This report includes a set of images taken by Tommaso Durante, which reflect his interest and work in the information the image can convey in the context of globalisation. For Tommaso, what we see and how we see it, are acts of interpretation and the social theory itself. Tommaso Durante is a professional visual artist and a freelance lecturer in History and Theory of Art. He is also a consultant of the Globalization and Culture Program within the Global Cities Research Institute of RMIT University in Melbourne. His research interests are focused on global social imaginary and on the relationship among images, aesthetics, and ideologies.
## Contents

- About us 6
- Director’s report 8
- Highlights in 2010 10
- Research 14
  - Research themes 14
  - Research projects 14
- Publications 28
  - Books 28
  - Book chapters 28
  - Journal articles 30
  - Research reports 32
  - Published conference proceedings 33
- Public engagement 34
  - Conference and seminar papers 34
  - Other presentations 38
  - Media commentary 38
- Events 42
  - Global Studies Seminar Series 42
  - Co-sponsored events 45
- People 48
  - Members 48
  - Associate members 55
  - Research associates 57
- Organisation 60
  - Directors group 60
  - Executive 60
  - Research theme managers 60
  - Local advisory board 60
  - Global advisory board 61
- Global and local partners 62
  - Public-political bodies and grassroots organisations 62
  - Academic institutes and centres 62
- Financial report for 2010 64
The Globalism Research Centre is committed to academic excellence consistent with its ethical imperative of struggling for a better world through high-level scholarship and inspiring teaching. Our faculty and staff engage in research projects that focus on issues of community, diversity and global dialogue.

About us

Our approach

- Our research is engaged and committed to making a difference to the world in which we live
- Our engaged research aims to move creatively between on-the-ground inquiry and generalising theory
- Our research is reflexive, and entails objectively stepping back from the field of study
- Our field research involves a mutual and slowly negotiated relationship between researchers and other participants
- The Centre aims to build long-term commitment to its research partners and to its research themes
- The Centre has a duty of care to the people with whom we work and to return the outcomes of our work to the people with whom we work in a reciprocal relationship of mutual learning
- The public material gained from our research will remain publicly accessible for all communities and researchers

Key research questions

- How does the rise of the global imaginary manifest concretely in specific local and national settings?
- What are the political possibilities of intersecting cultures of cosmopolitanism and community in lifeworld settings as diverse as major metropolises and isolated villages?
- What strategies create a more deeply democratic world in contexts ranging from the local to the global?
- What can be drawn from diverse philosophical traditions and forms of knowledge to articulate responses to globalisation?
- What are the key methodologies of ethical and engaged social research in the contemporary global context?

At a time of acute sensitivity to questions of social dislocation, economic inequity and political upheaval, the Globalism Research Centre is committed to rethinking the relationship between the global and the local. Its primary intellectual task is to understand the processes of change and continuity, and to think through cultural-political questions about sustainable living in a globalising world.
A manifesto for engaged research

The tumultuous and uneven globalisation of social relations has forced upon us the task of re-imaging a better world. The presumed lack of alternatives to market globalism constitutes a world-wide challenge. It entails developing deeper understandings and more powerful explanations. This requires a renewal of critical engagement. The homogenising effects of global movements of people, ideas, goods, and money, all too easily conceal the continuing divergence of the extremes of human existence. The billions of people around the world who live precarious lives are threatened by malnutrition, disease, and violence that know no borders, and yet, for people looking across the googled earth from metropolitan centres, these social problems remain largely invisible. Moreover, humanity is threatened by profound social and ecological crises. Our work is explicitly dedicated to cultivating and creating ethical Left alternatives.

The Melbourne-based Globalism Research Centre is committed to exploring the relationship between the global and the local. We seek to create a more deeply democratic world in which all communities and individuals can participate in determining their futures. The emergent forms of transnational and global consciousness call for creative and ethically engaged approaches to making sense of shifting constellations of identity. A crucial dimension of our mission is critical cosmopolitanism and global citizenship, complemented by a concern for diversity and dialogue across political and cultural boundaries. While nation-states remain important for certain forms of regulation and redistribution, new sites and scales of governance have emerged. We maintain a critical perspective on the political interests and power relations that are invested in these new sites and scales. We see a need for modes of governance that respond adequately to local and global problems. Strengthening of democratic participation might take many forms from revitalised local forms of governance to the democratisation of global economies, for instance through mechanisms of transnational financial regulation and taxation.

We recognise the diverse philosophical and theoretical traditions out of which we work, seeking to balance Western orientations with insights drawn from non-Western philosophies. We are developing richer and deeper narratives about globalisation and globalism. Understandings and explanations are necessarily interpretative, temporal, and historical. An adequately understood notion of causality is central to our attempts to tell better stories about globalisation. We are sceptical of all forms of exclusive theoretical and theological truths, without foreclosing on the possibility of spiritual and aesthetic insights. We are united in our desire to apply both critical-reflexive and ethnographic-immersive approaches to our work. We believe in methodological openness, and intellectual curiosity. Our methodological and thematic perspectives are framed by ethical concerns. Cognisant of maintaining a tight link between theory and practice, our work focuses on reinserting the importance of politics and culture—not ‘culturalism’—into globalisation debates which do not adequately question the presumptions of economic perspectives.

Key problems face us all in the twenty-first century: constraints on the movement of people across borders; the uneven production, exchange and consumption of those foundational conditions of human life: food, water, health, and culture; the global manifestations of violence and war; the exploitation of bodies, environments and the global eco-sphere; the undermining of relations of difference and equality; and the lack of democratic self-determination. Recognising these issues, we have developed research projects that focus on community formation and transnationalism, insecurity and conflict, global and local governance, and histories and ideologies of globalisation. We are committed to working within existing and developing networks of fellow scholars, and with community activists, civil movements and policy-makers across the world. Reaching out to others is central to the building of a better world.
Members of the Globalism Research Centre had another very successful year in 2010 in regard to academic publications. Following publication of his landmark book on the ‘global imaginary’ in 2008, Manfred Steger had three books published in 2010 (one in conjunction with Ravi Roy). Paul James completed his mammoth task of editing and writing for sixteen volumes in the ‘Central currents in globalization’ series for Sage Publications. Kim Humphery’s Excess: Anti-consumerism in the West was published by Polity Press and Elizabeth Kath’s book on the Cuban health system was published by Transaction Publishers in the US. Researchers in the Centre also contributed eighteen book chapters and twenty-two refereed journal articles, many of them in prestigious international journals. They delivered fifty-two keynote or conference presentations in countries ranging from Australia to China, Sri Lanka, USA and Denmark and were cited in newspaper reports and interviewed for radio right across Australia.

While academic success is largely measured in terms of scholarly publications, GRC is also proud of the fact that we published a range of important research reports for a range of organisations and agencies in 2010. This included seven separate but connected reports on post-tsunami recovery in Sri Lanka and India for AusAID, a major report on a four-year study for Australia Council of the Arts on the strategic importance of community art initiatives for strengthening local government in Australia, a report for Telstra Foundation on the importance of indigenous festivals for health and wellbeing in indigenous communities, and two reports for research partners in Timor-Leste on issues related to food security and the challenges of nation-building in urban and rural settings. The effort put into the production and dissemination of such reports demonstrates the Centre’s commitment to building research partnerships which can help to shape social policy in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. It needs to be acknowledged that the Centre’s Research Co-ordinator, Todd Bennet, set a very high standard for the publication of well-designed research reports, which can all be accessed through our website.

I was elected to replace Manfred Steger as GRC Director for 2010-11 and Damian Grenfell was elected as the new Deputy Director. Anne McNevin, Victoria Stead and Todd Bennet were elected to become the Centre’s new executive committee. This was a wholesale change in the leadership of the Centre and it reflected the emergence of new and mid-career researchers who have been able to build their research careers as members of the Centre.
More work was done to clarify the new membership structure—with full and associate members—that was first introduced in 2009, and it is interesting to note that in 2010 the other two research centres in the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning picked up the idea of adding associate members to the existing centre membership.

As a result of decisions taken at the GRC annual retreat in December 2009, the new GRC executive committee put a high priority on initiating a new Global Studies Seminar Series at RMIT and on ensuring the publication of at least two editions of the Local-Global journal per year. The new monthly seminars were launched in the second semester of 2010, with attendances ranging from twenty-five to forty-two, and this created a good basis for continuing the series in 2011. We managed to produce two editions of the Local-Global journal with one featuring talks and papers presented at the national ReGenerating Community conference held at RMIT in September 2009 and the other including a mix of academic papers and commentary pieces on issues related to the treatment of asylum seekers and refugees in Australia. The latter edition, edited by Anne McNevin, included contributions by scholars, art practitioners and policy makers and it was publicly launched by renowned Melbourne writer and refugee advocate Arnold Zable at an event which also featured refugee theatre performance. Work was done to promote the Local-Global journal through the GRC website, an expanded editorial committee was formed and new editions were planned for 2011.

In late 2010, GRC had to bid farewell to Professor Heikki Patomäki who returned to the University of Helsinkiki after a three-year stint at RMIT. Following the departure, a year earlier, of Professor Tom Nairn, GRC has now lost two high profile and very productive scholars and more responsibility has fallen on the shoulders of mid-career and emerging researchers, who commonly have short-term employment contracts and insecure futures at RMIT. In 2010, the Dean of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, Professor David Hayward, began a process to more thoroughly integrate the School’s three university-accredited research centres into the School’s research development strategy and in the second half of 2010, the School’s Deputy Dean for Research began to convene regular meetings of the centre directors. These moves certainly gave GRC a more secure home within the School, yet the difficulties involved in sustaining a research centre financially were driven home when we had little success with research grant applications in 2010. While we managed to generate more than $1 million in research income for 2010, less income is expected in 2011. Research income fluctuates and researchers continue on fragile employment contracts at a time when RMIT is expecting increased research output from all academics and Schools. This is why I chose to begin this report with the words of our contemporary poet Leonard Cohen. We will continue our restless search for shafts of light.
In 2010 the Centre’s commitment to engaged research was evidenced in a number of activities fostering critical analysis, public debate and education. It continued to attract significant funding, including the commencement of a major new ARC grant.

In 2010, years of research and collaboration came to fruition in the publication of a number of significant books and research reports.

The Centre also began its Global Studies Seminar Series, a program of free public seminars exploring key issues and debates in the field of global studies, as well as co-hosting major events overseas.

The Centre managed $1.07 million in funding, including a major new ARC grant ‘Accounting for sustainability: developing an integrated approach for sustainability’ which is funded for $620,000 over three years.

Publications (books)


Local-Global journal


Anne McNevin, ed., *Beyond border control: rethinking asylum and refugee protection in Australia and the region*.

Research reports


Martin Mulligan and Pia Smith, *Art, governance and the turn to community: putting art at the heart of local government*, report to Australia Council for the Arts.

Martin Mulligan, Yaso Nadarajah and Dave Mercer (with Judith Shaw and Iftekhar Ahmed, Monash University), *Lessons from tsunami recovery in Sri Lanka and India: community, livelihoods, tourism and housing*, seven-part research report for AusAID.


Anna Trembath, Damian Grenfell, Carmeneza Moniz Noronha et al, Impacts of local NGO gender programming in local communities in Timor-Leste, report for Irish Aid (English and Tetun versions).

New grants and awards

Accounting for sustainability: developing an integrated approach for sustainability

Chief investigators: Paul James, Lin Padgham, James Thom, Hepu Deng, Andy Scerri, Liam Magee, Bill Cope and Meg Holden

Sponsors: Australian Research Council, Fuji Xerox, Microsoft, City of Melbourne and others.

Funding: $620,000 (2010–12)

Critical urban sustainability in the world’s most liveable cities: framing and comparing practices in Vancouver and Melbourne

Chief investigators: Meg Holden (Simon Fraser University, Vancouver), Andy Scerri, Paul James, and John Robinson (University of British Columbia)

Sponsors: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Research Development Initiative Grant

Funding: C$39,931 (2011–12)

Victoria Stead and Mayra Walsh, Endeavour Research Fellowships to conduct six months research in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste in 2011, $26,500 each.

Martin Mulligan, RMIT Media Star (International) 2010.

Guosheng Chen, appointed Visiting Professor, Tianjin Normal University, China

Events

Global Studies Seminar Series 2010:

• ’Defending the vulnerable: balancing the rights of individuals and states in international refugee regimes’, Erin Wilson, 21 July

• ’Revolutionary health: state capacity, social capital and the Cuban health paradox’, Elizabeth Kath, 11 August

• ’Opting out of citizenship? Sovereign logic and the autonomy of migration’, Anne McNevin, 8 September

• ’The new politics of climate change: building political momentum and community support for adequate action on climate change’, Robyn Eckersley and Martin Mulligan, 13 October

• ’Worlds in transition: evolving governance across a stressed planet’, Jim Falk, 10 November.

Pathways to Reconciliation Summit, Amman, Jordan (Paul James and Elizabeth Kath, co-convenors), 14-17 December 2009.

Re-Imagining City Futures in China, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (Manfred Steger and Chris Hudson, co-convenors), June 2010.

Hambantota is a small fishing town. The centre of the town was mostly destroyed or damaged by the tsunami and 3,000 lives were lost. A Globalism Research Centre and Global Cities Institute team led by Martin Mulligan and Yaso Nadarajah has just completed a seven-volume report for AusAID on the post-tsunami reconstruction process in Sri Lanka.

Paul James, 2010.
The central research focus of the Centre is globalisation, nationalism, transnationalism and the nature of community. Our research projects are gathered together around key themes, all related to this core purpose.

Research themes
- Community formation and transnationalism
- Global and local governance
- Global knowledges and transnational education
- Histories and ideologies of globalisation
- Insecurity and conflict

Research projects

Accounting for sustainability: developing an integrated approach for sustainability

Chief investigators: Paul James, Lin Padgham, James Thom, Hepu Deng, Andy Scerri, Liam Magee, Bill Cope and Meg Holden

Sponsors: Australian Research Council, Fuji Xerox, Microsoft, City of Melbourne and others.

This project is developing a framework and software system for evaluating and applying indicators in common planning and reporting situations. It seeks to address shortcomings in other indicators for monitoring and measuring sustainability, which often become detached from the practical tasks at hand in managing businesses, preserving the environment, or promoting social and cultural wellbeing. The project will benefit Australian organisations by developing clear, practical sustainability goals; lowering cost of reporting compliance; and improving sustainability practices.

Concern Worldwide: the introduction of new food security technologies in Lautem, Timor-Leste

Project team: Mayra Walsh, Carmenesa Moniz Noronha and Damian Grenfell

This project analyzed the patterns of information dispersal in the introduction of new technologies in rural communities in Timor-Leste. The project focused on three key questions, namely how is information dispersed in local communities, by whom, and why do people implement new technologies? This research was conducted in two aldeia communities in Lautem, the eastern most district of Timor-Leste, and analysed the uptake of four different technologies from Concern Worldwide’s OFFSET food security project, these were: solar water disinfection (SODIS), vegetable solar dryer, silo storage containers, and organic compost fertilizer.
Globalising Indigeneity: Indigenous cultural festivals and wellbeing in Australia and the Asia-Pacific

Chief investigators: Peter Phipps, Paul James and Manfred Steger
Research Fellow: Lisa Slater (to end 2009)
PhD Researcher (APAI): Bo Svoronos (to end 2011)

Sponsors: Australian Research Council and Telstra Foundation

RMIT researchers have been investigating the role and significance of Indigenous cultural festivals in wellbeing outcomes for Indigenous communities and their young people. At the initial request of the Telstra Foundation we made a particularly close study of festivals and activities supported under their triennial funding strategy: Crocfests in Shepparton, Thursday Island and Derby, and the linked youth media project in Aurukun; Garma in Arnhem Land; and The Dreaming Festival in South East Queensland. We also included a study of the Melbourne festival Yalukit Willam Ngargee being undertaken by Bo Svoronos (the PhD student working within the project). The project also looks at Indigenous festivals in Papua New Guinea (Hiri Moale), Hawai‘i (Merrie Monarch), USA (Gathering of Nations Powwow) and others. This research will be finalised in the last year of the project (2011).

A report on the Australian component of the research was completed in 2010 and launched by Dr Mark Bin Bakar, Chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board (ATSIAB) in an event at the Australia Council for the Arts in October 2010. The launch included an address by Dr Jackie Huggins on behalf of the Telstra Foundation Board, and she provided a forward for the second printed edition of the report distributed to the ATSIAB mailing list (a print run of 2,000 copies), and which became the basis for their Indigenous festivals strategy.

The project argues that despite the very different penetration and impacts of globalisation in these places, these festivals can be understood through a common framework which understands cultural expression as a domain which both deploys and exceeds rights-based discourses as an assertion of Indigenous presence. It argues that festivals are a particularly effective forum for communities to assert and re-frame this presence, engage and educate other communities, institutions and levels of government on Indigenous terms, garner resources and strengthen the transmission of cultural knowledge across generations; all with varied wellbeing outcomes. The research is grounded in extensive fieldwork-based case studies of each festival. It examines the role festivals play in strengthening and promoting Indigenous cultural identity and belonging and how this contributes to wellbeing. It details the initiatives that grow from festivals and analyses the extent to which they enrich social connection and community capacity.
Impacts of national NGO gender projects in local communities in Timor-Leste

Project team: Anna Trembath, Carmenesa Moniz Noronha, Damian Grenfell and Mayra Walsh (RMIT), Filomena Fuca (GFFTL), Aida Exposto and Ambrosio Dias Fernandes (FKSH), Elda Barros and Maria Fatima Pereira Guterres (Alola), Fransisca da Silva and Mario Duarte Soriano (Women’s Justice Unit, JSMP)

Sponsors: Irish Aid and Trocaire

This project saw RMIT University’s Timor-Leste Research Program working with four East Timorese NGO partners (listed above) in order to collaboratively research and evaluate the impacts of the NGOs’ gender-focused projects in local communities. Two staff from each organisation participated as co-researchers, and each NGO selected one project to evaluate and one locale in which to conduct fieldwork (sub-district Venilale, sub-district Ermera, sub-district Atauro and sub-district Manatuto). The RMIT team delivered comprehensive training across the duration of the project to local NGO staff so as to further develop gender-sensitive research and evaluation skills. The major output of the project is the ‘Impacts of national NGO gender programming in local communities in Timor-Leste’, launched in January 2011.

Irregular migrants and political belonging in global cities

Chief investigators: Paul James and Anne McNevin

Sponsor: Australian Research Council

This project was completed in 2010, successfully achieving all of its planned outcomes. The project investigated irregular migrants (residing within a state without the state’s explicit sanction) in several global cities: Los Angeles, Kuala Lumpur and Melbourne, Berlin, Port Moresby and Be’er Sheva. Research findings included the identification, documentation and theorisation of several examples of irregular migrants’ political activities (direct activism and demonstrations, lobbying, solidarity mobilisations, theatre performances, establishing business cooperatives, parent mobilisations for educational justice for their children, and others). These examples were then used as evidence to support a theoretical argument for the significance of migrant activism on the transformation of citizenship. The project thus produced an original and richly empirically informed account of political belonging which furthers understanding of citizenship in an age of urbanisation and neoliberal globalisation.

In 2010, fieldwork in Kuala Lumpur was the main site of empirical research. In that context, research was focused on the overlapping experiences of refugees and undocumented labour migrants, often living and working alongside each other.
and equally subject to policing as ‘illegal migrants’. Results of this research will be presented at the annual Conference of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration in July 2011.

The major outcome of the project is a book with Columbia University Press published in May 2011: *Contesting citizenship: irregular migrants and new frontiers of the political*. The project has also resulted in a number of book chapters and journal articles which focus on citizenship and migration dynamics in each of the field-sites studied. In 2010, the project also resulted in an edited special edition of the journal *Local-Global*. ‘Beyond border protection: rethinking asylum and refugee protection in Australia and the region’ included collaborative writings from across the academic and community sectors, and was launched by renowned Melbourne writer Arnold Zable as well as representatives of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

**Mapping justice globalism: reassessing the ideological landscape of the twenty-first century**

Chief investigators: Manfred Steger, Heikki Patomäki and James Goodman
Researcher: Erin Wilson
Sponsor: Australian Research Council

This project investigates and assesses the ideological status of ‘justice globalism’: the political ideas and public policy vision associated with the global justice movement. Through qualitative textual analysis and in-depth interviews, the project scrutinises key documents of justice globalism generated by forty-five civil society organisations associated with the World Social Forum. The outcome of this research will be a detailed conceptual mapping of, and policy analysis of justice globalism that furthers our understanding of the ideas, values, and policy proposals behind one of the major global political forces shaping the twenty-first century.

In 2009 background research was finalised and most of the first round of interviews were completed. The analysis of the collection of textual samples was completed in early 2010, producing some preliminary findings regarding the core concepts of justice globalism and its main ideological claims. These are being revised and analysed in greater depth, and will inform the two remaining stages of the project: policy responses of justice globalism to three main global crises—food, finance and climate—and future directions for justice globalism, the World Social Forum and the global justice movement.

In 2009 Manfred Steger, Heikki Patomäki and James Goodman were invited to give public lectures and keynote addresses at a number of prestigious institutions, specifically on research themes related to this project. A special issue of *New Political Science* has been published and work has begun on material for special issues of *Globalizations* and the *Journal of Political Ideologies*. New and expanded editions of two books authored by Professor Steger have been published, which incorporate research insights related to this project. A project website is also being developed.
Identity and belonging in modernising Malaysia

Chief Investigator: Yaso Nadarajah

Research collaborators: The Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), NGO Sisters-in-Islam Forum, and Datuk K. Govindan, Head, National Economic Advisory Council (Prime Minister’s Department, Malaysia).

Community formation and transnationalism research draws from nearly three years of ethnographic fieldwork of community life in a large squatter settlement in the epicentre of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as part of broader community sustainability research across four countries in the Asia Pacific. To date it has involved in-depth and ongoing mapping of the transition of squatter settlement communities to their new low-cost high rise housing complexes in the same location, focusing on the relationship between the notion of community in the context of the recent national elections and current contestations surrounding constitutional perspectives on freedom of religion, secularism and national public life, and the affect of Tamil community mobilisation activities, such as the Hindu Rights Action Force (HINDRAF). While the project has continued to focus on the developments at the housing complexes, the unexpected results of the 2008 National Elections heralding a new political chapter in Malaysian history and the new socio-political consciousness and struggle for changes particularly from the working class Indians have both been drawn into the study to more deeply explore the complexities and opportunities intimated in relationships within a common ground of identity, belonging and nationhood.

Since 2009 Yaso Nadarajah, as senior research associate in IKMAS and the Sister-in-Islam Forum NGO has also continued to be actively engaged as one of the lead researchers in a nationwide study on the impact of polygamy on Muslim family life. This study is carried out in collaboration with key universities in Malaysia: Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Malaya (UM) and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). This multi-disciplinary study, involving fourteen other Malaysia-based co-researchers; whilst also linking with key international Islamic women movements, has focused on seven areas of marriage and family law and seeks an understanding of the practice of polygamy among Muslims in peninsular Malaysia, which is legally provided for under the State Islamic Family Law Enactments, with a view to advocate for reform of Islamic family laws and the administration of justice in relation to polygamy; conduct a public awareness campaign; and provide input into policy formulation on government programs and activities related to ‘keluarga bahagia’ (family wellbeing) and ‘Kursus Perkahwinan’ (marriage courses).
The research also seeks to influence public policy on Malaysian marriage and family law and Islamic shariah law.

Initial findings of this national study were presented in 2010 in public forums and are currently being written up for a International Journal special issue edition (2012) as well as being compiled as an edited book.

**Microsoft partners in learning: Australian evaluation project**

Chief investigators: Mary Kalantzis, Helen Smith and Nicola Yelland

Sponsor: Microsoft

Microsoft Partners in Learning (PiL) is a global ICT initiative which commenced in 2004, since which time the Microsoft Corporation has committed over US$253 million internationally to support innovation in education. Between 2004 and 2009 Microsoft Australia provided funding to state/territory departments of education for a range of curriculum and pedagogical projects to assist schools to make the most effective use of electronic technologies. By 2013 the Microsoft investment in Australian schools will total $13 million.

In 2005, the Globalism Research Centre, in collaboration with Victoria University and the University of Illinois was contracted to conduct a five year evaluation of the impact of the Australian PiL project on the take-up and deployment of electronic technologies to enhance teaching and learning across the eight Australian state/territory departments of education. As well as annual evaluative reports the Centre produced case studies of each of the state/territory projects and made presentations at regional and global Microsoft PiL seminars and workshops. The final report to Microsoft Australia was presented in July 2009, and the final case study was completed in May 2010.

**Catalyst: changing practices**

Chief investigators: Helen Smith, Peter Burrows and Les Morgan

Sponsor: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Victoria

This project is an evaluation of the first year of a Microsoft Partners in Learning (PiL) project. The Catalyst project grew out of, and was informed by, an evaluation of a previous PiL project, Creating eLearning Leaders (CeLL), also conducted by the Globalism Research Centre. Catalyst involves action research teams in nine schools across Victoria which have designed and implemented action research projects focused on the integration of information and communication technologies into the curriculum, and on devising appropriate and innovative pedagogies. The methodology is based on the collection of reflective data from school teams and the analysis of the processes followed by school teams in designing their action research project and working with teachers across the school in the implementation phase. The outcome of the evaluation will inform implementation of the second year of the two-year project.
Negotiating the local-global in the Hamilton region


Community critical reference group: John Callinan, Cicely Fenton, John Fenton, Terrie Nicholson, Sue, Pizzey, Judy Warne, Coralie Coulson, Olive McVicker, Vicki Finch, Jenny Kane and Bob Cadden (with Suzy Clarke, Tony MacGillivray, Ken Saunders and Damein Bell—correspondence members)

The Helen & Geoff Handbury Fellowships Program

Principal Investigator – Yaso Nadarajah

The Helen and Geoff Handbury Fellowship Program will celebrate ten years of support for innovative research projects across Western Victoria in 2011.

The program was developed by Yaso Nadarajah to strengthen ideas and community practices in the Western Victoria region, through community-led university research partnerships. This program also provides key links to local issues and research concerns; and new research collaborations. Funded by local philanthroper Dr. Geoffrey Handbury (2002–2007) and the Federal Collaborative and Structural Regional Development Fund (2007–2010), the program will now continue its third phase from 2011 with new and ongoing funding. Since 2002, twenty fellowships have funded local projects ranging from the development of low-cost strategies for using reclaimed water in integrated enterprise systems to evaluating the benefit of arts festivals to community wellbeing. An evaluation through 2010 has helped towards framing the third phase—which will primarily work towards five priority areas: economy and livelihoods; community health; cultural diversity; food security; and ecology benefits for the region.

The Fellowship program is particularly interested in the ideas and work of people who might fall outside of other grant processes, or who would not see themselves as capable of applying for a grant. The amount of funding available for any one Fellowship varies according to need and project scope, and from 2007–2010 was in the range of $10,000 to $40,000. A selection panel is made up of members of the community and the university. Reports and publications from the Fellowship program are available through the website: www.rmit.edu.au/globalism/communityformation/handburyfellowship
The Coleraine Enterprise

Research team: Yaso Nadarajah with Martin Mulligan, Lakshmi Venugopal and Priyanka Patel

Collaborating partners: John Kane, Jenny Kane (Fellowship holders, Coleraine), Heinz de Chelard (Fellowship holder, Hamilton) with Michael McCarthy, Director, Shire Futures, Southern Grampians Shire Council and Ian Bail, Senior Manager, Research and Innovation, Wannon Water, Warrnambool, Victoria.

This project, which is also a combination of three Handbury Fellowship Programs works as a catalytic team of researchers (university and community), local government, statutory bodies and a research reference group (RRF) to test the scale and scope of a developing climate change adaptation enterprise project that is both economically and culturally vital and viable as a small town model.

This project is an integration of water reclamation, organic bioremediation, food production and biofuel production, underpinned by knowledge transfer, cultural change and a sustainable future. The project is based at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility managed by Wannon Water in the western Victorian farming town of Coleraine.

Funding proposals to Department of Community Development and Planning, and other state and federal funding bodies have been submitted by the research team in partnership with collaborating partners. Material is being drawn together for submission as an ARC Linkage in 2011.

Peacebuilding in Timor-Leste

Project Team: Damian Grenfell, Carmenesa Moniz Noronha, Josephine Flint and Jessica McGrath-Swan

Following the socio-political crisis of 2006 and 2007, many development agencies, non-government organisations and government institutions focused their efforts on peace-building measures in an attempt to reduce the likelihood of a return to violence. This research project has sought to engage with staff from a range of local and international organisations in an effort to evaluate the longer-term impacts and underpinning logic of each of these projects. This research has been conducted alongside a community-based survey across five sites in Dili that attempts to understand the level of security that the community is now experiencing and the longer-term effects of the crisis.
Rebuilding sustainable communities: assessing post-tsunami resettlement projects in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India

Research team: Martin Mulligan, Yaso Nadarajah, Dave Mercer and Wasana Weeraratne (RMIT University), Judith Shaw and Ittekhar Ahmed (Monash University), with Professor Siri Hettige (University of Colombo), Kaleel Aqeel (South Eastern University, Pottuvil), Ashraf Ahmed (NESDO NGO, Sainthamaruthu) and Kushil Gunasegara (Foundation of Goodness, Seenigama)

Sponsor: Australian Research Council

The study on community rebuilding was conducted in conjunction with the study on rebuilding livelihoods and based on lessons learnt about the provision of housing in resettlement communities. It seeks to be the most thorough such study to be reported in international literature, and is the longest and most intense study of social recovery from the tsunami. It has involved RMIT and Monash University researchers in partnership with AusAID, Australia’s official aid agency. The study was conducted in five local areas—Seenigama, Hambantota, Thirukkovil, Sainthamaruthu and Chennai. The ‘community-engaged’ research methodology involved consultation with local advisors and reliance on local guides and research assistants. Research methods included the construction of social profiles of case study areas, surveys, community member profiles, lengthy interviews and the collection of relevant local stories.

Field research was finalised in 2009, with findings released in a major seven-part report which was published and made publicly available in early 2010. The report was distributed to local communities as well as local government, NGOs and community organisations in Sri Lanka and India, and a ‘civic society’ consultation on the research outcomes was held in Hambantota, Sri Lanka, in May 2010. The focus has been on three themes: political and institutional factors affecting resettlement project design and delivery; the rebuilding of economic self-reliance; and distilling a set of ‘best practices’ for use by AusAID and policy makers in the ongoing rehabilitation of tsunami-affected communities and in the design of future post-disaster interventions in developing countries, as well as the creation of stable and effective social institutions in resettled communities.
SparkL creative pathways to literacy program

Chief investigator: Peter Burrows
Sponsor: EdPartnership International

Over the past three years Peter Burrows has played a leading role in the design, development and implementation of the SparkL project (Sparking literacy and learning in disadvantaged schools), which has involved teachers and school leaders from ten Victorian government schools. SparkL has adopted a three-tiered approach to improving the learning experiences and learning outcomes of students from disadvantaged communities. It has combined a learning program for students, a professional learning program for teachers with a research program that has informed the further design and development of SparkL.

A significant proportion of 2010 was spent in writing up the research for this project as well as helping to design the next phase of SparkL covering the period 2011-2013. Research outputs in 2010 included a number of reports, including a major five volume report for DEECD, *Research on Cluster and School Based Professional Learning: 2006-2010*, a refereed journal article, and presentations at the Australian Centre for Educational Leaders (ACEL) Conference and the SparkL Learning Forum 2010.

Sustainable community development in Tamil Nadu, South India

Research team: Yaso Nadarajah, Martin Mulligan, with Professor Thangavelu Vasantha Kumaran, Dr Guna Narasinga and Dr Kavi Arasan (University of Madras)

The focus of this project is on sustainable community development, with a particular emphasis on the implementation of participatory methodologies to enhance sustainability at the community level. The partnership with the University of Madras has been in part a process of developing a comparative basis for developing changing indicators of social wellbeing and community sustainability. This includes a research focus on livelihood trajectories, communal conflict/politics, and traditional and local knowledge systems.

In 2010 the study continued its focus on two of the fishing slum communities (Chennai) which were relocated after the tsunami disaster, as part of the larger ARC research study ‘Rebuilding communities after the tsunami’.

Telling the story of Melbourne’s cultural precincts

Research Team: Peter Phipps, Martin Mulligan and Aramiha Hanwood

Sponsor: City of Melbourne

Global Cities Institute researchers in the Globalization and Culture and Community Sustainability programs are working on a research project for the City of Melbourne and Victorian Multicultural Commission concerned with three inner city cultural precincts in Lonsdale, Lygon and Little Bourke streets. The project explores the policy settings around cultural precincts here and internationally, conducts research on the cultural history of these precincts, and makes specific policy and implementation recommendations. The project is
an example of theoretical questions around cultural identity and community in conditions of globalisation offering insights in applied cultural policy. The policy recommendations in the final report will be considered closely by the State Government in framing statewide cultural precincts policy. The Global Cities Institute was awarded this competitive research grant in partnership with the Reputation Group, Melbourne. The project has been managed by Peter Phipps and Martin Muligan, with research contributions from Aramiha Harwood, Tomasso Durante, and extensive social histories from writer Arnold Zable.

The Amman-Patea Tribal Collective—Tears of the Rainforest

Chief Investigator: Yaso Nadarajah

This work draws on the national study Sustainable communities, sustainable livelihoods: alternative pathways to development in Papua New Guinea (concluded 2009). The new project has begun a process of documenting the lives of these two remote tribal communities the Pariet Amman and the Patea (Kukuku) people in the Morobe province responding to large-scale resource extraction activities on their land. The focus of the documentation, undertaken in association with the Pariet-Amman–Patea Tribal Council and Collective, is to capture and communicate not only the history and stories of their lives but also the determined efforts they have undertaken as a Collective to organise themselves and focus on building their own capacity in the face of massive, complex forces of local-global development and change.

Cash in remote districts of Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea: a community centered approach to mobile money

Researchers: Yaso Nadarajah and Supriya Singh, Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) Program, Graduate School of Business and Law

This report proposes an agenda of research regarding the use of cash in remote areas of Papua New Guinea. This research would inform a community-centered approach to building a mobile money system that will respond to the needs of remote communities. Mobile money systems for payments and storing value are being discussed for the country. The aim is to increase financial inclusion, aid the economy and to empower women across PNG. The need for such initiatives is particularly urgent in remote communities as there are no formal financial services. Yaso Nadarajah and Supriya Singh visited Port Moresby, Lae and Wau in 2010 to meet with the Department for Community Development and partners to discuss collaborative research initiatives around financial inclusion and mobile money transfers. An important focus of this research is the role of women in money management and the effects of financial exclusion on their ability to contribute to the wellbeing of their families.
Muri Riki Henao inspects a copy of Local Global PNG edition which includes a profile of his troubled village, Boera, and gives critical feedback. Boera, September 2010. Photo: Peter Phipps.
In 2010 Centre staff authored or edited eleven books, as well as contributed numerous chapters to significant books and refereed articles to high-ranked journals, across a diverse range of subjects.

The Centre also produced two volumes of its journal, ‘Local-Global: Identity, Security, Community’, as well as a number of significant research reports.

One of the aims of the Centre is to support research that leads to relevant and socially engaged publications.

**Books**


**Book chapters**


Journal articles


Research reports

Damian Grenfell, Mayra Walsh, Victoria Stead, Anna Trembath et al, Nation-building across the urban and rural in Timor-Leste, conference report for Australian Volunteers International (English and Tetun versions).


Martin Mulligan and Pia Smith, Art, governance and the turn to community: putting art at the heart of local government, report to Australia Council for the Arts.

Martin Mulligan, Yaso Nadarajah and Dave Mercer (with Judith Shaw and Iftekhar Ahmed, Monash University), Lessons from tsunami recovery in Sri Lanka and India: Community, livelihoods, tourism and housing, seven-part research report for AusAID.

Martin Mulligan and Yaso Nadarajah, Rebuilding community in the wake of a disaster: lessons from Sri Lanka and India, research report for AusAID.


Mayra Walsh, Damian Grenfell, Victoria Stead and Anna Trembath (with Janurio Soares, Sofie Anselmie and Annie Sloman), *Nation-building in the urban and rural in Timor-Leste*.

**Published conference proceedings**


**Other publications**

Guoshen Chen and Bo Ai, Translation of Miao Huaiming’s *Sima Qian, Collection of critical biographies of Chinese thinkers*, Nanjing University Press, 2010

Guosheng Chen et al, Translation of Guo Weisen’s *Cao Xueqin, Collection of critical biographies of Chinese thinkers*, Nanjing University Press, 2010

One of the aims of the Centre is to disseminate research findings among colleagues and stakeholders through conference papers and lectures.

Conference and seminar papers


Guosheng Chen, ‘Chinese language and cultural education in Australia in a changing local and global environment’, Sun Yet-sen University, Guangzhou, China, October 2010.


Guosheng Chen, ‘Global learning, global career and global citizen’, Dalian Maritime University, Dalian, China, October 2010.

Guosheng Chen, ‘Global education, global profession and global citizen’ and ‘Chinese educator as a global career’, Tianjin University of Science and Technology, China, December 2010.


Paul James, ‘The engagement of the Global Compact Cities Programme’, address, City of Porto Alegre forum, Brazil, 16 March 2010.


Paul James, ‘Urbanization and the challenge of growing populations’, plenary address, World Health Day Forum, Alfred Medical Research and Education Precinct, 8 April 2010.


Paul James, ‘Mapping future urban sustainability’, paper for the Re-Imagining City Futures Conference, a collaborative forum, between the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) and RMIT University, Shanghai, China, 2–3 June, 2010.


Paul James, ‘Global population movements and the local consequences’, Darebin City Council Forum, Preston Town Hall, 11 August 2010.


Paul James, ‘The Cuban paradox’, the launch of Social relations and the Cuban health miracle, Transaction Publishers, Melbourne 9 September 2010.

Paul James, ‘West Papua: layers of social ontology and its consequences for governance’, George Mason University, 10 November 2010.


Paul James, ‘Interrogating the multiculturalism debate’, a roundtable presentation, International Multiculturalism Symposium: Comparative Multiculturalism from Transnational and Global Perspectives, Deakin University, 25–26 November 2010.


Elizabeth Kath, ‘Social relations and the Cuban health miracle’, Association of Iberian & Latin American Studies of Australasia (AILASA) conference, ANU, Canberra, Australia, 7–9 July 2010.
Elizabeth Kath, ‘Revolutionary health: state capacity, social capital and the Cuban health paradox’, public seminar, Global Studies Seminar Series, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia, 11 August 2010.

Elizabeth Kath, ‘Revolutionary health: state capacity, social capital and the Cuban health paradox’, invited lecture, Research Matters Seminar Series, University of Melbourne, Australia, 22 September 2010.


Yaso Nadarajah, ‘Community in the face of contemporary challenges: a Malaysian case study’, Walker Horizon Public Lecture, De Pauw University, Greencastle, USA, 16 March 2010.


Andy Scerri and Paul James, papers presented to the 40th Urban Affairs Association Annual Conference, Honolulu, Hawai’i, 9–15 March 2010.

Victoria Stead, ‘Transformations to customary land tenure in the Pacific’, Asia-Pacific Week Conference, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, 8 February 2010.


Manfred B. Steger, ‘You, me, and s/he are the world: the ideological projection of the global imaginary at the 2010 Shanghai Expo’, invited academic lectures, Sigur Center for Asian Studies, George Washington University, USA, 7 September 2010.


Erin Wilson, ‘Loving the alien: religion, hospitality and alternatives in global responses to asylum seekers and refugees’, Workshop on Hospitality in International Relations, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, 7–8 July 2010.


Other presentations

Martin Mulligan, pre-travel briefing for AFL footballers travelling to Sri Lanka as part of the Global Reconciliation project, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

Martin Mulligan, reflection on the experiences gained by the Latrobe Valley community by its participation in the national Generations Project, Latrobe City Council, Moe, Australia.

Media commentary


Paul James, ‘Italy and clashes over migrants’, SBS Radio, David Crisante, 11 January 2010.


Paul James, ‘Whether power is in the hands of the companies or the country’, ABC Newcastle, 13 July 2010.

Paul James, ‘Corporations, power and democracy’, ABC Radio Newcastle, Paul Bevan, 13 July 2010.


Paul James, television interview with Devina Television, 15 October 2010; www.adaderana.lk/video_player.php?vid=da1015.flv


Martin Mulligan, ‘Sri Lankan asylum seekers and how this should be addressed in strategic terms’, multiple interviews on ABC radio (including AM program), July 2010.

Martin Mulligan, ‘Lessons from tsunami recovery in Sri Lanka and India’, The Australian; Lanka Times; Radio National; ABC Riverina (Wagga Wagga); 3AW (Melbourne); 2UE (Sydney); South Asian Media Net, July 2010.

In order to disseminate research and engage in public discussion on contemporary issues related to globalisation, nationalism and cultural diversity, the Globalism Research Centre initiates and supports a wide range of public forums, conferences, seminars and festivals.

Global Studies Seminar Series

Defending the vulnerable: balancing the rights of individuals and states in international refugee regimes

Dr Erin Wilson
21 July 2010

This paper explored proposals to alter the international definition of a refugee and for developing additional forms of protection for those who do not qualify as a refugee under the classical interpretation of the convention. It argued that, notwithstanding important developments in protection regimes at the international level, these mechanisms remain insufficient for ensuring that the basic rights of individuals fleeing their countries of origin are protected and upheld. Drawing on insights from basic rights discourse, theories of hospitality and the concept of survival migration, the paper outlined alternatives that address current shortcomings in the international refugee and asylum seeker protection regime.

Revolutionary health: state capacity, social capital and the Cuban health paradox

Dr Elizabeth Kath
11 August 2010

This seminar explored the research findings recently published in the book Social relations and the Cuban health miracle. The book explores the puzzle of Cuba’s key national health indicators, which are extremely positive for the country’s region and developing status, and given the arduous external circumstances it has faced in recent decades. Its central findings are that Cuba’s outcomes are partly attributable to an unusually high level of popular participation and cooperation in the implementation of health policy. This has been achieved with the help of a longstanding government that prioritises key health areas, and has enough political influence to compel the rest of the community to do the same. On the other hand, the degree of real popular participation in decision-making regarding health policy is minimal, and this carries consequences that sometimes compromise and even undermine certain aspects of health care quality.
Opting out of citizenship? Sovereign logic and the autonomy of migration

Dr Anne McNevin
8 September 2010

What does it mean to opt-out of citizenship? Hannah Arendt theorised statelessness or the lack of national citizenship as the loss of the right to have rights and the ultimate state of dehumanisation. More recently, Georgio Agamben has theorised the refugee as the figure of homo sacer, reduced to bare life (existence without political status) through the excesses of sovereign power.

This paper critically engaged with these two competing perspectives. It argued that neither is capable of fully capturing the diversity and nuance of acts of (irregular) migration nor contemporary dynamics of citizenship. It also pointed out the political risks that pertain to each opposing view, by reflecting upon activist strategies enacted by irregular migrants in Berlin and Brandenburg. These strategies suggest that we need to come to terms with a messy and often contradictory arsenal of tools that migrants employ to secure their political futures.

You, me, and s/he are the world: the ideological projection of the global imaginary at the 2010 Shanghai Expo

Manfred Steger
22 September 2010

Building on Manfred Steger’s previous work around the rising global imaginary and its articulation by various competing global ideologies (globalisms), this presentation took these macro-mappings of social space to the micro-level of representational urban spaces in the Asia-Pacific region.

The specific contexts of the larger research initiative (partnered with the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences) are six global cities in the region: Shanghai, Tokyo, Singapore, Melbourne, Sydney, and Los Angeles. Examining the crucial role of ‘condensation symbols’—ideologically colored text-images such as brand logos that help rearrange the local and national around the global—this presentation mined the rich symbolic environment of the 2010 Shanghai Expo for better explanations of how, concretely, a new global consciousness of the world takes shape in one of the most economically and culturally vibrant regions of the world.
The new politics of climate change: building political momentum and community support for adequate action on climate change

Professor Robyn Eckersley (University of Melbourne) and Dr Martin Mulligan
13 October 2010

The extraordinary outcome of the recent federal election has changed the political climate significantly yet big challenges lie ahead for building an adequate political response to what Kevin Rudd properly called the ‘greatest moral challenge of our time’. Professor Robyn Eckersley and Dr Martin Mulligan discussed ways of building political momentum and broader community support for a more fundamental shift in the way we look at this ‘issue’.

Worlds in transition: evolving governance across a stressed planet

Professor Jim Falk (University of Melbourne)
10 November 2010

In a recent book Professors Joseph Camilleri and Jim Falk set out to investigate how the capacity of humans to shape their future are, could, and perhaps even should evolve during this period of extraordinary transition which humans and their planet are experiencing. Inevitably such a goal could be only partially realised. In this seminar Jim Falk described some of the elements of this analysis, and conclusions drawn, with particular attention to ‘sectoral studies’ around issues associated with climate change and the intensifying global flows of information and pathogens.
Co-sponsored events

Pathway to reconciliation summit

Global Reconciliation
14 to 17 December 2009
Amman, Jordan

This summit brought together more than 300 reconciliation experts from around the world to tackle cultural, racial, religious and political difference on a global scale.

Summit themes included health and medicine, arts and culture, money and livelihoods, spirituality and celebration, education and learning, and sport and recreation. The summit introduced the Living Archive, a resource for learning about exemplary grass-roots reconciliation.

The summit was supported by HRH Prince Hassan of Jordan, RMIT and Monash University, and patrons include the Reverend Desmond Tutu, Aung San Suu Kyi, President Jose Ramos-Horta, Sir William Deane, Dr Lowitja O’Donaghue, Professor Bernard Lown, and Professor Amartya Sen.

Journey of asylum—Waiting

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre
16 to 19 March 2010
Melbourne, Australia

This dramatic performance weaved the lived experiences of asylum seekers, now residing in Melbourne, into a dynamic and poetic performance. Asylum seekers shared their struggles, uncertainties and realizations as people ‘waiting’ in the immigration process. Experiences of fear, sleeplessness and isolation mix with dignity, resilience and humour and the hope for a ‘normal life’. Freedom of speech and self expression are our democratic rights; for most asylum seekers this is simply a dream they hope will come true.

Tibet—the third pole: climate change and the fate of Tibet’s nomads

Australia Tibet Council and Students for a Free Tibet
19 April 2010
Melbourne, Australia

This public seminar explored solutions to the environmental and social crisis unfolding in Tibet and China. It discussed the critical importance of Tibet to today’s world and how Tibetans both in Tibet and in exile are helping shape the future of their homeland. It featured expert speakers, a multimedia presentation and Q&A session.
Re-imagining city futures in China
Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
July 2010
Shanghai, China

This workshop focused on mass internal migration, climate change, cultural stressors and issues related to future sustainability.

Professor Manfred Steger, initiated the workshop and opened it with a presentation on ‘Global imaginaries and urban futures in the Asia-Pacific region’. His in-depth interpretation of the logo of the Shanghai World Expo focused on the connection between local, national and global symbols. Professor Paul James brought to the discussion key insights into the tensions in urban sustainability.

The RMIT team also included Associate Professor Chris Hudson and Dr Jennifer Gidley.

Our forests, your pollution: Indonesian environmentalists speak out about Australia’s carbon offset schemes
Friends of the Earth
8 November 2010
Melbourne, Australia

For this public talk, two climate justice activists from Friends of the Earth Indonesia, Indonesia’s largest and oldest environment organisation, were joined by Muliadi from Central Kalimantan to discuss Australia’s plans for forest offsets in Indonesia.
Members

Martin Mulligan
Director
Senior Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Since joining the Globalism Research Centre in 2004, Martin Mulligan’s research has focused on the sustainability of local communities in the context of global change. This has included research projects for VicHealth on the wellbeing of local communities in Victoria and for Australia Council for the Arts on the contribution that community art can make to improving local governance across Australia. He was also a lead researcher on a three-year study for AusAID on the rebuilding of local communities in Sri Lanka and India in the wake of the devastating 2004 tsunami. Dr Mulligan also helped to develop the ‘community-engaged’ research methodology that is used for this kind of research in the Centre and in the broader Global Cities Institute at RMIT. Dr Mulligan has an interest in discourses on community in the contemporary world and on deepening discourses on environmental sustainability. His books include *Ecological pioneers* (2001, with Stuart Hill) and *Decolonizing nature* (2003, with William Adams).

Damian Grenfell
Deputy Director
Senior Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer in Global Studies, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

The common basis of Damian Grenfell’s research is driven by an interest in dissent and social conflict. In recent years his work has focused on various forms of conflict across the local, national and global, from ethnographic work in local communities through to work on global protest movements and the World Social Forum. The interest in social movements and resistance politics has provided an impetus for research into forms of nationalist insurrection and war, and, in turn, the patterns of post-conflict reconstruction, development and nation-building. Dr Grenfell currently works on various projects that attempt to map out the complex relationship between nationally based identity and processes of globalisation at the point of conflict, with Timor-Leste providing one key focus for this study.

The Globalism Research Centre consists of members and associate members, as well as research associates from local, national and international institutions.
Paul Battersby  
**Discipline Head, Global Studies, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning**

Paul Battersby’s research and writing interests reflect the diversity of the Global Studies programs area at RMIT. He maintains an active interest in Australia-Southeast Asia business and diplomatic relations but his principal area of scholarship currently addresses issues of international development, security and transnational crime. Associate Professor Battersby holds senior management responsibility for the Masters of Social Science (International Development), the Bachelor of Arts (International Studies) Honours and the Bachelor of Arts (International Studies). In addition he teaches courses on global risk and governance, global crime, and Asian business.

Todd Bennet  
**Research Centre Coordinator, Globalism Research Centre**

Todd Bennet has been the Centre Coordinator since 2006. His role includes web, publicity and publications management, financial management and reporting, and managing the employment of new staff and other non-salaried positions within the Centre. He also provides editorial and desktop publishing services to develop and support the academic publishing goals of the Centre.

Guosheng Chen  
**Discipline Head, Languages, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning**

Guosheng Chen’s research interests include East Asian studies; globalisation and culture; higher education reform in East Asian countries; multilingual knowledge economies; curriculum internationalisation; community development; and work-integrated learning. She is Executive Director of the Chinese-Australian Studies Forum and Director of the Chinese Proficiency Test Centre (HSK), jointly conducted with the Ministry of Education, China.

Kim Humphery  
**Deputy Dean, Research and Innovation, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning**

Kim Humphery has studied politics, social theory and history at the Universities of Melbourne, Cambridge and Essex. He has taught social and cultural theory at Melbourne and Monash Universities and has worked as a qualitative social researcher at King’s College London and at La Trobe University, in the areas of ageing and HIV/AIDS respectively. Between 1996 and 2002 he worked as a senior researcher on the socio-cultural aspects of Indigenous health in both the
Northern Territory and Victoria, and this work culminated in the publication of *Forgetting compliance: Aboriginal health and medical culture* (Charles Darwin University Press, 2001). He has also developed an international reputation for his historical and theoretical work on consumption, particularly through the publication of his book *Shelf life: supermarkets and the changing cultures of consumption* (CUP, 1998). In his most recent work he has turned his attention to issues of overconsumption and community sustainability, and this work is reported on in his latest book, *Excess: anti-consumerism in the West* (Polity, 2010).

**Paul James**  
*Professor of Globalism and Cultural Diversity, and Director, Global Cities Institute*

Paul James is author or editor of twenty-four books, including *Nation formation: towards a theory of abstract community* (Sage 1996) and *Globalism, nationalism tribalism: bringing theory back in* (Sage 2006), as well as a sixteen-volume series for Sage mapping the field of globalisation, completed in 2010. He has received a number of awards including the Japan-Australia Foundation Fellowship, an Australian Research Council Fellowship, and the Crisp Medal by the Australasian Political Studies Association for the best book in the field of political studies. Professor James has been invited to deliver addresses in more than twenty different countries. He has been an advisor to a number of agencies and governments, and is currently Director of the United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme at RMIT University.

**Elizabeth Kath**  
*Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning*

Elizabeth Kath’s work is interdisciplinary; spanning the fields of political science, public health and development. This includes a major study of the social and political dimensions of Cuba’s public health system. The findings of this research on Cuba were published in July 2010 as a book: *Social relations and the Cuban health miracle*. Her work has also been published in numerous academic journals and presented at international conferences. Aside from her ongoing work on Cuba, she also co-authored the health components of the Global Cities Institute’s ‘Sustainable communities, sustainable development’ project, which identifies alternative, community-engaged pathways to development in Papua New Guinea. Her more recent research interests include issues of reconciliation, particularly as they relate to health.
Anne McNevin
Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Anne McNevin’s key areas of research include citizenship, migration, and globalisation. She is especially interested in how irregular migrants are implicated in the processes through which citizenship and political belonging are constructed, policed and contested. More broadly, she investigates the transformation of citizenship and political belonging in the context of neoliberal globalisation. Her recent work brings these themes together with an interest in critical geography and socio-spatial theory. Her focus here is on irregular migration in relation to the political economy of global cities, the re-scaling of state space, and the spatial dimensions of social movements. Dr McNevin is co-Chief Investigator with Professor Paul James on an ARC Discovery Project ‘Irregular migrants and political belonging in global cities’. This three-year project (2008-2010) involves detailed case studies of irregular migration in Melbourne, Kuala Lumpur, Los Angeles and Berlin. It includes qualitative accounts of political activism by irregular migrants and considers the implications of this activism for contemporary dynamics of citizenship. She is also working on a book: Contesting citizenship: irregular migrants and new frontiers of the political.

Yaso Nadarajah
Senior Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Yaso Nadarajah’s research seeks to better understand the creation of communities as a practice of both the conscious and the unconscious imagination related to the dynamic search for wellbeing, identity and belonging. This interdisciplinary approach has given her the ability to work effectively as part of a highly interdisciplinary research team and the flexibility of a range of research methodologies both in fieldwork and textual research. The Local-Global community sustainability project, being conducted on local-global issues in the Hamilton region of Victoria (Australia), Chennai region (South India), Kuala Lumpur surrounds (Malaysia), Madang and Morobe Provinces (Papua New Guinea) and Thirukkovil and Ampara Districts (Sri Lanka), for example, draws on methods ranging from advanced social theory to community-engaged research methodology including interviews, community member profiles and demographic data. Dr Nadarajah is on the Board of Governors, Centurion School of Rural Enterprise Management, Parakhemundi, Orissa, India; Chief Executive Officer, Helen and Geoff Handbury Community Fellowships Trust; a member of the Committee for Melbourne Future Focus Group Alumnus; and on the Pariet Amman Tribal Council of Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea.
Heikki Patomäki
Innovation Professor of Globalisation and Global Institutions

Heikki Patomäki researches human security, politics of global governance and political economy, along with scenarios of possible global futures. His recent book *The political economy of global security: war, future crises and changes in global governance* (Routledge 2008) will be followed by a larger and more general volume under the working title of *Global futures*. Professor Patomäki has given guest lectures in more than twenty universities and research centres around the world, and contributed to discussions in parliamentary seminars and meetings in Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Japan and Sweden. In addition, he has consulted several public and civil society organisations across the world.

Peter Phipps
Senior Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer (International Studies), School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Peter Phipps’s research interests include the cultural politics of postcolonialism in the culture and history wars of the USA and Australia; Indigenous-settler relations in Australia; and the cultures of global tourist and religious movements. He is Chief Investigator in a project on Indigenous cultural festivals in Australia and the Asia Pacific, ‘Globalizing Indigeneity’ (2008–10, ARC grant with Telstra Foundation), and another on cultural precincts in Melbourne (2009, City of Melbourne and Victorian Multicultural Commission). He has coordinated twelve local and international conferences and forums including the annual Garma Forum of Indigenous Knowledge in Arnhem Land (Northern Territory, Australia 2002–05). Dr Phipps is Honours Coordinator and a senior lecturer in the BA International Studies Program.

Ravi Roy
Senior Lecturer, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Dr Roy is the Program Director of International Development and teaches in both the International Development and International Studies programs. His research agenda is motivated by a very simple but important question: why do human beings faced with very similar sets of circumstances nonetheless make very different choices? His research focuses on the role of ideas in shaping people’s beliefs and perceptions about how the world works. Dr Roy has co-authored or edited three books and four published papers on the power and influence of ideas that appear in refereed journals and book chapters on this theme, including *Neoliberalism: a very short introduction*, with Manfred B. Steger (Oxford University Press 2010).
Andy Scerri
Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Andy Scerri’s research is focused on the political and sociological dimensions of environmental issues, and his specific interests are in city and regional responses to the challenges of defining and achieving urban sustainability. His work also explores developments in political and social theory in the face of climate change. He was awarded an Emerging Researcher Grant Scheme in 2008 by RMIT’s Office of Research and Innovation for the project ‘From liveable to sustainable cities: towards a qualitative approach to indicators of urban sustainability in Melbourne and Vancouver.’

Helen Smith
Senior Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Helen Smith’s recent research includes the emergence of the Australian National Training Package as a new mode of governance; national longitudinal evaluation study of the Microsoft PiL initiative; an ARC-funded research project to develop a new meta-language that expresses the theory and practice of literacy teaching and learning in the context of digitisation and convergence of technologies. Dr Smith was awarded the 2009 Francis Ormond Medal for serving RMIT University with distinction. In 2010 she was made an ALTC Teaching Fellow. Her Fellowship project will contribute to improvements in tertiary pathways by exploring the potential for associate degrees to facilitate improved pathways between school, VET and higher education.

Victoria Stead
PhD Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Victoria Stead joined the Globalism Research Centre in 2007 as part of the Community Sustainability program. She has worked primarily on the Centre’s projects in Papua New Guinea, particularly the ‘Sustainable communities, sustainable livelihoods’ project, which uses a collaborative, community-engaged research methodology to identify alternate pathways to development. In 2009 she began her PhD through the Centre and the Human Security Program of the Global Cities Institute. ‘Land, power and change: globalisation and customary land tenures in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste’ will consider the transformation of social relationships to land in the encounter of custom and modernity, with a particular focus on power. An ethnographic methodology is used, involving field research in sites across the three countries. Victoria continues to work in the Community Sustainability program and also in the Human Security program, where she is part of the Timor-Leste research team.
Manfred B. Steger
Professor of Global Studies and Research Leader, Global Cities Institute

Manfred B. Steger’s academic work—comprised of nineteen books (three of these in 2010), dozens of articles and book chapters, and numerous reviews—has been cited widely in the pertinent literature. He has delivered many lectures on globalisation, ideology, and non-violence in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Australia, and has been a consultant on globalisation for the US State Department and an advisor on a US Public Television series on the rise and fall of socialism. Professor Steger serves on several editorial boards of academic journals as well as on the advisory boards of several globalisation research centres around the world. He has been a recipient of research grants from many institutions, including the Australian Research Council and the US National Endowment of the Humanities. His latest book is Globalization: a brief insight (Sterling Publishing, New York, 2010).

Anna Trembath
PhD Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Anna Trembath is a PhD candidate and researcher with the Globalism Research Centre’s Timor-Leste research project. Her research focuses upon understanding the complex nexus between gender and nation-formation in the context of Timor-Leste. She has worked in Timor-Leste since 2005 across various team projects, including ‘Mapping the pursuit of gender equality’ and ‘Understanding community: security and sustainability in four aldeia in Timor-Leste’. She is currently managing a project that seeks to understand the impacts of East Timorese NGO gender projects in local communities and, in the process, develop the research and evaluation capacities of four East Timorese NGOs (2009–10).

Erin Wilson
Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Erin Wilson’s key areas of research are religion, global justice, refugees and NGOs. She is particularly interested in the ways in which religious ideas and practices intersect with and influence theories and practices in various dimensions of global politics. Dr Wilson is a researcher on the ARC-funded ‘Mapping justice globalism’ project, which investigates and assesses the ideological status of ‘justice globalism’. Her first book, After secularism: rethinking religion in global politics will be published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2011.
Christopher Ziguras
Associate Professor of International Studies, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Christopher Ziguras’s research focuses on international education policy, particularly related to higher education in the Asia Pacific region. Associate Professor Ziguras teaches within the Global Studies discipline at RMIT University. He was a founding member of the Globalism Research Centre in 2002 and continues to be closely involved with the Centre. He also established RMIT’s Research in International and Comparative Education (RICE) network in 2007. Associate Professor Ziguras is a member of the International Education Association of Australia, the Australian and New Zealand Comparative and International Education Society, the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia.

Associate members

Peter Burrows
Senior Research Fellow, Globalism Research Centre

Research interests: the relationships between information and communications technology (ICT), pedagogy, and teaching and learning environments, with a focus on Kalantzis and Cope’s theory of Learning-By-Design.

Desmond Cahill
Professor of Intercultural Studies, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Research interests: Indochinese prisoners, imprisonment and drug rehabilitation; the history of the Scalabrinisti priests in Australia and Asia 1952-2002; religion, cultural diversity and globalisation.

Tommaso Durante
Collaborating Scholar, Global Cities Institute, RMIT University

Research interests: art and global ideology, global social imaginary, theories and ideologies of globalisation, philosophy and aesthetics, aspects of culture relying on media that have a crucial visual component, the hybrid electronic ones included.

Robbie Guevara
Senior Lecturer, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Research interests: popular and community environmental education in the Asia-Pacific region; HIV-AIDS education; community and eco-tourism; participatory action research; international aid and development; community development; local and global sustainability.
Jock McCulloch  
Professor of History, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning  
Research interests: politics of development; colonial history of southern Africa; medical sociology.

Liam Magee  
Research Fellow, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning

Glenda Mejia  
Lecturer, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning  
Research interests: the representation of women in Latin American cinema; women’s studies; cross-cultural studies; documentary studies; sustainable development.

Joseph Siracusa  
Professor in Human Security and International Diplomacy and Discipline Head International and Justice, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning  
Research interests: international diplomacy; ethical and humanitarian intervention; international security; Australia-United States security issues; United Nations reform; strategic responses to terrorism.

Bo Svoronos  
APAI Research Scholar, Globalism Research Centre

Lakshmi Venugopal  
Research Assistant, Globalism Research Centre  
Research interests: community resilience, identity and belonging in modernising Malaysia.

Mayra Walsh  
Research Fellow, Globalism Research Centre  
Research interests: community and security in Timor-Leste.

Wasana Weeraratne  
Research Assistant, Globalism Research Centre  
Research interests: assessing post-tsunami resettlement projects in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India.
Research associates

Peter Annear  
*Research Project Manager, Globalism Research Centre, Cambodia*

Bill Cope  
*Adjunct Professor, Globalism Research Centre*

John Handmer  
*Collaborating Scholar, School of Mathematical and Geospatial Sciences, RMIT University*

Mary Kalantzis  
*Adjunct Professor, Globalism Research Centre*

Professor Paul Komesaroff  
*Collaborating Scholar, Centre for Ethics in Medicine and Society, Monash University*

Grant McBurnie  
*Collaborating Scholar, Office of International Development, Monash University*

Dave Mercer  
*Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University*

Sri Hettige and Patha Ghosh, Sri Lanka, 2010

Mr Wang Huichu from Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS), Manfred Steger, Chris Hudson, Jennifer Gidley, Paul James from GRC, and Professor Frank Zhang Xinhua from SASS, Shanghai, People’s Republic of China, 2010
The organisational form of the Globalism Research Centre is intended to be co-operative and non-hierarchical.

**Directors group**
- Martin Mulligan
  *Director*
- Damian Grenfell
  *Deputy Director*

**Executive**
- Martin Mulligan
- Damian Grenfell
- Anne McNevin
- Victoria Stead
- Todd Bennet

**Research theme managers**
- Yaso Nadarajah
  *Community formation and transnationalism*
- Christopher Ziguras
  *Global knowledges and transnational education*
- Heikki Patomäki
  *Global and local governance*
- Manfred Steger
  *Histories and ideologies of globalisation*
- Paul James
  *Insecurity and conflict*

**Local advisory board**
- Jon Altman, *Australian National University, Canberra*
- Dennis Altman, *La Trobe University, Melbourne*
- Robyn Archer AO
- Paul Komesaroff, *Centre for Ethics in Medicine and Society, Monash University*
- David Lurie, *B2B Lawyers*
- Peter Murdoch QC
- Jane Sloane, *International Women’s Development Agency*
- John Smithies, *Cultural Development Network*
- Cam Walker, *Friends of the Earth*
Global advisory board

Perry Anderson, University of California, Los Angeles
Terrell Carver, University of Bristol
Allen Chun, Academia Sinica, Taipei
Lane Crothers, Illinois State University, Bloomington
Jonathan Friedman, Écoles des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris
Barry Gills, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Jack Goody, Cambridge University
Liah Greenfeld, Boston University
Siri Hettige, University of Colombo
Bruce Kapferer, University of Bergen
Glen David Kuecker, DePauw University, Greencastle
Krishan Kumar, University of Virginia; Charlottesville
T. Vasantha Kumaran, University of Madras
David Lyon, Queens University, Ontario
Walter Mignolo, Duke University, Durham
Juliet Mitchell, Cambridge University
Ashis Nandy, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi
Jamal Nassar, Cal State University, San Bernardino
Martha Nussbaum, University of Chicago Law School
Brendan O’Leary, University of Pennsylvania
Chris Reus-Smit, Australian National University, Canberra
Fazal Rizvi, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Jan Aart Scholte, University of Warwick
Jukka Siikala, University of Helsinki
James Spencer, University of Hawai’i-Manoa
Gayatri Spivak, Columbia University, New York
The Globalism Research Centre aims to build ongoing research links with other centres and scholars of international excellence. It is involved in collaborative activities with institutes, groups and individual scholars concerned about understanding the implications of globalisation.

Public-political bodies and grassroots organisations

Arena Publications, Melbourne, Australia
City of Melbourne, Australia
Cultural Development Network, Melbourne, Australia
Department for Community Development, Papua New Guinea
Foundation of Goodness, Sri Lanka
Friends of the Earth Australia
Globalization Studies Network (International)
Global Reconciliation (International)
Hambantota District, Chamber of Commerce, Sri Lanka
International Women’s Development Agency, Australia
Natural Environmental Sustainable Development Organisation, Ampara District, Sri Lanka
Sisters-in-Islam, NGO, Malaysia
Spire International
United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme, Melbourne, Australia

Academic institutes and centres

Asia-Pacific Research Unit, Universiti Sains Malaysia
College of Social and Behavioural Sciences, California State University, San Bernadino, USA
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beersheba, Israel
The Centre of Excellence in Global Governance Research, Academy of Finland/University of Helsinki, Finland
Globalization Research Center and Department of Political Science, University of Hawai’i, USA
Institute for Eastern European Studies, Free University of Berlin, Germany
Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada
Institute of Postcolonial Studies, Melbourne, Australia
Social Policy Analysis and Research Centre, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka
University of Madras, India
Universiti Malaya, Malaysia
Urban Studies and Geography, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada
## Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
<td>425,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>159,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>61,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>28,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>10,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>1,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total research grants income</strong></td>
<td>685,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional grants scheme</td>
<td>51,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research infrastructure block grant</td>
<td>79,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated funds*</td>
<td>255,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,072,391</strong>^</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and on-costs</td>
<td>581,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumable materials</td>
<td>22,616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor equipment, repairs and hire</td>
<td>16,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication costs</td>
<td>3,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenses</td>
<td>930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications and printing expenses</td>
<td>7,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and motor vehicle expenses</td>
<td>104,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff administrative costs</td>
<td>22,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, legal and contribution to School</td>
<td>37,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility expenses</td>
<td>1,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants to other institutions</td>
<td>59,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff and student related expenses</td>
<td>57,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td><strong>916,893</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated funds from research projects 2010 to 2011</td>
<td><strong>155,498</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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* Accumulated funds carried forward to 1 January 2010

^ Income does not include deferred funds of $17,446 from current research contracts