**Timor-Leste gender report launched in Dili**

A report authored by the Globalism Institute's Anna Trembath and Damian Grenfell was launched last week in Dili, Timor-Leste.

The report, ‘Mapping the Pursuit of Gender Equality: Non-Government and International Agency Activity in Timor-Leste’, was made possible through an innovative arrangement between the Globalism Institute, Irish Aid and the Office for the Promotion of Equality (OPE), located in Timor-Leste’s Prime Minister’s Office.

The report was presented at the launch to Charles Lathrop, the Irish Ambassador, and to the representative of the Prime Minister, Maria Jose Sanches. The launch was attended by representatives of the United Nations, members of Parliament, the National Electoral Commission, and leading members of East Timorese civil society.

The report profiles in detail the activities of organizations, networks and community groups working on gender-related issues in Timor-Leste. Anna Trembath explained that the report was inspired by previous community-based research in Timor-Leste which indicated that some organizations had little to no documented information about their histories or programs.

Dr Damian Grenfell, country manager for the Globalism Institute’s work in Timor-Leste, explained that work in the country over the last five years has been aimed at bridging a commonly perceived gap between academia and community needs. ‘Writing this report served as a constant reminder to us that academics need to find ways to work in societies such as Timor-Leste where research outcomes assist with both immediate problems and across the longer term’.

The report includes essays, contact details and an extensive bibliography. It will be launched in Melbourne in late August and is available in English and Tetun at www.timor-leste.org/gender/engagement.html.

**Expanding Cultures**

Globalism Institute Deputy Director, Dr Martin Mulligan, delivered a keynote address at the national *Expanding Cultures* Conference organised by the Cultural Development Network on 27 July.

The address, ‘The Next Stage in the Debate on the Strategic Importance of Community Art and Culture’, was delivered to an audience of around 300 people. The session was chaired by the highly regarded community arts practitioner Jon Hawkes, who later told Dr Mulligan that he’d ‘nailed it’ in using the research of the Globalism Institute to suggest ways in which debate on community art in Australia could be moved forward.

**Amsterdam hosts biggest Diversity Conference yet**

The Seventh International Conference on Diversity in Organisations, Communities and Nations was the biggest yet. Over six hundred people attended the conference, held at the Free University of Amsterdam and the InHolland School of Health. It was also attended by the most diverse group of delegates ever—a remarkable range of people from about thirty different countries.

A highlight of the conference was the opening address by the Mayor of Amsterdam, Job Cohen. He and other city administrators gave insights into their challenges and successes in working in such a diverse social context. Indeed, the City Government of Amsterdam provided wholehearted support for the conference, which was part of a Diversity Week in the city.

Another highlight was the spirited contribution of the Young Diversity group, as was the vibrant performance of Musicians Without Borders in the closing session of the conference.

The Eighth International Conference on Diversity will be held at HEC Montréal, Canada, from 17 to 20 June 2008. For more information visit www.Diversity-Conference.com.
GLOBALISM INSTITUTE

A new emissions paradigm: Using greenhouse development rights to enable equitable distribution of global emissions

The world must rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions if we are to avoid dangerous climate change. But how can we do this while also facilitating a fair go for the developing world and bring a sense of international equity to the climate change debate? How can a rise in prosperity in the developing world be facilitated while reducing global emissions?

Tom Athanasiou says the real climate change challenge is ‘holding global warming below a catastrophic level while preserving the right of all people to more than merely bare-bones ‘human development’.’ Tom Athanasiou is executive director of EcoEquity (www.ecoquity.org), a US-based climate think-tank which works closely with church, aid agencies and environment organisations on greenhouse development rights.

Dr Martin Mulligan, Deputy Director of the Globalism Institute will also speak at this important public meeting.

Wednesday 8 August
6.30–8.00 pm
Edinburgh Gardens Community Room, Brunswick St, North Fitzroy
(Melways Ref 2C 1C)
For more information: 03 9419 8700 or globalisation@foe.org.au

GLOBAL CITIES INSTITUTE

Forums 2007

Research opportunities in Vietnam
Michael Mann (President, RMIT Vietnam)
Tuesday 21 August
For more information: frank.yardley@rmit.edu.au

RMIT

Urban 45: New Ideas for Australia’s Cities

Urban 45 is a unique and exciting opportunity for policy makers, planners, academicians, researchers and all those interested in the future of our cities to participate in a forum focusing on fifteen key policy issues introduced by a panel of national experts. This event will provide practical solutions to our urban issues while generating significant public and political policy debated in the run up to the federal election.

Speakers include Professor Paul James (Director, Global Cities Institute) and Michael Lennon (Disability Housing Trust, Victoria).

Thursday 16 August
Registration 8.30am for 9.30am start to 5.30pm
Village Roadshow Theatrette, State Library of Victoria (Entry 3), La Trobe Street
For more information: urban45@rmit.edu.au

‘Writing Policy’—Melbourne Writers Festival 2007

The Age Melbourne Writers Festival 2007, in conjunction with the School of Global Studies, Social Sciences and Planning RMIT, presents Writing Policy, a six event program on writing public policy.

Saturday 25 August–Saturday 1 September
Full program details.
GSSSP Research Symposium

The School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning Research Symposium is a day-long event for staff and research students to present and learn about current research being undertaken across the school.

All staff are encouraged to present, and particularly those working on externally-funded or school-funded projects. The program will also include confirmation of candidature and work-in-progress presentations from research students. The program will be streamed around the emerging research clusters in the school: Applied Social Science, Environment and Planning, and Global Studies.

Expressions of interest to present should be forwarded to Dean Coldicott by no later than Friday 10th August, 2007. Please include a paper title, short abstract (around 100 words), and indicate if you would like to be grouped into a session with related papers.

Tuesday 21 August
9.30 am–4.00 pm
Storey Hall Seminar Rooms, RMIT Building 16, Level 7
For more information: dean.coldicott@rmit.edu.au

MELBOURNE

SIEVX Memorial Poles—Artists Auction

Almost 300 women and children who drowned on the refugee boat SIEVX (Suspect Illegal Entry Vehicle number 10), which sank at the height of the Federal election campaign in 2001. A movement has sprung up across Australia to remember and honor the bravery of these families, victims of the blackest era in our modern history, when paranoia over border control overtook humanitarian values in politicians and the public alike. To heal and turn around this condition, the SIEVX project has especially involved school students, but also churches and community groups, over five years of mounting effort and education.

Around 1000 student and adult artists in every corner of Australia worked together decorating timber poles, which then travelled overland to one day form a permanent memorial on the Canberra lakeside in 2006.

The combined pieces are being assembled into a powerful and haunting artwork, resembling a procession of souls leaving the water’s edge to snake across the lakeshore. It will be raised up on site in September 2007.

To raise funds and to increase awareness of the appalling human cost of our refugee policies prominent artists are making their own poles, to be sold at auction in Melbourne in Federation Square. These will mirror the poles in the actual memorial, and be a unique representation, resonating with what will one day be an iconic national site of redemptive grief.

Please visit, and consider acquiring a high-profile and valuable artwork for a cause that will echo into what will hopefully be a much better future.

Friday 10 August
11.30 am–2.00 pm
Federation Square, Melbourne

Institutions, Capitalism, and Dissent

Campus based political landscapes are shifting. Over the past ten years, government funding cuts and the incremental introduction of up front fees has radically changed the nature of Universities. Thirty years ago, university education in Australia was free. What has happened to the vision of an education system accessible to the working class and the poor in the intervening years? Classrooms are overcrowded. Student unions, once a hotbed of agitation, have been gutted by Voluntary Student Unionism and conservative political cultures. Academics and students are silenced by a nebulous ‘war on terror’. International students are simply an unending income stream and not valued contributors to an engaged society.

Welcome to a Rogue Education Conference

From Friday 14 to Sunday 16 September, a gathering will take place at Trades Hall in Melbourne where people can critically examine this profound shift and build networks to resist it. This will be a chance to share stories, build networks, learn, argue, and inspire. The goal is to create a space that breeds engagement and resistance outside of elite institutions known as ‘Universities’.

The conference will be based on three major themes: Institutions, Capitalism and Dissent.

Collectives and individuals are invited to collaborate in the organisation of the gathering, and to contribute to a reader. Plenaries and workshops will be organised in a way that encourages theory and practice to meet each other. The organising collective meets at RMIT Student Union on Mondays at 2pm. Campus based collectives are encouraged to make contact with each other and with groups outside of ‘education activism’ to begin sharing ideas for how we might develop ongoing networks for radical struggle. If you wish to be part of this, wish to contribute to the reader, or simply be kept updated, email edconference@rmit.edu.au
Afghanistan 2007: Women liberated or a continued struggle for elusive human rights?

We hear little of Afghanistan in our media and we are led to believe all is well there. The US invaded Afghanistan in October 2001 with the promise to support democracy and women, but some six years later life has changed little. Afghans are suffering and Sohaila will provide current information of life in Afghanistan under occupation and the ongoing plight of Afghan women that our media fails to report.

Sohaila, from RAWA (the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan) is on a speaking tour around Australia speaking on aspects of Afghanistan that are often overlooked here.

Tuesday 14 August
6.30 pm
Darebin Town Hall, 350 High Street
Preston
RSVP to cchr@deakin.edu.au

Research in trafficking of persons

Trafficking in persons has been described as modern day slavery. It is a global problem which affects both developing and developed countries, including Australia. In this presentation established researchers in trafficking issues will outline their experiences in researching this problem in South East Asia.

Speakers include Professor Susan Kneebone, Deputy Director of the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law and Judy Dixon, a lawyer and consultant to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on trafficking issues and the author of the UNODC's Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons

Monday 20 August
6.00 pm
Monash University Law Chambers, 472 Bourke Street, Melbourne
RSVP by 16 August (essential): marketing@law.monash.edu.au

The UN, the Rule of International Law and the Elimination of Weapons of Mass Destruction

The United Nations Association of Australia hosts this special presentation by Dr Hans Blix, President of the World Federation of the United Nations Association (WFUNA) and Chairman of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission (WMDC)

Dr Blix is best known for his role as the UN Chief Weapons Inspector in the lead-up to the war in Iraq. As is widely known, he could not find the WMDs whose alleged existence was one of the main reasons for invading Iraq. As the Chairman of the WMDC he advocates international co-operation in reducing the threat posed by these weapons.

Dr Blix’s presentation will be followed by the United Nations Association of Australia National Conference 2007—Australia and the United Nations: A Report Card

Monday 27 August
9.00 am–4.00 pm
State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne
$150 for non-members and $130 for UNAA members
For information and registration details: events@unaavictoria.org.au

Carbon offsets—Preventing climate change or buying a clean carbon conscious?

Carbon offsets are being offered by an ever growing number of companies and not-for-profit organisations. You can now buy carbon offsets to negate your car, house and airline flight emissions. However, their real effectiveness in reducing our carbon impacts has been hotly debated.

Our panel will provide a range of informed views and opinions about this important topic. At the end you can decide if carbon offsets are helping to prevent climate change or just allowing us to buy a clean carbon conscious and continue polluting—or somewhere in-between.

Speakers:
Anna Demant, Foundation Manager, Lonely Planet Publications
Brendan Condon, Managing Director, Climate Positive
Elizabeth Wheeler, Friends of the Earth climate justice campaigner

Wednesday 5 September
6.30–8.00 pm
Friends of the Earth, 312 Smith Street, Collingwood
For more information: 03 9419 8700 or globalisation@foe.org.au

Democracy, Development and Civil Society in India

This conference will address some of the challenges facing India and provide a forum for debating its unique democratic development with local and international speakers. It aims to go beyond discussions of procedural democracy and provide fresh perspectives by examining ways in which more inclusionary forms of democratic participation and development might be obtained.

Speakers:
Professor Akhil Gupta, University of California, Los Angeles
Professor Niraja G Jayal, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Professor Robin Jeffrey, Australian National University, Canberra
Professor Shalendra D Sharma, University of San Francisco, California

Thursday 20 to Friday 21 September
School of Social and Environmental Enquiry, University of Melbourne, 221 Bourverie St, Carlton
For more information: h.cole@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au
Website: www.social-environmental.unimelb.edu.au/DDCSconference/
NATIONAL

SNAICC National Conference 2007 ‘Ngadluko Ngartunnaitya’—For Our Children

SNAICC, the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care, is holding a two and a half day National Conference for service providers, policy makers, researchers and others focused on the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

Emphasis will be placed on practical approaches to working with children, families and communities from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds.

Registrations are still open!

Second International Conference on Racisms in the New World Order

Since the attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York in 2001, racism has developed new meanings due to government policy changes worldwide. As new security systems are put in place, social and cultural differences are highlighted and examined by policy makers. Increasingly, racial profiling by biology is becoming less of an issue. In its place is the growing emphasis on racial profiling by values and lifestyles, placing restrictions on civil liberties and human rights across the world.

The Centre for Multicultural and Community Development at the University of the Sunshine Coast, and the Victoria University Institute for Community, Ethnicity and Policy Alternatives are holding this conference with the aim of providing an arena for discourse about the instances of racism across the globe and ways to combat it. It is an opportunity for debate and discussion about those issues pertaining to racism, and an examination of government policies. Attendees will include delegates from Australia and around the world. A number of keynote speakers will deliver presentations aimed at stimulating debate, and representatives from a number of stakeholder groups will have the opportunity to express their points of view on racism in the present day.


INTERNATIONAL

Pluralism, Inclusion & Citizenship: Third Global Conference

This inter- and multi-disciplinary project seeks to explore the new developments and changes of the idea of pluralism and the implications those have for social and political processes of inclusion and citizenship in contemporary societies. The project will also assess the larger context of major world transformations, for example, new forms of migration and the massive movements of people across the globe, as well as the impact and contribution of globalisation on tensions, conflicts and the sense of acceptance, rootedness and membership.

Call for papers. Papers are welcome from all disciplines, professions and vocations which struggle to understand what it means for people, the world over, to be a citizen in rapidly changing national, social and political contexts. 300-word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 10 August 2007.

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.
The Age Melbourne Writers Festival 2007, in conjunction with the School of Global Studies, Social Sciences and Planning RMIT, presents *Writing Policy*, a six event program on writing public policy.

**The rights of man**  
Beckett Theatre, CUB Malthouse,  
Saturday 25 August 6.00pm – 7.00pm  
In this age of globalism, in this age of terror, when human rights need defending more than ever, can Australia remain an island unto itself? Lawyer, academic and writer George Williams is joined by Julian Burnside to discuss the importance of human rights in the formation of laws and policy, international and domestic.  

**Winds of change**  
Beckett Theatre, CUB Malthouse,  
Sunday 26 August 6.00pm – 7.00pm  
Knowing the direction of the political wind is crucial to the policy writer. Age journalist Matthew Ricketson, academic Rob Watts and historian Mark Peel look at policy writing good, bad and bogus.  

**You put the words right into my mouth**  
Beckett Theatre, CUB Malthouse  
Thursday 30 August 5.15pm – 6.15pm  
When a great speech is recalled by a nation it is less because it strikes a new chord than because it resonates with a chord already resonating below the threshold of hearing. Dennis Glover and Graham Freudenberg, talk shop to Sally Warhaft, editor of *Well May We Say: the speeches that made Australia.*  

**Our land of free spruik**  
Merlyn Theatre, CUB Malthouse  
Friday 31 August 5.00pm – 6.00pm  
In the election campaign carnival, the barkers spruik for customers. Roll up for low interest rates! Get your rebates here! But what are the policies they should be selling and what are the chances that the punters will buy? Discussing the policies that would be good for us and the policies that we will probably get are Hugh Stretton, Clive Hamilton and Judith Bessant.  

**The struggle over meaning**  
Beckett Theatre, CUB Malthouse  
Saturday 1 September 6.00pm – 7.00pm  
The way you advocate is often more important than what you are advocating. The wording can make all the difference between inspiring action or apathy. In this panel on public policy writing, experts in the field Ian Anderson, Barbara Pocock and Dennis Woodcock choose their words very carefully.  

**Policy is the craft of liars – debate**  
Merlyn Theatre, CUB Malthouse  
Saturday 1 September 8.30pm – 9.30pm  
How does government policy manage to be both economic with the truth and rampantly inflationary? A debate on this seeming paradox. Shouting ‘pants on fire!’ will be journalist David Marr and academic Rob Watts. Taking umbrage at the mere suggestion of mendacity will be speechwriter Graham Freudenberg, editor Sally Warhaft and Tom Bentley. Chaired by Belinda Probert.  

**Bookings**  
Phone: 9685 5111  
In person: CUB Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street Southbank  

**General Festival enquiries only**  
Online: www.mwf.com.au  
Phone: 9645 9244