



AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
Asia Pacific Futures Research Network

Email Bulletin

www.sueztosuva.org.au

AUGUST 2007
ISSUE 11

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Appointment of ARC Asia Pacific Futures Communications Coordinator

We are very pleased to introduce Nicki Davies who has recently joined us as Communications Co-ordinator. Nicki brings to the network extensive experience in the private sector both in Australia and internationally. Her role will be to enhance the flow of information within the network and between the network and external partners.

Nicki works the second half of the week and can be contacted via:

Email: Nicki.Davies@uts.edu.au OR Telephone: (02) 9514 1576 / 0410 590 408

She looks forward to meeting you either electronically or in person

2007 Network Grants Update

2007 Fourth Round Grant Applications

A fourth and final round of grant applications for 2007 will close on Wednesday, 12 September. Please refer to the website for further details.

Topics will include the signature themes from both 2007 and 2008:

- Mobility and Health in Asia Pacific Populations (Health and Population)
- Crossing Borders of Cultural Meanings in the Asia Pacific (Culture and Religion)

Summary Statements for Previous Grants

Samantha Hauw (UTS PhD student) has compiled a series of PDF files with summary overviews of the dozens of network-funded projects. These are now available online at www.sueztosuva.org.au/successful_apps.php

Many thanks to Samantha for her work with the Network!



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2007 Third Round Grant Results

The Grants sub-committee which included Professor Colin Brown, Professor Louise Edwards and Professor Michael Wesley met on Friday, 27th July to assess this round's applications.

Projects were carefully reviewed and discussed before finally agreeing to award funding to five successful applicants:

Applicant	Affiliation	Project Title
Dr Aneela Z Babar and Iftikhar Arman Rashid	Monash	Symposium on civil-military relationships: Implications for the health and mobility of civilian populations in Asia Pacific
Professor Katherine Gibson	ANU	Health impacts of community enterprises in rural migrant sending areas of the Philippines: A writing and reflection workshop
Dr Li Tana	ANU	A small Asian Mediterranean Sea: Gulf of Tongking through History
Dr Pál Nyíri	Macquarie	Twice Diaspora: Harbin Russians in China and Australia
Dr Benjamin Penny	ANU	Religious Innovation in East Asia

For a more detailed summary of the Round Three outcome in addition to previous successful applicants please visit:

http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/successful_apps.php



Recent events

Scaling Research Heights: Postgraduate and ECR Workshop on Leadership and Management in Research on Asia and the Pacific

This highly successful workshop led by Dr Tim Scrase (CASTRANS, University of Wollongong) was designed to improve the sustainability of our field by enhancing leadership skills among a new generation of Asia Pacific Scholars.

The event was held over two days (17-18 July) with 36 students and ECRs from 16 different Universities in attendance. The workshop covered a range of topics including:

- **Looking Ahead: Promotion and Establishing a Research Portfolio**
- Prof Lee Astheimer (PVC-R, UoW)
- **Research Mentoring for ECRs**
- Associate Prof Lenore Lyons (UoW)
- **Building and Managing Relationships with Industry and NGOs**
- Dr Tim Scrase (UoW)
- **Developing Research Networks and Cross Disciplinary Linkages**
- Prof Stuart Cunningham (QUT)
- **Research Issues and Trends in Asia and the Pacific: Partnerships for Research in Our Region** - Prof Krishna Sen (ARC)
- **Shifting Gears: Maximising the Potential of Your Research**
- Wenche Ommundsen (UoW)
- **Research Grant Writing: Skills, Trends and Tricks**
- Julie Matarczyk and Sharon Hughes (UoW)

In addition to the speakers above leading scholars from around Australia generously gave of their time to share their expertise and experience including:

- Prof Stephen Hill, AM, Honorary Professorial Fellow, University of Wollongong.
- Dr Sarjit Kaur, Universiti Sains Malaysia (Penang)

The workshop was sponsored by the APFRN -

With additional financial support from the University of Wollongong (ARC Key Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies (CAPSTRANS)), The Faculty of Arts and the University Research Committee.



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2007 Signature Conference: Monash University

This year's signature event was an outstanding success and the Network owes **Lenore Manderson** and **Kathleen Nolan** a tremendous vote of thanks for organising a stimulating and innovative conference supporting our annual theme "**Health and Mobility in Asia Pacific Populations**"



Professor Lenore Manderson hosted the 2007 Signature Conference organised around five themes: Disaster and violence; population mobility; spread of disease; relationship of health, identity & wellbeing AND politics of health, health activism & social movements.

It involved 117 participants, and included 12 plenary presentations and 20 parallel sessions with 62 papers. Work presented included that of photographers, poets, musicians, actors, video artists and performance artists. The eclectic approach showed that questions of society, culture, politics and the economy in Asia and the Pacific are picked up and troubled in multiple discursive fields, artistic and scientific, commercial and personal.

Here's a sample of the many positive feedback comments:

"It was an incredible few days and has left my head buzzing with ideas. I particularly wanted to comment on how supported I felt as a very junior researcher. At no point did I feel that I had less to offer than anyone else..."



An independent review by Professor Terry Hull (ANU) will be published in Medical Sociology Online later this year.

Read his opening to get a sense of the conference success ... "It is seldom that a report on a conference on health and mobility rates comment on performances, poetry, cinematography, and food. But equally, it is rare that all those issues would be integral to an academic program of high quality and true intellectual excitement. This is what happened in Melbourne at the *Transitions* conference..."

<http://www.medicalsociologyonline.org/>

For more information visit the conference website at Monash:

www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/conference



Forthcoming events

South Asia Update and Poverty Dynamics Conference

To be held in Canberra on 27 and 28 September, 2007.

This highly-focused discussion of issues and events in India and South Asia aims to enhance policy makers' knowledge of trends and developments in South Asia, and to provide networking opportunities for exploring economic, social and political dynamics in the region.

Speakers include renowned experts from the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Australian Strategic Policy Institute and regional agencies as well as specialists based in Australian and overseas universities.

For further information contact Tracy Lee t.lee@latrobe.edu.au OR visit the conference website: www.sueztosuva.org.au/south_asia/sa_research_facility.php

Other events

Don't forget that a vast array of ARC-APFRN funded events are taking place over the next few months. Detailed information is on the website as it becomes available: <http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/e2005/>

Your participation is most welcome and please don't hesitate to spread the word about all events far and wide!

News just in ...

APAI (PhD) Scholarship in Islamic Finance

This Australian Postgraduate Award Industry (APAI) scholarship is funded by an ARC Linkage Projects grant and will provide support for three years of full time study for a PhD research project in the general area of Islamic finance. There is no specific commencement date, but studies should start sometime during 2007. Applications close 31 August 2007.

Full details are available on the Network website www.sueztosuva.org.au or by contacting Professor Michael Skully email: michael.skully@buseco.monash.edu.au