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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 engages with other parts of NUS, and with other institutes and the region, to support fundamental research of both an individual and a multilateral kind.
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, and 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. Within NUS, it works particularly with Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Faculty of Law, NUS Business School, and School of Design and Environment to support research, conferences, lectures and graduate study at the highest level.
Management
Message from Chair of Management Board

The year 2006 marked an important phase in the development of ARI. Under the leadership of Director Prof Anthony Reid, ARI has established itself as the premier research institute on Asia, and is the place where leading experts in the humanities and social sciences focusing on Asia meet, write and interact with fellow researchers. The Institute has also successfully secured strong support from external funding agencies.

The end of 2006 also saw ARI's move to the historical and beautifully preserved Bukit Timah campus, occupying the top floors of the Tower Block, in proximity with several research institutes. Although the location is a distance away from the university's main campus, it does provide ample opportunities for joint seminars and research collaboration between colleagues in the Bukit Timah campus sharing common interests. We expect to see such interactions to intensify in the coming years.

On behalf of the Board of Management, I thank Prof Reid and his team for a job well done.

Chong Chi Tat
Chairman
Board of Management
Director’s Foreword

The year 2006 witnessed the celebration of the fifth anniversary of ARI. The Institute was established in July 2001 as an expansion of the previous Centre for Advanced Studies (CAS) of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS). Its first year was relatively low key but important, as the first appointments were made under the supervision of Prof Lily Kong as FASS Dean and Prof Alan Chan as Vice-Dean, smoothing the way for a Director to arrive a year later.

During the following three years ARI steadily expanded from its original home on the floor beneath the Dean’s office in FASS — the heritage of CAS. As that original space on the 4th floor of Building AS7 filled up, other temporary spaces were found in different corners of the Faculty — at the top of AS6, on the 6th floor of AS7, and in a long narrow room suitable only for a computer cluster at the bottom of AS6. Up through the end of 2006, therefore, ARI was operating in four different spaces, though all within the manageable confines of the FASS buildings. As noted in the previous report, we already knew that 2006 would be our last in that situation, prior to moving early in 2007 to refurbished premises in the Tower Block of the Bukit Timah campus — 10 km away from FASS and the contacts we had made there.

Other changes in the way ARI is funded and managed within the NUS have necessitated some alterations in the evolution anticipated in my 2005 Report. As the anticipated instrument of healthy interaction with the Faculties, shared joint appointments had some success, with outstanding Islamicist Dr Michael Feener commencing his tenure-track appointment between History, FASS and ARI during 2006. The second joint search with the Faculty was unsuccessful. The idea of “buying out” faculty from teaching in Departments to allow them to initiate or complete a particularly ambitious research agenda, has yet to gain approval from the University community, however, and the anticipated one-year Faculty Research Fellowship was not proceeded with.

Instead 2006 witnessed a greater concentration on particular research projects calculated to obtain outside funding, which have provided a more focussed way of building teamwork between Institute and Faculty staff. The award of around $1.5 million to ARI in outside funds during the year, led by Prof Brenda Yeoh’s large grant from the Wellcome Trust, demonstrates how effective such teams can be. Despite this trend, ARI must and will remain open to exceptional talent and to new ideas, whether or not overtly connected to fundable projects.

2006 also marked a period of organisational consolidation in the Institute. The position of Deputy Director was at last and very ably filled by Dr Chee Heng Leng, who brought a welcome rigour to administration. After a period of change in administrative positions, a capable new team had all assumed their places by the end of the year, led by Verene Koh as Manager, Rina Yap as Events Coordinator and Chong Mei Peen as Human Resource Officer. ARI faces its new incarnation in Bukit Timah campus with confidence.

Anthony Reid
International Advisory Board

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
College of Social Sciences and Philosophy
University of the Philippines, Philippines

Prof Craig Calhoun
President, Social Science Research Council, USA

Prof Takashi Shiraishi
Professor, Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, CSEAS, Kyoto University, 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, USA

Steering Committee

Director
Prof Anthony Reid

Research Leaders
Prof Chua Beng Huat
Prof Gavin Jones
Prof Heng Chee Kiang
Assoc Prof John Milsic (till 31 December 2006)
Prof Bryan Turner
Prof Brenda Yeoh

Deputy Director
Dr Chee Heng Leng (from 1 July 2006)

(Senior) Research Fellows
Assoc Prof Michael Feener (from 28 December 2006)
Dr Nicola Piper (from 9 June 2006)
Dr Stephen Teo (from 9 June 2006 to 31 December 2006)

Postdoctoral Fellows
Dr Patrick Daly (from 6 June 2006 to 31 December 2006)
Dr Teo You Yenn (from 28 December 2006)

Managers (as Secretary)
Mr Dominic Sachi Bose (till 19 June 2006)
Ms Verene Koh (from 20 July 2006)

Administrative Staff

Dominic Sachi Bose
BA (Murdoch)
Institute Manager (till 19 June 2006)

Verene Koh Hwee Kiang
B. BUS (Nanyang Technological University)
MBA (National University of Singapore)
Institute Manager (from 20 July 2006)
Senior Administrative Officer (till 19 July 2006)

Rina Yap Mui Joo
BA (National University of Singapore)
Senior Administrative Officer (Events/PR)

Chong Mei Peen
BA (National University of Singapore)
Administrative Officer (Human Resources) (from 11 October 2006)

Connie Teo Eng Seok
BCom (Curtin)
Administrative Officer (Human Resources) (till 16 May 2006)

Noorhayati Bte Hamsan
Management Support Officer

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

Kalaichelvi Sitharathan
Management Support Officer

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

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

Henry Kwan Wai Hung
Diploma (Singapore Polytechnic)
Technical Support Officer
Research Personnel
The Asia Research Institute aims to be the hub for high-quality social science and humanities research on Asia, and to be the preferred choice for researchers and academics. The research personnel in ARI are diverse; they vary in terms of research foci, nationalities, international experience, and duration of appointments. ARI further maintains a good balance between established scholars and those who are at the start of promising careers.

The major building blocks of the research personnel are the six distinguished Research Leaders, each heading a research cluster. Half of the research leaders are tenured faculty members, part-seconded on joint appointments from their home departments in NUS, while the others have been recruited after exhaustive international searches. ARI has also awarded two-year (senior) research fellowships to well-established researchers as well as researchers in early career stages. The Research Leaders and (Senior) Research Fellows provide the stability and experience necessary for implementing longer-term plans of the Institute, while other shorter-term members add agility and vibrancy to the ARI community.

A high proportion of appointees in ARI are Visiting Fellows who are with ARI for one year or less. These are usually established scholars on leave from their home institutions, and are recruited internationally on a competitive basis. ARI introduced the short-term three-month visiting fellowship in 2005, to bring to NUS a mix of well-established scholars and younger researchers from the region. In 2006, the Institute formalized a Sabbatical Leave Scheme for established scholars on paid sabbatical leave from their home institutions, a few of whom are listed among the (Senior) Visiting Research Fellows.

Postdoctoral Fellows are also appointed through an annual international competition. The postdoctoral fellowships engage promising young scholars in their research fields, allowing them space and time to build up their research and publishing capacities in their early career development. Outstanding performers often succeed in securing higher or tenured positions in NUS or other universities worldwide.

In 2006, ARI continued to interact constantly with the faculties of NUS through the awarding of four Writing Fellowships to Assistant Professors in the NUS. The Writing Fellows were appointed to ARI for a period of six months to devote their time primarily to completing the publications needed for tenure review.

A proportion of the research staff was appointed by externally-funded programmes or projects. The Asian MetaCentre in ARI saw the appointment of three Visiting Senior Research Fellows and a Research Assistant in 2006. A project on effectiveness of tsunami relief programs funded by the World Vision International led to the establishment of a Research Fellowship and part-appointment of a Research Assistant. ARI's new "Asian Cities' cluster, funded by the Urban Studies Research Program of the University's Office of Research saw the appointment of two Postdoctoral Fellows and two Visiting Research Fellows in the same year.

"I look back at my time at ARI as one of the best, most productive and supportive times of my life."

Jennifer Lindsay
Director

Reid, Anthony, Professor, BA (Victoria University of Wellington), MA (VUW), PhD (Cambridge). Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (FAHA), Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. Professor/Director and Southeast Asia-China Interactions Cluster Research Leader from 1 January 2004; jointly with Department of History, FASS. Pre-colonial and economic history of Southeast Asia; shaping of identities in modern Indonesia and Malaysia; Aceh.

Research Leaders

Chua Beng Huat, Professor, BSc (Acadia), MA (York), PhD (York). Cultural Studies in Asia Research Leader from 1 January 2004; Asian Cities Research Leader from 1 April 2006; jointly with Department of Sociology, FASS. Public policy research in Singapore, politics in Southeast Asia; consumerism across Asia.

Heng Chye Kiang, Professor, Architecte D.E.S.A (Ecole Speciale d’Architecture), C.E.S (Ecole Nationale des Travaux Publics de l’Etat), PhD (University of California at Berkeley). Asian Cities Cluster Research Leader from 1 April 2006; jointly with Department of Architecture, SDE. History of Chinese cities and architecture; urban design and conservation in Asia.

Jones, Gavin, Professor, BA (New England), PhD (Australian National University). Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences (FASS). Changing Family in Asia Research Leader from 5 August 2003; jointly with Department of Sociology, FASS. Delayed marriage and non-marriage in Southeast Asia; megacities of Asia.

Turner, Bryan, Professor, BA (Leeds), PhD (Leeds, Dutt (Prinds), Religion and Globalisation in Asian Contexts Research Leader from 1 February 2005; jointly with Department of Sociology, FASS. Religion, conflict and the modern state; religious authority and electronic information; religious consumerism and youth cultures.

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

Other Joint Appointments/Secondments

Bautista, Julius, Visiting Fellow, BA (University of Sydney), Certificate in Adult Literacy Education (South Sydney College of Technical and Further Education), PhD (Australian National University). At ARI from 20 July 2005; jointly with Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS. Folk Catholicism and religious iconography in the Philippines.

Feener, Michael, Associate Professor, BA (University of Colorado at Boulder), MA (Boston University), PhD (Boston). At ARI from 28 June 2006; jointly with Department of History, FASS. Intellectual and cultural history of Islam in the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

Miksic, John, Associate Professor, BA (Dartmouth), MA (Ohio), PhD (Cornell). At ARI from 1 August 2003 to 31 December 2006; jointly with Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS. Art of pre-modern Southeast Asia; archaeology of early historic Southeast Asia.

Widodo, Johannes, Assistant Professor, Ir (Parahyangan Catholic University, Indonesia), M Arch Eng. (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium), PhD (University of Tokyo). At ARI from 1 October 2005; jointly with Department of Architecture, SDE. Architecture, urban history and morphology of Southeast Asian cities; Asian modernity; and heritage conversation in Southeast Asian context.

Deputy Director

Chee Heng Leng, BA (Hons) (Wellesley), MS (Harvard), PhD (Malaya). Senior Research Fellow from 1 October 2005; Deputy Director from 1 July 2006. Health and health care; health and migration.

(Senior) Research Fellows

Daly, Patrick, BA (State University of New York at Buffalo), PhD (Oxford). Research Fellow from 1 December 2006. Cultural heritage management and politics in contemporary situations.

Nowak, Barbara Sue, BA (Bard College), MA (State University of New York at Buffalo), PhD (State University of New York at Buffalo). Senior Research Fellow from 7 September 2006. Gender relations, kinship, family and household, land tenure and work among Btsus’; World Vision project on post-tsunami Asia.

Piper, Nicola, BA (Sophia), MA (Sheffield), PhD (Sheffield). Senior Research Fellow from 3 January 2005. Political organizing of migrant labour and transnational activism to promote the rights of migrants.

Teo Kian Teck, Stephen, PhD (RMIT). Research Fellow from 17 October 2005. Film industry and film culture in Singapore.

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

Wade, Geofffrey, BA (Australian National University), PhD (Hong Kong). Senior Research Fellow from 6 January 2005. China-South East Asian historical interactions; Asian historical expansions.

Zheng Yangwen, BA (Oberlin College), M Phil (Université Strasbourg), PhD (Cambridge). Research Fellow from 1 September 2004. Cultural history of communism in China.

Postdoctoral Fellows


Avieli, Nir, PhD (Hebrew University); from 19 January 2004 to 18 January 2006. Contemporary Vietnamese culture, the anthropology of food and the anthropology of tourism.

Bräucher, Birgit, PhD (Munich); from 16 January 2006. Conflict and peace studies, cyberanthropology, revival of tradition, Indonesia, moluccas.

Chen Yu, PhD (National University of Singapore); from 12 June 2006. Architecture, urban history of Chinese cities, and heritage conservation.

Connolly, Jennifer Leigh, PhD (The New School for Social Research); from 3 January 2006. The cultural meaning and social consequences of Christian conversion in Indonesia.

Daly, Patrick, PhD (Oxford); from 2 December 2005 to 30 November 2006. Cultural heritage management and politics in contemporary situations.

Gaetano, Arianne Marie, PhD (Southern California); from 9 December 2005. Significance of gender relations and ideologies; gendered conceptions of space and mobility; moral agency and value and citizenship and rights in China.
Gubhaju, Bina, PhD (Pennsylvania); from 23 October 2005. Comparative analysis of several demographic and health surveys from the Southeast Asian region on issues pertaining to marriage and family.

Hasan, Noorhaidi, PhD (Utrecht University); from 4 September 2006. Various manifestations of political Islam in contemporary Indonesia and other Muslim-populated countries in Southeast Asia.

Kim Hee Sun, PhD (Pittsburgh); from 2 December 2004 to 1 December 2006. Musical change, performance practice, music and identity, composers in the modern Asian context, cultural studies, tradition and modernity, and music and nationalism.

Kiliarsa, Pattana, PhD (Washington); from 5 January 2004 to 4 January 2006. Cultural agencies of Thai boxers, Buddhist monks, Molam performers, and spirit mediums.

Kwee Hui Kian, PhD (Leiden); from 1 July 2006. The processes and theories of colonialism, capitalism, Chinese ethnicity, migration and networks in maritime Southeast Asia from the eighteenth century to the present.

Leong Chan Hoong, PhD (Victoria University of Wellington); from 3 January 2006. Singapore's perceptions of foreigners in Singapore.

Lim Khek Gee, Francis, PhD (SOAS, London); from 5 January 2005 to 28 July 2006. Emerging Christians communities in the Himalayan regions of Tibet and Nepal.

Maung Aung Myoe, PhD (Australian National University); from 2 November 2005. Myanmar's relation with China since 1948.

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

Ramsay, Jacob Robert, PhD (Australian National University); from 27 September 2004 to 31 March 2006. Catholicism in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

Shen Hsiu-Hua, PhD (Kansas); from 28 September 2004 to 25 August 2006. Migration with a particular focus on transnational communities and the interplay of gender, sexuality, and nationalism.

Situmorang, Augustina, PhD (Australian National University); from 27 February 2002 to 26 February 2006. Social-cultural factors associated with changing attitudes toward marriage among urban women.

Teo You Yann, PhD (Berkeley); from 6 February 2006. How family policies in Singapore generate relationships and expectations between state and society, producing particular citizen subjects with specific orientations toward the developmentalist state.

Tran Thi Que Ha, PhD (Tokyo Metropolitan University); from 7 August 2006. Architectural history, traditional architecture and heritage conservation.

Winter, Timothy Clifton, PhD (Manchester); from 4 October 2004 to 3 October 2006. 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.

Research Assistants

Jiang Na, BA (Peking University), MA (National University of Singapore); from 6 May 2005. Southeast Asia-China Interactions Cluster.

Kathiravelu, Laavanya, BSc (National University of Singapore), MA (Goldsmiths College); from 4 July 2005. Cultural Studies Cluster.

Kaur, Manjit, MEd (Monash); from 28 March 2005 to 26 October 2006. Religion and Globalisation Cluster.

Lacson, Windel Anne Barizo, BA (University of the Philippines), MA (National University of Singapore); from 21 June 2006. Changing Family in Asia Cluster.

Lam, Theodora, B.Soc.Sci (Weikato), BA (National University of Singapore) M.Soc.Sci (National University of Singapore); from 15 November 2005. Asian MetaCentre.

Ng Kian Boon, MA (Leeds), MSc (Lancaster), MSc (Strathclyde); from 23 August 2004 until his untimely death in May 2006 (for obituary see Newsletter No. 11). Changing Family in Asia Cluster.

Somassundaram, Shamala Sundaray, BA (National University of Singapore), Postgraduate Diploma in Education (NIE-NTU), MA (National University of Singapore); from 1 December 2005. Asian Migration Cluster.

Distinguished Visiting Scholar


Visiting (Senior) Research Fellows

Barrios, Maria Josefine Castro, PhD (University of the Philippines). Visiting Research Fellow from 6 April 2006 to 5 July 2006. Women playwrights, literature and poetry.

Chen Kuan-Hsing, PhD (University of Iowa). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 11 August 2004 to 10 August 2006. Cultural decolonization in East Asia.


Dura, Prasenjit, PhD (Harvard). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 2 August 2006 to 28 August 2006. Modern social and cultural history of China, the Japanese empire, and nationalism and de-colonization in Asia.


de Koninck, Rodolphe, PhD (University of Singapore). Visiting Research Fellow from 6 June 2006 to 5 October 2006. Southeast Asian geography and particularly agrarian and environmental issues.

Hill, David Tom, PhD (Australian National University). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 24 February 2006. Indonesian media, literature, politics and culture.

Hugo, Graeme John, PhD (Australian National University). Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asian MetaCentre, from 27 April 2006 to 12 May 2006. Population issues in Southeast Asia, especially Indonesia, Australian population issues and problems, issues relating to implications of demographic change for planning the provision of goods and services for the private and public sectors.


Kaptein, Nicolaas Jan Gerrit, PhD (Leiden). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 9 October 2006. The relationship between Southeast Asia and the Middle East; the well-known scholar of Hadrami descent Sayid ‘Uthman of Batavia (1822-1914).


Kelly, Philip Francis, PhD (British Columbia). Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asian MetaCentre, from 5 April 2006 to 30 April 2006. The labour market integration of Filipino immigrants in Toronto, the transnational linkages created with communities and families in the Philippines, and the process of socio-economic change in sending areas.

Khadria, Binod Kumar, 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.


Laffan, Michael Francis, PhD (Sydney). Visiting Research Fellow from 16 October 2006 to 14 December 2006. Islam in the region, ranging from pre-colonial and trans-oceanic connections to issues relating to imperialism and the forms of modernity.


Lindsay, Jennifer Mary, PhD (Sydney). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 3 January 2006 to 30 June 2006. Cultural policy, Indonesian performing arts, and language.

McCargo, Duncan James, PhD (SOAS). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 3 July 2006. Patani: religion, conflict and the politics of identity.

Mohamad, Maznah, PhD (Malaya). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 2 October 2006. The changing political-economy and history of the Malay family, while relating this to the issues of contested nationalisms, cultural fragmentation and institutionalized religiosity in contemporary society.

Ogena, Nimfa B., PhD (Pennsylvania). Visiting Research Fellow from 7 August 2006 to 12 November 2006. Population and social science research particularly in the areas of family demography, migration, labor force, adolescent reproductive health and sexuality, gender and development.


Prasad, Madiraju Madhava, PhD (Pittsburgh). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 5 December 2005 to 5 March 2006. Film stars and politics in South India.


Skelton, Tracey Lynn, PhD (Newcastle). Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asian MetaCentre, from 3 April 2006 to 21 April 2006. The volcanic crisis and the re-development of the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat, children’s and young children’s geographies, social and political identities of vulnerable young people, in particular deaf people, lesbians and gay men.

Souza, George Bryan, PhD (Cambridge). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 20 March 2006. The importance of the colonial port city of Batavia and Java and Asian commodities in local, regional and inter-regional markets, the economies of Southeast, China, and South Asia and in the global economy.


Thawrnhmung, Ardeth Maung, PhD (Wisconsin). Visiting Research Fellow from 30 May 2006 to 29 December 2006. Political economy in Burma, Southeast Asia, transitional economies, rural development, peasant studies, and ethnic politics, and democratization.

Tjoa-Bonatz, Dorothea M Mai Lin, PhD (Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany). Visiting Research Fellow from 16 October 2006. Shophouses in Penang/Malaysia, housing in historic city centres of Southeast Asia.

Nhung Tuyet Tran, PhD (UCLA). Visiting Research Fellow from 19 June 2006 to 20 August 2006. Intersection of gender, law, and religious practice in early modern Vietnamese society.


Wu Xiao An, PhD (Amsterdam). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 1 February 2005 to 31 January 2006. Modern history of Southeast Asia and the Chinese overseas.


Assistant Professors on Writing Semester Scheme

Thompson, Eric, PhD (Washington). At ARI 2 January 2006 to 30 June 2006; from the Department of Sociology, FASS. The social and cultural effects of urbanism in rural Malaysia; cultural identity and subjectivity; information technology and scholarly networks in Southeast Asia; and the cultural evolution of ASEAN regionalism.

Heng Juian, PhD (Columbia). At ARI 3 July 2006 to 31 December 2006; from the Department of Philosophy, FASS. Aesthetics; non-propositional knowledge; comparative philosophy; general philosophy and ecology.

Mrazek, Jan, PhD (Cornell). At ARI 10 July 2006 to 31 December 2006; from the Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS. The interaction between television and Javanese wayang kulit theatre and their cultures.

Priyambudi, Sulistiyo, PhD (Adelaide). At ARI 3 January 2006 to 30 June 2006; from the Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS. Reconciliation and forgiveness in post-Suharto Indonesia and local politics in Kotagede, Central Java.
Research Programmes & Activities
"I want to thank you very much for the wonderful opportunity that was given to me over the past seven months. It was one of the most productive periods of my life and I enjoyed every minute of it! I was able to accomplish most of the goals that I had set out to do and I will always cherish this wonderful experience and memory I had at ARI. Thank you so much for helping me to achieve my academic goals."

Ardeth Maung Thawnghmung

Research Clusters

Each of the six research clusters in ARI brings people together to focus on some particular problem areas of contemporary society where a collective effort would produce particularly useful interactions. This is not to say that the individual scholars who comprise the clusters do not also each have independent areas of interest. Furthermore, interests may overlap, and there is considerable fluidity between clusters. Most appointments of Visiting Fellows, Research Fellows, and Post-doctoral Fellows are in these clusters. A number of NUS scholars from the four social science faculties (Arts and Social Sciences, Law, Business, and Architecture) also contribute to these clusters as Associates of ARI.

Outside of these clusters, ARI also hosts visitors conducting high quality work on other topics related to Asia, administratively grouping these scholars with very heterogeneous research agendas into the ‘Open’ Cluster, so that they may be visibly supported. The full diversity of work carried out at ARI may be seen in the list of publications at the end of this Report.
Changing Family in Asia

The Changing Family in Asia Cluster 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.

A Ford Foundation-funded project on changing marriage patterns in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines began in 2006. A conference on the implications of increasing international marriages in Asia and a workshop on marriage between Muslims and non-Muslims in Southeast Asia were also conducted in the same year.

Together with World Vision, one of the world’s largest Christian relief and development organizations, ARI has established a research project focusing on the former’s post-tsunami programmes in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Capitalizing on their respective strengths — ARI’s focus on the social sciences and World Vision’s experience from its field operations — the collaboration is expected to produce learning papers on post-tsunami programme themes that include the following: conflict sensitivity, HIV/AIDS awareness, shelter programmes, gender, advocacy, ICT, creation of child-friendly spaces, land tenure, human rights, and public records issues. Such papers, while undoubtedly valuable to World Vision’s internal learning processes, are also expected to foster exploration of insights gleaned from various post-tsunami efforts beyond World Vision’s sphere.

Research Cluster Members

Members
- Prof Gavin Jones (Research Leader): Delayed marriage and non-marriage; international marriage
- Dr Chee Heng Leng: Health and health care; marriage, migration, and the state
- Dr Augustina Situmorang: Changing attitudes to marriage in Indonesia
- Dr Shen Hsia-Hua: Unequal relations of gender and sexuality
- Dr Mika Toyota: Delayed marriage and non-marriage in Myanmar and Japan; international marriage and citizenship
- Prof Binod Khadria: Migration and the family; family investment decisions in education and human capital formation
- Dr Teo You Yenn: Family as a site of state-society interactions; family policies in Singapore
- Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid: Marriage in slum areas in Dhaka
- Dr Nimfa Ogena: Marriage, family and the life course; impact of migration on marriage perceptions
- Dr Barbara S. Nowak: Gender, the household, domestic cycle
- Dr Maznah Mohamad: Gender and Islam; Malay family, Islam and state; social movements
- Dr Bina Gubhaju: Changing patterns of marriage and family in Southeast Asia
- Prof Brenda Yeoh: Gender, globalising households and transnational families
- Mr Ng Kian Boon: Research Assistant
- Ms Windel Anne Barizo Lacson: Research Assistant

Research Cluster 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 Kumarakalingam: Faculty of Law
- A/P Shirlene 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: Department of Japanese Studies
- A/P Angelique 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

The Asian Migration cluster explores 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 policy making and for our understanding on the processes of urbanization, social change, and globalization.

Several projects were initiated in 2006. We have included three below:

The Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS) has commissioned and funded a study on Singapore tertiary students' perceptions of emigration and foreign talent. This national-level study surveyed 2,000 tertiary students for their views on leaving Singapore, the social normative attitudes related to emigration, personal values, motivational needs, life satisfaction, economic security, family ties and perceived threats arising from in-coming migrants into Singapore.

The project Transnational care workers, state policies and gender dynamics in ageing societies: A comparative study of Singapore and Japan aims to investigate the structural conditions, social dynamics and policy implications of "care work" in service of the elderly in two rapidly ageing societies in Asia — Singapore and Japan. To achieve comparative dimensions, the research in Singapore is done in collaboration with a research team from Ochanomizu University, Tokyo, under the NUS-JSPS scheme.

The Wellcome Trust (UK) has provided a large grant for a new project titled Transnational Migration in SE Asia and the Health of Children Left Behind. This project brings together other migration researchers from the UK as well as Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. (See later section on the Asian MetaCentre for details.)

Research Cluster Members

**Members**

Prof Brenda Yeoh (Research Leader): Transnational migration; gender and migration

Dr Chee Heng Leng: Migration and health; medical tourism; marriage, migration, and the state

Dr Arianne Gaetano: Gender and migration; rural-urban migration in China; migration and cultural identity; agency; migrant rights

Prof Gavin W. Jones: Role of migration in relation to changing population dynamics; mega-urban regions in Southeast 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

Dr Nicola Piper: Regulation and governance of migration; rights of migrant workers; gender

Dr Mizanur Rahman Md: Migration and development; irregular migration; migration and security; labour migration; trafficking of women and children; migration policy; migration and poverty eradication

Dr Shen Hsiu-Hua: Transnational communities, migration and its interactions with gender, sexuality, and nationalism

Dr Mikha Toyota: Border minority migration; transnational networks; gender

Dr Juanita Marie Elias: Migration and gender

Dr Yan Hairong: Labour; rural-urban relations; development; modernity; the global south

Research Cluster Associates

Prof Wang Gungwu
East Asian Institute

A/P Tan Tai Yong
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

A/P Shirlena Huang
Department of Geography

A/P Shapen Adnan
South Asian Studies Programme

Mr Michael Ewing-Chow
Faculty of Law

Dr Eric C. Thompson
Department of Sociology

Dr Rachel Safman
Department of Sociology

Dr Tim Bunnell
Department of Geography

Dr Noorashikin Abdul Rahman
Department of Geography

Dr Natalie Oswin
Department of Geography
Cultural Studies in Asia

Cultural Studies in Asia is an emerging field of academic research that is challenging conventional disciplinary boundaries to rethink received knowledge on existing issues and 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 re-examined 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 seeks to add scholarly research and publishing to this emerging field by hosting outstanding researchers, workshops, conferences and publications.

In 2006, the Cultural Studies Cluster held a year-long, monthly seminar on Violence in Contemporary Asian Films, in collaboration with the National Museum of Singapore, as the 2006 Asian Trends Seminar Series. On each last Thursday of the months April to November, a film scholar was invited to give a public seminar to speak on the theme, with reference to cinema in their respective countries in Asia. A two-day international workshop on Cinematic Representation of the Tropical Urban/City was conducted in March, and the Cluster also organized the International Conference ‘OF ASIAN ORIGIN: Rethinking Tourism in Contemporary Asia’ in July. In conjunction with this conference, a postgraduate workshop on Questions of Methodology; Researching Tourism in Asia, was organized in collaboration with Otago University, New Zealand.

Research Cluster Members

**Members**

Prof Chua Beng Huat (Research Leader): East Asian popular culture; multiculturalism in Singapore

Prof Chen Kuan-Hsing: Cultural decolonization in East Asia

Prof David Hill: Biography of Mochtar Lubis; media in Indonesia

Dr Jennifer Lindsay: Cultural policy, Indonesian performing arts, and language

Dr Stephen Teo: Hong Kong and other Asian cinemas

Dr Birgit Bräuchler: Cultural dimensions of reconciliation; religious conflict in cyberspace

Dr Kim Hee-Sun: Musical change, performance practice, music and identity, composers in the modern Asian context, cultural studies, tradition and modernity, and music and nationalism

Dr Kim Soyon: Korean drama

Dr Tim Winter: 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

Dr Shin Hyun Joon: Asian pop music

Research Cluster 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
Religion and Globalisation in Asian Contexts

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 globalization and religion. Research in this cluster is characterized 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 globalizing 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; integration of empirical and theoretical research; empirical focus on global processes in Asia; research concentration on political and religious conflicts; relevance to contemporary issues.

The sociology of religion is currently enjoying a rejuvenation partly through the analysis of popular religion in terms of the concept of ‘religious markets’, partly through the specific interest in Islam, and partly through an interest in renewal movements in Christianity, especially Protestant and Pentecostal evangelism. The cluster on globalisation and religion is undertaking research on three issues (i) religion and politics, (ii) the sociology of piety, and (iii) the spread of ‘prosperity religions’ in the Asian region, and the commodification and commercialization of religious life styles, practices and objects. This third area of research considers the growth of religious markets in Asia, any of which — such as Tibetan Buddhism — have a global reach.

The cluster, together with the undergraduate programme in Religious Studies Minor Programme, was officially launched on 18 February 2006 by the University at the Asian Civilizations Museum. We have had two important conferences during the year. The first was in fact a graduate workshop on Religion and Technology in Contemporary Asia on 19-20 January. This topic and the papers proved to be highly innovative and it is anticipated that the proceedings will be published. The second event was a major conference on the Unraveling of Civil Society: Religion in the Making and Unmaking of the Modern World on 22-24 March. This conference attracted major foreign experts on religion, politics and social conflict, and was important in developing the research objectives of the cluster, such as the central concern with state responses to religious diversity in modern societies.

In 2006, the cluster welcomed the arrival of Michael Feener who took up his joint appointment with ARI and the Department of History, and Noorhaidi Hasan who is a postdoctoral fellow. The cluster also ran a successful weekly seminar that attracted faculty staff, visitors, and postgraduates. Flagship research includes: (1) Managing religions: state responses to religious diversity in Asian societies; (2) Popular religion; (3) Religion and global technology; and (4) Religion, globalisation and the body.

Research Cluster Members

- **Members**
  - Prof Bryan Turner (Research Leader): Social theory of religion
  - Prof Joseph Tamney: Modernization, globalization, and Confucianism in Chinese societies
  - A/P Michael Feener: Intellectual and cultural history of Islam in the Middle East and Southeast Asia
  - Prof Nicolaas Jan Gerrit Kapteijn: The relationship between Southeast Asia and Middle East
  - Dr Julius Bautista: Catholicism in the Philippines; religious studies
  - Dr Lim Khok Gee, Francis: Emerging Christians communities in the Himalayan regions of Tibet and Nepal
  - Dr Pattana Kitiarsa: Cultural agencies of Thai boxers, Buddhist monks, Molam performers, and spirit mediums
  - Dr Mario Poceski: History of Chinese Buddhism
  - Dr Jennifer Connolly: Cultural meaning and social consequences of Christian conversion in Indonesia
  - Ms Manjit Kaur: Research Assistant

Research Cluster Associates

- **Prof Lily Kong**
  - Vice-Provost (Education), Department of Geography
- **A/P Syed Farid Alatas**
  - Department of Sociology
- **A/P Gary Bell**
  - Faculty of Law
- **Prof Alan Chan**
  - Department of Philosophy
- **A/P Robbie Goh**
  - Department of English Language and Literature
- **A/P Habibul Khondker**
  - Department of Sociology
- **Prof Thio Li-ann**
  - Faculty of Law
- **A/P John Whalen-Bridge**
  - Department of English Language and Literature
- **Dr Thomas Dubois**
  - Department of History
- **A/P Vineeta Sirdha**
  - Department of Sociology
Southeast Asia-China Interactions

The revival of the links which long tied Southeast Asia with China is one of the most striking regional developments since the Cold War. Understanding the changes now taking place, as well as the growing interdependencies and alliances which are emerging, requires both historical depth of analysis and a broad cross-disciplinary approach.

The year 2006 saw two key conferences in the cluster’s quest to illuminate the historical basis of these issues: ‘Asian Expansions: Historical Processes of Polity Expansion in Asia’ in May, and ‘Rationalising China’s Place in Asia’ 1800-2005’ in August. The very success of the junior members of the cluster during the year in obtaining key tenure-track positions elsewhere (Zheng Yangwen at Manchester, Kwee Hui Kian at Toronto) provided more than the usual high turnover inherent in a dynamic research institute, though Anthony Reid and Geoff Wade remain as its core. Members of the cluster were unusually creative in generating new ideas on the borders of their cluster, such as the conference and book project on Asian names (Reid and Zheng), and cooperating with Osaka in exploring SE — NE Asia links more broadly.

The cluster also played midwife to three specific projects:
1. Southeast Asian Archaeology, embracing the manifold interests of John Miksic in making Singapore a hub for archaeological activity in the region more broadly. In particular this project was active in a new archaeological frontier of Sumatra, of which much remains in darkness concerning the nature of the Sri Vijaya polity. The arrival of Patrick Daly strengthened this focus.
2. The Aceh Initiative (see below)
3. The Cold War in Asia, 1945-1990, which came together in late 2006 through a Round Table on the subject in November, which built the necessary international network for an external funding bid the following year. This will increasingly focus the cluster’s attention on this portentous period in the shaping of contemporary Asia, by looking at the growing data from all sides.

Research Cluster Members

**Members**

- **Prof Anthony Reid (Research Leader):** 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 George Souza:** On sea, on land: the political economy and material culture of Asia and the early modern world, c.1500-1800
- **Dr Zheng Yangwen:** The “Chinese” 18th century and commodity flows between China and Southeast Asia
- **Dr Chen Shiwei:** The history of Academia Sinica, modern China’s leading institution of advanced research
- **Dr Maung Aung Myoe:** The politics and international relations of the Southeast Asian region in general and the government and politics of Myanmar in particular
- **Dr Patrick Daly:** Later prehistoric cultural interaction around the South China Sea from a ceramics perspective; the relationship between cultural heritage management and politics in contemporary situations
- **Dr Kwee Hui Kian:** The processes and theories of colonialism, capitalism, Chinese ethnicity, migration and networks in maritime Southeast Asia from the eighteenth century to the present
- **Dr Tran Nhung Tuyet:** The intersection of gender, law, and religious practice in early modern Vietnamese society
- **Ms Jiang Na:** Research Assistant

Research Cluster Associates

- **Prof Wang Gungwu**
  East Asian Institute
- **A/P Huang Jianli**
  Department of History
- **A/P Lee Cheuk Yin**
  Department of Chinese Studies
- **A/P Lee Lai To**
  Department of Political Science
- **Prof Henry Yeung**
  Department of Geography
- **A/P Paul Kratoska**
  NUS Publishing
- **A/P Bruce Lockhart**
  Department of History
- **Dr Bin Yang**
  Department of History
- **Dr Atsushi Ota**
  Department of History
Southeast Asian Archaeology Project

The Southeast Asian archaeology project focuses on a range of problems connected with later prehistoric and early historic sites in Southeast Asia. Major topics of interest include: early trade, urbanization, maritime archaeology; evidence of communication between various parts of Southeast Asia. During the past year, ARI members have conducted archaeological field work in, or worked with materials from, sites in Singapore, Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Indonesia.

Additionally, the project has increased its efforts in areas of cultural heritage management by working with local regional partners to conduct research on and provide training for archaeology and heritage projects, including overseeing training programs in Indonesia and Cambodia, and facilitating the participation of several Indonesian archaeologists in the University of Oxford field archaeological field school. Finally, project members have begun a major new program of heritage management research in Aceh as part of the international reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in tsunami affected areas. Several initial field surveys have been conducted, and proposals for major funding bids have been submitted to expand ARI's role and expertise in post conflict/disaster heritage management.

Assoc Prof John Miksic

Project Members

Members
A/P John Miksic: Prehistoric and early modern interactions; cultural heritage management
Dr Patrick Daly: Later prehistory of island Southeast Asia; heritage and contemporary politics
Aceh Project

The Institute took a number of research and development initiatives in response to the catastrophic damage wrought by the earthquake and tsunami of December 26, 2004. Prof Anthony Reid had organized a conference in May 2004 on *The Historical Background to the Aceh Problem*, together with Acehnese historian Dr Isa Sulaiman, who was a victim of the tsunami. In June 2005, ARI sent its first mission to post-tsunami Aceh, comprising Prof Reid, A/P John Miksic (ARI/SEASP), Dr Edwards McKinnon (ARI) and Dr Vedi Hadiz (Sociology). Professor Reid was invited to give the keynote lecture at the launch of the Aceh Cultural Institute. Along with Dr Hadiz, he surveyed damage to library collections and needs in that area, while Dr Miksic and Dr McKinnon made a preliminary survey of the damage to archeological sites and the needs in the area of rescue archeology. Following his ARI fellowship, Dr McKinnon was employed by the UNDP on a relief mission in Aceh, and was able to monitor archeological needs in his spare time. Professor Reid's concern to replace the lost documentary heritage in Aceh, notably represented by the almost total loss of the Aceh Documentation and Information Centre, was in 2006 taken up generously by the Netherlands Government, which undertook the digitization and preservation in Aceh of all Dutch publications on Aceh.

In March 2006, Dr Kuntoro Mangkusubroto, Director of the Body for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Aceh and Nias (BRR) invited Professor Reid to advise the BRR on issues of heritage recovery and research and training in the humanities and social sciences. After several visits to Aceh, the BRR consequently asked ARI to organize a major international conference on Aceh and Indian Ocean Studies in Banda Aceh in February 2007. Preparation for this conference, funded by the BRR, involved two other ARI scholars who developed their own parallel research interests in Aceh — Dr Michael Feener on the implementation of Islamic law, and Dr Patrick Daly on cultural heritage management in the post-crisis situation.

A further strand of analysis of the post-tsunami reconstruction effort was developed in response to a request by and funding from World Vision International. Dr Barbara Nowak joined ARI in September 2006 to conduct this research.

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Project Members

**Members**

**Prof Anthony Reid:** Anthony Reid has long worked on Aceh history, and continues to do so in the context of comparative work on identity formation and social and economic history in Southeast Asia more broadly.

**A/P Michael Feener:** Michael Feener's research focuses on the intellectual and cultural history of Islam, with a particular emphasis on issues of law and society. He has made several trips to Aceh and is currently studying aspects of contemporary Shari'ah implementation there on multiple levels, ranging from the drafting of legislation to the functions of the Islamic religious court system.

**Dr Patrick Daly:** Cultural heritage management in crisis situations; the importance of place and history to post-disaster rehabilitation; the early prehistory of Aceh.

**Dr Barbara Sue Nowak:** Barbara Nowak began working in Aceh to find ways New Zealand institutions, both business and education, could assist Aceh in its relief and recovery. Presently, working with World Vision, Barbara is writing three learning papers on emergency relief and development in post-tsunami conditions: Gender, land rights and children in emergencies.

**Ms Windel Anne Barizo Lacson:** Research Assistant. BRR and the reconstruction in Aceh; evaluation of selected post-tsunami programs.
Asian Cities

The Asian Cities Cluster has been established as part of ARI since October 1, 2005, after it was transferred from NUS Office of Research’s USRP (Urban Studies Research Programme). Within the first three months, this new cluster has been able to recruit 12 interdisciplinary associates, and to expand the cluster members from the initial three to the total seven, including the recruitment of two post-doctoral fellows. Until end of December 2006, the Cluster has organized three seminars and two major workshops (jointly organized with the Department of Architecture, NUS).

Asian Cities Cluster focuses especially on cutting-edge areas of rapid change and the identity of Asian cities, notably: the impact of rapid urbanization, adapting and conserving heritage to a changing urban environment, and urban environmental planning. The Cluster, housed in School of Design and Environment (SDE)’s Department of Architecture (NUS), will encourage and organize research projects, conferences and publications. The Asian Cities Cluster has been able to fulfill its mission to build collaborative and interdisciplinary connections, especially among scholars from ARI, SDE, FASS, and beyond NUS (e.g. NIE/NTU, and international scholars), and become an important and strategic part of the ARI family.

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Research Cluster Members

**Members**

Prof Heng Chee Kiang (Research Leader): History and design of Chinese cities; Asian urban design and public spaces

Prof Chua Beng Huat (Research Leader): Comparative studies in public housing policy and urban planning

Dr Johannes Widodo: Southeast Asian urban history and morphologies; heritage conservation

Prof Brenda Yeoh Saw Ai: Transnational migration, globalising cities

Prof Gavin Jones: Mega-urban regions in Southeast and East Asia

Dr Chen Yu: Urban transformation in Semi-Colonial China

Dr Tran Thi Que Ha: Traditional timber houses and history of Japanese architecture; Vietnam traditional architecture; urban planning and design of the new housing estates in Hanoi

Dr Mai Lin Tjoa-Bonatz: The shophouse in colonial Penang

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Research Cluster Associates

A/P Ho Kong Chong
Department of Sociology

A/P Lee Yong Sook
Department of Geography

A/P Gregory K Clancy
Department of History

A/P Rajeev S Patke
Department of English

A/P Wong Tai Chee
School of Humanities, NIE/NTU

A/P Ooi Giok Ling
School of Humanities, NIE/NTU

Adjunct Prof Tay Kheng Soon
Department of Architecture

A/P Willie Tan
Department of Building

A/P Sim Loo Lee
Department of Real Estate

A/P Han Sun Sheng
Department of Real Estate

A/P Zhu Jieming
Department of Real Estate

A/P Timothy Gwyn Bunnell
Department of Geography
Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis

The Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis (AMC) 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. AMC’s headquarters is situated at ARI, NUS, in Singapore. Its research foci includes: population-development-environment-health interactions at the regional level; rapid urbanisation, urbanism and health in Asia and demographic change; and migration and the ‘Asian family’, and their impacts on social and psychological wellbeing.

One of the major aims of AMC is to improve 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 collaboration 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 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.

In 2006, AMC was awarded a grant worth S$1,377,370 by The Wellcome Trust (UK) for a study titled Transnational Migration in SE Asia and the Health of Children Left Behind. The research team will be led by Principal Investigator Professor Brenda Yeoh, National University of Singapore, and Co-Principal Investigator Dr Espheth Graham from University of St Andrews. Members of the team include Professor Paul Boyle (University of St Andrews), Dr Chee Heng Leng (Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore) as well as Associate Professor Wong Mee Lian (Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine, National University of Singapore). The four country collaborators are Dr Sukamdi, Center for Population and Policy Studies, Indonesia; Dr Maruja Asis, Scalabrini Migration Center, Philippines; Dr Aree Jampaklay, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand and Dr Dang N. Anh, Institute of Sociology, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam. The team at the University of St Andrews is concurrently awarded a separate grant worth £196,438 for research assistance, expenses and equipment incurred in the United Kingdom for this study.

The study will examine the health and welfare outcomes, in four South-East Asian countries (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam), for children under 12 years of age left behind when their father and/or mother became a transnational migrant. Primary cross-sectional data will be collected from both migrant and non-migrant households across sampled communities and will include anthropometric measurements, validated health measures (e.g. SDQ) and wellbeing measures. Multivariate techniques (logistic or multinomial regression) will be used to build a series of models incorporating contextual and individual independent variables and designed to test five important hypotheses. In sum, these formalize expectations that the health and well-being of left-behind children is positively associated with father’s absence, and (for physical health) with mother’s absence under certain conditions, but (for mental health/well-being) negatively associated with mother’s absence. Child age and gender and country/local community characteristics are expected to influence outcomes, once other independent variables are taken into account.

Selected qualitative interviews will provide in-depth insight into issues raised and aid the interpretation of quantitative findings. The key goals of this study are to: 1) establish systematic associations between parental absence and child health/well-being; 2) provide a basis for future longitudinal analysis on an under-researched topic; 3) contribute to an evidence base for policy development.

This study, to be conducted over three years, will commence officially in January 2007. In total, the Asian MetaCentre has been awarded over S$5 million by The Wellcome Trust.

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**Programme Members**

**Prof Brenda Yeoh (Principal Investigator):** Transnational Migration; Gender and Migration  
**Dr Evi Nurvidya Ariffin:** Postdoctoral Fellow (from 22 August 2005 to 21 May 2006)  
**Ms Theodora Lam:** Research Assistant  
**Ms Verene Koh:** Senior Administrative Officer (from May 2000 to July 2006)
Other Externally Funded Projects

**de Konincx, Rodolphe**
- “Challenges of the agrarian transition in Southeast Asia”, Can$2.5 million funded by the Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

**Feener, Michael**
- Chair and Organizer for the “Southeast Asian Inter-textualities” Mellon Foundation Humanities Workshop, 2005-2006.

**Ishikawa, Noboru**

**Kwee Hui Kian**
- “Pockets of Empire: Chinese social organizations and economic expansion to Southeast Asia, c. 17th to 20th century”, funded by KITLV (Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean, Leiden, the Netherlands.

**McCargo, Duncan**
- “Interpreting Political Violence in the Thai South”, £346,035 awarded by Economic and Social Research Council, UK.

**Miksic, John**
- “Online Database for Southeast Asian Art and Archaeology”, S$10,000 funded by Lee Foundation. Researchers: John Miksic and Mr Shah Alam bin Mohd. Zaini.
- “Archaeological Research in Singapore”, US$20,000 funded by American Express Corp (through the Singapore History Museum/National Heritage Board), $197,136 funded by NUS Academic Research Fund, in addition to internal ARI funding. Researchers: John Miksic, Lim Chen Sian (MA student), Ms Cheryl Ann Low, Singapore History Museum (Collaborator), Kyle Latinis (Graduate Assistant).
- “Archaeology in Jambi Province, Sumatra”, funded by NUS Academic Research Fund Grant, US$29,500 funded by Orchard Maritime Services Pte. Ltd. Collaborators: Universitas Udayana; Monuments Preservation Department, Jambi; Regional Archaeology Office, South Sumatra.

**Toyota, Mika**

**Tran Thi Que Ha**
- “Project for Rehabilitation of Modern Collective Housing in Hanoi, Vietnam”, commissioned by the 21st century Center of Excellent (COE), Architecture Department of Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan.

**Yeoh, Brenda**
- “A Comparative Research on Migrant Care Workers in East Asia and Europe — Legal Systems, Citizenship and the conditions of their work and life from a gender perspective”, $6,500 awarded by Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women.
Events
Conferences & Workshops

ARI continues to act as a catalyst for research by hosting seminars, workshops and conferences. In its mission 'to be a place of encounters between the region and the world', ARI provides the space and opportunity for the exchange and generation of ideas, bringing together regional and global scholars to confront the major trends and issues of a changing Asia, specially privileging inter-disciplinary areas.

In 2006, the Institute organised 26 conferences and workshops, and provided financial support to four others that were organised by Departments. Most of these conferences were driven by ARI's researchers and post-doctoral fellows and draw upon both its visiting fellows and the larger NUS academic community. The proceedings of many of these events have eventually been published either as edited collections or in academic journals.

A large part of ARI's resources go into organising these academic gatherings that combine speakers and participants from Singapore, the region, and the world. They were planned and coordinated by ARI's Events Team.

Workshop on Pensioners on the Move: Social Security and Trans-Border Retirement Migration in Asia and Europe
Convenors: Prof Elspeth Guild, Dr Anita Böcker and Dr Mika Toyota
Jointly organized with Asia-Europe Foundation; Radboud Universiteit, Nijmegen, The Netherlands
5–7 Jan 2006, Furama Riverfront Hotel, Singapore

The aim of this workshop was to investigate the issues of social security and trans-border migration of retired people in Asia and Europe. It compared the specific policies and legal frameworks which enabled or obstructed the geographical movement of the elderly, and explored the strategies, behaviour, and implications which would condition the options and choices the migrants faced. More specifically, the workshop discussed the relationships between states and the notion of 'social citizenship', state regulations on migration and the remittance of pensions, and the ways in which national identity is challenged and/or reinforced. It also explored the elderly migrants’ sense of ‘home’ and ‘family’ with regard to social security and residential strategies, and investigated the emerging ‘transnational household’ as a result of the movement of the elderly.

International Conference on Naming in Asia: Local Identities and Global Change
Convenors: Prof Anthony Reid, Dr Zheng Yangwen and Prof Charles MacDonald
23–24 Feb 2006, NUS

At the first international conference on naming practices in Asia, sixteen scholars from Western and Asian countries — historians, anthropologists, sociologists, linguists and political scientists — presented papers on the naming practices of East, Southeast and South Asia. The conference addressed the cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary study of personal names across the fields of history, social anthropology, sociology and linguistics. Such studies hold the key to a number of important issues, including the definition of personal identities, the position of the individual in society, religious and cosmological representations, social change, gender and history.

During the conference, much further ground was also covered towards establishing typologies and trends, and relating changes in naming to the larger socio-economic and political landscape in diverse and dynamic Asia.

Workshop on Cinematic Representation of the Tropical Urban/City
Convenor: Prof Chua Beng Huat
17–18 Mar 2006, NUS

This workshop was held to examine the conceptual and substantive connections between two disparate fields of research, namely, film studies and urban geography. The ultimate aim of the workshop was an exploration of the actual geographies of different cities and their filmic representations as imaginary geographies and cartographies.

The cities examined in this workshop included both the major centres and peripheral sites of movie productions in the Asian tropical belt: from East Asia, the subtropical cities of Taipei and Hong Kong, from Southeast Asia, the cities of Singapore and Jakarta and Bangkok, and from southern India, the cities of Kolkata, Hyderabad and Madras/Chennai. The papers dealt with a number of diverse subjects, from sex workers in Manila to the Suzy Wong in Hong Kong, from the concept of cosmopolitanism in Taipei to the creation of Indian cities as "cardboard monuments" in contemporary Telugu cinema, from the diasporic remembrances of Saigon to the social topographies of Kuala Lumpur as seen in the works of independent filmmakers in the new Malaysian cinema, as the depiction of rain in Kolkata to the plight of street children in Jakarta.

The workshop was indeed an occasion for scholars from East Asia and Australia to deliberate upon filmic representations of tropical cities as real and imaginary geographies.
Conference on the Unravelling of Civil Society: Religion in the Making and Unmaking of the Modern World
Convenor: Prof Bryan Turner
22–24 Mar 2006, NUS

The growth of religious and ethnic diversity as a consequence of porous, global labour markets and population flows, the emergence of flexible citizenship, and the partial erosion of state sovereignty, legal pluralism and multiculturalism, the spread of fundamentalism, and the growth of popular religious movements are important and characteristic aspects of globalisation. In the Asian context, there are distinct arenas of social and political struggle between religious groups in Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines that create conditions for significant civil conflict. The conference examined how states and societies manage the social and political complexity of globalisation, religious diversity and cultural pluralism, and hence respond to diasporic cultures, conflicting religious identities, cultures and communities. Issues such as emerging religious conflicts related to fundamentalism, the evolution of citizenship and human rights, the creation of nation-state identities and the sources of both religious tolerance and violence were discussed and debated.

Speakers presented papers discussing issues in the religious revivalism and fundamentalism of modern Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and other ‘world religions’. Papers presented also discussed conceptual issues in the sociology of religion, historical studies of the growth of religions in Asia, analysis of political conflicts in world religions, studies of the process of globalisation, and case studies of particular societies and religious movements.

Workshop on Asian Expansions: The Historical Processes of Polity Expansion in Asia
Convenors: Dr Geoff Wade, Dr Zheng Yangwen and Dr Bruce Lockhart
12–13 May 2007, Holiday Inn Atrium Hotel, Singapore

While historical expansion by European states and European empires has been a subject of intense research in recent decades, Asian expansions is a field which remains largely unstudied. The processes of decolonization and nation-building in Asia over the last half century have produced much nationalist history posited on a long-term “natural” historical genealogy of contemporary polities. The mechanisms by which Asian polities have developed and expanded over time have thus generally been understudied and, in some areas, entirely ignored.

During this international workshop, modes, mechanisms and processes of historical Asian polity expansion were explored. The autonomous Asian processes of bureaucratization and accretion were also compared to those of Europe, opening a space for such comparative studies during the workshop. By examining the aims, modes, mechanisms and processes of polity expansion in Asia, there were also some generic conclusions about the nature of expansion made.
Workshop on Pilkada: The Local District Elections, Indonesia 2005
Convenors: A/P Maribeth Erb and Dr Priyambudi Sulistiyanto
17–18 May, NUS
Organised by ARI’s Indonesia Study Group, this workshop discussed the first direct elections of district heads for almost 300 districts across the Indonesian archipelago, which took place in 2005. These elections are part of the continuing process of democratization and decentralization that has been taking place in Indonesia since the fall of Suharto in 1998. Results of these elections have been variable and the implications they have for a process of democratic transition were explored in this workshop.

Central points of discussion also included the role of political parties, the proliferation of money politics, and the importance of the direct vote in terms of ‘empowering’ voters. Scholars from Indonesia, Singapore, England and Australia shared their findings of their research and views on pilkada in regions across Indonesia, from Papua, to Riau. The former governor of Eastern Nusa Tenggara province, Aloysius Benedictus Mboi, was also invited to share his insights and thoughts on his experience in local government during the Suharto period and on the issues related to pilkada.

Workshop on Stranger-Kings in Southeast Asia and Elsewhere
Convenor: Dr David Henley
Jointly organized with LIPI, Indonesia and KitLV, Jakarta
5–7 Jun 2006, Jakarta, Indonesia

In Southeast Asia, kings have often been strangers: either foreigners, or strangers in the sense of boasting genealogies that separate them from their subjects and link them with an exotic outside world. A historical pattern whereby rulers tend to be foreigners and it is more or less accepted that they should be foreigners, is also found in other parts of the world. This workshop examined the forms, origins, and logic of stranger-kingship in a variety of settings from Southeast Asia and beyond.

Biannual Conference on Chinese Nation, Chinese State, 1850 – 2000
Convenor: Dr Thomas Dubois
Jointly organized with Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS
and East Asian Institute
26–28 Jun 2006, NUS

A biannual meeting of the Historical Society for 20th Century China (HSTCC), this conference was jointly organised with East Asian Institute and Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences. The historical emergence of China as a nation-state has built upon certain discourses of self and nation, while ignoring or even obscuring others. This conference examined the many changing and competing perceptions of and aspirations for China and its place in the world, and how these have shaped political, social and economic developments of the past century and a half.

Of particular interest are the ideas and activities of non-traditional political actors, such as ordinary individuals, professional or native place associations, chambers of commerce, or literary societies. Panels also explored how traditional and non-traditional political actors engaged the following themes: changing face of nationalism (social, political and economic dynamics of nationalism and nationalist activism at various times and places during the long period); race and nationality (biological conceptions of belonging, racial categorization, theories of racial determinism and dominance, perceptions and treatment of Chinese abroad); civilization and ideology (how Confucian [or other] traditions created understandings of Chinese uniqueness or cultural centrality); People’s Republic and world socialism (influence of China in providing a model for political and social movements such as Maoism, third world revolution and the Non-Aligned Movement); and new China and the world (how various periods [including our own] presaged China’s emergence as a regional or global power, and how this was reflected in policies, strategies and images).

ACAU Singapore Workshop 2006 Public Waterfronts in the Asian Metropolis
Convenor: Dr Low Boon Liang
5–14 Jul 2006, NUS

Established in 2004, the Asian Coalition for Architecture and Urbanism (ACAU) is a network of institutions that conducts joint workshops on the key issues of architecture and urbanism shared by Asia’s major metropolises. The focus of this 2006 workshop was on waterfront development. The workshop area encompassed the broad district around the Singapore River and Marina Bay, extending into Marina New Downtown. During the workshop, each studio examined the waterfront contextual issues and urban design and architectural opportunities to address these contemporary issues.

Burma Studies Conference 2006: Communities of Interpretation
Convenors: Dr Mahtir Aung-Thwin and Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing
Jointly organized with Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS; and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
13–15 Jul 2006, Grand Plaza Parkroyal Hotel, Singapore

Under the theme “Communities of Interpretation”, the biennial International Burma Studies Conference saw over 200 participants and observers from North America, Australia, India, Japan, Europe, and Southeast Asia attending the sessions in Singapore, making it the one of the largest meetings convened by an Association for Asian Studies affiliated-group. As a result of its location in Asia, this year’s Burma Studies Conference involved the active participation of over 30 scholars from Myanmar/Burma, providing an unprecedented opportunity for academic exchange between international and domestic scholars of the country. In addition to representatives from local embassies, the media, and non-government organizations attending the sessions, several members of FASS and the ARI presented papers, presided over panels, or
participated in the wide range of events that marked the three day conference. International pressers were also attracted to the conference alongside NUS Publishing, which prominently displayed its new offerings on Burma and its excellent collection of first-class scholarship on Southeast Asia.

The conference theme “Communities of interpretation” sought to recognize and explore the various ways in which the idea of Myanmar/Burma had come to be epistemologically understood in contemporary times. Participants were asked to consider the ways in which the idea of Myanmar/Burma had been produced and articulated through history, anthropology, politics, economics, sociology, art, religion, popular culture, media, and literature.

**Asia Pacific Childhoods Conference: New Concepts and Networks for Asia-Pacific Child Researchers**

Convenors: Prof Brenda Yeoh and A/P Roxana Waterson

Jointly organized with Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS, Asian MetaCentre for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis

17–20 Jul 2006, NUS

The Asia-Pacific Childhoods Conference, reviving the successful model of ‘ethnography of childhood’ workshops held in Britain, Canada and Zimbabwe in the 1980s, aimed to contribute to the emergence of a network of researchers, producing and sharing ideas and information about Asia-Pacific childhoods across disciplinary and theory/practice divides, which reflect the diversity of cultures and contexts in the region. With support from SEASREP Foundation; Wenner-Gren Foundation; UNICEF; UNAIDS; Oak Foundation; Corin Foundation and Lee Foundation, the Conference fostered new research on concepts of childhood and children’s experiences in Asia-Pacific communities, moving away from Eurocentric perspectives.

The Conference welcomed around 100 participants from 31 different countries across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. Participants represented a range of disciplines including anthropology, sociology, geography, psychology, education, social work, and medicine, as well as researchers, activists and practitioners with NGOs, policymaking bodies and donor agencies. Three plenary sessions on themes of particular regional importance—research methods and ethics; education; and adolescents and risk (especially in the context of HIV/AIDS)—were combined with four specialist symposia on the everyday lives of children in Asia-Pacific; children, citizenship and policy in Asia-Pacific; change and continuity in Asia-Pacific childhoods; and violence and children in Asia-Pacific.

There was also a session on ‘Ethics, Children and Film’; a committee meeting of the IUAES (International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences), several participants being members; and a variety of spontaneous meetings between participants who had discovered shared interests. A very high level of positive energy carried through even to the closing session after an intense four days of interaction.
Conference on Cultural Resource Management in Southeast Asia
Convenor: A/P John N. Milisic
25–27 Jul 2006, National Library Board, Singapore

For the first time in Singapore, a conference on Cultural Resource Management in Southeast Asia was held that brought diverse representatives of various backgrounds, from inside and outside the region, together.

The conference developed an explicit and limited set of themes which included tourism and its alternatives as twinned development and preservation strategies; mitigation of the effects of tourism and other developmental forces; museums; site preservation; and related legal issues. The conference also critically reflected upon how “cultural resources” come to be defined, the intersections between so-called tangible and intangible cultural forms and the complex relationship between community participation, cultural sovereignty and the politics of cultural utilization.

The conference targeted at two different audiences that included the academics and the CRM professionals who are interested in theoretical innovations and new ways of dealing with practical CRM issues. This conference also created a dialogue between scholars from numerous disciplines, ranging from geography to economics.

International Conference on ‘Of Asian Origin’: Rethinking Tourism in Contemporary Asia
Convenor: Dr Tim Winter
7–9 Sep 2006, NUS

The conference was set to re-think tourism in contemporary Asia, and challenged its participants to look at familiar spaces but shed familiar assumptions and question stereotypes. Bringing together over 60 panelists from 15 countries and various disciplines, the conference managed to generate conversations across genres and national boundaries.

By coming to different conclusions regarding the validity and applicability of existing debates within the literature, the conference avoided falling in the trap of essentializing Asia as somewhere and something that is fundamentally ‘different’. More fruitfully, the conference explored the analytical themes that are needed to be called into question.

The conference also addressed the question of scale. Lying between the local and regionalized accounts were studies which reflected upon how nation-states are responding to the changing nature of tourism in Asia. Closely related to the issue of scale is the problem of defining Asia’s borders and boundaries. There were also presentations on diaspora in Europe and North America which showed why Asian tourism needs to be approached with a geographical elasticity.

Indeed, the conference embraced risks in the spirit of probing new ground, and crossing intellectual boundaries, both in its conception and implementation.

International Conference on Rationalising China’s Place in Asia, 1800 to 2005
Convenors: Dr Geoff Wade and Dr Zheng Yangwen
3–4 Aug 2006, National Library Board, Singapore

This international conference brought together historians of late Imperial (1800-1911), Republican (1911-1949) and Communist (1949- ) China, historians of colonial and post-colonial Southeast Asia, and international relations specialists to distinguish the difference between rhetoric and action pertaining to China’s foreign relations.

During the conference, China’s place in Asia since 1800 was re-examined and how smaller Asian states, particularly in Southeast Asia, viewed it. Topics included were the demise of “traditional” perception (rhetoric), the emergence of new structures, the use of historical memories or constructions of past relationships and the constant defying of these by pragmatic actors on the ground. An integral question that was also investigated by the conference was whether the Westphalian system has been challenged in Asia.

Conference on International Marriage, Rights and the State in Southeast and East Asia
Convenors: Dr Mikia Toyota, Dr Chee Heng Leng and Prof Gavin Jones
21–22 Sep 2006, NUS

This conference was about marriages that cross boundaries of nation states that determine citizenship rights and access to services. The conference opened with a keynote address by Bryan Turner who focused on citizenship.

Broader issues of international marriage were also addressed, including an overview of the rising trends in international marriage in East and Southeast Asian countries in the last decade or so. There were also presentations focused on specific countries or communities, ranging from Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan to that of Indonesian women in Bintan married to Singaporean husbands, who travel back and forth.

Institutional barriers and legal perspectives were also explored and there were some heated discussion on the ways in which state ideology, over and above the legal institutions, manages to exercise control over the family.

Overall, the papers presented and the discussion that took place in the panels of the conference ranged over most if not all the salient issues of international marriages today.
Workshop on Muslim-Non-Muslim Marriage, Rights and the State in Southeast Asia
Convenor: Dr Chee Heng Leng and Prof Gavin Jones
23 Sep 2006, NUS

This workshop was specifically focused on marriage between Muslims and non-Muslims that cross boundaries of religious jurisprudence and hence, determine religious freedom and identity.

Discussion was focused on issues arising in Indonesia and Malaysia, the two Muslim majority countries in the region. There were also presentations on the consequences to entitlements and rights when a partner in an existing civil marriage converts to Islam in Malaysia; religious and ethnic identity in cases of religious conversion for marriage in Minangkabau society in Sumatra, and on interfaith marriages among Muslims in Southern Thailand.

In addition, there were further in-depth expositions of the recent changes and debates in Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore that provoked further discussion of significant issues from a cross-country comparative perspective.

It is hoped that the issues presented and the in-depth discussion that ensued will initiate further systematic study of this highly controversial subject.

Workshop on Mediating Transition to Post-Authoritarian Indonesia
Convenor: Prof David Hill
Jointly organized with Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia and Asia-Pacific Futures Research Network of the Australian Research Council
9–10 Oct 2006, Australia

This international workshop was held to examine the developments in the media in Indonesia after the fall of President Suharto in May 1998. It brought together established and emerging scholars from Australia, Southeast Asia and USA with the aim of addressing related issues of how the media is being transformed, both in terms of its structure and its texts, by the changed political economy of post-New Order Indonesia; and the potential of this media in enabling or hampering the development of a pluralist democracy in Indonesia.

The focus of the papers presented was wide-ranging and complementary, from the global political and technological context within which Indonesian media operates, and the shifting ownership patterns of the media in Indonesia, to case studies examining developments in regional media (in Java and Papua) or particular sectors of the industry, such as Islamic media, television and radio.

One of the most successful aspects of the workshop was the interaction between established scholars, with early career researchers. The atmosphere was supportive and collaborative, with strong themes and complementarities between papers becoming evident as the presentations proceeded intensively over the two days.
Asian Consultation on Gender, Migration and Citizenship
Convenor: Dr Nicola Piper
Jointly organized with International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Singapore
25–27 Oct 2006, IDRC, Singapore

This regional consultation sought to identify promising avenues for research in the areas of gender, migration and citizenship, with the objective to better understand the migration experience as well as ways to enhance the experience and empower women migrants.

Investigating migration from a gender perspective was seen as essential for understanding both the causes and consequences of international and internal migration. On the other hand, from a development perspective, the form of migration of most interest was that of lower skilled workers who typically migrate as domestic workers, ‘entertainers’, or industrial workers.

Discussion was initiated, involving two main themes — ‘Understanding migration and rights’ and ‘Enhancing migration experiences’.

Workshop on Dynamic Rimlands and Open Heartlands: Maritime Asia as a Site of Interactions
Convenors: Prof Anthony Reid and Dr Geoff Wade
Jointly organized with The Interface Humanities Programme, Osaka University
27–28 Oct 2006, Nagasaki, Japan

This international workshop focused on the history of the maritime Asian world and brought together a group of scholars working on topics such as the issue of material and spiritual cultures adjusting under the multiple burdens of maritime contacts, the social structure of port cities, and the interaction between sea and land worlds in Southeast and Northeast Asia from the 9th to 19th centuries.

A sequel to the workshop on Northeast Asia in Maritime Perspective: A Dialogue with Southeast Asia which was held in Naha, Okinawa, Japan on October 2004, “Dynamic Rimlands” continued the dialogue between Southeast and Northeast Asia, treating their marginality in respect of the historic Chinese empire as a long-term source of dynamic possibilities.

With this workshop, which facilitated the interaction amongst scholars who work within the different historical traditions, unexpected synergies and contrasts, together with new lines of inquiry, are anticipated to emerge.

Roundtable and Planning Meeting: The Cold War in Asia, 1948–1980
Convenors: Prof Anthony Reid, Dr Geoff Wade and Dr Zheng Yangwen
10 Nov 2006, NUS

This Roundtable was convened partly to examine the possibility of initiating a large research project on “The Cold War in Asia (1948 – 80)”. Scholars from around Asia and beyond were invited to make presentations addressing issues such as the type of Cold War research taking place in these countries, the issues which are being addressed and those which are not.

During the second day, more generic thematic issues, including CCPD/KMT rivalries in Southeast Asia during the period, Bandung and the ideology of Third Worldism, battles over history writing and school textbooks, business and the forgotten victims of Cold War rivalry, were discussed.

Through the discussion, it became increasingly clear that a new age of possibility in Asian Cold War research is indeed opening.

Workshop on International Migration and Social Development
Convenor: Dr Nicola Piper
20–21 Nov 2006, NUS

This workshop was held to highlight the social dimensions of development in order to stimulate and further the discussion of the migration-development nexus beyond (macro) economic aspects. The meaning of ‘social development’, as it pertains to issues of work, social welfare, health, education, respect for human rights and changing human relations, was explored theoretically and with empirical evidence to Asia.

The workshop aimed to tackle key issues such as the kind of social and cultural resources accrued by the different types of migrants living abroad and the role of social networks and migrant organizations in these processes; how people’s aspirations, expectations and demands associated by social development (policy and service provisioning) in their home countries are affected by the experience of migration; the implications of migration in terms of social impact and how and to what extent migration and social policies are linked.

4th Great Asian Streets Symposium: A Public Forum on Urban Design in Asia
Theme of 2006: Reclaiming the City
Convenor: Dr Huo Ning
6–8 Dec 2006, NUS

Established in 2001, the Great Asian Streets Symposium (GASS) has developed into a public forum on urban design in Asia for researchers, academics and urban professionals world wide. Held at the Department of Architecture, School of Design and Environment, the theme for Symposium 2006 was “Reclaiming the City”, focusing on reshaping the built environment, reclaiming public spaces of our cities, and bringing vitality back to urban life.

The refereed symposium also provided a discussion platform for urban researchers and professionals committed to the study of streets and public spaces in the Asian region, when most available literature on public spaces is currently published by European and American sources, and there is a dire lack of resources from Asian perspectives.
Asia Trends 2006 — Violence in Contemporary Asian Films
Convenor: Prof Chua Beng Huat
The Salon, National Museum of Singapore

Asia Trends is ARI’s annual public event, designed to present cutting edge academic research findings and analysis to a general audience. It seeks to bring together leading speakers on issues that are attracting broad interest.

The Asia Research Institute Asia Trends 2006 took the form of monthly public lectures, held every last Thursday of the month, from April to November 2006. Co-presented by the Asia Research Institute and the National Museum of Singapore, this seminar series provides a platform for sustained participation and in-depth analysis for Singaporeans. The focus for 2006 was on the rapidly globalizing Asian Cinemas and specifically on violence in contemporary Asian films.

In the past decade, Asian films have broken out of their respective national confines and penetrated regional markets, receiving critical acclaim and expanding audience and fan base. A theme that is very often found in Asian films is ‘violence’ by which we live in the contemporary world: violence in colonial histories and legacies, violence in the family, violence across class, gender and sexuality, violence in organized crime between factions and gangs or triads, everyday violence of modern, urban life and violence posed by global capitalism itself. These different modes of violence are framed in the styles and concerns of distinctive genres, which are often crossed with each other: horror, gangster, thriller, epic and melodrama. Furthermore, these genres are handled differently within the different ‘Asian’ film traditions; each mobilizing specific local, historical material to either resolved or unresolved the depicted issues of violence. This series of seminars, with papers by leading researchers in Asia, will examine the diverse traditions in the cinematic-aesthetic (re)presentations of the different modes of violence endemic in modern living.

27 Apr 2006
The Aesthetics of Mythical Violence in Hong Kong Cinema
Dr Stephen Teo, Asia Research Institute, NUS

25 May 2006
Gendered Trauma in Contemporary Korean Cinema
Prof Kim Soyoung, Korean National University of Arts, Korea

29 Jun 2006
From Angriness to Hype: Encoding Violence in Contemporary Taiwanese Cinema
A/P Liao Gene-Fon, Taiwan National University of Arts, Taiwan

27 Jul 2006
Seeing Violence in Indonesian Cinema: 1965 and Its Memories
Prof Krishna Sen, Curtin University of Technology, Western Australia

31 Aug 2006
The Supernatural and Violence in Modern Life: Ghosts and Spirits in Singapore Cinema
Dr Kenneth Paul Tan, University Scholars Program, NUS, Singapore

28 Sep 2006
Violence in New Thailand Cinema
Ms Anchalee Chaiworaporn, Independent Film Critic, Thailand

26 Oct 2006
Rules of the Forbidden Game: Violence in Contemporary Chinese Cinema
A/P Ma Ning, Shanghai University, China

30 Nov 2006
Gangland Bombay
A/P Ranjani Mazumdar, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
Public Lectures

As part of its public outreach and service, ARI presents public lectures to the greater Singapore and regional community. The lectures are presented by distinguished scholars of Asian affairs, visiting ARI in various capacities. They provide up-to-date analysis and assessments of contemporary issues and long-term trends, and are relevant and important not only to decision makers but also to all who are concerned and seek to be informed about regional and world events.

**Novel Paradigms: Rethinking Early Southeast Asian History**
15 May 2006, University Hall, NUS

**Prof Victor Lieberman**
Marvin Becker Collegiate Professor of History and Professor of Southeast Asian History University of Michigan, USA; and Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Held at the University Hall Auditorium and chaired by Professor Anthony Reid, this lecture sought to identify certain over-arching trends in the pre-colonial history of mainland Southeast Asia. Using Burmese primary sources, early European sources and various secondary sources, Prof Lieberman identified four main trends that were of critical significance in the region. Describing the trends from 900-1830 that propelled communities in mainland Southeast Asia to move towards more closely integrated social and political configurations, Prof Lieberman argued that while this integration derived from external maritime commerce, it was also facilitated by local agricultural, demographic and institutional forces that were independent of external trade. The dynamics of political and social integration in mainland Southeast Asia resembled those in Europe, Japan and what he termed as the ‘protected Asian rimlands’. In elaborating upon the above trends, Prof Lieberman problematised the notion of speaking of the region as a politically and socially coherent unit, encouraging a more nuanced appreciation of the distinction between mainland and island Southeast Asia.

**Religion & Citizenship in East Asia**
16 Aug 2006, Asian Civilisation Museum

**Prof Prasenjit Duara**
Professor of History and East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago, USA; and Distinguished Visiting Professor, Asia Research Institute, NUS

This lecture was set to examine the question of why religion is foregrounded in the knowledge of certain societies but in others (most notably China), it emerges as largely irrelevant to developments, particularly to modern history. Prof Duara gave a visual display of how religion and citizenship are manifested, giving examples of “secular” religious forces such as the Confucian religion movement, the New Life movement of the Kuomintang, and the adaptation of popular redemptive societies in China such as the Yiguandao and the recent Falun Gong. He also gave illuminating insights into the way that religion seeped into the secular business of politics in China, with examples he offered. Describing how the traffic between religion and secular citizenship began to transmute in Southeast Asia, he also went on to discuss the case of the Chinese Peranakans of the Dutch East Indies during the first part of the twentieth century. Prof Duara concluded that the quest for the unity of the moral and the political continues to express itself in different ways despite the failures of the Confucian religion movement and its various transformations. The lecture was attended by more than 120 people and gave an updated insight on contemporary Chinese society.
ARI Lectures

ARI Lectures are part of the Asia Research Institute's public outreach initiative. Academics at ARI provide up-to-date analysis and assessments of contemporary issues and long-term trends to members of the public who are concerned and seek to be informed about regional and world events.

China as a Global Power
19 Apr 2006, National Library Board
Dr Martin Jacques
Research Fellow, Asia Research Centre, London School of Economics, UK; and Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Although the rise of China has, over the last two to three years, acquired a new kind of global recognition, it may seem a little premature to speculate about what China will be like as a global power. In international relations theory, it has been common to see China in terms of earlier rising powers like Germany and Japan. However, such a template is bound to hugely understate the novelty and distinctiveness of China's emergence on the global stage. During his lecture, Dr Martin Jacques explored the meaning and significance of China's rise as a global power and how that process is likely to reshape the world.

The Social Life of Opium in China
29 Nov 2006
Dr Zheng Yangwen
Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Recreational smoking was foreign to China, as was opium itself (like tea to England). In her lecture, Dr Zheng traced opium's transformation over a period of 500 years to show how the Chinese people of different classes and regions redefined a foreign way of leisure and developed a complex culture of consumption around its use. The lecture set out to understand how and when opium smoking came to lodge itself within the sophisticated Chinese consumer culture, from aphrodisiac to popular culture, and from social identity to political economy.

Intellectual Mobilization and the Cultural Cold War: Re-examining China's Allegation of Biological Warfare by the U.S. in the Korean War
14 Dec 2006
Dr Chen Shiwei
Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Fifty-six years have passed since the beginning of the Korean War. One of the most shocking episodes which occurred during the War was the Chinese allegation that the U.S. used biological weapons against Chinese troops and Korean civilians. The allegation has created conflicts between Beijing and Washington, in which the latter vigorously issued denials, treating the charges as an extreme propaganda maneuver applied by China in that moment of military crisis and of ideological and political passion. This talk examined China's intellectual mobilizations when the nation was threatened by nuclear and biological annihilations in the face of the Korean War. The purpose is to demonstrate how the biological warfare case was constructed as a political discourse and used to initiate a nationwide campaign, and how a single historical event could have mushroomed into a large international experience that not only stirred the anxieties of a desperate public, but also created an unexpected atmosphere in which science and politics intermingled to produce a thought-provoking outcome.
ARI Seminar Series, 2006

The ARI Seminar Series is ARI’s flagship. In these seminar series, we aim to be board and conceptual, and able to appeal to scholars across various academic disciplines. Each series runs for a semester, with a break during vacation time, and seminars are usually scheduled on a Tuesday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

Series I

17 Jan 2006
International Labour Migration and the Transnationalisation of Rights
Dr Nicola Piper, Asia Research Institute, NUS

24 Jan 2006
Understanding (Southeast) Asian Nationalisms: A Prolegomena for a Typology
Prof Anthony Reid, Asia Research Institute, NUS

7 Feb 2006
Rountable: Rethinking Singapore History
Prof Constance Mary Turnbull, Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong
Mr Kwa Chong Guan, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; and Department of History, NUS
Dr Hong Lysa, Department of History, NUS

14 Feb 2006
Roundtable: National Cinemas and Pan-Asian Production
Dr Stephen Teo, Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Prof Kim So-young, Korean National University of Arts, Korea; and
Prof Madhava Prasad, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

21 Feb 2006
Named Speech Registers
Prof Joel Kuipers, George Washington University, USA

28 Feb 2006
Chimeras, Clones, and Stem Cells: Science, Ethics and Law
Dr Justine Burley, Graduate School for the Interactive Sciences and Engineering, NUS

7 Mar 2006
Clean Elections Ran by Corrupt Officials: Lessons on Democracy and Corruption from Indonesia
A/P Gary Bell, Faculty of Law, NUS

14 Mar 2006
Sharing Landscapes & Mindscaes: Ethics & Aesthetics in Amitav Ghosh’s Calcutta Chromosome
Dr Chitra Sankaran, Department of English Language and Literature, NUS

21 Mar 2006
Press, Prose and Politics in Indonesia: Writing a Biography of Mochtar Lubis
Prof David Hill, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

28 Mar 2006
Outsourcing in the Global Call Centre Industry: Implications for Employment Standards and Protections
Dr Jennifer Jarman, Department of Sociology, NUS

4 Apr 2006
The “Singaporean” Way: Family Policies and Their Latent Effects
Dr Teo You Yenn, Asia Research Institute, NUS

11 Apr 2006
The New Terrorism in Southeast Asia
Dr Andrew T. H. Tan, King’s College, London, UK

18 Apr 2006
Channel NewsAsia and Singapore’s Search for Asia
Dr Yew Kong Leong, University Scholars Program, NUS

25 Apr 2006
Globalization and Self-determination: Strategizing Identity and Solidarity Among the Lumads of Mindanao
Prof Albert E. Alejo, Ateneo de Davao University, Philippines

2 May 2006
Developing Habits: Opium and Tobacco in the Indonesian Archipelago (Seventeenth-Eighteenth Centuries)
Dr George Bryan Souza, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

9 May 2006
The Future of Population and Human Development: Progress and Challenges in Malaysia and the Asian Region
Dr Richard Leete, Resident Representative for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Series II

15 Aug 2006
Global Inequality and Asian Growth
Prof K. S. Jomo, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Development, United Nations' Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), and Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

22 Aug 2006
Singapore’s Past and Its Tenses
Dr Hong Lysa, Department of History, NUS

29 Aug 2006
Narrating Devotion and the Ambiguity of Resistance: Myth and Identity Among the Boatmen of Banaras, India
Dr Assa Doron, South Asian Studies Programme, NUS

5 Sep 2006
Contemporary Southeast Asian Agriculture: A Return of the Colonial Model?
Prof Rodolphe de Koninck, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

12 Sep 2006
The Destruction of a Shrine to Brahma in Bangkok and Thailand’s Crisis of Legitimacy
Prof Charles Keyes, Anthropology and International Studies, University of Washington, USA

19 Sep 2006
Roundtable: Religions in Singapore
A/P Syed Farid Alatas, Department of Sociology, NUS; A/P Vineaeta Sinha, Department of Sociology, NUS; and Dr Daniel P. S. Goh, Department of Sociology, NUS

26 Sep 2006
The Making of Distinct Chan Genres and the Historical Study of Chan/Zen Buddhism
Dr Mario Poceski, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

3 Oct 2006
‘Don't Forget To Remember Me’: An Audiovisual Archive of Everyday Life in Indonesia
Prof Henk Schulte Nordholt, Head of Research, Royal Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV), Leiden and IIAS Professor of Asian History, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

10 Oct 2006
From Transnational to Nativism: The Production and Dissemination of Taiwanese Hokkien Popular Culture in Late 20th Century Asia
Dr Jeremy E. Taylor, School of East Asian Studies, Sheffield University, UK

17 Oct 2006
Human Capital Projections for the Philippines: Issues and Challenges for the 21st Century
Dr Nimfa B. Ogena, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

31 Oct 2006
From “Melayu Patani” to “Muslim”: The Specter of Ethnic Identity in Southern Thailand
Dr Patrick Jory, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

7 Nov 2006
Modern Indonesian Literary Polemics on the Qur’an
A/P Michael Feener, Department of History and Asia Research Institute, NUS

14 Nov 2006
Leaflets from the Underground: Anonymous Messages in the Southern Thai Conflict
Prof Duncan McCargo, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

21 Nov 2006
Another Andalusia: Southeast Asia in Arabic Newspapers, 1890-1940
Dr Michael Laffan, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS

28 Nov 2006
Roundtable: Culture in Singapore
A/P C. J. Wan-ling Wee, Department of English Language and Literature, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; A/P Quah Sy Ren, School of Humanities & Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; and A/P Philip Holden, Department of English Language and Literature, NUS

5 Dec 2006
Roundtable: Pornography, Public Morality and Democracy in Indonesia
Dr Gadis Arivia, Jurnal Perempuan, Jakarta, Indonesia; Ms Eva Sundari, Member of House of Representatives, Indonesia; Dr Priyambudi Sulistiyanto, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS; Dr Jennifer Lindsay, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS; and A/P Vedi Hadiz, Department of Sociology, NUS

12 Dec 2006
Rethinking Suzhi (Quality) Through Coloniality
Dr Yan Hairong, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Asian MetaCentre Events

APN Training Workshop on Safe Motherhood and Abortion
5–18 Jan 2006, Bangkok, Thailand

This training workshop examined the influence of spontaneous and induced abortions on healthy pregnancies and safe childbearing, outcomes embodied in the construct of safe motherhood. A multi-disciplinary perspective (demography, epidemiology, biostatistics, sociology, anthropology, health systems) and mixed research methods approach was followed. After the workshop, participants were able to develop a research proposal on a topic in this area.

International Conference on Population and Development in Asia: Critical Issues for a Sustainable Future
20–22 Mar 2006, Banthai Beach Resort & Spa, Patong Phuket, Thailand

The Asian region has experienced remarkable demographic, social, economic, political and environmental changes in the last decade. Progress has been made in lowering birth rates and death rates, raising education and income levels, and improving reproductive health care. Sustaining developmental advances in the region, however, will require continued efforts to alleviate poverty, increase gender equity, improve health, develop more efficient and equitable strategies of resource allocation, and give priority to our stewardship of the natural environment. Because demographic factors are closely linked to these goals, developmental strategies that consider population have a better chance of success. Focusing on people — their rights, capabilities and opportunities — would have multiple benefits for individuals, society, and for their sustainable relationship with the environment. Such issues were explored in the conference through theoretical considerations and fresh case studies in the context of Asia. The aim was to highlight, understand and assess the most critical population issues for sustainable development in the new millennium.

The international conference, stretching over three days, brought together more than 70 participants. This included some 64 experts on Population and Development Issues in Asia from over 18 countries such as China (including Taiwan), India, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Philippines, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Japan, South Korea, Austria, USA, Australia, Germany, United Kingdom, and Argentina. The papers were organised into 10 panels, with two parallel sessions running simultaneously. The panels were Marriage and Development; Ageing and Development; Migration and Development: Impacts at Origin; Migration, Development and Difference; Population and Development; Population and Sustainable Development Research Challenges After the Tsunami; Population, Ethnicity and Violent Conflicts in Asia; Reproductive Health for Sustainable Development; Skilled Diasporas and Development, and The Globalisation of Households in Pacific Asia — Trends, Consequences and Responses.

International Workshop on Sexuality and Migration in Asia
Jointly organized with Royal Holloway, University of London, UK
10–11 Apr 2006, NUS, Singapore

This workshop on the linkages of sexuality and migration was a continuation of a series of various migration-oriented research activities that the Asian MetaCentre had organized. The aim of this workshop was to address the gap in the current literatures on various forms of sexual intimacy that occur as a result of migration, and also shape and reshape migration processes, with empirical reference to the Asian context. The 18 papers presented were also directed towards the understanding of the entanglement of sexuality with gender, class, ethnic and national identities, from a comparative perspective. The workshop brought together about 50 participants from academia, NGOs and governmental agencies in 15 countries (Philippines, Cambodia, Singapore, Taiwan, China, Australia, Cameroon, Japan, USA, UK, Indonesia, Canada, Hong Kong, Nepal and Malaysia).

Public Seminar on Representations of the ‘Asian Tsunami’ in the British Media
Dr Tracey Lynn Skelton, Loughborough University, United Kingdom
Jointly organized with Department of Geography, NUS
19 Apr 2006, NUS

The speaker gave a preliminary examination of the ways in which ‘Asia’/‘countries of the Indian Ocean’/‘tsunami affected countries’ (all names variously used) represented by the British print media, using The Guardian newspaper as a case study. A discourse analysis of the newspaper articles, commentaries and images presented from December 27th 2004 through to 22nd February 2005 when the coverage largely halted, was provided. The speaker utilised Gregory Bankoff’s analysis that ‘vulnerability’ was a ‘new’ discourse which defined the poor parts of the world and acted as a continuation of the negative and monolithic representations of ‘tropicality’ and ‘development’. She investigated whether ‘vulnerability’ as discussed by Bankoff could be identified within the commentaries about Asia provided by the Guardian newspaper.

Public Seminar on Demographic Instability and Development
Prof Ian Pool, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand
Jointly organized with The Changing Family in Asia Cluster, Asia Research Institute, NUS
4 Jul 2006, NUS

In the period following the publication of the UN Population Division’s first projections, the international community focused on issues of rapid national population growth. But from the 1970s the world started to become demographically more turbulent: fertility and growth levels dropped, producing major mutations in age-structures, population waves as they are called (disordered cohort flows if several waves, and their attendant troughs, follow
in irregular succession); levels of cross-border migration seem to have increased dramatically as has urbanisation, causing distortions in the distribution of populations; and there is the spectre of HIV/AIDS, with severe consequences for the age-distribution at working and childhood ages, hanging over many parts of the world. The Cairo Population Conference confounded the issues by concentrating on reproductive choice and the empowerment of women (both of them important issues in their own right), and by paying disproportionate attention to ageing, at the expense of other aspects of age-structural transitions that are far more pressing.

This paper dealt with only one aspect of demographic instability coming from redistribution: age structural transitions (ASTs), of which structural ageing is merely the end-product. Drawing on work of an IUSSP Committee, a RAND-Corporation study, and the CICRED-book launched today, this paper discussed recent research on this issue and the different paradigms that have emerged, including the seminal work of Jean-Claude Chesnais on the links between the classical demographic transition and age-structural transitions.

The seminar was followed by a book launch for the book “Age-structural Transitions: Challenges for Development” (Edited by: Ian Pool, Laura Rodriguez Wong and Eric Vilquin).

**Study Groups**

While 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 eight such groups that provide the nucleus for scholars working on particular areas or themes. The members include our own research staff working in collaboration with other faculty members, and the convenors vary from year to year. This is a listing of the seminars that were organised by each of the study groups in 2006.

**Study Group on Burma-Thailand**
12 Oct 2006
**Roundtable on Making Sense of the Thai Coup**
Prof Duncan McCargo, Dr Patrick Jory and Dr Pattana Kitiarsa, Asia Research Institute, NUS

4 Dec 2006
**Roundtable on More of the Same or a Fresh Start? Myanmar under Naypyitaw**
Dr Maung Aung Myoe and Dr Ardheth Maung Thawngghmung, Asia Research Institute, NUS

**Study Group on Indonesia**
17 Feb 2006
**Ceremony and Society: White Plates and Other Forms of Decorum among the Bontian of Kalimantan**
Dr Kenneth Sillander, University of Helsinki, Finland

20 Feb 2006
**Indonesia’s New Multiparty Presidential Democracy**
Prof R. William Liddle, Ohio State University, USA

18 May 2006
**New Challenges for Communities and Government in Indonesia: The Twin Epidemics of HIV and Injecting Drug Use Today**
Dr Nafisah Mboi, Chair of National AIDS Commission Task Force on Papua and Working Group on Women and Children

10 Jul 2006
**East Timor at a Political Turning Point**
Dr Jean Berlie, Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong

15 Nov 2006
**Forum on Kalimantan and Borneo by Graduate Students**

**Study Group on Malaysia**
13 Feb 2006
**Trade-Oriented, Employment, Skills and Wages in Malaysian Manufacturing**
Prof Rajah Raisiah, University of Malaya, Malaysia; and MERIT, United Nations University
22 Feb 2006
Property Rights and Conflicts: State Versus Indigenous Communities in the Construction of the Bukun Dam in Sarawak
Dr Lee Poh Onn, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore

29 Mar 2006
Women and the State
Dr Cecilia Ng, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand; and Dr Lenore Lyons, University of Wollongong, Australia

3 May 2006
Tobacco Control in Malaysia: The Political Economy of Policy Accommodation and its Health Consequences
Dr Simon Barralough, La Trobe Univ, Australia

12 Oct 2006
(jointly with the Department of Sociology, NUS)
Leadership Crisis in UMNO: Mahathir-Abdullah Dispute
Prof Ramasamy Palanisamy, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore

Study Group on Family & Life Cycle Changes
24 Feb 2006
Marriage Postponement, Family and Public Policy in Indonesia
Dr Augustina Situmorang, Asia Research Institute, NUS

11 May 2006
Urbanization and Insecurity: Early Marriage Practices and their Consequences for Adolescent Women Living in an Urban Slum in Bangladesh
Dr Sabina Faiz Rashid, Asia Research Institute, NUS

18 May 2006
Activities Away From Home: Barriers and Solutions for Older Persons
Prof Lois M. Verbrugge, University of Michigan, USA

23 May 2006
(jointly organised with Asian MetaCentre)
Fertility Transition in Asia: Linkages with Socio-Economic Development and Family Planning Programme
Dr Bhakta Gubhaju, UNESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand

11 Aug 2006
The Patterns and Covariates of Partnership Formation in Japan
Prof Noriko Tsuya, Keio University, Japan

28 Sep 2006
Labor Migration and Family Formation Ideals and Realities: Perspectives of Filipino Workers in Singapore
Dr Nimfa Ogena, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Study Group on Migration & Diaspora
15 Feb 2006
Transnational Affect and the Rebellious Second Generation: Managing Shame and Pride in a Moment of Cultural Rupture
Dr Amanda Wise and Dr Selvaraj Velautham
Centre for Research on Social Inclusion, Macquarie University, Australia

30 Mar 2006
Seeing the World: Migration, Modernity, and “Rural Woman” in China
Dr Arianne Gaetano, Asia Research Institute, NUS

6 Apr 2006
Heterosexualities ‘Away from Home’: Gender, Race and Emotion
Dr Katie Walsh, Department of Geography, University of London, UK

13 Apr 2006
(jointly organised with Southeast Asian Studies Program, NUS and Asian MetaCentre)
Constructions of Class and Filipino Transnationalism
Dr Philip Kelly, York University, Canada

27 Apr 2006
(jointly organised with Asian MetaCentre)
A Paradigm Shift in Australia’s Migration?
Prof Graeme Hugo, University of Adelaide, Australia

5 May 2006
Values and Attitudes Toward Immigrants: Convergence of Individual and Cultural Level Data and the Innovative Use of Archive Information
Dr Leong Chan Hoong, Asia Research Institute, NUS

2 Jun 2006
Mutations in Citizenship
Prof Aihwa Ong, University of California, Berkeley, USA

20 Jun 2006
(jointly organised with the Burma-Thai Study Group)
Secular Trend and Regional Inequality in Biological Welfare in Burma, 1850-1940
Dr Jean-Pascal Bassino, Asia-Pacific School of Economics and Governance, Australian National University, Australia

24 Jul 2006
(jointly organised with the Family & Life Cycle Changes Study Group)
Durability and Change in Family Formation: Some Lessons from the Vietnamese Case
A/P David W Haines, George Mason University, USA

6 Sep 2006
“The Land of Milk and Honey or Dreams Deferred”? An Examination of Foreign Domestic Care-Workers in Canada
Dr Denise Spitzer, University of Ottawa, Canada

11 Sep 2006
Does Japan Need More Immigration? A New Agenda of Regulatory Reform
Prof Yasushi Iguchi, Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan

2 Oct 2006
Migrant Remittances and Family Obligations in South Korea
Dr Erik Mobrand, Department of Political Science, NUS
2 Nov 2006
Filipina Marriage Migration to Germany: Discourses on Everyday Life
Dr Janet M Arnado, De La Salle University (DLSU), Philippines

22 Nov 2006
International Migration Research: Psychological Perspectives and Policy Implications
Dr Colleen Ward, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

30 Nov 2006
The Filipino Residents as Potential Careworkers in the Ageing Society of Japan
Dr Maria Reinaruth D. Carlos, Ryukoku University, Japan

14 Dec 2006
Local Struggles over the Rights of Foreign Migrant Domestic Workers in Malaysia
Dr Juanita Elias, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Study Group on Religion & Globalisation

6 Feb 2006
The Politics/Religion Binary in the Social Sciences: Its Relevance to Asia
Prof Bryan Turner, Asia Research Institute, NUS

20 Feb 2006
The Music of ASEAN: What is Left and Leaving
Mr Joe Peters, Liaison Officer, International Council of Traditional Music

6 Mar 2006
Persian Cultural Influences in Southeast Asia: Contacts between Iran and Siam in the 17th Century
Dr Christoph Marcinkowski, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

13 Mar 2006
Religion and Politics in Iraq: Shi’ite Clerics between Quietism and Political Activism
Dr Christoph Marcinkowski, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

27 Mar 2006
Is Charisma Dead?: Power, Patronage and Religious Personality in a Philippine Island
Dr Julius Bautista, Asia Research Institute, NUS

10 Apr 2006
Religion, Politics and the Body
Prof Bryan Turner, Asia Research Institute, NUS

24 Apr 2006
Thai Buddhist Villagers as Overseas Migrant Workers: Southeast Asia’s Contributions to an Anthropology of Labor Transnationalism
Dr Pattana Kitiarsa, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS

10 May 2006
Ritual Is Theatre, Theatre is Ritual: Tang-Ki Spirit Medium Worship
Dr Margaret Chan, Esteemed theatre actress; and Assistant Director to Student Life in Singapore Management University

24 May 2006
Shari’ah and Its Role in the Structure of Islamic Ethics
Dr Edward Moad, Department of Philosophy, NUS

21 Jun 2006
Religious Identities, Cosmopolitanism and Minority Group Relationships: Developing the Cluster’s Research Program
Prof Bryan Turner, Asia Research Institute, NUS

28 Jun 2006
Remembering Devotion: Oral History and the Pilgrimage to Mecca from Southeast Asia
Dr Eric Targiacozzo, Cornell University, USA

2 Aug 2006
Religious Revival and the State in China
Dr Lai Hongyi, East Asian Institute, NUS

23 Aug 2006
Contemporary Muslim Intellectuals and the Study of Islam: The Approaches of Mohammed Arakoun, Hasan Hanafi and Nurcalish Madjid
Mr Carool Kersten, SOAS, University of London, UK

30 Aug 2006
Thinking through the Body: Educating for the Humanities
Prof Richard Shusterman, Florida Atlantic University, USA

30 Aug 2006
Forays and Imprints of Buddhist Studies in the Digital World: Trends, Prospects and Challenges
Dr Mario Poceski, Asia Research Institute, NUS

31 Aug 2006
Arts Erotica: The Transfiguration of the Commonplace
Prof Richard Shusterman, Florida Atlantic University, USA

4 Oct 2006
Globalization, Modernization and Diversity in Malaysian Islam
Prof Joseph Paul Tamney, Asia Research Institute, NUS

6 Nov 2006
Tombs and Relics of the Prophets in the Indian Ocean Region
Dr Brannon Wheeler, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, USA

8 Nov 2006
Salafis’ Expansion, Political Mobilization and Islamic Radicalism in Post-New Order Indonesia
Dr Noorhaidi Hasan, Asia Research Institute, NUS
15 Nov 2006
Religious Activities among the Japanese-Brazilian Dual Diaspora in Japan — The Cases of the Catholic Church, Sekai Kyuseikyo and Soka Gakkai
Dr Regina Yoshiie Matsue, Tsukuba University, Japan

22 Nov 2006
A Work-in-Progress on Reading Snouck Hurgronje’s Java Diary, 1889-91
Dr Michael Laffan, Asia Research Institute, NUS

29 Nov 2006
What’s Islam Got to Do With It? Religion and the Southern Thai Conflict
Prof Duncan McCargo, Asia Research Institute, NUS

6 Dec 2006
“Endeavour to listen to Sermons about God and Teach Yourself to Like Them”: Reading Manuals of Piety in the Colonial Philippines
Dr Julius Bautista, Asia Research Institute, NUS

8 Dec 2006
The Graves of Tarim: Genealogy and Mobility across the Indian Ocean
Dr Ho Eng Seng, Harvard University, USA

13 Dec 2006
The Letters of Sayyid: Uthman of Batavia (1822-1914)
Prof Nico J.G. Kaptein, Asia Research Institute, NUS

Study Group on Southeast Asia-China Interactions
10 Feb 2006
Business and Mobility in the South Pacific: The Role of the Australasian Branch of the Chinese Kuomintang, 1920-1937
Prof John Fitzgerald, Department of History, NUS

31 Mar 2006
New Archaeological Finds from Serampas on Sumatra/Indonesia
Dr Dominik Bonatz, Institute of Ancient Near Eastern Archaeology, Free University of Berlin, Germany

15 May 2006
Singapore’s May Fourth Movement and Overseas Print Capitalism
A/P Prof David Kenley, Elizabethtown College, USA

25 May 2006
Chinese Migrants and Chinese Politics in Southeast Asia
Dr Mary Somers Heidhues, University of Passau, Germany

15 Jun 2006
Visualizing Asian History: Past, Present and Future
Prof Peter Perdue, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

17 Jul 2006
Friends and Allies: Java’s Kapitan Cina and the Javanese Monarchy (Majoort-titulair Be Kwat Koen and Mangkunegoro VII)
Dr Peter Post, Netherlands Institute of War Documentation, The Netherlands

8 Aug 2006
(jointly with the Study Group on Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos)
Gender and Property in Viet Nam: Reconsidering the Female Autonomy Thesis in Southeast Asia
Dr Nhung Tuyet Tran, Asia Research Institute, NUS

17 Aug 2006
Film screening
“Junk History” — The Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s Programme Examining “1421: The Year China Discovered the World”
Chair: Dr Geoff Wade, Asia Research Institute, NUS

15 Sep 2006
(jointly with Department of Chinese Studies, NUS)
The Inauguration of the Ming Dynasty: A Reappraisal of the Origin of the Dynastic Name and Related Fire Cosmic Symbol
Prof Chan Hok-iam, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

11 Oct 2006
History in Three Mobilizations: Re-examining China’s Allegation of Biological Warfare by the US during the Korean War
Dr Chen Shiwei, Asia Research Institute, NUS

The Chinese during the Vietnam War, 1945-1975
Dr Li Tana, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, Australia

27 Oct 2006
(jointly with the Department of Chinese Studies, NUS)
When did China Rise: A Young Historian’s Gaze from 2006
Dr Zheng Yangwen, Asia Research Institute, NUS

21 Nov 2006
Regional Ritual Networks in the Irrigated Putian Plain, Fujian, China
Dr Kenneth Dean, McGill University, Canada; and
Dr Zheng Zhenman, Xiamen University, China
Fifth Anniversary Dinner – Five Years of Outstanding Research Accomplishments

On 20 July 2006, Asia Research Institute (ARI) celebrated its 5th anniversary with a dinner where members and friends of ARI, including members of its management and international board, were present. Five years after its establishment, ARI under the stewardship of its first director, Professor Anthony Reid, has become the region’s centre for outstanding interdisciplinary research in Asia. ARI continues to break new grounds in research on emerging trends in the region.

Professor Shih Choon Fong, President of NUS, in his speech, congratulated ARI for its accomplishments and addressed the importance of Asia and the social dimension of research.

Minister for Education and Second Minister for Finance, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, who was the guest-of-honour commended ARI for its productive work and spoke about the importance of scholarship from and of the region. He commented that “We are the most multi-cultural city in Asia, the most adept at a range of Asian languages, and the most open to intellectual currents. We are a very liveable place for researchers and our universities have a reputation that few Asian countries have. NUS in particular, has emerged as a leader in research in a range of disciplines, including research on Asia”. On ARI, he added that “In years to come, Asia Research Institute will continue to play a vital role of bringing critical and coherent thought to bear on the complexities of our dynamic region and their wider impact on the world. I am confident that Asia Research Institute will continue to stimulate ‘encounters between global ideas and Asian contexts,’....”

With the first 5 years of foundation and the international recognition that it has built up, ARI will continue to bring about many more years of outstanding research.
New Books by ARI Staff

The terms of most ARI appointees are shorter than the period required in seeing 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 during the period of the ARI appointment but based largely on earlier work
+ Published after the member has left ARI, but based on work wholly or partly done in ARI.

Bae, Adela; Endicott, Karen; Ginno, Rosemary; Howell, Signe; *Nowak, Barbara S.; and van der Suyss, Cornelia (eds)
Orang Asli Women of Malaysia: Perceptions, Situations & Aspirations
Center for Orang Asli Concerns, Subang Jaya (Malaysia), 2006

de Koninck, Rodolphe and Rousseau, Jean-François
Les poids du monde: Evolution des hégémonies planétaires
Presses de l'Université du Québec, Québec, 2006

+Clark, John; Sabapathy, T.K.; and Peleggi, Maurizio (eds)
Eye of the Beholder: Reception and Audience of Modern Asian Art
University of Sydney East Asian Series No. 15, Wild Peony Press, Sydney, and University of Hawai‘i Press, Honolulu, 2006

+George, Cherian
Contentious Journalism and the Internet Advantage: Democratizing Public Discourse in Malaysia and Singapore
Singapore University Press, Singapore, 2006

Hasan, Noorhaidi
Laskar Jihad: Islam, Militancy and the Quest for Identity in Post-New Order Indonesia
Cornell Southeast Asia Program Publishers, Ithaca, New York, 2006

+Khoo Gaik Cheng
Reclaiming Adat: Contemporary Malaysian Film and Literature
UBC Press, Vancouver, 2006

Kwee Hui Kian
The Political Economy of Java’s Northeast Coast, c. 1740-1800: Elite Synergy
Brill publications, Leiden, 2006

Lee Yong-Sook and Yeoh, Brenda Saw Ai (eds)
Globalisation and the Politics of Forgetting
Routledge, London, 2006

Lindsay, Jennifer
Telsik Tradisi (in Indonesian; Management of Traditional Arts)
Kelola Foundation, 2006

Lindsay, Jennifer
Between Tongues: Translation and/of/in Performance in Asia
Singapore University Press, Singapore, 2006

Miksic, John (ed)
Icons of Art: National Museum Jakarta
BAB Publishing Indonesia, Jakarta, 2006
Journal Published by ARI

Editor
Gavin Jones, National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore

Editorial Committee
Angelique Chan, National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore
Wolfgang Lutz, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria
Vipan Prachuabmoh, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
Brenda Yeoh, National University of Singapore, Republic of Singapore

Asian Population Studies is the first international population journal to focus exclusively on population issues in Asia. The journal publishes original research on matters related to population in this large, complex and rapidly changing region, and welcomes substantive empirical analyses, theoretical works, applied research, and contributions to methodology. Topics covered include all branches of population studies ranging from population dynamics such as the analysis of fertility, mortality and migration (from both technical and humanistic perspectives) to the consequences of population change from a variety of demographic perspective.

Reid, Anthony (ed)
Verandah of Violence: The Background to the Aceh Problem
Singapore University Press and University of Washington Press, Singapore and Seattle, 2006

Reid, Anthony and Chambert-Loir, Henri (eds)

Sleigh, Adrian; Chee, Heng Leng; Yeoh, Brenda Saw Ai; Phua, Khai Hong and Safman, Rachel (eds)
Population Dynamics and Infectious Diseases in Asia

Teo, Stephen
King Hu's A Touch of Zen (The New Hong Kong Cinema Series)
Hong Kong University Press, Hong Kong, 2006

Tran, Nhunh Tuyet and Reid, Anthony (eds)
Viet Nam: Borderless Histories
University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, 2006

Turner, Bryan
Vulnerability and Human Rights
Penn State University Press, University Park, PA, 2006

Turner, Bryan
The Cambridge Dictionary of Sociology

*Widodo, Johannes and Reyes, Y.D. (eds)
ARACIA Architectural Timeline Chart
Architects Regional Council Asia and University of Saint Tomas Publishing House, Manila, 2006
# ARI Working Paper Series 2006

In order to provide an avenue for swift publication and wide dissemination of research at the Institute, ARI has created an Electronic Working Papers series. The papers are available at: [http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/publications.asp?pubtypeid=WP](http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/publications.asp?pubtypeid=WP)

Editorial Committee: Geoff Wade and Stephen Teo

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Newsletters

In 2006, ARI produced three newsletters, each highlighting the various events and achievements of the period covered.

Published Articles 2006

Arifin, Evi Nurvidya


Bräuchler, Birgit

- “Konfliktfaktor Internet: Der Molukkenkonflikt geht online”, in Julia Reuter, Corinne Neudorfer and Christoph Antweiler (eds.) Strand Bar Internet: Neue Orte der Globalisierung, Berlin: Lit Verlag, 84–103.

Chen Yu

- Seven short pieces in Xiamen Evening Paper (July-November 2006).

Chua Beng Huat

- “East Asia Pop Culture: Consumer Communities and Politics of the National”, Studies of Broadcasting Culture (Korea), 18(1): 89–114.

Feener, Michael

- “Indonesian Movements for the Creation of a National Madhhab”, in KH. Husein Muhammad et al. (eds.) Dawrah Fiqh Concerning Women: Manual for a Course on Islam and Gender, Cirebon: Fahmina Institute, 269–278.

Hasan, Noorhaidi


Ishikawa, Noburu


Khadria, Binod

- “Migracion de indios altamente capacitados: estudios de casos de profesionales en tecnologias de las informacion” (Migration of highly skilled Indians: case studies of IT professionals), Revista Iberoamericana de Ciencia, Tecnologia y Sociedad, 7(3): 181–202 (in Spanish).
- The Straits Times, Lending a Helping Hand to India’s Needy, 1 November 2006.
Kim Hee-Sun

Lam, Theodora

Leong Chan Hoong

Lindsay, Jennifer

McCargo, Duncan
- “Patani Merdeka: Thailand's Southern Fire”, Critical Asian Studies (Editor of Special Issue), 38(1).

Miksic, John

Nowak, Barbara

Piper, Nicola
- “Feminised Migration in East and Southeast Asia: Policies, Actions and Empowerment”, with Keiko Yamanaka, UNRISD Occasional Paper No. 11.

Reid, Anthony


Souza, George


• “Cinnamon”, in Thomas Benjamin (ed.) Encyclopedia of Western Colonialism since 1450, 3 vols, Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA.

Teo, Stephen

• “Singapore Screen Memories: Kong Ngee’s Nanyang Trilogy”, in Wong Ain-ling (ed.) The Glorious Modernity of Kong Ngee, Hong Kong: Hong Kong Film Archive, 144–162.


Toyota, Mika


• “Migration and the Well-being of the “Left Behind” in Asia: Key Themes and Trends”, (co-editor with Liem Nguyen and Brenda S.A. Yeoh) Asian Population Studies, 2(1): 37–44.


Tran Thi Que Ha


Turner, Bryan


Wade, Geoff

Widodo, Johannes
- “Preserving the Memory of Place: Case for Support for Palmer Road Area Conservation in Singapore”, in Ho Phang Phow and Chen Poh Seng (eds.) The Living Heritage — Stories of Fook Tet Soo Khek Temple, Singapore: Char Yong (Dabu) Association, 69–76.
ARI Recognition
Awards and Honours

Chen Kuan-Hsing
- Research Excellence Award, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan, June 1, 2006. Five year renewable grant to internationalize Cultural Studies research and teaching program; one million NT dollars for the first six months.

Elias, Juanita
- Book review editor at International Feminist Journal of Politics.

Khadria, Binod
- Appointed as Member of the Editorial Board, Asian and Pacific Migration Journal, July 2006 onwards.

Leong Chan Hoong
- Nominated for the Best PhD Thesis Award for the Pola and Harry Triandis Award at the 18th Biennial Congress of International Association of Cross Cultural Psychology.
- Member, International Academy of Intercultural Relations.

Lindsay, Jennifer
- Invited as participant to PSI regional planning committee, 7–9 June 2006.
- 2006 Examiner for Cultural and Religious Studies Program, Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta.

Ogena, Nimfa B.
- Received and accepted invitation for the position of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines starting November 2006.

Piper, Nicola
- Visiting fellowship award at the Centre for Southeast and East Asian Studies, Lund University/Sweden, September 2006.

Thawngmhung, Ardeth Maung
- Visiting fellow, East West Center (Washington DC)/ISEAS (Singapore), October 2006. Funding for research in Southeast Asia, two months residency in Washington DC and two months residency in Singapore.

Keynotes and Plenaries

Chen Kuan-Hsing
- “Cultural Studies should go to Jamaica”, plenary speech in the session on “Where should Cultural Studies go?”, Association for Cultural Studies at Istanbul Bilgi University, July 2006.
- “De-imperializing East Asian Geo-politics”, keynote address to the Fourth Meeting of East Asian Regional Conferences in Alternative Geography, National Taiwan University, June 2006.
- “Possibilities of Cultural Movements for Democracy Today”, plenary panel with Gayatri Spivak and Helmar Farid, University of Santa Dharma Yogyakarta, Kunci Cultural Studies Center and Cemarti Art Foundation, Indonesia, March 2006.

Jomo, K.S.
- “Malaysia Bolehkah? The Analytical Basis for Better Economic Development”, keynote address to the Fifth International Malaysian Studies Conference organized, Malaysian Social Science Association, 8 August 2006.

Jones, Gavin
- Plenary speaker at the Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the Australian Population Association, Adelaide, 6–8 December 2006.

Khadria, Binod
McCargo, Duncan
- "Thailand's Southern conflict: media, discourse and politics", keynote address at the International Conference on Media, Politics, Development and Human Security, Department of International Communication, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, 28 April 2006.

Piper, Nicola
- "Women and Migration", keynote address at the Eleventh International Metropolis Conference, Lisbon, 2–6 October 2006.

Reid, Anthony
- "Pluralising the Conversations", keynote lecture to the Sixth Conference of Asian Scholarships Foundation, Bangkok, 3 July 2006.
- Presented at the plenary panel on History of IAHA, The International Conference of Historians of Asia, Makati, Manila, 22 November 2006.

Teo, Stephen
- Plenary speaker in the XIII Biennial Conference of The Film and History Association of Australia and New Zealand, RMIT University, Melbourne 16–19 November 2006.

Turner, Bryan

Widodo, Johannes

Yeoh, Brenda
- "Gender, Globalising Households and Transnational Families: A View from Singapore", plenary address at the International Geographical Union 2006 Brisbane Conference: Regional Responses to Global Changes – A View from the Antipodes, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia, 3–7 July 2006.

“ARI is a tremendously stimulating intellectual environment and I have benefited greatly from that. But it is also a wonderful collection of friendly sociable souls who have gone out of their way to make me feel welcome and to make the experience of living in Singapore such a pleasure.”

David T. Hill
Fieldwork Funding

In keeping with its mandate to enhance research and graduate training at National University of Singapore, ARI 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 the NUS Business School. For the academic year 2006/07, 13 graduate students from the four faculties were awarded support. 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.

Graduate and Other Teaching at NUS

Four ARI members 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 Brenda Yeoh, Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught GE3237 Geographies of Migration, supervised seven postgraduate students and sit on the committees of two PhD students.

Prof Chua Beng Huat, Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught SC4209 Interpretive Sociology.

A/P John Miksic, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught SE3214 Marketing Southeast Asia’s Heritage, SE5264 Southeast Asian Art and Archaeology, and supervised eight postgraduate students.

Dr Johannes Widodo, Architecture, School of Design and Environment, taught UD5641 NAUD Dissertation; AR6141 MArch. Dissertation; AR5770/AR6770 Graduate Seminars Module; AR5756 ISM — Study on Urban and Architectural Conservation in Penang Malaysia, Ngo Minh Hung; AR5312 Typo-Morphological Approach in Architecture. He also supervised 15 postgraduate students.

Five ARI members, being joint appointments with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, also taught and supervised students in the Faculty.

Prof Gavin Jones: Taught a graduate course in Sociology, SC5680 Demographic Transition: Facts and Theory.

Prof Anthony Reid: Supervised three postgraduate students and sit on the committees of three PhD students in History.

Prof Bryan Turner: Taught a graduate course in Sociology, SOC6102 Social Theory and Social Reality: Modern Social Theory after 1945.

A/P Michael Feener: Taught the Graduate Seminar on Methods, and the Independent Study Module in History, and supervised one postgraduate student.

Dr Jennifer Lindsay: Taught SE3215 Mass Media in Southeast Asia, SE4213 Literature in Southeast Asian Societies, and SE6660, Independent Study Module in the Southeast Asian Studies Programme.

In addition, other ARI staff members made various contributions:

Dr Birgit Bräuchler: Guest lecture on “Cyberidentities at War” at the seminar “Mass Media in Southeast Asia”, Southeast Asian Studies Programme.

Dr Chee Heng Leng: Internal examiner for a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Medicine.

Prof Duncan McCargo: Guest lecture on Asian media, at the Southeast Asian Studies Programme.

Dr Geoff Wade: Sitting on the committees of two PhD students in History.

Scholarships

Some NUS scholarships have been allotted to ARI, although administration, coursework and assessment of graduate students remain with the relevant departments. In the reporting period, 12 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)
Naoko Iioka (History)
Didi Kwartenada (History)
Walter Strach (History)
Zhou Wei (Sociology)
Alice Nah Han Yuong (Sociology)
Maria Andrea Medina Socu (Geography)
Joseph Nathan Cruz (Sociology)
Jayeel S Cornelio (Sociology)
Graduate Forum and Workshops

The Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies
Convenors: Prof Gavin Jones and A/P John Miksic
28-29 July, NUS

This two-day workshop involving advanced postgraduate students was the first in an annual series of forums for graduate students researching on Southeast Asia. It was organised thematically around issues that included religion, international relations, politics, gender, and language. Besides student presentations, experts of the region including Professor Wang Gungwu, Director of the East Asian Institute, NUS, and Professor Dato' Shamsul Amri Baharuddin, Director of ATMA (Institute of the Malay World and Civilization), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia gave keynote speeches.

Asia Research Institute Fourth Graduate Students’ Workshop — Religion and Technology in Contemporary Asia
Convenors: Dr Francis Lim and Dr Jacob Ramsay
19-20 January 2006, NUS

The adoption and development of new technologies have been identified by many Asian countries as a key element to achieve long-term developmental goals. Historically, the spread of religion has always been closely linked to the growth and proliferation of new technologies. While the contribution of technological innovations to economic change is widely known and accepted, how new technologies impact on the experience of the sacred and the divine in Asian societies is scarcely documented or understood. For two days, twelve graduate students from across the disciplines presented papers on the historical, social, cultural and political relations between technology and belief in the Asian context. Together, the workshop papers convincingly demonstrated that the technological and the religious often intersect with the political, thereby pointing to the complex relationships between spirituality, social and identity formation, sovereignty and power.

Asia Research Institute Fifth Graduate Students’ Workshop — The Challenges of the Agrarian Transition in Southeast Asia
Convenor: Prof Rodolphe de Koninck
Jointly organized with the CHATSEA Project
29-30 June, NUS

In collaboration with the Challenges of the Agrarian Transition in Southeast Asia (CHATSEA) project, Asia Research Institute hosted a workshop for graduate students, providing them with the opportunity to present and discuss their methodologies and ongoing research activities under the auspices of the CHATSEA project. The CHATSEA project is currently underway in 6 Southeast Asian countries, namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines. It involves collaboration between several universities in these countries and also universities in Canada, Europe and Australia. The agrarian transition represents perhaps the most profound process of social change of the last three
centuries. It can be defined as the transformation of societies from primarily non-urban populations dependent upon agricultural production and organized through rural social structures, to predominantly urbanized, industrialized and market-based societies. This two-day workshop provided graduate students working on topics related to the agrarian transition in Southeast Asia an opportunity to present and discuss their methodologies and ongoing research activities.

**ARI Sixth Graduate Students’ Workshop: Questions of Methodology: Researching Tourism in Asia**

**Convenor: Dr Tim Winter**

Jointly organized with University of Otago, New Zealand 5-6 September, NUS

In collaboration with the University of Otago, this graduate workshop brought together graduate students at different points in their graduate careers as well as from various fieldwork sites across Asia. There were more than 25 presentations, providing a stimulating sharing of thoughts and trials faced in the process of doing tourism research in Asia. Much of the discussion revolved around the interconnected issues of positionality, epistemology, ethics and access. In addition to these presentations, the workshop featured keynote presentations from Michael Hall, Nelson Graburn, Alan Lew, and Geoff Wall.

- **Ms Jose Eleazar Bersales**, Department of Anthropology, University of San Carlos, Philippines. Research: New knowledge of the arch of burial and burial sites by analyzing mortuary practices in Cebu 10C to 16C A.D.
- **Ms Bibi Aminah Abdul Ghani**, Ethnolinguistics, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi. Research: Transition from code to code mixing among the Minik speakers.
- **Mr Resto Cruz**, Department of Political Science, Ateneo de Manila University. Research: Measure mobilities/mobile measurements: the construction of the Tourism Statistics Account (TSA) in the Philippines.
- **Ms Lim Hallimatsu’diyah**, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta, Indonesia. Research: New religious movement in Indonesia: a case study on east Java Pesantren (Pondok Jam’ah).
- **Mr Nunan Hayimasea**, School of Humanities, Universiti Sains Malaysia. Research: Preserving identity through educational system e.g. Malay Muslims, Thai.
- **Mr Thamrongnak Petchlert-Anan**, Department of History, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University. Research: The political role of Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn.
- **Ms Thanattiya Potimu**, South East Asian Studies Programme, Chulalongkorn University. Research: The Melaka Sultanate and its relationship with “pirates”.
- **Mr Rudolf Methusala**, Graduate School of Theology, Christian University of Indonesia, Tomohon. Research: Is it possible Poso gets its peacefulness? Seeking peace after Manilo Declaration.
- **Mr Saifuddin Zuhri**, Center for Religious & Cross-Cultural Studies, Gadjah Mada University. Research: Marriage (homosexual activities) in pesantren — a case study in some pesantren in East Java.
- **Ms Pornnapa Sangdee**, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Khon Kaen University. Research: The development of information culture in the higher educational institute.
- **Mr Abdul Syukur**, Department of Comparative Religion, Faculty of Theology, University of Indonesia. Research: Friction and identity politics among Buddhists in Indo.
- **Ms Tran Kim Loan**, Faculty of Tourism Studies, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University. Research: Developing the co-op between Singapore and Vietnam through developing tourism.
- **Ms Thet Yu**, Department of International Relations, Mandalay University. Research: Bridging gap, building community: ASEAN’s ICT policy for regional integration.

### ASEAN Research Scholars

The ASEAN Research Fellowships are offered to graduate students from ASEAN countries working in the Humanities and Social Sciences on Asian topics, and allow the recipients to be based at NUS for three months. The aim of the fellowships is to enable scholars to make full use of the wide range of resources held in the libraries of NUS and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, and to interact with NUS academics, graduate students and visitors. Each student is assigned a mentor during their period at NUS. The 19 research scholars took up their appointments on 2 May 2006. In late July, they made presentations on their research in the inaugural Graduate Students’ Forum, along with other graduate students from Singapore, Southeast Asia and beyond.
MOU/External Funding Received

In 2006, ARI received external funding for three research projects and two events. For each of these, a memorandum of understanding was signed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation/Foundation</th>
<th>Date of Agreement Signed</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Ford Foundation</td>
<td>13 April 2006</td>
<td>Changing Marriage in Southeast Asia</td>
<td>US$140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Community Development, Youth &amp; Sports (MCYS)</td>
<td>October 2006</td>
<td>Study on Singapore Tertiary Students’ Attitudes Towards Emigration</td>
<td>S$24,860</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badan Rehabilitasi Dan Rekonstruksi Wilayah Dan Kehidupan Masyarakat Provinsi Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Dan Kepulauan Nias Provinsi Sumatera Utara (BRR)</td>
<td>6 October 2006</td>
<td>First International Conference of Aceh and Indian Ocean Studies</td>
<td>US$102,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ho Lien Fung</td>
<td>27 October 2006</td>
<td>Donation for the Symposium on the Chinese Export Trade Ceramic in Southeast Asia held in March 2007</td>
<td>S$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Wellcome Trust</td>
<td>7 November 2006</td>
<td>Transnational Migration in SE Asia and the Health of Children Left Behind</td>
<td>S$1,377,370</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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International Visits
by Director, Prof Anthony Reid

18 March 2006
Prof Tooru Inoue, Chairman, Center of Excellence, Osaka City University, Osaka, Japan

6 April 2006
Prof Barbara Andaya, President and Council of Association for Asian Studies, at AAS Annual Conference in San Francisco

10 May and 9 August 2006
Prof Abdi Abdul Wahab, Rector, Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh
Dr Darni M. Daud, Vice Rector, Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh

11 May 2006
Acting Governor of Aceh, Banda Aceh

6 June 2006
Dr Roger Tol, Director, KITLV, Jakarta

8 June 2006
Dr Meiwita Budiharsana, Director, Ford Foundation, Jakarta

15 June (in Jakarta) and 8 August (in Banda Aceh) 2006
Dr Kunotoro Mangkusubroto, Director of Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency for Aceh and Nias

26 October 2006
Mrs Ogata Sadako, President, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Tokyo

8 November 2006
Ambassador Mr Jean Joseph BRETÉCHÉ, Head of Delegation of the European Commission in Indonesia, Jakarta
Mr Henri Chambert-Loir, Ecole Francaise D’extreme Orient, Jakarta
His Excellency Dr Nikolaos van Dam, Ambassador, The Netherlands Embassy in Indonesia, Jakarta

4 December 2006
Prof Datin Dr Roziah Omar, Director, Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur
International Visitors

13 January 2006
Prof Samuel C.Y. Ku, Professor and Director, Graduate Institute of Inter-disciplinary Studies, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, National Sun Yat-Sun University

27 January 2006
Prof John Fitzgerald, Director, International Centre of Excellence in Asia Pacific Studies

21 February 2006
Prof A Mani, Professor and Dean of International Cooperation-Research, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

2 March 2006
Prof Masashi Hirosue, Professor, Rikkyo University

2 March 2006
Dr Nishio Kanji, Research Fellow, Oriental Library, Japan

3 March 2006
Dr Kuntojo Mangkusubroto, Director, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency for Aceh and Nias

24 March 2006
Mr Bill Nicol, Strategic Management Advisor, Office of the Director, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency for Aceh and Nias

27 March 2006
Prof Giorgio Diminese, Central Eastern European University Network

29 March 2006
Prof Abdullah Ali, Chairman, Supervisory (Monitoring and Evaluation) Council, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency for Aceh and Nias

5 April 2006
Prof Pierre-Yves Manguin, Directeur d'Etudes, Ecole Francaise d'Extreme-Orient, Paris

13 April 2006
Mr Jean-Francois Sabouret, Director, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

13 April 2006
Delegates from International Institute for Asian Studies, The Netherlands

18 April 2006
Delegates from the Ford Foundation, Indonesia

25 May 2006
Mr Gregoire Rochigneux, Deputy Director, Publication Press, IRASEC

19 June 2006
Ms Jessica Vivian, Editorial Director of Social Sciences, Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, and Ms Leong Li Ming, Editor, Taylor & Francis Asia Pacific

19 July 2006
Prof Joanne Punzo Waghorne, Professor of Religion, Syracuse University

14 September 2006
Dr Stephane Corcuff, Associate Professor of Political Science, Institut D'Asie Orientale

26 September 2006
Prof Henk Schulte Nordholt, Research Co-ordinator, Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Carribean Studies (KITLV)

29 September 2006
Delegates from the Latin American Academic Mission, Mexico

17 October 2006
Prof Robin Jeffrey, Director, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University