Local-Global Forum on Climate Change

27 April
Hamilton, Victoria

The Globalism Institute recently hosted a community forum on climate change, as part of its Local-Global Forums series. The forum considered individual and community practices and attitudes in the Hamilton region in response to the broader global debate on climate change. Dr Yaso Nadarajah of the Globalism Institute said that the forum was designed to create dialogue and research action potentials around a number of key questions: Where do we go from here? How do we get involved in a common effort? How do we build local-global community capacity as a framework of research and application?

Over seventy people attend the forum which included keynote addresses by Dr Bill Kininmonth, consultant to the World Meteorological Organisation and former head of the National Climate Centre, and Professor Peter Hayes, Director of the Nautilus Institute in San Francisco and leader of climate change research in the Global Cities Institute, RMIT University. Other speakers included representatives of Southern Rural Waters, the Victorian Farmers Federation, the Environmental Farmers Networks, Landcare and Local Area Planning, the Department of Primary Industries, and the Globalism Institute.

Globalism Institute

Unpacking Solidarity: Pedagogy, Power and Praxis in Academic Activism

To unpack the meanings of solidarity within academic activism, this presentation shares critical self-reflections on solidarity experiences in working with the Zapatista communities of Chiapas, indigenous communities in La Montaña region of Guerrero, Mexico, serving as Resident Director of a praxis driven study-abroad program, and work with the community of Junín, Ecuador. Exploring these experiences, the seminar will discuss the process and method involved in this work, and will offer reflection on the core issues of pedagogy, power and praxis that are embedded in solidarity work. This analysis will consider the place of the academic activist within the Globalism Institute’s sustainable communities project. Several of the central themes inherent to academic activism are also at play within the ways academic activists understand and approach sustainable communities.

Glen David Kuecker is an associate professor of history at DePauw University. He specializes in Mexican history and has a book project that explores how the port city of Tampico made the transition from a small town to a modern city during the late 19th century. His current research projects focus on how people in Latin America organize in resistance to neo-liberal economic reforms.

Tuesday 22 May
4.30–6.00 pm
RMIT Research Lounge, Building 28, Level 5 (opposite Library)
Public seminar. Free entry. All welcome

Download flyer (PDF)

In the media

Dr Christopher Scanlon, ‘We’ve given away our privacy, a card’s just the final blow’, The Age, 10 April.

Dr Christopher Scanlon, ‘The secret is out: blame the victim’, The Age (A2) 14 April.

Dr Christopher Scanlon, ‘Reporting of a horrific event becomes a crass spectacle’, The Age, 20 April.

Dr Yaso Nadarajah on the Local-Global Community Forum on Climate Change, Hamilton Spectator, page 1, 28 April.

Dr Christopher Scanlon, ‘There’s more to obesity than eating’, The Weekend Australian (Health section), 28 April.

Dr Christopher Scanlon, ‘DIY Journalism is not a Real Alternative’, The Age, 7 May.

Local-global

Manfred Steger, keynote address, Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences. Prague, Czech Republic, 3 May.


Routledge-GCP&S prize

Global Change, Peace and Security journal invites entries for the inaugural Routledge-GCP&S Essay Competition. This competition is designed to encourage outstanding new contributions to research on practical and theoretical questions posed by a rapidly globalising world. Of particular interest are entries that look at events and developments that reverberate beyond the confines of a particular country, and those that are concerned with the sources and consequences of conflict, violence and insecurity, as well as the conditions and prospects for conflict transformation and peace-building.

Prize

The winning essay will be refereed with a view to publication in Global Change, Peace and Security. The author will receive the Routledge-GCP&S Prize winner’s certificate as well as US$500 prize money.

For more information:
Dr George Myconos, Editor
Global Change, Peace & Security
g.myconos@latrobe.edu.au
The Social and Cultural Implications of Globalization on Shanghai’s Emergence as a Global City

This paper will be presented Professor Zhang Xinhua, director of the Center for Policy and Strategic Studies at Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. He holds academic positions and professorship in several key institutions, and is dedicated to the research and teaching of social and economic development policy and strategy, organizational learning and knowledge management, international relations and global developments, and cross-cultural communication and strategy development. He has published ten books and over hundred academic papers, many of which have won major national prizes of excellence.

Wednesday 23 May
4.30–6.00 pm
RMIT Research Lounge, Building 28, Level 5 (opposite Library)
Public seminar. Free entry. All welcome

RMIT

Contemporary Social and Political Theory Public Lectures

Materialism and Overconsumption
Prof. John Fien
Wednesday 16 May
4.30–5.30 pm

Colonialism and Postcolonialism
Prof. Jock McCullough
Wednesday 23 May
4.30–5.30 pm

Modernity and Postmodernity
Assoc. Prof. Adrian Howe
Wednesday 30 May
4.30–5.30 pm

Melbourne Central Conference Centre
Cnr Swanston and Little Lonsdale Streets, Melbourne
Free entry. All welcome.

Doing Anti-Oppressive Practice book launch

This edited collection brings together extensive practice knowledge and critical theory from new, diverse voices in social work to show that anti-oppressive social work practice is possible and what's more, it is essential to building a socially just world.

Exploring practice questions and dilemmas, each chapter includes examples, date, or vignettes, as well as reflections on how to enact social work practice in ways that promote and connect with larger struggles for social transformation and justice.

Friday 25 May
4.30–6.00pm
Research Lounge, RMIT Building 28, Level 5, City campus
Free entry and open to the public. Light refreshments served.
RSVP: Annette Bando 03 9925 5067
For more information: email donna.baines@rmit.edu.au
The Fourteenth Annual AAPAE Conference welcomes practitioners, scholars, and researchers from various disciplines and professions for discussion of interests and issues in applied and professional ethics.

Several prominent Australian have agreed to be keynote speakers:

Dr Barry Jones: former Hawke Government Minister, ALP President, and currently Vice-Chancellor's Fellow, University of Melbourne and Chairman of Vision 2020 Australia.

Senator Penny Wong: Shadow Minister since 2004, holding the portfolios of Public Administration and Accountability, Corporate Governance and Responsibility, and Workforce Participation.

Dean Newlan: Partner with McGrathNicol, leader of the firm's Forensic practice in Melbourne and national head of the fraud, integrity and risk management practice.

With the support of RMIT University, The Graduate School of Business and The Sustainability Institute at RMIT.

Wednesday 27 to Friday 29 June
Storey Hall, RMIT Building 16, Swanston Street, Melbourne
Website: www.rmit.edu.au/bus/gradschool/aapae07

MELBOURNE

Labour Market Flexibility and Regulation: Australian and International Impacts and Strategies

Speakers: Dr Iain Campbell, Centre for Applied Social Research, RMIT University; Assoc. Prof. Tony LaMontagne, Principle Research Fellow McCaughey Centre; Dr Sara Charlesworth, Centre for Applied Social Research, RMIT University; Dr Jim Stanford, Chief Economist, Canadian Autoworkers Union and Research Fellow, McCaughey Centre

The forum will also provide an opportunity to discuss key policy and research gaps, and priorities.

Presented by the McCaughey Centre: VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing, University of Melbourne and the Centre for Applied Social Research, RMIT University.

Tuesday 29 May
1.30–4.30 pm
Seminar Room 515, Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton
For more information: Deborah Vallance, email deborahv@unimelb.edu.au

From Advocacy to Policy—Communities Driving Change

This national conference brings together leaders of the nation's community groups with local, state and federal government officials and business leaders for Communities in Control 2007.

This year’s conference will focus on the need for community organisations to become central to the search for policy solutions and enable major impact on policy development for all levels of government in Australia.

Keynote speakers include The Honourable Justice Michael Kirby; Angela Glover Blackwell, founder and President of PolicyLink, and former Senior Vice-President of The Rockefeller Foundation; Bernard Salt, renowned social forecaster and author of the best-selling book, The Big Shift; Heloise Waislitz, Pratt Foundation Chair; Jack Mundey AO; Waleed Aly, spokesperson for the Islamic Council of Victoria; the Honourable Joan Kirner AM, former Premier of Victoria and current Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Victorian Communities; and the Honourable Mal Brough MP, Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 June
Moonee Valley Racing Club, Members Gate 1
McPherson Street, Moonee Ponds, Victoria
For more information: www.distss.org.au/infocast07/control/communitiesincontrol.pdf
**Community Building: Critical Voices, Alternative Strategies**

Governments around the country are currently throwing money and officials at 'community building' objectives, often with little conceptual or strategic clarity about what they are doing or what they are aiming to achieve. Highly bureaucratised initiatives, excessive amounts of hype, and low levels of actual community participation tend to characterise most of these initiatives. Debate and critical thinking about these processes has largely been forced underground, since open, public critique is not favoured by governments or encouraged by government-funded agencies in receipt of community building dollars.

This conference aims to gather community leaders, activists, researchers, policy makers, social entrepreneurs and workers in community agencies who are interested in authentic community building, critiques of government sponsored community building programs and models, and alternative community building strategies which have a stronger emphasis on empowerment, devolution, subsidiarity and self-determination.

Tuesday 19 June
9.00 am - 5.00 pm
Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre
Abstracts: Vern Hughes, PO Box 159 Yarraville Vic 3013 or email vern@civilsociety.org.au
For more information: email vern@civilsociety.org.au
Website: www.civilsociety.org.au

**NATIONAL**

**Uranium: Energy, Security, Environment**

This one-and-a-half day event brings together a number of specialists on the political and strategic aspects of both the nuclear fuel cycle and climate change to engage in some non-reductionist 'new thinking'. Since the Australian nuclear debates are now taking on global significance, these specialists are drawn from overseas as well as local policy communities, industry and research institutions with particular attention given to those countries that are commercially linked into Australia's present and prospective involvement in the nuclear fuel cycle.

Speakers include Dr Ziggy Switkowski, Chair of the Uranium Mining, Processing and Nuclear Energy; Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe, School of Biomolecular and Physical Sciences, Griffith University; Dr Satu Limaye, Director, East-West Center, Washington DC; and Associate Professor Richard Leaver, Political and International Studies, Flinders University.

This workshop is designed to encourage discussion between participants and presenters. To facilitate this, the number of participants will be limited.

Presented by Flinders International Asia Pacific Institute.

Thursday 7 and Friday 8 June
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
For more information: email mary.lyons@flinders.edu.au

**Northern Europe and its Indigenous Minority: Pointers for Australia?**

The struggle for Indigenous rights is a worldwide one: from Australia to Canada, from Indonesia to South Africa, from Central America to Europe. Yes, Europe: the Sami people of Northern Europe, divided between (and colonised by) the four states of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia, have played a major part in the international Indigenous rights movement of recent decades, particularly at United Nations level. At home, they have resisted cultural and linguistic assimilation, the loss of their traditional lands and resources, the denial of equal rights, and the destruction of their traditional economy and way of life. Much of their story will be familiar to Indigenous Australians. Yet theirs is also a success story, at least in some respects. Today, they have their own elected parliaments in three of the four states, and there has been an impressive Sami cultural revival.

The Sami experience will be the subject of this conference taking place at the Centre for European Studies. Among the speakers will be many leading activists of the Sami movement, Sami academics, and researchers on Sami history and culture, covering topics as diverse as Sami music, literature, history, local and regional case studies, political activism and representation, involvement in the global Indigenous movement, legal status, and much more. There will also be Australian speakers, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to compare and contrast the Sami experience with that of Aboriginal Australia.

**Call for papers.** Proposals for papers are invited on topics relevant to the theme of the conference (including the international Indigenous movement, or topics specific to Australia or New Zealand which lend themselves to comparison with the Sami experience.) and should be sent to with a title and brief synopsis of no more than 100 words.

Thursday 19 to Sunday 22 July
Centre for European Studies, University of New South Wales, Sydney
Papers and more information: g.minnerup@unsw.edu.au
Immigrants as Citizens: Transnationalism and Incorporation as Future Directions in Turkish Relations with Australia, Europe and North America

The themes being explored by the conference will have particular relevance to the situation in Europe, where there has been decades of extensive Turkish migration and, more recently, debates surrounding Turkey's candidate for membership of the European Union. The conference will also identify and develop the potential for international research collaboration which can inform the work of policy makers in Australia and other migrant countries.

The conference is designed for academics, policy makers and NGO groups involved in migration issues as well as members of the local Turkish Australian community.

Paper submission deadline 30 June.

Saturday 6 to Sunday 7 October
The University of Sydney
Papers and more information: turkishmigration@arts.usyd.edu.au

Europe and Asia between Islam and the United States: The Lessons of Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon and Iran

The question of Islam now rightly occupies centre stage in many discussions of contemporary international relations. Such discussion are of central importance for Europe, given its large Muslim minorities, its proximity to the Middle East, the cultural and political relevance of the Mediterranean for the whole of Europe, and the importance which the various conflicts occurring in different parts of the Middle East have assumed in relations between Europe, the United States, the world's sole superpower, and the Middle East. For Europe the relationship with the Muslim world generally and with the Middle East and North Africa in particular has been a critical factor in its history. It remains just as pivotal today.

Precisely the same issues apply to Asia: proximity to Muslim neighbours; presence of significant and growing Muslim minorities; alliance relationships with the United States, which have led junior partners to deploy troops in Iraq and or Afghanistan and to become involved in the 'war on terror'; actual or potential vulnerability to terrorist attacks; varying degrees of dependence on Middle Eastern (Muslim) oil, especially in the case of Japan.

A major debate is rapidly developing in Europe and Asia as to the long-term implications of these complex relationships. An important part of this debate bears upon Europe's and Asia's alliances with the United States and the extent to which Europe and Asia, two major centres of geopolitical gravity can forge a distinctive and constructive relationship with the Islamic World.

The purpose of this conference is to create a productive encounter between leading European scholars and their counterparts in the Asia-Pacific region. Attention will focus on European perspectives and policies, informed and illuminated by comparison with Asian policies and perspectives. Comparative analysis will highlight the role of regional institutions, in particular the EU and ASEAN.

A Call for Papers is now addressed to scholars and experts interested in considering any of the themes outlined above. Proposals should include: title of proposed paper; a 250-word abstract; author's name and institutional affiliation; bio-note of the author.

Abstract submission deadline Wednesday 16 May.

Thursday 6 to Friday 7 December
Centre for Dialogue, La Trobe University, Melbourne
Abstracts and information: Dr Luca Anceschi, email l.anceschi@latrobe.edu.au

INTERNATIONAL

Diversity Conference 2007

The Diversity Conference has a history of bringing together scholarly, government and practice-based participants with an interest in the issues of diversity and community. The conference examines the concept of diversity as a positive aspect of a global world and globalised society, and will seek to explore the full range of what diversity means and explore modes of diversity in real-life situations of living together in community. The conference supports a move away from simple affirmations that 'diversity is good' to a much more nuanced account of the effects and uses of diversity on differently situated communities in the context of our current epoch of globalisation.

In addition to linguistic, cultural, ethnic and 'racial' diversity, the conference will also pursue its established interest in other aspects of diversity, including the intersecting dynamics of gender, sexual orientation, (dis)ability, locale and socio-economic background.

The conference looks at the realities of diversity today, critically as well as optimistically and strategically. It will be a place for speaking about diversity, and in ways that range from the 'big picture' and the theoretical, to the very practical and everyday realities of diversity in organisations, communities and civic life.

Monday 3 to Thursday 6 July
OZW-School of Health, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
For more information: email info+D07@commongroundconferences.com
Website: diversity-conference.com
Humanities Conference 2007

This conference will address a range of critically important themes in the various fields that make up the humanities today. Main speakers will include some of the world’s leading thinkers in the humanities, as well as numerous paper, workshop and colloquium presentations by teachers and researchers.

Over the past five years, the Humanities Conference has established a reputation as a focal point for new ideas and new practices in humanities research and teaching. Anthropology, Archaeology, Classics, Communication, English, Fine Arts, Geography, Government, History, Journalism, Languages, Linguistics, Literature, Media Studies, Philosophy, Politics, Sociology or Religion are just some of the many disciplines represented at the Humanities Conference.

Tuesday 17 to Friday 20 July
American University, Paris, France
For more information: email info+H07@commongroundconferences.com
Website: humanitiesconference.com

Singapore Economic Review Conference 2007

The themes of the SER 2007 Conference are ‘The Future of Asian Financial Systems: Integration, Growth, and Stability’ and ‘Poverty and Growth Dynamics: Asian and International Perspectives’. However, the SER also invites theoretical and empirical papers on all aspects of economics. Papers with a focus on economic problems and issues related to Asian countries are also welcome in the following areas:

- International Economics and International Finance
- Macroeconomics
- Banking and Financial Markets
- Econometric Models and Applications
- Public Economics
- Population, Demography and Fertility
- Energy, Environment and Resources
- Transport Economics
- Behavioral and Experimental Economics
- China, India and other Emerging Economies
- Singapore and other ASEAN Economies

The keynote address will be delivered by Professor Joseph Stiglitz, 2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics.

Tuesday 2 to Friday 5 August
Meritus Mandarin Singapore
For more information: email LYOng@ntu.edu.sg
Website: www.serc2007.org/

Southern Engines of Global Growth: China, India, Brazil, and South Africa (CIBS)

China, India, Brazil, and South Africa (CIBS) have an important impact on the global economy through growth and trade effects, and their roles in financial markets. Meanwhile, by forging political alliances among themselves and with others, they are increasingly active and vocal on the world stage. As a result, the ‘rise of CIBS’ is expected to have profound implications for international governance. This conference will focus on the inter-linkages between CIBS and the global economy, including the impact of these economies on their respective regions. The main themes are growth, trade, international finance, global governance and geopolitics. Comparative studies are particularly welcome.

The conference is intended primarily for researchers and policymakers from the academic, government, and development communities. Advanced PhD students in economics or other social science disciplines may attend, but the conference is not suitable for undergraduates or Master’s Degree students.

Abstract submission deadline Monday 16 May.

Friday 7 to Saturday 8 September
World Institute for Development Economics Research of the United Nations
Helsinki, Finland,
Application forms and website: www.wider.unu.edu
Abstracts and information: email cibs@wider.unu.edu
Immigration, Minorities and Multiculturalism in Democracies

Concern with issues of ethnic pluralism has come to the forefront of public debate in liberal democracies and newly democratizing states. Wide-ranging population movements around the globe, endorsement of cosmopolitanism, and the increasing importance of norms fuzzily labeled “civil rights”, have been widely regarded as positive trends. At the same time, there is little doubt that in many cases, ethnic heterogeneity has been characterized by mistrust, suspicion, alienation, and conflict. As many societies are undergoing demographic transformations, there is intense debate about how communal relations are best managed.

The aim of the conference is to explore empirical, normative, and policy-relevant questions relating to inter-group relations in multi-ethnic societies, both Western and non-Western, and from diverse disciplinary perspectives.

Thursday 25 to Saturday 27 October
Fairmont Queen Elizabeth, Montreal
Website: www.edg-gde.ca

To submit details of your event or to update your details please email globalism@rmit.edu.au.
If you do not wish to receive a copy of the Globalism Institute Bulletin please email globalism@rmit.edu.au with the word 'Unsubscribe' in the subject field.