

## Indonesia Council Digest February 2007

This is the digest of the Indonesia Council, a regional grouping within the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA). As the Indonesia Council does not have a separate fee structure, we urge those of you who find this bulletin useful or who attend the Indonesia Council's free biennial conference to become financial members of the ASAA (the membership form is available at <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/SpecialProj/ASAA/asaa-mship.html>).

This list is moderated, but open (i.e. digests posted on the list may be passed on to someone else). If you know of anyone who may like to be added to the list please ask them to contact the list moderator directly at [michele.ford@arts.usyd.edu.au](mailto:michele.ford@arts.usyd.edu.au).

### NEWS

The **Australian Research Council** (ARC) is pleased to announce that Professor **Krishna Sen**, currently Dean, Research and Creative Production and Graduate Studies in Humanities at Curtin University of Technology, will join the ARC on 1 April 2007 in the position of Executive Director Humanities and Creative Arts.

Congratulations too to **Marshall Clark** formerly of the School of Asian Languages and Studies, University of Tasmania, who has been appointed to the position of **Lecturer in Indonesian, School of International and Political Studies, Deakin University**.

The Indonesia Council now invites proposals for papers and panels for its 2007 **Open Conference** at Monash's Caulfield campus in Melbourne. **Proposals for papers** should include a title and an abstract of 150 words as well as biodata of 100 words. Papers should be no more than 20 minutes duration (equivalent to 2000 words). **Proposals for panels** should include either a suggested panel title only or the titles and abstracts of three papers of 20 minutes duration. Proposals for panels may also include a suggested discussant. **The deadline** for panel and paper proposals is **1 May 2007**. Proposals for papers and panels should be emailed to [ICOC@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:ICOC@arts.monash.edu.au). Registration is free, but to assist with planning please send an email with your name, institutional affiliation and email address to [ICOC@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:ICOC@arts.monash.edu.au) by Monday **3 September 2007**. Please indicate if you DO NOT want your name, institution and email address published in the conference program. For more details, visit the conference website at <http://indonesiacouncil.anu.edu.au/icoc2007.php>.

**News from the Indonesia Project:** Acting on the excellent suggestion of several colleagues, we have decided to record (audio) all ISG presentations beginning in January 2007 and make them accessible on our web-site for those who are interested in what has been said. Of course, the recording and posting on the web-site is contingent on permission granted by individual speakers.

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties is currently considering the **Agreement between Australia and the Republic of Indonesia on the Framework for Security Cooperation (Mataram, Lombok, 13 November 2006)**. The Committee invites interested persons and organisations to make submissions addressing the terms of reference by

Friday 23 February 2007. Anyone now seeking to make a submission should contact the Committee Secretariat. Please refer to our brochure called preparing a submission for more information. <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/6december2006/tor.htm>

## DEPARTMENT PROFILE

Here at the **University of Tasmania** in the **School of Asian Languages and Studies** we have just farewelled Marshall Clark, who has moved to Deakin University. The remaining Indonesianists are Barbara Hatley, on the Launceston campus, and Pam Allen in Hobart. Pam has just taken over as Head of School. Both Barbara and Pam also contribute to the School's Asian Studies program. Barbara's book *Performing Change: The Javanese Stage in the New Order and Beyond* is due for publication in mid- 2007. It traces interaction between theatre and its social context in Central Java through a thirty year period of major social, economic and political change. Barbara and Pam are also working together on a joint project researching developments in literature and the performing arts since the fall of Suharto, with a particular focus on gender, Islam and regionality. Pam has recently spent some time in West Sumatra and Bali, witnessing an interesting revival of regional consciousness in recent literature. Our four Indonesia-focussed PhD students are Heather Curnow, Carmencita Palermo, Emily Rowe and Andy Fuller. Heather's thesis 'Women on the Margins', due for submission in June this year, deals with the ways in which marginalised women are treated in Indonesian literature. Carmencita is well-known for her work on Balinese dance, and her thesis 'Towards the embodiment of the Mask: Balinese Topeng in Contemporary Practice' will also be completed this year. Emily has spent a lot of time in Yogyakarta researching her thesis on the socio-cultural implications of HIV/AIDS in Java. She is about to return there to work for a year with the NGO SPAY (Solidaritas Peduli AIDS Yogya). Our newest PhD candidate, Andy Fuller, is building on his earlier work on Seno Gumira Ajidarma in his thesis titled 'Making the Indonesian short story: Symptoms of Modernity'.

## BOOKS

**Buijs, Kees, POWERS OF BLESSING FROM THE WILDERNESS AND FROM HEAVEN. Structure and transformations in the religion of the Toraja in the Mamasa area of South Sulawesi. Leiden, KITLV Press, 2006..**

Women run screaming from their village at night, leaving all their clothes behind - possessed by spirits of the wilderness, they climb up a barana' tree, it is one of the fascinating rituals of the Toraja people described in this study.

**Federspiel, Howard M. SULTANS, SHAMANS, AND SAINTS. Islam and Muslims in Southeast Asia. Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press, 2007.**

By the fourteenth century the Islamic faith had spread via maritime trade routes to Southeast Asia where, over the next seven hundred years, it would have a continuing influence on political life, social customs, and the development of the arts. This book looks at Islam in Southeast Asia during four major eras: its arrival (to 1300), the first flowering of Islamic identity (1300-1800), the era of imperialism (1800-1945), and the era of independent nation states (1945-2000). Ranging across the humanities and social

sciences, this balanced and accessible work emphasizes the historical development of Southeast Asia's accommodation of Islam and the creation of its distinctive regional character. Each chapter opens with a general background summary that places events in the greater Asian/Southeast Asian context, followed by an overview of prominent ethnic groups, political events, customs and cultures, religious factors, and art forms.

Lowe, Celia, *WILD PROFUSION: Biodiversity conservation in an Indonesian Archipelago*. New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 2007.

This book tells the fascinating story of biodiversity conservation in Indonesia in the decade culminating in the great fires of 1997-98 - a time when the country's environment became a point of concern for social and environmental activists, scientists, and the many fishermen and farmers nationwide who suffered from degraded environments and faced accusations that they were destroying nature. The author argues that biodiversity, in 1990s Indonesia, implied a particular convergence of nature, nation, science, and identity that made Indonesians' mapping the concept distinct within transnational practices of nature conservation at the time.

McGlynn, John H. *INDONESIA IN THE SOEHARTO YEARS*, Singapore, Singapore University Press, 2007.

This book delves into the many issues and incidents that shaped the nation, from the grim years of 1965 and 1966 up until the nation's first direct election of a president in 2004. With more than 50 short essays, 80 photographic series and extended captions, and 500 historical photographs, this book is an essential document for anyone interested in modern Indonesia.

Stevens, Alan M. and A. Ed. Schmidgall-Tellings, A. *COMPREHENSIVE INDONESIAN-ENGLISH DICTIONARY*, Athens, Ohio University Press, 2005.

The most authoritative and up-to-date resources on the Indonesian language today, this dictionary is an essential reference for scholars of Indonesia.

Watson, C.W., *OF SELF AND INJUSTICE. Autobiography and repression in modern Indonesia*, Leiden, KITLV Press, 2006.

This book examines representative autobiographies of several individuals; two ex-political prisoners who describe themselves as Muslim Communists; two writers of the left, one a woman in a senior position in the left-wing women's organisation, Gerwani, and one a well-known male novelist who spent years of exile in China and Russia; two Muslim opponents of Soeharto, one an intellectual and the other a political campaigner; and finally, two collections of short autobiographies by the younger generation, one a group involved in social welfare action, the other a group of dedicated young Muslims. The scrutiny of the texts in all cases preceded by a brief account of the historical and cultural contexts of the writing of the autobiographies. Both general and specialist readers are invited to reflect on the memories and experiences of significant participant-observers as a mode of understanding a recent period in Indonesian history.

## CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

### **Moving Cultures, Shifting Identities: a conference about migration, connection, heritage and cultural memory. Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia, 3 - 5 December 2007.**

This conference will examine issues of migration, transnational connection, displacement heritage, global space and cultural memory created by the movements of peoples between cultures in the modern world. In the mass migrations of the last 200 years, millions of people have left their homelands and home cultures to settle in new places. Their motives have been many: the emigrant's search for new opportunities, the gastarbeiter's self-imposed exile, the refugee's forced flight and the settler's quest for trade, military advantage or fresh fields and pastures new have all shaped the great migrations of the modern period. Moving Cultures, Shifting Identities will explore the cultural connections between homelands and new lands, and the complexities of reshaping cultural identities and shifting allegiances between cultures of departure and cultures of arrival. The conference will have three main streams: The public policy stream will cover issues of economics, population, forced migration, security, 'core values', education and the managing of cultural impacts of migration; The history of migration stream will include sessions on pre- and post-World War Two migration, recent arrivals and diasporic communities; The Cultural Migration stream will include sessions on memory, writing, language, cultural maintenance and sustainability, and the plurality of migrant identities. Proposals for panel sessions will be considered as well as abstracts for individual papers. Panel proposals should include a theme for the session, the names of all speakers, the titles of their papers, and a session summary of 250-300 words. Abstracts of 250-300 words should be submitted for each paper, whether they are included in a panel session proposal or not. Where abstracts are intended for a proposed panel session, this should be indicated on the abstract. Abstracts and session proposals should be sent to Nena Bierbaum, School of Humanities, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide, South Australian 5001, or by email to [nena.bierbaum@flinders.edu.au](mailto:nena.bierbaum@flinders.edu.au) by **31 March 2007**. All abstracts will be refereed.

**7th EUROSEAS Conference, University of Naples, 12-15 September 2007. Call for Papers: 'Borders re-drawn: re-asserting nation-states in contemporary SEA'.** Borders, once prerogative of political scientists and economists, have over the last decade come to the fore of the social sciences. While "literalist" scholars have treated borders as "distinctive kinds of territorial places" (Cunningham and Heyman 2004:290) to investigate the actual socio-cultural dynamics at the margins of nation-states, postmodern "a-literalist" discourse has focused on borders in a metaphorical sense to question the modernist notions of bounded cultures, time, space, place and identity. While acknowledging the regained "fluidity" and "porosity" of Southeast Asian borders allowing internationalisation of trade, more rapid modes of communication and intensified movement of people, the panel wishes to draw attention to the different power dynamics that still characterize the relationship between citizens and states in these "interstitial" zones of SEA and on the new forms of statehood being crafted in a more globalised world. The panel adopts the border as theoretical framework to explore broader issues about power, identity, belonging, culture and state-making in SEA. The panel invites papers that ethnographically address: the ongoing salience of borders in state-making in contemporary SEA; how national borders shape identities across Southeast Asia and

between; Southeast Asia and wealthier countries; how state subjects create, contest, and enforce national borders, through the practices of daily life and in their imaginations; How the state regulates the border and impinges on the social and cultural reality of those living on the borderlands; Various forms of mobility across national and international borders; Cultural production and reproduction of diasporic communities and subjectivities across borders. Interested participants are invited to send an abstract (200 words max) to the panel convenor [Antonella.Diana@anu.edu.au](mailto:Antonella.Diana@anu.edu.au) as soon as possible and, at the very latest, by **1 March 2007**.

## **PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES**

The Department of Indonesian Studies at the University of Sydney is setting up an **Indonesian Studies Working Papers** series. Intended as an international forum for the public circulation of academic work close to publication, the editors of this electronic series will consider papers of between 7000 and 10,000 words written in English or Indonesian on an Indonesia-related topic. A style guide and other details of submission will be available on the website in the next month or so. In the meantime, if you would like to find out more about the series, please contact the series editors, Michele Ford ([michele.ford@arts.usyd.edu.au](mailto:michele.ford@arts.usyd.edu.au)) or Keith Foulcher ([keith.foulcher@arts.usyd.edu.au](mailto:keith.foulcher@arts.usyd.edu.au)).

We invite proposals for essays for a collection titled **Women and Things: Material Culture, 1750-1950**. This collection invites scholars to consider women's engagement with the material world, from the most ordinary, mundane daily practices and objects to the most extraordinary, life-altering practices and objects, over the two-hundred-year period of 1750 to 1950. Since material culture encompasses all human-made objects, the possibility of topics is wide open so long as they connect women to things. Therefore, topics might include, but are certainly not limited to: fiber arts (needlework, quilting, knitting, crocheting); decorative arts; other kinds of crafts; painting; sculpture; scrapbooks; albums; china; porcelain; architecture; interior design; landscape and gardening; shopping; clothing; fashion; and food. The focus might be on all or part of the life-cycle of an object, from design, to production, to circulation, to consumption, to commodification, to valuation, to collection and display. Although scholars in anthropology, museum studies, and decorative arts have long taken material culture as their focus, in the past twenty years scholars from other disciplines that have traditionally been more text-centric have increasingly turned their attention to material objects in what might be termed the material turn. This edited collection is designed to serve those scholars. We look forward then to proposals from a wide variety of disciplines, including, but not limited to, cultural studies, history, literature, rhetoric and composition, art, art history and art theory, communication studies, visual design, race studies, and women's studies. We encourage and wish to present multiple theoretical frames and methodologies that grapple with questions concerning women and material things. Please send your 250-500-word proposal and a CV as electronic attachments in MS-word or RTF format to Beth Fowkes Tobin ([beth.tobin@asu.edu](mailto:beth.tobin@asu.edu)) and Maureen Daly Goggin ([maureen.goggin@asu.edu](mailto:maureen.goggin@asu.edu)) by **March 30, 2007**.

Call for Authors. ABC-CLIO is developing a comprehensive 21-volume **Encyclopedia of World History**. We are seeking writing contributions from interested scholars. We are looking for writers to prepare 500-1500 word articles with a global perspective in the area

of Asian History and Culture. Compensation: contributors will have their names associated with the entries they contribute, and will receive access to the e-book version of the entire encyclopedia (list price \$1,800) for personal use. For writers who contribute more than 3,000 words, there will be a \$50 credit towards ABC-CLIO books, with an additional \$50 credit for each additional 750 words. Due date: **March 31**. If you are interested in writing one or more of the entries listed below, please send a c.v. and, if possible, a short writing sample to Fred Nadis ([FNadis@abc-clio.com](mailto:FNadis@abc-clio.com)) and/or Monique Vallance ([MVallance@abc-clio.com](mailto:MVallance@abc-clio.com)). OPEN TOPICS - [ARTICLES WILL RANGE IN LENGTH FROM 500 TO 1200 WORDS]:

#### ERA 3 - 1000 BCE – 300 CE (Classical Traditions 1000 BCE – 300 CE)

- Theme 1 - Rain, Volcanic Soil, and the development of Java's "Rice Bowl"
- Theme 2 - City people in South and Southeast Asia  
Elite and Popular Culture in Southeast Asia 300 -1000
- Theme 5 - Cities in Early Medieval Southeast Asia
- Theme 7 - Popular Beliefs and Indian Religions in Early Medieval Southeast Asia
- Theme 8 - Early Medieval industrial Technology of South and Southeast Asia

#### Era 5 - 1000-1500 CE (Intensified Hemispheric Interactions 1000-1500)

- Theme 1 - The Populations of South and Southeast Asia: 1000-1500
- Theme 2 - Southeast Asia
- Theme 4 - Srivijaya
- Theme 5 - Everyone Meets in Malacca: The Pivotal Place of the Straits of Malacca in Indian Ocean Commerce

#### Era 6 - 1450-1770 (The First Global Age 1450-1770)

- Theme 1 - Cycles of Exploitation and Recovery in the Southeast Asian Environment
- Theme 2 - Fusion Folk: Kroncong music of Indonesia
- Theme 2 - The Columbian Exchange with Southeast Asia: (750 words)
- Theme 4 - Emergence of Aceh as Islamic Sultanate (c.1524-1910)
- Theme 4 - Muslim sultanates replace Hindu states in Sumatra and Java (1500s)
- Theme 4 - From Temple Builders to Port States: Centralized Control in Southeast Asia
- Theme 6 - "A Natural Shortcoming of the People": Retribution in the Dutch East Indies
- Theme 6 - Kejawen: Religious Resistance on Java
- Theme 1 - Changing Patterns of Land Use in Colonial Asia

#### Era 9 1945 to present (Promises and Paradoxes 1945-Present)

- Theme 6 - Indonesian - Ethnic Conflicts

#### Theme Key:

- Theme 1 - Population & Environment
- Theme 2 - Society & Culture
- Theme 3 - Migration & Travel
- Theme 4 - Politics & Statecraft
- Theme 5 - Economics & Trade
- Theme 6 - War & Diplomacy
- Theme 7 - Religion & Thought
- Theme 8 - Science & Technology

## SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS/RESEARCH/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The **Australia-Indonesia Governance Research Partnership** has recently launched a **young scholars program** to help encourage a new generation of young Australians and Indonesians to take up a career in research. Funding is available on a competitive basis for young Australian and Indonesian researchers to present their research findings at the Young Scholars Workshop which will be held in Jakarta in November this year. The workshop is designed to give young researchers a taste of the profession, enabling them to showcase their research and develop their presentation skills. It is also a great opportunity for young scholars to meet with established researchers and academics and to extend their social and professional networks. The program is open to Honours, Master or PhD students or recent graduates. And the eligibility requirements are:

- \* the research project must have a focus on Indonesia
- \* the candidate must be able to demonstrate an on-going interest in research.

Applications are due on **24th February 2007**. However, late applications may be accepted in some circumstances. If you would like to read more about the program, please visit the link: <<http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/AIGRP/scholars.php>>. For further information, and application forms, please contact Joanna Pickles ([joanna.pickles@anu.edu.au](mailto:joanna.pickles@anu.edu.au)).

### **Australia Indonesia Governance Research Partnership Research Project Scheme.**

Scholars from any Australian and Indonesian institution are invited to apply for funding for research projects addressing major governance issues in Indonesia. Generous financial support is available, with applications being assessed on a competitive basis. Proposals are welcome on any issue pertaining to governance in Indonesia and may come from any area of the community including media and government. Core themes for the AIGRP include: economic policy, reform strategy and business government relations political institutions, public administration, representation of civil society & sectoral interests in policy processes law, legal institutions and contracting corruption and anti-corruption responses. VALUE: Funding for AIGRP projects will normally take two forms, monies to 'buy out' the time of both the Australian and Indonesian participants, and monies to support actual travel and field costs. Buy-outs will be funded at a flat rate of A\$10,000 per month of full time work per researcher, or part thereof. Applications that also include a Research Development Partner will be welcome. Equivalent monies have been set aside to support the participation of Research Development Partners. Typically, projects funded by the AIGRP will fall within a range of A\$20,000-A\$100,000. Because the AIGRP seeks to fund as many projects as possible, preference will be given to proposals that are budgeted economically. Proposals where institutions make in-kind contributions will be considered favourably by the Steering Committee. AIGRP funds will not be available to provide institutional support (e.g. organisational overheads). Projects sponsored under AIGRP will involve partnerships between Indonesian and Australian scholars. All proposals must include participation of researchers from both Australia and Indonesia though the participation need not necessarily be symmetrical in terms of time contributed etc. Further information can be downloaded at <http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/AIGRP/>.

The Centre for Asia-Pacific Social Transformation Studies (CAPSTRANS) at the University of Wollongong, Australia, is calling for applications from interested scholars for its Senior Visiting Fellowship scheme and Postdoctoral Writing Fellowship scheme. CAPSTRANS is an Australian Research Council (ARC) Key Centre for Teaching and Research. Established in 1999, the Centre conducts innovative research on social transformation processes in the Asia-Pacific region by combining methods from a variety of disciplines, including political science, economics, sociology, anthropology, social history and media studies. CAPSTRANS invites **senior researchers** from outside the university to spend between 3-12 months as a Visiting Fellow located within the Centre. Grants of up to AUD\$10,000 are available to assist Visiting Senior Fellows with travel and accommodation expenses and research costs, but no funding is available to support salaries. CAPSTRANS invites applications from **postdoctoral researchers** from outside the university to spend up to 6 months in the Centre as a Postdoctoral Fellow. Grants of up to AUD\$5,000 are available to assist Postdoctoral Fellows with travel and accommodation expenses and research costs, but no funding is available to support salaries. Further information about these schemes, including the application process is available at: <http://www.capstrans.edu.au/working/fellowship-schemes.html> Closing date for first round applications in 2006 is **16 February 2007**. Enquiries should be directed to Dr Tim Scrase, Deputy Director, CAPSTRANS (tims@uow.edu.au or +61 2 4221 3744)

## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

The **Center of Asian and African Studies of El Colegio de México** announces an opening for a tenure-track position in the humanities (either history, literature or religion). Some preference will be given to Indonesian language expertise, but candidates with expertise in other Southeast Asian languages may also apply. Candidates must have a completed PhD and the ability to teach in either English or Spanish (eventually adapting to Spanish). The Center offers degrees at the Masters and Doctorate levels. Please send curriculum, letters of reference, and sample publications to Prof. Benjamín Preciado, Director del CEAA, El Colegio de México, Camino al Ajusco 20, México, D. F. 10740, Mexico. Information about the Center is available at the El Colegio de México web-site ([www.colmex.mx](http://www.colmex.mx)).

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The Indonesia Council Digest is circulated monthly. If you have information about conferences, Indonesia-related news, resources, job opportunities, new books etc, you can send it in at any time by replying to this email.