

Indonesia Council Digest November 2008

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**. **You can now join online** at <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?ID=594>.

The Indonesia Council Digest is circulated monthly. If you have information about conferences, Indonesia-related news, resources, job opportunities, new books etc, send it in at any time by replying to this email. Older copies of the digest can be downloaded from the Indonesia Council website (<http://indonesiacouncil.anu.edu.au/digest.php>). 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@usyd.edu.au.

NEWS

Warmest congratulations to the following successful ARC applicants in the 2009 funding round:

- **Edward Aspinall** (The Peace Process in Aceh)
- **Greg Fealy and Angus McIntyre** (The Origins and Development of Islamic Terrorist Behaviour in Indonesia)
- **Ariel Heryanto** (Pop Cultures in Indonesia: A New Asian Politics of Pleasure and Identity)
- **Ariel Heryanto and Emma Baulch** (Middle Classes, New Media and Indie Networks in Post Authoritarian Indonesia)
- **Lyn Parker, CY Hoon and R Raihani** (Education for a Tolerant and Multicultural Indonesia)
- **DJ Varney, PA Eckersall, CF Hudson and B Hatley** (Regional Culture in a Modern Global Context)

The Australia-Netherlands Research Collaboration would like to announce that the Guidelines and Selection Criteria for the 2009 round of Workshop Funding are now available, and have been posted at www.aust-neth.net. This funding is available to convene academic workshops focussing on Southeast Asia and within the social sciences and humanities. Applications are invited from Dutch and Australian scholars specialising in the study of Southeast Asia to convene an academic workshop in the period 2009 – 2012. The workshop must feature collaboration between Australian and Dutch scholars, and must actively involve scholars / experts from Southeast Asia. Workshops may take place in The Netherlands, Australia or Southeast Asia. Each collaboration must be led by an Australian and a Dutch academic leader, and when applicable, by a Southeast Asian academic leader. Administrative guidance with respect to the workshops will be provided by the ANRC project administrative managers in each country. For further information contact Helen.McMartin@anu.edu.au, tel 02 6125 0693. Closing date is **Friday, 3 April 2009**.

The Indonesia Project has established a **News and Commentary blog**, intended to encourage discussion of the Indonesian economy and the economic policies and events that influence its performance. It does so by publishing short essays by Indonesia Project staff and their colleagues in Indonesia and around the world relating to recently released economic data, government policy announcements, reports and analyses, or simply by presenting new ideas on Indonesian economics for consideration. Please add this site to your list of Favourites, and subscribe to the RSS Feed so that you'll receive automatic notification when new items and comments are added. The URL is <http://rspas.anu.edu.au/blogs/indonesiaproject/>.

RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Issue 18 of **Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific**, entitled *Body, Sexuality and Gender among Contemporary Indonesian Youth*, guest edited by Lyn Parker and Linda Bennett has just been published. Contents include articles on adolescent sexuality, media representations, western influences, same-sex subjectivities and much more. The URL is: <http://intersections.anu.edu.au/>.

A new paper is up on the **University of Sydney Indonesian Studies Working Paper Series** website, <http://www.arts.usyd.edu.au/departs/indonesian/series/papers.shtml>, entitled **Claiming Authority at the Edges of the State: Regional Autonomy and Local Politics in the West Kalimantan Borderlands**. This paper by Michael Eilenberg of the University of Roskilde examines state-local relations in the border region of West Kalimantan since decentralisation, with a focus on five ethnic Iban dominated subdistricts within the remote district of Kapuas Hulu, on the border of the Malaysian state of Sarawak.

Zane Goebel (2007). Enregisterment and Appropriation in Javanese-Indonesian Bilingual Talk. *Language in Society*, 36 (4), 511-531.

This article examines how portrayals of Javanese and Indonesian in language policy, the media, and educational settings might lead to enregisterment. This process of association of context to language over time and across space represents knowledge that Indonesians can appropriate in talk. A multidisciplinary approach is used to examine audio and video recordings of Javanese-Indonesian bilingual talk conducted in meetings held in a government office in Central Java, Indonesia. Although the findings are contrary in some ways to earlier descriptions of Javanese and Indonesian usage – for example, in talk containing code alternation there is no one-to-one relationship between hierarchical social relations and code – nevertheless such contradictions can be accounted for by viewing the enregisterment process as merely providing “constituting possibilities” to speakers in situated interaction.

Ross H. McLeod, Inadequate budgets and salaries as instruments for institutionalizing public sector corruption in Indonesia, *South East Asia Research*, 16, 2, pp. 199–223.

Soeharto used the Indonesian bureaucracy to generate rents that could be harvested by ‘insider’ firms, while also encouraging it to extort money from ‘outsider’ firms and individuals. This necessitated incentives that would ensure strong loyalty and minimize

internal opposition. Government entities were provided with insufficient budget funding to cover their costs, and their officials were expected to generate cash from illegal activities, making public sector employees financially dependent on corruption. Any employee who opposed this system could expect to be restricted to earning no more than the pitifully low formal salary entitlement. The system therefore became strongly self-reinforcing.

BOOKS

Acharya, Amitav and Richard Stubbs (eds). *Theorizing Southeast Asian Relations. Emerging Debates.* Abingdon, Routledge, 2008.

The recent proliferation of theories of international relations has transformed analyses of Southeast Asia's international affairs. A new generation of scholars has promoted lively and illuminating debates which has seen the traditional realist/neorealist approach, which continues to hold centre stage, challenged by constructivist analysis. This collection engages this emerging debate. It underscores the point that Southeast Asia is now an important site for applying new theories of international relations. It also demonstrates that theoretical frameworks originally developed in North America and Europe have to be adapted to the specific circumstances found in places like Southeast Asia and that this process can enrich theory building.

Arskal, S. *Challenging the Secular State: The Islamization of law in modern Indonesia.* Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press, 2008.

This book examines Muslim efforts to incorporate shari'a (religious law) into modern Indonesia's legal system from the time of independence in 1945 to the present. The author argues that attempts to formally implement shari'a in Indonesia have always been marked by tensions between political aspirations of proponents and opponents of shari'a and by resistance from the national government. As a result, although pro-shari'a movements have made significant progress in recent years, shari'a remains tightly confined within Indonesia's secular legal system.

Lindquist, Johan A. *The Anxieties of Mobility: Migration and tourism in the Indonesian borderlands.* Honolulu, University of Hawaii Press, 2008.

Since the late 1960s the Indonesian island of Batam has been transformed from a sleepy fishing village to a booming frontier town, where foreign investment, mostly from neighbouring Singapore, converges with inexpensive land and labor. The book uses three Indonesian concepts (*merantau*, *malu*, *liar*) to shed light on the mobility of migrants and tourists on Batam. The first refers to a person's relationship with home while in the process of migration. The second signifies the shame of embarrassment felt when one is between accepted roles and emotional states. The third, *liar*, literally means "wild" and is used to identify those who are out of place. These sometimes overlapping concepts allow the book to move across geographical and metaphorical boundaries and between various economies.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

A special ANRC mid project workshop, *Transmission of Academic Values in Asian Studies* will be held on 25 & 26 June 2009 at The Australian National University, Canberra. This workshop proposes to examine issues surrounding the transmission of scholarly values in Asian Studies. It will draw upon the views of scholars from a range of life-stages in order to seek a clearer picture of the values that scholars see as important to preserve and of the techniques for achieving transmission between the generations. The values to be discussed include markers of scholarly excellence such as rigorous attention to empirical detail (including language competence), interpretative bravura, and theoretical sophistication, as well as markers of social significance such as policy relevance and the accessibility of writing to a broader public. They also include values related to ethical behaviour in research and to the issue of engagement with political and social affairs. A particularly important issue is that of inter-generational relations: how do younger scholars balance the need for loyalty to their mentors with the need for creating a reputation of their own by overthrowing previous generations? How do senior scholars respond to being debunked? The deadline for abstract submissions is **27 February 2009**, but *early submission would be appreciated*. For further information or for submission of proposals, please go to <http://www.aust-neth.net/workshop.php> or contact contact Helen.McMartin@anu.edu.au.

Asian Heroic Narratives in the Global Context: Transformations of the Heroic Image, Cambridge, MA. **March 26-29, 2009**. This panel invites papers that examine the transformation of images of the heroic in Asian narratives when they evolve in interactions with other cultures, growing in a new cultural space. We are specially interested in exploring the change in the representation of a hero/heroine: what it represents traditionally and what it means today when local cultures are faced with global influences. We especially seek papers that focus on the remodeling of traditional heroes/heroines in modern literature and cinema. The deadline for paper proposals is **November 3, 2008**. Please submit 250-word abstracts directly to the ACLA conference website: <http://www.acla.org/submit/>

Re-Imagining Identity, New Directions in Postcolonial Studies, Waterford, Ireland, **May 6-8, 2009**, *Inaugural Conference of the Postcolonial Studies Association*. Keynote speakers: Bill Ashcroft and Declan Kiberd. This inaugural conference of the Postcolonial Studies Association will focus on a broad re-consideration of the cultural, political, theoretical and practical re-imaginings of the concept of 'identity' as it relates to the field of Postcolonialism and the wider Humanities and the Social Sciences. Questions to be asked will include: 'What is the future of Postcolonialism as a discipline?' and: 'What is the relationship between received understandings of "identity", specific formulations of key contemporary identities, and our understanding of "the postcolonial"?' The PSA invites papers from academics working in the disciplines of Literature, History, Cultural Studies, Film, Human Geography, Linguistics, Politics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Art, Music, Media & Communication and related fields. For more details of conference themes, visit the website at <http://www.postcolonialstudiesassociation.co.uk>. To submit a paper or panel proposal please contact: Dr Christine ODowd-Smyth - codowdsmyth@wit.ie or psa@postcolonialstudiesassociation.co.uk. Closing date for abstract submissions: **1 December 2008**.

PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Critical Studies of the Asia Pacific Series Editor, Mark Beeson, University of Birmingham. This series will showcase new research and scholarship on what is arguably the most important region in the world in the twenty-first century. The new series welcomes book proposals on any aspect of Asia-Pacific affairs, including politics, economics and security, as well as studies of regional processes and specific case studies of particular countries or issues. The unifying theme of this series is a desire to publish the best theoretically-informed original research in the area. Consequently, we welcome manuscript submissions and book proposals in any disciplinary area from individual authors or for edited collections. Mark Beeson is a widely recognised expert on the Asia-Pacific and the author or editor of ten books including *Regionalism and Globalization in East Asia: Politics, Security and Economic Development*, (Palgrave, 2007). Mark Beeson can be contacted at: m.beeson@bham.ac.uk. Details of Palgrave Macmillan's "Instructions for Authors", which explains the formal submission process can be found at: <http://www.palgrave.com/authors/index.asp>

SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS/RESEARCH/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Australia-Netherlands Research Collaboration would like to announce that the Guidelines and Selection Criteria for the 2009 round of Overseas PhD Travel Fellowship Funding are now available, and have been posted at www.aust-neth.net. Individuals currently enrolled in a PhD program at an Australian university, and who are researching Southeast Asia are eligible to apply. Funding is available for students to conduct specific, defined tasks in the Netherlands related to their PhD. These tasks could include fieldwork, consulting an archive or library, engaging in language or disciplinary study, or consulting academic experts. Funds will cover economy class return travel between Australia and the Netherlands plus a living allowance for a period of between one and six months. The research must occur within the term of the PhD enrolment, and take place in the period from mid 2009 – 2011. Up to three Fellowships will be offered in the 2009 round. It is planned that further fellowships will be offered in 2010, depending on funding. Closing date is **Friday, 15 May 2009**. For further information contact Helen.McMartin@anu.edu.au, tel 02 6125 0693.

PhD scholarship with the Faculty of Arts, University of Wollongong, is offered for contribution to the ARC-funded project 'Globalising Australian Literature: Asian-Australian writing, Asian perspectives on Australian literature.' The student will join a research team consisting of Alison Broinowski, Wenche Ommundsen, Paul Sharrad, Ouyang Yu and another PhD student in the investigation of multiple facets of Australian literary interaction with Asia. We welcome applications from qualified students who can demonstrate an understanding of the general field of study and have a developed research proposal in a particular area with relevance to it, such as: South East Asian-Australian writers; the reception and study of Australian literature in India (or other major Asian country); theoretical perspectives on Asian-Australian literary production. Applications should include a full cv, including transcripts of previous studies, the names of two academic referees, a research proposal and a statement about your understanding of, and interest in, this area of study. For more information please contact Prof. Wenche Ommundsen on (02) 4221 5445 (wenche@uow.edu.au). Deadline for applications: **14 November 2008**.

The Center for Asian Democracy at the University of Louisville invites applications for its Visiting Fellows program for the 2009-2010 academic year. Fellows are expected to be in residence with the Center for the academic year and will receive a stipend of \$40,000 and an additional \$3,000 for research and travel expenses to Louisville. We expect to appoint three fellows for this academic year. Applicants need to demonstrate their competency in Asian studies with a solid record of publications. The fellowship will be ideal for junior scholars whose work is related to democratization in Asia, and senior scholars on sabbatical leave. Fellows are expected to be actively involved in the Center's scholarly activities and to present their research in a public forum. For details about the Center, please visit our website: <http://louisville.edu/asiandemocracy/>. Applicants should send a research proposal of approximately 1,000 words, curriculum vita, one writing sample, and three letters of recommendation by **December 1, 2008** to Dr. Shiping Hua, Director, Center for Asian Democracy, Ford Hall 205, the University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292, the United States of America. Phone: 502-852-2667, Fax: 502-852-7923. Applications are accepted until position is filled. Email inquiries are welcome: shiping.hua@louisville.edu.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Director of Nordic Asia Research Institute. NIAS is an internationally recognized, 40 years old Asian studies institute. Together with 26 Nordic partner institutions NIAS works to promote the study of Asia. The academic focus is on the societal transformations of modern Asia in their historical context. Qualifications The new Director should be a recognised researcher with a substantial research record in Asian studies and have proven leadership skills and management experience. The new Director will be expected to continue active research in the Asian Studies field on a quarter time basis. Position available: as of **1 February 2009** or as soon as possible thereafter. Further information: www.nias.ku.dk.

Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Religious Studies of South East Asia, National University of Singapore. The Southeast Asian Studies Programme seeks applications for a tenure-track position at the level of Assistant Professor in the area of religious experience in Southeast Asia. Preference will be for those with a research focus on Indonesia, the Philippines, or Vietnam. Applicants must be committed to working and teaching in an interdisciplinary environment with an area studies perspective. They should be actively engaged in research, be fluent in at least one Southeast Asian language, and show evidence of a strong publications record, or the potential to develop one. They should also have relevant teaching experience, as the successful applicant will be expected to teach at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. A PhD is required at the time of appointment, which will begin in July 2009. Please submit a full CV and a statement describing your research and teaching interests. In addition, please arrange for three reference letters to be sent directly to the Chair of the Search Committee under confidential cover. Inquiries and completed applications should be sent to: Chair of the Search Committee; Southeast Asian Studies Programme; National University of Singapore, 3 Arts Link, Singapore 117570; Fax: (65) 6777-6608; Email: seasec@nus.edu.sg. Applications close on **25 November 2008**. Only short-listed candidates will be notified of the selection committee's decision.