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RMIT University’s 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.

1.1 Manifesto
The tumultuous and uneven globalization of social relations has forced upon us the task of re-imagining a better world. The presumed lack of alternatives to market globalization constitutes a world-wide challenge which entails developing deeper understandings and more powerful explanations. This requires a renewal of critical engagement. The homogenizing 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 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, we are threatened by global war-without-end and environmental crisis. 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, 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 revitalized local forms of governance to the democratization of global economies—for instance, through mechanisms of transnational financial regulation and taxation.

We recognize 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 globalization and globalism. Social scientific 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 globalization. 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. Cognizant of maintaining a tight link between theory and practice, our work focuses on reinserting the importance of politics and culture—not ‘culturalism’—into globalization debates still dominated by 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. Recognizing these issues, we have developed research projects that focus on the sources of insecurity, community sustainability and formation, the ideologies of globalization, the historical trajectories of globalizing dynamics, global education and cultural exchange, global democracy and sustainable governance of the world economy. 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.

1.2 Research Principles
The Globalism Research Centre was initiated in 2000, with an extended period of consultation and development, and then formally inaugurated in 2002. Its brief is to initiate and manage research projects involving academics, researchers, and government and community-based practitioners from diverse backgrounds. These collaborative projects draw on expertise from across the university and beyond, in fields such as global politics, international relations, community studies, cross-cultural communication, international education, international trade, productive diversity and media studies. This work involves creative dialogue and exchange within the university across departments, faculties and schools, and beyond the university limits into the public sphere of community, governmental and non-governmental contexts.

The work of the Globalism Research Centre comes together around a number of core principles:

- The research is engaged and committed to making a difference.
- The research aims to move creatively between on-the-ground inquiry and generalizing theory.
- The research is reflexive. Engaged reflexive research entails objectively stepping back. In other words, the passion of engagement needs to be carefully qualified by the reflexive dimension of objective distance.
• The research involves a mutual and slowly negotiated relationship between researchers and other participants, including local communities. All participants are to be involved whenever possible as partners in a dialogue of exchange and mutual learning.

• The Centre aims to build long-term commitment to its research partners and to its research themes. In other words, the Globalism Research Centre is not pursuing a series of discrete research investigations. Rather, it is engaged in setting up an enduring and interconnected matrix of projects, intended to contribute to an overall understanding of the world today and its sustainability. The substance of the Centre is intended to be much more than just the sum of its projects.

• The Centre has a duty of care to the people with whom we work to appropriately protect privacy and security, to negotiate the boundaries of knowledge, to properly acknowledge sources, and to return the outcomes of our work to the community in a reciprocal relationship of mutual learning.

• The material gained from the research will remain publicly accessible for all communities and researchers, apart from material that we are ethically prohibited from making public. Culturally or politically sensitive material will remain confidential between individual researchers and the people with whom they are working collaboratively. Otherwise, our work aims to be freely available.

1.3 Activities
The Globalism Research Centre works across the realms of research, teaching and community engagement. In particular it:

• undertakes engaged research into globalization, transnationalism, nationalism and cultural diversity. It seeks to understand and critically evaluate current directions of global change, with an emphasis on the cultural implications of political and economic transformation.

• educates the community, both local and global, about both the difficulties and the possibilities of globalization and cultural diversity.

• provides research consultancy to all levels of government, industry and community, from the local to the international.

• organizes and sponsors conferences, forums and seminars to debate, critically analyze and formulate policies for global, national and regional organizations and agencies.

• offers a rich research milieu for postgraduate study in the fields of globalism, transnationalism, multiculturalism, nationalism, identity politics and cultural diversity.

• builds long-term transnational links with other world centres of excellence.

The work of the Globalism Research Centre is engaged and committed to making a difference.
1.4 Highlights in 2008

In 2008, a number of major books were published that continued to build upon our work in the areas of globalization and change, transnational relations and ideologies. Heikki Patomäki’s *The Political Economy of Global Security: War, Future Crises and Changes in Global Governance* (Routledge) brings together economic theory, political economy, peace and conflict research, philosophy and historical analogy to explore alternatives for global security into the future. Manfred Steger’s *The Rise of the Global Imaginary: Political Ideologies from the French Revolution to the Global War on Terror* (Oxford University Press) combines political history, philosophical interpretation, and good old-fashioned story-telling in tracing ideology’s remarkable journey from Count Destutt de Tracy’s Enlightenment science of ideas to President George W. Bush’s imperial globalization. Damien Grenfell and Paul James’s *Rethinking Insecurity, War and Violence: Beyond Savage Globalization?* (Routledge) brings together a collection of essays by scholars intent on rethinking the mainstream security paradigms and providing a stronger basis for understanding the causes of conflict and violence in the world today.

The year was marked by significant engagement with communities, institutions and governments in Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Sri Lanka, India, Malaysia, Cambodia, Laos, the US and Europe. In Papua New Guinea our work with the Department for Community Development was published in a series of reports and as a monograph through the Local-Global series, launched by the Minister at the second National Ministerial Forum on Community Development. We were represented by Paul James on the review panel for the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, the advisory group to the Helsinki Process on Global Governance, ADC ‘Transport and Urban Design’ working group as part of the Infrastructure 21 Summit advising the Australian government on infrastructure planning, and the executives of the Global Reconciliation Forum, the Globalization Studies Network, the Council of the Institute of Postcolonial Studies, Australian Association for Reconciliation through Medicine, the International Secretariat for the United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme, and Spire International. Heikki Patomäki was Vice Director and a member of the Board at the Centre of Excellence in Global Governance Research, University of Helsinki, and Research Director of the Network Institute for Global Democratization. Professor Manfred Steger was a Senior Research Fellow at the Globalization Research Center, University of Hawaii. Dr Yaso Nadarajah was invited to become a life member of the Tribal Council representing the Pariet Amam tribal communities in Papua New Guinea, and was a research associate on the National Polygamy Project with the Malaysia-based Sisters-in-Islam organization. We were also represented on the editorial boards of a number of international journals.
In 2008, the Globalism Research Centre received $1.2 million in research funding

The inaugural Tom Nairn Lecture was held in early 2009 and presented by Professor Mark Juergensmeyer, University of California, Santa Barbara. ‘Global Rebellion: Religious Challenges to the Secular State’ examined the strident new religious activism which has seized the imaginations of political rebels around the world, from al Qaeda to Christian militias to insurgents in Iraq, and offered positive proposals for responding to religious activism in ways that will diminish the violence and lead to an accommodation between radical religion and the secular world. Professor Nairn himself presented a prestigious Edinburgh Lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in February, while thirteen keynote presentations were made by Centre staff during the year.

The Centre also hosted a number of public lectures from visiting international scholars including Professor Saskia Sassen, Columbia University; Simon Dalby, Carleton University, Canada; Professor Clyde Barrow, University of Massachusetts, and Professor Teivo Teivainen, University of Helsinki. Outside of RMIT, the centre was heavily involved in the third ‘Two Fires Festival of Arts and Activism’ in Braidwood, Victoria, convening a panel celebrating the writing of Val Plumwood and Judith Wright. Overseas, the Centre was a co-organizer, with the Global Cities Institute and the Australian Association for Reconciliation through Medicine, of a reconciliation conference in Amman, Jordan. This will lead on to a Global Reconciliation Summit in Amman at the end of 2009.

A number of new Australian Research Council (ARC) research projects were commenced or awarded in 2008. ‘Irregular Migrants and Political Belonging in Global Cities’ (2008–10; Chief Investigators Paul James and Anne McNevin) will investigate the impacts of irregular migration in four cities in the Asia-Pacific region and will draw on regional and Australian experiences of irregular migration to inform policy and political questions on these prominent issues of citizenship, migration and globalisation. ‘Globalizing Indigeneity: Indigenous Cultural Festivals and Wellbeing in Australia and the Asia-Pacific’ (2008–10, Chief Investigators Paul James, Peter Phipps and Manfred Steger) will investigate cultural festivals as one of the few consistently positive spaces for indigenous communities to assert a more constructive view of themselves, both intergenerationally and as part of their struggle for respect as distinct cultures in the broader national community. ‘Mapping Justice Globalism: Reassessing the Ideological Landscape of the Twenty-First Century’ (2009-11; Chief Investigators Manfred Steger and Heikki Patomäki) offers the first comprehensive analysis of the ideological claims of the global justice movement, with key findings made available to Australia’s policy-making sector in targeted and accessible formats.

A number of non-ARC grants were commenced in 2008, the largest of these the AusAID funded ‘Combining Health Equity Funding and Community-based Health Insurance to Protect the Poor’, which explores funding models and strategies for optimizing access to health services for the poor in Cambodia and Lao PDR. Our work in Timor-Leste continued to attract funding partners, including Irish Aid, Oxfam and Concern Worldwide, for a number of projects in the areas of gender, community sustainability and security.

Locally, funding from the Australia Council for the Arts, the Cultural Development Network and Regional Arts Victoria supported continuing research into the contributions that arts-based activities can make to the wellbeing of local communities. The Helen and Geoffrey Handbury Community Fellowship Program continued to be an integral part of the Community Sustainability program. The Fellowship Program is a scholarship fund providing financial support for research projects that mutually benefit the Southern Grampians region and RMIT University communities. Another two fellowship grants were awarded in 2008, bringing to nineteen the total number of awards granted since 2002. In recognition of his philanthropy and lifelong work on community development, Geoffrey Handbury received an honorary doctorate from RMIT University. Our involvement in the region also led to the 2008 International Food and Thought Mela, an opportunity for communities from the Hamilton region and beyond to hear international community activists, researchers, scholars and practitioners talk about the sustainability of local communities across the world, and to consider practical local responses to food production, climate change and a sustainable future.
The researchers of the Globalism Research Centre include staff members and associate members, research associates working in the research fields we pursue from local, national and international institutions, and a vibrant community of postgraduate researchers.

2.1 Core Researchers (Executive Group)

Manfred B. Steger
Director
Professor of Global Studies

Biography
Manfred B. Steger has delivered many lectures on globalization, ideology, and non-violence in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Australia. His academic work—comprised of sixteen books, dozens of articles and book chapters, and numerous reviews—has been cited widely in the pertinent literature. His study Globalism: The New Market Ideology (Rowman & Littelfield, 2002) won the 2003 Michael Harrington Award of the New Political Science Section of the American Political Science Association. He has been a consultant on globalization for the US State Department and an advisor on a US Public Television series on the rise and fall of socialism. Favorable reviews of his work have appeared in numerous academic journals including the American Political Science Review and International Affairs. Professor Steger serves on several editorial boards of academic journals as well as on the advisory boards of several globalization research centers 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 The Rise of the Global Imaginary: Political Ideologies from the French Revolution to the War on Terror (Oxford University Press, 2008).

Martin Mulligan
Deputy Director
Senior Research Fellow

Before joining the Globalism Research Centre in 2004, Martin Mulligan worked for ten years in the innovative Social Ecology program at the University of Western Sydney, where he developed new courses in areas related to ecological thinking and environmental education. His work explores ways of deepening discourses on sustainability through the promotion of ‘ecological literacy’ and how a deeper ‘sense of place’ can bring together concerns for the environmental and social sustainability of local communities. His recent research includes sense of place and community wellbeing in particular Victorian communities; the recovery of local communities in post-tsunami Sri Lanka; strategies for nature conservation in the post-colonial era; rethinking attitudes to water in Australia and internationally; social history of ecological thought and action. Dr Mulligan’s books include Ecological Pioneers (2001 with Stuart Hill) and Decolonizing Nature (2003 with William Adams).
Damian Grenfell
Research Program Manager (Sources of Insecurity)
Senior Research Fellow

The common basis of Dr 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 globalization at the point of conflict, with Timor-Leste providing one key focus for this study. Dr Grenfell is also a Senior Lecturer in Global Studies.

Kim Humphery
Associate Dean (Research and Innovation), Design and Social Context Portfolio

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, 2009).

In 2008, the Globalism Research Centre employed 13 full-time and 14 part-time staff.
Paul James  
*Professor of Globalism and Cultural Diversity*  
*Director, Global Cities Research Institute*

Paul James 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. He has been invited to deliver addresses in more than twenty different countries including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cuba, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Israel-Palestine, Japan, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Taiwan and the United States. He is author or editor of nineteen books, including *Nation Formation: Towards a Theory of Abstract Community* (Sage, 1996) and *Globalism, Nationalism Tribalism: Bringing Theory Back In* (Sage, 2006) and the first eight volumes of a projected sixteen-volume series mapping the field of globalization (Sage, 2006, 2007). He has been an advisor to a number of agencies and governments including the Helsinki Process, the Canadian Prime Minister G20 Forum (2004), the National Economic Advisory Council of Malaysia, and the Commission on Reception, Truth and Reconciliation in East Timor. His work for the Papua New Guinea Minister for Community Development became the basis for their Integrated Community Development Policy (2004–09).

Yaso Nadarajah  
*Research Program Manager (Community Sustainability)*  
*Senior Research Fellow*

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 Thirukovil 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. This study is also providing an insight into how radical change has also brought new ways of doing things, and community re-exerts itself as a powerful idea. Dr Nadarajah is also the series editor of *Local-Global: Identity, Security, Community*, and a guest editor of *International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies*. She is on the Board of Governors, Centurion School of Rural Enterprise Management, Parlakhemundi, Orissa, India; Chief Executive Officer, Helen & Geoff Handbury Community Fellowships Trust; Member of the Committee for Melbourne Future Focus Group Alumnus; and on the Pariet Amman Tribal Council of Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea.
Tom Nairn

Innovation Professor of Nationalism and Cultural Diversity

Tom Nairn’s contribution to studies of nationalism is difficult to overstate. Writing in the London Review of Books, Neal Ascherson stated that Nairn has been ‘for twenty years the dominant political philosopher of his country, and an influence on the ideas of the post-1968 generation all over Western Europe’. Professor Nairn is widely known for developing in the early 1960s what would later be named the Nairn-Anderson thesis on British decline, which is much-cited and commented upon, and has had a definitive influence upon studies of nationalism and politics in Britain and beyond. He is one of the four most widely cited authorities on nationalism in the world today, along with Benedict Anderson, Anthony Smith and the late Ernest Gellner. Through his analytical and translating work, he is credited, together with Perry Anderson, with introducing Antonio Gramsci’s work to Anglophone culture, especially the notion of ‘hegemony’, which has had a major influence on the field of political and cultural studies since. Professor Nairn’s influential book The Break-up of Britain (1977) gained much attention for its prediction of the unsustainability of the United Kingdom state and its probable fragmentation into a number of different republics. His much acclaimed After Britain (2000) continued the argument of The Break-up of Britain, concentrating especially on Scotland and devolutionary politics, along with the structural tensions within Blairism.

Heikki Patomäki

Innovation Professor of Globalization and Global Institutions

Until 2003, Heikki Patomäki held the position of Professor in World Politics and Economy at the Nottingham Trent University in the UK, and currently he is on leave from his Professorship in International Relations at the University of Helsinki in Finland. At RMIT, he 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. The new work develops, apart from concrete scenarios of short- to mid-term futures, the methodology of futures studies and scenarios for long-term 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 organizations across the world, including the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the UN Research Institute for Social Development, UK Department for International Development, the New or Restored Democracies process; International ATTAC, and various other transnational NGOs. At RMIT, he co-teaches a course on nationalism and globalism in 2009 and, in 2010, will teach a course on global futures.
Peter Phipps
Researcher
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; the history of theory in anthropology; 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 co-ordinated 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 Program Co-ordinator and a lecturer in the BA International Studies Program, responsible for co-ordination and delivery of four courses and research supervision.

Helen Smith
Senior Research Fellow
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; 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 digitization and convergence of technologies.

Anna Trembath
Researcher
Anna Trembath is a PhD candidate and researcher with the Globalism Research Centre’s Timor-Leste Research Project. Her research focusses upon understanding the complex nexus between gender and nation-formation in the context of Timor-Leste, with security and civil society being subsidiary research themes. She has worked in Timor-Leste since 2005 across various team projects, including ‘Mapping the Pursuit of Gender Equality: Non-Government and International Agency Activity in Timor-Leste’ (2006-07 with Timor-Leste’s Office for the Promotion of Equality and Irish Aid) and ‘Understanding Community: Security and Sustainability in Four Aldeia in Timor-Leste’ (2007-09). 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).
Christopher Ziguras
Research Program Manager (Border Knowledges and Global Learning)
Associate Professor of International Studies

Chris Ziguras’s research investigates various aspects of the globalisation of higher
education and in particular the ways in which governments seek to manage and
regulate cross-border flows of students, programs and institutions. His writings include
Transnational Education: Issues and Trends in Offshore Higher Education (2007 with
Grant McBurnie). Dr. Ziguras is a member of the International Education Association
of Australia, the Australian and New Zealand Comparative and International Education
He is involved in fostering links between academic researchers, government and the
higher education industry through his active participation in the Research Committee
of the International Education Association of Australia and the Advisory Panel for New
Zealand’s Export Education Innovation Program. Dr Ziguras teaches within the Global
Studies discipline at RMIT University. He also manages the Learning Cities program
within RMIT’s Global Cities Research Institute, and established RMIT’s Research in

2.2 Other Researchers and Associates

Peter Annear
Research Project Manager and Research Associate, Globalism Research Centre

Recent research: health policy and planning; health economics and financing

Peter Burrows
Senior Research Fellow, Globalism Research Centre

Recent research: ARC-funded research projects exploring 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
Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT
University

John Callinan
Collaborating Professional, Co-editor, Local–Global Journal, Hamilton Editions

Guosheng Chen
Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT
University

Bill Cope
Adjunct Professor, Globalism Research Centre

Julie Foster-Smith
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre

Recent research: Aboriginal education in Australian schools; community development
strategies in Papua-New Guinea; indigenous epistemologies; ‘intercultural travel’

Gus Gollings
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre

Recent research: primary researcher for an Australian Research Council linkage
grant between Fuji Xerox Australia and the Globalism Research Centre, “Towards the
“Semantic Web”: Standards and Interoperability across Document Management and
Publishing Supply Chains’
John Handmer  
Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University

Aramiha Harwood  
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: globalization and higher education; regulation of international education; teaching and learning in international education

Kim Holthouse  
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: nationalism and national identity; ethnicity and language; conflict and reconciliation, particularly in South East Asia; national integration and threats to human security in Timor-Leste since independence

Mary Kalantzis  
Adjunct Professor, Globalism Research Centre

Elizabeth Kath  
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: the social and political dimensions of Cuba's public health system; alternative, community-engaged pathways to development in Papua New Guinea

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

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

Jock McCulloch  
Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University

Anne McNevin  
Research Fellow, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: transformation of citizenship and belonging in the context of neoliberal globalization; irregular migrants (refugees, asylum seekers, illegal labour migrants and stateless persons); citizenship and belonging

Liam Magee  
APAI Research Scholar, Globalism Research Centre

Peter Marden  
Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University

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

Les Morgan  
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: relationships between information and communications technology (ICT), pedagogy, and teaching and learning environments; the contemporary social reality of imperfect intercultural connections; research as a visual artist
Carmenesa Moniz Noronha
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: community and security in Timor-Leste

Andy Scerri
Research Fellow, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: cultural politics of globalization and national identity formation across Australia, Britain and the United States; the nature of contemporary subjectivity

Gyorgy Scrinis
Research Associate, Globalism Research Centre

Joseph Siracusa
Collaborating Scholar, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University

Lisa Slater
Research Fellow, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: Indigenous festivals; Indigenous-settler relations in Australia; postcolonial cultural production; theories and senses of belonging and home in contemporary Australia

Pia Smith
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: the Community Sustainability collaborative project, with a particular focus on the ‘Wellbeing of Communities’ project; and the ‘Generations’ project for the Cultural Development Network

Victoria Stead
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: collaborative, community-engaged research methodology to identify alternate pathways to development contemporary; social movements and political mobilization

Bo Svoronos
APAI Research Scholar, Globalism Research Centre

Lakshmi Venugopal
Research Assistant, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: community resilience, identity and belonging in modernizing Malaysia

Mayra Walsh
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: community and security in Timor-Leste

Erin Wilson
Researcher, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: globalization, ideology, religion and secularism; the relationship between religion and politics in the West and its impact on world politics through foreign policy; religion and global justice; NGOs and social change

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

Tony Wilson
Research Associate, Globalism Research Centre

Yael Zalchendler
Research Assistant, Globalism Research Centre
Recent research: local responses to climate change
3. Administrative Structure

The organizational form of the Globalism Research Centre is intended to be co-operative and non-hierarchical. The Directors Group is the board of management of the Centre, while the Executive Group (Core Researchers) decides on the Centre's core research directions and designates Research Program Managers to develop those themes into self-sustaining funded research projects.

3.1 Directors Group
Manfred B. Steger  
Director
Martin Mulligan  
Deputy Director

3.2 Research Program Managers
Damian Grenfell  
Sources of Insecurity
Yaso Nadarajah  
Community Sustainability
Christopher Ziguras  
Border Knowledges and Global Learning

3.3 Administration and Finance
Todd Bennet  
Centre Co-ordinator
Mai Chaing  
Senior Finance Officer, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning
Cicely Fenton  
Community Project Facilitator, RMIT Hamilton
Victoria Finch  
Community Project Facilitator, RMIT Hamilton
Terrie Nicholson  
Community Project Facilitator, RMIT Hamilton
Wasana Weeraratne  
Community Project Facilitator

3.4 Local Advisory Board
Dr Robyn Archer AO
Damein Bell, Winda Mara Co-operative
Tom Bentley, Department of Premier and Cabinet, State Government of Victoria
Dr Tim Costello, World Vision Australia
Stephen Duggan, Global Business Development, RMIT University
Bruce Harvey, Rio Tinto
Professor 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
3.5 Global Advisory Board

Professor Jon Altman, Australian National University, Canberra
Professor Dennis Altman, La Trobe University, Melbourne
Professor Perry Anderson, University of California, Los Angeles
Professor Terrell Carver, University of Bristol
Dr Alan Chun, Academia Sinica, Taipei
Professor Lane Crothers, Illinois State University, Bloomington
Professor Jonathan Friedman, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris
Professor Barry Gills, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Emeritus Professor Jack Goody, Cambridge University
Professor Bruce Kapferer, University of Bergen
Associate Professor Glen David Kuecker, DePauw University, Greencastle
Professor Krishan Kumar, University of Virginia, Charlottesville
Professor T. Vasantha Kumeran, University of Madras
Professor David Lyon, Queens University, Ontario
Professor Walter Mignolo, Duke University, Durham
Professor Juliet Mitchell, Cambridge University
Ashis Nandy, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi
Professor Brendan O’Leary, University of Pennsylvania
Professor Jamal Nassar, Cal State University, San Bernadino
Professor Martha Nussbaum, University of Chicago Law School
Professor Chris Reus-Smit, Australian National University, Canberra
Professor Fazal Rizvi, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Professor Jan Aart Scholte, University of Warwick
Professor Jukka Siikala, University of Helsinki
Professor James Spencer, University of Hawai‘i-Manoa
Professor Gayatri Spivak, Columbia University, New York
4. Global and Local Links

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 globalization.

4.1 Public-Political Bodies and Grassroots Organizations

Arena Publications (Melbourne)

Established in 1963, Arena Publications publishes Arena Journal, an academic bi-annual, and Arena Magazine, Australia’s leading left magazine of cultural and political comment. Both publications frequently publish articles and commentary pieces on areas ranging across the work of the Globalism Research Centre, including Indigenous politics and culture, debates on bio-technology, nationalism and national identity—including the history wars—and the role of intellectuals and technology in the transformation of the current cultural and political landscape. Arena has a thriving centre in Fitzroy, Melbourne, which combines publication, public discussion and a commercial printery. The Globalism Research Centre has a presence on the editorial board of Arena Publications through Paul James as one of the Arena Journal editors.

The Australian Alliance for Reconciliation through Medicine (AARM)

The Australian Alliance for Reconciliation through Medicine, based at Monash University in Melbourne, aims to contribute to the process of peace and reconciliation in the Middle East by fostering co-operative projects promoting health and health-care. The partners represent a broad coalition of people from Australia and the Middle East with experience in many aspects of health-care, reconciliation and related community-based activities. In December 2008, with support from the Globalism Research Centre and the Global Cities Institute, the Alliance ran a workshop in Amman, Jordan, that drew together fifty influential practitioners in the field of health from Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Australia to discuss the development of reconciliation projects in the region. This was part of the preparation for a major summit in 2009.

Cultural Development Network

The Cultural Development Network (CDN) is an independent non-profit group that links communities, artists, local councils and organizations across Victoria, Australia. CDN advocates a stronger role for participatory arts and cultural expression, and a stronger role for local government in nurturing cultural vitality, with the arts (at the heart of culture) as central to this vision.

The Globalism Research Centre has undertaken research for CDN on its ‘Generations’ Project, and the CDN Director, John Smithies, is a member of the Centre’s Local Advisory Board.

Department for Community Development (Papua New Guinea)

The Globalism Research Centre has been working with the Department now for five years and has contributed to policy developments that are rewriting the national approach to community sustainability. The Department is in the forefront of rethinking community development strategies and partnerships, particularly as embodied in their recent major document Integrated Community Development Policy, 2007, and a series of reports in 2008.

Foundation of Goodness

In 2008, the NGO Foundation of Goodness, Sri Lanka, and the Globalism Research Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective of developing collaborative research projects. In 2008, and continuing into 2009, this has involved working together on an APC Linkage project on a comparative study of five post-tsunami resettlement projects (RPs) in Sri Lanka to inform national strategies for rebuilding of sustainable communities after major disasters such as the 2004 tsunami.
Friends of the Earth Australia

Friends of the Earth (FoE) is a federation of autonomous local groups who are working towards an environmentally sustainable and socially equitable future. Through a combination of research, community outreach, direct action, lobbying and offering positive business alternatives, FoE seeks to work in alliances with other like-minded groups and individuals to achieve the necessary social change which will allow for environmental protection with full protection for the rights of all people.

The Globalism Research Centre and FoE have co-sponsored and co-organized a number of public events on environmental sustainability and socially equity.

Globalization Studies Network (International)

The Globalization Studies Network (GSN) is a worldwide association that links programs of research, education and public policy regarding globalization. The network is formed on an inclusive basis, encompassing diverse regions, disciplines, cultures, perspectives and substantive concerns. The GSN was a co-sponsor of the ‘Pathways to Reconciliation and Global Human Rights’ conference, Sarajevo, 2005, convened by the Globalism Research Centre.

Global Reconciliation Network (International)

The Global Reconciliation Network, in which the Globalism Research Centre is a key participant, seeks to facilitate the process of reconciliation at both local and global levels. It does so by providing a framework within which people can explore ways of developing and extending exchanges of a cultural, educational and intellectual nature. In accordance with its underlying objectives, it operates within a decentred, democratic framework that permits the development of autonomous cells or interest groups. Utilizing direct, face-to-face contact and contemporary means for communication across geographical boundaries it seeks to recreate globalization’s ‘human face’ and to formulate strategies, processes and proposals that bring the peoples of the world closer together.

International Women’s Development Agency

The International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA) is an Australian non-profit organization that creates positive change for women and their communities. Its practical and rights-based projects directly address poverty and oppression in developing countries.

The Globalism Research Centre is a supporter and sponsor of IWDA events, and the IWDA Executive Director, Jane Sloane, is a member of the Centre’s Local Advisory Board.

Spire International

Spire International is a not-for-profit organization that links donors to local initiatives in developing communities. Spire specializes in identifying smaller locally based initiatives where there is a need for external assistance so that goals can be achieved. Spire focuses on the areas of education, health, income generation and environment.

The Globalism Research Centre is a supporter and sponsor of Spire International events, and Paul James is a member of its Executive.
United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme

The United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme seeks to translate the overarching ten principles of the UN Global Compact into innovative, concrete and sustainable solutions to intractable economic, social and environmental urban issues.

RMIT University, led by Secretariat Director, Paul James, is the global centre for a United Nations program searching for local solutions to the social, economic and environmental problems faced by cities around the world.

4.2 Academic Institutes and Centres

Asia-Pacific Research Unit, Universiti Sains Malaysia

In 2006, the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Globalism Research Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective of developing collaborative research projects. The MoU also aims to promote joint seminars and workshops, and staff and student exchange. This has involved a series of reciprocal research trips and collaborations over research developments, including GRC members Manfred Steger and Yaso Nadarajah as guest editors for APRU’s International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies.

College of Social and Behavioural Sciences, California State University, San Bernadino

In 2008, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was developed with College Dean, Jamal R. Nasar, for promoting staff collaboration and exchange in the fields of global studies and global indigenerity.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Beersheba, Israel)

Staff at Ben-Gurion and the Globalism Research Centre are developing a joint project on community sustainability. This has involved a series of reciprocal research trips and collaborations over research developments.

Globalization Research Center and Department of Political Science, University of Hawai‘i

In September 2003, the Globalism Research Centre and the GRC collaborated with a number of other institutes in establishing the Globalization Studies Network. Since then, Manfred Steger has been working with its Director, James Spencer, to develop an ongoing research collaboration around the theme of ‘Globalization and Culture’.

Institute for Eastern European Studies, Free University of Berlin

In 2008, Manfred Steger and Erin Wilson presented lectures and developed an online module on globalization for the Institute.

Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition, McMaster University (Hamilton, Canada)

The Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition was established in 1998 as one of McMaster University’s strategic areas of research on globalization, social change and the human condition. Their major current project is on globalization and autonomy. Professors Imre Szeman and Robert O’Brien from the Institute worked with Paul James on the ‘Central Currents in Globalization’ series published by Sage, London.
Institute of Postcolonial Studies (Melbourne, Australia)

The Globalism Research Centre and the Institute of Postcolonial Studies (IPS) have been working closely together since 2002. The Globalism Research Centre is represented on the Postcolonial Institute’s Council, the Institute’s peak policy body. The IPS publishes Postcolonial Studies, an international journal, founded in 1997 by a group of scholars associated with the Institute of Postcolonial Studies, including Paul James.

South Eastern University of Sri Lanka

In 2007, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka and the Globalism Research Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective of developing collaborative research projects. In 2007 and 2008, and continuing into 2009, this has involved working together on an ARC Linkage project a comparative study of five post-tsunami resettlement projects (RPs) in Sri Lanka to inform national strategies for rebuilding of sustainable communities after major disasters such as the 2004 tsunami.

University of Colombo

In 2007, the University of Colombo and the Globalism Research Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective of developing collaborative research projects. In 2007 and 2008, and continuing into 2009, this has involved working together on an ARC Linkage project a comparative study of five post-tsunami resettlement projects (RPs) in Sri Lanka to inform national strategies for rebuilding of sustainable communities after major disasters such as the 2004 tsunami.

University of Madras

In 2006, the University of Madras and the Globalism Research Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective of developing collaborative research projects. The MoU also aims to promote joint symposiums and conferences, staff and student exchange, and an anthology of publications.

Universiti Malaya

The Globalism Research Centre and Universiti Malaya work collaboratively on research projects, including the local–global project ‘Community Resilience, Identity and Belonging in Modernizing Malaysia’, which focuses on a number of squatter settlements populated by families from Malay and Indian ethnic groups, as well as Indonesian and Bangladeshi migrant workers.

4.3 Visiting Senior Scholars 2008

Clyde Barrow, Professor, Center for Policy Analysis, University of Massachusetts
Roland Benedikter, Professor, University of Vienna, University of Innsbruck, Free University of Bolzano
Simon Dalby, Professor, Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University
Glen David Kuecker, Associate Professor, History, DePauw University, Greencastle
Susan Park, School of Political and Social Sciences, University of Sydney
Saskia Sassen, Lynd Professor of Sociology, Columbia University
Teivo Teivainen, Professor of World Politics and Head of the Political Science Department, University of Helsinki
Lyman Tower Sargent, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Missouri-St. Louis
T. Vasantha Kumeran, Professor, Geography, University of Madras
Kaviyarasan Venkatesan, Associate Professor, Botany, University of Madras

T. Vasantha Kumeran, University of Madras, and Martin Mulligan, 2008 International Food and Thought Mela
Hamilton, Australia

Victoria Stead and Karen Haive, Department for Community Development
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea 2008
The central research focus of the Centre is globalization, nationalism, transnationalism and the nature of community. Our research projects are gathered together around key themes, all related to this core purpose: Sources of Insecurity; Community Sustainability; and Border Knowledges and Global Learning.

5.1 Sources of Insecurity

Research Program Manager: Damian Grenfell
Team: Paul James, Tom Nairn, Anna Trembath, Carmenesa Moniz Noronha, Mayra Walsh, Heikki Patomäki, Victoria Stead, Andy Scerri and Kym Holthouse.

The Sources of Insecurity program intersects with various other teaching and research programs at RMIT University, including the Human Security program in the Global Cities Institute. The most obvious point of intersection between these two programs is in the way both ask how forms of violence can be negated at the policy level. However, Sources of Insecurity remains a distinct program on a number of fronts, not least its global scale. While Sources of Insecurity research has carried us from Argentina to Palestine, Bosnia to Northern Ireland, the Human Security program concentrates on the urban domain and is limited to the Asia-Pacific. Secondly, the emphasis in the Sources of Insecurity program has been on understanding violence rather than on different systems or approaches to understanding security, and poses questions much more around identity and social integration.

Across 2008, research under the Sources of Insecurity program occurred under various projects:

The Changing Nature of National Identity and its Relationship to Other Forms of Identity

Research Program Manager: Tom Nairn
Researcher: Andy Scerri

This is a comparative study involving ‘case studies of locales on the edge of old and new empires’ from sites in the UK and Australia, which promises to throw issues of nationalism and identity formation into a new perspective that engages with challenges which societies face in their efforts to grapple with globalization and the undermining of traditional social infrastructure. The study has the potential to provide finely nuanced accounts of the ways in which versions of national identity continue to shape the experiences of people working within these geographically and historically distinct sites. The study engages with some of the key texts of the field (for example Gellner and Anderson), conveying a powerful sense of historical reflexivity and engagement with the present moment, promising to be ‘a study addressing contemporary nationalism as a deep history of the global present’.

Nairn’s work on the project was partly responsible for his invitation to deliver a prestigious Edinburgh Lecture in 2008 on the issues surrounding what he calls ‘post-Empire nationalism’ and ‘identity formation on the edge-lands’. His forthcoming book Global Nations is a work produced in large part under the auspices of this ARC grant. The project has allowed for a deeper analysis to be developed of the current conjuncture of nationalism and identity politics in the era of globalization, especially around the themes of post-Empire nationhood in the Anglo-American West.
After the Violence: Truth, Reconciliation and National Integration in Timor-Leste

Research Program Manager: Damian Grenfell
Research Team: Mayra Walsh and Victoria Stead

With the closure of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation in East Timor (CAVR) and the dissemination of its findings across 2006, this project will examine the impact of CAVR on national integration. By focusing particularly on how CAVR sought to find ‘the truth’ regarding political violence that had occurred between 1974 and 1999, as well as to secure the reintegration of past human-rights offenders back into society, the central role of the Commission in underpinning the transition to a new nation will be considered. The project will produce a detailed understanding of whether the cycles of violence have been genuinely broken in Timor-Leste in relation to that period and how organizations such as CAVR contribute to building a durable peace in post-conflict societies. While the project has continued to focus on CAVR, the socio-political crises that began in 2006 and the Presidential and Parliamentary elections of 2007 have both been drawn into the study so as to help answer the underpinning questions of the project that relate to the nature of nation-formation in a post-conflict Timor-Leste.

Community Security and Sustainability

Research Program Manager: Damian Grenfell
Research Team: Mayra Walsh, Carmenesa Moniz Noronha, Kym Holthouse and Anna Trembath

Dili is of particular interest for various reasons, not least as the political, economic and organizational centre of Timor-Leste and the centre for the 2006 crisis. However, there is little point in trying to understand the city on its own terms and in isolation, and as such this study takes three other varied sites from across Timor-Leste as part of a larger process of comparative examination. These sites, namely Venilale in Baucau, Fatumean in Covalima, and Barkafá in Lautém, will provide a sense of how local communities are able to sustain and secure themselves. In this way, the study will build a sense of the degree of community wellbeing in each site, how this may compare to the other sites and why there may be differences between communities, with a special emphasis on the different urban and rural divide. Methods being used as part of this research program include various individual and household surveys, semi-structured interviews, photo-narrative, and temporal and spatial mapping techniques drawing on GPS units to map the different kinds of movements of people within communities. Program staff work across various languages, including Tetun, Bahasa Indonesia and local languages. In August 2008, the English version of Community Sustainability and Security in Timor-Leste: Sarelari and Nanu was launched, produced in association with Oxfam Australia and Concern Worldwide in Timor-Leste. A Tetun version of the report was produced in early 2009.
Policy Options for Oecusse

Research Program Manager: Damian Grenfell
Researcher: Kym Holthouse

This study was commissioned by Oxfam Australia as the first stage of a two-part research project. The project brief for Stage One in 2007 was to provide a scoping study of socio-economic issues related to economic and border policy options in the enclave of Oecusse, Timor-Leste and to develop a suitable Terms of Reference (ToR) for a more in-depth future study. The report was completed in English in January 2008, and was re-edited and turned into a public document and translated into Indonesian for distribution in Timor-Leste. It presents a preliminary picture of the complexities and challenges faced by the Oecusse community and those organizations working to provide it with support, recognizing both the history of the Timor-Leste nation generally and the specific and unique characteristics of Oecusse district.

Publications

While 2008 was a year much focused on field research it also set the foundation for a number of important pieces of academic writing. Intellectual developments have been carried into various publications, including Political Economy of Global Security: Future Crises and Changes of Global Governance (Heikki Patomäki, Routledge) and Rethinking Insecurity, War and Violence: Beyond Savage Globalization? (Damian Grenfell and Paul James, Routledge) which includes chapters by Grenfell and James. In addition to a series of public reports largely based on the work in Timor-Leste, two other chapters by Grenfell were published, including one on reconciliation (Ashgate 2008) emanating from the Sources of Insecurity conference, ‘Pathways to Reconciliation’, in Sarajevo in 2005.

Postgraduate Research

An important part of the Sources of Insecurity program is the development of honours and postgraduate students undertaking research on Timor-Leste. These research topics included:

- State of Insecurity: The Representation of Post-September 11 Insecurity by Australian Governmental and Media Communication (Diana Bossio, PhD)
- East Timor: A Social History of Indonesian Occupation 1975-1999 (Zelda Grimshaw, PhD candidate)
- Karen Communities, Cultural Resistance and Empowerment in the Borderlands, (Rachel Sharples, PhD candidate)
- Framing the Nation, Reconstituting Gender (Anna Trembath, PhD candidate)
- The Construction of Masculinities and Violence (Ruth Streicher, Honours candidate, Free University of Berlin)
- Traditional Governance Systems (Mayra Walsh, Honours candidate)
5.2 Community Sustainability

Research Program Manager: Yaso Nadarajah

Research team: Paul James, Martin Mulligan, Manfred Steger, Kim Humphery, Victoria Stead, Peter Phipps, Lisa Slater, Pia Smith, Peter Annear, Yael Zalchendler, Jessica Korteman, Wasana Weeraratne and Bo Svoronos

In the context of the local-global challenges of the contemporary period, the Community Sustainability program aims to explore the strengths and weaknesses of local communities, with a particular emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region. It involves a global network of researchers, scholars and engaged community-activists, working together to better understand the nature of community from the local to the global; to collectively respond to key cultural political issues of the new century across all levels of community and polity; and to develop responses to deal with real-world problems. This project recognizes the vital importance of the local—the place in which we live—and then seeks to draw global lines of co-operation and reciprocal connections across our institutions and other relevant networks with communities and researchers at local, national and international levels.

The Community Sustainability Program comprises a matrix of community-situated activities which are being conducted using a common methodology, with an emphasis on the importance of comparative research. Our research stretches across the Asia-Pacific region, with projects in Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Cambodia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, as well as partnerships in Ecuador and the US. The research program is engaged in multiple communities within each site, ranging from the urban to the rural, and from those embedded in face-to-face communities to those which are closely integrated into global flows of exchange and information.

Across 2008, research under the Community Sustainability program occurred under various projects:

**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), Judith Shaw (Monash University), and Matthew Clarke (Deakin University), with Professor Sri Hettige (University of Colombo), Kaleel Aqeel (South Eastern University, Pottuvil), Ashraff Ahmed (NESDO NGO, Sainthamaruthu) and Kushil Gunasegara (Foundation of Goodness, Seenigama)

Through a comparative study of five post-tsunami resettlement projects (RPs) in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India, this practice-oriented research project will inform strategies for rebuilding of sustainable communities in regions affected by the 2004 tsunami. An Australian Research Council project, it has involved RMIT and Monash University researchers in partnership with AusAID, Australia’s official aid agency. The focus is on three themes: political and institutional factors affecting RP design and delivery; the rebuilding of economic self-reliance; and to distil 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.

Research team members have been working with the University of Colombo and South Eastern University, Pottuvil to complete social profiles of Sri Lankan communities using community surveys, interviews; Community Life Member Profiles (CLMPs) and life stories. In March and October 2008, Yaso Nadarajah and Martin Mulligan conducted a survey of tsunami victims living in new housing in Hambantota and Seenigama in Sri Lanka and Yaso began research in two periurban Tsunami-affected resettlement projects in Chennai—VOC Nagar and Thillagar—early in 2008. An agreement with the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board has been formalized to also enable the completion of the fieldwork in VOC Nagar and Thillagar, and the board has expressed strong interest in the outcomes of the research.
Fieldwork in two other Sri Lankan communities—Sainthamuruthu and Thirukovil—began in October, and the CLMPs were completed by Martin and Yaso with local fieldworkers at the end of November, with the results of this survey currently being analysed. CLMPs and a number of semi-structured interviews and life stories in Chennai have also been completed. Community rebuilding fieldwork has now been completed for Seenigama and Hambantota and will be completed in Sainthamuruthu, Thirukovil, and in the Chennai communities by the end of February 2009.

One new feature of the community rebuilding research is a focus on the best models for integrated community planning that can be found across the four Sri Lankan case study communities. Three village developments have been identified that appear to offer the best models for integrated development, and the strengths and weaknesses of these models will be compared.

**Papua New Guinea: Sustainable Communities, Sustainable Livelihoods: Alternative Pathways to Development in Papua New Guinea**

Research team: Paul James, Yaso Nadarajah, Victoria Stead and Peter Phipps with Karen Haive, Department for Community Development, PNG and Julie Foster-Smith

The Community Sustainability program has undertaken work in Papua New Guinea for several years now. This project has involved in-depth and sustained research in eleven communities across the country, ranging from remote villages in the Highlands through to settler communities in Port Moresby. In partnership with the Department for Community Development in the PNG National Government, this has been an ambitious research-based policy development project focusing on the relationship between livelihoods and learning. The first stage of the project involved using broad-ranging research techniques to elucidate issues underpinning skills-training possibilities, with the overall goal of setting up conditions for non-formal, short-term and demand-driven skills training to be delivered through training providers, in ways which are accessible and relevant for broad segments of the population. Doing so also required the project to undertake background research work to support the process of developing an ongoing policy framework and an implementation plan.

In 2008, the final research report, *Sustainable Communities, Sustainable Livelihoods: Alternative Pathways to Development in Papua New Guinea*, was published as a research monograph, with a longer-term plan of publishing a book based on its findings. The report argues that PNG is best understood, not as a failed state, but as a state in slow crisis. It argues for an alternate approach to development which builds upon the strength and resilience of local communities, and works to re-capture the principles originally articulated in the 1975 Constitution—self-determination, social equity, communality, ecological sustainability, grass-roots economic viability and respect for customary ways of life.

The researchers organized a two-day training workshop in PNG in March 2008, which brought together all the partners and stake-holders involved in the project, and finalized strategies for the policy's successful implementation.
Malaysia: Community Resilience, Identity and Belonging in Modernizing Malaysia

Research team: Yaso Nadarajah and Lakshmi Venugopal, with Datuk K. Govindan, Head, National Economic Advisory Council (Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia), Universiti Malaya; The Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS) (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (Bangi)) and Universiti Sains Malaya and NGOs

The Community Sustainability program has undertaken research in Malaysia for two years now. This research has been a longitudinal community-based study in the epicenter of Kuala Lumpur; during a period of large-scale urban modernisation strategies in contemporary Malaysia. To date, it has involved in-depth and sustained research in mapping 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 perspective 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 mobilization activities, such as the Hindu Rights Action Force (HINDRAF). These contestations may provide some insight from which Malaysians could mediate the document of destiny that was adopted as the Constitution for an inclusive community, and open up the minority perspective as a conceptual space for negotiating belonging.

Through 2007 and 2008, Yaso Nadarajah has been conducting field visits to this site, including mapping developments within the HINDRAF. The group spearheaded a protest rally by more than 40,000 Tamils, and the study site provided one of the significant electoral divisions that played a key part in the national election results in March 2008. The Nature of Community In Malaysia, a book project with Norani Othman, Rahman Embong (IKMAS) and Yaso Nadarajah (GRC) for 2009-2011 (Routledge), will seek to contribute significantly to the theoretical framing of the term ‘community’, particularly within the context of the contemporary history of Malaysia and the expansion and intensification of social relations across world-time and world space.

Yaso Nadarajah is now also a member of the National Social Science Association (Persatuan Sains Social, Malaysia) and a research associate of the National Polygamy project, assessing the impact and changes to Malaysia Family Law policies with Sisters in Islam (Malaysia), UKM, USM and UM, Malaysia.

Tamil Nadu, South India: Sustainable Community Development

Research team: Yaso Nadarajah, Martin Mulligan Sona Thomas (RMIT post graduate student) with Professor Thangavelu Vasantha Kumaran, Dr. Guna Narasinga and Dr. Kavi Arasan (University of Madras); Mr.D. Sivakumar and Mr.S.Raji (Thillagar Nagar community leaders), and Sylvester (University of Madras post graduate student)

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 of the Globalism Research Centre with the University of Madras has been in part a process of developing 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.

The sites for this comparative work have included:

- Tsunami Village Phase 3—residents formerly from Pallava Nagar (village) and displaced by the 2004 tsunami, and being relocated into inner city Chennai;
- Medavakkam, twenty-five kilometres from Chennai city centre;
- Theni District villages, with a particular focus on Bodinayackanur and Silamalai hamlets (rural community); and
- Nariyankadu Village in Kollihills of Namakkal district in Tamil Nadu (tribal, indigenous community)
Through 2007 and 2008, Yaso Nadarajah (as part of the ARC Linkage research) has been conducting interviews and community sustainability surveys focused on the Tsunami Village Phase 3 and the resettlement of the Tsunami Village community to the two newly developed colonies: Thillagar Nagar and VOC Nagar in Tondiarpet located in the northern outskirts and close to the Bay of Bengal. These settlements have also been part of the Slum Clearance Board, Tamil Nadu strategic plan to relocate ‘objectionable’ slums across the city centre.

**Hamilton Region: Negotiating the Local-Global**

Research team: Yaso Nadarajah, Martin Mulligan, Jessica Korteman and Yael Zalchendler (Climate Change) with Community Facilitators Terrie Nicholson, Cicely Fenton, Vicki Finch and Wasana Weeraratne

Community Critical Reference Group: John Callinan, Cicely Fenton, John Fenton, Terrie Nicholson, Sue, Pizzey, Judy Warne, Heather Bulith, Olive McVicker, Vicki Finch, Jenny Kane, Bill Gough and Peter Small (Suzy Clarke, Tony MacGillivray, Ken Saunders and Damien Bell – Correspondence Members)

1. Climate Change Project

Through its long-running work in the Hamilton region community, the Local-Global Hamilton project identified the urgent need to understand climatic change in relation to local community, food production and livelihood sustainability, and begin work to think about both ideological and practical solutions to the challenges of climate change. In 2008, a two-day Scenarios Mapping Workshop was held. Scenarios Mapping is a method for constructing various possibilities and directions for adapting to a future increasingly defined by a changing climate. The workshop brought together a diverse cross-section of community members, researchers and scenarists to increase dialogue and exchange, and begin developing some long-term plans and strategies for the Hamilton region. A monograph based on the workshop exploring the impacts of climate change and other future global uncertainties for people living in the Hamilton region will be published in 2009.

2. 2008 International Food and Thought Mela

The 2008 International Food and Thought Mela was held on 20 and 21 June. ‘Mela’ is a Sanskrit word for a festival, a fair or a large gathering. The 2008 Mela drew on local issues relating to climate change and cultural attitudes to local global processes in relation to food production. It was held in close conjunction with the Local Council, Regional Arts Victoria, and regional agriculture and food production who were also principal sponsors and/or supporters of this event, and also in association with Learning Community Partnerships.

3. Handbury Community Fellowships

The Handbury Fellowship Program is a community-university partnership scholarship fund that provides financial support to the Western Victoria community region in partnership with RMIT University staff or students to undertake projects that provide a direct and tangible benefit towards the sustainability of the region and surrounds. The program was established in 2003, and named after its original sponsors, Helen and Geoffrey Handbury. It supports projects in the areas of education, the environment, society and culture, economics, or research that enhances the community or the university on an international level.

The fifth round of calls for applications was announced in March, and the successful applicants were announced in October. Another two fellowship grants were awarded in 2008, bringing to nineteen the total number of awards granted since 2003.
Globalizing 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
PhD Researcher (APAI): Bo Svoronos

This three year ARC-funded linkage project (with partner organisation Telstra Foundation) investigates the role of cultural festivals in supporting community wellbeing in selected Indigenous communities in Australia and the Asia-Pacific. The project argues that despite the very different penetration and impacts of globalization 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 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 analyzes the extent to which they enrich social connection and community capacity.

In 2008, we undertook research at Yalukit Wilam Ngargee (Melbourne) Garma (Arnhem Land), Aurukun and Mapoon (Cape York), Dreaming (Southern Qld), Tarerer and Shepparton (western and northern Victoria). International research sites in 2008 include the Merrie Monarch Festival (Hilo Hawai‘i) and Hiri Moale (Port Moresby). The project has already had some policy influence in the non-government sector. We presented a project report to the Telstra Foundation Board with broader implications for their philanthropic objectives in the area of indigenous community development. This also led to Peter Phipps giving a similar presentation to Philanthropy Australia's Indigenous Affinity Group. The project has also involved deep engagement with a number of Indigenous organizations and government bodies including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board of the Australia Council for the Arts, Yothu Yindi Foundation, The Department of Community Development and the National Cultural Commission in PNG, among others.

Research for the ‘Generations’ Project: Building Civic Engagement through the Arts in Five Communities around Australia

Research team: Martin Mulligan and Pia Smith

The Generations Project is a three-year project developed by the Cultural Development Network and the Australia Council, taking place in five locations in eastern Australia—Latrobe Valley, Geelong, Wangaratta, Liverpool and Charters Towers. It aims to explore the links between engagement in community-based arts activities and active civic engagement. Researchers from the Globalism Research Centre completed a pilot phase of the research in early 2007 and in 2008 commenced the major second phase of longitudinal, comparative research into the project as it unfolds in each location.

There is a growing literature around the correlation between involvement in creative or artistic activity and improved health and wellbeing; significant among that literature is the Globalism Research Centre’s 2006 report Creating Community: Celebrations, Arts and Wellbeing within and across Local Communities. The links between creative communities and civic engagement, however, are less well documented. The Generations project will contribute to research data on this topic through the significant research component carried out by the Globalism Research Centre.
As one major outcome from this project, RMIT will co-host with the Cultural Development Network a major conference, ‘ReGenerating Community’, in September 2009. The conference will explore ways in which global issues are being addressed locally through collaborations between artists, communities and local government, and is an opportunity to present the research findings from the work on the Generations Project, as well as providing a forum for related research and practice by bringing together academics, local government officers, policy writers, artists and creative practitioners.

Health Equity Funding in Cambodia and Laos

Research team: Peter Annear and Paul James

Peter Annear has been researching the effectiveness of Health Equity Funding (HEF), with the Ministries of Health in Cambodia and Laos, to assess the impact of HEF on the utilization of health services by the poor, with funding and technical support from AusAID and the World Health Organization. The research shows that HEF is low-cost and is particularly effective in reducing financial barriers to access, increasing the utilization of health services for the poor and providing much-needed additional revenue to facilities.

The second phase of the work began in early 2008 with a six-country regional survey of health financing strategies in Asia for the WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, followed by Paul James during a week-long country visit. From August to December, site visits were made to Kampot and Thmar Pouk in Cambodia, and Vientiane City, Nambak district in Luang Prabang and Vientiane Province in Laos, where preliminary data was gathered, and video-recorded household interviews were conducted. Site profiles for eight potential study sites in Cambodia and four sites in Laos were completed and country profiles of experiences in implementing community-based health insurance (CBHI) schemes in Rwanda and Ghan were prepared.

Research findings have been presented in a number of conferences and workshops, including presentations on health financing at the annual conference of the Nossal Institute for Global Health, Melbourne University, and the second National Forum on Social Health Protection in Cambodia.
5.3 Border Knowledges and Global Learning

Research Project Manager: Christopher Ziguras

Research Team: Peter Burrows, Bill Cope, Gus Gollings, Mary Kalantzis, Liam Magee, Les Morgan and Helen Smith

Border Knowledges and Global Learning examines the impact of new technologies and internationalisation on education, and the ways in which national and cultural borders affect the movements of people and knowledge. Our overarching concern is how increasingly globalized modern knowledge systems transform social, economic and cultural conditions of life around the globe. The title ‘Border Knowledges and Global Learning’ highlights how these transformations work across and beyond national borders, as well as the boundaries that exist between disciplines, institutions and ways of knowing.

The research projects currently undertaken within this theme are listed alphabetically below:

Catalyst: Changing Practices

Sponsor: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Victoria

Chief Investigators: Helen Smith, Peter Burrows and Les Morgan

This project involves an evaluation of the first year of the Catalyst project which will inform the second year of implementation. Catalyst involves nine schools across Victoria in designing and implementing action research projects which will be the context for introducing information and communication technologies into the curriculum, and 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.

Export Education Innovation: Offshore Regulations

Sponsor: Education New Zealand Trust

Chief Investigator: Christopher Ziguras

Researchers: Grant McBurnie, Aramiha Harwood, Lynnel Hoare and Natt Pimpua

This project was undertaken to provide an overview of regulatory frameworks governing foreign education providers in seven markets of interest to New Zealand—China, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Korea and Oman—with the intention of informing NZ organizations considering the offshore delivery of their educational products or expanding into offshore campus development.

Governing International Trade in Higher Education: A Comparative Study of International Education Policy Development

Sponsor: Australian Research Council (Discovery Grant)

Chief Investigators: Christopher Ziguras and Grant McBurnie

Australia is a major exporter of education, yet the cumulative social and economic impacts of large-scale commercial international education on our trading partners are not well researched. This project seeks to understand the similarities and differences between Australian and other governments’ objectives regarding the growing international market in education and their regulation of educational trade, with a view to informing relations between governments, educational institutions, educational peak bodies and other stakeholders.
Learning by Design: Creating Pedagogical Frameworks for Knowledge Building in the Twenty-First Century

Sponsors: Australian Research Council (Linkage Grant), ACT Department of Education and Training, Victorian Schools Innovation Commission, Education Queensland and Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Parramatta

Chief Investigators: Bill Cope, Mary Kalantzis and Nicola Yelland

This project examines how ‘middle-years’ teachers design, record and enact their curriculum, searching for evidence of a relationship between pedagogical choices and learner outcomes. The aim of the project is to prompt more mindful and context-appropriate pedagogical choices, while encouraging teachers to document and share their practices. From these investigations, and drawing on the theory of Multiliteracies, we are developing a kit of resources for teacher teams to use in designing pedagogies to promote more effective learning.

Literacy Teaching in the Changing Communications Environment: Reading and Writing Multimodal and Digital

Sponsor: Australian Research Council (Discovery Grant)

Chief Investigators: Bill Cope and Mary Kalantzis

This project contributes to the updating of literacy pedagogy to meet the needs of learners in a communications environment where digital and multimodal texts are of growing significance. We are developing an educationally accessible way of talking about contemporary texts in the classroom, which supplements and extends traditional grammatical and literary understandings of the written word. Our aim is to move towards the creation of a model of literacy teaching which is more relevant to the contemporary communications environment and more engaging for students.

Microsoft Partners in Learning: Australian Evaluation Project

Sponsor: Microsoft

Chief Investigators: Mary Kalantzis, Helen Smith and Nicola Yelland

Microsoft Partners in Learning (PiL) is a global ICT initiative to which Microsoft has committed US$253 million internationally. By offering programs, software, training and professional development and recognition, Microsoft is offering incentives for state/territory departments of education to further invest in eLearning. In collaboration with Victoria University, we have been contracted to conduct an evaluation of the PiL projects being conducted by the Australian state/territory departments of education.
Pedagogies for eLearning: A Critical Analysis of Strategies for Effective Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Teaching and Learning

Sponsor: Australian Research Council (Discovery Grant)
Chief Investigators: Bill Cope, Mary Kalantzis and Nicola Yelland

What are the benefits and weaknesses of ‘eLearning’ in different subject areas and across a range of social settings? In this assessment we trace the micro-dynamics of the traditional classroom as contrasted with eLearning, and will develop models which make the most of the educational potentials of eLearning. No such direct comparison of teaching and learning has been made before. The results will inform the development of learning environments that most effectively contribute to the formation of fully enabled members of the emerging ‘knowledge society’ through the appropriate application of eLearning strategies.

Towards the ‘Semantic Web’: Standards and Interoperability across Document Management and Publishing Supply Chains

Sponsors: Australian Research Council (Linkage Grant) and FujiXerox
Chief Investigators: Bill Cope, Margaret Jackson, Mary Kalantzis and Bill Martin

At a critical point in the development of the information economy, this project addresses the fundamental challenges of electronic standards and interoperability in the text and graphic media industries. These industries are a source of enormous and growing employment in Australia; their products also touch every person’s life in profound ways. This project will develop an extensive industry-focused knowledge base, and take this knowledge back to industry and the broader community through publications, conferences and workshops.
6. Publications

One of the aims of the Centre is to support research that leads to relevant and socially engaged publications. Listed below are the publications, conference papers and public addresses by our researchers.

6.1 Books

6.2 Book Chapters


In 2008, staff authored or edited 5 books, 16 book chapters and 16 journal articles.
Christopher Ziguras, ‘Cultural and Contextual Issues in the Evaluation of Transnational Distance Education’, in T Evans, M Haughey and D Murphy, eds, International Handbook of Distance Education, Emerald, Bingley, 2008.


6.3 Journal Articles


6.4 Conference Publications


6.5 Monographs and Reports


6.6 Conference Papers and Public Addresses

Paul James, ‘Understanding Globalization’, address, Women’s Agenda for Change (WAC), Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 30 July 2008.


Paul James, ‘Truth and Reconciliation in Times of Tension: Are there Pathways to a Different World?’, address, Ben Gurion University, Beersheba, Israel, 14 December 2008.


Manfred B. Steger, discussant to Sir Bernard Crick’s presentation ‘Old and New Labour: is the British party Still Democratic Socialist or Even Social Democratic?’, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia, 20 February 2008.


Manfred B. Steger, ‘Political ideologies and Social Imaginaries in the Global Age’, paper, Global Studies Association Conference, Pace University, New York City, USA, 7 June 2008.


Manfred B. Steger, ‘Political Ideologies in the Global Age: Continuity or Novelty?’, roundtable Chair and presenter, American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting, Boston, USA, 29 August 2008.

Manfred B. Steger, four invited lectures on globalization, Free University of Berlin, Germany, 7 to 9 October 2008.

Manfred B. Steger, ‘Political Ideologies and Social Imaginaries in the Global Age’, invited lecture, Hong Kong University of Technology, 16 October 2008.


7. Events

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.

7.1 Conferences and Festivals

2008 International Food and Thought Mela

Hamilton (Australia), June 2008

The International Food and Thought Mela is part-celebration, part-dialogue about critical issues and practical local responses to food production, climate change and a sustainable future. ‘Mela’ is the Sanskrit word for a festival or fair. In this tradition, the Food and Thought Mela was a chance for people to come together to share good food and talk.

This second Mela was held in 2008 with the theme ‘Food, Community and the Future’. It included an exciting list of local and international guests including scholars from India, Ecuador and the USA, as well as the Globalism Research Centre. The Mela was framed by a keynote address by Ecuadorian ecologist Carlos Zorilla and concluded with a formal dinner, featuring special guest presenter Rod Quantock.

The Mela is an initiative of the Local-Global research project team.

7.2 Seminars and Forums

Annual Tom Nairn Lecture

Global Rebellion: Religious Challenges to the Secular State

Speaker: Professor Mark Juergensmeyer, University of California, Santa Barbara

Melbourne (Australia), March 2009

Why has the turn of the twenty-first century been rocked by a new religious rebellion? From al Qaeda to Christian militias to insurgents in Iraq, a strident new religious activism has seized the imaginations of political rebels around the world. Building on his groundbreaking book, The New Cold War? Religious Nationalism Confronts the Secular State, Mark Juergensmeyer here provided an up-to-date road map through this complex new religious terrain. Basing his discussion on interviews with militant activists and case studies of rebellious movements, Juergensmeyer put a human face on conflicts that have become increasingly abstract. He revised our notions of religious revolution and offered positive proposals for responding to religious activism in ways that will diminish the violence and lead to an accommodation between radical religion and the secular world.

The Neo-Liberal City

Melbourne (Australia), December 2008

Speakers: Neil Brenner, Professor of Sociology and Metropolitan Studies, New York University; Michael J. Shapiro, Professor of Political Science, University of Hawai‘i; and Susan Ossman, Professor of Anthropology and Director of Global Studies Program, University of California-Riverside.

Neoliberalism is today’s dominant global ideology. How does it manifest in our cities? What happens to civil society when more and more public space is privatized? How is urban space being reclaimed against a neoliberal agenda? In this free public forum, three leading global thinkers discussed neoliberalism and the urban experience, exploring the contradiction between the promise of neoliberalism and its threat to dissent in the urban environment.
Reassembling the Urban at a Time of New Global Challenges
Melbourne (Australia), October 2008

Speaker: Saskia Sassen, Lynd Professor of Sociology and Member, The Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University

’Reassembling the Urban at a Time of New Global Challenges’ examined how periods of rapid transition have great interpretive potential, as the pace of change itself reveals novel patterns. In the case of cities or urban regions, the manifestation of novelty is even more pronounced insofar as the material reality of buildings, transport systems, and other components of spatial organization are right on the surface. Further, when rapid transformation happens simultaneously in several cities or urban regions, it makes visible the multiplicity and variability of the built environment as well as revealing the existence of considerable constraints confronting these dynamics of change. This lecture examined the implications of the many ways in which these underlying dynamics become visible in urban space.

Global Systemic Shift and System Action Theory
Melbourne (Australia), October 2008

Speaker: Professor Roland Benedikter, University of Vienna, University of Innsbruck and Free University of Bolzano

This seminar identified some of these core elements by investigating the very different, but coalescing roots and streams of the ‘global systemic shift’ within the increasing interweavement between political, cultural, religious and economical symptoms. It delineated a method called ‘System Action Theory’ designed to allow an integrative, at least four-dimensional analysis of current global change by combining system and action research tools. The investigation is not oriented primarily towards technological innovation, but covers the political, cultural, economical and religious macro-tendencies around them.

The World Bank: Owning the Global Safeguard Policy Norm?
Melbourne (Australia), November 2008

Speaker: Dr Susan Park, School of Political and Social Sciences, University of Sydney

This seminar examined the World Banks implementation and modification of environmental and social safeguard policy norms and highlighted a damaging trend: the World Bank relinquishing procedural policy norms for some World Bank borrowers thus problematising the Banks ownership of global safeguard policy norms.
The World Social Forum and Global Political Agency
Melbourne (Australia), November 2008
Speaker: Teivo Teivainen, Professor of World Politics, University of Helsinki

This seminar analyzed the emergence and development of the World Social Forum (WSF) that was created at the beginning of the new millennium. One of the conditions for its spectacular growth during its first years of existence was the way certain political questions were avoided. Over the years, these depoliticizations have led to various frustrations but also attempts to overcome the frustrations by constructing new strategies and political vocabularies.

The main slogan of the WSF was from the very beginning that ‘another world is possible’. Having repeated the slogan forum after forum, an increasing number of participants have started asking how that other world might look like and how can we get there. Analyzing the WSF can reveal key lessons for exploring future forms and instruments of global political agency. Even if the WSF itself might never become a movement of movements or global party, many of the political dilemmas it has confronted will have to be faced by future attempts to construct global alternatives.

Globalization, Trade Liberalization, and the Transnationalization of Higher Education
Melbourne (Australia), September 2008
Speaker: Clyde Barrow, Chancellor Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Center for Policy Analysis, University of Massachusetts

The liberalization of trade in ‘higher education services’ is being quietly negotiated in multilateral trade meetings on both a global (WTO) and regional (EU, NAFTA, FTAA) basis. The major trade agreements have potentially enormous impacts on higher education throughout the world, but few students, faculty, or administrators are even aware of provisions in the major trade agreements that promote the marketization and transnationalization of higher education by incorporating it into the world trading system as just another industry.

More recently, the emergence of foreign branch campuses and, especially, for-profit colleges and universities with degree-granting authority has carried commodification and transnationalization to an entirely new level as these US based institutions are increasingly positioned to benefit from the liberalization of trade in higher education. These trends raise questions about the future mission of higher education and its asymmetrical development across the globe.

Utopia and Globalism
Melbourne (Australia) September 2008
Speaker: Lyman Tower-Sargent, Fellow, Stout Research Centre, Victoria University of Wellington; Professor Emeritus of Political Science, University of Missouri-St Louis.

At the heart of every ideology lies a utopia; an ultimate idealized goal that adherents to ideologies strive for. Professor Sargent examined the utopias that exist at the heart of dominant ideologies of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. While national utopias remain, there are three other popular forms: the global, the regional, and the local. All four are in tension with each other. None of these utopias are really new, yet the two poles—the global and the local—have recently attracted theorists and writers in increasing numbers. Attempting to establish why this attraction has occurred, Professor Sargent focused on the visions of the good life produced at both local and global levels and the depictions, often called dystopias, of what could go seriously wrong and make things worse rather than better.
Glurbanization and Vulnerability in the Anthropocene
Melbourne (Australia), March 2008
Speaker: Professor Simon Dalby, Professor of Geography and Political Economy, Carleton University, Canada

We have become an urban species. In the process of building the global urban system in which we now live we have changed the contexts in which people are vulnerable both by how we have constructed the infrastructure of cities as well as becoming dependent on the long commodity chains that bring the necessities of life from distant parts of the globe. But these new systems are changing the biosphere too, so much so that geologists are now talking about a new era in the earth system, ‘the Anthropocene’. This era may well bring increased meteorological hazards for humanity, but these will have impacts that play out for people dependent on details of how the increasingly artificial environments of the new global economy are constructed.

Thailand: The Point of No Return
Melbourne (Australia), March 2008
Speaker: Associate Professor Paul Battersby, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University.

‘There is no going back, negotiation is not an option!’ This is the position stated by the leadership group from Thailand’s People’s Alliance for Democracy (PAD) just prior to the escalation of anti-government protests in Bangkok in early 2008. This seminar explored the implications for Thailand in a defining moment in its political evolution and asked ‘What will happen next?’

One Just World
Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane, July-November 2008
The ‘One Just World’ series of Australia-wide public forms tackled some of the big issues that face us as a global community—climate change and development, poverty and human rights, gender equality, Pacific perspectives on governance and security, and HIV/AIDs. It aimed to inform and provide ways to get more involved in making the changes needed to end global poverty and inequality and together build a more just and sustainable future. A panel of prominent and engaging speakers including Federal Government Ministers gave their views and then opened up for contributions, questions and discussion from the audience.

An initiative of International Women’s Development Agency, World Vision Australia and AusAID, the One Just World series aims to inform and provide ways to get more involved in making the changes needed to end global poverty and inequality and together build a more just and sustainable future. The One Just World partners were joined by a major university research centre in each state; in Victoria, the Globalism Research Centre.
8. Postgraduate Students

The provision of a research culture supporting postgraduate supervision is one of the central activities of the Centre. It concentrates this supervision in the university’s Doctor of Philosophy and Masters by Research degrees within the areas of globalization, transnationalism, nationalism and cultural diversity.

8.1 Postgraduate Students

Marcus Banks
The JET Program 1988-2004

Diana Bossio
State of Insecurity: The Representation of Post-September 11 Insecurity by Australian Governmental and Media Communication

Catherine Driscoll
Spin Doctors and Barbarians: Moral and Philosophical Discourse in Australian Public Policy

John Fox
Ensemble Agency: A Critique and Development of Marx’s Theory of Species Being

Gus Gollings
The Globalisation of the Semantic Web: A Future Aspect of Diversity and Knowledge

Zelda Grimshaw
East Timor: A Social History of Indonesian Occupation 1975-1999

Muhammad Saleem Janjua
Barriers to Climate Change Adaptation in Developing Countries: A Case Study of Local Governments in Pakistan

Maree Keating
The Impact of Australia’s Free Trade Agreements on Women Working in the Asian and Australian Manufacturing Sectors

Ruttigone Loh
Private Higher Education in Malaysia

Kathleen Lynch
Professional Development for Academics Teaching Offshore in Australian Transnational Education Programs

Liam Magee
Commensurability of Semantic Web Ontologies

Marietta Martinovic
Home Detention: The Multifarious Nature of Punishment

Craig McGregor
Torture: The Violence of Legitimacy
Trevor McMahon
An Enquiry into the Economic, Social, Cultural and Ecological Values of Land-use and Changes in Land-use in Vanuatu

Monica Moore
Eduardo Galeano’s Social Political Thought: Latinamericanisms and Globalizations

Katarina Patomäki
Is Arbitration of International Debts Viable?

Nicole Pepperel
The Commodity Production: Staging the Derivation of Labour-Power in Capital, Volume One

Mohammad Ali Rahimi
Transfer of Australian Vocational Education and Training Knowledge and Practice in a Global Context

Nick Rose
How Effective Have Diverse Mainstream and Subordinate Human Rights Responses Been to the Challenges Posed by ‘Accumulation by Dispossession’ and ‘Security by Deprivation’?

Charlotte Scarf
Knowledge Networks for Development

Rachel Sharples
Karen Communities, Cultural Resistance and Empowerment in the Borderlands

Stefan Siebel
Cooperative Economies in a Global Age

Victoria Stead
Contested Landscapes: Globalization and Customary Land in the Pacific

Anna Trembath
Framing the Nation, Reconstituting Gender

Danielle Wyatt
Here and Far Away: Mapping the Centre in Australian Suburban Landscapes