GLOBALISM RESEARCH CENTRE
BULLETIN : APRIL 2012

We've had a busy start to the year at Globalism with many events taking place. The Global Studies Seminar Series began again on March 15 with ‘Global Languages and Linguistic Sustainability in the ‘Asian Century”, this was followed by the launch of the Local-Global special edition, ‘Globalization, Languages, Knowledge: Australian languages education in the ‘Asian century’.

The Centre’s Tom Nairn Lecture is taking place again this year, on March 27, and will feature Professor David Held. We also have another visiting scholar with us this month, Dr Eva-Maria Nag, who presented a public seminar ‘Global policy and political thinking’ on March 22. This week we also have the seminar with Mark Winne on ‘Food Rebels, Guerrilla Gardeners, and Smart Cookin’ Mamas- Fighting Back in an Age of Industrial Agriculture’ on March 29, followed in the evening with the launch of Martin Mulligan’s and Yaso Nadarajah’s new book Rebuilding Communities in the Wake of Disaster: Social Recovery in Sri Lanka.

2012 Tom Nairn Lecture

COSMOPOLITANISM IN THE MULTIPOLAR WORLD
Professor David Held, Durham University

David Held is Master of University College, Durham, and Professor of politics and international relations at Durham University. He is a British social and political theorist, and a prominent figure within the field of international relations. He has been a key figure in the development of theories of cosmopolitanism, and of cosmopolitan democracy in particular, and is a leading scholar on issues of globalisation and global governance. Two decades ago David co-founded Polity, which is now a major presence in social science and humanities publishing.

Thinking about the future of humankind on the basis of the early years of the twenty first century does not give grounds for optimism. From 9/11 to the present day, terrorism, conflict, territorial struggle and the clash of identities define the moment. While this talk acknowledges these challenges, it will argue that the 20th century established a series of cosmopolitan steps which develop respect for others and forms of action beyond nation-states, to a more rule-based international order.

Event details
Tuesday 27 March 2012
5.45 pm (for 6.00 pm start)
Storey Hall Auditorium, RMIT Building 16, 342–348 Swanston St Melbourne

Presented by the Globalism Research Centre with support from RMIT Foundation and Global Cities Institute.

For more information & to register your interest:
Email michelle.farley@rmit.edu.au
Local-Global: Identity, Security, Community  Special issue

‘Globalization, languages, knowledge: Australian languages education in the Asian century’

This special edition of Local-Global: Identity, Security, Community addresses the theme, “Globalisation, Multilingual Knowledge and Language Education in Australian Universities”.

Edited by Michael Singh of the University of Western Sydney’s Centre for Educational Research, and Lynne Li and Shanthi Robertson from the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning at RMIT University, this collection of research papers provides concepts, arguments and evidence to engage Australian university academics in current contestation and debates over university language education. In the context of the Prime Minister’s announcement last year of the White Paper on Australia in the Asian Century, such innovative research into the significance of language education is timely. The researchers whose work is represented here are making a small but nonetheless nationally and internationally significant contribution to questioning established formula for university language education, but more importantly elaborating pedagogical and theoretical alternatives to the traditional focus that connects language and literary culture, with innovations that link language with local-global flows of knowledge and intellectual cultures. In speaking beyond the well-worn strategies in language education, these researchers are working to reconfigure university students’ bilingualism (or multilingualism in some instances) in terms of their capabilities for accessing multiple sources of knowledge.

This special edition of Local-Global: Identity, Security, Community was launched on March 15. To request a copy please email michelle.farley@rmit.edu.au

Global Studies Postgraduate Student Colloquium

This is a new initiative of the Globalism Research Centre and the Global Studies cluster within the School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, convened by Anne McNevin. The colloquium is a relatively informal monthly gathering of PhD and Masters by Research students working within the discipline of Global Studies and a companion to the Global Studies Seminar Series. The postgrad colloquium has a mixed format including workshops, guestspeakers, master classes, development of presentation skills and social events.

The first meeting will be held on Wednesday 28 March (details below). This session will provide an introduction to the colloquium, along with a discussion about formats and opportunities most helpful to students.

The second meeting will be Wednesday 18 April (details below). This session will be a Masterclass with Dr Katrina Lee Koo (ANU School of Politics and International Relations http://socpol.anu.edu.au/people/academic-staff/katrina-lee-koo); on the theme of gender and development in conflict and post-conflict zones in the Asia Pacific.

For further details, contact Anne McNevin via email anne.mcnevin@rmit.edu.au

Meeting details:
First meeting: Wednesday 28 March: 3.00pm–4.30pm
Building 8, Level 7, Room 6, City Campus

Second meeting: Wednesday 18 April: 3.00pm–4.30pm.
Venue to be advised
This paper offers a theoretical framework for understanding how foreign policy affects its own domestic sphere. Inverting the traditional analysis of foreign relations, it will be argued that there is a significant impact from external foreign policy on ‘domestic’ individual subjectivity and social order. As such, this framework demonstrates how the subjectivity of citizens are shaped by notions of security stemming from the pervasion of norms and stereotypes of foreign policy that rebound onto domestic politics. Furthermore, notions of security derived from foreign policy inform how liberty is perceived and what it means to be free, in so doing assuming a vital part of the constitution of social order.

The presentation will conclude by arguing that the war on terror heralded a distinct shift on the operation of foreign policy, one that continues to inform the construction of new security policies such as critical infrastructure protection and cyber security.

Subjects of security: foreign policy, war on terror and the constitution of social order

Robin Cameron

Event details:
Thursday 12 April 2012
12.30pm–2.30pm
Research Lounge, RMIT Building 28, Level 5, entry via RMIT Building 8, Level 5, 360 Swanston St Melbourne

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**Book launch**

**Rebuilding communities in the wake of disaster: social recovery in Sri Lanka and India**

Martin Mulligan and Yaso Nadarajah

Please join us on Thursday March 29 at 6pm for the launch of *Rebuilding communities in the wake of disaster: social recovery in Sri Lanka and India* to be launched by Andrew Hewett, Executive Director of Oxfam Australia, with comments by Professor David Held, Durham University and introduction by Professor David Hayward, Dean, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning.

This book examines the sociological consequences of disaster relief and recovery and its impact on the communities that were affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004. It is the most extensive and intensive study of post-disaster community rebuilding yet reported in the literature on disaster management. The authors draw on this research to develop a three-phase strategy for moving from quick and effective relief to long-term social recovery work.

This book argues that international aid agencies must work patiently to put in place meaningful partnerships with local, community-based organisations as soon as long-term physical and social planning becomes possible. It is much easier to rebuild damaged infrastructure than to rebuild shattered lives, and to ensure that traumatised communities are not put under new stresses and strains; the ‘fault-lines’ within these communities need to be eased rather than opened.

Martin Mulligan, Associate Professor, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

Yaso Nadarajah, Senior Research Fellow & Lecturer, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.

**Event details:**
Thursday 29 March 2012
6.00pm–7.30pm
Readings Books, 309 Lygon St, Carlton, 3053
RSVP: michelle.farley@rmit.edu.au
Food rebels, guerrilla gardeners, and smart cookin’ mamas—fighting back in an age of industrial agriculture

Mark Winne

We have the privilege to host Mark Winne on Thursday March 29, who will discuss his work and the ‘food guerrilla’ movement.

About Mark Winne

Based in Santa Fe, New Mexico (USA) Mark is an engaging, in demand educator, lecturer, work shop facilitator and author of two best selling books. 

Closing the Food Gap Resetting the Table in the Land of Plenty and Food Rebels, Guerrilla Gardeners, and Smart Cookin’ Mama—Fighting Back in an Age of Industrial Agriculture. From delivering public community based lectures to facilitating workshops with Harvard University law students, Mark never fails to excite and impart knowledge and perspective on the global crisis of food sustainability and security.

Drawing on his extensive grass roots and public policy development work addressing vital food sustainability issues (including farmers markets, urban farming, community food assessment, creation of state and city food policy, local and regional agriculture and reducing social and economic disparities in low-income communities) Mark currently writes, speaks and consults extensively to a wide variety of disparate communities. In this presentation, Mark Winne will focus his discussion on how people are reclaiming their connection to their food and their health. His hope is that these types of efforts, scaled up and adopted more widely, will allow the alternative food system to dethrone the industrial.

This seminar is presented by Globalism Research Centre, Hike4hunger.org and The Trust Company Foundation

Global policy and political thinking: the challenges of a multi polar world order

Public seminar with Dr Eva-Maria Nag
Visiting Fellow at the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University, United Kingdom

This talk discussed the often understated but important link between global policy and political thinking. Clearly, territorially-bounded national and regional policy making has hitherto drawn from distinct, even if plural, value systems and traditions of political thinking. The connection between global policy and political thinking is not so clear however. It is contended that cosmopolitans’ efforts notwithstanding, there is much more work to be done for both policy experts and political thinkers. The latter have to engage more with the field of global policy that is fast becoming a space for thought and action in itself, with unsettling consequences for nation-state based policy making and for nation-state based political thinking. The talk set out six key elements of global policy and discussed the kind of conceptual mapping that will be needed to consciously rather than accidentally understand and shape the complex processes of global policy making.

Dr Eva-Maria Nag received her PhD on Indian political thought from the LSE. She has taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses on political theory, ethics and public administration, and South and East Asian politics at the LSE, SOAS, King’s College London, and the American University in London. She is one of the founding editors of Global Policy and a Visiting Fellow at the School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University, where she works on comparative political thinking.
Global Studies Seminar Series: March Seminar

Global languages and linguistic sustainability in the ‘Asian century’

Panel Members: Michael Singh, University of Western Sydney; Lynne Li, RMIT University; John Hajek, University of Melbourne.

This seminar focussed on the Australian Government commissioned White Paper on Australia in the Asian Century, which is listed for consideration by Cabinet in the first half of 2012. In providing a national blueprint for Australia at a time of transformative economic growth in Asia, this White Paper is expected to help the Australian Government, and the people of Australia, navigate the ‘Asian Century’. Language education is a key part of this challenge because the effective teaching and learning of global languages is commonly understood as essential for the cultural, economic and intellectual life of any society. Moreover, and in terms of Australian National Interest, greater language diversity and capacity could result in a significant deepening of our engagement with Asia, not just in the areas of economy and security, but in science and technology collaboration, clean energy, education and so forth. The panel members addressed issues involving linguistic diversity and sustainability in a national sense, Australia, as well as the challenges and opportunities that Australia’s language education will face over the coming decades.

Michael Singh is Professor of Education, Centre for Educational Research, University of Western Sydney.

John Hajek is project leader for the national Languages and Cultures Network for Australian Universities (LCNAU), as well as Convenor of Italian and director of the Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross-cultural Communication (RUMACCC) at the University of Melbourne.

Lynne Li is lecturer of language studies at RMIT University where she also coordinates the Chinese Language Program at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Lynne is also the RMIT representative on the LCNAU project.

Other events & opportunities

Call for Proposals:
3rd International Creative Communities Conference: Risks & Possibilities

Wednesday 26th–Friday 28th September 2012, Gold Coast, Australia

Following the highly successful Creative Communities Conference in 2009 and 2010, Creative Communities 3 will provide a forum for critical discussion and knowledge exchange concerning the ‘Risks & Possibilities’ of unleashing creativity in communities. CC3 will bring together an interdisciplinary array of National and International Art & Community Cultural Development Practitioners, Creative & Cultural Researchers and others working across a range of disciplines such as sociology, art, cultural studies, youth and ageing studies, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity studies, cultural geography and media studies.

Griffith Centre for Cultural Research invites proposal submissions from scholars, arts & cultural workers, designers, urban designers, architects and policy makers interested in presenting oral papers, presentations, interactive workshops, panels or roundtable discussions. Please visit the website for more details and to download the Call for Proposals and Submission Forms.

The Conference will be held at Crown Plaza Hotel, Surfers Paradise, Queensland, Australia. Hosted by the Griffith Centre for Cultural Research (GCCR) at Griffith University.

For further details please visit the conference website: http://www.griffith.edu.au/humanities-languages/centre-cultural-research/news-events/creative-communities-conference
Dr Blakely discusses the lessons from this natural disaster.

How do urban planners work with local communities and government to recover after a major disaster?

Dr Ed J Blakely has over forty years of international experience in all aspects of urban and regional planning, disaster management and sustainable development. He served as Executive Director of the New Orleans Recovery from 2007-2009 and led the recovery of the United States' worst urban natural disaster by directing all aspects of the city recovery.

At this free RMIT Transforming the Future public lecture, he will share the lessons he learnt in the urban reconstruction of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, and how these lessons might be relevant to rebuilding after Australia's own recent natural disasters.

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**Transforming the Future: Master class for RMIT researchers**

**Hurricane Katrina**

Dr Edward J Blakely

Beyond emergency: Planning resilient cities after natural disaster

This master class will explore the planning and governance interventions needed to lead a city post-disaster, beyond the emergency phase to a long term and sustainable recovery. The forum will also debate the role of the university sector in providing academic leadership in disaster management across all phases of the post disaster rebuilding process. How do we draw from academic expertise in design, planning, logistics and management to help the private and public sectors in the challenging task of building resilience after catastrophe?

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**Event details:**

Transforming the Future: Lecture series

**Hurricane Katrina**

Dr Edward J Blakely

**Event details:**

Tuesday, 3 April 2012
6.00pm–7.30pm
RMIT University, Storey Hall
336 Swanston Street
Melbourne
Free event. Registration essential.
Register online: www.rmit.edu.au/future

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**Event details:**

Transforming the Future: Master class for RMIT researchers

**Hurricane Katrina**

Dr Edward J Blakely

**Event details:**

Tuesday 3 April 2012
2.30pm–4.30pm
RMIT University, Storey Hall
336 Swanston Street, Melbourne
Seats are limited. Registration essential.
Email events@rmit.edu.au, with “Blakely Master class” in the subject line.

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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 Research Centre Bulletin please email globalism@rmit.edu.au with the word ‘Unsubscribe’ in the subject field.