The cover design shows the stylized contours of a rice terrace, a scene familiar throughout different regions of Asia. Rice has been the main staple food for many of Asia’s peoples since the 15th century. Although patterns of rice cultivation, economies and ecologies may vary from region to region, rice nevertheless forms the basis of communal bonds, an element of ritual in many Asian societies, and a common cultural thread across nations and societies. Rice cultivation, as one of the major agricultural activities in Asia, has implications for population, sustainability and ecology. The rice terrace in its various permutations is thus an apt design metaphor for ARI’s study of the key socio-economic and cultural issues in Asia.
**Vision** To be a world-leading hub for research on Asia

**Mission** Inspiring new knowledge and transforming insights into Asia
ARI’s logo depicts rice grains in star-like formation. Rice has been the main staple food for many of Asia’s peoples since the 15th century. It forms the basis of communal bonds, an element of ritual in many Asian societies, and a common cultural thread across nations and societies. Rice cultivation, as one of the major agricultural activities in Asia, has implications for population, sustainability and ecology. In symbolic as well as material ways, rice touches upon many of the key socio-economic and cultural issues in Asia, and is fitting emblem of the Asia Research Institute.
CONTENTS

Vision and Mission

Management
Message from Chair of International Advisory Board 03
International Advisory Board 04
Message from Chair of Management Board 05
Management Board 06
Director’s Foreword 07
Steering Committee 08
Administrative Staff 08

ARI Committees 10

Research Personnel
Director 14
Research Leaders 14
Other Joint Appointments/Secondments 14
Deputy Directors 14
(Senior) Research Fellows 14
Postdoctoral Fellows 15
Research Assistants 15
Visiting (Senior) Research Fellows 15
Assistant Professors on FASS Writing Semester Scheme 17

Research Programmes and Activities 19
Research Clusters 19
Aceh Project 32
Asian MetaCentre 34
Externally Funded Projects 36

Events 38
Conferences and Workshops 38
Public Lectures 47
Bukit Timah Campus Public Lecture Series 47
Asia Trends 2008 48
ARI Seminar Series, 2008 49
Study Groups 52
Other Events 54

Publications
ARI Publications from Events 58
New Books 59
ARI-Springer Asia Series 65
Journal Published by ARI 66
ARI Working Paper Series 2008 67
Newsletters 68
Articles and Book Chapters 69

ARI Recognition
Awards and Honours 79
Keynotes and Plenaries 80

Support for Undergraduate and Graduate Studies
ARI Internship Programme 83
Scholarships 84
Graduate and Other Teaching at NUS 85
Graduate Forum 86
Asian Graduate Student Fellows 2008 87

International Relations
International Visits 90
International Visitors 90
Management
It is with pleasure that I contribute this message to the Asia Research Institute’s Annual Report 2008. It is evident that ARI has had a busy and productive 2008. In a year of leadership transition to a new Director, the Institute has experienced both continuity and change. Under a new Director, ARI has continued to play a leadership role in the world of scholarship on Asia.

ARI has achieved several successes and firsts in the last year. A major grant was won, for the first time, from the Ministry of Education’s new competitive process (Tier II) to support research on commercially arranged international marriages in Singapore and Malaysia. In collaboration with colleagues from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, another major grant was won in the area of Islam and social dynamics in Indonesia. A three-year series of annual conferences has been developed to focus on Religion, Law and the State, drawing together colleagues from the Faculties of Law, and Arts and Social Sciences, and ARI. New plans are afoot to develop longitudinal databases that capture changing demographic, social and economic conditions of families. These are but some examples of the vibrant research agenda at ARI.

I am also delighted that ARI has successfully negotiated a new book series, called the ARI-Springer Asia Series, with the major European publisher Springer. The books to come in the years ahead will enhance ARI’s reputation as a world leader in Asia research. ARI’s Working Paper Series continues to be very successful, with the site attracting about 10,000 hits per month. The international standing of the Institute thus continues to be augmented through the high quality research outputs from the Institute.

ARI is committed to developing a younger generation of scholars. Its 17 PhD scholars come from all over the world, including Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Korea, Hong Kong, Austria. It has also attracted undergraduate and graduate student interns from Canada and Hong Kong in the last year. Its Asian Graduate Student Fellowships and the Graduate Student Forum continue to attract participants keen to participate in the intellectual life of Singapore, NUS and ARI.

ARI’s commitment to international benchmarks, international collaboration, and international impact is evident in its many projects, programmes, publications, and above all, people. This commitment is most praiseworthy.

I congratulate the ARI family for another successful year.
INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

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

Ex Officio
Prof Lily Kong
Director, Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore
(From 1 January 2008)

Board Members
Prof Tani Barlow
Director, Chao Centre for Asian Studies,
Rice University, USA
(From 30 September 2008)

Prof Cynthia Rose Banzon Bautista
Department of Sociology, College of Social
Sciences and Philosophy,
University of Philippines, Philippines
(Till 30 September 2008)

Prof Craig Calhoun
President, Social Science Research Council, USA

Prof Supang Chantavanich
Director, Institute of Asian Studies,
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
(From 30 September 2008)

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

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

Prof Pauline Yu
American Council of Learned Societies, USA
(Till 30 September 2008)
The year 2008 at ARI began with the assumption of duty of the new Director, Professor Lily Kong. Having established a research institute on Asia and brought it successfully to a position of prominence as a leading centre based in Asia, Professor Anthony Reid, the founding Director, completed a five-year term and will be retiring later this year. It is therefore a challenge for the new Director to lead ARI from strength to strength. This report presents to the reader the advances and initiatives introduced during the year under review.

ARI has stepped up its push towards international recognition in several arenas.

The ARI-Springer monograph series is a major achievement. It will bring the writings of scholars, directly or indirectly affiliated with the Institute, to libraries across the world on a regular basis, under the ARI insignia. A number of these volumes will become standard reference for students and researchers of Asia. The Institute is also proactively encouraging its members to engage in large scale multidisciplinary projects involving experts in different areas, and has already won a major grant in this. I believe that there is great potential for work of significant impact to be achieved arising from such research projects. On the regional front, the introduction of roundtable forums will also raise the profile of ARI in Singapore. I commend the Institute for this initiative as it underscores its dual role of serving as a centre of intellectual activity while providing a platform for thought leaders to discuss and share their views and insights on key issues of interest to the country.

Congratulations are due to ARI for a year well done. Looking ahead, the economic uncertainties the world is facing could have an impact on ARI, but from this one also sees possibilities of challenging new research projects. So there are wide opportunities for ARI to seize in the coming months.
Chairman

Prof Chong Chi Tat
Head, Department of Mathematics,
Faculty of Science,
National University of Singapore

Ex Officio

Prof Lily Kong
Director, Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore
(From 1 January 2008)

Board Members

Prof Heng Chye Kiang
Dean, School of Design & Environment,
National University of Singapore

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

Assoc Prof Victor V Ramraj
Vice Dean (Academic Affairs), Faculty of Law,
National University of Singapore
(From 1 July 2008)

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

Prof Mukul Asher
Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy,
National University of Singapore

Prof Bernard Yeung
Dean, NUS Business School,
National University of Singapore
(From 1 July 2008)

Prof Andrew Nee
Director, Division of Research Administration,
Office of the Deputy President (Research & Technology),
National University of Singapore

Ms Lee Chor Lin
Director, National Museum of Singapore
(Till 30 June 2008)

Assoc Prof Gary Bell
Associate Professor, Faculty of Law,
National University of Singapore
(Till 30 June 2008)
DIRECTOR’S FOREWORD

The last year at ARI has been a full and busy one. The calendar of seminars, roundtables, workshops, and conferences, as always, continues to be packed. Visitors continue to come to ARI on a regular basis, and scarcely a month passes without several enquiries from interested researchers and students from different parts of the world, seeking to spend some time at ARI. With the help of technology, we now know that there is an average of 10,000 visits to our working paper site per month. New research areas are being explored.

Within NUS, collaborations have stepped up with related Faculties, in the form of joint seminars and workshops, joint publications, joint projects, and joint appointments. The research clusters in ARI and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences are working well together.

Beyond NUS, collaborations with international scholars and institutions, co-publications, and jointly organised workshops are a matter of course. A new book series has been developed jointly with the international publisher Springer. Titled the ARI-Springer Asia Series, proposals and manuscripts on cities, migration and religion are warmly welcomed from all who work on these issues.

All of the energy and activity of the last year, as captured in this annual report, are the result of the hard work of many people: the research leaders, the research fellows, the visiting fellows, the postdoctoral fellows, the research assistants, the administrative team, and our partners in research beyond ARI. Apart from the personal scholarly achievements and general satisfaction this must represent, the collective effect is an institute that is abuzz with intellectual and social life.

I look forward to the challenges of further building ARI as a key node in the world for the study of Asia, and call on colleagues and friends to focus singularly on this exciting endeavour.
STEERING COMMITTEE

Director
Prof Lily Kong (From 1 January 2008)

Research Leaders
Prof Chua Beng Huat
Prof Heng Chye Kiang
Prof Gavin Jones
Prof Anthony Reid
Prof Bryan Turner
Prof Brenda Yeoh

Deputy Directors
Dr Chee Heng Leng (Till 31 December 2008)
Assoc Prof Robbie Goh (From 1 April 2008)

(Senior) Research Fellows
Assoc Prof Michael Feener
Dr Lai Ah Eng

Postdoctoral Fellows
Dr Michelle Miller (Till October 2008)
Dr Francis Collins (From November 2008)

Manager (as Secretary)
Ms Verene Koh Hwee Kiang

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Verene Koh Hwee Kiang
MBA (National University of Singapore)
Institute Manager

Rina Yap Mui Joo
BA (National University of Singapore)
Senior Administrative Officer (Events/PR)
(Till 2 May 2008)

Chong Mei Peen
BA (National University of Singapore)
Administrative Officer (Human Resources)

Alyson Adrianne Rozells
BA ( Murdoch)
Administrative Officer (Events/PR)

Kristy Won Tien Min
BSc (London)
Administrative Officer, and Secretary to Director

Kalaichelvi Sitharthan
Management Assistant Officer

Noorhayati Bte Hamsan
Management Assistant Officer

Sharon Ong
Degree in Fine Arts
(LaSalle SIA College of The Arts)
Management Assistant Officer (Events/PR)
(From 7 July 2008)

Valerie Yeo Ee Lin
Diploma (Singapore Polytechnic)
Management Assistant Officer (Events/PR)

Henry Kwan Wai Hung
Diploma (Singapore Polytechnic)
Specialist Associate
ARI Committees
Members of ARI actively contribute to the running of the institute in various ways, including through their participation in committees.

In the year 2008, the following committees took up responsibility for various aspects of work involved in the running of ARI as a resource for research on the Asian region for researchers from around the world and graduate student researchers.

**Asian Graduate Students Committee With Summer Institute and Graduate Students Forum**
(New committee formed from 12 December 2008)
Prof Gavin Jones (Chair)
Dr Chee Heng Leng
Dr Patrick Daly
Prof Devanathan Parthasarathy
Dr Peter Marolt
Dr Premchand Dommaraju
Dr Ronit Ricci
Dr Tithima Suthiwan
A/P Vedi Hadiz
Ms Kalaichelvi Sitharthan

**ARI PhD Scholarships Programme**
Prof Gavin Jones (Chair)
Prof Jean Yeung (From 11 September 2008)
Ms Kristy Won

**Conference and Research Grants Committee**
Prof Brenda Yeoh (Chair)
Prof Chua Beng Huat (From 11 September 2008)
Prof Bryan Turner
Dr Geoffrey Wade
A/P Robbie Goh (From 11 September 2008)
Dr Chee Heng Leng (Till 10 September 2008)
Ms Kristy Won
Ms Rina Yap (Till 2 May 2008)
Ms Verene Koh
(From 3 May 2008 till 31 December 2008)

**Library Committee**
Dr Yasuko Kobayashi (Chair)
(Till 16 April 2008)
Dr Ronit Ricci (Chair) (From 17 April 2008)
Dr Liew Kai Khiun (Till 10 September 2008)
Dr Premchand Dommaraju
(From 11 September 2008)
Ms Joyce Zaide
Ms Kalaichelvi Sitharthan

**Publications (Working Paper Series)**
Dr Geoffrey Wade (Chair)
(Till 4 September 2008)
Dr Maznah Mohamad (Chair)
(From 5 September 2008)
Dr Michelle Miller
Prof Anjali Roy (From 11 September 2008)
Prof Venni Venkata Krishna
(From 11 September 2008)
Ms Deborah Chua
Ms Valerie Yeo

**Newsletter and Outreach Committee**
Dr Lai Ah Eng (Chair) (Till 31 October 2008)
Prof Anjali Roy (Chair from 1 November 2008)
Dr Maznah Mohamad (Till 1 September 2008)
Dr Julius Bautista
Dr Francis Collins
Ms Windel Lacson (Till 25 October 2008)
Ms Saharah Abubakar
Ms Rina Yap (Till 2 May 2008)
Ms Alyson Rozells (From 3 May 2008)
Seminar Committee
Dr Mika Toyota (Chair) (Till 31 July 2008)
Dr Anthony Reid (Chair) (From 1 August 2008)
Prof Chua Beng Huat (Public Lectures)
Dr Julius Bautista
Dr Liew Kai Khiun
Dr Andiara Schwingel (Till 14 August 2008)
Dr Francis Collins (From 25 July 2008)
Dr Hee Limin (From 25 July 2008)
Dr Michelle Miller (From 25 July 2008)
Ms Rina Yap (Till 2 May 2008)
Ms Valerie Yeo
Ms Kalaichelvi Sitharthan
Ms Alyson Rozells (From 3 May 2008)
Ms Sharon Ong (From 7 July 2008)

Social and Staff Welfare Committee
Dr Bina Gubhaju (Chair) (Till 16 April 2008)
Dr Liew Kai Khiun (Chair) (From 17 April 2008)
Dr Yasuko Kobayashi (Till 9 May 2008)
Dr Andiara Schwingel (Till 14 August 2008)
Dr Patrick Daly
Mr Gary Lee (From 21 August 2008)

Green Committee
Dr Chee Heng Leng (From 11 September 2008)
Dr Charles Leary (From 11 September 2008)
Dr Cho Younghan (From 11 September 2008)
A/P Michael Feener (From 23 September 2008)
Ms Noorhayati Bte Hamsan (7 October 2008)
Ms Valerie Yeo (From 11 September 2008)
Mr Henry Kwan (From 11 September 2008)

University Town Move Committee
Prof Chua Beng Huat (Chair) (From 11 September 2008)
A/P Robbie Goh (From 11 September 2008)
Dr Chee Heng Leng (From 22 March 2008)
Ms Verene Koh (From 22 March 2008)
Ms Alyson Rozells (From 22 March 2008)
Ms Kristy Won (From 22 March 2008)

Art Committee
Prof Chua Beng Huat
Dr Patrick Daly
Dr Maznah Mohamad
Ms Valerie Yeo
Mr Henry Kwan
Ms Kristy Won

Website Committee
Dr Geoffrey Wade (Chair)
Dr Bina Gubhaju (Till 22 November 2008)
Dr Hiroko Matsuda (Till 9 August 2008)
Ms Joyce Zaide
Mr Henry Kwan
Ms Valerie Yeo
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 in 2005 the short-term visiting fellowships ranging from three months up to a year. This has brought to NUS a mix of well-established scholars and younger researchers from the region. From 2006, the Institute has attracted many established scholars on paid sabbatical leave from their home institutions to spend time conducting research and establishing connections in ARI and NUS. They are listed below 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 positions in NUS or other universities worldwide.

This year, with the arrival of a new director and new plans for the coming years, the institute began appointing new junior and senior faculty members as joint appointees to ARI, two of whom are from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and one from the School of Design and Environment. With the continuing push for external funding for the longer-term future, the institute institutionalised a new Grants Development Fellowship in 2008 whereby outstanding researchers and faculty members with cutting-edge ideas are encouraged to spend time at ARI for a period of three to six months to write and sharpen proposals for potential funders. The institute awarded one fellowship under this new scheme to a faculty member in FASS for a project focusing on science, technology and society. A grant proposal is expected to be conceived and submitted to a potential sponsor soon after the end of the fellowship in the first half of 2009.

In 2008, ARI continued to interact constantly with the faculties of NUS in different ways. Apart from co-organising events and collaborating in research, the FASS Writing Fellowship scheme, designed to enable assistant professors to devote six months primarily to completing publications needed for tenure review, awarded two writing fellowships to assistant professors in the faculty to spend time writing in ARI.

A portion of the research staff was appointed by externally-funded programmes or projects. The Asian MetaCentre in ARI which is funded by the Wellcome Trust in United Kingdom had supported the appointment of a research assistant, and postdoctoral fellows based both in NUS and partner institute, the University of St. Andrews, UK. A new project with a grant awarded by the Ministry of Education, Singapore, similarly supported the appointment of a research assistant and a visiting research fellow. Other sources of external grants provided partial support for a project research assistant, a senior research fellow, and postdoctoral fellows.
Director
Kong, Lily, Professor. BA (Hons) (NUS), MA (NUS), PhD (University College London). Director from 1 January 2008; joint appointment with Department of Geography, FASS, and concurrently Vice-President (University and Global Relations), NUS. Geographies of religion, cultural economy and cultural policy, constructions of ‘nation’ and national identity, and constructions of ‘nature’ and environment.

Research Leaders
Chua Beng Huat, Professor. BSc (Acadia), MA (York), PhD (York). Cultural Studies in Asia Cluster Research Leader from 1 January 2004; Asian Cities Cluster Research Leader from 1 April 2006; joint appointment with Department of Architecture, SDE, and concurrently Dean, SDE. History of Chinese cities and architecture; urban design and conservation in 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; joint appointment with Department of Architecture, SDE, and concurrently Dean, 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 (FSSA). Changing Family in Asia Cluster Research Leader from 5 August 2003; joint appointment with Department of Sociology, FASS. Delayed marriage and non-marriage in Southeast and East Asia; international marriage, determinants of fertility trends in Asia, mega-urban regions in Southeast and East Asia.

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

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

Yeoh Saw Ai, Brenda, Professor. BA (Hons) (Cambridge), MA (Cambridge), PhD (Oxford) Asian Migration Cluster Research Leader and Asian MetaCentre Principal Investigator from February 2000; joint appointment with Department of Geography, and concurrently Head, 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). Joint appointment with Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS, since 20 July 2006. Folk Catholicism and religious iconography in the Philippines.

Clancey, Gregory, Associate Professor. BA (Hons) (Oxford), MA (Boston), PhD (MIT). Joint appointment with Department of History, FASS since 2 October 2008. Modern Japan, ranging from architecture, to Meiji-period society and culture, to earthquakes, histories of computers and information technology, scientific constructions of race and gender, colonialism, environmentalism, landscape, bio-technology, and the drawing of boundaries between science and art.

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

Hee Limin, Assistant Professor. B.Arch (Hons) (NUS), M.Arch (NUS), DDes (Harvard). Joint appointment with Department of Architecture, SDE, since 1 May 2008. Sustainable cities, Asian urbanism, public spaces, and design pedagogy.

Widodo, Johannes, Associate Professor. Ir (Parahyangan Catholic University, Indonesia), M.Arch.Eng. (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium), PhD (University of Tokyo). Joint appointment with Department of Architecture, SDE, from 1 October 2005 to 31 March 2008. Architecture, urban history and morphology of Southeast Asian cities; Asian modernity; and heritage conversation in Southeast Asian context.

Yeung Wei-Jun, Jean, Professor. BA (Soochow), MA (Illinois State), PhD (Alberta). Joint appointment with Department of Sociology, FASS, since 15 July 2008. Intergenerational studies, family and children’s well-being and policies, social inequality and China’s economic and demographic transition.

Deputy Directors
Chee Heng Leng, BA (Hons) (Welllesley), MS (Harvard), PhD (Malaya). Senior Research Fellow from 1 October 2005; Deputy Director from 1 July 2006 to 31 December 2008. Health and health care; health and migration.

Goh Boon Hua, Robbie. Associate Professor. BA (Hons) (NUS), MA (NUS), PhD (Chicago). Joint appointment with Department of English Language and Literature, FASS, since 15 January 2008. Christianity in Asia, gothic studies, commodity culture and theory.

(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.

Lai Ah Eng, B. Soc. Sci (Universiti Sains Malaysia), M. Phil (Sussex), D.Phil (Cambridge). Senior Research Fellow from 3 January 2007. Family and gender; multiculturalism, ethnicity and religion; and local histories and heritages.

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 to 6 September 2008. Gender relations, kinship, family and household, land tenure and work among Btisii; World Vision project on post-tsunami Asia.

Roy, Anjali Gera. BA (Hons) (Delhi), MA (Chennai), PhD (Indian Institute of Technology Mumbai). Senior Research Fellow from 4 August 2008. Critical
theory, film and media studies, literary and cultural studies, and folklore.


Toyota, Mika, BA (Sophia), MA (Hull), PhD (Hull). Research Fellow from 28 October 2004 to 31 July 2008. Transnational networks underpinning labour migration in East and Southeast Asia.

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

Postdoctoral Fellows


Cho Younghan, PhD (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill). From 1 April 2008 to 31 December 2008. East Asian popular culture, global sports and nationalism.


Gubhaju, Bina, PhD (Pennsylvania). From 23 October 2006 to 22 November 2008. Comparative analysis of several demographic and health surveys from the Southeast Asian region on issues pertaining to marriage and family.

Hoang Lan Anh, PhD (East Anglia). From 3 November 2008. Migration, development, social change, gender and power relations.


Liew Kwi Khiun, PhD (University College London). From 14 May 2007. Medical history, labour histories, cultural studies pertaining to film and popular music in East and Southeast Asia.

Marolt, Peter Wolfgang, PhD (Southern California). From 17 November 2008. Social theory, urban and cultural/political geographies, and related post-disciplinary studies pertaining to globalisation, the Internet, and China.


Miller, Michelle Ann, PhD (Charles Darwin University). From 2 July 2007. Decentralisation, democratisation, political development, armed separatism, security sector reform, state and nation-building, capacity building, civil and political rights, in the areas of Southeast Asia, Indonesia and Aceh.


Tran Thi Que Ha, PhD (Tokyo Metropolitan University). From 7 August 2006 to 6 August 2008. Architectural history, traditional architecture and heritage conservation.


Research Assistants


Chua Fengyi, Deborah, BA (National University of Singapore). From 2 July 2007. Child language development, the writing-cognition link and genre studies.


Zaide, Joyce Iris Solomon, BA (University of the Philippines-Diliman), MA (National University of Singapore). From 24 September 2007. Media, communication and gender studies.

Visiting (Senior) Research Fellows

Barlow, Tani, PhD (California, Davis). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 17 June 2008 to 16 September 2008. Women and Chinese feminism.


Cheng, Dennis, PhD (National Taiwan University). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 9 October 2007 to 8 January 2008. Yijing and intellectual history of late imperial China.


Graham, Elspeth Forbes, PhD (Durham). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 1 April 2008 to 12 May 2008. Transnational migration and the health and well-being of children left behind in Southeast Asia, low fertility populations in Asia (Singapore) and Europe (Scotland) and health variations in Europe and North America.

Hamonic, Gilbert, PhD (Sorbonne). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 1 April 2008 to 30 June 2008. Social and cultural anthropology, ethnography of pre-Islamic religions of Indonesia, urban studies, imaginative worlds, make-believes and history of mentalities in Indonesian archipelago.


Hughes-Freeland, Felicia, PhD (London). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 1 February 2008 to 31 April 2008. Dance performance, gender, ritual and media, cultural politics, visual anthropology and visual ethnography, aesthetic and epistemology, anthropological theory, embodiment and society in Indonesia and Southeast Asia.

Johansson, Jan Vig Perry, PhD (Stockholm). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 2 October 2008. Relation between economics, politics and sexuality, Chinese cultural studies, intellectual and political history of Chinese-European relations.


Kozok, Ulrich, PhD (Hamburg). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 3 July 2007 to 2 January 2008. Sumatran philology (Batak, Kerinci, Bengkulu, Malay), palaeography of Southeast Asia, and prehistory of Sumatra.

Manguin, Pierre-Yves, PhD (Sorbonne). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 22 February 2007 to 20 February 2008. History and archaeology of the coastal states and trade networks of Southeast Asia.

Marranci, Gabriele, PhD (Queen’s University of Belfast). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 23 September 2008. Identity, Muslim migration/immigration, urban sociology, globalization, fundamentalism, political Islam, secularisation processes, criminology and anthropology of music.

McGregor, Katharine, PhD (Melbourne). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 1 April 2008 to 30 June 2008. History, memory, violence and cross-cultural responses to criminal trials in Indonesia.

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

Mori, Yoshitaka, PhD (London). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 17 December 2007 to 16 February 2008. Sociology, media studies, cultural studies and contemporary art.


Nyiri, Pál, CSC (Moscow State M.V. Lomonosov University), and CSc (Hungary Academy of Sciences). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 1 September 2008 to 20 December 2008. Contemporary Chinese overseas migration and tourism, in particular, those related to Chinese views on modernisation and the nation’s place in the world, immigration policy and xenophobia in Eastern Europe, political consequences of the current public obsession with cultural difference.

Parthasarathy, Devanathan, PhD (Hyderabad). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 8 August 2008. Inter and multidisciplinary areas pertaining to urban studies, development studies, technology and development, and vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, caste/ethnic conflicts, women and development, and law and governance.

Sedana, I Nyoman, PhD (Georgia). Visiting Research Fellow from 27 August 2007 to 26 July 2008. Asia traditional (puppet) theatre in its socio-cultural context; its role in cross-cultural interaction, along with the values of humanism and humanism in puppet theatre; and Bali as the meeting point of cross-cultural movements and the link between Indian and Chinese culture.

Tirtosurdarmo, Riwanto, PhD (Australian National University). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008. Population movement, both internally and internationally, in relation to the state and nation building, migration in Indonesia, issues of ethnicity, impact of population mobility on communal conflicts.


Vu Tuong Huu, PhD (California, Berkeley). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 10 September 2007 to 9 July 2008. State formation, revolution, nationalism, rural development, Cold War foreign policy, politics of scholarship, research methods, in Southeast Asia especially Indonesia and Vietnam.

Waghorne, Joanne Punzo, PhD (Chicago). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 1 August 2007 to 31 July 2008. Interrelation of globalization and religion in the context of contemporary Hindu organisations and movements in India and the diaspora.

Weiss, Richard Scott, PhD (Chicago). Visiting Senior Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 3 November 2008. South Asian religion, in particular Tamil South Indian Hinduism, shifting configurations of religious community in Tamil South India in the latter half of the nineteenth century.


Xiang Biao, PhD (Oxford). Visiting Research Fellow (Sabbatical) from 3 April 2007 to 2 April 2008. Migration in China, India, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and other parts of Southeast Asia.

Zhou Yongming, PhD (Duke). Visiting Senior Research Fellow from 4 January 2008 to 3 April 2008. Globalisation, development, political ecology, nationalism, ethnicity, drugs and online politics in China, especially Southwest China and Tibetan areas.

Assistant Professors on FASS Writing Semester Scheme

Johnson, Irving Chan, PhD (Harvard). At ARI 3 January 2008 to 30 June 2008; from Southeast Asian Studies Programme, FASS. Marginality, history, mobility and circulation, personhood, ethnicity, religion, performing arts, and borderlands in Kelantan, Malaysia.

Lim Sun Sun, PhD (London School of Economics). At ARI 1 July 2008 to 31 December 2008; from Communications and New Media Programme, FASS. Social impact of new media and ICTs, focusing on new media literacies, technology domestication by families and young people in Asia and public perceptions of ICTs.
Research Programmes and Activities
RESEARCH CLUSTERS

The research clusters in ARI each focus on research and analysis of a particular feature of Asian society. They serve as platforms to bring people together in a collective effort to produce useful interactions. Individual scholars in clusters also have independent areas of interest which may overlap and flow between clusters.

A number of scholars from NUS and beyond contribute as cluster associates. The “Open” cluster serves as a platform for hosting researchers conducting work on topics related to Asia that fall outside of designated clusters. The full diversity and heterogeneity of work carried out at ARI are reflected in its members and its publications.
RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

The success of an international conference on *In and Out of Asia: Migrating Talent, Globalising Cities* held in November 2007 (the first fruits in the form of a Special Issue of *Asian Population Studies* on this theme have since been published) was followed in 2008 by three conferences and workshops: (1) *Workshop on Perspectives on City Scales and Cosmopolitan Cultures* (May 2008) held jointly with a research team from the University of Manchester led by Professor Nina Glick-Schiller; (2) *International Conference on Return Migration in Asia: Experiences, Ideologies and Politics* (July-August 2008); and (3) *International Workshop on Migration and Diversity in Asian Contexts* (September 2008) which began an array of interesting discussions around the discourses and practices of ‘multiculturalism’, ‘integration’, ‘rights and responsibilities’, ‘social cohesion’, ‘social inclusion’, ‘cosmopolitanism’ and ‘unity in diversity’ as many Asian cities become the (un)willing receptacles of transnational migrants ranging from professional, managerial and entrepreneurial elites to the low-waged contract migrant workers. In the conceptualisation and organisation of many events (including two of the above), the cluster continued its fruitful collaborations with the migration research cluster of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Cluster members were successful in their bid for a large MOE Tier II research grant on *State Boundaries, Cultural Politics and Gender Negotiations in Commercially Arranged International Marriages in Singapore and Malaysia* (see later section on Changing Family in Asia for details) while work continued throughout the year on several collective projects including *Transnational Careworkers, State Policies and Gender Dynamics in Ageing Societies: A Comparative Study of Singapore and Japan* in collaboration with a research team from various Japanese universities under the NUS-JSPS scheme and the Wellcome Trust-funded project *Children and Migrant Parents in Southeast Asia* (CHAMPSEA) which examines migration, gender dynamics and the impact on left-behind children’s health and well-being in four Southeast Asian countries (see later section on the Asian MetaCentre for further details).

In February 2009, Professor Brenda Yeoh (ARI) (collaborator) and Dr Francis Collins (ARI) (research fellow), as part of A/P Ho Kong Chong’s (principal investigator, Department of Sociology) team, successfully secured AcRF Tier 2 funding for a major project on *Globalising Universities and International Student Mobilities in East Asia*. The team was awarded a total of $880,620 over three years for research investigating East Asia’s universities as nodes of knowledge production and innovation, and international students as agents for the production of a new international division of skilled labour.

A collaborative project proposal between Dr Johan Linquist (Stockholm University), Dr Xiang Biao (Oxford University) and Professor Brenda Yeoh on *Opening the Black Box of Migration: Brokers and the Organization of Transnational Mobility* was successful in securing funding (35,000 Euros per year for three years) from the Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education. The three-year project (July 2009–June 2012) which takes the migrant broker as a starting point for investigating changing regional and global regimes of transnational migration involves a series of workshops (the first will be in 2010 in Singapore) and exchange visits, leading to publications in the form of a journal special issue and an edited volume.

ASIAN MIGRATION

While maintaining research interest in a broad range of human mobilities and interconnectivities within and beyond Asia, the Asian Migration Cluster continued work begun in 2007 on *Transnational Migration and Global Cities* as a priority area. This research theme draws attention to the material processes and discourses of globalisation and transnationalism as they intersect in Asian cities.
Research Cluster Members

Prof Brenda Yeoh (Research Leader): The politics of space in colonial cities; heritage issues and tourism studies; place histories and landscape studies; the geography of gender, with particular reference to women and migration; global cities, transnationalism and diaspora.

Dr Chee Heng Leng: Health, health care and international migration; marriage, family, migration and the state.

Dr Francis Collins: Migration and transnationalism; the ‘everyday’ in urban experience; international education and the experiences of international students; the role of cities in globalising processes; social and cultural geographies; ethnicity, race and racism.

Dr Elspeth Graham: Transnational migration and the health and well-being of children left behind in Southeast Asia, low fertility populations in Asia (Singapore) and Europe (Scotland) and health variations in Europe and North America.

Dr Hoang Lan Anh: Migration, development, social change, gender and power relations.

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

Dr Lai Ah Eng: Migration and multiculturalism; migration and family; multiculturalism and social cohesion; ethnicity, culture and religion; family and gender; local histories and heritages.

Ms Theodora Lam: Transnational migration, population, gender, geographical education.

Mr Gary Lee Jack Jin: Ethnography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, the sociology of human rights, community organizing and development, and Chinese immigration.

Dr Hiroko Matsuda: Colonialism/Post-colonialism in Northeast Asia; migration from/to Okinawa and Taiwan; migration and formation of colonial Taipei City; memory and history in postcolonial/Cold War Taiwan.

Dr Pál Nyíri: Contemporary Chinese overseas migration and tourism, in particular, those related to Chinese views on modernization and the nation’s place in the world, immigration policy and xenophobia in Eastern Europe, political consequences of the current public obsession with cultural difference.

Dr Riwanto Tirtosudarmo: Population movement, both internally and internationally, in relation to the state and nation building, migration in Indonesia, issues of ethnicity, impact of population mobility on communal conflicts.

Dr Mika Toyota: Delayed marriage and non-marriage in Myanmar and Japan; international marriage and citizenship.

Dr Vu Thi Kieu Dzung: Development, migration, and women’s health in Asia and North America.

Dr Xiang Biao: Migration and state/governance; international labor recruiters; return migration.

Research Cluster Associates

A/P Shapan Adnan
Department of South Asian Studies

A/P Timothy Bunnell
Department of Geography

A/P Michael Ewing-Chow
Faculty of Law

A/P Ho Kong Chong
Department of Sociology

A/P Shirlena Huang
Department of Geography

Dr Noorashikin Abdul Rahman
Department of Geography

Dr Natalie Oswin
Department of Geography (Till 26 June 2008)

Dr Rachel Safman
Department of Sociology (Till 26 June 2008)

Prof Tan Tai Yong
Department of History

A/P Eric Thompson
Department of Sociology

Prof Wang Gungwu
East Asian Institute
CHANGING FAMILY IN ASIA

The family is seen as the cornerstone of society throughout Asia, but everywhere its traditional forms and functions are facing challenges. Family change encompasses such a wide field of studies and range of issues that the cluster has necessarily had to focus more on some aspects than others.

In earlier years, the cluster focused, though not exclusively, on a range of issues related to marriage trends in Asian countries, including international marriage. In 2008, there was some broadening of focus, as exemplified by the theme of the cluster’s main conference on 4-5 August, which was on the topic Resilience and Transformation of Families in Asia. This conference covered a wide range of themes, including intergenerational relationships and elderly care; migration and the emergence of new family forms; changes in family structure and living arrangements; changing forms of parenthood; balancing work and family life; and emerging meanings and new forms of family. Preparations for a publication are in hand.

The Ford Foundation-funded project on changing marriage patterns in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines was completed during the year. In addition to concluding fieldwork in a number of locations, the project conducted one conference and one workshop. The conference was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 21 August, in collaboration with the Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies and the Ford Foundation, on the theme Marriage, Culture and Poverty in Southeast Asia. It brought together researchers from the project, Indonesian academics and NGO representatives to discuss policy implications of studies conducted under the project auspices and others conducted by the Indonesian participants. The workshop was held in December to discuss drafts of chapters to be included in a book being prepared for publication in 2009.

In June 2008, a workshop on Social and Health Challenges of Population Ageing was held in ARI, jointly organised with the FASS Health Cluster and the IARU network universities. Papers were presented by researchers from the Oxford Institute of Ageing, University of Tokyo, Beijing University, the Australian National University and the Rand Corporation, as well as NUS.

2008 saw the publication of two books and one special issue of a journal arising from earlier conferences. These are listed in the “Publications” section of this report. Another book is due to be published in the early weeks of 2009.

The cluster has been tasked with organising ARI’s first Inter-Asia Roundtable in August 2009, on the theme Gender Relations in the 21st Century Asian Family. The idea of these forums is to bring together researchers from East, South and Southeast Asia to discuss recent trends, key issues and convergences and divergences across and within the regions of Asia. Preparations for the forum were proceeding in the latter months of 2008.

Also, in 2008, the collaboration between the Asian Migration and Changing Family in Asia research clusters bore fruition in the funding bid for the research project State Boundaries, Cultural Politics and Gender Negotiations in Commercially Arranged International Marriages in Singapore and Malaysia, and was awarded S$700,000 by Singapore’s Academic Research Council, for the duration of three years (May 2008-April 2011).

Preparation for fieldwork began in earnest, and was given an impetus when Gary Lee joined the project as a research assistant in August. In early August, the research team met at ARI to plan the details for the fieldwork; and in October, Dr Vu Thi Kieu Dzung came to join us as a one-year research fellow. Fieldwork began in the later part of the year, and will continue into next year.
Research Cluster Members

Prof Gavin Jones (Research Leader): Delayed marriage and non-marriage; international marriage; divorce trends; determinants of fertility

Dr Chee Heng Leng: Health, health care and international migration; marriage, family, migration and the state

Dr Premchand Dommaraju: Social demography, nuptiality, reproduction and child mortality

Dr Bina Gubhaju: Comparative analysis of several demographic and health surveys from the Southeast Asian region on issues pertaining to marriage and family

Dr Hoang Lan Anh: Migration, development, social change, gender and power relations

Ms Windel Lacson: Urban development, urban planning in the context of developing Asian nations, mass media and body image

Dr Lai Ah Eng: Migration and multiculturalism; migration and family; multiculturalism and social cohesion; ethnicity, culture and religion; family and gender; local histories and heritages

Mr Gary Lee Jack Jin: Ethnography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, the sociology of human rights, community organising and development, and Chinese immigration

Prof Janice Newberry: The state and governance, economic anthropology, domesticity and gender, and urban studies, in Java, Indonesia

Dr Barbara S. Nowak: Gender, the household, domestic cycle; impact of development on gender and the household

Dr Mika Toyota: Delayed marriage and non-marriage in Myanmar and Japan; international marriage and citizenship

Dr Vu Thi Kieu Dzung: Development, migration, and women’s health in Asia and North America

Prof Brenda Yeoh: The politics of space in colonial cities; heritage issues and tourism studies; the geography of gender, with particular reference to women and migration; global cities, transnationalism and diaspora

Prof Jean Yeung: Intergenerational studies, family and children’s well-being and policies, social inequality and China’s economic and demographic transition

Research Cluster Associates

A/P Shapan Adnan
Department of South Asian Studies Programme (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Angelique Chan
Department of Sociology

A/P Chan Wing Cheong
Faculty of Law

A/P Shirlena Huang
Department of Geography (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P A. Kumaralingam
Faculty of Law (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Debbie Ong
Faculty of Law (Till 26 June 2008)

Prof Leong Wai Kum
Faculty of Law (Till 26 June 2008)

Prof Janice Newberry
Department of Sociology (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Thang Leng Leng
Department of Japanese Studies

A/P Paulin Straughan
Department of Sociology (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Peggy Teo
Department of Geography (Till 26 June 2008)

Dr Teo You Yenn
School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University (From 26 June 2008)

A/P Vu Thi Kieu Dzung
Department of Sociology (From 26 June 2008)

Dr Mika Toyota
Department of Sociology (From 26 June 2008)

Dr Grace Wong
Department of Real Estate (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Thang Leng Leng
Department of Japanese Studies

Dr Yap Mui Teng
Institute of Policy Studies
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 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 2008, the cluster organised an international workshop on Mass Media and Medicine in Asia, from 28-29 February. The workshop brought together an international range of scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds, from anthropologists and sociologists to historians and communication theorists, to examine the portrayal and use of medical discourses by the print and broadcast media in the Asian context. Papers presented ranged from popular medical texts in colonial India and contemporary China, newspaper coverage of health issues in East and Southeast Asia to the representations of medicine and surgery in South Korean and Hong Kong cinema. The workshop, aside from giving opportunities for younger scholars to present their research, was privileged to have the participation of two senior scholars, Professor Steve Ferzacca, editor of the Journal of Medical Anthropology and, Professor Judith Farquhar, a leading researcher on Chinese medical/health practices, who delivered the keynote address, “How to Nourish Life: Chinese Medicine and Philosophy in China’s Popular Media”. The workshop provided a crucial space for a more nuanced and regional narrative of health communication in a field that has been predominantly overshadowed by the Euro-Atlantic contexts. The presented papers for the workshop will be published in a forthcoming edited book, Communicating Health in Asia.

Another major event organised by the cluster centred on the activities of internationally renowned Malaysian visual artist, Wong Hoy Cheong, who was a Senior Visiting Research Fellow from September to December. Wong was the second practising creative artist to be invited as a research fellow. From 11 September to 23 November, ARI, in collaboration with the NUS Museum, mounted an installation exhibition of Wong’s work Bound for Glory, which consists of photographs, videos and sound and light works. In addition to the exhibition, Wong gave generously of his time to hold seminars and workshops with students at NUS and other teaching institutions in the country. Further, Wong also undertook research work on the history and narrative of ‘national campaigns’ in Singapore.

The cluster continued with its fortnightly Wednesday informal seminars to provide a platform for works in progress from members of the cluster and those of other Cultural Studies scholars, both Singaporean and foreign. Among the seminars hosted were those by young scholar Dr Liu Shih Ding, University of Macau, who presented a seminar entitled Las Vegas in China: Macau as Casino Colony, and Dr Lee Hyunjung, from Korea, who presented work from her PhD dissertation, ‘Broadway’ as the Superior ‘Other’: Situating South Korean Transnational Theatre in the Era of Globalization. The cluster was also privileged to hold a seminar on Theorizing British Cultural Studies with leading Cultural Studies scholar, Professor Simon During. In our outreach to local cultural practitioners, the cluster screened the satirical short film by young film maker, Martin See. Nation Builders, which documents the everyday life of the poor, aging Singaporeans who collect used cardboards and cans, was screened followed by a seminar with the film maker on the state of making ‘political films’ in Singapore.
### Research Cluster Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Research Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prof Chua Beng Huat</strong> (Leader)</td>
<td>East Asian pop culture; multiculturalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prof Tani Barlow</strong></td>
<td>History of popular sociology in China, gender and women’s liberation theories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Birgit Bräuchler</strong></td>
<td>Cultural dimension of conflict resolution; religious conflict in cyberspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Cho Younghan</strong></td>
<td>East Asian popular culture, global sports and nationalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prof Allen Chun</strong></td>
<td>Transnationalism; cultural identity in contemporary Chinese-speaking societies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Felicia Hughes-Freeland</strong></td>
<td>Dance, performance, gender; ritual and media; cultural politics; visual anthropology and visual ethnography; aesthetics and epistemology; anthropological theory; embodiment and society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Yasuko Kobayashi</strong></td>
<td>Ethnicity, nationalism, human rights, minority studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Liew Kai Khiun</strong></td>
<td>Cultural and media studies; medical history; Singapore society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prof Yoshitaka Mori</strong></td>
<td>Sociology, media studies, cultural studies and contemporary art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prof Anjali Roy</strong></td>
<td>Critical theory, film and media studies, literary and cultural studies, folklore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Stephen Teo</strong></td>
<td>Hong Kong and other Asian cinemas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Tsai Ju-Yin Eva</strong></td>
<td>Television and cultural production, youth cultural practices, transnational stardom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mr Wong Hoy Cheong</strong></td>
<td>Visual artist with interest in Media and Cultural Studies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Research Cluster Associates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Associate</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr Brenda Chan</strong></td>
<td>Wee Kim Wee School of Communication &amp; Information, NTU (From 26 June 2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/P Philip Holden</strong></td>
<td>Department of English Language and Literature (From 26 June 2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/P kenneth Tan</strong></td>
<td>Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (Till 26 June 2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ms Tan Pin Pin</strong></td>
<td>Independent Filmmaker (Till 26 June 2008)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/P Eric Thompson</strong></td>
<td>Department of Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A/P Bobby Wong</strong></td>
<td>Department of Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ms Tan Pin Pin</strong></td>
<td>Independent Filmmaker (Till 26 June 2008)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Although our primary research strength over recent years has been in the study of Islam, the cluster also hosts scholars working on different religious traditions including Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism. Research staff from the cluster have been and will continue to be involved with research projects funded by both the Asia Research Institute itself, as well as other funding bodies such as the NUS Academic Research Fund and the Singapore Ministry of Education. This includes A/P Michael Feener’s work on the implementation of Islamic law in contemporary Aceh, conducted as part of the AcRF Tier 2 level project, *Islam and Social Dynamics in Indonesia*, led by Prof M. C. Ricklefs, Principal Investigator (Department of History, NUS).

Research projects funded directly by ARI include Dr Maznah Mohamad’s work on how the politics of the Islamic law affect inter-religious and inter-gender relations, as well as the workings of democracy in society in Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. Outside studies of Islam in the region, other cluster projects have focused on aspects of diverse religious traditions in contemporary Singapore. Dr Lai Ah Eng’s project, *Public and Private Management of Religion in Cross-cultural Marriages and Families in Singapore*, examines the dynamics and negotiations between state, community and public organisations on the one hand, and private individuals and families on the other regarding such marriages in Singapore. Along related lines, the work of Prof Bryan Turner and A/P Alexius Pereira (Department of Sociology, NUS) on a project entitled *Measuring Social Distance in Plural Societies – The Singapore Case* seeks to understand whether deep religiosity may translate into greater self-exclusion from secular and multicultural public life in a plural society such as Singapore.

One emerging trend in the cluster’s work over the past year has been a focus on the complex dynamics of religion, secularisation and the state in modern Asia. A/P Feener has recently established a cross-faculty reading group on this topic, bringing together colleagues from ARI, the NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), the Faculty of Law, the University Scholars’ Programme and the University Office of Research and Technology for regular monthly discussions of important work being done on these issues. Similar work establishing cross-faculty interaction and collaboration is also being pursued through the new three-year plan of annual conferences on *Religion, Law and the State*, which involves faculty from ARI, FASS and the Faculty of Law. The first of these conferences on the changing roles of Islamic legal professionals in contemporary Southeast Asia (co-sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation of New York) was held at ARI in February 2009.

The cluster was active in organising a major conference in 2008, *New Directions in the Study of Material Religion in Southeast Asia*, convened by Dr Julius Bautista. Other cluster seminars in 2008 have included *Roundtable on Islamisation and Fragmentation in Contemporary Indonesia* by Prof M. C. Ricklefs, A/P Michael Feener, Chaider Bamualim, and chaired by Prof Robert Hefner; and *Can We Live Forever? The Religious Implications of Global Ageing* by Prof Bryan S. Turner.
Research Cluster Members

Prof Bryan S. Turner (Research Leader): Social theory of religion; sociology of piety

Dr Julius Bautista: Catholicism in the Philippines; religious studies

Prof Dennis Cheng: Yijing; intellectual history of late imperial China

A/P Michael Feener: Intellectual and cultural history of Islam in the Middle East and Southeast Asia

A/P Robbie Goh: Nineteenth century English Literature (particularly R. L. Stevenson, Rudyard Kipling, fin de siecle gothic writing); speculative fiction; urban landscapes; Christianity in Asia; advertising; and related topics

Prof Lily Kong: Geographies of religion; cultural economy and cultural policy; constructions of ‘nation’ and national identity; constructions of ‘nature’ and environment

A/P Gabriele Marranci: Identity; Muslim migration/immigration; urban sociology; globalisation; fundamentalism; political Islam; secularisation processes; criminology; anthropology of music

Dr Katharine McGregor: History, memory, violence and cross-cultural responses to criminal trials in Indonesia

Dr Ronit Ricci: Comparative literature; South and Southeast Asian cultures

Dr Rachel Rinaldo: Gender, religion, globalisation and the nation-state with a focus on Indonesia

Dr Heinz Scheifinger: Relationship between religion (especially Hinduism) and the Internet

Prof Pieter Tjitse van der Veer: Comparison of religion and nationalism in India and China; anthropology; Indo-Iranian languages and cultures

Prof Joanne Waghouse: Interrelation of globalisation and religion in contemporary Hindu organisations; movements in India and the diaspora

Dr Richard Scott Weiss: South Asian religion, in particular Tamil South Indian Hinduism

Research Cluster Associates

A/P Syed Farid Alatas
Department of Sociology (From 26 June 2008)

Prof Greg James Barton
Monash University

A/P Gary Bell
Faculty of Law (From 26 June 2008)

Prof Alan Chan Kam-Leung
Department of Philosophy (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Thomas Dubois
Department of History

Prof Michael C. Gilsenan
New York University

A/P A. Kumaralingam
Faculty of Law (Till 26 June 2008)

Dr Francis Lim Khek Gee
Nanyang Technological University (Till 26 June 2008)

A/P Vineeta Sinha
Department of Sociology (From 26 June 2008)

Prof Tho Li-Ann
Faculty of Law (Till 26 June 2008)

Prof Bassam Tibi
University of Göttingen

A/P John Whalen-Bridge
Department of English Language and Literature (From 26 June 2008)
While the books based on these conferences have been slower than we would wish in appearing (two imminent in 2009), 2008 saw two milestones achieved in the form of readers on the topic - Geoff Wade’s *China and Southeast Asia* from Routledge in six volumes and Anthony Reid’s *The Chinese Diaspora in the Pacific* from Ashgate in one.

The 2007 Annual Report mentioned the cluster’s bid for Ministry of Education funding for a project on *The Cold War in Asia (1945-1990)*, which focused energies on that more narrow but crucial period. In February 2008 the news came that the national peer review committee had liked the project but thought it too ambitious, so sought resubmission on a basis more clearly limited to three years. Resubmission entailed a six month delay, which in turn increased the urgency of identifying a co-PI who could take over when Prof Reid retired in mid-2009. This obstacle proved insuperable, so that the funding bid had to be abandoned, and with it hopes for a longer life in ARI for some of the cluster’s concerns. A review of the cluster in March/April recommended its closure when Prof Reid retired in June 2009.

Nevertheless the momentum of the Cold War initiative continued to give ARI and NUS a high international profile throughout 2008, including three conferences which are leading towards book publication. Postdoctoral Fellow Wasana Wongsurawat and Visiting Fellow Vu Tuong Huu organised the first of these on *Cultural Dimensions of the Cold War in Asia* (24-25 March); Karl Hack (of UK’s Open University) joined Geoff Wade and Anthony Reid in organising a workshop on 10-11 July, the sixtieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Malayan Emergency, on *Reassessing the Origins of the Cold War in Southeast Asia*; and finally ARI teamed with ISEAS to host an oral history dialogue with former Sarawak communist leaders on 6-7 November, organised by independent scholar C. C. Chin together with Geoff Wade of ARI and Hui Yew Foong of ISEAS.

The Cold War focus also resulted in extensive documentation of key documents from Chinese and Australian sources in particular, providing a strong resource base for the Cold War in Southeast Asia on the ARI website. This work should be credited almost entirely to Geoff Wade and Research Assistant Fang Xiaoping (who secured an attractive postdoctoral position at the University of Western Sydney later in the year). The cluster joined with FASS and the History Channel to sponsor a well-attended series of monthly public lectures on the Cold War, primarily organised by Malcolm Murfitt (Department of History, NUS), which began with an overview by Christian Ostermann, Director of the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Cold War International History Project, on 24 September. The cluster’s appointees during the year were also largely Cold War oriented. In addition to those above mentioned, Perry Johansson of Stockholm University spent his three-month visiting fellowship working on Maoism in Europe, while Charles Leary joined as a Postdoctoral Fellow from New York University to work on cold war influences on Hong Kong cinema.

The broader interests of the cluster continued to be served also. It was the cluster’s turn to organise ARI’s annual Asia Trends showcase, which it did in tandem with Prof Chua Beng Huat on 11 September, around the theme *Chineseness Unbound: Boundaries, Burdens and Belongings of Chineseness outside China* (discussed elsewhere in this report). Visiting Fellow Pál Nyíri co-organised a workshop with Macquarie University on 27 November, on the theme *Exporting China’s Development to Southeast Asia: Aid, Investment, Migration*. Visiting Fellow Anne Gerritsen (Warwick University) expanded another cluster theme on the Chinese ceramic trade as a long-term focus of Southeast Asia-China interaction.
Research Cluster Members

**Prof Anthony Reid (Research Leader):** Pre-colonial and economic history of Southeast Asia; shaping of identities in modern Indonesia and Malaysia; Aceh

**Dr Fang Xiaoping:** History of medicine and barefoot doctors in Chinese villages in China

**Dr Anne Gerritsen:** Ceramics, Jingdezhen, global trade, local culture

**Dr Perry Johansson:** Intellectual and political history of Chinese-European relations

**Dr Charles Leary:** Hong Kong cinema, American cinema, performance for the moving image, and the history of film criticism

**Dr Pál Daniel Nyíri:** Contemporary Chinese overseas migration and tourism; immigration policy and xenophobia in Eastern Europe; cultural differences

**Prof I Nyoman Sedana:** Bali-China cross-cultural interaction; comparative study between Balinese and Chinese religious aesthetic expressions; Indian and Chinese cultural elements in Balinese puppet theatre

**Prof Vu Tuong Huu:** State formation, revolution, nationalism, rural development, Cold War foreign policy, and politics of scholarship

**Dr Wasana Wongsurawat:** History of overseas Chinese in Thailand

Research Cluster Associates

**Prof Prasenjit Duara**
Office of the Deputy President (Research & Technology) (From 26 June 2008)

**A/P Huang Jianli**
Department of History

**A/P Lee Cheuk Yin**
Department of Chinese Studies (Till 26 June 2008)

**A/P Lee Lai To**
Department of Political Science (Till 26 June 2008)

**A/P Bruce Lockhart**
Department of History (Till 26 June 2008)

**A/P John Miksic**
Southeast Asian Studies Programme

**Dr Atsushi Ota**
Department of History (Till 26 June 2008)

**Prof Tan Tai Yong**
Department of History (From 26 June 2008)

**Prof Wang Gungwu**
East Asian Institute

**A/P Johannes Widodo**
Department of Architecture (From 26 June 2008)

**Dr Yang Bin**
Department of History

**Prof Henry Yeung**
Department of Geography (Till 26 June 2008)
SUSTAINABLE CITIES

Asia has been experiencing rapid and often uncontrolled changes in many areas over the past four decades. Economic growth, while generally desired, has also resulted in much environmental degradation and socio-cultural discontinuities.

Asian cities, the site of these tumultuous changes in the age of capitalist globalisation, are caught between urbanisation and the demands of sustainability. The Sustainable Cities research initiative at ARI is targeted at examining emergent urban situations in which social-cultural and environmental sustainability require urgent attention. Issues under scrutiny include eco-urbanism, cultural preservation, and quality of social life. The following is an inclusive list of research expertise and ideas that would be welcome: sustainable architecture, urban management & governance, urban planning, urban design, urban place-making, land-use management, transport and communication modes, the interface between technology and society (for example, in relation to emerging environmental technologies, and water and energy resource use), industrial and landscape ecology, economics and finances of sustainability of quality human health and social life, regeneration of heritage areas in extant cities.

This cluster, previously known as the Asian Cities cluster, was established as part of ARI in April 2008. It has nine members and twelve interdisciplinary associates, including two post-doctoral fellows. In 2008, the cluster organised two major workshops, Urban Asian Emergence: The Environmental Challenge and The Origin and Future of Southeast Asian Coastal Cities – Links, Layering, and Transformations, and a major international conference - GASS5: Future Asian Space. In the same year, the cluster hosted an international visiting scholar. The cluster has been working to build up its collaborative and interdisciplinary connections within ARI, in NUS, within the Singapore research community and institutions, and with the global community of scholars. Beyond 2008, it has lined up a major international workshop, Constructing Sustainability: Ethics, Techniques or Aesthetics?, bringing together interdisciplinary panels of overseas and local experts on the issue. The cluster will also continue its focus in examining emergent urban situations in which urban, social-cultural and environmental sustainability require urgent attention.
Research Cluster Members

Prof Heng Chye 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 Chen Yu: Urban transformation in semi-colonial China

Dr Hee Limin: Asian urbanism and public space; sustainable urban development; creative precincts

Prof Gavin Jones: Delayed marriage and non-marriage in Southeast Asia; megacities of Asia; determinants of fertility.

Dr Devanathan Parthasarathy: Urban studies; development studies; technology and development; vulnerability and adaptation to climate change; caste/ethnic conflicts; women and development; law and governance

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

A/P Johannes Widodo: Southeast Asian urban history and morphology; heritage conservation

Prof Brenda Yeoh: Transnational migration; globalising cities

Research Cluster Associates

A/P Timothy Bunnell
Department of Geography
(From 26 June 2008)

A/P Gregory K Clancey
Department of History (Till 30 June 2008)

A/P Han Sun Sheng
Department of Real Estate (Till 30 June 2008)

A/P Ho Kong Chong
Department of Sociology (From 26 June 2008)

A/P Lee Yong Sook
Department of Geography (Till 30 June 2008)

Prof Ooi Giok Ling
Humanties and Social Sciences Education Academic Group, Nanyang Technological University/National Institute of Education (From 26 June 2008)

A/P Rajeev S. Patke
Department of English (Till 30 June 2008)

A/P Sim Loo Lee
Department of Real Estate (Till 30 June 2008)

A/P Willie Tan
Department of Building (Till 30 June 2008)

Adjunct Prof Tay Kheng Soon
Department of Architecture
(From 26 June 2008)

A/P Wong Tai Chee
Humanties and Social Sciences Education Academic Group, Nanyang Technological University/National Institute of Education (From 26 June 2008)

A/P Zhu Jieming
Department of Real Estate
(From 26 June 2008)
ACEH PROJECT

Over the past four years, ARI has taken a number of research and development initiatives in response to the catastrophic damage wrought by the earthquake and tsunami of 26 December 2004.

Singapore was the first country to provide emergency assistance to Aceh following the tsunami, serving as the vanguard of the largest international aid effort ever organised. In March 2006, Dr Kuntoro Mangkusubroto, Director of the Indonesian governmental Body for the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Aceh and Nias (BRR) invited Prof Anthony Reid and ARI to organise The First International Conference on Aceh and Indian Ocean Studies, which was held in Banda Aceh in February 2007. Preparation for this conference was led by an ARI team comprised of Professor Anthony Reid, A/P Michael Feener and Dr Patrick Daly. The conference served to consolidate momentum for reinvigorating academic work on and in Aceh. One major initiative in this direction has been work on the establishment of an International Centre for Aceh and Indian Ocean Studies. Prof Reid, A/P Feener and Dr Daly are the ARI representatives on a working committee preparing for the opening of the Centre in early 2009, with financial support from the BRR.

In 2008, members and associates of the ARI Aceh project team have continued to pursue their own individual studies and field research in Aceh. As a result of this, they have produced a number of publications including conference papers, articles and a new monograph by Dr Michelle Miller. Prof Reid, A/P Feener and Dr Daly are now preparing to publish two edited volumes of essays on Acehnese history and contemporary developments, and have also created a new Aceh Section of the online ARI Working Papers Series.

The ARI Aceh Studies group is also currently busy with preparations for a second international conference to be held on the campuses of IAIN Al-Raniry and the Universitas Syiah Kuala (Banda Aceh) in February 2009. The theme of this conference is Civil Conflict and Its Remedies and discussions will include over fifty presentations by local and international scholars that will address the key issues related to conflict and post-conflict situation in Aceh, as well as in other Asian conflict areas. The keynote speakers of this conference will be Nobel Peace Laureate and former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, Dr Rizal Sukma from the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, and Ms Sydney Jones from International Crisis Group.
Project Members

**Dr Leena Avonius**: Post-conflict processes in Aceh; localisation of human rights discourse in Indonesia

**Dr Caroline Brassard**: Economic development research; poverty alleviation strategies; labour market and social policy; data analysis, baseline survey questionnaire design, and rural development project evaluation

**Dr Patrick Daly**: Cultural heritage management in crisis situations

**A/P Michael Feener**: Islamic law in contemporary Aceh

**A/P Daniel Fitzpatrick**: Law and development; land tenure in developing countries; land and conflict studies; Indonesian law; law in East Timor, and land law in the South Pacific Faculty of Law

**Dr Boyd Fuller**: Resolution of difficult water, environmental and land conflicts

**Dr Jonathan Marshall**: Perception of public on its leaders; acquisition of leadership skills and applied leadership studies

**Dr Michelle Miller**: Decentralisation and post-conflict governance

**Dr Barbara Sue Nowak**: Emergency relief and economic development

**Prof Anthony Reid**: Social and economic history of Aceh
It was constituted through a collaborative effort between the Asia Research Institute, NUS; the College for Population Studies (CPS) at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand; and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Austria. In 2002, the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (NCEPH), at the Australian National University joined as a principal collaborator. AMC’s headquarters is situated at the Asia Research Institute at NUS in Singapore. Its research foci include: population-development-environment-health interactions at the regional level, rapid urbanisation, urbanism and health in Asia, and demographic change, migration and the ‘Asian family’, and their impacts on social and psychological wellbeing.

One of the major aims of the Asian MetaCentre 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 collaborations and skills transfer. It also aims to consolidate the Asian Population network (APN), organise 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 organised through the Asian MetaCentre had thus served as a platform for strengthening demographic research and the analysis of population dynamics in the Asian context in relation to health and wellbeing.

The year 2008 was a busy yet fruitful year for AMC as it continued its research focus around themes relating to population studies with an increased focus on migration issues especially those pertaining to gender and age. These themes are central to its research project, CHAMPSEA (Child Health and Migrant Parents in South-east Asia), a study examining the gender effects of migration as well as the impacts of migration on children left-behind in their home country by migrant parents. Work for this project funded by The Wellcome Trust (UK) commenced officially in January 2007 and progressed smoothly into 2008. The research team held a productive project meeting in Singapore to discuss the findings from the pilot study that was completed in 2007 as well as prepare for the quantitative phase of the project. Several training meetings were also held in each of the four study countries, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, to prepare their respective local interview teams for fieldwork.

Different members of the CHAMPSEA team based in Singapore (NUS) and Scotland (St. Andrews University) were able to contribute to fieldwork activities in these countries by participating in the training sessions as well as visiting the study sites.

The fieldwork for the quantitative phase of the study was launched two weeks apart from each other, with the Philippines starting first on 14 April 2008, followed by Indonesia on 28 April 2008, Thailand on 19 May 2008 and finally, Vietnam on 26 May 2008. On average, each country spent around three months in the field and data collection as well as entry for this phase was successfully completed in November 2008. The provinces that were eventually selected for the study were East Java and West Java for Indonesia, Laguna and Bulacan for the Philippines, Lampang and Udon Thani for Thailand and Thai Binh and Hai Duong for Vietnam. Over 4,000 households took part in the study with each household completing up to three questionnaires: Household Questionnaire,
Programme Members

Prof Brenda Yeoh (Principal Investigator): The politics of space in colonial cities; heritage issues and tourism studies; place histories and landscape studies; the geography of gender, with particular reference to women and migration; global cities, transnationalism and diaspora

Dr Andiara Schwingel: Migration and health; international public health; burden of chronic disease and preventive policy among immigrants

Dr Hoang Lan Anh: Migration, development, social change, gender and power relations

Ms Theodora Lam: Transnational migration, population, gender, geographical education

Past conferences held by AMC have also led to several publications in 2008. Selected papers presented at the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia: Critical Issues for a Sustainable Future held in March 2006 have been published as a special issue in the Asian and Pacific Migration Journal. The special issue titled The Migration and Development Prism: A Lens on Vulnerabilities and Capabilities was published in Volume 16, Issue 4 (December 2007) with Sara R. Curran, Jody Dyer and Kim Korinek as guest editors. A collection of papers from the workshop on Asian Transnational Families held in 2005 has also been published in Volume 46, Issue 4 (October 2008) of International Migration. The special issue titled Asian Transnational Families in Transition: The Liminality of Simultaneity is guest edited by Shirlena Huang, Brenda S.A. Yeoh and Theodora Lam. AMC has also published an Asian Demographic and Human Capital Datasheet for circulation in 2008.
Feener, Michael
Co-Investigator on Merle Ricklefs’ (PI) project “Islam and Social Dynamics in Indonesia”, focusing on non-legal aspects of Muslim cultural revival in Aceh, S$143,000 funded by AcRF Tier 2, Ministry of Education, Singapore, 2007-2010.

Jones, Gavin
Partner Investigator in project on “Indonesian Young Adults facing the Future”, in collaboration with colleagues at the Australian National University and the Center for Health Research, University of Indonesia, funding of A$360,000, 2008-2011.

Principal Investigator for project on “Changing Marriage in Southeast Asia”, in collaboration with colleagues in Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Australia, US$140,000 funded by the Ford Foundation, 2006-2008.

Parthasarathy, Devanathan
Co-Investigator for National Communication to UNFCCC project on “Climate Change Impacts in Coastal Zones” (II phase), K. Narayanan (PI), Rs:2,800,000 funded by the UNDP through Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, 2008-2009.

Toyota, Mika


Yeoh Saw Ai, Brenda; Jones, Gavin; and Chee Heng Leng
*State Boundaries, Cultural Politics and Gender Negotiations in Commercially Arranged International Marriages in Singapore and Malaysia*, Researchers: Brenda Yeoh, Gavin Jones, Chee Heng Leng, Vu Thi Kieu Dzung, awarded $700,000 by the Academic Research Council, Ministry of Education (ARC, MOE) for AcRF Tier 2 funding, April 2008 - March 2011.

Yeoh Saw Ai, Brenda and Chee Heng Leng
*Transnational Migration in SE Asia and the Health of Children Left Behind*, Brenda Yeoh and Elspeth Graham (Co-PIs); Chee Heng Leng, Wong Mee Lian and Paul Boyle, $1,377,370 funded by The Wellcome Trust, UK, awarded in 2006 for 2007-2010.

Yeung Wei-Jun, Jean
Principal Investigator for project on *Intergenerational Racial Stratification and Children's Cognitive Achievement*, Caroline Persell (Co-PI), US$155,000 funded by National Science Foundation, USA, 2007-2009.


ARI continues with its aim ‘to be a place of encounters between the region and the world’, hosting seminars, workshops and conferences aimed at the exchange and generation of ideas.

During the year 2008, the Institute organised 17 conferences and workshops. These conferences were driven by ARI’s research fellows and postdoctoral scholars. The participants came from diverse academic communities in Singapore and throughout the world.

### Workshop on Mass Media and Medicine in Asia
28 – 29 Feb 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Dr Liew Kai Khiun and Prof Chua Beng Huat

This interdisciplinary workshop brought together a multitude of scholars to explore the trends and issues in which health and medical discourses are being communicated in the Asian continent. A diverse range of topics were explored, covering the proliferation of popular medical books, newspaper reporting of epidemics, genetics education, communication issues in HIV test reporting, medicine and cinema, regulation of unhealthy food advertisements and the increasing prominence of alternative and vernacular healing cultures in the media. The geographical and historical scopes of these discussions spread from colonial India to contemporary China and Southeast Asia. The workshop had a healthy mix of participants ranging from prominent medical anthropologists like Professors Steve Ferzacca and Judith Farquhar to outstanding PhD candidates from prestigious colleges. Also among the speakers were historians, researchers of Gender, Media, Journalism and Cultural Studies as well as on those of Health Communication. In essence, this workshop will be crucial in providing a more prominent and concrete platform for the study of health communication in Asia, particularly in the Southeast Asian region. Plans are now being undertaken for an edited volume, expected to be completed by the end of 2009, based on the papers presented.

### International Workshop on the Origin and Future of Southeast Asian Coastal Cities - Links, Layering, and Transformations
29 Feb – 1 Mar 2008, NUS Kent Ridge Campus
Convenors: A/P Johannes Widodo and Dr Tran Thi Que Ha

This workshop was intended to clarify some assumptions and standpoints regarding the origin, formation process, and the subsequent morphological outcomes of the coastal cities in Southeast Asia. The workshop also looked into the transformation in both inhabitation and articulation processes, caused by natural, ideological, social, and economic changes in this region. Furthermore, this workshop was also intended to find some
new ideas on how to manage changes without erasing the unique identity of every city, to allow non-destructive modernisation processes to take place, and to balance economic expansion and cultural conservation, with ecological sustainability – especially since the end of World War II, during the Cold War, to the present inter-connected world. This workshop provided an avenue for international interdisciplinary scholars, architects, urban planners, historians, and researchers, to share their wisdom and recent researches on Southeast Asian Coastal Cities. The specific objective was to look for new research areas and directions in Southeast Asian morphology, urbanism, and architecture of the city, to push forward this research focus to a greater height.

Urban Asian Emergence – Environmental Challenge
15 Mar 2008, WOHA Gallery, Singapore
Convenors: A/P Johannes Widodo, Dr Erwin Viray and Dr Hee Limin

We have an image of the Asian urban conditions. We also have visions of the future images of the Asian urban conditions. This roundtable conversation was a place and moment in time to discuss and identify the vital issues that face the urban conditions of Asia, and to define and redefine the questions that confront the emergent specialists operating with Asian urban conditions. The event was predicated on the idea of "emergence" and "emerging" ideas and practices in the region. Eventually the ideas and conversations at the colloquium will be published as a series of urban studies papers. The workshop roundtable discussions brought out key concerns that addressed the critical and pressing issues that confront the Asian Design and Planning Environment. It also identified the effective means to address the environmental challenges in Asia. The roundtable exemplified the goals and aspirations of the Asia Research Institute Asian Cities Cluster to bring together experts exploring Asia and its issues.

Conference on The Cold War in Asia: The Cultural Dimension
24 – 25 Mar 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Dr Vu Tuong Huu and Dr Wasana Wongsurawat

Although much has been written concerning “the cultural dimensions” of the Cold War and how they influenced politics and diplomacy in the West, little has been presented from the Asian point of view. This workshop was organised, in an attempt to balance this seemingly lop-sided study of the Cold War, by Dr Vu Tuong Huu and Dr Wasana Wongsurawat, with the support of Prof Anthony Reid and Dr Geoffrey Wade. Scholars of the Cold War from across the East and Southeast Asian regions and beyond descended upon the ARI Seminar Room for the two-day conference in search of the agency of Asian actors in the Cold War arena. Many stimulating papers were presented on how the Korean and Vietnam wars were not only fought by the main combatants, but also by the local leaders of the various Korean and Vietnamese factions involved. Other contributors demonstrated how decisions and actions taken by East and Southeast Asian leaders significantly shaped the outcome of the Cold War on the global scale. Judging from the substantial quality of the papers presented, the conference organisers are hopeful that the publication of an edited volume will be forthcoming in the near future.

Workshop on Perspectives on City Scales and Cosmopolitan Cultures
Jointly organised with the Migration and Global Cities Research Clusters, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore; in conjunction with the Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures, University of Manchester, UK
12 – 14 May 2008, NUS Kent Ridge Campus
Convenor: Prof Brenda Yeoh

This workshop is a follow-up event from the Roundtable on City Scales and Cosmopolitan Cultures which was held in 2007 to find
intersections in the current research interests of NUS staff and academics. This workshop built on the previous discussions during the Roundtable, with the view of starting a series of workshops on the theme of cosmopolitanism, and possibly leading to a jointly funded research project.

It successfully provided a platform for researchers in NUS and Manchester to meet up and discuss potential research projects. Several ideas and collaboration plans were discussed during the duration of the workshop and the group intends to take up these proposals further in February 2009 when a subsequent workshop meeting will be held in Manchester.

In summary, this workshop has opened up a fruitful dialogue and research network that will help advance the research niche of the migration cluster in NUS.

Workshop on The Social and Health Challenges of Population Aging
Jointly organised with IARU Network and Health Cluster, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
12 – 13 Jun 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Prof Gavin Jones and A/P Angelique Chan

This workshop brought together researchers from the International Association of Research Universities (IARU) network to present and discuss the social and health challenges of population aging. The focus was on the changing needs for health and long term care in countries differing in their levels of economic development, roles of the family and social policies. The papers presented were guided by four analytical themes:

(i) explaining the impact of differences and inequalities, e.g., on patterns of long term care, utilisation and outcomes of health care services,
(ii) understanding ideology and culture as drivers/mediators of adjustment,
(iii) exploring the adjustment of formal and informal health care systems to changing demands and needs, and
(iv) exploring and understanding individual engagement. The key emphasis of the workshop was to elaborate on the changing demographic and epidemiological context in which the social and health challenges of aging are arising in different countries, and the methodological issues arising in the conduct of research into this changing context. Researchers presented their work on health and aging from their respective countries. A total of nine papers were presented from Singapore, the United Kingdom, the United States, Japan, Australia, Sri Lanka, China and Indonesia.

A substantial number of attendees from various public service organisations such as the Ministry of Community, Youth and Sports, Health Promotion Board, Centre for the Third Age, Centre for Seniors, SingHealth, and academic institutions such as Temasek Polytechnic, the Institute of Policy Studies and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies attended the first day of the workshop. There was ample media coverage from The Straits Times, Lianhe Zaobao, Lianhe Wanbao, Shin Min Daily, and My Paper, which was facilitated by the Office of Corporate Relations, NUS.

International Workshop on Buddhism and the Crises of Nation-States in Asia
Jointly organised with the Religion Research Cluster, Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
19 – 20 Jun 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenor: Dr Pattana Kitiarsa

Various speakers in this workshop explored the role and position of Buddhism in various Asian countries. Buddhism has had problematic relationships with the rulers and the modern states. Since after the Second World War, Buddhism has served as a spiritual and political backbone to many of the “new Asian states”. Buddhism has pervaded the politics of nation building and modernisation processes in Asia’s new Buddhist-dominated nation-states.

In this workshop, speakers spoke on a wide range of issues such as “Buddhist Perception of Monarchy and Its Relevance in Nepal’s Politics”
by Tina Manandhar which explored the events leading to the downfall of the Nepali king who had not acted in accordance with the Buddhist vision of monarchy; “Women and the Thai sangha" by Monica Falk which raised questions about the sangha’s role as a male stronghold in relation to gender and socially engaged Buddhism in Thailand; “Buddhism in Sri Lanka and its Relationships with the Modern State" by Mahinda Deegalle on the relationships that existed in the past prior to the colonial period and some of the relationships that continue to influence both Theravada Buddhism and the modern state in Sri Lanka. One plenary speech on "Religion, the State and Violence: Is Buddhism Different" was given by Prof Anthony Reid and another on "Reflections on Violence and the Ethic of Brotherly Love" was given by Prof Bryan Turner.

The outcome of this workshop will be an edited volume based on the various papers presented.

International Workshop on Autonomy and Armed Separatism in South and Southeast Asia
Jointly organised with Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; and supported by The Asia Foundation and the Centre on Asia and Globalisation
26 – 27 Jun 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenor: Dr Michelle Miller

Scholars and policy-makers have promoted various forms of autonomy as the most democratic way of accommodating separatist insurges in ethnically, politically, religiously, economically and socially divided states troubled by intensifying armed separatist conflicts. Despite this, very few states have successfully ended their armed separatist conflicts through offers of autonomy or self-governance. This raises difficult questions about how much freedom nation-states are willing and capable of granting their nationalist minorities without releasing control over their sovereign territories. In this workshop, speakers took a multidisciplinary approach towards understanding national identity problems in seven South and Southeast Asian countries: Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Thailand, India and Indonesia’s former province of East Timor. Whilst the opening address was given by Prof Anthony Reid and Prof Kishore Mahbubani, speakers explored the political, economic, legal, security and other compromises that have been offered by national governments to negotiate shared-rule outcomes with their separatist movements through the devolution of central state authority and resources, and how these attempts to achieve conflict resolution through autonomy have met with varying degrees of success, ranging from Indonesia’s successful offer of self-governance to Aceh to the ongoing separatist insurgencies in Indonesia’s Papua, southern Thailand, the Philippines, India, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. The organisers expect the publication of an edited volume based on the papers presented as a follow-up to this workshop.

Reassessing the Origins of the Cold War in Southeast Asia: A Roundtable on the Sixtieth Anniversary of 1948
10 – 11 Jul 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Prof Anthony Reid and Dr Geoffrey Wade

2008 marked the sixtieth anniversary of the beginning of Left-wing insurgencies in Malaya, Indonesia, Burma and the Philippines: insurgencies which continue to leave their imprint on the region today. It was thus that a range of scholars was invited to gather at ARI in July 2008 to discuss
in what ways 1948 was – or perhaps was not - “the beginning of the Cold War” in Southeast Asia; and to debate the significance of this year in Southeast Asian history.

The Roundtable discussed issues such as whether 1948 constituted a watershed in Southeast Asian history; when and how a “Southeast Asian Cold War” coalesced, what individual studies of the Cold War in Indonesia, Indochina, Malaya, Myanmar, Singapore and the Philippines suggested of its origins; interconnections which existed within the region and links which existed with the Soviet Union, East Asia, Western Europe and Australia.

Roundtable sessions were devoted to the year 1948 in Malaya/Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Laos, examining whether the political events in these regions during 1948 might be construed as having been part of a Cold War. There was further discussion of the concept “Cold War” as it related to Southeast Asia, the roles of the Soviet Union, China and the United States in the region, as well as British and Australian perceptions of Southeast Asia as a Cold War theatre. The Russian documents presented during the conference allowed the dismissal of a commonly-held view that Soviet agents used the Southeast Asia Youth and Student Conference, held in Calcutta in February 1948, to instruct Southeast Asian parties to engage in uprisings.

A special journal issue is planned to carry selected papers from the Roundtable. The conference programme and paper abstracts are available here:
www.ari.nus.edu.sg/events_categorydetails.asp?categoryid=6&eventid=735

Conference on Return Migration in Asia: Experiences, Ideologies and Politics
31 Jul – 1 Aug 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Prof Brenda Yeoh, Dr Xiang Biao and Dr Mika Toyota

Return is an integral part of any migration system, and large-scale return is almost always related to significant social changes. This workshop brought various streams of return migration to light, opening up the concept of “return” as a strategic moment redefining economic, social and political relations in the region. “Return” is thus interrogated not only as an important phase of the migration phenomenon, but also as a powerful social political and ideological notion.

About forty papers across a wide range of disciplines in the social sciences and humanities were presented. The subject matter covered was unusually wide ranging, including ethnic return migration to Japan, policy constraints against return to colonial Surabaya, the return of “trafficked” Filipinas, and the deportation of second generation Cambodian refugees from the USA. Overall three themes emerge from the two days’ discussion. First, on the macro level, return migration is constitutive of the project of nation building and the establishment of the nation-state centred global order. Second, at the meso level, return migration poses the question of what return means for the community of origin. Third, at the individual level, return constitutes a defining moment in a migrant’s life cycle and in his/her relations to the sending and receiving societies. The discussion was also greatly enriched by literary analyses that shed light on how and why “return” becomes a recurrent theme in novels and poetry.

Drawing participants primarily from Asia, Australia and the USA, the workshop provided a glimpse of complex, entangled threads woven into narratives of return migration, with significant multi-level implications for the shape of Asian states and societies in an increasingly mobile world. Selected papers will be published in due course.

Conference on Resilience and Transformation of Families in Asia
4 – 5 Aug 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Dr Lai Ah Eng and Dr Bina Gubhaju

Amidst various macro-level structural changes — globalisation, urbanisation, increased migration, demographic trends — and state-level government policies aimed at maintaining the family, it is important to understand and acknowledge the micro-level processes and patterns of family change that are occurring in response to the documented and better understood larger trends. We know very little of how families are responding to and coping with these changes. In response to this gap in the literature, this
The conference brought together scholars from various disciplines to examine the resilience and transformation of families in Asia. The conference sought to answer the question of how families are faring in the midst of change and, often, adversity.

The themes explored were: Intergenerational relationships and elderly care; Migration and the emergence of new family forms; Changes in family structure and living arrangements; Changing meanings and forms of parenthood; Balancing of work and family life; and Emerging meanings and new forms of “family”.

With a total of 19 papers from various countries in Asia — Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam — the conference provided a much needed and insightful comparative perspective of family resilience in Asia. Selected papers are being put together for an edited volume.

Religion, aims to demonstrate the various ethnographic, discursive or historical frameworks that scholars might utilise in order to understand the broader context in which faiths are objectified. The focus on the physical, tangible “stuff” of religious devotion, as opposed to abstract “symbols” or “representations”, is the heuristic strategy through which the contributors of this volume show that faith in the region is an embodied, dynamic experience that has always involved acts of exchange, movement and mobility. The volume will be published in late 2009.

International Workshop on Migration and Diversity in Asian Contexts
Jointly organised with Migration Cluster, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
25 – 26 Sep 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenors: Dr Lai Ah Eng, Dr Francis Collins, Prof Brenda Yeoh and A/P Robbie Goh

The increasing scale and pace of transnational mobility has brought about new forms of social diversity in societies and communities in many parts of the world. Yet, in contrast to the large body of scholarship in western contexts, there is relatively little attention given to growing diversity...
in Asia. This workshop addressed this gap by bringing together scholars from within and beyond the region to discuss the ways that migration and diversity are emerging in Asian contexts.

Participants discussed the experiences of diversity in countries such as Singapore and Malaysia that have a history of intercultural relations as well as countries like Japan and South Korea, which until recently have viewed themselves as culturally homogenous. The discussions included a focus on region-wide questions of citizenship, migration and governance as well as the micro-details of diversity as it is encountered and practised in the schools, homes, streets and cafes of Asia.

Overall, the conference illustrated that while there are similarities in the manner that migration and diversity are articulated in Asia, particularly in comparison to western societies, there remain significant differences. These reflect not only the different approaches taken by governments but indeed the already existing social and cultural diversity of Asian societies that makes it difficult to sustain broad generalisations.

Twenty-one papers were presented and selected papers are currently being reviewed for a book based on the workshop. The conference also gave participants the opportunity to share experiences of researching diversity and it is hoped that it will serve as the basis for future collaborations.

**North Kalimantan Communist Party History Dialogue Session**

Jointly organised with Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS)

6 – 7 Nov 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus

Convenors: Dr Geoffrey Wade, Dr Hui Yew-Foong and Mr C.C. Chin

This event brought together some key figures in the history of Sarawak over the last 50 years to both discuss their own roles in the history of Sarawak and to answer queries from attending scholars. Former senior members of the North Kalimantan Communist Party were among the speakers.

**Symposium on The Makers and Keepers of Singapore History**

Jointly organised with the Singapore Heritage Society

10 Nov 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus

Convenors: Dr Liew Kai Khiun, Mr Loh Kah Seng, Mr Alvin Tan Peng Hong and Adjunct Professor Kevin Tan Yew Lee

The symposium was a halfway point for an ongoing project to rethink the basic premises of and methodological approaches to Singapore history. It had its precedent in a special journal issue published by the Tangent civil society group in June last year. The issue had comprised essays detailing personal journeys into Singapore’s past by twelve researchers. The willingness to host a conference for both the original Tangent authors and new contributors to the project, enabled broadly similar research experiences to be shared, explored and reviewed. The opportunity for a diverse group of researchers, including historians, social scientists, film-makers, and public intellectuals, to consider and critique each other’s experiences was an invaluable one. Since the symposium, the contributors have embarked on the final step of revising their papers for publication in an edited volume.

The symposium was both analytical and reflective. It examined the basic premise of how, in researching the history of our modern city-state, the makers of the past cannot always be easily distinguished from the gatekeepers of its historical sources and memories. The discussion explored experiences commonly shared by researchers of Singapore history, covering themes on the close connection between politics and history, gatekeeping of the official archives, and censorship of personal and social memory. It also earnestly broached the complex and significant ways in
which political elites, ordinary people and even researchers themselves function both as makers and keepers of history. Finally, the symposium discussed the ways in which researchers have endeavoured, creatively and with considerable success, to either gain access to the historical sources through the “front gates”, namely, the local archives, or when this has not been possible, the “side gates”, by utilising overseas archives, oral history, newspapers, ephemera, film, and other historical sources.

Workshop on Exporting China’s Development to Southeast Asia: Aid, Investment, Migration
27 Nov 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenor: Dr Pál Nyíri

The emergence of China as a source of international investment and development aid donor has been preoccupying policy analysts and development professionals for the last two years. China’s emergence in this arena, which in some places has edged out traditional (Western and Japanese) donors, is said to undermine efforts to promote good governance and fight corruption in poor countries. In addition, opponents charge that Chinese-led development brings with it a host of environmental and health threats, violations of local residents’ and workers’ rights and a large number of Chinese migrants who compete with locals in business and the labour market.

On the other hand, a growing number of actors in these countries — not just officials but also businesspeople and farmers — argue that China is bringing tangible benefits and that the “Chinese model” of development is a more appropriate and attractive one than that promoted by Western organisations.

Despite this highly publicised debate, very little is known about whether and how the arrival of Chinese capital, workers, and technology is actually affecting the lives of people in recipient countries; how it is changing the relationship between Chinese and locals; and to what extent the realities on the ground are in line with China’s policy goals and the intentions of various Chinese actors. Participants of this workshop, in early stages of ethnographic research in various Southeast Asian countries (Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea) as well as China itself, aimed at answering this question.

5th Great Asian Streets Symposium 2008 on FUTURE – ASIAN – SPACE
Jointly organised with the Department of Architecture, School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore, and sponsored by Architectural and Urban Design Excellence Programme (A*UDE), Urban Redevelopment Authority, and Lee Foundation, Singapore.
5 – 7 Dec 2008, NUS Kent Ridge Campus
Convenors: Dr Hee Limin and Dr Davisi Boontharm

New spatial processes, influenced by accelerated change and the rise of new international economic and financial relationships, have put pressure on local ecosystems and natural resources, as well as local cultural heritage — and have raised issues of design, re-negotiating the experience of the city and questions of creating sustainable urban development in Asian cities.

Competing forces of development for limited urban space have also resulted in changing forms, uses and dynamics of urban public space, and processes for the reclamation of space for public good. New technologies used in designing and conceiving the city, as well as new technologies in urban space, and how one communicates and negotiates within urban space have drastically changed the landscape of the city, such that we begin to even question if there is such an entity
as the Asian city, or if more pluralistic concepts of the city in Asia have to be interrogated.

The initiative to organise such an event came from the recognition that there is a need for an Asia-based node of excellence on networks of ideas and results of research projects that focus on Asian cities.

The conference was attended by 135 delegates from all over the world. Forty-eight papers were accepted for presentation. The conference culminated with a City Forum, in which our six invited plenary speakers deliberated on the theme of the conference with conference delegates and members of the public.

Workshop on Changing Marriage in Southeast Asia
12 – 13 Dec 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
Convenor: Prof Gavin Jones

The objectives of the workshop are (1) to discuss plans for a book to be produced incorporating results of the studies conducted under the Ford Foundation-funded project on changing marriage in Southeast Asia plus some additional studies already conducted by collaborators in Indonesia; (2) to discuss and critique draft papers prepared as chapters of the book, as the first step towards preparing final drafts of these chapters. The plan to publish a book on Southeast Asian marriage trends and issues will bring the project to fruition and ensure that its findings reach a wider academic audience.

Studies conducted as part of this project focus on aspects of marriage and its dissolution in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, emphasizing the interplay of cultural aspects with rapid socio-economic change in determining the changes observed.

Issues to be addressed include factors underlying the continuing trend toward delayed marriage and non-marriage; issues related to the remaining incidence of teenage marriage; increasing cohabitation; the lives of the never married in a cultural context that requires adults to be married; interplay of legal restrictions and regulations and changing economic, social and cultural context in modifying rates of divorce; and the contested effects of polygamy.
PUBLICATIONS

As part of Asia Research Institute’s public outreach initiative, ARI organises public lectures to reach out to the greater Singapore and regional community. The lectures are presented by distinguished scholars of Asian affairs, visiting ARI in various capacities.

The lectures provide up-to-date analysis and assessments of contemporary issues and long-term trends, not only to decision makers but also to all who are concerned and seek to be informed about regional and world events.

In 2008, the Asia Research Institute, together with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of NUS, History Channel, Routledge and the National Library Board, Singapore, organised a series of 9 public lectures on the theme of the Cold War in Southeast Asia. There is much about the Cold War in Southeast Asia that still remains shadowy and yet strangely compelling. The lecture series examines whether the ‘domino effect’ was overblown, or was there a real danger that the Southeast Asian states would fall to rampant communism after the Second World War. It seeks to find out what the rest of the world should and could do to assist those who did not want to trade one form of colonial rule for ideological domination. This fascinating and enthralling topic, presented by a number of distinguished international experts considered various aspects of this overarching theme, and attracted many participants.

Three of the 9 lectures which were delivered in 2008 are listed below. The remaining six will be held between January and May 2009.

The Cold War: New Approaches and Findings
Dr Christian Friedrich Ostermann, Woodrow Wilson Centre, USA
24 Sep 2008, National Library Board, Singapore

Alphabet Soup and General War: SEATO, China, and the Cold War in Southeast Asia 1959-1966
A/P Brian P. Farrell, National University of Singapore, Singapore
29 Oct 2008, National Library Board, Singapore

The Cold War and The Making of Singapore
Prof Tan Tai Yong, National University of Singapore, Singapore
26 Nov 2008, National Library Board, Singapore

BUKIT TIMAH CAMPUS PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

The Bukit Timah Campus Public Lecture Series is jointly organised by the occupants of the Bukit Timah campus — the Faculty of Law, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Asia Research Institute, East Asian Institute and Institute of South Asian Studies. These lectures feature high-profile speakers, and sometimes debates between two or more speakers, from the world of international scholarship. The style is lively and accessible, and the topics addressed are timely ones, dealing with the great issues of our day.

Taming the Unruly Market in China: The Regulatory Challenge
Prof Yang Dali
Director, East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore
29 Jan 2008, NUS Bukit Timah Campus
In July 2007, the Chinese state executed Zheng Xiaoyu, the former Commissioner of the State Food and Drug Administration. The execution and associated trials of Zheng’s associates as well as the ongoing problems of product quality and food safety have underscored the deep-rooted problems of regulatory corruption and the difficulties of building an effective regulative system in China’s rapidly growing economy.

Drawing on his studies of various regulatory problems in China, Professor Yang discussed the causes of the problems, the measures China has undertaken, and how likely China will succeed in dealing with existing problems and confront rising challenges.

ASIA TRENDS 2008

Chineseness Unbound: Boundaries, Burdens and Belongings of Chineseness outside China
11 Sep 2008, Sheraton Towers, Singapore
Convenors: Prof Anthony Reid and Prof Chua Beng Huat

In this conference, seven speakers debated the question whether Chineseness could or should be “unbound” from a particular state (the People’s Republic of China) or race (the Yellow Emperor’s seed). Yao Souchou (Being Essentially Chinese: What is It to Us?) offered a critique of three types of ending he received to the statement “I am Chinese because__” around the themes of race, culture and politics.

Wang Gungwu (Chinese History Paradigms) and Anthony Reid (Escaping the Burdens of Chineseness) both took a historical approach, pointing to the radical changes in the boundaries and essences of Chineseness. For Wang, it was the Chinese outside China who defined Chineseness, but each generation was differently “bounded”. For the earlier huasheng (merchants) it was their desire to return; for 20th century huaqiao (overseas Chinese) it was “tighter modern bonds of ethnicity and nationhood”; for modern huayi (ethnic Chinese descendants) it was some complex mix of identities, with some bonds “so intangible that they survive unseen among those who say they are no longer Chinese”. For Kasian Tejapira’s (The Misbehaving Jeks: The Evolving Regime of Thainess and Sino-Thai Challenges) historical time-frame was the past century, beginning with the ‘Jews of the Orient’ racial hostility, through the speaker’s youthful school battles with “Thai Deficiency Syndrome” in the 1960s, and attempts to reinvent Thainess as a plural, secular cosmopolitanism in the 1970s, to today’s “apparently irresistible naturalisation of Chineseness” in which both sides of the political standoff can flaunt their Chineseness as part of their Thai patriotism.

Lynn Pan and Quah Sy Ren, on the other hand, shed a sharper light through the prism of cultural manifestations. Pan (Of Shanghai and Chinese Cosmopolitanism) explored the work of cosmopolitan exemplars such as I. M. Pei, Zhao Wuji and Ang Lee. She shared the pleasure/pain of the English poet Philip Larkin as a cosmopolitan returning to a “home” (Shanghai in her case) where “no elsewhere underwrites my existence.” Quah (Performing Chineseness in Multicultural Singapore: A Discourse on Selected Literary Writings and Cultural Texts) provided theatrical glimpses of the torn-ness of Singapore identities, but kept returning to “China… a recurrent image… which one has to confront and negotiate.”

One did not seek for consensus in this world of shifting boundaries, but there were recurring themes. Perhaps the most striking was the poverty of language that makes “China” and “Chinese” in languages such as English (or Malay or Thai) serve so many diverse and contradictory purposes. Each speaker had their own way of dealing with this inadequacy, from using the fuller variety of Chinese terms (Wang), to an insistence on a local vernacular to define a local identity. When Reid insisted on peranakan for
The Asia Research Institute Seminar Series features seminars that are broad and conceptual, and are able to appeal across various academic disciplines. Seminars are usually scheduled on a Tuesday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:30pm at the NUS Bukit Timah Campus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Jan 2008</td>
<td>On the Geopolitical and Discursive Origins of Cosmopolitanism in Hong Kong</td>
<td>Prof Allen Chun, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Academia Sinica, Taiwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Jan 2008</td>
<td>Roundtable - Epidemics and Politics: Livestock Diseases and Public Health Challenges in Southeast Asia</td>
<td>A/P Goh Lee Gan, Department of Community, Occupational &amp; Family Medicine, NUS; A/P Phua Kai Hong, Department of Community, Occupational &amp; Family Medicine, NUS; Dr Vu Tuong Huu, Asia Research Institute, NUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Jan 2008</td>
<td>Pan-regional Responses to Indian Inputs in Early Southeast Asia</td>
<td>Prof Pierre-Yves Marguin, Ecole Française d’Extrême-Orient, France; and Asia Research Institute, NUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Jan 2008</td>
<td>Roundtable - Material Religion in Singapore</td>
<td>A/P John Whalen-Bridge, Department of English Language &amp; Literature, NUS; Dr Margaret Chan, Singapore Management University, Singapore; Dr Julius Bautista, Asia Research Institute, NUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Feb 2008</td>
<td>Reconsidering Reconciliation: Grassroots Initiatives in Indonesia</td>
<td>Dr Birgit Bräuchler, Asia Research Institute, NUS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Feb 2008</td>
<td>Roundtable - Cultural Studies in Asia</td>
<td>Dr Liew Kai Khion, Asia Research Institute, NUS; Dr Yoshitaka Mouri, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, Japan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year’s ASIA TRENDS is the sixth in the annual series started soon after ARI’s set up. In 2009, ASIA TRENDS will take on a new format in which several ARI research clusters will each host a panel that focuses on a theme relevant to their respective fields.

Indonesia, and Chua Beng Huat (*Being Chinese under Official Multiracialism*) on huaren for Singapore, they were still consciously swimming against the “Chinese” current. But in Thailand Kasian could claim that the reformers have more or less prevailed, so that Thai-born Chinese at last have a recognised identity as lookjin.

ARI SEMINAR SERIES, 2008

The Asia Research Institute Seminar Series features seminars that are broad and conceptual, and are able to appeal across various academic disciplines. Seminars are usually scheduled on a Tuesday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:30pm at the NUS Bukit Timah Campus.
EVENTS

Exception?
A/P Jan Newberry, University of Lethbridge, Canada
8 Apr 2008
A Temple, a Mission and a War: Jesuit Missionaries and Local Culture in East Flores in the Nineteenth Century
Prof R. H. Barnes, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and University of Oxford, UK
15 Apr 2008
Roundtable - International Student Mobilities
Dr Kang Yoonhee, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Dr Francis Leo Collins, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Dr Ravinder Sidhu, University of Queensland, Australia
22 Apr 2008
Roundtable - Health Care and Transnational Mobility in Asia
Prof Elspeth Graham, St. Andrews University, UK; and Asia Research Institute, NUS
Dr Andiara Schwingel, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Dr Chee Heng Leng, Asia Research Institute, NUS
25 Apr 2008
Theorising British Cultural Studies
Prof Simon During, Johns Hopkins University, USA; and University of Melbourne, Australia
29 Apr 2008
Bissu Priests and Western Performance: The Birth of a Theatre?
Dr Gilbert Hamonic, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and National Centre for Scientific Research, France
6 May 2008
Debating Indonesia’s Violent Past
Dr Katharine McGregor, Asia Research Institute, NUS
13 May 2008
Roundtable - Multi-racialism in Asia
Dr Daniel P.S. Goh, Department of Sociology, NUS
Dr Timothy Amos, Department of Japanese Studies, NUS
Dr Johan Saravanamuttu, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
20 May 2008
Fragments of a Global Past: Local History and Global Ceramics in Pre-modern Jingdezhen
Dr Anne Gerritsen, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Warwick University, England
27 May 2008
ASEAN Regionalism as a Cultural Process
A/P Eric C. Thompson, Department of Sociology, NUS
3 Jun 2008
The Script of Chineseness: Issues in Sinophone Literature
Dr Jing Tsu, Yale University, USA
12 Aug 2008
Outside-in: China in Global and Regional Perspectives
Prof Prasenjit Duara, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, NUS
19 Aug 2008
The Event of Women and the Enigma of the Modern Girl in World History
Prof Tani Barlow, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Rice University, USA
26 Aug 2008
Roundtable - Islamisation and Fragmentation in Contemporary Indonesia
Prof M.C. Ricklefs, Department of History, NUS
Mr Chaider Bamualim, Center for the Study of Religion and Culture, Indonesia
A/P R. Michael Feener, Asia Research Institute, and Department of History, NUS
2 Sept 2008
Can We Live Forever? The Religious Implications of Global Ageing
Prof Bryan S. Turner, Asia Research Institute, NUS
9 Sept 2008
Utterances and Interventions: Can Art be Political?
Mr Wong Hoy Cheong, Asia Research Institute, NUS
16 Sept 2008
A Transnational Retirement Industry in Southeast Asia
Dr Mika Toyota, Department of Sociology, NUS
23 Sept 2008
North Korea Foreign Policy
Dr Christian Ostermann, Woodrow Wilson Centre, USA
30 Sept 2008
The Origins and Evolution of Ethnocracy in Malaysia
Dr Geoffrey Wade, Asia Research Institute, NUS
7 Oct 2008
Even Later and Even Less Marriage? Latest Marriage Trends in Low Fertility Asian
Countries
Prof Gavin Jones, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS
Dr Bina Gubhaju, Asia Research Institute, NUS
14 Oct 2008
Between Encouragement and Control: Migration’s Place in the Chinese Project of Modernity
Dr Pál Nyíri, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Macquarie University, Australia

21 Oct 2008
The Chinese 1990s: Consumer Culture, Nationalism and the Beauty of Women
Dr Perry Johansson, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Stockholm University, Sweden

28 Oct 2008
Developments in Aceh and Mindanao
Ms Sidney Jones, Asia Programme of the International Crisis Group, Indonesia

4 Nov 2008
Roundtable - Immigration and the Racial Balance: Sensitivities in Singapore, Malaysia and Beyond
Prof Anthony Reid, Asia Research Institute, NUS
Prof Brenda Yeo, Asia Research Institute, and Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS
Prof Gavin W. Jones, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS

11 Nov 2008
Roundtable - Human Rights in Singapore
Prof Thio Li-ann, Faculty of Law, NUS
Prof (Adjunct) Kevin Tan, Faculty of Law, NUS
Prof Chua Beng Huat, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS

18 Nov 2008
Emergence of Indian Scientific Community: Colonial and Post-Colonial Trends
Prof V.V. Krishna, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

25 Nov 2008
The Body of Dance: Bollywood Nights in Bangalore, Basement Bhangra in New York, Besharam Nights in Toronto
Prof Anjali Gera Roy, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India
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 interdisciplinary issues. There were originally seven such groups that provided the nucleus for scholars working on particular areas or themes, but since mid-2008, the number has been streamlined to four country-based groups, while the remaining three (Family and Life Cycle Changes; Migration and Diaspora; and Religion and Contemporary Thought) mirroring similar research cluster themes of ARI, have been merged into the respective cluster activities. 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 2008.

STUDY GROUP ON BURMA-THAILAND

Convenors:
Dr Michael Montesano, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS (Till 30 June 2008)
Dr Maitrii Aung-Thwin, Department of History, NUS (From 1 July 2008)
Dr Titima Suthiwan, Centre for Language Studies, NUS

23 Oct 2008
Recovering Lost Gems of Myanmar’s Past: Collecting, Preserving, and Accessing Old Texts from Palm Leaves and Parabike Manuscripts
Dr Thaw Kaung, Myanmar Historical Commission and former Chief Librarian of Universities Central Library, Yangon

Study Group on Indochina

Convenors:
Dr Pham Quynh Phuong, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS
Dr Tran Thi Que Ha, Asia Research Institute, NUS (Till 30 June 2008)
Dr Anne Raffin, Department of Sociology, NUS (From 1 August 2008)

18 Apr 2008
Civil Society, Memory and the Role of Victims in the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (Cambodia)
Mr Mahdev Mohan, Singapore Management University; Singapore; and Fulbright Fellow, USA
Ms Vinita Ramani Mohan, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

23 Apr 2008
The Mỹ So’n and Pô Nagar Nha Trang Sanctuaries: On the Cosmological Dualist Cult of the Champa Kingdom in Central Vietnam as Seen from Art and Anthropology
Mr Tran Ky-Phuong, National University of Singapore and Vietnam Association of Ethnic Minorities’ Culture and Arts, Vietnam
7 May 2008
The Determinants of Economic Growth: Vietnam and China in Comparison
Dr Vu Minh Khuong, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS

14 May 2008
Enlightening the Forgotten Past: The Dutch East India Company’s Archive and the Writing of Seventeenth-Century Vietnamese History
Dr Hoang Anh Tuan, Vietnam National University, Vietnam

17 Oct 2008
Mobilized Workers vs. Morphing Capital: Challenging Global Supply Chains in Vietnam
Prof Angie Ngoc Trần, California State University, Monterey Bay, USA

19 Nov 2008
Sex, Soul, Spirits: Protestant Conversion among the Hmong in Northern Vietnam
Ms Ngo Thi Thanh Tam, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Free University Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2 Dec 2008
Gender Identity and Agency in Migration Decision Making: Evidence from Vietnam
Dr Hoang Lan Anh, Asia Research Institute, NUS

STUDY GROUP ON INDONESIA
Convenors:
Dr Davidson Jamie Seth, Department of Political Science, NUS
Dr Birgit Bräucher (Till 30 June 2008)
Dr Michelle Ann Miller, Asia Research Institute, NUS (From 1 July 2008)

10 Jan 2008
From Indigenous to Islamic law: Jambi between the 14th and 18th Century
Dr Uli Kozok, University of Hawaii, USA

23 Jan 2008
Brown Bag Lunchtime Screening – Promised Paradise
Mr Leonard Retel Helmrich, Indonesia

30 Jan 2008
A/P Roxana Waterson, Film maker

1 Feb 2008
Murder Island
Prof Robert Harrison Barnes, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and University of Oxford, UK

6 Mar 2008
Film by Prof Robert Harrison Barnes, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and University of Oxford, UK

20 Mar 2008
Is Democracy Good for Ethnic Minorities? Reflections on the Philippines and Indonesia
Prof Jacques Bertrand, University of Toronto, Canada

27 Mar 2008
House / Household / Home: State Formation and the Domestic in Contemporary Java
Dr Janice Newberry, University of Lethbridge, Canada
14 July 2008
Aggregate Shocks and How Parents Protect the Human Capital Accumulation Process: An Empirical Study of Indonesia
Prof Lex Borghans, Maastricht University, The Netherlands
Dr Arnaud Dupuy, Maastricht University, The Netherlands
Ms Teena Wu, Maastricht University, The Netherlands

3 Nov 2008
Informal Sector Employment in Indonesia: How Large, and Links to Earnings and Household Poverty
A/P Chris Manning, Australian National University, Australia

STUDY GROUP ON MALAYSIA
Convenors:
Dr Maznah Mohamad, Asia Research Institute, NUS
A/P Goh Beng Lan, Southeast Asian Studies Programme, NUS
Ms Alice Na, Department of Sociology, NUS (Till 30 June 2008)

25 Jan 2008
(Book Launch for The Impact of Ageing – A Common Challenge for Europe and Asia)
Dr Gabriele Sinigoj, University of Vienna, Austria
Prof Gavin W. Jones, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS

5 Feb 2008
(Book Launch for The Impact of Ageing – A Common Challenge for Europe and Asia)
Dr Gabriele Sinigoj, University of Vienna, Austria
Prof Gavin W. Jones, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS

3 Apr 2008
Asia Research Institute Book Launch
• Muslim Legal Thought in Modern Indonesia

• Islamic Law in Contemporary Indonesia: Ideas and Institutions
  R. Michael Feener and Mark E. Cammack (eds.) (2007), Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

• Religious Commodifications in Asia: Marketing Gods
  Pattana Kitiarsa (ed.) (2008), Routledge, Oxford, UK

• Islamic Legitimacy in a Plural Asia
  Anthony Reid and Michael Gilsenan (eds.) (2007), Routledge, Oxford, UK

11 Apr 2008
International Student Mobilities, Transnationalism and Urban Transformation
Dr Francis Leo Collins, Asia Research Institute, NUS

21 Apr 2008
Global Gurus in Motion: Re-linking Public and Person in a New Space?
Prof Joanne Waghorne, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Syracuse University, USA

20 Aug 2008
Kling, Tamil, Indian: Changing Configurations of Identity among Tamil-speaking Muslims in Singapore
Dr Torsten Tschacher, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and University of Heidelberg, Germany

21 Aug 2008
(Jointly organised with the Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies, Yogyakarta and the Ford Foundation)
Conference on Marriage, Culture and Poverty in Southeast Asia  
Convenor: Prof Gavin W. Jones, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS  
23 Aug 2008  
(Jointly organised with Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society - MBRAS)  
Disrupting Hegemonic Liberalism: Singapore in Question  
Prof Chua Beng Huat, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Sociology, NUS  
27 Aug 2008  
Cinkai Nécan and Its Readers: A Tamil Newspaper in Colonial Singapore  
Dr Torsten Tschacher, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and University of Heidelberg, Germany  
11 Sep – 23 Nov 2008  
Bound for Glory  
Mr Wong Hoy Cheong, Asia Research Institute, NUS  
27 Sep 2008  
Eating Together Singapore: The Hawker Centre in the Singapore Story  
Prof Lily Kong, Asia Research Institute, and Department of Geography, NUS  
9 Oct 2008  
(Jointly organised with Department of Sociology, NUS)  
Variation in Gender Role Attitudes Across OECD Countries  
Ms Mandy Boehnke, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany  
10 Oct 2008  
International Student Mobilities and Urban Spatialities: Insights from the Everyday Lives of South Korean Students in Auckland, New Zealand  
Dr Francis Leo Collins, Asia Research Institute, NUS  
11 Oct 2008  
Places of Suffering and Healing  
Dr Liew Kai Khiun, Asia Research Institute, NUS  
Ms Kelly Fu, Singapore  
Mr Loh Kah Seng, Singapore  
15 Oct 2008  
(Jointly organised with South Asian Studies Programme, NUS)  
Bollywood Bhangra and its Non-Panjabi Subjects  
Prof Anjali Gera Roy, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India  
20 Nov 2008  
Accord Aceh Issue Launch - Reconfiguring Politics: The Indonesia - Aceh Peace Process  
Mr Aguswandi, Conflict Adviser, Human Rights Advocate and a Political Analyst of Indonesian Affairs, Indonesia  
Ms Judith Large, Lancaster University, UK  
Dr Michelle Ann Miller, Asia Research Institute, NUS  
4 Dec 2008  
(Jointly organised with Routledge Publishing)  
Book Launch – Rebellion and Reform in Indonesia  
Dr Michelle Ann Miller, Asia Research Institute, NUS  

CULTURAL STUDIES IN ASIA CLUSTER SEMINARS  
12 Mar 2008  
Nation Builders. A Film  
Mr Martyn See, Film-maker, Singapore  
19 Mar 2008  
Screening of Aman Sulukule Canim Sulukule/Oh Sulukule Darling Sulukule  
Mr Wong Hoy Cheong, Independent Artist, Malaysia  
26 Mar 2008  
Egao (Kuso): Visual Carnival and Iconoclasm in Chinese Cyberspace  
Dr Zhou Yongming, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Duke University, USA  
23 Apr 2008  
How Does Law Travel? Theoretical Explorations in the Project of Comparison  
Dr Iza Hussin, formerly of Department of Malay Studies, NUS  
25 Apr 2008  
Film Screening of the Dancer and the Dance & Tayuban: Dancing the Spirit in Java  
Dr Felicia Hughes-Freeland, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Swansea University, UK  
4 Jun 2008  
Experience as Architectural Evidence: The Billiard Room and its Animals  
Dr Lilian Chee, Department of Architecture, NUS  
17 Jun 2008  
Indonesia-China Interaction in Puppetry Art and Tradition: Clear Thematic Links Without a Cogent Historical Evidence  
Prof I. Nyoman Sedana, Asia Research Institute, NUS
1 Jul 2008
Communication, Meaning and Performance: Theorizing Participation in the Culture-centered Approach to Communication
Prof Mohan J. Dutta, Purdue University, USA

9 Jul 2008
The Semiotics of Stereotypes: Perceptions of Japanese Cuteness
Dr Yassar Mattar, Department of Sociology, NUS

22 Jul 2008
Las Vegas in China: Macau as Casino Colony
Dr Liu Shih Diing, University of Macao, China

6 Aug 2008
Roundtable – Asianism in Asia
Dr Liew Kai Khun, Dr Cho Younghan, and Dr Hiroko Matsuda, Asia Research Institute, NUS

20 Aug 2008
“Broadway” as the Superior “Other”: Situating South Korean Transnational Theatre in the Era of Globalization
Dr Lee Hyun Jung, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

8 Sep 2008
Hong Kong Film and a Fractured “East Asia”
C. J. Wee Wan-ling, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

24 Sep 2008
From a Cool Place towards a Cultural Place: Hong-dae Area under Transformation
Dr Cho Mihye, Department of Sociology, NUS

29 Oct 2008
Your Phone Makes You “You”: Exploring the Youth Script in Teen Magazine Representations of Mobile Media
Dr Lim Sun Sun, Communications and New Media Studies, NUS

5 Dec 2008
Mao and the Swedish United Front
Dr Jan Vig Perry Johansson, Asia Research Institute, NUS; and Stockholm University, Sweden

SOUTHEAST ASIA-CHINA INTERACTIONS CLUSTER SEMINARS

16 Jan 2008
Chasing the Monk’s Shadow: A Journey from China to India in the Footsteps of Xuanzang
Ms Mishi Saran, Freelance Journalist, based in China

22 July 2008
Las Vegas in China: Macau as Casino Colony
Dr Liu Shih Diing, University of Macao, China

RELIGION AND GLOBALISATION CLUSTER SEMINARS

17 Jan 2008
Islam in Malaysia Today, A “Once-Secular” State?
Prof Clive S. Kessler, University of New South Wales, Australia

9 Apr 2008
Roundtable – Material Religion in Singapore
A/P John Whalen-Bridge, English Language & Literature, NUS
Dr Margaret Chan, Singapore Management University, Singapore
Dr Julius Bautista, Asia Research Institute, NUS

5 May 2008
Women, Islam, and the Public Sphere in Indonesia: Notes Toward a Framework
Dr Rachel Rinaldo, Asia Research Institute, NUS

9 Jun 2008
Islamic Literary Networks in South and Southeast Asia
Dr Ronit Ricci, Asia Research Institute, NUS

ASIAN MIGRATION CLUSTER SEMINARS

31 Jan 2008
Negotiating Un/Familiar Embodiments: Embodied Transnationalisms between South Korea and Auckland
Dr Francis Collins, Asia Research Institute, NUS

15 Dec 2008
International Recruitment of Health Professionals to the UK: Will New Europe Replace the Old Empire?
Prof James Buchan, University of Technology, Australia

CHANGING FAMILY IN ASIA CLUSTER SEMINARS

23 May 2008
Pilgrimage, Festival, Conference and Website: On Religion and Modernity in China and Southeast Asia
Prof Jean DeBernardi, University of Alberta, Canada
Publications
PUBLICATIONS

Members of ARI have been especially prolific over the last year, with their publications appearing in one or more of these types of publications:
1. new books and edited volumes,
2. new books, edited volumes and journals (special issues) arising from events sponsored by ARI,
3. ARI Working Paper Series and
4. journal articles and book chapters.

ARI's publication strength and profile can be gleaned from a number of charts below.

ARI Publications from Events

A total of 16 publications in the form of authored books, edited volumes and special issues of journals were successfully published in 2008 as a result of workshops and seminars held and sponsored by ARI from the year 2004 onwards. The average length of time between event and publication was slightly more than two years. Chart 1 below shows that the most successful year was 2005 in which six publications came out from events held during the year. By research area the largest number of publications came out from the cultural studies research cluster (refer to Chart 2).

Chart 1  Number of Publications Out in 2008
(Book and Special Issue Journals by Year of Event)

Chart 2  2008 Publications by Research Areas

Others 19%
Southeast Asian History 19%
Religion 13%
Migration 6%
Changing Family 13%
Cultural Studies 30%
New Books

The disciplines and specialities of ARI members are remarkably diverse, a diversity which is reflected in the books they produce. Those they published in 2008 are detailed below. In some cases, the terms of ARI appointees are shorter than the period required for seeing a book through to publication, and in such instances, 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

**Acciaioli, Greg; Sodhi, Navjot; Erb, Maribeth; and Alan Khee-Jin Tan (eds)**

Biodiversity and Human Livelihoods in Protected Areas: Case Studies from the Malay Archipelago

**Aung-Thwin, Maitrii (guest ed)**

Communities of Interpretation and the Construction of Modern Myanmar
Special Issue of Journal of Southeast Asian Studies, 39 (2), 2008
(from ARI conference Communities of Interpretation, 13-15 July 2006)

**Barr, Michael D. and Trocki, Carl A. (eds)**

Paths not Taken: Political Pluralism in Postwar Singapore
NUS Press, Singapore, 2008
(from ARI conference Paths Not Taken: The False Spring of Political Pluralism in Postwar Singapore, 14-15 July 2005)

**Chen Kuan-Hsing; Willemen, Paul; and Ti Wei (guest eds)**

Asia’s Hou Hsiao-Hsien—Cinema, History and Culture
Special Issue of Inter-Asia Cultural Studies 9 (2), 2008
(from ARI-sponsored international conference on Asia’s Hou Hsiao-Hsien: Cinema, History and Culture, 29-30 April 2005)

**Chua Beng Huat and Graf, Arndt (eds)**

Port Cities in Asia and Europe
Chua Beng Huat and Koichi Iwabuchi (eds)  
*East Asian Popular Culture: Analysing the Korean Wave*  
Hong Kong University Press, Hong Kong, 2008  
(from ARI workshop on *Transnationalism in East Asian Pop Culture*, 9-10 Dec 2005)

Chua Beng Huat and Yasuko Kobayashi (guest eds)  
*Southeast Asia’s Absence in Postcolonial Studies*  
Special Issue of *Postcolonial Studies* 11 (3), 2008  
(from ARI workshop on *Mutating Postcolonial Cultural Modalities in Contemporary SEA*, 1-2 November 2007)

*de Koninck, Rodolphe; Drolet, Julie; and Girard, Marc*  
*Singapore. An Atlas of Perpetual Territorial Transformation*  
NUS Press, Singapore, 2008

*De Silva, Indralal*  
*Construction and Analysis of National and District Life Tables of Sri Lanka 2000-2002*  
Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition, Colombo, 2008

*Hasan, Noorhaidi*  
*Laskar Jihad: Islam, Militansi dan Pencarian Identitas di Indonesia Pasca-Orde Baru*  
LP3ES dan KITLV-Jakarta, Jakarta, 2008

*Hasan, Noorhaidi and Moch Nur Ichwan (eds)*  
*Moving with the Times, the Dynamics of Contemporary Islam in a Changing Indonesia*  
Cisform Press, Yogyakarta, 2008

Hee Limin (ed)  
*Folio 07 & Folio 08: Documents of the Department of Architecture, NUS, 2006-2008*  
NUS, Department of Architecture, Singapore, 2008

Huang, Shirlena; Yeoh, Brenda; and Lam, Theodora (eds)  
*Asian Transnational Families and the Affective Geographies of Identities and Home*  
*International Migration*, 46 (4), 2008

*Hughes-Freeland, Felicia*  
*Embodied Communities: Dance Traditions and Change in Java*  
*Dance and Performance Studies*, Volume 2  
Berghahn, Oxford; New York, 2008
*Hugo, Graeme and Young, S. (eds)
Labour Mobility in the Asia-Pacific Region
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, 2008

Jarman, Jennifer (ed)
State, Culture and Economy
Special Issue of Asian Journal of Social Sciences, 36 (1), 2008
(from ARI co-sponsored event on The 6th Annual Conference of the International Social Theory Consortium, 9-11 June 2005)

Jones, Gavin and Douglass, Mike (eds)
Mega-Urban Regions in Pacific Asia: Urban Dynamics in a Global Era
NUS Press, Singapore, 2008
(from ARI conference Growth Dynamics of Mega-Urban Regions in Asia, 24-25 June 2004)

Jones, Gavin; Straughan, Paulin; and Chan, Angelique (eds)
Ultra-low Fertility in Pacific Asia: Trends, Causes and Policy Issues
(from ARI workshop Comparative Workshop on Low Fertility, 22-23 February 2006)

*Jory, Patrick and Montesano, Michael J. (eds)
Thai South and Malay North: Ethnic Interactions on a Plural Peninsula
NUS Press, Singapore, 2008

Kuhonta, Erik; Slater, Dan; and Tuong Vu (eds)
Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region, and Qualitative Analysis
Stanford University Press, Stanford, 2008
(from ARI workshop Southeast Asia In Political Science: A Roundtable on Theory, Region and Method, 16 November 2004)
Lai Ah Eng (ed)
Religious Diversity in Singapore
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and the Institute of Policy Studies, National University of Singapore, 2008.

*Lim, David C. L. (ed)
Overcoming Passion for Race in Malaysia Cultural Studies
Social Sciences in Asia 19
Brill, Boston, 2008
(from ARI conference Overcoming Passions: Religion and the Coming Community in Malaysia Literature, 11-12 October 2004)

*Lim Khek Gee, Francis
Imagining the Good Life: Negotiating Culture and Development in Nepal Himalaya
Social Sciences in Asia, 20, 2008

Lim Sun Sun; Kim D.Y.; and Sison, R. (eds)
The Promise of ICTs in Asia: Key Trends and Issues
Seoul: Jimoondang, 2008

*Marranci, Gabriele
Understanding Muslim Identity, Rethinking Fundamentalism

*McCargo, Duncan
Tearing Apart the Land: Islam and Legitimacy in Southern Thailand

*McKeown, Adam
Melancholy Order: Asian Migration and the Globalization of Borders
Columbia University Press, 2008

Miller, Michelle
Rebellion and Reform in Indonesia: Jakarta’s Security and Autonomy Policies in Aceh

Nowak, Barbara; Choo Poh Sze; Kusakabe, Kyoko; and Williams, Meryl (eds)
Gender and Fisheries
Development, 51 (2), 2008
Reid, Anthony (ed)
The Chinese Diaspora in the Pacific, The Pacific World: Lands, Peoples and History of the Pacific, 1500-1900, Volume 16
Ashgate, London, 2008

*Roy, Anjali and Bhatia, Nandi (eds)
Partitioned Lives: Narratives of Home, Displacement and Resettlement
Pearson Longman, Delhi, 2008

*Tibi, Bassam
Political Islam, World Politics and Europe: Democratic Peace and Euro-Islam versus Global Jihad

Toyota, Mika (guest ed)
International Marriage, Rights and the State in Southeast and East Asia
Special Issue of Citizenship Studies 12 (1), 2008
(from ARI conference on International Marriage, Rights and the State in Southeast and East Asia, 21-22 September 2007)

Turner, Bryan
The Body and Society (revised third edition)

Turner, Bryan
Rights and Virtues
Bardwell, Oxford, 2008

Turner, Bryan (ed)
The New Blackwell Companion to Social Theory

Turner, Bryan (guest ed)
Piety, Politics and Islam
Special Issue of Contemporary Islam 2 (1), 2008
(from ARI Asia Trends 2007—Women and Religion in Asia, 29 June-2 July 2007)

Turner, Bryan; Isin, Engin F.; and Nyers, Peter (eds)
Citizenship between Past and Future
Taylor and Francis, London, 2008

Wade, Geoff
China and Southeast Asia (6 vols)
Routledge Library on Southeast Asia
Yeoh, Brenda and Huang, Shirlena (eds)  
*Heterosexualities and the Global(ising) City in Asia*  
Special Issue of *Asian Studies Review*, 32 (1), March 2008

Yeoh, Brenda and Lai, A. E. (guest eds)  
*Talent* Migration In and Out of Asia: Challenges for Policies and Places  

*Zahnd, Markus*  
Model Baru Perancangan Kota yang Kontekstual: Kajian tentang Kawasan Tradisional di Kota Semarang dan Yogyakarta. Suatu Potensi Perancangan Kota yang Efektif  
Kanisius, Yogyakarta, 2008

*+Winter, Tim; Teo, Peggy; and Chang, T. C. (eds)*  
*Asia on Tour: Exploring the Rise of Asian Tourism*  
(from ARI workshop on *Of Asian Origin*: Rethinking Tourism in Contemporary Asia, 7-9 September 2006)
ARI-Springer Asia Series (New Book Series)

Editors-in-Chief
Chua Beng Huat, Robbie B. H. Goh and Lily Kong, National University of Singapore

Religion Section
Section editors:
Kenneth Dean, McGill University
Michael Feener, National University of Singapore

Associate editors:
Nico Kaptein, Leiden University
Joanne Waghorne, Syracuse University

Migration Section
Section editor:
Brenda Yeoh, National University of Singapore

Associate editors:
Dick Bedford, University of Waikato
Xiang Biao, Oxford University
Rachel Silvey, University of Toronto

Cities Section
Section editor:
Tim Bunnell, National University of Singapore

Associate editors:
Abidin Kusno and Michael Leaf, University of British Columbia
D. Parthasarathy, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay


Scholarship on Asia, particularly on the rapidly developing and complex nations and regions in East, Southeast and South Asia, has seen many exciting developments in recent years, due not only to significant events in Asia but also to the emergence of new research methodologies, theoretical orientations, scholarly paradigms, and multidisciplinary approaches and collaborations. As an institute dedicated to research on Asia, in one of Asia’s best universities, and networked with prominent Asia scholars in other leading universities, ARI has played a central role in these crucial innovations in Asia scholarship.

Springer is one of the leading academic publishers in the world. It has publishing houses globally and publishes across a wide range of media including academic books, reference works, journals, CD-ROMs, databases and online publications. ARI’s partnership with Springer in the Asia book series will offer a peer-refereed avenue for the publication of exciting new scholarship on Asia, and it will ensure that this scholarship is readily available worldwide to institutions as well as individual scholars.

The series presents leading research on Asia in three main sections: Religion, Migration, and Cities. For more information, visit the website: [www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com)
Asian Population Studies 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. Heading each issue is a commentary on a topical issue by a noted demographer.

The ARI Working Paper Series (ARI WPS) has published more than 100 academic papers online. In 2008, a total of ten papers were published. The series website attracts approximately 10,000 hits per month. Papers are downloadable as full text documents in Adobe Acrobat pdf format free of charge at: www.ari.nus.edu.sg/publications/ariwps.htm. The ARI WPS is also linked to the Social Science Research Network (www.ssrn.com) as one of its Partners in Publishing. The working papers can be searched and accessed through the SSRN’s e-Library, thus ensuring a wider reach. In terms of distribution by country focus, the largest number of papers published in 2008 was on Indonesia (see Chart 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WPS</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WPS 100</td>
<td>Feb-08</td>
<td>The My Son and Po Nagar Nha Trang Sanctuaries: On the Cosmological Dualist Cult of the Champa Kingdom in Central Vietnam as Seen from Art and Anthropology</td>
<td>Tran Ky-Phuong and Rie Nakamura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 101</td>
<td>Feb-08</td>
<td>Allah is the Scientist of the Scientists: Modern Medicine and Religious Healing among British Bangladeshis</td>
<td>Santi Rozario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 102</td>
<td>Feb-08</td>
<td>“Welcome To Bumi Sriwijaya” or the Building of a Provincial Identity in Contemporary Indonesia</td>
<td>Pierre-Yves Manguin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 103</td>
<td>Apr-08</td>
<td>Who Trusts Government? Understanding Political Trust among the Poor in Bangladesh</td>
<td>Naomi Therese Hossain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 104</td>
<td>May-08</td>
<td>Women and Livelihoods in Post-Tsunami India and Aceh</td>
<td>Barbara S. Nowak and Tanya Caulfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 105</td>
<td>Jun-08</td>
<td>Trends in Age at Marriage in the Provinces of Indonesia</td>
<td>Bina Gubhaju and Gavin W. Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 106</td>
<td>Aug-08</td>
<td>Japan–The Tiny Dwarf? Sino-Japanese Relations from the Kangxi to the Early Qianlong Reigns</td>
<td>Angela Schottenhammer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 107</td>
<td>Sep-08</td>
<td>Syarikat and the Move to Make Amends for the Nahdlatul Ulama’s Violent Past</td>
<td>Katharine McGregor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 108</td>
<td>Nov-08</td>
<td>Cross-Dressing Across Cultures: Genre and Gender in the Dances of Didik Nini Thowok</td>
<td>Felicia Hughes-Freeland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPS 109</td>
<td>Dec-08</td>
<td>Islam and Family Legal Contests in Malaysia: Hegemonizing Ethnic over Gender and Civil Rights</td>
<td>Maznah Mohamad</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart 3  2008 ARI Working Papers By Country Focus

[Chart showing distribution: Indonesia 50%, Bangladesh 20%, Japan 10%, Malaysia 10%, Vietnam 10%, others 5%]
Newsletters

In 2008, three issues of the ARI newsletter (for the months of March, July and November) were published. The newsletter reaches out to a local, regional and global readership of some 8,000 subscribers and is also uploaded on ARI’s website. It publicises recent and forthcoming events, research work of individual researchers, new books published, keynotes given as well as awards and recognition won by staff members.
Articles and Book Chapters

Acciaioli, Gregory


Chapter 11: Introduction to Part II: Conservation with and against People(s); Chapter 22: Conclusion to Part II. D (with M. Erb) in N. Sodhi, G. Acciaioli, M. Erb, and A. K-J. Tan (eds) Biodiversity and Human Livelihoods in Protected Areas: Case Studies from the Malay Archipelago, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Barnes, Robert
"The Power of Strangers in Flores and Timor", Anthropos, 103: 343-353.

Bautista, Julius

Brown, Rajeswary Ampalavanar

Chee Heng Leng

Chen Yu

Cheng, Dennis C. H.


Cheng Yinghong

Cho Younghan
"The National Crisis and De/Reconstructing Nationalism in South Korea during the IMF Intervention", Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, 9 (1): 82-95.

"We know where we’re going, but we don’t know where we are: An Interview with Lawrence Grossberg" (featured article), Journal of Communication Inquiry, 32 (2): 102-122.

"Broadcasting Major League Baseball as a Governmental Instrument in South Korea" (lead article), Journal of Sport and Social Issues, 32 (3): 240-254.

Collins, Francis


D’Costa, Anthony
Dommaraju, Premchand


Elias, Juanita


Feener, Michael


Goh, Robbie


Hasan, Noorhaidi


Grieve, Gregory Price


Gaetano, Arianne


Hee Limin


Hicken, Allen


Hill, David


“Migration and Health in South-East Asia”, in *International Organisation for Migration, Migration and Health*, IOM.


“Recent Trends in Migration Between China and Australia”, *Chinese Southern Diaspora Studies*, 2: 82-103.
**Hutchcroft, Paul**


**Jomo, Sundaram**


**Jones, Gavin**


**Kahn, Joel**


**Kaptein, Nico**


**Khoo Gaik Cheng**


**Kim Hee-sun**


**Kittiarsa, Pattana**


**Kong, Lily**


**Kuhonta, Erik**


“Concluding Remarks”, (with Dan Slater and Tuong Vu) in Erik Martinez Kuhonta, Dan Slater, and Tuong Vu (eds) *Southeast Asia in Political Science: Theory, Region, and Qualitative Analysis*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, pp. 325-331.

**Laffan, Michael**


**Lai Ah Eng**


Lam, Theodora

Lim Sun Sun

Leary, Charles

Legomsky, Stephen

Leong Chan Hoong

Liew Kai Khiun
“Fracturing, Fixing and Healing Bodies in the Films of Fruit Chan”, in New Cinemas: Journal of Contemporary Film, 6 (3): 209-225.

McCargo, Duncan


Miller, Michelle

Ng Guat Tin


Ogena, Nimfa

Raffin, Anne

Rahman, Md Mizanur

Ray, Himanshu
“Archaeology and Empire: Buddhist Monuments in Monsoon Asia”, The Indian Economic and Social History Review, 45 (3): 417-449.

Reid, Anthony


“Introduction” in The Chinese Diaspora in the Pacific, (Pacific World: Lands, Peoples and History
of the Pacific, 1500-1900), No. 16, Aldershot, UK: Ashgate, pp. xv-xxxiv.


Ricci, Ronit


Ricklefs, Merle

Rinaldo, Rachel


Roy, Anjali


“Speaking a Language that is Not Mine”, Journal of the Department of English, University of Kolkata.


Rutten, Mario


Scheifinger, Heinz

“Researching Religion on the WWW: Identifying an Object of Study for Hinduism”, Methodological Innovations Online 2 (3).

Shen Hsiu-hua


Stivens, Maila

Tamney, Joseph B.

Teo, Stephen

Thawngmung, Ardeth Maung
“The Missing Countryside: The Price of Ignoring Rural Political Economy in Southeast Asia”, in E.


**Toyota, Mika**

“Care for the Elderly: Family Duty or Paid Service?”, *Transnational Migration in East Asia: Japan in a Comparative Focus, Senri Ethnological Report 77*, pp. 163-172.


**Tran Thi Que Ha**


**Turner, Bryan**


**Verbrugge, Lois**


**Wade, Geoffrey**


**Wu Xiao An**

“Southeast Asian States and State Formation: A Historical Perspective”, *Asia-Pacific Studies*, 5: 244-264.


**Xiang Biao**


**Yeoh Saw Ai, Brenda**

Special Issue of “Heterosexualities and the Global(ising) City in Asia”, (with S. Huang) *Asian Studies Review*, 32 (1).


“Asian Transnational Families and the Affective Geographies of Identities and Home”, (with S. Huang and T. Lam (eds)) *International Migration*, 46 (4).

**Yeung Wei-Jun, Jean**


**Zheng Yangwen**

AWARDS AND HONOURS

PROFESSOR LILY KONG was awarded the Robert Stoddard Award for Distinguished Service to the Association of American Geographers’ division of Geography of Religions and Belief Systems (GORAB). She is the third recipient of the Award “on the basis of (her) excellent contributions to geographies of religion, and – in particular – for (her) very rich theoretically-informed empirical research within this field over the last (almost) twenty years”.

DR LAI AH ENG was appointed Family Research Specialist for the Family Research Network, Ministry of Community Development and Sports, for the period 1 September 2008 - 30 August 2010.

PROFESSOR ANTHONY REID was elected as a Corresponding Fellow at the prestigious British Academy on 17 July 2008. Corresponding Fellows are scholars habitually resident outside the UK who have “attained high international standing in any of the branches of study which it is the object of the Academy to promote”. This election is the highest honour that the Academy is able to confer in recognition of scholarly distinction.

PROFESSOR BRYAN TURNER was awarded the degree Doctor of Letters from the University of Cambridge, UK, at the end of 2008 in recognition of his research and publications record.

DR XIANG BIAO won the 2008 Anthony Leeds Prize in Urban Anthropology, granted by the Society for Urban, National, and Transnational/Global Anthropology, for his book *Global “Body Shopping”: An Indian Labor System in the Information Technology Industry* (Princeton University Press, 2006). His book is described as an “innovative ethnography” and “an exceptional example of what can be done with multi-sited ethnography that never loses sight of the fact that real people are on the receiving end of the ‘flow’ of global capital. At the same time, it is a sophisticated analysis of how economies actually work by keeping labor and capital in constant motion.”

PROFESSOR BRENDA YEOH was appointed as Consultant by the National Heritage Board, Ministry of Information, Communication and the Arts, for a project on Heritage Awareness in Singapore.
KEYNOTES AND PLENARIES

CHUA BENH HUAT
“Communication and Regulation of Culture in East Asia”, keynote address at an international conference on Production and Regulation of Culture in East Asia, Institute of East Asian Studies, Sungkonghoe University, Seoul, Korea, 28 June 2008.

“Disrupting Hegemonic Liberalism in East Asia”, keynote address at an international conference on Globalization: Cultures, Institutions and Socioeconomics, Chinese University of Hong Kong-Washington University, Hong Kong, 12-13 December 2008.

HEE LIMIN

JONES, GAVIN

KONG, LILY

“The Making of Sustainable Creative/Cultural Space: Cultural Indigeneity, Social Inclusion, and Environmental Sustainability”, plenary speech at Artepolis2 – Creative Communities and the Making of Place, International Conference on Urban Culture, Bandung, Indonesia, 8-10 August 2008.


LEARY, CHARLES

REID, ANTHONY


2 keynote lectures on Nation-Forming in Southeast Asia, MFA Diplomatic Academy, Singapore, 26-27 March 2008.


“Understanding Nationalism in Asia”, keynote lecture at Biennial Conference of Indian Association for Asian and Pacific Studies, Santiniketan, 22 August 2008.
TURNER, BRYAN


“Can We Live Forever”, keynote lecture at Wellesley College, USA, 21 April 2008.

“Vulnerability, Religion and Cosmopolitanism”, keynote lecture at Yale University, USA, 25 April 2008.

“The Enclave Society and Multiculturalism”, keynote lecture at Harvard University, USA, 28 April 2008.

YEONG SAW AI, BRENTA


YEUNG WEI-JUN, JEAN
“Methodological Issues and Research on Children’s Time Diary Data”, keynote speech at the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services, Canberra, Australia, 3 December 2008. 
Support for Undergraduate and Graduate Studies
ARI has been receiving undergraduates and postgraduates from local and overseas universities under the ARI Internship Programme since 2006. The objectives of the programme are to create opportunities for students to be exposed to an academic research environment, to observe the workings of a research institute, and to participate more fully in one particular designated responsibility at the institute. The intern gains working experience in a research environment, and is introduced to professional research practice and administration. Interns may join the research work of a cluster, and/or assist the administrative team in providing support functions.

From 2006 to 2008, ARI provided internship opportunities to the following 14 interns.

**Leong Pak Ho, Victor**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  
12 Jun – 4 Aug 2006

**Zheng Meng Xi**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  

**Lin Weirong**  
Nanyang Technological University,  
3 Jan - 20 Jun 2007

**Au-Yueng Tak Wai, Ankee**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  

**Wong Ho Nga, Monica**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  
12 Jun – 4 Aug 2006

**Wong King Yi, Ada**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  
26 May – 18 Jul 2008

**Law Wing Chi, Angela**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  

**Zhang Meng Xi**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  

**Kan Ching Yeung, Karita**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  
26 May – 15 Jul 2008

**Le Ge, Mike**  
Chinese University of Hong Kong,  
26 May – 18 Jul 2008

**Peter H.T. Lee**  
University of British Columbia,  
30 May – 31 Aug 2008

**Jim Wu**  
University of British Columbia,  
30 May – 31 Aug 2008

**Agathe Holowatinc**  
University of British Columbia,  
15 Sep – 19 Dec 2008

**Koo Jie Xian, Fiona**  
National University of Singapore,  
22 Dec 2008 – 13 Feb 2009

**Nancy Fong**  
University of British Columbia,  
8 Sep – 31 Dec 2008
SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of NUS scholarships have been allotted to ARI, although administration, coursework and assessment of graduate students remain with the relevant departments. In the reporting period, one student graduated and 14 students remained on ARI scholarships, supervised in ARI through different departments.

**Graduated**

Zhang Leiping
PhD (History)

**On-going studies**

Didi Kwartanada
Department of History

Iioka Naoko
Department of History

Wong Wai Yee
Southeast Asian Studies Programme

Zhou Wei
Department of Sociology

Jun Guarin Cayron
Southeast Asian Studies Programme

Lim Poh Im
School of Design and Environment

**Alice Nah Han Yuong**
Department of Sociology

**Maria Andrea Medina Soco**
Department of Geography

**Joseph Nathan Cruz**
Department of Sociology

**Jayeel Serrano Cornelio**
Department of Sociology

**Kim Ji Youn**
Department of Sociology

**Stefani Haning Swarati Nugroho**
Department of Sociology

**Tan Lee Ooi**
Southeast Asian Studies Programme

**Tabassum Zaman**
Office of Programmes
**GRADUATE AND OTHER TEACHING AT NUS**

**Bautista, Julius:** Southeast Asian Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught XD2101 Approaches to the Study of Religion; and GEK1045 Introduction to World Religions.

Supervised 3 PhD students, Asia Research Institute; Department of Sociology; Southeast Asian Studies Programme.

**Chua Beng Huat:** Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught SC4201 Contemporary Social Theory; and SC5209 Sociology of Everyday Life.

Supervised 3 MA and 3 PhD students, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Feener, Michael:** Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught HY1101 Asia and the Modern World; and HY3246 History of Muslim Southeast Asia.

Supervised 1 MA student, Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Goh, Robbie:** Department of English Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught EN4223 Topics in the Nineteenth Century.

Supervised 1 PhD student, Department of English Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Hee Limin:** Department of Architecture, taught AR5103 Architectural Design Thesis; AR4101 & AR4102 Architectural Design; AR5141 Dissertation; UD5221 Theory and Elements of Urban Design; AR5770/6770 Research Methodology 2 (Part); and UD5641 MAUD Dissertation.

Supervised 1 MA(Arch) student and 1 PhD student, Department of Architecture, NUS.

Thesis Examiner for 2 PhD students, Department of Architecture, NUS.

**Kong, Lily:** Supervised 1 MA and 1 PhD student, Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Member of thesis committee for a PhD student, South Asian Studies Programme; and another PhD student, Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Mohamad, Maznah:** Department of Malay Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught MS3211 Political Culture of the Malays; MS1102E Malays: Tradition, Conflict and Change; SE5660 (Independent Study) Moral and Sexual Offences Under Islam: A Survey of Muslim Southeast Asia; MS5660 (Independent Study) Malay Islamic Discourse: The Role of Ulama in Contemporary Malaysian Politics.

Southeast Asian Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS, taught SE3211 Religion, Society and Politics in Southeast Asia.

**Turner, Bryan:** Supervised 1 MA student; 3 PhD students, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Yeoh Saw Ai, Brenda:** Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught GE3237 Geographies of Migration.

Supervised 4 PhD and 3 MA students, Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

**Yeung Wei-Jun, Jean:** Supervised 2 MA students, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

In addition, other ARI staff members made various contributions:

**Collins, Francis:** Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught GE4204 Urban Space: Critical Perspectives, Semester 1 2008/09.

**Daly, Patrick:** University Scholars Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, taught UCV2207 Politics of Heritage.
The Singapore Graduate Students’ Forum on Southeast Asia Studies enters its third year, as PhD students again gather to present their work and to network with each other. This year, Ford Foundation provided funding support for Indonesian and Filipino students from universities abroad as well as from their home countries, while ARI subsidies enabled students from other countries to attend. As in previous years, the majority of the paper presenters were from Indonesia and the Philippines, but there was good representation from Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore, and also students from Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Australia, Austria, Canada, Germany, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, India, the United States, and the United Kingdom. In addition to the paper presenters, the forum was well attended by other graduate students, visiting and research fellows at ARI, NUS academic staff members, and members of the public.

Professor Lily Kong, Director of ARI, gave the welcoming address and chaired the first keynote address by Prof Dewi Fortuna Anwar, Research Professor at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), who spoke on “Political Developments in Southeast Asia and Issues for a Research Agenda”. In her speech, Prof Dewi stressed the continuous interaction between social science scholarship and activism in the political arena, and hence the need for academics to be cognisant of their own positionality, the effects that their research could have on policies and politics, as well as the influence that politics has on the research that they do.

Professor Chua Beng Huat (ARI, and Dept of Sociology, NUS) delivered the second keynote speech, which was on “East Asian Pop Culture: Tracking a transnational cultural industry”. Through an exploration of the emerging field of East Asian pop culture, Prof Chua was able to raise the theoretical issues that are currently salient to cultural studies, and identify the areas that are full of interesting research questions. The final keynote address was given by Prof Robert Hefner from Boston University, who is currently the Inaugural Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford Distinguished Fellow. Speaking on “Civil Islam Revisited: Prospects for and the Meanings of Muslim Democracy, in Southeast Asia and Beyond”, Prof Hefner drew on recent empirical research data to prove that democratic principles are not antithetical to the public in Muslim-majority countries, although the democratic ideals that are supported by Muslims in these countries may not be accompanied by a political culture that resemble the Atlantic-liberal model.

In addition to the three keynote speeches, there was also a panel organised on the theme of "There is a life after graduate school: Some practical advice from survivors", Beatriz Lorente (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) spoke on "Moving forward: Life after the thesis defence", Pinkaew Laungaramsri (Southeast Asian Studies Program, NUS) on “Living a socially engaged academic life", and Maznah Mohamad (ARI, and Southeast Asian Studies Program, NUS) on “The nation as journey; Snippets of a research travelogue”. In contrast to the keynote speeches, this session provided some practical tips for graduate students who intend to begin life in academia.

Over the two days, a total of 77 graduate students, including the 30 Asian Graduate students who were at ARI for the three months prior to the forum, presented papers in 26 panels running in four parallel sessions. Representing the whole range of social science and humanities, the papers presented were organised under themes such as “Religion and Modernity”, “Identity and Diversity”, “Spaces: Connections and Construction”, “Migration, Work and Citizenship”, “Remembering Violence”, “Gender and Marginalization”, and so on.

The two-day forum ended with a certificate award ceremony, a dinner, followed by an evening of impromptu performances by the participants, who we hope will bring back with them good memories in addition to the experiences they have gained.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>AFFILIATION</th>
<th>RESEARCH TOPIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Akhmad Siddiq</td>
<td>MA candidate, Center for Religious and Cross-cultural Studies, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia</td>
<td>Religious Commodification in the Social Relationship between Kyai and Maduranese Workers in Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Akkharaphong</td>
<td>MA candidate, Southeast Asian Studies, Faculty of Liberal Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand</td>
<td>Growth and Development of Border Tourism between Thailand and its Neighbors: Identity, Spirit and Prospect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khamkhun</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Ali Muhamad</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Department of Political Science, International Islamic University of Malaysia, Malaysia</td>
<td>Indonesian Government’s Policy Response toward Terrorism, 2001-2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Bach, Tran Xuan</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Hanoi Medical University, Vietnam</td>
<td>Quality of Life among People Living with HIV/AIDS and its Relation to Gender Perspective, Social Support Structure and Antiretroviral Therapy in Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Ferry</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS), Yogyakarta, Indonesia</td>
<td>Salafi Movement in Pesantren of Indonesia: A Case Study of Pesantren Salafi in Yogyakarta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muhammadsyah</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siregar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Ha, Do Thi Thanh</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Psychology, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam</td>
<td>Stigma and Discrimination Attitudes of the Communication Officials towards People affected by HIV/AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Janida Eiampailin</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Linguistics, Institute of Language and Culture for Rural Development, Mahidol University, Thailand</td>
<td>The Phonological Geography of Chinese Dialects in Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Kritsana</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Linguistics, Institute of Language and Culture for Rural Development, Mahidol University, Thailand</td>
<td>Tonal Geography of the Provinces of Central Thailand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athapanyawanit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Ku Boon Dar</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Department of History, PASS, University of Malaya, Malaysia</td>
<td>Sino-Vietnamese Relations During Tay Son Rebellion in Vietnam, 1771-1802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Kwanchit</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Demography, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University, Thailand</td>
<td>Child Mortality Differentials between Karen and Mon Ethnic Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sasiwongsaroj</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Le Viet Lien</td>
<td>MA candidate, Cultural Studies, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam</td>
<td>Globalization and the Change of Vietnamese Culture: The Case Study of Festival at the Lady Temple of Treasure, Bac Ninh Province, Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Longgina</td>
<td>MA candidate, Human Rights and Democracy, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia</td>
<td>Religion in Politics: The Political Role of Catholic Church in Post Authoritarian State (Comparative Study between Indonesia and Philippines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novadona</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Luan, Vu Duong</td>
<td>MA candidate, Faculty of History, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Vietnam</td>
<td>From Seaport to City: History of the Haiphong from the Beginning of the 19th Century to 1888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Mahin Marko</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Graduate Programme of Anthropology, University of Indonesia, Indonesia</td>
<td>Kaharingan: The Dynamics of Indigenous Religion in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Degree, Field of Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Meng Vong</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Linguistics, Royal Academy of Cambodia, Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Michael Arman Canilaño</td>
<td>MA candidate, Archaeology, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Muhammad Endy Supatrot</td>
<td>MA candidate, Religious and Cross Cultural Studies, Graduate School of Gadjah Mada at Yogyakarta, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Muhammad Febriansyah</td>
<td>PhD candidate, IKMAS, University of Malaya, Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Myint Myo Myo</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya, Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Najib Kailani</td>
<td>MA candidate, Department of Anthropology, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Nguyen Le Trang</td>
<td>MA candidate, Department of Psychology, University of Toulouse Le Mirl, France (degree being pursued in Vietnam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pryor Aldous Placino A. Arquiza</td>
<td>MSc candidate, Department of Geography, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Retno Agustin</td>
<td>MA candidate, Graduate Programme of Religious and Cultural Studies, Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Stephanus Hanggar Budi Prasetya</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Performing Arts Studies, School of Humanity, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Syamsu Madyan</td>
<td>PhD candidate, ICRS, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tatel, Carlos P. Jr</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Anthropology, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy, University of the Philippines, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Tehn Cheng Eng, David</td>
<td>PhD candidate, English Literary Studies, University of Malaya, Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Viza Juliansya, S. Sos</td>
<td>MA candidate, Sociology, Tanjungpura University, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Ynion, Winton Lou G.</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Philippine Literature, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Yoseph Yapi Taum</td>
<td>PhD candidate, Literature, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International Relations
INTERNATIONAL VISITS
By Director Prof Lily Kong

11 November 2008
Delegates from Seoul National University, South Korea

16 – 19 November 2008
National Taiwan University, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

31 January 2008
Delegates from Seoul National University, South Korea

1 February 2008
Ms Susin Seow, Associate Director of Development for Global Education, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

18 March 2008
Mr Garrett Kam, Curator, Writer and Lecturer, History, Culture and Performing Arts of Southeast Asia and Okinawa, Neka Art Museum, Ubud, Bali, Indonesia

24 April 2008
Prof John Chaffee, Director, the Asian and Asian American Studies Program, and the Institute for Asian and Asian American Studies, The State University of New York at Binghamton

29 April 2008
Mr Arthur Winter, Attorney at Law, Winter & Melbinger, LLP, USA

22 May 2008
Dr Bernard Adeney-Risakotta, Director, Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies, Gadjah Mada University Graduate School, Indonesia

27 May 2008
Mr Albert Santoli, President, Asia America Initiative, USA

27 May 2008
Mr Guy Faure, Director, Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC), Thailand

12 August 2008
Prof Richard Jaffe and Prof Bruce Lawrence, Duke University, USA

26 August 2008
Representatives from Economic Development Board, Singapore

16 October 2008
Prof Wim Stokhof, Prof Nico Kaptein and Ms Marise van Amersfoort, Training Indonesia’s Young Leaders Programme, Leiden University, The Netherlands
Editorial and Production Team:
Robbie Goh, Verene Koh Hwee Kiang, and Saharah Abubakar;

with the assistance of
Alyson Adrianne Rozells
Chong Mei Peen
Deborah Chua Fengyi
Henry Kwan Wai Hung
Joyce Iris Solomon Zaide
Kristy Won Tien Min
Theodora Lam Choy Fong