

# Indonesia Council Digest April 2009

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, recently published articles 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](mailto:michele.ford@usyd.edu.au).

## NEWS

**From the Lowy Institute:** In February, the Australian Government, in cooperation with the Lowy Institute, held a major conference entitled *Partners in a New Era* looking at the future of Australia-Indonesia relations. Malcolm Cook, the Program Director East Asia at the Institute, has written a brief Outcomes Report to capture the main ideas, debates and recommendations to come out of the 2-day conference. A copy of this publication can be accessed at <http://www.lowyinstitute.org/PublicationPop.asp?pid=1001>

**From Ross McLeod, Editor, *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*:** As a journal editor I am disappointed that academic journals now rarely publish comments on articles and rejoinders by their authors. The quality of academic research was improved by this process. With this in mind, the *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies* has just introduced a new online *Interactive Forum*. We believe this is a world first for an academic journal. It enables readers to submit a comment on any new or recent article. It will create a truly interactive debate, bringing together authors, readers and other experts in the field in a way not previously possible, and generating a collaborative dialogue for the entire journal community. The *Forum* is fully moderated. Its archive will be permanent, so that all its items will be citable in perpetuity. I strongly encourage you to get involved by contributing a comment on any of the articles or notes we have published during the last five years. The *Forum* can be found at [www.BIES-forum.com](http://www.BIES-forum.com). If you are not already a subscriber to the journal you have a unique chance to test out the *Forum* by going to [www.informaworld.com](http://www.informaworld.com) and using voucher code VCBIEEV00011B69 to gain free access to all 2008 articles and more.

## BOOKS

**Maribeth Erb and Priyambudi Sulistiyanto (eds) DEEPENING Democracy in Indonesia? Direct Elections for Local Leaders (Pilkada), ISEAS, Singapore, 2009.**

Since the fall of long-reigning President Soeharto, in 1998, Indonesia has been in an era of transition, away from an authoritarian regime, and on a “quest for democracy”. This quest started with decentralization laws implemented in 2001, which gave greater autonomy to the regions, and continued with the direct elections for the national and local legislatures and the President in 2004. The latest development in this democratization process is the implementation of a system for the direct election of regional leaders, which began in 2005; the first round of elections across the nation for all governors, mayors and district heads was completed in 2008. Authors of the chapters in this volume, the result of a workshop in Singapore in 2006, present data from across the archipelago for these first direct elections for local leaders and give their assessment as to how far these elections have contributed to a “deepening democracy”.

**Tineke Hellwig, Eric Tagliacozzo, *The Indonesia Reader: History, Culture, Politics*, Duke University Press, Durham, 2009.**

Assembled for the traveler, student, and expert alike, the Reader includes more than 150 selections: journalists articles, explorers chronicles, photographs, poetry, stories, cartoons, drawings, letters, speeches, and more. Many pieces are by Indonesians; some are translated into English for the first time. All have introductions by the volume’s editors. Well-known figures such as Indonesia’s acclaimed novelist Pramoedya Ananta Toer and the American anthropologist Clifford Geertz are featured alongside other artists and scholars, as well as politicians, revolutionaries, colonists, scientists, and activists. Organized chronologically, the volume addresses early Indonesian civilizations; contact with traders from India, China, and the Arab Middle East; and the European colonization of Indonesia, which culminated in centuries of Dutch rule. Selections offer insight into Japan’s occupation (1942-45), the establishment of an independent Indonesia, and the post-independence era, from Sukarno’s presidency (1945-67), through Suharto’s dictatorial regime (1967-98), to the present Reformasi period.

**Moeliono, Moira Wollenberg and Evan Limberg Godwin (eds) *The Decentralization of Forest Governance: Politics, Economics and the Fight for control of Forests in Indonesian Borneo*, London, Earthscan, 2008.**

This powerful new book from leading experts provides an in-depth account of how trends towards increased local governance are shifting control over natural resource management from the state to local societies, and the implications of this control for social justice and the environment. The first part of the book lays the theoretical framework and larger context in state and society relations have occurred. Part two covers how the devolution process has occurred in Malinau (Indonesian Borneo), the policy context, struggles and conflicts, and how Malinau has organized itself. The third part looks at the broader issues of property relations, conflict, local governance and political participation associated with decentralization.

## **CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS**

**The Third International Conference on Southeast Asia (ICONSEA 2009) will be held from the 8th to 9th of December 2009, at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. The theme of**

the Conference is "Developing Southeast Asia: Challenges and Prospects in the New Millennium". Topics of interest include but are not limited to: Regional Economy, Maritime Southeast Asia, Minorities in Southeast Asia, ASEAN and Regional Integration, Arts, Literature and Culture in Southeast Asia, Political Development in Southeast Asia, Social Development in Southeast Asia, Economic Development in Southeast Asia, Government and Politics in Southeast Asia, Foreign Policy and International Relations. Abstract submitted must not exceed 300 words and send to [yulyadi@yahoo.com](mailto:yulyadi@yahoo.com) or [iconsea2009@gmail.com](mailto:iconsea2009@gmail.com) before **25th of June 2009**. For further information on the Conference, visit <http://umconference.um.edu.my/ICONSEA2009>

**Call For Papers: 4th Asian Graduate Forum On Southeast Asian Studies 2009.** The Asia Research Institute (ARI) of the National University of Singapore (NUS) invites applications from postgraduate students who are engaged in research on Southeast Asia to attend the 4th Asian Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies on 13 - 17 July 2009. This 3-day forum will be part of ARI's 5-day Graduate Development Institute and Forum, which in addition to the forum will include two full days of sessions aimed to develop graduate student understandings of academia and relevant skills, through roundtable discussions with faculty, focused practical seminars and breakout group discussions. Postgraduate students working on Southeast Asia are invited to submit abstracts based either on work in progress that is at an advanced stage (i.e. already completed data collection and analysis), or on completed work. Students whose papers are selected for presentation at the forum will participate in the full 5 days of the Graduate Development Institute and Forum. Registration fees and Singapore expenses will be covered for those whose abstracts are accepted for presentation. If necessary, students may also apply for some funding to cover regional travel costs. Graduate students should submit a 400-word abstract of their proposed paper and application form to Miss Sharon Ong at [arios@nus.edu.sg](mailto:arios@nus.edu.sg) no later than **15 April 2009**. The abstract should clarify the substantive issues which your paper will address and be firmly grounded in your own research project. Using the format provided, the abstract should include information on objectives, methods, and findings, as well as explain the original contribution the research makes to the field of study. Click here [http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/%2Fevents\\_categorydetails.asp%3Fcategoryid%3D6%26eventid%3D916](http://www.facebook.com/l.php?u=http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/%2Fevents_categorydetails.asp%3Fcategoryid%3D6%26eventid%3D916) for the Application Form. Please include your name, institutional affiliation, e-mail address and other contact information. One confidential letter of recommendation from a supervisor should also be forwarded to this address by the same date. Those selected have to submit full-length papers, of around 5,000 words in length, by **30 June 2009**.

**The ARC Asia Pacific Futures Research Network is pleased to announce its signature event for 2009 supporting the theme of Trade and Industry in the Asia Pacific** to be held at the ANU campus in Canberra, Australia between 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2009. As the signature event for the ARC APFRN's 2009 theme of Trade and Industry, this conference will look at the regional and global market integration in trade and industry in Asia Pacific in the context of major changes in the global economy and its historical, institutional and political economy aspects. In particular the conference will explore the following themes - with the participation of leading international scholars in each area: Historical perspectives on Trade and industry in Asia Pacific in the context longer term shifts in the global economy; Emerging trends in trade and industry in Asia Pacific, including the rise of China

and India, focusing on the nexus between production fragmentation, global production networks and multinational corporations (MNCs); Political economy of trade, FDI and regional economic integration; The impact of the global economic crisis on the Asia-Pacific economies. Prospective contributors should submit a draft version of the paper or a detailed abstract by e-mail no later than **31 May 2009** to: Karen Nulty ([Karen.nulty@anu.edu.au](mailto:Karen.nulty@anu.edu.au)). Please include with your draft/abstract a cover page with your name, title, affiliation, address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address. If accepted, a completed paper will be due by, **15 October 2009**.

## **PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES**

The fully-refereed journal RIMA (*Review of Indonesian and Malaysian Affairs*) has started a new section specifically for postgrads. Under the heading 'Letter from the Field' it is a chance for postgrads to write short (2 000 words) impressionistic and free-wheeling articles about every day life and experiences as field researchers. The aim is to give a feeling of what it is like to be there and to observe the issues of concern to locals, conveying the whole with colour and freshness. Two fine letters (by Michael Eilenberg and Paul Zeccola) appeared in RIMA in 2008 and we are now seeking the next 'Letter from' - with a deadline of mid-May 2009. We are particularly interested in hearing from researchers in 'outback' parts of Indonesia in the context of the elections - what are the reactions of locals and how is this affecting daily life for the researcher. Libraries, archives and 'inside' places are as much 'field' sites as villages. The individual voice and a light touch is the key to this kind of writing. Supervisors and /or grad students are encouraged to contact Virginia Hooker ([virginia.hooker@anu.edu.au](mailto:virginia.hooker@anu.edu.au)) or Campbell Macknight ([macknight@ozemail.com.au](mailto:macknight@ozemail.com.au)) with offers of 'letters from...' This is an ongoing feature in RIMA so please keep it in mind for future issues, not just this deadline in May.

The *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology (IJSA)* is a multidisciplinary peer-reviewed journal published that will be monthly by Academic Journals (<http://www.academicjournals.org/IJSA>). IJSA is dedicated to increasing the depth of the subject across disciplines with the ultimate aim of expanding knowledge of the subject. The journal welcomes the submission of manuscripts that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence, and will publish: original articles in basic and applied research, case studies, critical reviews, surveys, opinions, commentaries and essays. We invite you to submit your manuscript(s) to [IJSA@acadjourn.org](mailto:IJSA@acadjourn.org) for publication in the Maiden Issue (April 2009). Our objective is to inform authors of the decision on their manuscript(s) within four weeks of submission. Following acceptance, a paper will normally be published in the next issue. Instruction for authors and other details are available on our website; <http://www.academicjournals.org/IJSA/Instruction.htm>

## **SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS/RESEARCH/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

PhD Scholarship, Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Social Change, College of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University. *The Peace Process in Aceh, Indonesia*. We are seeking a suitably qualified applicant to participate in an ARC-funded research project that explores the peace process in Aceh, Indonesia. The PhD research will focus on the transformation and experiences of supporters of the Free Aceh Movement. The successful applicant will work under the

supervision of Dr. Edward Aspinall in the Department of Political and Social Change. Applicants should have at least an honours degree or equivalent in Political Science, Asian Studies or a related discipline, have demonstrated research capacity and potential and be capable of conducting field research in the Indonesian language. Research or related field experience in Aceh will be an advantage. Appropriate fieldwork funds will be available for the successful candidate. The scholarship is open to domestic and international applicants. Applicants should complete the standard application form for admission to a research program and/or scholarship application. Please indicate on your application that you wish to be considered for the "Peace Process in Aceh, Indonesia" scholarship. Further information is available from Dr Edward Aspinall ([edward.aspinall@anu.edu.au](mailto:edward.aspinall@anu.edu.au)). Application closing date: **11 May 2009**.

**The research consortium 'In Search of Middle Indonesia' invites applications for two 12-month postdoctoral fellowships, to start as early as September 2009.** 'In Search of Middle Indonesia' (<http://www.kitlv.nl/home/Projects?id=14>) is a joint Netherlands-Indonesia research program. It conducts social science research on intermediate classes (lower middle class), and particularly youth, in provincial towns in Indonesia. It runs from 2006 to 2010. Each postdoctoral fellowship is for a period of one year, with an evaluation after six months. Both postdoctoral fellows will produce peer-reviewed scholarly publications. In addition, one will assist with preparing other Middle Indonesia publications. Successful candidates will be hosted at the KITLV in Leiden, Netherlands. The candidate should have a completed PhD, with Southeast Asian research experience either in urban studies or in youth studies. Applicants should submit (1) their curriculum vitae, (2) the names and contact details of two academic referees, (3) a 2-3 page research proposal, and (4) a short statement indicating possible interest in editing other Middle Indonesia publications. The proposal should be on one of the following topics: either the rise/ role of middle classes in provincial towns in Indonesia or Being young in a provincial town in Indonesia. Applications should be sent electronically to Middle Indonesia program coordinator Dr. Gerry van Klinken ([klinken@kitlv.nl](mailto:klinken@kitlv.nl)) by **15 June 2009**. Positions may remain open beyond that date until filled. Further information may also be obtained from Gerry van Klinken. 'In Search of Middle Indonesia' is funded by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences KNAW under the Scientific Program Netherlands-Indonesia (SPIN). Coordination takes place through KITLV ([www.kitlv.nl](http://www.kitlv.nl)).