooperation in these areas, and a greater continuity for an Institute with exclusively short-term contract staff. Secondly a one-year visiting fellowship was devised specifically for outstanding NUS academics to develop ambitious research agendas, with the option open of thereby discovering themes and leadership for new clusters within ARI. The decision to move ARI to the Bukit Timah campus at the end of 2006 will however pose new challenges to this partnership.

While the expansion of the first three years had the excitement of increasing funding and open possibilities, the new five-year plan (2005-2010) had to cope with a tight and flat budget overwhelmingly committed to salaries. Hard choices must now be made in terms of discontinuing some clusters and programs in order to maintain flexibility with others.

In extending my term as Director for two more years the University honoured its commitment to a sabbatical semester in July-December 2005, which I spent as a Visiting Fellow in King’s College, Cambridge. I am most grateful to Professor Alan Chan for ably acting as Director in my absence, despite his many other duties.
STEERING COMMITTEE

Prof Anthony Reid
Director, Asia Research Institute
National University of Singapore

Prof Alan Chan (Jul - Dec 2005)
Acting Director, Asia Research Institute
Vice-Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
National University of Singapore

Members
Research Leaders
Prof Chua Beng Huat
Prof Gavin Jones
Prof Brenda Yeoh
Prof Bryan Turner
Assoc Prof John Miksic

(Senior) Research Fellows
Assoc Prof Chee Heng Leng
Dr Zheng Yangwen

Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Jacob Ramsay

Manager (as Secretary)
Mr Dominic Sachi Bose

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dominic Sachi Bose
BA (Murdoch)
Institute Manager

Verene Koh Hwee Kiang
BBus (NTU)
Senior Administrative Officer
Asian MetaCentre

Lynn Tan Kheng Lin
(till 30 Oct 2005)
BA (Curtin)
Senior Administrative Officer

Rina Yap Mui Joo
BA (NUS)
Senior Administrative Officer
(Events/PR)

Connie Teo Eng Seok
BCom (Curtin)
Administrative Officer
(Human Resources)

Kalaichelvi Sitharathan
Management Support Officer

Noorhayati Bte Hamsan
Management Support Officer

Kristy Won Tien Min
BSc (University of London)
Management Support Officer
Secretary to Director

Shalini Chauhan
(till 30 Jun 2005)
Management Support Officer

Alyson Adrianne Rozells
BA (Murdoch)
Management Support Officer (Events)

Valerie Yeo Ee Lin
Diploma (Singapore Polytechnic)
Management Support Officer (Events)

Suliyanti Mustapa
(from Feb - Aug 2005)
Diploma (Ngee Ann Polytechnic)
Technical Support Officer

Henry Kwan Wai Hung
(from 29 Aug 2005)
Diploma (Singapore Polytechnic)
Technical Support Officer
RESEARCH
PERSONNEL
RESEARCH PERSONNEL

The personnel of ARI is a constantly changing one, with a high proportion of appointees visiting for short terms, particularly in the early stage of growth. The major building blocks of the research personnel are the distinguished Research Leaders, of whom three have been part-seconded on joint appointments from other units of NUS, holding their tenure in their home NUS Departments, while the other three (including the Director) have been appointed on long contracts after exhaustive international searches. Visiting Fellows (usually established scholars on leave from their home institution) and Postdoctoral Fellows are also appointed through an annual international competition, except in the case of appointees for less than 4 months. Visiting Fellows were normally advertised for a year, though some have come for shorter periods. As a result of the External Review and 5-year plan, ARI began in 2005 to advertise 3-month Visiting Fellowships. Postdoctoral Fellows are appointed for a year but can be extended for a second year. Constant interaction with the faculties of NUS is facilitated in the appointment each year, through annual open competition, of a number of Assistant Professors to ARI for a period of six months (one semester). These ‘Writing Fellowships’ were primarily devoted to completing the publications needed for the coming tenure review, though they also played a full part in the intellectual life of ARI. A proportion of the research staff, normally one or two Postdoctoral Fellows and one Research Assistant was externally funded by the Wellcome Trust, in the form of the Asian MetaCentre. Negotiations during 2005 led to the establishment also of a Research Fellowship funded for two years by World Vision International to study the effectiveness of tsunami relief programs. Negotiations were also concluded for the incorporation into ARI of the former Urban Studies Research Program, formerly funded by the University’s Office of Research on an interdisciplinary basis, as an additional ARI cluster on ‘Asian Cities’, with two postdoctoral positions.

Director

Anthony Reid, Professor, BA (Victoria University of Wellington); MA (UL); PhD (Cambridge), Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (FAHA), 1987, Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, 1997. Professor/Director from 1 July 2002 and Southeast Asia-China Interactions Research Leader, with NUS, Department of History, FASS. Pre-colonial and economic history of Southeast Asia; shaping of identities in modern Indonesia and Malaysia; Ache.

Brenda Yeoh, Professor, BA (Hons) (Cambridge); MA (Cambridge); PhD (Oxford) Asian Migration Research Leader and Asian MetaCentre Principal Investigator from February 2000; jointly with NUS, Department of Geography, FASS. Politics of space in cities; gender migration and transnational communities.

Research Leaders

Chua Beng Huat, Professor, BSc (Acadia); MA (York); PhD (York) Cultural Studies in Asia Research Leader from 1 January 2004; jointly with NUS, Department of Sociology, FASS. Public policy research in Singapore, politics in Southeast Asia; consumerism across Asia.

Gavin Jones, Professor, BA (New-England); PhD (ANU) Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences (FASS), Changing Family in Asia Research Leader from 6 August 2003; with NUS, Department of Sociology, FASS. Delayed Marriage and non-marriage in Southeast Asia, megacities of Asia.

Nicola Piper, BA (Sophia); MA (Sheffield); PhD (University of Sheffield) Research Fellow from 4 January 2005. Political organising of migrant labour and transnational activism to promote the rights of migrants.

John Miksic, Associate Professor, BA (Dartmouth); MA (Ohio); PhD (Cornell) Southeast Asian Archaeology Research Leader from 1 August 2003; jointly with NUS, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS. Art of pre-modern Southeast Asia, Archaeology of early historic Southeast Asia.

Bryan Turner, Professor, BA (Leeds) PhD (Leeds), DLitt (Flinders) Religion and Globalisation in Asian Contexts Research Leader from 1 February 2005; with NUS, Department of Sociology, FASS. Religious conflict and the modern state, religious authority and electronification, religious consumerism and youth cultures.

(Senior) Research Fellows

Chee Heng Leng, BA (Wellesley College); MA (Harvard); PhD (University of Malaya) Senior Research Fellow/Visiting Associate Professor from 1 October 2003; jointly with NUS, Department of Sociology, FASS. Community health, women’s health, health care policy.

Mika Toyota, BA (Sophia); MA (Hull); PhD (Hull) Research Fellow from 28 October 2004. Transnational networks underpinning labour migration in East and Southeast Asia.

Zheng Yangwen, BA (Oberlin College); M.Phil (Universite Strasbourg); PhD (Cambridge) Research Fellow from 1 September 2004. Culture of communism in China.
Distinguished Visiting Scholar


Assistant Professors on Writing Fellowships

Michael Ewing-Chow, LLM (Harvard) Assistant Professor from 1 January 2005 to 31 July 2005, from NUS, Faculty of Law. International trade, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) in Asia.

Chung Chi-Nien, PhD (Stanford University) Assistant Professor from 1 January 2005 to 31 July 2005, from NUS School of Business, Department of Management and Organization. Business groups in East Asia.

Hendrik Meyer-Ohle, PhD (Marburg University) Assistant Professor from 1 January 2005 to 31 July 2005, from NUS, Department of Japanese Studies. Japanese economy and their retailing and service business, Japanese multinational corporations in Asia.

Alexius A. Pereira, PhD (London School of Economics and Political Science) Assistant Professor from 1 July 2005 to 31 January 2006, from NUS, Department of Sociology. National foreign direct investment (FDI) policy and transnational corporations business strategy in Asia.

Chitra Sankaran, PhD (London) Assistant Professor from 1 July 2005 to 31 January 2006, from NUS, Department of English Language and Literature. Post-colonial fiction and gender studies.

Kenneth Paul Tan, PhD (University of Cambridge) Assistant Professor from 1 July 2005 to 31 January 2006, from NUS, University Scholars Programme and Department of Political Science. Society, culture, and politics in Singapore.

Takashi Terada, PhD (Australian National University) Assistant Professor from 1 July 2005 to 31 January 2006, from NUS, Department of Japanese Studies. Japanese politics and international relations.

Stephen K. Wittkopf, PhD (University of Technology, Germany) Assistant Professor from 1 July 2005 to 31 January 2006, from NUS, Department of Architecture. Sustainable architecture with special focus on solar architecture (designing with daylight).

Johannes Widodo, Ph.D. (University of Tokyo) Assistant Professor from 1 October 2005 to 31 March 2007, from NUS, Department of Architecture. Architecture, urban history and morphology of Southeast Asian cities, Asian modernity, and heritage conservation in Southeast Asian context.

Postdoctoral Fellows

Evi Nurvidya Ariffin, PhD (University of Southampton) Postdoctoral Fellow from 22 August 2005. Changing family and labour market in Indonesia.

Nir Avelli, PhD (Hebrew University) Postdoctoral Fellow from 19 January 2004 to 19 June 2005. Contemporary Vietnamese culture, the anthropology of food and the anthropology of tourism.

Patrick Daly, PhD (Oxford) Postdoctoral Fellow from 2 December 2005. Cultural heritage management and politics in contemporary situations.


Arianna Gaetano, PhD (University of Southern California) Postdoctoral Fellow from 12 December 2005. Significance of gender relations and ideologies, gendered conceptions of space and mobility, moral agency and value and citizenship and rights in China.

Khoo Gaik Cheng, PhD (University of British Columbia) Postdoctoral Fellow from 10 July 2003 to 10 July 2005. Film and literature, cultural studies, politics, and their intersections with issues of subjectivity (race, gender and sexuality, class).

Kim Hee-Sun, PhD (University of Pittsburgh) Postdoctoral Fellow from 2 December 2004. Musical change, performance practice, music and identity, composers in the modern Asian context, cultural studies, tradition and modernity, and music and nationalism.


Erik Kuhonta, PhD (Princeton) Postdoctoral Fellow from 9 July 2004 to 6 January 2005. The political foundations of equitable development in SEA.

Li Tang, D.Phil (University of Tuebingen) Postdoctoral Fellow from 2 October 2003 to 3 April 2005. History of Christianity in Orient which geographically covers the areas from Mediterranean, Middle East, Central Asia to Northwest China.

Nguyen Thanh Liem, PhD (Brown) Postdoctoral Fellow, Asian MetaCentre, from 25 June 2004 to 24 June 2005. Demography – migration in particular, health, the effects of economic development on these processes, and social policies.


Md Mizanur Rahman, PhD (National University of Singapore) Postdoctoral Fellow from 10 January 2005. Social organization of remittance: a study of migrant workers’ remittance transfer from East and Southeast to South Asia.


Shen Hsiau-Hua, PhD (Kansas) Postdoctoral Fellow from 28 September 2004. Migration with a particular focus on transnational communities and the interplay of gender, sexuality, and nationalism.


Timothy Winter, PhD (Manchester) Postdoctoral Fellow from 4 October 2004. Politics of culture within Cambodia today, and the role tourism plays in moulding an emergent post-conflict heritage industry around the world heritage site of Angkor.


Visiting (Senior) Research Fellows


Greg Barton, PhD (Monash University) Visiting Research Fellow from 31 January to 31 May 2005. Influence of Islamic and Islamist thought in Indonesia and Malaysia.

Julius Bautista, PhD (Australian National University) Visiting Research Fellow; jointly with NUS, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS from 20 July 2005.

Chen Kuan-Hsing, PhD (University of Iowa) Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 11 August 2004. Cultural decolonization in East Asia.

Tilman U. Frasch, PhD (Heidelberg University) Visiting Fellow from 17 May 2004 to 16 May 2005. South-East Asian History, urban studies, Buddhist studies.


Sophia Siddique Harvey, PhD (University of Southern California) Visiting Research Fellow from 26 September 2005 to 8 November 2005. Development of the short film form in Singapore during the 1990s.

David Henley, PhD (Australian National University) Visiting Research Fellow from 24 January 2005 to 23 October 2005. History of credit relations in Indonesian societies and economies since 1600.

Paul Hutchcroft, PhD (Yale) Visiting Associate Professor from 20 June 2005 to 10 August 2005. Philippine politics and political economy.


Binod Khadria, PhD (Jawaharlal Nehru University) Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 13 May 2005. The high-skill generic migration: emergence of Asia in the global labour market.


Lee Ying-hui, PhD (ANU) Visiting Research Fellow from 3 October 2005 to 15 February 2006. China-Southeast Asia interactions.

Jennifer Lindsay, PhD (Sydney) Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 4 February 2003 to 3 August 2005; jointly with NUS, Southeast Asia Studies Program, FASS in 2004. Cultural policy, Indonesian performing arts and language.


Madhava Prasad, PhD (Pittsburgh) Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 6 December 2003 to 5 March 2006. Film stars and politics in South India.
Veerabhadra Srinivas Singavarapu, MPhil PhD (Hyderabad University) Visiting Fellow from 2 December 2004 to 1 June 2005. Commonwealth literature, Indian cinema, political significance of film exhibition and consumption.


Bassam Tibi, PhD (Frankfurt) Visiting Research Fellow from 13 January 2005 to 13 May 2005. Authority and Political Order: Contemporary Jihadism and the quest for democratic peace in Islam’s predicament with modernity.

Lois M Verbrugge, PhD (Michigan) Visiting Professor from 2 September 2004 to 1 September 2005. Social demography, medical sociology, health survey research methods.

Sikko Visscher, PhD (Free University, Amsterdam) Visiting Research Fellow from 7 March 2005 to 7 October 2005. Recent Southeast Asia history, migration, the ethnic Chinese, state formation and economic development.

Charles J. Wheeler, PhD (Yale) Visiting Research Fellow from 1 August 2004 to 31 July 2005. Vietnamese history in world historical perspective.

Yunita T. Winarto, PhD (Australian National University) Visiting Research Fellow from 1 April 2005 to 1 August 2005. Integrated pest management in rice farmers’ knowledge and practices in Cambodia and Thailand.

Wu Xiao An, PhD (Amsterdam) Visiting Research Fellow from 1 February 2005. Modern history of Southeast Asia and the Chinese overseas.

Research Assistants

Ng Kian Boon, MA (University of Leeds) MSc (Lancaster), MSc (Strathclyde) Research Assistant from 23 August 2004. Changing Family in Asia Cluster.


Jiang Na, MA (National University of Singapore) Research Assistant from 4 May 2005. Southeast Asia-China Interactions Cluster.


Beatrice Lorente, MA English (Ateneo de Manila University), MA Linguistics (Ohio University), Research Assistant from 3 May 2005 to 1 December 2005. Asian Migration Cluster.

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES
RESEARCH CLUSTERS

The primary mission of a Research Institute is research. The social sciences however are very individual, and individuals almost invariably do the best work. Each of the researchers who has passed through ARI has pursued his/her own research agenda, of a stunning variety. Since ARI works with all the four social science faculties at NUS, visitors conducting high-quality work on virtually any Asian topic will find points of contact in the University. With the strong encouragement of the External Review Board an ‘Open’ cluster was established to group research which does not fall into the five clusters reported on here. This is too heterogeneous to report on separately, but the full diversity of work carried out by ARI can be seen in the list of publications at the end of this Report. The clusters on the other hand have brought people together. They too are comprised of individuals with different agendas, but there their interaction is focused on some particular problem areas of contemporary society where a collective effort will produce particularly useful interactions. Most appointments of Visiting Fellows and Post-doctoral Fellows are in these clusters. They cooperate with a similar number of NUS scholars who share this interest in the four Faculties associated with ARI. These clusters are described in the following pages.

The Changing Family in Asia

The Changing Family in Asia explores the dimensions of family change in the region, their causes and implications. These dimensions include rising ages at marriage and increasing non-marriage, declining fertility and declining size of the nuclear family, increase in one-person households and alternative family forms, changing gender roles within families, and changes in family structures consequent on population ageing. They have implications for gender relations, the life patterns of the post-adolescent unmarried, the role of the elderly in the family, child-raising patterns and social policy. The key research thrust of the cluster to date has been on aspects of marriage: delayed and non-marriage, forms of partnering other than official marriage, trends in divorce, and implications of increasing international marriage.

Members

Prof Gavin Jones (convener); Delayed Marriage and Non-marriage; Divorce Trends
Prof Lois Verbrugge: Ageing and Disability
Prof Brenda Yeoh: Gender and Intergenerational Relations
Prof Blod Khadria: Migration and the family, Family Investment decisions in education and human capital formation
A/P Chee Heng Leng: Women's Health, Health Policy, Health Care Systems
A/P Maia Stivers: Asian Childhoods
Dr Mika Toyoda: Non-marriage in Thailand
Dr Shen Hsiu-hua: Unequal Relations of Gender and Sexuality
Dr Augustina Situmorang: Changing Attitudes to Marriage in Indonesia
Mr Ng Kian Boon (Research Assistant)

Associates

Prof Leong Wai Kum, Faculty of Law
Prof Stella Quah, Department of Sociology
A/P Chan Wing Cheong, Faculty of Law
A/P A Kumar, Faculty of Law
A/P Shirleena Huang, Department of Geography
A/P Debbie Ong, Faculty of Law
A/P Euston Quah, Department of Economics, Nanyang Technological University
A/P Paulin Straughan, Department of Sociology
A/P Peggy Teo, Department of Geography
A/P Thang Leng Leng, Japanese Studies Department
Dr Angellique Chan, Department of Sociology
Dr Rachel Safman, Department of Sociology
Dr Yap Mui Teng, Institute of Policy Studies
Dr Grace Wong, Department of Real Estate
Asian Migration
Asian Migration explores the issues arising from increased levels of human mobility in Asia, within and across national borders and in and out of the region. The migration of both skilled and unskilled labour; documented and undocumented migrants; human trafficking; marriage migration; and the formation of transborder/national households and communities all raise important methodological and theoretical questions that have implications for national, regional, and international policymaking and for our understanding of processes of urbanisation, social change, and globalisation.

Members
Prof Brenda Yeoh (convenor): Transnational Migration; Gender and Migration
Prof Gavin Jones: Role of Migration in Relation to Changing Population Dynamics; Mega-urban Regions in South-East and East Asia
Prof Binod Khadria: High-skill migration and global labour markets; Brain Drain; Globalisation of human resources, science and technology; Trade in services and mobility of professionals; Migration and the family; Family investment decisions in education and human capital formation
Dr Mika Toyota: Border Minority Migration; Transnational Networks; Gender
Dr Md Mizanur Rahman: Remittances and Social Development; Human Security, Minority Migration, Migrant Entrepreneurship
Dr Shen Hsiu-Hua: Transnational Communities, Migration and its Intersections with Gender, Sexuality, and Nationalism
Dr Nicola Piper: Regulation and Governance of Migration; Rights of Migrant Workers; Social Development; Gender
Dr Evi Nurvidya Arifin: The role of maid recruiting agencies on labour migration from Indonesia; Intermarriage; Migration and Ageing; Labour Market and Family
Dr Arianne Gaetano: Gender and Migration; Rural-Urban Migration in China; Migration and Cultural Identity; Agency; Migrant Rights
Dr Chan-Hoong Leong: Psychological and Socio-cultural Changes in the Acculturation Process; Singaporeans' Perceptions of Foreigners and Intention to Emigrate; Cultural Influence on Attitudes Toward Immigrants and Immigration Policies
Ms Shamala Sundaray S. (Research Assistant)
Ms Beatrice Lorente (Research Assistant, till 1 Dec 2005)

Associates
A/P Shirlena Huang, Department of Geography
A/P Shapan Adnan, South Asian Studies Programme
A/P Thang Leng Leng, Japanese Studies Department
Dr Rachel Safman, Department of Sociology
Dr Tim Burnell, Department of Geography
Dr Evelyn Chung Yuen Kay, NUS Business School
Dr Michael Ewing-Chow, Faculty of Law
A/P Habibul Khondker, Department of Sociology
A/P Liu Hong, Department of Chinese Studies
A/P Tan Tai Yong, Department of History
Prof Wang Gungwu, East Asian Institute
Cultural Studies in Asia

Cultural Studies in Asia is an emerging field of academic research in Asia which is challenging conventional disciplinary boundaries to rethink received knowledge on existing issues and/or to address new topics and concerns thrown up by the rapid changes and impact on cultural practices, brought about by new technologies and the new phase of global capitalism. Focusing on the popular cultural practices in contemporary Asia, practitioners in Cultural Studies have reexamined these practices from new angles engendered by multidisciplinary perspectives. They have questioned the very idea of Asia and its current reconfiguration in view of the intense traffic of cultural products and cultural practices, crisscrossing national and cultural boundaries within the continent and beyond. The Cultural Studies in Asia programme at ARI seek to add scholarly research and publishing to this emerging field by hosting outstanding researchers, workshops, conferences and publications.

Members

Prof Chua Beng Huat (convenor): East Asian Popular Culture; Multiculturalism in Singapore
Prof Joel Kahn: Malay Racialization; Cosmopolitanism in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam and Korea
Prof Kuan-Hsing Chen: Inter-Asian Cultural Studies; Postcolonialism
A/P Malia Stivens: The Cultural Politics of new Asian Childhoods; Malaysia, Singapore
Dr Jennifer Lindsay: Performance Studies in Southeast Asia
Dr Kim Hee-Sun: Music of Korea, new traditional music and its practice in South Korea
Dr Khoo Gaik Cheng: Independent Film Makers in Southeast Asia
Dr Nir Aviel: Food, Culture and Identity in SE Asia
Dr Gregory Acclaioli: Indonesian Ethnic Relations
Dr Tim Winter: Politics of Culture in Cambodia; Tourism and Heritage of Angkor
Dr Stephen Teo: Hong Kong and other Asian cinemas
Prof Kim Soyon: Korean cinema
Prof Madhava Madiraju Prasad: Indian cinema, film stars and politics in South India
Dr Sophia Siddique Harvey: Contemporary Singapore cinema
Ms Laavanya Kathiravelu (Research Assistant)

Associates

A/P Philip Holden, Department of English Language and Literature
A/P Bobby Wong, Department of Architecture
A/P Maurizio Peleggi, Department of History
A/P Eleanor Wong, Faculty of Law
Dr Anne Raffin, Department of Sociology
Dr Eric Thompson, Department of Sociology
Dr Yeo Wei Wei, Department of English Language and Literature
A/P Ryan Bishop, Department of English Language and Literature
Dr Vathana Pholsena, Southeast Asian studies programme
Dr Shim Doobo, Communications and New Media programme
Religion and Globalisation in Asian Context
Religion and Globalisation in Asian Contexts explores the changing patterns of religious practice, belief and identity in recent times, particularly in Southeast Asia, China and South Asia. Our strategic goal is to be an international centre for advanced research on globalisation and religion. Research in this cluster is characterised by the following: theoretically informed and analytical sharp studies of global processes relating broadly to religion; studies that are informed by a deep historical understanding of the continuities and ruptures in various globalising processes; and research that is embedded in rich, contextualised, empirical studies of these processes from a transnational, national and local perspective. These studies are multidisciplinary, reflecting advanced theoretical and empirical approaches in contemporary humanities and social sciences and involve academic excellence with a special emphasis on: historical and sociological depth; theoretical sophistication; multidisciplinarity; integration of empirical and theoretical research; empirical focus on global processes in Asia; research concentration on political and religious conflicts; relevance to contemporary issues.

Flagship Research
Religion, Politics and Multiculturalism
Popular Religion
Religion and Global Technology
Religion Globalisation and the Body

Members
Prof Bryan Turner (convenor): Social Theory of Religion
Prof Anthony Reid: Conversion and Identities
Prof Bassam Tibi: Islam and the Middle East
Prof Michael Gilsenan: Islam and the Middle East
Dr Pattana Kitttiarsa: Popular Buddhism
Dr Jacob Ramsay: Catholicism in Vietnam and Southeast Asia
Dr Tilman Frasch: Theravada Buddhism
Dr Francis Lim: Technology and Religion
Dr Gregory Barton: Political Leadership, Global Islamic
Dr Julius Bautista: Catholicism in the Philippines; Religious Studies
Ms Manjit Kaur (Research Assistant)

Associates
Prof Lily Kong, Vice-Provost (Education), ARI Management Board Chairman, Department of Geography
AP Syed Farid Alatas, Department of Sociology
AP Gary Bell, Faculty of Law
AP Alan Chan, Department of Philosophy
AP Robbie Goh, Department of English Language and Literature
AP Habibul Khondker, Department of Sociology
AP Thio Li-ann, Faculty of Law
AP John Whalen-Bridge, Department of English Language and Literature
Dr Thomas Dubois, Department of History
Dr Vineeta Sindh, Department of Sociology
Southeast Asia-China Interactions

Southeast Asia-China Interactions is a growing research focus at ARI. The revival of the links which have long tied Southeast Asia with China is one of the most obvious of recent regional trends. Understanding the changes now taking place, as well as the growing interdependencies and alliances which are emerging, demand that we examine these linkages through both contemporary and historical lenses. To further this aim, the Southeast Asian Archaeology cluster was absorbed into the Southeast Asia-China Interactions cluster during the year. ARI Director Anthony Reid leads this cluster. A number of new scholars at both the fellow and post-doctoral levels were brought into the cluster in 2005, and they assisted in organizing the various workshop and seminar activities held during the year, while continuing to pursue their own research. To aid in publishing the results of such research both within and beyond the University, a new publication series entitled Southeast Asia and China: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives has been launched in collaboration with NUS Press. A major online historical research resource: Southeast Asia in the Ming Shi-lu, was also launched during the year in collaboration with NUS Press. (http://www.epress.nus.edu.sg/msl/)

Members
Prof Anthony Reid (convenor): Sino-Southeast Asian Identities
A/P John Miksic: Prehistoric and Early Modern Interactions between Southeast Asia and China
Dr Geoff Wade: Sino-Southeast Asian Historical Interactions and Chinese Texts as Sources for Southeast Asian History
Dr Zheng Yangwen: The "Chinese" 18th Century and Commodity Flows Between China and Southeast Asia
Dr Charles Wheeler: Hoi An and the Chinese Networks Linking Southeast Asia and China
Dr Wu Xiao An: Chinese in the Malay Peninsula
Dr Maung Aung Myoe: Myanmar’s relations with China since 1948
Dr Sikko Visscher: Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the State in post-war Singapore
Dr Lee Ying-hui: Activities and influence of Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party over the Chinese overseas communities in Singapore and Malay during and after the Sino Japanese War of 1937-1945
Ms Jiang Na (Research Assistant)
Ms Jiang Yang (Research Assistant, till Mar 2005)

Associates
Prof Wang Gungwu, East Asia Institute, ARI Management Board Member
Prof Ng Chin Keong, Department of History, NUS and Chinese Heritage Centre, Nanyang Technological University
Prof John Wong, East Asia Institute
A/P Huang Jianli, Department of History
A/P Liu Hong, Department of Chinese Studies
A/P Lee Cheuk Yin, Department of Chinese Studies
A/P Lee Lai To, Department of Political Science
A/P Henry Yeung, Department of Geography
Dr David Kelly, East Asia Institute
Dr Leo Suryadinata, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies
Mr Peter Schoppert, NUS Publishing
The Southeast Asian Archaeology Cluster

Southeast Asian Archaeology focuses on a range of problems connected with early historic sites of Southeast Asia. Major topics of interest include: early trade; urbanization; maritime archaeology; evidence of communication between various parts of Southeast Asia, including both trade items and parallels in architecture and sculpture; and ceramics, both imported and local, as indicators of spheres of cultural and economic interaction. Another area of interest concerns the search for a means of overcoming the difficulty of gaining access to primary archaeological research data, both in the form of written reports and in the form of artifact collections. ARI would like to work with various individuals and institutions to broaden access to written and visual data by scholars in the region and beyond. One way in which we hope to achieve this goal will be to provide facilities for electronic storage and retrieval of images and documents.

Members

A/P John Miksic (convenor): Prehistoric and Early Modern Interactions
Dr Edmund Edwards-McKinnon: Sumatran archaeology and Chinese ceramics
Dr Tim Winter: Politics of Culture in Cambodia; Tourism and Heritage of Angkor
Dr Patrick Daly: Cultural Heritage Management and Politics

Southeast Asian Archaeology Cluster has been awarded the following grants:
1. $48,085 from Orchard Maritime Services Pte Ltd., Singapore, for a preliminary survey in the Batang Hari area of Jambi province in 2005. This is the first step in activating a five-year programme for the proposed Indonesian Regional Archaeology Field School Project.
2. $10,000 from the Lee Foundation for the development of a digital database for Southeast Asian art and archaeology.

Asian Metacentre

Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis

The Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis was established in 2000 with funding from The Wellcome Trust’s major Awards for a Centre of Excellence in Asia. It was constituted through a collaborative effort between the Asia Research Institute (ARI), NUS; the College for Population Studies (CPS) at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria. The National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH), at the Australian National University joined as a principal collaborator in 2002. The Asian MetaCentre’s headquarters is situated at the Asia Research Institute at NUS in Singapore. The Asian MetaCentre hence aims at improving the synergy between existing population studies centres around Asia through an internet platform, training courses, topical workshops, support for project development and a general enhancement of the interaction among scientists working on population, health and sustainable development. It brings together Asian centres, fostering international collaborations and skills transfer. It also aims to consolidate the Asian Population network (APN), organize relevant workshops, provide training for skills development, develop high quality proposals, engage in research proposals and subsequently publish research papers and books. The series of conferences, workshops and seminars organized through the Asian MetaCentre had thus served as a platform for strengthening demographic research and the analysis of population dynamics in the Asian context in relation to health and wellbeing. The work of the Asian MetaCentre is largely based on collaborations in the internet as well as research and training workshops to strengthen demographic research and the analysis of population dynamics. Our foci include: population-development-environment-health interactions at the regional level, rapid urbanisation, urbanism and health in Asia, and demographic change, migration and the ‘Asian family’, and their impacts on social and psychological wellbeing.

Principal Investigator: Prof Brenda Yeoh
Research Assistant: Ms Theodora Lam
Support Staff: Ms Verene Koh, Senior Administrative Officer
CONFERENCE & WORKSHOPS

ARI has most quickly made its mark on the international academic stage by the innovative conferences it has held. These are the visible embodiment of its mission, "to be a place of encounters between the region and the world". During the year of 2005, the Institute organized 26 conferences and workshops, and financially supported three more organized by Departments. Most of those employed by ARI as Postdoctoral Fellows or Visiting Fellows play a role in generating a conference. For a few that is the primary purpose of their fellowship, while for most it is a subsidiary way of extending their intellectual interactions beyond their primary research and writing task. All such conferences reach into other parts of NUS for stimulus, co-convenors and speakers, before they reach into the world. All combine speakers and participants from Singapore, the region and the world. Many have already expanded or altered the thinking of those involved. Most are on the way to becoming significant books or journal collections. A substantial part of the Institute's resources go into the organisation of international academic gatherings of various kinds. A team of three administrative staff provide the expert planning and infrastructure for these conferences. In October, Ms. Lynn Tan moved to a more senior position in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. and was replaced as Senior Administrative Officer in charge of events by Ms. Rina Yap. Most of the events are described below. A particular category of Graduate workshops are described later in the section, 'Support for Graduate Studies'.

Asia Trends Conference 2005
Asian Migrations: Sojourning, Displacement, Homecoming and Other Travels
Convenors: Professor Brenda Yeoh, Dr Nicola Piper, Dr Shen Hsiu-hua, Ms Beatriz Lorente
20 Sept 2005, Swissôtel Merchant Court, Singapore

The Asia Research Institute holds an annual Asia Trends Conference to bring together leading speakers on an important theme. This is not a regular academic conference though it seeks to present academically sound information and analysis. It is rather a conference to attract wide public interest. The issues discussed are expected to have broad appeal to an educated audience. In 2005, the theme of the Conference was "Asian Migrations: Sojourning, Displacement, Homecoming and Other Travels". Migrations and mobilities today, in and out of Asia, often no longer take the form of permanent ruptures, uprooting and settlement, but are more likely to be transient and complex, ridden with disruptions, detours, multi-destinations, and founded on interconnections and multiple chains of movement. Asia Trends 3 addressed the nature of Asian migrations of a wide spectrum of peoples - professional and managerial elites, contract workers, 'illegal' migrants, 'forced' migrants, and frequent flyers - and its implications for identity, citizenship and notions of 'home'. This led us to begin to rethink the links between mobility and place, and to examine the cultural politics in differentiating the power of mobile and non-mobile subjects. Our Keynote Speaker for this year's conference was Professor Amitav Ghosh, Columbia University. He is the author of The Circle of Reason, The Shadow Lines, In An Antique Land, Dancing in Cambodia and The Calcutta Chromosome, The Glass Palace and, most recently, The Hungry Tide. The Circle of Reason was awarded the Prix Médicis in 1990, and The Shadow Lines won two prestigious Indian prizes, the Sahitya Akademi Award and the Ananda Puraskar.

Conference on Political Legitimacy in Islamic Asia
Convenors: Professor Anthony Reid and Professor Michael Gilsenan
25-26 Apr 2005, Furama RiverFront Singapore

Asia east of Afghanistan, home of half the world's Muslims, has experienced a huge variety of types of authority. Areas of Muslim majority have been ruled over by Muslims, both Sunni and Shia, by Hindus, Christians, Buddhists and communist atheists. Among the most interesting experiments in how to manage pluralism have been those of monarchs who were themselves Muslims and patrons of Islam. Sultan Akbar in India, and Sultan Agung in Java, sought their own creative synthesizes to transcend the diversity of their subjects, among whom Indic mystical ideas and local spirit cults were deeply rooted. Only in Islamic Asia were female rulers explicitly preferred, at periods in the history of Aceh, Patani, the Maldives and Bhopal. Nationalism, Marxism, Islamism and liberal internationalism have contended for the support of Muslims, each with their own justifications in the Islamic tradition or logic, in the 50 years since independence. ARI brought a team of international experts on Islam, including Noraini Othman (IKMAS, Malaysia), Azizurahman Azra (State Islamic University, Indonesia), Michael Gilsenan (NYU/AIIA), Bassam Tibi (Goettingen IARI), Greg Barton (Deakin/AIIA), and Michael Feeney (UC, Riverside), together in Singapore to discuss a whole array of issues related to Islam and politics in Islamic Asia. Issues addressed included: Muslims under non-Islamic rule: the intellectual basis of Islamic communism and of Islamic nationalism; the differences between Islamic pluralism, civil Islam, and universal models of pluralism and civil society; and the pressures of globalisation on pluralist as against normative models of political development.
International Conference on Asia’s Hou Hsiao-hsien: Cinema, History and Culture
Convener: Professor Chen Kuan-Hsing
In collaboration with Singapore History Museum
29-30 Apr 2005, Singapore History Museum

Despite the strong international presence of Asian cinema, the academic world of Asian Cultural Studies is lagging behind and the implications of such a global presence remain to be studied. This international conference focused on one of the most important Asian film directors who is still working today, Hou Hsiao-Hsien. Hou’s cinema is chosen because, in retrospect, his work had strong connections beyond cinematic practices and would lead itself to wider discussion. The conference placed Hou’s work in the intersection of cinema, culture, politics and history. It brought together the best scholars working in the field of Asian film/cultural studies to trace Hou’s past work and to locate Hou’s contribution to Asian cultures and to world cinema. Hou Hsiao-Hsien has been recognized globally as the representative figure of Asian Cinema. However, in the academic world there are only scattered accounts of Hou’s work. This conference aimed to produce the first authoritative book on Hou in the English-speaking world. The conference was opened by the film director himself and the keynote speech was delivered by Shigehiko Hasumi, film theorist and former President of Tokyo University.

NUS Centennial Celebration Conference 2005
ASIALEX 2005 Singapore – Words in Asian Cultural Contexts
Convener: Assoc Prof Anne Pakir, Assoc Prof Vincent Ooi, Assoc Prof Ismail Talib, Dr Peter KW Tan, Dr Tan Ying Ying and Ms Lynn Tan
Jointly organized with Department of English Language and Literature and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS 1-3 Jun 2005, The M Hotel, Singapore

The Asian Association for Lexicography (ASIALEX) was established in March 1997, during the Dictionaries in Asia conference that was held at the Language Centre of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. The major objective of ASIALEX is to foster scholarly and professional activities in the field of lexicography in Asia. The first international conference of ASIALEX was held at Guangdong University of Foreign Studies in Guangzhou (Canton) in 1999. Subsequent conferences took place at Yonsei University in Seoul in 2001 and at Meikai University in Tokyo in 2003. The Fourth Biennial Conference of ASIALEX was held in Singapore, as one of the very first events marking the National University of Singapore (NUS)’s Centennial Celebrations in 2005. NUS will be celebrating its Centennial in 2005 and 2006, marking 100 years of tertiary education in Singapore. Its major theme was “Words in Asian Cultural Contexts”. The conference aimed to examine the functions and representations of words, and to bring together scholars of language, linguistics and literature in an interdisciplinary forum. It focused on a wider understanding of the word, particularly in Asian contexts in which cultural and textual hybridity is the norm. Papers presented covered: lexicology and lexicography, sociolinguistics and language pedagogy, information and communications technology, literary, cultural and postcolonial studies.

Conference on Casting Faiths: The Construction of Religion in East and Southeast Asia
Convener: Dr Thomas Dubois and Dr Maitrii Aung Thwin
Jointly organized with Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS
6-8 Jun 2005, NUS

Nowhere was the interaction of cultures produced by colonialism more striking than in the realm of religion. Religious fervour motivated intrepid missionaries and dogged resistance; it also produced many of the most spectacular flashpoints of conflict. Less dramatic but equally important were the efforts of missionaries, scholars, and administrators who codified, shaped, and sanitized the understanding of Asian religion, and the influence of such portrayals on the contours of empire. Religious ideas shaped the epistemological structure by which the colonial encounter was understood, administered and remembered. This workshop explored the various ways in which knowledge of religion has been constructed in colonial and post-colonial East and Southeast Asia. Although the language and ideas of post-colonial theory were employed, the conference went beyond the period of European colonization to include any relationship of center and periphery/colony and metropole, and encompassed periods from the eighteenth century to the present day. Scholars from a variety of disciplines discussed the relationship between knowledge and power, the role of the archive, classroom and courtroom, the codification and textualization of religious cultures, and the influence of colonial ethnography on our understanding of religion in the region.
Conference on Natural Disaster in Asian History, Culture and Memory
Convenors: Dr Gregory Clancey, Dr Timothy Tsu and Professor James Warren
26-28 Aug 2005, NUS

This conference brought together scholars from a range of humanities and social science disciplines (history, anthropology, sociology, geography, and area studies) around the topic of natural hazard and disaster in East and Southeast Asia. Co-sponsored by the Asia Research Institute (ARI) and the NUS Dept. of Japanese Studies, the gathering resulted in a major edited volume. Natural hazard and disaster are much-discussed in Asia (and in reference to Asia), but normally from the perspective of the natural sciences, disaster management & relief, civil engineering, policy making, and planning. Our symposium will be the first in the world to bring together scholars working on the social, cultural and political aspects of floods, typhoons, earthquakes, droughts and other natural disasters in different Asian societies.

Workshop on the Asian Marriage Research Network
Convenors: Professor Gavin Jones and Assoc Prof Thang Leng Leng
6-8 Jan 2005, NUSS Kent Ridge Guildhouse

Research on marriage and divorce in the region has generally been ad hoc, arising from works by people in different disciplines who often have little contact with each other. Although there have been some studies in cognate areas, the only recent surveys are the Indonesian Family Life Surveys (1993, 1997, 2002); the Vietnam Family Study (2003), which has a marriage module; the Myanmar Fertility and Reproductive Health Survey (2001) which contained information on marriage; and the Fourth Malaysian Population and Family Survey, which has a specific module on the never married in the 25-49 year age group. The rapidly increasing number of both men and women in their 30s and 40s who remain single in the region is well known, but its implications for living arrangements, sexuality, patterns of cohabitation and the role of singles in the family have been largely untouched by researchers. Marriage arrangements in the region range from formal registered marriage, through various community-recognized pairings not officially registered, to cohabiting and 'visiting' arrangements. Participants agreed that more research, ideally in the form of a collaborative research project, is needed to understand the varieties of 'pairings' that exist and their implications. With increasing mobility, international marriage also needs more study, as do divorce trends in the region.

Workshop on Political Election as Popular Culture
Convenor: Professor Chua Beng Huat
17-18 Feb 2005, NUS

Political elections have been neglected as an area of investigation by Cultural Studies practitioners. Yet the entire process of electioneering – the selection of candidates, designing of posters and media broadcasts, design and distributions of election paraphernalia from flags to watches to toys, the entertainment during public rallies and other modes of mass campaigns – is a constellation of popular cultural festivals, spectacles and other practices. In many locations folk beliefs and other evocations – from spiritual media to violence – are called forth at different occasions to affirm the 'community' of electors. These behaviours and activities, both organized and individualized, in celebration or in protest, are all specific to the 'culture of elections'. The workshop brought together participants who documented and analyzed the relatively 'unique' set of public cultural practices associated with elections in their respective locations. The year 2004 was a 'bumper' year for general elections in Asia. Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, India, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan all had their respective elections. These elections served as the 'empirical' – media, ethnographic and other modes of behaviours and practices – materials for the analysis and theorization of political elections as popular cultures. Participants presented comprehensive analyses of their respective fields of observations, some with fascinating images. It was an entertaining and thought-provoking learning experience.
Workshop on Conservation For/By Whom? Social Controversies and Cultural Contestations Regarding National Parks in the “Malay Archipelago”

Convenors: Assoc Prof Greg Acciaioli, Assoc Prof Maribeth Erb, Assoc Prof Navjot Sodhi; Assoc Prof Alan Tan Khee Jin

Jointly organized with the Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science; Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; Asia Pacific Center for Environmental Law (APCEL), Faculty of Law, NUS

16-18 May 2005, NUS

This workshop focused on the socio-cultural and legal contextualization of national parks and reserves in ‘the Malay Archipelago’, a traditional natural historical region and a contemporary ‘biodiversity hotspot’ focus, as an arena of contestation between conservation imperatives and community rights circumscribed by national environmental laws and transnational discourses. It brought together scholars from many disciplines engaged in critical analysis of this site, along with NGO activists, and government officials who represent various discursive positions in ongoing debates on past accomplishments and failures. The conference explored the future form or even suitability of national parks/reserves as a key strategy for protecting natural resources and enhancing human welfare in the region. While there have been previous collections dealing with the issues of indigenous peoples and protected areas, no seminars or resultant publications have focused on this ‘hotspot region’, nor has any meeting treated the particular intersection of cultural discourses and social forces unique to this region. This workshop also provided the opportunity to assess how well schemes of co-management and other initiatives have fared in their attempts to address conservation imperatives through re-conceptualizing and re-institutionalizing local cultures as community-resource management schemes. This workshop was joint-organized with the Faculties of Science, Arts and Social Sciences, and Law, and with the Asia Pacific Centre for Environmental Law.

Workshop on New Perspectives on Political Reform and Charter Change in the Philippines

Convenor: Assoc Prof Paul Hutchcroft

Jointly organized with the Philippine Social Science Council, Philippines

8-9 Jul 2005, Philippines

At some point in 2006, the Philippines is likely to begin a major constitutional reform effort. There is considerable momentum toward constitutional reform, but there have been substantial disagreements over questions of why it should take place, how it should be done, and what it should accomplish. While there have been important analyses provided by various groups, there seems not to have been a general forum in which contending views have been exchanged in a reflective and well-reasoned manner. With some exceptions, the level of public discourse (dominated by politicians) has often given little attention to comparative and historical perspectives, as well as to perspectives from outside Manila. There has also been relatively limited attention to lessons that may be garnered from scholarly literatures on such topics as representational structures, electoral systems, and federalism. The goal of this project is to host an international workshop in the Philippines in July 2005, and proceed to produce an edited volume. The workshop would provide an opportunity for extensive analysis of major issues by participants from throughout the Philippines as well as from overseas. One major objective would be to draw on insights from recent reform experiences in a select number of other Asian countries. The volume will be of substantial value in bringing new perspectives to bear in debates over constitutional reform; more importantly, it is hoped that these perspectives would heighten the quality of public discourse over issues of constitutional reform and contribute to the emergence of reforms that are most effective in improving the quality of democracy in the Philippines.
Workshop on Migrant Labor in Southeast Asia
Convenors: Dr Nicola Piper and Dr Heinz Bongartz
Jointly organized with Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES)
25-27 Aug 2005, NUS

Labor migration in Southeast Asia has become a relevant issue in public, political and academic discussions among societal actors in the region. The myriad of problems and challenges that confront not only migrant workers but also governments, trade unions and NGOs in various countries bring into focus concerns on workers' solidarity and civil society. With these new trends, the study of the migrant labor "non-government actors" becomes an imperative in developing a larger research project on migrant labor. This workshop is part of the first phase of a project on migrant labor in Southeast Asia funded by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. The preliminary country studies presented and discussed at this workshop on the current situation of labor migration in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore identified roles of non-governmental actors in organizing, educating and protecting migrant workers. In addition, possible areas of cooperation in terms of activities and policy instruments were discussed. This workshop aimed to facilitate discussion of the country studies between the FES, academic researchers, and representatives of trade unions and NGOs in order to explore specific project components, activities, responsibilities and the design of the next phase of this project.

From Moneylenders to Microfinance: Southeast Asia's Credit Revolution in Institutional, Economic and Cultural Perspective
An Interdisciplinary Workshop
Convenors: Dr David Henley and Assoc Prof Aditya Goenka
Jointly organized with Department of Economics and Department of Sociology, NUS; supported by International Development Research Centre, Canada
7-9 Oct 2005, NUS

The last 20 years have seen a transformation in the availability and use of credit among the less prosperous – though perhaps not the least prosperous – strata of Southeast Asian societies. This workshop, held in the UN International Year of Microcredit 2005, set out to examine the region's credit revolution in historical, institutional, economic and cultural perspective. Since the workshop was not exclusively concerned with modern or formal part of the microfinance sector, it asked what has become of informal moneylending, rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCAs), shopkeeper credit, advance crop payments from traders before the harvest, and other traditional types of lending in the shadow of the new corporate credit providers. From Moneylenders to Microfinance brought the concerted skills of a dozen economists, sociologists, anthropologists and historians to bear on these and other microfinance-related issues in a variety of Southeast Asian settings. In addition, essential points of reference outside Southeast Asia were provided by contributions surveying the relevant theoretical and empirical literatures and outlining the development of small-scale credit in Europe and in South Asia.

Workshop on the Body: Cosmos and Canvas
Convenors: Professor Bryan Turner and Dr Zheng Yangwen
Supported by the NUS Museum, Centre for the Arts
18 Nov 2005, NUS

This one-day workshop, organized by ARI and supported by the NUS Centre for the Arts was held on at the NUS Museum Ng Eng Teng Gallery where, notably, an exhibition on sculptures of the human body was ongoing. The workshop was conceived on the premise that many of the most pressing moral problems of the modern world were related to changes in human embodiment, giving rise to the view that we live in a 'somatic society'. It debated that the political and cultural complexity of the modern notion of the body is a product of changes in medical and biological sciences, at the same time the study of the body becoming increasingly multi-disciplinary. The workshop brought together scholars from various departments and faculties of NUS and abroad. Presentations were made on subjects like 'Rise of Somatic Society' by Bryan Turner (ARI) in the concluding plenary, and in sessions like 'The Colonial Body' by Zheng Yangwen (ARI), Habibul Khondkar (Sociology), and Laavanaya Kathiravelu (ARI); in 'The Sacred and the Corporeal Profane' by Fiona Graham (Japanese Studies), Pattana Kitiarsa (ARI), Kevin Tran (Alberta, Canada); in 'The Flesh and the Stone' by Li Shiqiao (Design and Environment), Jennifer Jarman (Sociology); and in 'The Body of Ethics' by Justine Burley (Science and Engineering), Wong Mee Lian (Medicine), Rachel Safman (Sociology). The Welcome Address was given by the Director of NUS Centre for the Arts, Ms Christine Khor, who expressed how happy she was to collaborate with ARI. The Opening address was by Prof Alan Chan, Acting Director of ARI. Wide-ranging discussions across disciplines generated ideas for future collaborations and conferences.
**International Workshop on Religious Commodifications in Asia: Re-enchantment of the Globalizing World**

Convenors: Professor Bryan Turner, Dr Pattana Kitiarsa and Dr Vineeta Sinha  
24-25 Nov 2005, NUS

What theoretical implications can be drawn for the study of religions when traditional Asian religious beliefs and institutions turn their focus to material prosperity, and religions compete with each other in a ‘market of faiths’? How do people and religious institutions in Asia adjust to, and negotiate with, the penetration of global market forces? These were some of the questions addressed at the Religious Commodification in Asia workshop, organised by Pattana Kitiarsa, Bryan Turner, and Vineeta Sinha of the Religion and Globalisation Study Group. The event brought together leading anthropologists and sociologists from Australia, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Singapore, and the USA who are researching on the current convergence between market economy and religious traditions in Asia. During the 2-day event, a total of 21 papers presented the latest research on prosperity cults and marketized spiritualities in Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Chinese religions, spirit cults and forms of popular religion. Among the many highlights were two keynote addresses: Robert P. Weller (Boston University) spoke on “Asia and the Global Economies of Charisma”, and Bryan Turner (National University of Singapore) on “New Spiritualities, the Media and Global Religion: da Vinci Code and the Passion of the Christ.” A film entitled, “Spirits and Gods: the Vegetarian Festival in Phuket”, was also screened during the workshop.

**Workshop on East Asian Pop Culture: Korean and Japanese TV Dramas**

Convenor: Professor Chua Beng Huat  
8-9 Dec 2005, NUS

Part of a larger project on East Asian Popular Culture of the Cultural Studies Cluster at ARI, the workshop focused on how Korean and Japanese TV dramas were being received in different East Asian locations, and how their ‘messages’ were decoded by different audiences. The presentations and the discussion covered the political economy and current state of play in the television industry in East Asia, and the role of the Korean state in the initiation of Korean pop culture as an export industry which developed subsequently into the ‘Korean Wave’. Participants deliberated on the impact of Korean TV drama in Japan. In particular, the series Winter Sonata, and specifically the emergence of middle-age housewives not only as Korean TV drama consumers but also as media activists and cultural brokers between the two countries, and the shifting positions of resident Koreans in Japan as a result of the positive reception of Korean TV drama were points of discussion and debate. Also, commented upon were unavoidable negative reactions, or ‘backlash’, that such a massive cultural ‘invasion’ inevitably generates, both at home in Korea and in Japan. The workshop brought together scholars from across East Asia to speak about the production and consumption practices in Korean and Japanese television dramas based on research carried out through the comparative audience researches in Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore. It was an excellent opportunity for discussion and exchange and the participants felt that it was a very useful exercise.

**2005 NUS – HKU Symposium on Real Estate Research**

Convenors: Professor Chau Kwong Wing and Assoc Prof Ong Seow Eng  
Jointly organized with Department of Real Estate, NUS; and University of Hong Kong; sponsored by ARI and School of Design and Environment, NUS  
14-15 Jul 2005, Hong Kong

Following the first two Singapore-Hong Kong International Real Estate Research Symposia held by NUS and HKU in 2003 and 2004, we are pleased to announce the call for papers for the 2005 NUS-HKU Symposium on Real Estate Research scheduled for The symposium aims to promote interdisciplinary real estate-related research in Asia and provide a platform for researchers to have an active and intensive exchange of research findings. With the intent of “iron sharpeners iron,” the symposium offers an opportunity for participants to have an in-depth debate and discussion on real estate research issues. In addition, the symposium can strengthen the links between real estate researchers from Asia and other parts of the world. The symposium focused on real estate-related issues that are particularly relevant to Asia. We welcome papers on (but not limited to) the following areas Securitized real estate; Housing; Commercial real estate; Institutional economic analysis of the real estate markets.
Symposium on “Paths Not Taken:” Political Pluralism in Postwar Singapore
Convenors: Professor Carl A. Trocki, Professor Chua Beng Huat and Dr Michael D. Barr.
Jointly organized with Centre for Social Change Research, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
14-15 Jul 2005, NUS

The symposium was jointly sponsored by the Centre for Social Change Research at the Queensland University of Technology and the Asia Research Institute. It was the culmination of a 3-year project undertaken by Carl Trocki and Michael Barr that brought together researchers to study political and social movements in postwar Singapore that operated outside the parameters of imagination created by the ruling People’s Action Party. The papers presented at the symposium drew on diverse disciplines to address various aspects of ‘alternative’ histories, following the themes of ‘New Ideas’, ‘Civil Society’, ‘Chinese Social and Intellectual Movements’ and ‘English-educated Movements’. The wide range of topics included party and activist politics; trade unions; commercial and professional organisations; social, intellectual, ethnic and religious movements, and the media and service organisations. An edited book arising from the symposium is currently in production.

Forum on Discovery Channel’s The History of Singapore
Convenor: Professor Chua Beng Huat
13 Dec 2005, NUS

This Forum provided Singaporeans in general and the NUS community in particular an opportunity to reflect on how the story of the nation was being told to themselves as citizens and as mass culture consumers. It examined how the history of Singapore was being rewritten on the Discovery Channel. A panel of speakers that included Dr Derek Heng, an academic historian; sociologist Dr Nirmala Purushotam; Ms Tan Pin Pin, an award-winning documentary-film maker and an ARI alumnus; and Dr Kevin Tan, a lawyer and President of the Singapore Heritage Society, made critical commentaries on the rewriting of Singapore history into popular culture through the National Heritage Board sponsored docu-drama. The Forum examined the documentary from different angles of history as narrative and as myth making. The panelists pointed out some of the many historical inaccuracies in the film, and the liberties that were taken in the depiction of reality. It drew a large crowd comprising members of the public as well as academics. Amongst them were many history teachers who were concerned with the impact the documentary would have on students should it be used in History or National Education lessons and as teaching resource. In this context, the Forum seemed most concerned with the need to teach the young Singaporeans to be critical, and the difficulty of achieving this within confines of national curriculum.

International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS) 4
ARI Roundtable on Asian Studies in Asia: Reflections and Dialogues
Panel Organizer and Chairperson: Dr Mika Toyota
20-24 Aug 2005, Shanghai, China

For this roundtable, five leading editors from major Asian Studies journals addressed both the practical and conceptual challenges of publishing Asian Studies in Asia. The discussants shared their experiences of being involved in the process of knowledge production and dissemination of academic research conducted by the emerging generation of Asian scholars. The event hoped to develop networks and alliances to further build up intra-regional interactions among critical intellectuals working on Asian studies.
PUBLIC LECTURES

21 Apr 2005
Islam of the 21st Century: Between Democratic Peace and Global Jihad
Prof Bassam Tibi
Professor for International Relations, University of Goettingen,
A.D White Professor-at-large, Cornell University, and Senior Visiting Research Fellow, ARI

This public lecture was opened by ARI's Director Anthony Reid and chaired by Syed Farid Alatas, Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology at NUS. The 21st century heralds the return of civilization as a framework for identity politics. In Islam the constructed concept of universal umma and the reinvented notion of jihad are brought together and combined to form a new ideology of Islamism based on the politicization of Islam and its core doctrines, as well as the militarization of jihad to become jihadiism. Other Muslims, by contrast, represent a civil Islam compatible with democracy, pluralism and human rights. Unlike Huntington, Tibi sees a clash of values and worldviews within Islamic civilization itself: between Jihadi Islamists and those Muslims committed to joining an international community based on democratic peace and pluralism. The lecture was attended by over 150 people and saw a heated debate during the question and answer session.

27 May 2005
Escape: Towards a History of Non-State Spaces in Mainland Southeast Asia
Prof James Scott
Sterling Professor of Political Science, Professor of Anthropology; Director of Agrarian Studies, Yale University; International Advisory Board Member, Asia Research Institute

This ARI public lecture was opened and chaired by Ananda Rajah, Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology at NUS. For most of its history the population of Southeast Asia has been lightly governed or not governed at all. How might we understand the creation, maintenance and logic of such non-state spaces? What would a history of the many 'blank pages' and 'blank spaces' of the usual dynastic histories look like? It may well be possible to understand much of the 'peopling' of the hills as a flight from state-making projects in the valleys. In other words, many hill peoples can be usefully viewed as runaways-over more than a millennium-from wet-rice farming, heavily governed state cores. Such a view would require us to think about 'mapping' Southeast Asia in terms of 'the friction of distance' rather than the usual Mercator projection. Seen from this angle, the social structures and subsistence activities of hill peoples can fruitfully be seen also as social structures and agricultures of 'escape'. The beginnings of an argument along these lines, and some evidence for its soundness, were suggested in this lecture, which was the highlight of Professor James Scott's visit to ARI.

20 Jun 2005
The West Mebon: A Conundrum of Ritual and Engineering in Angkor, Cambodia
A/P Roland Fletcher
Department of Archaeology, University of Sydney; Director, Greater Angkor Project; Director, Living with Heritage Project

The West Mebon is the exquisite central shrine of the West Baray, one of the vast reservoirs of Angkor. It was built in the eleventh century and contained the great bronze reclining Vishnu, now located in the National Museum in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The statue was in pieces when it was found in one of the central shafts of the mebon. Professor Fletcher discussed the problem of the West Mebon and the conundrum surrounding the destruction of the bronze Vishnu. The bronze Vishnu was set up to represent the creation of the world. In legend, Vishnu went to sleep while floating on the world ocean and had a dream. The dream manifested itself in reality: a lotus grew from his navel, Brahma appeared from the lotus, and went ahead and actually created the world. Thus the statue functioned as a metaphor for the creation of the world. It also functioned as a fountain: that is, water perhaps spouted from its navel. It may also have had a technical function: the spouting of water may have indicated that the reservoir was full, or above a certain minimum level; perhaps the spout automatically shut off when the water was low, a sign that more water was needed. This is one of the theories that need to be examined by further archaeological research. If the water level was being measured and monitored; why? How was the water used? Was it only symbolic, or was there some agricultural purpose for the reservoir too? If so, how did it work? The question of the role of water control in the civilization of Angkor is one of the most contentious issues in Southeast Asian archaeology. Professor Fletcher has spent the past five years developing methods and carrying out fieldwork aimed at gathering new types of data. His techniques are in some ways unconventional but the amount of data now accumulated is beginning to yield interesting and unexpected results.
27 Sept 2005

India in the ‘Liberal Age’ 1830-1914

Prof Christopher Bayly
Vere Harmsworth Professor of History, University of Cambridge, Distinguished Visiting Professor, Asia Research Institute, NUS

The articulation of Indian nationalism was among the most important developments in nineteenth and twentieth world history. Growing national consciousness made India the leader of anti-imperialist action in the colonial world. The sources of that national consciousness ranged from concerns about language, national identity and the importance of indigenous cultural values; but they also included influences from contemporaneous national movements in countries in Europe, the Americas and Asia. This lecture looked at one very important example of European influence emanating from the Italian ‘Risorgimento’ – the movement which drew the Italian states together into the modern Italian nation-state by 1870. This was the influence of Giuseppe Mazzini, a democratic nationalist and a radical liberal whose values were influential with the first generation of modern Indian public men who were responsible for the earliest attempts to draw together nationalists across the whole of the Indian sub-continent. The lecture set out to understand the ideologies of these Indian nationalist figures who greatly admired Mazzini for the influence which he had on the shaping of the form and outlook of the new nation in Italy. The lecture argued that Mazzini should be seen as a ‘conjunctural figure’ – a figure who brought together important aspects of nationalist thinking not merely for Italy but for those throughout the world who were looking to satisfy nationalist aspirations. Rather than a simple textual influence, Mazzini came to represent a set of sensibilities about representative government, republicanism, human sympathy, religion and history which spoke to Indians as they grappled with the colonial state, global capitalism and visions of modernity. The lecture was part of an international effort to re-evaluate the role of intellectual history in south Asian historiography.

10 Nov 2005

The Historical and Comparative Study of Religion in a Chinese Context

Prof Anthony Yu
Carl Darling Buck Distinguished Service Professor in the Humanities, Professor of Religion and Literature in the Divinity School, University of Chicago

Although the academic study of religion in Western culture began at the time of the European Enlightenment as a search for the “scientific (wissenschaftlich)” understanding of religion not exclusively identified with Christianity, this particular tradition nonetheless decisively shaped the educational development of the West. After Christianity’s ascension in the Roman empire, the medieval schools and major universities not only preserved and transmitted classical learning; they also served a religious goal by fostering the scholarly formation and teaching of Christian practices and beliefs articulated as theology, ecclesiastical history, biblical knowledge, and liturgies. That process helped render the Christian religion the dominant cultural force and unchallenged paradigm for religion in Europe and America. Within the scholarly community, moreover, that religion has often been privileged as a taxonomical norm, for measuring and understanding other religions. Western scholarship thus refers frequently to Christianity as “our religion” and, as Europe discovered different cultures and languages of the world, the traditions thereof as “other religion(s).” Such a bifurcated and problematic understanding of religion reflects also a double irony of historical development. When Christianity first entered Western civilization, its early communities took pains in distinguishing themselves from both Jewish and Gentile religions. After its successful conquest of Europe and transmission to America, the dominance of the faith sustained and even enlarged its claim to exclusivity and uniqueness, but such a claim arose also from the tradition’s chance or purposive encounter with other faiths that led inevitably to comparison. The serious student of religion cannot, therefore, avoid the comparative method for defining religiosity and ascertaining its diverse manifestations in global culture. This sketch of the Chinese religious context up till the modern era would help explain not only the disputations and conflicts dogging the three historical traditions of Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism for much of Chinese history, but also why the imperial state could never remain neutral towards any form of religious movement that threatened its own religiosity. The PRC has long disowned the mythology of the imperial state cult but not the mystique of absolute state power. Therein lies one of the crucial and most vexing problems confronting the study of Chinese religions in our time. The Lecture was attended by about 200 observers and it provided an opportunity for debate and discussion.

(The complete webcast of this event is also available on our website at http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/conf2005/101105pl.htm)
ARI SEMINARS 2005

18 Jan 2005
Did it Really Help to be a Japanese Colony?
The East Asian Miracle in Historical Perspective
Prof Anne Booth, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

25 Jan 2005
On the Threshold of Modernity: Fifty Years of Régime Change in Insular Southeast Asia, 1780-1830
Prof Leonard Blussé, Professor of History of Asian-European Relations, History Department, Leiden University, Holland; Professor of Southeast Asian History, National Research Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Xiamen University, China

01 Feb 2005
What Can We Say About the Future of Low Fertility?
Policy Options and the Demographic Outlook for Singapore
Dr Wolfgang Lutz, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
Laxenburg, Austria

15 Feb 2005
Naming Asia: Local Identities and Global Change – A Preview
Dr Charles J-H Macdonald, Senior Research Fellow, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) of France
Dr Zheng Yangwen, Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
Prof Anthony Reid, Director, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

22 Feb 2005
Contingency Theory: The Madagascan Experiment
Dr Stephen Muecke, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Technology, Sydney

1 Mar 2005
Foodways as Models, Foodways as Mirrors: Wedding Feasts and Cultural Change in Contemporary Vietnam
Dr Nir Avieli, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

8 Mar 2005
The Decolonization Question
Prof Kuan-Hsing Chen, Professor of Cultural Studies, Center for Asia-Pacific/Cultural Studies, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan; ARI Visiting Senior Research Fellow

15 Mar 2005
Ways of Aging: Contrasting Singapore with the United States
Prof Lois M. Verbrugge, Visiting Professor, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

22 Mar 2005
A Demographic Perspective on the Muslim World
Prof Gavin Jones, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

29 Mar 2005
ASEAN-China Free Trade Area: Trade or Tribute?
A/P Michael Ewing-Chow, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, Writing Fellow, Asia Research Institute
A/P Wang Jiangyu, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

5 Apr 2005
National Histories Beyond the Boundaries of the Nation: Ethnic Minorities, Modernity and the Vietnam War
A/P Vatthana Pholsena, South-East Asia Programme, National University of Singapore

12 Apr 2005
The Struggle for Meaning: Towards a Sociology of Jihad
Prof Bassam Tibi, Professor for International Relations, University of Goettingen, A.D White Professor-at-large, Cornell University, and Senior Research Fellow, ARI
Prof Michael Gilsenan, David B. Kriser Professor of the Humanities, Professor of Middle Eastern Studies and Anthropology, New York University, and Senior Research Fellow, ARI
A/P Greg Barton, Politics Program, Deakin University, Melbourne, and Research Fellow, ARI

19 Apr 2005
Revealing the Invisible: Heteroglossia and the Construction of Identity in Three Generations of Singaporean Playwrights
A/P James St. Andre, Department of Chinese Studies, National University of Singapore

26 Apr 2005
Materializing Southeast Asian Culture and History: Architecture and Cities in Interdisciplinary Research
Dr Clarence Aasen, Senior Visiting Research Fellow, ARI, National University of Singapore

3 May 2005
Reasons for being Muslim in Southeast Asia
A/P Geoffrey Benjamin, Division of Sociology, Nanyang Technological University

16 Aug 2005
Trade Unions and Foreign Domestic Workers: A View From Jakarta
Dr Michele Ford, School of Political and International Studies, Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia
23 Aug 2005
Rise and Fall of Civilisations: the Case of Angkor
A/P John N. Miksic, Archaeology Cluster Convenor, ARI, Associate Professor, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, National University of Singapore

30 Aug 2005
Asian Expansions
Prof Peter C. Perdue, T.T. and Wei Fong Chao Professor of Asian Civilizations and Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Dr Geoff Wade, Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research, National University of Singapore

6 Sept 2005
Singapore GaGa
Tan Pin Pin, Visiting Fellow, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

13 Sept 2005
Credit, Contract and Hierarchy: What Institutional Economics Can Tell Us About Southeast Asian History
Dr David Henley, Senior Visiting Research Fellow, ARI & Researcher, Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV), Leiden

27 Sept 2005
Personal Reflections on Assisting in the Translation of Laws from Laos to English
A/P Eleanor Wong Siew Yin, Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

4 Oct 2005
Failed Hopes: Burma's Financial Sector
Dr Sean Turnell, Economics Department, Macquarie University

11 Oct 2005
Private Trade and the End of Monopolies: Armenians, Parsees and Privateers in 18th Century China
A/P Paul A Van Dyke, Macquarie Inter-University Institute

18 Oct 2005
Muneeswaran in 'Jungle Temples' and in Cyberspace: Realms of Possibility?
A/P Vineeta Sinha, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore

25 Oct 2005
Becoming Transnational? Malay Liverpudlians and postcolonial Southeast Asia
A/P Tim Bunnell, Department of Geography, National University of Singapore

8 Nov 2005
Qin Hui and the History of Freedom in China
Dr David Kelly, Senior Research Fellow, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore

15 Nov 2005
Prejudices, Dichotomies and Dilemmas in Financing education: Theses and Antitheses of Public Policy Making in Developing Countries
Prof Binod Khadria, Senior Visiting Fellow, ARI, Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

22 Nov 2005
Aging and Marital Sexuality in Vietnam, Thailand and the United States
Dr John Knodel, Research Professor, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, USA

29 Nov 2005
Tourism and Disaster: The Tsunami Waves in Southern Thailand
Prof Erik Cohen, George S. Wise Professor of Sociology (Emeritus), Department of Sociology and Anthropology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
ASIAN METACENTRE EVENTS

International Workshop on Asian Transnational Families
Co-organized by Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis, Department of Geography, National University of Singapore
In association with Asia Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN), International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Population and Vulnerability
2-4 Feb 2005, Singapore

This international workshop focused on the "transnational family" as an increasingly utilised form of living arrangement in which familial relations may be stretched across international borders. From the more "elite" astronaut families to those of overseas contract workers, transnational informal "networks", remittance "flows" and "circuits" of care and affection — often facilitated by easier mobilities and communications — have emerged to connect geographically dispersed family members. Such family forms need to be understood in the context of shifting global patterns of immigration and settlement as well as a range of other migrations which may be transnational, circular, or multiple. The workshop attracted 63 participants who came together over two days to discuss transnational families in the Asian context. The 22 papers were organised into the following panels: transnational Families and the Geographies of Care; transnational Perspectives on Marriage and Migration; transnational Families and Inter-generational Politics; transnational Families and Social Networks; Households, Economies and transnational Strategies; transnational Families, Education and Cultural Capital; Families, Nations and transnationalities.

Workshop on The Impacts of Migration on the “Left-Behind” in Asia
Co-organised by Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis, Asia Research Institute, Singapore, & Institute for Social Development Studies, Vietnam

This workshop explored the health and social impacts of migration on the left-behind family and community. The workshop was attended by about 50 experts including scholars, development agents, policy makers and NGO workers. The key issues discussed were: migration and the health status of the left-behind; child health, education and experiences in migrant sending areas; the impact of household labour allocation and social inequality; socio-economic implications of migration for the left behind; and social, cultural and economic negotiations among the left-behind family and community in the wake of migration. The key discussion points raised at the workshop, as summarized by Prof Elspeth Graham and Prof Paul Boyle were that while the population "left behind" is increasing as migration and mobility become commonplace phenomena in Asia, who the "left behind" are is still an unanswered question. It is important to take into account the way migrants, the "leftbehind" and migration are socially constructed as this influences how they are perceived. Gendered migration and its implications, especially gender roles, are important in the context of Asian countries as female migration is increasing due to the higher demands for female labour in the receiving countries. Migration is a complicated process that involves not only the migrants but also other members of the household as well as those who are not members. A major outcome of the workshop is the submission of Special Issue proposals to two internationally recognized journals. The papers on the impacts of migration on health, the population and wellbeing of children left behind, will be submitted to the Asian Population Studies, published by Taylor and Francis. The second proposal which includes papers on the socio-economic implications of migration on the population left behind, with a special focus on gender, elderly and social networks, has been submitted to the Population, Space and Place, published by Wiley.

Training Workshop on “Interactions of Population Dynamics and Environmental Changes: Research on the Health Consequences”
5-9 Sept 2005, Bangkok, Thailand

This training workshop examined the health impacts of population and environmental changes as well as appropriate methodologies for research on this theme. The main goal of the workshop was for participants working in teams to develop research proposals specific to the theme of "health consequences of population change in Asia".

International Conference on “Female Deficit in Asia: Trends and Perspectives”
5-7 Dec 2005, Singapore

The Asian MetaCentre recently hosted the conference on “Female Deficit in Asia: Trends and Perspectives”, which was co-organised by the CEPEO-CICRED-INED in France. The conference discussed policy and methodological issues concerning the exacerbation of discrimination against women amidst rapid fertility decline and economic growth. The conference further examined the future implications of male-dominated populations in Asia. 29 papers were presented at this conference which was attended by about 60 participants from more than 15 countries including Singapore, France, India, Bangladesh, Georgia, The Netherlands, Canada, China, Australia, USA, UK, Sweden, Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia and Taiwan.
OTHER EVENTS

Singapore University Press (SUP) & ARI E-Press Launch Southeast Asia in the Ming Shi-lu
Convenor: Dr Geoff Wade
11 May 2005, NUS

ARI and NUS Publishing have collaborated in bringing this gratis resource online via the Singapore E-Press, thereby making it available globally. This ARI-NUS Publishing launch was opened by Professor Wang Gungwu and attended by over 100 people. The Ming shi-lu or ‘Veritable Records of the Ming Dynasty’ is a collective name for the successive reign annals of the emperors of Ming China (1368-1644). These manuscripts in 40,000 pages of unpunctuated classical Chinese constitute one of the most important primary texts of the Ming dynasty, and contain a wealth of materials unrecorded in other sources. Among the unique materials contained within the Ming shi-lu (MSL) are a wide range of references to polities and societies which today we consider to be parts of ‘Southeast Asia’. This work identifies all of the 3,000-plus references to Southeast Asia contained within the MSL and provides them to readers in English-language translation. In addition to the more obvious Southeast Asian polities of maritime and mainland Southeast Asia, this database also includes references to the many Yunnan Tai polities which have subsequently been incorporated into the Chinese state. This resource is the largest translated corpus of Chinese historical texts available anywhere in the world.

A Panel Discussion on Palestinians and Israelis Talk to Each Other: Dialogue on Conflict and Peace
Jointly organized with University Scholars Programme, NUS and The Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Convenor: Assoc Prof Farid Alatas
29 Apr 2005, NUS

Four academics, two Israelis and two Palestinians, talked about the current situation in Israel and Palestine. The area has been in protracted conflict for decades but it now appears that possibilities are emerging for dialogue and some kind of accord between the two peoples. The panelists each gave a short presentation about the conflict that has raged in the area, particularly during the last four and a half years, and the efforts at dialogue, peace and cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians. This discussion provided an opportunity for those not exposed to a mix of Israelis and Palestinians to witness close and constructive contact between the two sides.

A Performance by Dr Kim Hee-Sun
Kayagum: An Afternoon of Traditional Korean Strings
7 Oct 2005, University Cultural Centre, NUS

This lunchtime event was a rare and delightful treat. Currently a Postdoctoral fellow at the Asia Research Institute, Kim Hee-Sun obtained her Masters Degree from Seoul National University majoring in Kayagum, a 12-stringed Korean zither. Kayagum is one of the most widely played indigenous musical instruments in Korea, and dates back to the 6th Century. Hee-Sun has not only performed in various concerts worldwide, but she has delivered many public lectures and presentations on Korean music and culture.
STUDY GROUPS

While the ARI seminars are designed to address a wide academic audience, ARI also acts as host to a number of different study groups, bringing together NUS scholars and others to discuss inter-disciplinary issues. There are currently nine such groups that provide the nucleus for interdisciplinary research. The members include our own research staff working in collaboration with other faculty members. The study groups and the seminars conducted by each are as follows:

**Study Group on Burma-Thailand**
The Burma-Thailand Study group is made up of NUS and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) academics working on Thailand and Burma in a wide range of disciplines including anthropology, history, language and literature, sociology, economics, political science and international relations. The group’s academic activities attract scholars with strong interest in Burma and Thailand both from NUS and outside.

**Convenors**
Dr Michael Montesano, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS  
Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Department of Political Science, NUS  
Dr Titima Suthiwan, Centre for Language Studies, NUS

**Seminars**
20 Jan 2005  
**The Troubled Efflorescence of Bangkok Professional**  
**Spirit Mediums: Rethinking Buddhist Syncretism,**  
**Charisma and Subcultures in Contemporary Thai Popular**  
**Religiosity**  
**Erick D White**, Instructor, Buddhist Studies Program,  
Antioch University

2 Feb 2005  
**Fundamentalism comprehended? The World of**  
**Theravada, AD 1456**  
**Tilman Frasch**, Visiting Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

28 Apr 2005  
**Mao Zedong, Homi Bhabha, and Beyond: Re-theorising**  
**Thai Semicolonialism**  
**Peter A. Jackson**, Senior Fellow in Thai History in the Research  
School of Pacific and Asian Studies, the Australian National  
University, Canberra, Australia

8 Aug 2005  
**Archaeology in the Mists of the Thailand-Myanmar**  
**Frontier**  
**Rasmi Shoccoongdej**, Assistant Professor, Department of  
Archaeology, Faculty of Archaeology, Silpakorn University,  
Bangkok, Thailand

6 Oct 2005  
"M(military) Y(youth) A(Asean) N(NLD) M(minorities)  
A(allies) R (rice): For or Against Political Change?"  
**Tin Maung Maung Than**, Institute of Southeast Asian  
Studies (ISEAS), Singapore
Study Group on Indonesia

The Indonesia Study Group is the oldest area study group in ARI, predating the formation of the Institute by several years. It is made up of academics not only in NUS, but also in the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), and Nanyang Technological Institute (NTU), as well as other people in the community who have interest in what is happening in Indonesia. The group has aspired to have a workshop/conference on topical issues in Indonesia every year, in addition to seminars that occur frequently mostly by visiting academics. Recently the ISG has introduced sessions showing films about current issues in Indonesia, such as films about political change, local advocacy, and the conflict in Aceh. Some of our sessions are by invitation only, while others are open for general attendance, and are advertised on the Asia Research Institute (ARI) website. We welcome new members, and encourage Indonesianists and Indonesian scholars visiting Singapore to get in touch with us with a view to talking to the group about their work.

Convenors
A/P Maribeth Erb, Department of Sociology, NUS
Dr Priyambudi Sulistiyanto, Southeast Asia Studies Programme

Seminars
19 Jan 2005
Resource Claims between Tradition and Modernity: Masyarakat Adat Strategies in Mului (Kalimantan Timur)
Laurens Bakker, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen,
The Netherlands

7 Feb 2005
Reassessing the Colonial State
Prof Adrian Vickers, Researcher, Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies, University of Wollongong, Australia

16 Mar 2005
Civil Sphere Islamic Activism and Politics on Stage in Post-Tsunami Aceh
Greg Barton, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

24 Mar 2005
A Roundtable Discussion on Aceh after the Tsunami – The Longer Term
Prof Anthony Reid, Professor and Director, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Greg Barton, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS; Associate Professor, Politics, Deakin University, Australia
Sidney Jones, Visiting Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), and Southeast Asia Project Director, International Crisis Group

14 Apr 2005
New Archaeological Finds from the Jambi Highlands on Sumatra
Mai Lin Tjoa-Bonatz, University of Berlin, Germany

18 Apr 2005
To Cover the Aurat: Veiling, Sexual Morality and Schooling among Minangkabau Adolescent Girl
Lyn Parker, Senior Lecturer in Asian Studies, School of Social and Cultural Studies, The University of Western Australia

8 Jun 2005
Striving for Prosperity, Improving Efficiency, Forming a Civil Society: The Struggle of Cambodian, Thai, and Indonesian Rice Farmers
A/P Yunita T. Winarto, Visiting Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS; Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Indonesia

27 Jun 2005
‘Palm Oil Fever’: Syndrome, Spread and Resistance from a Village Perspective in Central Kalimantan
A/P Greg Acciaioli, Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Study Group on Malaysia
The Malaysia Study Group consists of ARI members and the NUS community as well as others interested in Malaysian culture, politics and society. The study group runs a speaker series which has included political scientists, economists, historians, artists, playwrights, architects, sociologists and filmmakers whose works are analytical and research-based, with a focus on Malaysia. The study group is open to members presenting work-in-progress, as well as visiting scholars.

Convenors
Dr Khoo Gaik Cheng, Asia Research Institute, NUS (till July 2005)
Dr Eric Thompson, Department of Sociology, NUS (till July 2005)
A/P Chee Heng Leng, Asia Research Institute, NUS
A/P Hing Ai Yun, Department of Sociology, NUS (from August 2005)
Dr Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman, Department of Malay Studies, NUS (from August 2005)

Seminars
18 Feb 2005
Screening: Gedebe (dir. Nam Ron, 2002, with English subtitles)

23 Mar 2005
The State of Contemporary Filmmaking and Cinema in Singapore
Royston Tan, film maker, Singapore

11 Nov 2005
Between Cash and Cows: Mediating Waged-Labour Inducement in the Tanjung Tualang Sikh Settlement
Charanpal Singh Bal, Department of Sociology, NUS

Study Group on Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos
The Vietnam-Cambodia-Laos Study Group is made up of NUS and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) academics working on Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in disciplines including anthropology, history, language and literature, sociology, economics, political science and international relations. The group holds a monthly seminar series in which resident and visiting scholars present original research on some aspect of Indochina. Some sessions are reserved for the informal presentation of work-in-progress, and are by invitation only, while others are open for general attendance, and are advertised on the Asia Research Institute (ARI) website. We welcome new members, and encourage Indochina scholars visiting Singapore to get in touch with us with a view to talking to the group about their work.

Convenor
Dr Nir Aveli, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Seminars
24 May 2005
Vietnam for the Vietnamese: Rhetoric and Image Creation
Julio Aramberri, Professor, Department of Hospitality Studies, Drexel University, USA

4 May 2005
The Resolution of the Cambodian Conflict -- What Relevance for "Hurting Stalemate", "Ripe Moment" and "Ripe for Resolution"?
Ramsees Amer, Department of Political Science, Umea University, Sweden

7 Apr 2005
Rationality, Morality, Identity: Recruitment Regimes, Military Labour Markets, and Desertion in French Colonial Indochina (c. 1885-1945)
Tobias Rettig, Independent Scholar

28 Feb 2005
On the borders of Indochina: Ethnic minorities, the Revolution and the First Indo-China War
A/P Vatthana Pholsena, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS
Study Group on the Family & Life Cycle Changes
Convenor
Dr Thang Leng Leng, Department of Japanese Studies, NUS

Seminars
6 Apr 2005
Contemporary Funeral Industry in Japan and Family Changes
Hikari Suzuki (PhD Harvard), Singapore Management University

13 Apr 2005
Schooled Sexuality among Minangkabau Teenage Girls
Lyn Parker, University of Western Australia

31 Aug 2005
Working with Hegemonic Masculinity: Work, Marriage, Fatherhood and the “salaryman” in Japan
Romit Dasgupta, University of Western Australia

7 Sept 2005
Chan Wing Cheong, Faculty of Law, NUS

Study Group on Migration & Diaspora
The Migration and Diaspora Study Group is made up of scholars from a range of disciplinary backgrounds and an even wider range of theoretical approaches. The group provides a forum for the presentation of work in progress as well as more formal presentations of polished pieces. One of the intentions of the group is to provide an arena for the discussion of theoretical, as well as empirical, issues relevant to ‘Migration and Diaspora’. Within this rubric, members’ interests include diasporic literature, cosmopolitanism, theories of place and belonging, problems of migrant returnees, refugees, and diasporic communities in Singapore. The ambit of the group is wide, and in this expansive approach we draw together a diverse and stimulating range of scholars.

Convenors
Dr Mika Toyota, Asia Research Institute, NUS
A/P Shapan Adnan, South Asian Studies Programme
Dr Evi Arifin, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Seminars
12 May 2005
The Shortfall of the Rural Migrant Labour in Coastal Urban China
David Kelly, Senior Research Fellow, East Asia Institute, NUS

6 Jun 2005
Labour Migration and the Role of International Recruiters
Aiko Kikkawa, International Organization for Migration

28 Jun 2005
Between Diaspora and Transnational Community: the Case of Indian IT Professionals
Eric Leclerc, University of Rouen

27 Jul 2005
The Fixed and the Fluid
Xiang Biao, University of Oxford

16 Nov 2005
International Rescue?: Migrant Health Workers and the UK National Health Service
James Buchan, Queen Margaret University College

23 Nov 2005
The Impossible Return? The Post-Migration Narratives of Young Women in Rural Java
Juliette Koning, Vrije University Amsterdam
Study Group on Religion & Globalisation
The Asia Research Institute has initiated a new study group on the theme of 'Religion and Globalisation.' This thematic focus seeks to bring together those interested in theorising religious phenomena from a variety of inter-disciplinary perspectives. The approach is comparative and is intended to generate discussions about a range of beliefs, practices, orientations, spiritualities and movements captured in the label 'religious.' The emphasis on 'globality' recognises the profound changes that contemporary trends are bringing to religious practice, and the importance of understanding the interactions of religion and society, homelands and diasporas, in the past as well as the present. The group is designed to stimulate and facilitate scholarly communication and interaction amongst interested individuals and to provide a platform for sharing of views relating to on-going research on religion. The regional focus on Southeast Asia, East Asia and South Asia are likely to be of greatest interest to scholars here, but comparative work beyond those boundaries is most welcome. It is hoped that both substantive and theoretical themes can be highlighted in a study group of this nature.

Convenors
Dr Vineeta Sinha, Department of Sociology, NUS
Dr Thomas David Dubois, Department of History, NUS

Seminars
4 Apr 2005
Progressive Islam and civil society in Indonesia and Malaysia
A/P Greg Barton

18 Apr 2005
Habermas and the Return of the Sacred
Prof Bassam Tibi

9 May 2005
Madrasas in a Changing World: Islamic Education in a South Indian Town
Torsten Tschacher

1 Jul 2005
Negotiating Islam in China
Dru C. Gladney

7 Mar 2005
Sovereignty and Sacredness: Reflections on Giorgio Agamben (1998) Homo Sacer, Sovereign Power and Bare Life
Prof Bryan Turner

21 Mar 2005
The New Encyclopedia Project
Mike Featherstone

10 Aug 2005
Perspectives on Philippine Catholicism
Coeli Barry, Visiting Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Julius Batista, Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
William Peterson, Visiting Affiliate, Asia Research Institute, NUS

22 Aug 2005
Translation and Bridge-building: Brigham Young University's Middle Eastern Texts Initiative
Prof Daniel Peterson, Professor of Islamic Studies and Arabic, Editor-in-Chief, Middle Eastern Texts Initiative, Brigham Young University

29 Aug 2005
A Personal Journey into the Most Controversial Boarding School in Indonesia and Militant World
Noor Huda Ismail

5 Sept 2005
Muslims in Bosnia and Slovenia (1463-2005)
Ahmed Pasic

19 Sept 2005
Al-Ghazali's occasionalism and the natures of creatures
Edward Moad, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Philosophy, NUS

3 Oct 2005
Research, Indicators and the Development of the Cluster
Prof Bryan Turner, Asia Research Institute, NUS

24 Oct 2005
Mathematics, physics, computers, and the globalisation of culture
Prof C K Raju, Centre for Computer Science, MCRP University, Bhopal

31 Oct 2005
Torch Festival: a Bai Ritual of Fertility in Southwest China
Liang Yongjia, Department of Sociology, NUS

10 Nov 2005
Problematising the Construction of Hinduism and the Concept of Religion: Al-Biruni on the Religion of Hindus
A/P Syed Farid Alatas, Department of Sociology, NUS

21 Nov 2005
Jesus in Tibet
Francis Lim, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Study Group on Southeast Asia-China Interactions
The Study Group on Southeast Asia-China Interactions aims to bring together those scholars within and beyond NUS who are engaged in research on the links which had long tied Southeast Asia with China. The resurgence of such links is one of the most obvious of recent regional trends and understanding the changes now taking place, as well as the growing interdependencies and alliances which are emerging, demands that we examine these linkages through both contemporary and historical lenses. The Study Group is one of various avenues for such exploration. It welcomes speakers on relevant topics.

Convenor
Dr Geoff Wade, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Seminars
11 May 2005
Migrants, Merchant and Singapore State Formation vis-à-vis Asia
Sikko Visscher, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Researching Hybridity: The Case of ‘Chinese’ Business Networks
Prof Henry Wai-chung Yeung, Department of Geography, NUS

30 May 2005
Interpreting Southeast Asian Architecture Chinese and Islamic Elements
Prof Clarence Aasen, Asia Research Institute, NUS
A/P John Miksic, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Johannes Widodo, Department of Architecture, NUS

12 Jul 2005
Revisiting Opium in Chinese Societies
Prof Carl Trocki, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
Zheng Yangwen, Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
A/P Wu Xiao An (Chair), Peking University, China and Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

22 Aug 2005
Looking for Wei Zhiyuan: The Circulation of Tang (Chinese) Merchants in Late 17th-Century Japan and Vietnam and Its Effects
A/P Charles Wheeler, Assistant Professor of History at the University of California, Irvine, and Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Naoko Iioka, Ph.D. Candidate, History, NUS
NEW BOOKS BY ARI STAFF

The terms of most ARI appointees are shorter than the period required to see a book through to publication, and in many cases, even an article. To clarify the role played by the Institute in the production of the books and articles listed here, two codes are used:

* Published in the period of the ARI appointment but largely based on earlier work
+ Published after the member has left ARI, but based on work wholly or partly done in ARI

Jones, Gavin W. and Mehtab S. Karim (eds)
Islam, the State and Population
Hurst & Company, London, 2005

+ Xiang Biao
Transcending Boundaries: Zhejiangcun: The Story of a Migrant Village in Beijing
Translated by Jim Weldon
Brill, Leiden, 2005

Barton, Greg
Indonesia's Struggle: Jemaah Islamiyah and the Soul of Islam
UNSW Press, Sydney, 2004

+ Tan Sor-hoon (editor)
Challenging Citizenship: Cultural Identity in a Global Age
Ashgate, Aldershot, 2005

Turner, Bryan S., Craig Calhoun and Chris Rojek (eds)
The Sage Handbook of Sociology
SAGE Publications, 2005

Turner, Bryan S. (ed)
Penguin Dictionary of Sociology
(Fourth Edition)
Abercrombie, Nicholas, Hill, Stephen and Turner, Bryan S. (eds.)
Translated (from Japanese) by Prof. Maruyama Tetsuo.
Tokyo, Minerva Shobo, August 2005

+ Khoo Gaik Cheng
Reclaiming Adat: Contemporary Malaysian Film and Literature
Vancouver, Canada, University of British Columbia Press, November 30, 2005

+ Lim, David C.L.
The Infinite Longing for Home: Desire and the Nation in Selected Writings of Ben Okri and K.S. Maniam
Amsterdam, Rodopi, 2005
ASIA TRENDS


Yeoh, B.S.A., Huang, Shirlena and Noorashikin Abdul Rahman (eds) Asian Women as Transnational Domestic Workers Singapore, Marshall Cavendish Academic, 2005


Reid, Anthony * Asia Tawan-ok Chiang Tai Nai Yuk Kankha, Kho So 1450-1680, 2 vols. (Silkworm Books, Chiang Mai, 2005)

Thai translation by Pongsiri Lekawatana of Southeast Asia in the Age of Commerce (2 vols, 1988-93)


NEWSLETTERS

In 2005, ARI produced 3 newsletters, each highlighting the various events and achievements of the month.
ARI WORKING PAPER SERIES 2005

www.ari.nus.sg/pub/wps.htm
The ARI Working Paper Series is the first on-line publication series launched by the Asia Research Institute. This is a forum to publish electronically new work in a timely manner to the widest possible interested audience. The Working Paper Series includes papers presented at ARI seminars as well as other new work on a diverse range of topics, thus ensuring that they were read by those who were interested, rather than sitting on the shelves of a few libraries. These are publications of ARI, intended to have research results communicated quickly, and to encourage feedback usually leading to hard-copy publication elsewhere. The results have been gratifying. The working papers each receive between 50 and 2000 hits every month.

The Editorial Committee is a rotating one, whose members in 2005 included Geoff Wade, Jennifer Lindsay, Mark Frost, Tilman Frasch, Jiang Yang and Manjit Kaur.

34. Speaking the Truth: Speech on Television in New Order Indonesia
   Jennifer Lindsay
   Jan 2005

35. Views of Disability in the U.S. and Singapore
   Lois M. Verbrugge, Kalyani K. Mehta, and Ellen Wagenfeld-Heinze
   Jan 2005

36. The Ottomans in Southeast Asia
   Anthony Reid
   Feb 2005

37. Champa Revised
   Michael Vickery
   Mar 2005

38. Staying Single in a Married World: The Life of Never Married Women in Yogyakarta and Medan
   Augustina Situmorang
   Apr 2005

   Bryan S. Turner
   Apr 2005

40. Slang Images: On the ‘Foreignness’ of Contemporary Singaporean Films
   Olivia Khoo
   May 2005

41. Changes in Regime and Colonial State Formation in the Malay Archipelago, 1780-1830 – An Invitation to an International Research Project
   Leonard Blussé
   May 2005

42. A Demographic Perspective on the Muslim World
   Gavin Jones
   Jun 2005

43. Did it Really Help to be a Japanese Colony?: East Asian Economic Performance in Historical Perspective
   Anne Booth
   Jun 2005

44. History of Ulughir Religious Conversions (5th - 16th Centuries)
   Li Teng
   Jun 2005

45. Performing in the 2004 Indonesian Elections
   Jennifer Lindsay
   Jul 2005

46. “Doing Chineseness”: Taiwanese Capital in China
   Shen Hsiu-Hua
   Jul 2005

47. Giving Help in Return: Social Exchange in Singapore
   Lois M. Verbrugge & Angelique Chan
   Aug 2005

48. Calibrated Coercion and the Maintenance of Hegemony in Singapore
   Cherian George
   Sept 2005

49. Farang as Siamese Occidentalism
   Pattana Kitiarsa
   Sept 2005

50. Tan Suqua and Family: Merchants of Canton 1716-1778
   Paul A. Van Dyke
   Sept 2005

51. Between Two Mandalas: Singapore, Siam, and Java (The Benjamin Batson Memorial Lecture 2005)
   John Miksic
   Sept 2005

52. Finding Java: Muslim Nomenclature of Insular Southeast Asia from Srivijaya to Snouck Hurgronje
   Michael Laffan
   Nov 2005

53. Champa in the Song hui-yao: A Draft Translation
   Geoff Wade
   Dec 2005

54. Empowering Farmers, Improving Techniques?
   Integrated Pest Management in Cambodia and Thailand
   Yunita T. Winarto
   Nov 2005
Ariffin, Evi Nurvidya


Avieli, Nir


Chee Heng Leng


Chen Kuan Hsing

- Critical reflections on "Thesis on Taiwan" Dialogues between critical circles in Taiwan and Japan, Taiwan Radical Social Study's Forum Series, Taipei: Tangsan. (in Chinese).
- "Introductory reading: Fanon's location in post-colonial discourse", in Franz Fanon, Black Skin, White Mask: Taipei: PsyGarden Publisher (Chinese translation).
- "A Borrowed Life in Banana Paradise: De-Cold War/Decolonization, or Modernity and Its Tears", in Chris Berry and Fei Lu (eds.) Island on the Edge: Taiwan New Cinema and After, Hong Kong University Press, pp. 39-54.
- "How do our neighbors look at the problems of the Taiwan Strait Relations?" Taiwan: A Radical Quarterly in Social Studies, no. 58: 189-242.

Jones, Gavin

- "Introduction" (with Mehtab S. Karim) in Gavin W. Jones and Mehtab Karim (eds), Islam, the State and Population, London: Hurst and Co.
- "Socio-economic and demographic setting of Muslim populations" (with Mohammad Jalal Abbassi-Shalvazi), in Gavin W. Jones and Mehtab Karim (eds), Islam, the State and Population, London: Hurst and Co.
- "Education, health and culture", in OECD, Regional Integration in the Asia Pacific: Issues and Prospects, Paris: OECD and the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre at the University of South Australia: 165-189.
- "Some policy issues on migrant health" in Santosh Jatana, Mika Toyota and Brenda S.A. Yeoh (eds), Migration and Health in Asia, London: Routledge.

Kim Hee-Sun


Kitiarsa, Pattana

Lindsay, Jennifer
• “Performing in the 2004 Indonesian Elections”, Asia Research Institute Working Paper no. 45.
• “Cultural Exchange, Just Do it Our Way”. The Age (Melbourne) Dec 16 2005
• “Who’s Afraid of the Flicks?” The New Matilda, Dec 21 2005

Miksic, John
• “Southeast Asia: ancient centre of urbanization?” IIAS Newsletter 37 (June): 30.
• “Yuan and Ming Dynasty ceramics excavated in Singapore.” In Proceedings of the International Conference: Chinese Export Ceramics and Maritime Trade, 12th-15th Centuries. Edited by Pei-kai Cheng, Guo Li, and Chui Ki Wan, 253-266. Hongkong: Chinese Civilisation Centre, City University of Hong Kong.

Piper, Nicola
• ‘Meeting the Challenges of HIV/AIDS in Southeast and East Asia’, Asia Pacific Viewpoint, Vol. 46, no. 1.
• ‘Feminised Migration in East and Southeast Asia: Policies, Actions and Empowerment’, co-authored with Keiko Yamanaka, UNRISD Occasional Paper, 2005

Rahman, Md Mizanur

Reid, Anthony

Shen Hsiu Hua
• “The First Taiwanese Wives’ and ‘the Chinese Mistresses.’ The International Division of Labour in Familial and Intimate Relations across the Taiwan Strait.” Global Networks 5 (4), 419-437.

Toyota, Mika
• ‘Labour migration of domestic servitude in Borderlands between Thailand, Burma and China’ Proceedings of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and National Research Council of Thailand Core University Program Workshop on ‘Flows and Movements in East Asia’ Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University, pp. 159-174.
Turner, Bryan S.
- 'Cittadinanza, multiculturalismo e pluralismo giuridico: diritti culturali e teoria del riconoscimento critico' Post filosofie 1(1): 77-94.
- 'Global generations: social change in the twentieth century' British Journal of Sociology, 56(4): 559-577.

Verbrugge, L.M.

Wade, Geoff

Winter, Tim

Wu Xiao An
- "Zheng He's Voyage and China-Southeast Asian Relationship", 645-657.

Yeoh, Brenda S. A.
- War Landscapes as 'Battlefields' of Collective Memories: 'Reading' the Reflections at Bukit Chandu, Singapore. Cultural Geographies, 12, no. 3: 345-365.
• 'Transnational Families and their Children's Education: China's "Study Mothers" in Singapore', Global Networks (Special Issue on "Asian Transnational Families"), 5, 379-400.

• 'Transnationalizing the "Asian" family: Imaginaries, intimacies and strategic intents', Global Networks (Special Issue on "Asian Transnational Families"), 5, no. 4, 307-315.


• In Fifty Key Thinkers on Development, edited by David Simon, pp. 236-242. Routledge.


• Introduction to special issue: Meeting the challenges of HIV/AIDS in Southeast and East Asia. Asia Pacific Viewpoint, 46, no. 1, 1-5.


• Special Issue on "Asian Transnational Families", Global Networks, 5, no. 4.
ARI RECOGNITION

Mr Yang Bin
- Awarded the Gutenberg Prize by the American Historical Association for his manuscript, "Between Winds and Clouds: The Making of Yunnan (Second Century BCE-Twentieth Century CE)". The paper was prepared while Dr Yang was at ARI under the 2003 dissertation writing-up fellowship.

Prof Chua Beng Huat
- 'Political Election as Popular Culture', presented as Special Public Seminar, Centre for Contemporary Asia and Asian Studies, School of Social and Cultural Studies, University of Western Australia, 27 May 2005.
- Member of the Advisory Panel on Poverty Reduction in Asia Pacific, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), from October 2005.

Prof Gavin Jones
- Keynote speaker at the Philippines Population Association Scientific Meeting and General Assembly at De La Salle University, Manila, on 5 February 2005. His address was entitled "Urbanization, megacities and urban planning issues: Philippines in an Asian context".
- Chaired the General Assembly of CICRED (the Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography), held during the 25th International Population Conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population in Tours, France. Prof. Jones is Chair of the Council of CICRED.
- Re-elected as Chair of the Council of CICRED (Comité International de Coopération dans les Recherches Nationales en Démographie, or Committee for International Cooperation in National Research in Demography) for a four-year term. CICRED is based in Paris, and has a membership of more than 600 demographic centres around the world.

Prof Binod Khadria
- Contributed background papers to the Global Commission on International Migration final report that was presented on 5 October 2005 to the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the UN member states. The report is likely to determine the future directions of research and policy on international migration in a significant way across the world. Regional Studies no. 1562, 'Migration in South and South-West Asia'.

Dr Khoo Gaik Cheng
- Invitation to head the jury for the best full-length feature competition at the Second .MOV Digital International Film Festival, held at Cebu City, 2-8 March, 2005.

Prof Charles Macdonald
- Promoted to the rank of "Directeur de recherche de 1ere classe" at the Centre national de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), and also appointed as board member to the Comité National of the CNRS. The CNRS undertakes more than 50 percent of the pure scientific research in France.

Dr Nguyen Thanh Lien
- Workshop on "The impact of Migration on the Left behind in Asia", Hanoi, Vietnam, March 10-11, 2005. The paper was entitled "International Migration and Health of the Left-behind in Asia: A Literature Review and Discussion".
- Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 31 to April 2, 2005. The paper was entitled "Pattern and Determinants of Occupational Mobility of Adult Ghanaian In-migrants in the Central Region", Session 64 on Migration in Developing Countries.

Dr Nicola Piper
- Sole author of the background paper on "Gender and Migration" for the Global Commission on International Migration in Geneva. She was invited to speak at the Expert Meeting on "Gender and Migration" in Geneva in March 2005; and at the UNHCR Roundtable on "Migration and Refugee Issues", in KL, June 13-14.
- Contributed background papers to the Global Commission on International Migration final report that was presented on 5 October 2005 to the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the UN member states. The report is likely to determine the future directions of research and policy on international migration in a significant way across the world. Thematic Paper no. TP10, 'Gender and Migration' by Nicola Piper.

Prof Anthony Reid
- Keynote lecture on the 1 December 2005 on, 'Paranoia, Foreign Ideas and Conspiracy Theory: Does Anti-semitism help us understand Southeast Asia and the Chinese?' at a conference on the 'History of the Jews and anti-semitism in the former Dutch Indies and in Indonesia, within the context of SE Asia', sponsored by the Foundation for the Chair of Jewish Studies, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam.

Prof Jomo Kwame Sundaram
- Appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Kofi Annan, as Assistant Secretary-General on Economic Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Ms Connie Teo
- Promoted to the position of Administrative Officer.
Prof Bryan Turner
• Keynote Speaker at The International Social Theory Consortium Sixth Annual Conference on June 8-11 2005. His address was entitled “Some Gaps in Contemporary Sociological Theory: Justice, Law, Human rights and new wars.”
• Plenary lecture at the International Institute of Sociology conference in Stockholm Sweden in July 2005. The title was “Global Religion, Diaspora and the Future of Citizenship”
• Keynote lecture to the Centre for Asian Research at Murdoch University Australia on 29 November on ‘State Formation and Citizenship in Asia’.
• Public lecture to the Institute of Advanced Studies at the University of Western Australia on 30 November on the topic ‘The End of Multiculturalism’.

Prof Brenda Yeoh
• Promoted to Professor in May.
• Keynote speaker at the Population Association of New Zealand Conference on “People and place: communities, regions, diversity and change”, 30 June to 1 July 2005, Auckland, New Zealand.
• Keynote address for Population Association of New Zealand Conference on People and Place: Communities, Regions, Diversity and Change, The University of Auckland, 30 June - 1 July 2005
• Appointed to the Street and Building Names Board (national-level committee).
• Public lecture for The Centre for East and South-East Studies at Lund University, Sweden, 23 November 2005 on Gender, Migrants and the Nation-State: The Case of Foreign Domestic Workers in Singapore.
• Appointed Head, of the Southeast Asian Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS

Prof Lois Verbrugge
• Appointed in March to a National Institutes of Health panel on the “Demedicalization of Menopause”. The National Institutes of Health is the Medical Research Agency of the United States of America and it convenes panels to provide a consensus statement on important medical topics which lack evidence-based research.
• Keynote Speaker on Tuesday 13 September 2005 at a Professional Forum on “Access, Ageing and Disability: Issues and Possibilities” as part of the MCYS- Tsao Foundation Experts’ Series on Successful Ageing 2005.

Dr Geoffrey Wade
• Served as a member of the Singapore National Library’s Zheng He Commemorative Exhibition Organising Committee. The Exhibition, which took over a year to plan and execute, was the inaugural exhibition for the new National Library Building and was opened on 13th August 2005.
• Presented four lectures on “The Zheng He Anniversary: Reassessing, Commemorating, and Utilising the Eunuch Voyages” at the invitation of Malaysia’s Star Newspaper, in Melaka, Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Penang as part of the Malaysia national lecture tour in July 2005.
• Keynote speech entitled “The Zheng He Voyages: A Reassessment” to a conference convened in Bangkok on 25 November 2005 to commemorate the 600th anniversary of the first voyage by Zheng He to Southeast Asia and the 30th anniversary of the establishment of formal Thailand-PRC diplomatic relations. The conference was organized by The Foundation for the Promotion of Social Sciences and Humanities Textbook project and the Toyota Foundation.
SUPPORT FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
SUPPORT FOR GRADUATE STUDIES

Fieldwork Funding
In keeping with its mandate to enhance research and graduate training at National University, Singapore, the Asia Research Institute offers funding packages to support field research by NUS graduate students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, School of Design and Environment, Faculty of Law, and School of Business. Seven graduate students from the four faculties were awarded support for each of the academic years 2005/06. Support packages were allocated on the basis of the quality and innovation of the research proposal, support of supervisors, language preparation where appropriate, the need of the case (taking into account other grants available), and the integrity of the research locale.

Scholarships
Some NUS scholarships have been allotted to ARI, although the administration, coursework and assessment of graduate students remain with the relevant departments. In the reporting period, 8 students were on ARI scholarships, supervised in ARI through different Departments.

Zhang Leiping (History)
Jun Guarin Cayron (SEASP)
Wong Wai Yee (SEASP)
Lim Poh Im (SDE)
Nioka Iloka (History)
Didi Kwartanada (History)
Walter Strach (History)
Zhou Wei (Sociology)

Graduate and Other Teaching at NUS
The three ARI Research Leaders part-seconded to ARI as joint appointments continued some undergraduate teaching and a full load of graduate teaching and supervision in their home departments.

Prof Chua Beng Huat, Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences; taught SC6770 Graduate Research Seminar, supervised 2 graduate students.

Prof Brenda Yeoh, taught graduate courses in Development of Geographic Thought (GE4101) and Geographies of Migration (GE3237) in the Geography Department, FASS, and supervised 3 graduate students.

A/P John Miksic, Southeast Asian Studies Program, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

In addition, the following ARI staff taught courses and/or are on the supervisory committees in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences:

Prof Gavin Jones: taught graduate course in Sociology, SC5880 in the first semester of the 2005-06, Department of Sociology.

Prof Bryan Turner: taught graduate course in Sociology, SC5102 Social Theory and Social reality; supervised MA Sociology student Fadli Fawzi.


Dr Jennifer Lindsay: taught in the Southeast Asian Studies Program, a 4th year honours course, Jan-May and SE4213 Southeast Asian Literature in Society.

A/P John Miksic: supervisor of 3 MA students and 5 PhD students.
Graduate Workshops

ARI Third Graduate Students’ Workshop:
States of Transgression: Strategies of Domination, Accommodation and Resistance across Asia
Convenors: Assoc Prof Greg Acciaioli and Dr Mika Toyota
25-27 May 2005, NUS

This was the second of ARI’s annual Graduate Students’ Workshop, which seek to provide a forum for discussion of graduate-level research in progress with a demonstrated interest in aspects of political processes across Asia. This workshop explored emerging understandings of the state in the region, and macro- and micro-levels of responses to it, whether at the community or the individual level. It encouraged dialogue between various disciplinary perspectives and provided access to feedback from a variety of specialists. Professor James C. Scott, Senior Visiting Fellow at the Asia Research Institute, Sterling Professor of Political Science and Anthropology and Director, Programme in Agrarian Studies, Institute for Social and Policy Studies at Yale University, helped initiate the workshop and was a key facilitator, offering his feedback to participants. Papers presented addressed a whole array of topics including ethnic and class conflict, social movements and everyday forms of resistance, cross-border issues, state surveillance and control, politics of identity and minority issues, resource conflicts within state-imposed frameworks, and state planning and informal social order.

Graduate Roundtable on Revisiting Decolonisation and the Asian Nation-State
Distinguished Visitor Programme – Asia Research Institute, Department of History, South Asian Studies Programme
Convenors: Dr David Henley and Professor Peter Reeves
26 Sept 2005, NUS

This roundtable was designed to build on Professor Christopher Bayly’s insights into the process of decolonization in South and Southeast Asia and its effects on the viability of the independent nation-states. Professor Bayly, Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History at the University of Cambridge, discussed Burma’s development between 1945 and 1955 in his keynote address. In the two discussion sessions which followed, speakers examined other Southeast Asian and South Asian nation-states, in the light of Professor Bayly’s analysis and their own research perspectives. The Roundtable discussed how colonial boundaries, policies, and institutions, and the particular political circumstances under which decolonisation took place, affected the viability of the emergent nation-states of South and Southeast Asia. Attention was given to the effects of ethnic discrimination, indirect rule, legal pluralism, administrative decentralisation, and political repression in the colonial states during their last years, and to attempts by the outgoing colonial powers to shape the future of the independent states in such ways as to secure long-term Western strategic and economic interests.

ASEAN Research Scholars

Each year, ARI invites 20 postgraduate students from ASEAN universities to spend 3 months (in 2005, 1 April - 1 July) at NUS in order to make use of the university’s library and other resources. This programme greatly benefits ASEAN students by giving them access to research materials not available in their home countries. Equally importantly, it also gives them access to the academic community at NUS and beyond, including the best young researchers in the Southeast Asian region. As part of their programme at NUS, ASEAN Fellows are given an opportunity to present a synopsis of their research and to describe how their stay at NUS has affected their intellectual development. The presentations are scheduled several weeks before they leave, in order to give the academic community here the chance to provide feedback such as additional sources which they could usefully consult during the time remaining to them in Singapore.

On 13-14 June 2005, the ASEAN Research Students made presentations on their research topics. This year, the two-day conference-like seminar saw a whole array of fascinating works on diverse topics such as ‘Mahathir’s vision on Malaysian racial and religious issues’, ‘Imlek (Chinese New Year) celebration in mosques: Indonesian ethnic Chinese and politics of identity’, ‘Social practices of gambling in Indonesian society: the case of Togel’, and ‘Law and land in Vietnam during the early Le Dynasty, 1428-1527’. 
Ms Choirotun Chisaan is a graduate student in Religious and Cultural Studies at Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta. She has undertaken her undergraduate degree in Islamic Law (Tafsir-Hadith) at IAIN Sunan Kalijaga, Yogyakarta. Research: Development of NU Studies in Indonesia.

Mr Nikos Lexis Dacanay is a graduate student at the Asian Center of the University of the Philippines taking up MA Southeast Asian Studies with Thailand as his area of specialization. Research: gay culture, globalization, and gender and sexuality studies.

Ms Haslina Bt Muhamad comes from the neighboring country, Malaysia. She is a Degree holder in Psychology from Deakin University, Australia. Research: Malay culture and Personality particularly on the Big Five Inventory (BFI).

Mr Rodney C Jubilado's early training was in the fields of the arts and sciences particularly biological sciences and the English language, literature and linguistics. Research: acquisition of intuitive grammatical judgment on the data in Malay language.

Ms Sirirat Katanchaleeukul is a M.A. Cultural Studies student from Walailak University, Nakhon Sri Thammarat province, Thailand. Research: Ethnic Identity.

Ms Le Thi-Huyen obtained her undergraduate degree in Southeast Asian Studies from Oriental Studies at Vietnam National University, Hanoi. Research: Malaysian race and religious policies.

Mr Vu Thanh Long is currently working for the Institute for Social Development Studies (ISDS) – an independent research institute based in Hanoi. Research: Homosexuality and migration.

Ms Moe Ma Ma earned her B.A in International Relations from the University of Mandalay in 1991 and her M.A in 1997. Research: "Myanmar’s Economic Response to Globalization with Special Reference to Agricultural Sector: Case Study-Rice".

Mr Nasirin Abdillah, a Malaysian, is currently completing his M.A. thesis for the English Department, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya. Research: Contemporary Malaysian Literature in English.

Ms Nguyen Thi Phuong Cham is a researcher in Institute of Cultural Studies with particular interests in the change of traditional rites, customs, folk songs in the modern life. Research: Life-circle and Marriage Rites.

Ms Nguyen is a postgraduate student majoring in social sciences. After graduating from Hanoi University of Education, Vietnam. She is affiliated with the Center for Asian Pacific Studies, (CAPS), Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam. Research: Ethnic minorities groups.

Ms Sharon Basada Singzon is a doctoral candidate in the Agricultural Systems field of study with Integrated Watershed Development and Management as specialization at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. Research: "The Changing Asian Rural Families and its Implications on Sustainable Agricultural and Environmental Resource Management."

Mr Sirojuddin Arif, an Indonesian, is a graduate student of Interdisciplinary Islamic Studies (IS), State Islamic University of Syarif Hidayatullah of Jakarta. Research: Development of Indonesian Islamic Studies after World War II in American academic life with specific interest in the making of Javanese/Islamic distinctions in the Indonesianists’ works.

Ms Phamintra Teeranon, is a Thai Ph.D. candidate from Department of Linguistics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. Her dissertation has been conducted to prove the plausibility of tonal evolution of Waic languages in Mon-Khmer family. Research: Linguistics literatures, the evolution of languages, language contact and change, sociolinguistic and phonetics.

Mr Theeravuth Temsiriwattananakal is currently pursing his LLM at Chulalongkorn University, is also Research Assistant in the Graduate School of Law, Chulalongkorn Univ. Research: "An Approach to the Interpretation of Double Taxation Conventions in the Context of the International Law: A Case Study of Thailand.

Mr Amnuayrit Thitibordin is a postgraduate in History, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand. Research: History of Law and the legal philosophy of Vietnam's Law and to study the relations between law and the historical status of land in Vietnam during the focused period.

Mr Ubed Abdillah Syarif obtained his bachelor degree in philosophy from Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. He is doing a final thesis for accomplishing Master degree in Religious and Cross Culture Studies, Graduate Program at Gadjah Mada University Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Research: Reality of Identity politics of ethnicity.

Ms Siripen Ungsittpoonporn was born in Thailand but her ancestors were Hakka Chinese. She completed her Bachelor's degree of Nursing Science in 1991 and her Master degree of Arts in Linguistics at Mahidol University, Thailand. She is currently doing her Ph.D in Linguistics program at Mahidol University.

Mr Yulius Panon Pratomo is writing his MA thesis in The Programme of Religious and Cultural Studies in Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Research: The social practices of gambling in the everyday life of contemporary Indonesian society, the case of togel (illegal lottery).
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
MOU BETWEEN ARI AND EFEO

ARI's first Memorandum of Understanding took effect on 1 January 2005, with the École française d'Extême-Orient. As the longest-serving Asia-based research institute for Asian cultures (established in 1898 in Saigon, and then Hanoi), this is a fitting partner for ARI. Best-known for its restoration of the Angkor monuments, EFEO continues to have a strong research presence in India and most countries of Southeast and East Asia.

INTERNATIONAL VISITS

BY ASSOC PROF JOHN MIKSIC

7-8 Jul 2005
Agus Widyanto and other archaeological officials

21-25 Feb 2005
Wim Stockhof, director, International Institute of Asian Studies, Leiden, Netherlands

Dec 2005
Chinese officials:
Mao Zheng Cong, Director, Longquan Zheng Cong Celadon Institute
Wu Qiao Hua, Curator, Longquan Greenware Museum
Cao Jinyan, Director, Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology
Yang Cong, Director, Fujian Province Museum
Ren Shilong, Professor, Archaeological Institute of Zhejiang Province, Council of Ancient Trade
Wu Xiao Hong, Vice Director, Chronological Lab, Archaeology Department, Peking University
Yin Cao, Assistant Director, Arthur M. Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology at Peking University
Chen Kelun, Professor, Vice Director, Shanghai Museum

BY DIRECTOR, PROF ANTHONY REID

27 Mar 2005
Chiang Mai University
Dr Chayon Vaddhanaphuti (Director of Regional Centre for Social Sciences and Sustainable Development)
Dr Seksin Srimuanakulkit (Dean of Social Sciences in Chiang Mai University)

3-5 Jun 2005
Banda Aceh
Dr Hasballah M. Saad (Deputy Governor, Ex Minister, Head of Yayasan Keprihatinan untuk Aceh and founder of Aceh Cultural Institute)
Dr Sujiman A Musa (Head of Aceh Provincial Cultural Agency)
Dr Nurdin A.R (Head of Museum, Negri Aceh)

24 & 25 Sept 2005
CHATSEA Project committee
Prof Tanya Li (Toronto University)
Prof Rodolphe de Koninck (Montreal University)

26 Sept 2005
Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal
Assoc Prof Robert Wisnosky

17 Nov 2005
Royal Institute of Ethnography (KITLV), Leiden
Dr Gert Oostindie (Director), and senior colleagues
INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

5 Jan 2005
Prof Anne Booth, Professor of Economics, SOAS, London

10 Jan 2005
Prof Heidi Haskell, President, Hartford Theological Seminary

10 Jan 2005
Dr Ibrahim, Director, Centre for Muslim-Christian Dialogue & Editor of Muslim World

25 Jan 2005
Prof Leonard Blusse, Professor of History, Leiden University

28 Jan 2005
Prof Ken McCrimmon, Professor Emeritus, University of British Columbia

19 Feb 2005
Dr Rizal Sukma, CSIS, Jakarta

14 Mar 2005
Delegates from Khon Kaen University, Thailand

8 Apr 2005
Prof Gerard Ward, Professor Emeritus, Former Director Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, ANU

14 Apr 2005
Prof Joseph Errington, Professor of Anthropology, Yale University

25 Apr 2005
Prof Az yumardi Azra, Rektor, Universitas Islam Negri, Jakarta

24 May 2005
Hasballah Saad, Former Minister of Human Rights, Govt of Indonesia & Founder of Aceh Cultural Institute

20 Jun 2005
Prof Roland Fletcher, Sydney University

22 Jun 2005
Prof Olivier Roy, Ecole des Sciences Politiques, Paris

1 Jul 2005
Prof Dru Gladney, Professor of Anthropology, University of Hawaii

13 Jul 2005
Ms Michel Ponce De Leon, Officer, Cooperation with Asia (Education Secretariat of Education of the State of Jalisco)

13 Jul 2005
Prof Fernando Torres de la Torre, Director, Center for Asian and Latin American Studies, Autonomous University of Guadalajara

15 Jul 2005
Stephan Germann, Prog Support Team Leader, World Vision Asia

26 Sept 2005
Prof Christopher Bayly and Dr Susan Bayly (DVP) Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History at the University of Cambridge, Cambridge University

4 Nov 2005
Prof Anthony Yu (DVP) Carl Darling Buck Distinguished Service Professor in the Humanities, Professor of Religion and Literature in the Divinity School, University of Chicago