

Griffith Asia Institute

NEWSLETTER

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Australia and the Asia-Pacific Century

Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Honourable Stephen Smith MP was guest speaker at Perspectives: Asia on 14 August. The rise of China, India, Indonesia, the weight of the combined ASEAN economies, and the strengths of Japan and Korea contributes not only to the economic growth of the Asia-Pacific region but to political and strategic weight. With global economic, strategic and political influence shifting to the Asia-Pacific, Minister Smith spoke about the *Asia-Pacific Century*.

Minister Smith discussed Australia's engagement with the Asia-Pacific and its foreign policy implications. Engagement with Asia has been a component of Australian foreign policy for sometime, building on the groundwork of former governments, the current government now has an eye for the strategic future. This is being accomplished through intensified bilateral dialogues, bilateral security arrangements, high-level contacts with regional institutions and targeted development assistance.

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Minister Smith talking to the audience
photograph by Natasha Harth
Courtesy of Queensland Art Gallery

Editorial

This year marks a period of transition and consolidation for the Griffith Asia Institute. Professor Michael Wesley's departure was a timely reminder of the extraordinary contribution he made to GAI, and of the need to build on the considerable foundations he established. It is with this thought in mind that I'm delighted to announce that Professor Andrew O'Neil will be assuming the directorship of GAI in 2010.

During this period of transition it has been my pleasure to be acting Director of the Institute. In this role I've had the advantage of seeing first hand the work of the Institute, which has especially impressed me with its depth of talent and expertise, as well as the diversity and reach of its activities. From the One Just World Forums in partnership with World Vision, to the very popular Perspectives Asia seminars we co-host with the Queensland Art Gallery, to the international workshops on Nuclear Energy, Climate Change and Legitimacy in Asia, to name a few, the work of the Institute is undeniably rich, broad and relevant.

Recent events in our region – from the rise of China and India as economic and potentially strategic powers, the effects of the Global Financial Crisis, to regional instability as a consequence of developments in North Korea, Burma, Thailand and Fiji – have highlighted the pressing need for informed, thoughtful and policy relevant research into Australia and its engagement with our region.

Griffith Asia Institute newsletter

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By promoting knowledge of Australia's changing region and its importance to our future, the Griffith Asia Institute continues to foster academic scholarship, public awareness and considered and responsive policy making.

We are looking forward to a number of exciting events for the rest of 2009. October sees top research students from across the Asia Pacific region come together for the Emerging Leaders Dialogue as part of the Australia-China Futures Dialogue, with the Leader's Lecture being given by the Honourable Mr Bob Hawke AC in December. In November we are hosting a workshop on Pakistan's Chronic Instability and another on Sovereign Wealth Funds. The University's new research focus on Asian Politics, Security and Development, is also taking shape with a number of new research fellows coming on board in 2010. Under this program, the Griffith Asia Institute and the Centre for Governance and Public Policy will work together to deliver world class research on issues that affect and shape the Asia Pacific region.

As this brief overview suggests, the Griffith Asia Institute continues to be one of Australia's and the region's foremost centres of research excellence.



Professor Haig Patapan



Beyond Paradise – Securing the future of the Pacific

The Pacific Islands, a collection of fragile states especially vulnerable due to their small size, limited economic diversity, remoteness from major trade and commercial centres, unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, and weak governance continue to face economic challenges. Economic gains have been weak, volatile, and unequally distributed.

With a big percentage of the region's population under 25, improving options for young people is critical, as is addressing women's virtual exclusion from decision making at all levels so they can help shape a different future. Yet for all these challenges, the Pacific remains a place of great natural and cultural diversity and resilient, creative communities.

Bob McMullan, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance, Professor Jason Sharman, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University and Emele Duituturaga, Pacific Islands gender and development specialist came together in July to present opinions on how the region can overcome its challenges such as climate change and governance issues to attain durable peace and prosperity. The event was chaired by GAI member Associate Professor Martin Griffiths.

One Just World is a series of national forums focusing on global poverty and development topics of high public interest and relevance. The aim is to help Australians become informed and involved in helping people worldwide who are fighting to escape the poverty spiral.

The Brisbane forums are jointly sponsored by The Griffith Asia Institute, International Women's Development Agency, World Vision and AusAID. The next Brisbane forum is scheduled for 2010.

Building India-Griffith Relations

Two Griffith Asia Institute staff were personally thanked by India's High Commissioner in July for their efforts to diffuse potential conflict between Indian students, police and the community following the recent Melbourne riots.

India's High Commissioner Mrs Sujatha Singh visited Griffith University for a round table discussion with Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor, Griffith Asia Institute staff, current and recently-graduated Indian students to explore Indian students' experiences in Brisbane and how the University could continue building solid relationships with India and its students.

Brisbane-based students at the meeting said their experiences in Australia had been positive, differing from recent conflicts in Melbourne and Sydney.

The Commissioner thanked Stephen Illidge, PhD candidate in Griffith's Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS) and Dr Ashutosh Misra, Research Fellow in the Griffith Asia Institute and Associate Investigator, CEPS, for their special contribution towards easing the conflict in Melbourne last month.

Mr Illidge was so moved by the violent riots that he made a trip to Melbourne and Canberra to open dialogue with all stakeholders and share his specialist experience as a police practitioner.

A former police officer of 15 years and most recently officer in charge of the Queensland Police Asian Specialist Unit, Mr Illidge, is now researching Asian international student crime and safety at Griffith.

He enlisted the support of his colleague Dr Misra, who moved to Australia from India in 2007 and who has the language, cultural skills and experience necessary for dealing effectively with Indian government agencies.

They made contact with key stakeholders and set up face-to-face meetings in Melbourne and Canberra with representatives from the Federation of Indian Students (FISA), Indian Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), Indian High Commissioner, and the Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR).

They now hope to establish an Indian students' safety committee in Queensland similar to those already established in Victoria and New South Wales.

"Following our successful meeting with the Indian High Commissioner in Canberra, we offered practical solutions and facilitated crucial meetings between the Indian government and the Indian student body," Mr Illidge said.

They also gained the trust of FISA who have continued to seek their advice about commenting on issues and building relationships with the Victorian police, Australian and Indian governments.

"Our meeting with FISA aimed to offer our advocacy to Melbourne's Indian student community and seek their commitment to remain engaged in the criminal justice processes, specifically, proactive policing strategies such as the Brimbank Police Indian Community Reference Group," Mr Illidge said.

"I have since been invited by the Lowy Institute to support their review of issues affecting international students in Australia being led by their new executive director, Professor Michael Wesley (formerly Griffith Asia Institute director)."

Dr Misra said: "From the High Commissioner's visit to Queensland we will further develop Griffith University institutional ties with the Indian High Commission for future cooperation and collaboration."

With help from the High Commissioner, Mr Illidge and Dr Misra will visit India in October to meet with Indian government authorities, student education and migration agencies. They will also meet with key academic institutions, and research think tanks to discuss effective solutions that will ensure a safer study experience for Indian students in Australia.



Griffith University Pro-Vice-Chancellor Business Professor Michael Powell, Acting Director GAI Professor Haig Patapan, Mr Stephen Illidge, Indian High Commissioner Mrs Sujatha Singh, Griffith University Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor and Dr Ashutosh Misra.

Perspectives: Asia

Professor Hugh White

If China Grows: Australia's Options in Beijing's Century

It is predicated that China will overtake the US to become the biggest economy in the world by 2020. Australia has always felt protected by Western power in Asia, and we have always feared what would happen if that power fades. If China becomes the largest economy in the world, America's strategic and political power in Asia will erode. This would undermine some of the deepest foundations of Australia's self-image in Asia, and require us to re-imagine ourselves and our role. Professor Hugh White, Professor of Strategic Studies at the Australian National University and a Visiting Fellow at the Lowy Institute for International Policy addressed Australia's options at the Perspectives: Asia seminar.

Professor White explained that China, Asia and Australia have been through 40 years of relative peace and co-operation in the region with an understanding of United States primacy. As China's economy grows it can not avoid challenging the United States led order. History shows changes in balances of power like these often produce power struggles, strategic competition and wars. Professor White believes that we do not need to look at this time with gloom as all parties have an interest in preserving order and stability.

The most likely scenario is that the US and China will engage in strategic competition. With this occurring in our region, Australia needs to determine what we want to see happen and how we want to position ourselves in the region.

Do we follow tradition and support the US as they enter strategic competition? Do we want to be a middle power in Asia's Century? If so, do we have the military capability for this? Can we build and sustain a military force that can enable us to use it as a strategic power?

Professor White believes so as long as there is an increase in military spending, from 2% of GDP to just under 3% of GDP, and a more robust defence policy is set.

Professor White implies that China's rise in power does not automatically mean a threat to Australia, much will depend on how Asia evolves, the new Asian order and how China sees the region accommodating its interests.



From left to right: President of AIIA Qld Branch Geoffrey Ewing, Japan Consul-General Mr Makoto Hinei, Griffith University Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor, Professor Hugh White, Griffith University Chancellor Ms Leneen Forde AC, GAI Acting Director Professor Haig Patapan. Photograph by Natasha Harth Courtesy of Queensland Art Gallery

Australia and the Asia-Pacific Century

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From left to right, Griffith University Pro-Vice-Chancellor Business, Professor Michael Powell, The Honourable Mr Stephen Smith, Vice-Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor, Mr Michael Choi MP, Professor Haig Patapan. Photograph by Natasha Harth Courtesy of Queensland Art Gallery

The government's commitment to bilateral relationships was also discussed along with the importance of fostering regional cooperation in both the economic and security spheres.

Putting in place appropriate regional architecture to enable high level dialogues on key strategic issues is a priority for the current government, according to Minister Smith.

In the context of mentioning existing organisations and regional groupings, Minister Smith talked about the Asia Pacific community initiative, which looks at what sort of regional architecture is needed by the year 2020 to serve the region's interests in the future.

Minister Smith also mentioned the importance of the United States to the region's future, in its bilateral relations with China and India as well as India's relationship with China.

In conclusion, Minister Smith commented that Australian security and prosperity is increasingly defined by what is happening in Asia. Accordingly, the Australian Government is committed to engagement with the Asia Pacific region at every level through strengthening partnerships, participating in existing regional groupings and working to shape a new regional architecture for the future.

A full transcript of this speech can be found on the Minister's website, foreignminister.gov.au/speeches/index.html.

Perspectives: Asia

Professor Mark C. Elliott

The Old Silk Road in China Today: The Fate of Xinjiang.

Located in China's remote far west, Xinjiang (also known as Chinese Turkistan) is one of the last great Eurasian frontiers. Xinjiang is bordered by 8 different countries, a size slightly smaller than Queensland and a population of Australia or Shanghai, a sparse population by China standards.

Through a presentation of stunning photographs that portrayed the dramatic landscape and diversity of people that make up modern Uyghurs, Professor Elliott, from Harvard University, shared with the audience the turbulent history of Xinjiang. A cross road on the Old Silk Road the originally more Mongol/Asian looking Uyghurs, through centuries of inter racial marriages, are now more Iranian in appearance. The people of the area were also originally opposed to Islam and were predominately Buddhist.

In recent years, the government-sponsored "Go-West" economic development campaign has brought with it new levels of wealth, along with a marked rise in the migration of Han Chinese to Urumqi and the cities of the historic Silk Road oases. This development has at the same time introduced considerable dislocation, with many Uyghurs finding their culture coming under increasing pressure.



Unemployment is high for Uyghurs, advertisements stating Uyghurs need not apply is common and their religious freedoms are being hampered through policies like the need to be over 18 to visit a mosque.

Professor Elliott likens the situation as being as unstable as the situation in Tibet. He sees change will only occur if the Government has a policy that is more tolerant of Uyghurs or if the population of Han Chinese in Xinjiang becomes so overwhelmingly large compared to Uyghurs that what they say does not matter anymore, an unfortunate outcome but not an unprecedented outcome. The Uyghur issue for the Chinese government is a national one, and not a regional one as evident of riots in Urumqi this year that stemmed from Uyghurs getting jobs over Han Chinese in Guangzhou. The Government needs to find a balance to preserve China's sovereignty on one hand and allow people to live in peace on the other. According to Professor Elliott, finding this balance is crucial for the continued legitimacy of the Party.



The Uyghur People

Research

Legacies of Injustice

The international relations of the Asia-Pacific region are marked by numerous lingering resentments fuelled by memories of past injustices, particularly those committed during World War II. Often ignored or downplayed by state elites in the interests of maintaining orderly relations with their neighbours, these resentments can prove significant obstacles to improved diplomatic, trade or cultural relations and, at worst, can threaten armed conflict.

Despite this, Asian and Pacific states have been reluctant to address past wrongs in explicit terms, arguably for fear that they may jeopardise their foreign relations and regional peace and stability. Indeed, the order that guides relations between Asian states, it is often observed, favours peace and stability above all other objectives. In part, this has meant that the official discussion of past injustices has been limited to highly controlled, politically sanctioned expressions of anger and, more rarely, contrition.



Griffith Asia Institute Research Fellow Renée Jeffery



Although it might be argued that this approach has helped to reduce the possibility of war between states in the region in the post-colonial period, it cannot be said to have contributed to a lessening of tensions between the peoples of the Asia-Pacific region. Continuing criticism by China and South Korea over visits made by members of the Japanese government to the Yasukuni Shrine where the spirits of more than 2 million people, including 14 World War II Class-A war criminals, are enshrined is but one example of ongoing resentments and tensions over past injustices.

Memories of injustice have the potential to shape both contemporary and future relations between states and peoples in international politics.

Ongoing resentments nourished by legacies of perceived injustice may fuel renewed conflicts or, more insidiously, manifest themselves in unresolved tensions that underlie otherwise functional relationships. How persistent perceptions of injustice and feelings of resentment are addressed in international politics is therefore of particular importance to avoiding further conflict and maintaining order between former hostile parties.

With this in mind, GAI research fellow, Dr Renée Jeffery is currently working on a project that examines the legacies of injustice at play in the Asia-Pacific, the manner in which they shape the international politics of the region, and the means by which they might be addressed. The project looks, in particular, at the role that lesser acts of justice, such as public apologies, memorials, forgiveness ceremonies, and reconciliation processes play in mitigating the harmful effects of ongoing resentments in the region. It is being conducted in conjunction with an ARC Discovery project on the role of forgiveness in conflict resolution and peace building in Fiji, East Timor, and between Japan and South Korea. She has recently returned from conducting fieldwork in Japan.



The Sino-Australian Joint Research Program

中山大学、格理菲思大学、南昆士兰大学中澳联合研究中心

Sun Yatsen University, Griffith University and University of Southern Queensland

Since 2006, the Co-Directors and Management Team of the recently launched "Sino-Australian Joint Research Program"—Professor Don McMillen at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ), Professors Michael Wesley and Haig Patapan and Dr. Mingxian Su at the Griffith Asia Institute/Griffith University (GAI/GU), and Professor Wang Xinsheng at Sun Yatsen University (SYSU)—have been developing this exciting initiative with colleagues at the "partner institutions" as well as with scholars elsewhere. The Joint Program is devoted to research, research training, scholarly exchange, and timely dialogue on issues of wide concern related to sustainability and security.

The Joint Program held a highly successful 1st Annual Dialogue Forum, entitled "Non-Traditional Security in PRC-Australia Relations: 'Glocal' Issues of Common Concern", that was graciously hosted by Sun Yatsen University's School of Asia-Pacific Studies in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province, People's Republic of China (PRC) during the first week of July 2009.

The sessions of that Forum saw presentations by a dozen specially invited keynote speakers from both Australia and the PRC. The papers provided focal points for in-depth discussion amongst the internationally reputed scholars, experts and officials in attendance. The papers were devoted to several crucial and timely issues pertaining to sustainability and security, and were contextualised by the notion of "glocality". They were focused on the following themes: Addressing Climate Change and Energy Security—Some Perspectives from the PRC and Australia; Assessing Sino-Australian Security Relations; and Trans-National Issues and Their Regional Impacts.

Selected papers from the 1st Annual Dialogue Forum are to be published in both Chinese and English by the respected journal *The Asia-Pacific Review* (produced by SYSU's School of Asia-Pacific Studies).

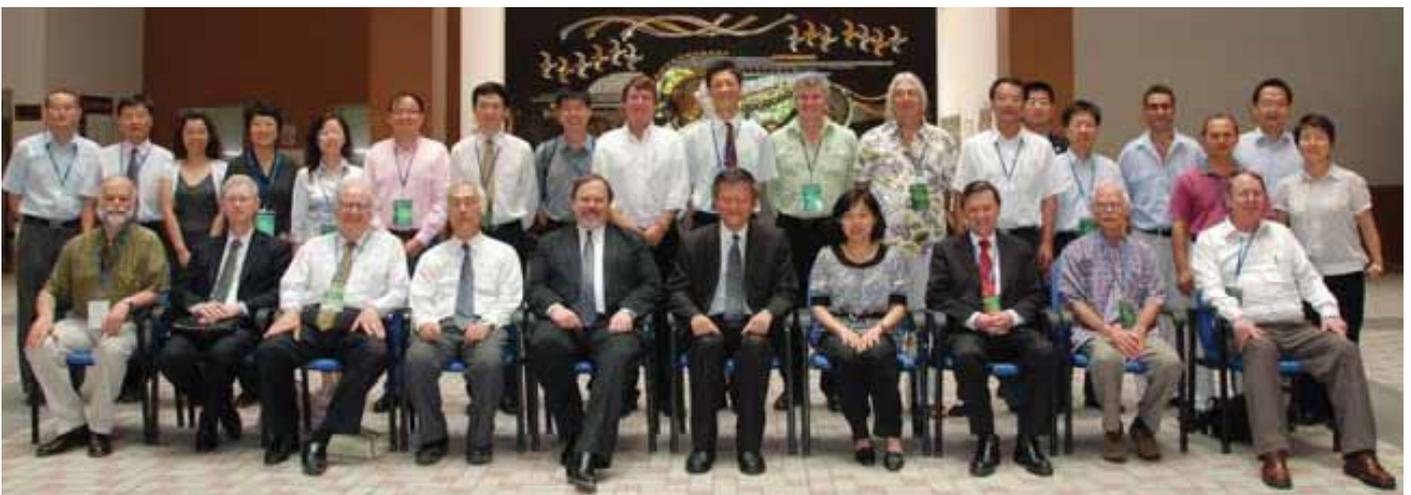
Delegates of the 1st Annual Dialogue Forum of the "Sino-Australian Joint Research Program", Sun Yatsen University, Guangzhou, People's Republic of China, 2-4 July 2009.

They are also in electronic form on the Griffith Asia Institute's website.

Based on the very positive outcomes achieved in Guangzhou, a 2nd Annual Dialogue Forum is scheduled for the period of 22-24 July 2010, and the Griffith Asia Institute has kindly offered to serve as the 2nd Forum's host in Brisbane (with cooperation from the USQ). The 2010 Forum will, once again, see the participation of a number of specially invited delegates from the three partner institutions, as well as from other PRC, regional, and Australian-based scholars, experts and government figures.

The 2010 Forum will be an extremely important activity in terms of enhancing leading-edge thinking, avenues of dialogue, and levels of mutual understanding between China and Australia (and others). This is especially significant given that a number of highly relevant "glocal" events have occurred over recent months. Thus, the Joint Program Management Team/2nd Forum Organisers are developing the central themes for the 2010 Forum that likely will focus on key issues under relating to "collaboration and governance" in bilateral, regional and global affairs. Several topical areas are being considered, both extant and emerging, that have political, economic, socio-cultural, environmental, and other on-going significance. To mention but a few, they include strategic trade and sustainable business, law and order/policing, strategic resources, the environment, people movements, and situations of conflict and volatility. Again, it is envisaged that the 2010 Forum will generate informative papers or reports, as well as generate future collaboration that would inform relevant experts, policy makers and publics.

Information about the Joint Program and its Annual Dialogue Forums can be obtained from the Griffith Asia Institute griffith.edu.au/business/griffith-asia-institute.



GAI and Other Selected Delegates. Back row, left-to-right—2nd, Prof. Zhong Ershun (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing); 6th, Prof. Liu Hong (Manchester University, UK); 7th, Prof. Ren Xiao (Fudan University, Shanghai); 8th, Dr. Mingxian Su (GAI); 9th, Dr. Michael Heazle (GAI); 10th, Prof. Wang Xinsheng (SYSU); 11th, Dr. Mark Howden (CSIRO); 12th, Dr. James Coughlan (James Cook University); Mr. Damon McMillen (USQ). Front row, left-to-right—1st, Prof. Richard Rigby (ANU); 2nd, Mr. Murray Davis (Head, Queensland Trade Office, Guangzhou); 3rd, Emeritus Prof. Colin Mackerras (GAI); 4th, Prof. Takeshi Hamashita (SYSU); 5th, Mr. Sean Kelly (Australian Consul-general, Guangzhou); 6th, Prof. Chen Chunsheng (Vice-President, SYSU); 7th, Ms. Li Chunyan (Deputy Director-General, Office for Foreign Affairs, Guangdong Provincial Government); 8th, Prof. Roger Stone (USQ); 9th, Prof. Don McMillen (USQ); and 10th, Prof. William Tow (ANU).

Workshops

Face and Politeness

Researchers from across the globe gathered at South Bank last month for a one-day International Symposium on Face and Politeness co-sponsored by Griffith Asia Institute.

Delegates from the UK, US, Japan, China, Malaysia, NZ and Australia presented their latest research at the event. Symposium convenor and Griffith University linguistics lecturer Dr Michael Haugh delivered a paper arguing that face and politeness/impoliteness revolved around concern about how others showed what they thought. "Perceptions of politeness and impoliteness generally involve what others who are present in the interaction show they think of us (or themselves), while face involves the perceptions of a broader community of people," Dr Haugh said. He said the way people showed politeness/impoliteness or gave/saved/threatened face differed across cultures and languages. "That's why this research is so important in our increasingly connected world where we come into contact with people from different cultures on almost a daily basis. It is also important for business and international relations where 'face' plays an important role." Keynote speaker Professor Dükriye Ruhi, from Middle East Technical University in Ankara, presented a ground-breaking paper on the way emotions are intertwined in face and im/politeness.

The event also featured a well-received panel on Chinese face and impoliteness co-organised by Yuling Pan from the US Census Bureau and Dániel Z Kádár from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.



(left to right) Dr Marlyna Maros (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia), Professor Dükriye Ruhi (Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey), Dr Carl Hinze (Eversheds LLP, Shanghai, China), Professor Yuling Pan (US Census Bureau, Washington, DC), Yun He (Loughborough University, UK), and Professor Yueguo Gu (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing).



Recovery from Recession

The Asia-Pacific Business Economics (APBE) Group of the Griffith Asia Institute sponsored a symposium on Tuesday 15 September 2009 at the Gold Coast Arts Centre on the topic "Recovery from Recession: How and When?"

This symposium focused on the lingering impact of the international credit crunch and collapse in asset prices on business conditions and unemployment. Key issues discussed included the severity of the economic downturn from an Asia-Pacific perspective, the nature of the economic recovery process, and the effect that various macroeconomic policy responses have had in mitigating the impact of the downturn.

Speakers included Michael Knox, Chief Economist, ABN-AMRO Morgans, and Professors Ross Guest, Tony Makin and Tom Nguyen of the Griffith Business School.



Michael Knox. Chief Economist, ABN-AMRO Morgans

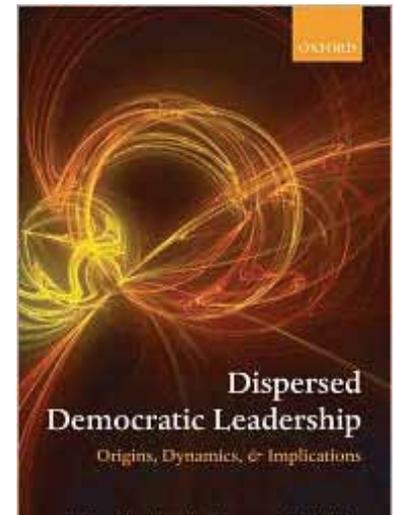
Publications

Dispersed Democratic Leadership:

Origins, Dynamics, and Implications Edited by John Kane, Haig Patapan and Paul 't Hart Oxford University Press, 2009.

Dispersed Democratic Leadership examines both the scope and consequences of the dispersal of the leadership role in democratic societies, a topic that has been relatively neglected by a political science literature dominated by studies of executive power. Individual chapters investigate the many loci of leadership found in modern democracies, some ancient and some newly emergent, some institutionalized and some ad-hoc, some self-consciously political and some avowedly a-political. In assessing the effects of leadership dispersal, the book argues that understanding how policies are shaped in a democracy requires balancing the usual person-centred approach with one that is more contextual, institutional, and relational.

The public leadership role of people in business, the media, non-governmental organizations, bureaucracy, law, show-business and many other areas are instructively investigated to enhance our appreciation of the complexity of democratic political systems and to allow us to assess the effects, both good and ill, of democratic leadership dispersal.



Workshops

In Search of Legitimacy

In July, Professors John Kane and Haig Patapan, in collaboration with Dr Hui-chieh Loy of the National University of Singapore (NUS), held a workshop in Singapore entitled 'The Search for Legitimacy: Managing the Political Consequences of Asian Development.'

Supported by the Department of Philosophy, NUS and the Asian Politics, Security and Development Research Program, Griffith University, the workshop explored in particular the struggles of non-liberal internationalising regimes in the region to establish new or renovated grounds for their own political legitimacy, an important issue for the continued stability of the regimes themselves and for the fate of the whole international order.

Focusing on eight Asian countries – China, Japan, Burma, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia – international scholars presented and reviewed papers exploring questions of political legitimacy, especially looking at available legitimating alternatives that regimes may draw on in addition to economic performance, for example, democracy, cultural factors and nationalism.

The organisers also presented a theoretical paper that re-examined the whole concept of political legitimacy. The papers were rich in detail, informative and provoked lively discussion. All participants agreed that the workshop was a great success.

The edited collection will be published in a special issue of the journal Politics & Policy to appear in September 2010.



The Politics of Nuclear Energy in Asia

Experts from around the world met in Brisbane in July to discuss the Politics of Nuclear Energy in Asia. The workshop was hosted by Professor Xu Yi-Chong from the Griffith Asia Institute/Centre for Governance and Public Policy as part of an Australian Research Council grant.

Nuclear energy has recently returned to centre stage, among politicians and those concerned about energy security and global warming. In some countries, such as Australia, the debate is on whether the country should start developing nuclear energy capacity. In most Asian countries, however, it is about how, rather than whether, to expand their nuclear energy capacity. Meanwhile, the international community remains as divided as it was in the 1970s and 1980s during the first wave of nuclear expansion. Its supporters see nuclear energy as the future for mankind, unlimited and clean. It is a viable alternative to allow countries like China, India and Indonesia to continue economic development while reducing their energy security vulnerability, easing the pressure of rising energy prices and abating environmental pollution. Many, however, are cynical about this renewed interest and see this 'nuclear renaissance' as another soon-to-evaporate fad which emerges whenever energy prices rise and politicians need something to promote. A few have resumed their vehement opposition to this call for nuclear expansion because of potential safety risks, nuclear proliferation or long-term environmental consequences of nuclear waste.

In the East Asian region, China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan have already developed substantial nuclear generation capacity. Each initiated its nuclear programs under different circumstances: China's started as a weapon program which sprung into an energy program after the reform started. South Korea and Taiwan both developed their nuclear energy programs under military regimes when little opposition was raised. The future development will definitely be subject to more public scrutiny. Japan's nuclear program faces quite different challenges as the accumulated nuclear waste tops the list of immediate problems.

Indonesia has long had an ambition to develop nuclear energy capacity because it faces some of the similar, as well as different, challenges as the first group of countries, but has not had a nuclear energy program yet. Nuclear energy development in India has been an international issue for some time.

These six countries/region share five distinct challenges that make nuclear power attractive:

- Rising demand for electricity
- All six countries have limited energy resources
- Coal-fired generation capacity in all these countries has created great pressure on the environment

Workshops

International workshop on climate change and growth in Asia

The Griffith Asia Institute together with the Asia-Pacific Centre for Sustainable Enterprise sponsored the above day workshop convened by Dr Moazzem Hossain on 8 September 2009. The Vice Chancellor, Professor Ian O'Connor, made the opening remarks and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Business), Professor Michael Powell, chaired the opening session.

The idea of this workshop has been mooted out of the recommendations made in the 5th International Conference of the UK based World Association for Sustainable Development (WASD) which Dr Hossain convened and was participated by 24 developed and developing nations at Griffith in October 2007. The theme of that conference was 'Managing knowledge, technology and development in the era of information revolution' and 61 papers were presented over three days and subsequently a volume published by the WASD in 2008.

There were two observations made in 2007. First, the ICT revolution has extended the world with an opportunity to grow further through effective management of knowledge and technology, regardless of whether a nation is rich or poor. Second, by contrast, climate change stands in the way of the growth opportunities of many countries, especially those of densely populated Asian developing nations. For example, the countries of the Bay of Bengal delta (see map) have been enjoying high to moderate growth over the last decade. The growth of India has been about 7-9 per cent and in Bangladesh it has been 5-6 per cent over the last ten years.

This region has also been improving living standards since the final quarter of the 20th century. With looming risks of climate change and global warming, the concerns were, can these countries sustain growth? What is the way out?

Like globalisation, climate change has no boundary and therefore, issues of climate change need to be discussed globally.

In this regard, it is encouraging to watch the current debates by the politicians in Canberra, Brussels, New Delhi, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Washington and Beijing. Not to mention, the December summit of world leaders in Copenhagen.

Representing diverse institutions and experiences, this international workshop had brought together a panel of experts that includes economists, social scientists, management specialists and political scientists from Bangladesh, New Zealand and Australia to brain storm issues. The major issues addressed were:

- Freshwater resources in South Asia (Bay of Bengal region)
- Emerging political issues in the era of global warming in the region
- Climate change and vulnerabilities in Asia
- Welfare and environmental consequences of bio-fuels in Asia
- Dealing with China on climate change
- Business leadership in Asia in uncertain time
- Climate change and mitigation and adaptation in Asia
- Climate change, poverty and growth in South Asia

The papers delivered in this workshop will be published in a volume by the UK based publisher, Edward Elgar, in 2010.



- For all six countries, the dual nature of nuclear technology is a significant consideration for energy and medicine as well as national defence
- Prestige and standing in the international community is also important for all six countries

This workshop looked at the above points to discuss the experience and prospects for nuclear energy development in each country. Participants from the workshop will each contribute to a published book that will examine the politics of nuclear energy development in each country, focusing on:

- what are the current policies
- who are the main players
- what are the main interests for and against the nuclear energy development
- what are the investment policies and national capacities
- what is the main debate on technology adoption – should it be indigenous or imported
- what is the prospect for the development or expansion of nuclear energy in the coming decade



The Asia Pacific Association for International Education 2010

This Conference and Exhibition will be held on 14-16 April 2010 at the Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

APAIE is an organisation for international educators committed to developing co-operation between universities to promote all aspects of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region.

Hosted by Griffith University, this event is expected to attract over 600 delegates from more than 50 countries, including Presidents and Vice Presidents from many of Asia-Pacific's leading universities and would like to welcome you to attend.

Attendees are not only from the Asia-Pacific region, but other regions of the world including Europe and the Americas.

The theme this year, Educating for Extremes: educating for global challenges in a rapidly changing world, will examine best practice in international education today and include discussions on how global events will affect how we educate our students.

The first day of the Conference will involve dialogues from the Asia Pacific on best practice in international education.

Day two will address how the world is changing and how extreme events are affecting our world.

The Conference will conclude with an interactive summit on day three which will develop specific strategies under each theme for how to educate our students to meet the challenges facing them in the years ahead.

The call for papers is now open and final submissions close on 30 October 2009. We are seeking submissions addressing the theme and focussing on the following areas of interest:

- Student Focus
- Institutional Strategies for International Education
- Curriculum Responses to Internationalisation and Globalisation
- Global Financial Crisis
- Extreme Climactic Events and Adaptation Strategies
- Revolution in Communication
- Pandemics Threatening Populations
- Resource Depletion
- Medical & Technological Advances - How these will affect our World
- Mega-City Issues and 'Healthy Cities' Global Initiatives
- Revolution in Creative and Performing Arts - Impact on Cultural Changes
- Career Evolutions and Industry/Education links - How do we educate for jobs not yet created?

While all submissions relating to the Conference theme are welcome, some suggested topics are available. For these suggestions, together with the guidelines for submissions, please visit <http://www.griffith.edu.au/conference/asia-pacific-association-international-education-2010>.

Don't forget to mark your diary for 14-16 April 2010 and visit the website for more information: www.apaie.org.

Important Dates

- 30 October 2009** Deadline for submission of abstracts and biographies
- 27 November 2009** Contributors notified and asked to register
- 11 December 2009** Deadline for contributors to register and be confirmed as speakers



Diary dates

Refer to the Griffith Asia Institute website at griffith.edu.au/business/griffith-asia-institute/ for updates on these and other events:

Research Seminars

October 29

Challenges for Australian Intelligence, Frank Lewincamp, Principal, Frankadvice Pty Ltd and Visiting Fellow, Strategic and Defence Studies Center, The Australian National University

Workshops

November 3 and 4

Sovereign Wealth Funds, Brisbane

November 26 and 27

Pakistan's Chronic Instability, Brisbane

Australia China Futures Dialogues

October 21 - 24

Emerging Leaders Dialogue, Beijing

December 1

Leader's Lecture, The Honourable Mr Bob Hawke, AC, Brisbane