

Exploring Theravāda Studies:

Intellectual Trends and the Future of a Field of Study

12-14 August 2004

PROGRAM

Location:

**Faculty Lounge (AS7, Level 1)
The Shaw Foundation Building
National University of Singapore**

Organized by:

**Asia Research Institute
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DAY 1: THURSDAY, 12 AUGUST 2004	
10:30–11:00 am	TEA & REGISTRATION
11:00–11:15 am	OPENING WELCOME
11:15–12:15 pm	KEYNOTE ADDRESS
	John Holt (Bowdoin College, USA) Theravāda: Now and Then
BREAK	
1:15–2:30 pm	PANEL 1 – CATEGORIES IN THE STUDY OF THERAVĀDA BUDDHISM
	Peter Skilling (Lumbini International Research Institute, Bangkok) An Embarrassment of Categories: Theravāda, Hināyāna, Mahāyāna, and Other Old Friends
	Maria Heim (Amherst College, USA) Recent Theravāda Contributions to Buddhist Ethics
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Frank Reynolds)
BREAK	
2:45–4:15 pm	PANEL 2 – BUDDHIST IDENTITIES: WHAT ARE MONKS, NOVICES, AND NUNS?
	Jeffrey Samuels (Western Kentucky University, USA) The Practical Life of a Novice: Locating a Middle Way between Precept and Practice in the Study of Theravāda Buddhism
	Suwanna Satha-Anand (Chulalongkorn University, Thailand) Truth over Convention: The Female Ordination Debate in Contemporary Theravāda Thailand
	Hiroko Kawanami (University of Lancaster, UK) Contemporary Position of Buddhist Nuns in Burma: The Politics of <i>Sāsana-pyu</i>
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Maria Heim)

DAY 2: FRIDAY, 13 AUGUST 2004

MORNING TEA (9:00–9:30 am)

9:30–10:45 am	PANEL 3 – MONEY AND ITS CIRCULATION
	Guy Lubeigt (National Center for Scientific Research, France) Theravāda Buddhism and Money: The Myanmar's Paradigm
	Leslie Gunawardana Title to be added
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: John Holt)
BREAK	
11:00–12:15 pm	PANEL 4 – THE WRITINGS OF HISTORY
	Jacques Leider (Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, Yangon) Text, Lineage and Tradition: The Struggle for Norms and Religious Legitimacy under King Bodawphaya (1782-1819)
	Sujatha Meegama (University of California, Berkeley, USA) Representing and Invoking a Theravāda Buddhist Past: 'History Paintings' at the Dambulla Cave Temple in Sri Lanka
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Himanshu Prabha Ray)
BREAK	
2:00–3:15 pm	PANEL 5 – THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTION
	Himanshu Prahba Ray (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India) Alexander Cunningham (1814-1893) and the Archaeology of Buddhist Sites in India
	Michel Lorrillard (Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, Vientiane) The Spread of Buddhism in Southeast Asia: Insights from Lao Archaeology
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Leslie Gunawardana)
BREAK	

3:30–4:45 pm	PANEL 6 – FACING MODERNITY: TRENDS IN THAI BUDDHISM
	<p>Ven. Sugandha (Mahamakut Buddhist University, Thailand) A Modern Trend of Study of Buddhism in Thailand: King Mongkut and Dhammayutikanikaya</p>
	<p>Pattana Kitiarsa (Asia Research Institute, Singapore) Monk, Medium, and Mo Tham: Supernaturalism and Popular Buddhism in Contemporary Thailand</p>
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Louis Gabaude)
BREAK	
7:00–9:30 pm	MOVIE VIEWING
	<p>Mekhong Full Moon Party A Thai movie by Jira Malikul (2002) Presentation by Pattana Kitiarsa</p>

DAY 3: SATURDAY, 14 AUGUST 2004

MORNING TEA (9:00–9:30 am)

9:30–11:00 am	PANEL 7 – READING TEXTS
	<p>Mun-Keat Choong (University of New England, Australia) The Importance of Pali-Chinese Comparison in the Study of Pali Suttas</p>
	<p>Carol Anderson (Kalamazoo College, USA) Producing Theravāda Doctrines. Early Buddhism and Scholarly Constructions of Buddhist Texts and Practices</p>
	<p>Guillaume Rozenberg (Asia Research Institute, Singapore) Anthropology and the Buddhological Imagination: Reconstructing The Invisible Life of Texts</p>
	<p>Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Suwanna Satha-Anand)</p>
BREAK	
11:15–12:30 pm	PANEL 8 – WHEN 'BUDDHISTS' STUDY THERAVĀDA BUDDHISM
	<p>Louis Gabaude (Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient, Chiang Mai) Is the 'Study' of Buddhism Possible for a Thai Theravāda Monk? Some Observations from the Last Fifty Years</p>
	<p>Asanga Tilakaratne (University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka) Buddhist Studies in Sri Lanka: Present Trends and Future Possibilities</p>
	<p>Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Justin McDaniel)</p>
BREAK	

2:00–3:15 pm	PANEL 9 – ABHIDHAMMA: ITS ROLES AND TEACHING IN THERAVĀDIN SOCIETIES
	<p>Justin McDaniel (University of California, Riverside, USA) Theravāda Philosophy 101: Teaching the Abhidhamma in Thailand from 1569 to the Present</p>
	<p>Jason Carbine (University of Chicago, USA) The Role of the Abhidhamma in the Field of Theravāda Studies: A Perspective from Burma / Myanmar</p>
	Discussion (Semi-formal Response: Peter Skilling)
BREAK	
3:30–4:30 pm	CLOSING EXPLORATIONS
	<p>Frank Reynolds (University of Chicago, USA) Theravāda: Now and Beyond</p>
	Discussion
BREAK	
5:00–7:00 pm	VISIT TO BUDDHIST TEMPLES
7:00–9:00 pm	DINNER