Second International Food and Thought Mela

The Second 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 is a chance for people to come together to share good food and talk.

The theme of this year’s Mela is ‘Food, Community and the Future’. It will include an exciting list of local and international guests including scholars from India, Ecuador and the USA, as well as RMIT’s Globalism Research Centre.

The Mela will be framed by a keynote address by Ecuadorian ecologist Carlos Zorilla and conclude with a formal dinner, featuring special guest presenter Rod Quantock.

The Mela is an initiative of the Local-Global research project team. The first one, held two years ago, attracted around 300 people.

This year’s Mela will be held at the RMIT Hamilton campus and Hamilton institute of Rural Learning on Saturday 21 June.

For more information and registration form please visit www.communitysustainability.info/events/FoodandThought2.html

Re-Generating Community Conference

The Globalism Research Centre and the Cultural Development Network have begun preparations for a significant conference to be held at RMIT’s Storey Hall in September 2009. The conference is titled ‘Re-Generating Community: A New Nexus between Art, Community and Local Governance’.

The conferences is partly aimed at drawing to a close an ambitious project using community arts to reinvigorate local government processes across five diverse local government areas in Australia, which has been sponsored by the Australia Council for the Arts and managed by the Cultural Development Network.

However, it will also cast the net widely in terms of people interested in the topic and will aim to properly integrate artistic practices into the conference program.

For further information please contact Martin Mulligan on 03 9925 2725 or email martin.mulligan@rmit.edu.au

Writer Without Borders

Latin America Culture and Politics lecturer Monica Moore recently interviewed Eduardo Galeano, one of Latin America’s most acclaimed and beloved writers.

They discussed his new book, Mirrors, a vision of world history from the point of view of, as he calls them, ‘the underdogs, the badly fed and badly slept of this world’.

Galeano’s work obscures the distinctions between history, poetry, memoir, political analysis and cultural anthropology. He has been, and still is, an ardent activist, having interviewed figures such as En-Chu-Lai, Che Guevara, Salvador Allende and several defenders of neoliberalism in Latin America during the 1960s and 1970s.

Mrs Moore asked questions related to her PhD dissertation, ‘Latinamericanisms and Globalization’, which is supervised by Globalism Research Centre Director, Manfred Steger. When asked his views on ‘globalization’, Galeano said it was a term he considered to be representative of an economic form of domination, with no positive aspects. However, he said, ‘if we talk about a sense of “internationality”, a fraternity that goes beyond regions, frontiers, races and creeds, I do firmly believe in that’.

Eduardo Galeano and Monica Moore discuss writing, culture and politics, in Montevideo, Uruguay
MELBOURNE

An Alternative Postcolonial: Language, Location and Culture

Public lecture by Professor Harish K. Trivedi

Harish Trivedi is Professor of English at the University of Delhi. A former Vice-Chair of the International Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies, Prof Trivedi presently holds the position of Vice–President of the Comparative Literature Association of India. He is the acclaimed author of Colonial Transactions: English Literature and India (Manchester University Press).

The lecture will be followed by a discussion with Bill Ashcroft, Bruce Bennett, Lynette Russell and Paul Sharrad (Participating Chair).

Tuesday 17 June
6.00-8.30 pm
State Library of Victoria, Seminar Room 1
Free entry

For more information: email chandani.lokuge@arts.monash.edu.au

Building a Common Future: Africa and Australasia

Since 1978, the annual African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP) conference has been bringing together Africa-focused scholars, students, government and diplomatic staff, business, industry and individuals to discuss Africa and the issues, challenges and opportunities which the continent faces. The aim of AFSAAP conference is to identify and discuss ways in which Africa and Australasia can work together towards shared solutions and a shared future.

Call for papers. Deadline for abstract submission 28 July.

Given the cross-institutional and in this case, cross-continental nature of the AFSAAP Conference, we will welcome papers on any topic relating to Africa, but suggest the following as focus areas:

- HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa
- Peace and conflict studies in Africa
- The African diaspora
- Africans in Australia
- Africa in comparative context
- African literature and cultures
- Business and Economics in Africa
- Africa and China
- Africa, climate change and sustainable development
- Education and development

26 to 28 November 2008
Monash University, Clayton Campus, Melbourne and Monash University, South Africa Campus, Ruimsig (concurrently)

Abstract submission and more information: email catherine.bevan-jones@adm.monash.edu.au
Website: www.afsaap.org.au

In the media

www.opendemocracy.net/article/tibet-palestine-and-the-politics-of-failure

Local-Global


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

Peter Phipps and Lisa Slater, fieldwork at the Dreaming Festival, Woodford, Australia, 6 to 9 June.

New report on Nanotechnology and Food

Friends of the Earth have recently released an international report on nanotechnology in food and agriculture, which can be viewed at http://nano.foe.org.au. A Word version of the report will be available soon on the same website.

Professional Development

IDSS Training Courses

Project Design and Logframe Approach in International Development
30 June and 1 July 2008

This is a practical two day workshop which looks at the key elements of the complementary project management methodologies of Project Cycle Management (PCM) and the Logical Framework Approach (LFA). This course is designed for practitioners involved in community development projects in both Australia and overseas, the former including work in both urban and rural settings. Reference will be made to successful projects carried out in each of these settings.

Engaging Communities in Decision Making: Tools and Techniques
22 and 23 July 2008

The course will explore the meaning of community engagement and civil society strengthening in bilateral and multilateral programs and how policy change has increased the importance of developing a partnership between government and community in achieving national and international development goals. The course will provide participants with a better understanding of key concepts such as partnership, participation, civil society strengthening, community based contracting, co-management and empowerment and how they apply to donor country and NGO programs for development assistance.

For further information and enrolment, please visit the IDSS website on www.idss.com.au
AUSTRALIA

Sport, Race and Ethnicity

This event will bring together academics, policy makers and community representatives from around the world to discuss issues of sport and diversity, with a special focus on themes of ‘race’, indigeneity and ethnicity. The emphasis here is with sport in a global sense, considering developments in regions as varied as Australasia, East and West Asia, the Middle East, the Indian subcontinent, Africa, Europe and the Americas. Additionally, there will be scope for analysis of sport and diversity in localised contexts, such as Aborigines in Australia and Canada, Native Americans and Hispanics in the US, and Maori and Pacific Islanders in New Zealand.

Just as significantly, there will be discussion of sport and society in cross-cultural contexts wherein themes of ‘race’, ethnicity, and religion intersect, such as among Chinese, Indian and Malaysian peoples around South-East Asia.

A selection of the best papers will appear in a special conference edition of the Routledge journal Sport in Society. Call for papers. The due date for abstracts submission has been extended to 16 June 2008.

30 November to 2 December 2008
UTS, Haymarket Campus, Sydney
Abstract submission and more information:
email Daryl.Adair@uts.edu.au
Website: www.business.uts.edu.au/lst/sre/index.html

INTERNATIONAL

Second International Conference on Religion and Media

This conference will explore the complex relationship among religion and media. The purpose of the conference is to share developments in and research on religion and media (with emphasis on Television and Radio). Participants will join media researchers and scholars, representatives from diverse religious traditions, professionals and students involved with the subjects of the conference, which can be viewed at www.religion-media.com/callforpapers.htm

Call for papers. Deadline for submission of abstracts 15 June.

9 to 12 November 2008
Tehran and Qom, Iran
For more information:
email rm2008@religion-media.ir
Website: www.religion-media.com/default.htm

Second Conference on the Political Economy of International Organizations

The conference will bring together economists and political scientists working on political aspects of international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Keynote speakers:
Richard Baldwin (Graduate Institute of International Studies)
Graham Bird (University of Surrey)
Helen V. Milner (Princeton University)

Call for papers. Deadline for submission 30 September 2008.

The conference proceedings will be published in a special issue of the Review of International Organizations (Springer), subject to the usual refereeing process. Submission to the special issue is not mandatory.

29 to 31 January 2009
Geneva, Switzerland
For more information:
Website: www.cis.ethz.ch/events/PEIO
Abstract submission:
PEIO@kof.ethz.ch

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.