Institute welcomes new Innovations Professor Heikki Patomaki

The Globalism Institute is delighted to welcome Heikki Patomaki, who has been appointed as an Innovation Professor in the Global Cities Institute, with his home in the Globalism Institute. Heikki is a public intellectual in Finland and at the top of his field. He is seen as one of the most important critical theorists of global governance and finance in the world today, and has provided expert advice to the governments of Finland, Serbia and Belgium.

Heikki's publications include nine monographs, many edited volumes and more than 100 academic papers and numerous popular articles. His books include *Democratising Globalisation. The Leverage of the Tobin Tax* (Zed Books, 2001); *After International Relations: Critical Realism and the (Re)Construction of World Politics* (Routledge, 2002); and *A Possible World: Democratic Transformation of Global Institutions*, with T. Teivainen (Zed Books, 2004). Heikki retains his existing positions as Professor of International Relations, in Political Science, University of Helsinki, Vice-Director of the Centre of Excellence in Global Governance Research and Research Director of the Network Institute for Global Democratisation (NIGD).

Major new grant for study on indigenous cultural festivals

The Globalism Institute has been awarded a grant of $240,000 by the Telstra Foundation to undertake a study on indigenous cultural festivals in Australia. The successful application for the project, ‘Indigenous Cultural Festivals: Evaluating Impact on Community Health and Wellbeing’, was submitted by the Globalism Institute’s Peter Phipps and provides funding for three years beginning in March 2007.

The success of the application was built on the substantial body of work and reputation the Globalism Institute has developed in the fields of community sustainability, culture and wellbeing, and many years of active engagement in the academic programs of the Garma Festival of Indigenous Culture in Arnhem Land. The project team is: Peter Phipps (Project Leader); Lisa Slater (Research Fellow); and Paul James, Martin Mulligan and Yaso Nadarajah (Research Advisors).

The newest member of the family

Congratulations to Cleo Fleming and husband John on the birth of their first child, a baby girl, Nina. Nina greeted the world on January 27, in good health and weighing 3.4 kg.

Cleo was the Globalism Institute’s Research Co-ordinator from 2004 to 2005. She and John currently live in Kyoto, Japan.

Staff changes

Dr Martin Mulligan has been appointed the new Deputy Director of the Globalism Institute. Peter Phipps has stepped down from the role.

Congratulations to Dr Chris Ziguras who has been promoted to ‘Associate Professor’. Chris has also been appointed Director, Research in the School of Global Studies Social Science and Planning.

Dr Kate Cregan, Nicky Welch and Kelly Donati have recently left the Globalism Institute. The Institute thanks them for their significant achievements and outstanding contributions to the Institute's work and research standing.

In the media

Dr Chris Scanlon, ‘Howard and Hanson will dance again’, *The Age*, Opinion, 12 December 2006.

Dr Chris Scanlon, ‘Bomb the buzz blitz’, *The Courier Mail*, Tuesday 16 January.

Dr Chris Scanlon, ‘Democracy? We talk the talk but don’t walk the walk’, *The Age*, Opinion, 25 January.

Dr Chris Scanlon, ‘Responsibility for public transport’s woes has been sold too’, *The Age*, Opinion, 5 February.

Dr Chris Scanlon, ‘Will faulty brakes mean the end of the line for Connex?’, *Stateline*, ABC-TV, Victoria, 9 February.

Common Ground

Common Ground host a number of international conferences each year in the Humanities, Education, Sustainability, Cultural Diversity, Publishing, Technology and Management. A list of Globalism Institute-supported Common Ground conferences is available at commongroundgroup.com/conferences.

Main speakers and parallel sessions are regularly updated, which you can mine for news. Common Ground now have Newsletter co-ordinators blogging on each of its journal sites (and each conference has a journal attached). Take the journal-weblog links at commongroundgroup.com/publishing.
GLOBALISM INSTITUTE

Launch of ‘Creating Community: Celebrations, Arts and Wellbeing’ Report

The ‘Creating Community’ report is Australia’s most far-reaching inquiry on the role of community-based arts in building stronger local communities. The launch will present the key findings of the report, which is based on three years of research by the Globalism Institute and funded by VicHealth. Speakers include Hon. Lynne Kosky, Minister for the Arts; Dr Martin Mulligan, Globalism Institute; and Jerrill Rechter, VicHealth.

Wednesday 7 March
2.00 - 3.30 pm
Global Learning Centre
1093 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows
For more information: email martin.mulligan@rmit.edu.au

MELBOURNE

Hegel Summer School 2007: The Roots of Critical Theory

As a provocation, this year’s Hegel Summer School proposes that only a politically-motivated and intellectually-searching engagement with the roots of Critical Theory—with the work of Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer, proceeding from a critique of Jurgen Habermas—can provide an alternative to the sheer moderateness, the political lack of bite, of Critical Theory’s current direction.

Friday 16 and Saturday 17 February
Prest Theatre, The University of Melbourne, Parkville
$40 waged/$20 student and unwaged
For more information: email dialecticaltheory2007@gmail.com

Friends of the Earth at the Sustainable Living Festival

Climate change: what does it mean for Victoria?

What will global warming mean for Victoria? Where, how and when will our lives be impacted? What do we need to do? What is the global big picture? As a major per capita greenhouse gas producer, what should Australia be doing?

Saturday 17 February
11.00 am - 12.30 pm
BMW Edge, Federation Square

Powering the future: hard choices hard facts

Australia is at an energy crossroads. The growing recognition of the impacts of climate change forces us to make choices between divergent energy futures comprising some combination of fossil fuels, nuclear power, renewable energy sources, and energy efficiency/conservation. This forum aims to explore and explain the options in some detail.

Saturday 17 February
3.00 pm
BMW Edge, Federation Square

Nanotechnology and food production

Following the attempt to introduce genetically engineered food to an unwilling public, nanotechnology represents the latest high-tech assault on holistic food production. Nanotechnology, the ‘science of the small’ is stepping out of the lab and into the food chain, from paddock to plate. Come along and learn about nanotechnology’s implications for human health, the environment and food sovereignty issues.

Saturday 17 February
3.00 - 3.50 pm
Think Tent, Federation Square
For more information: email cam.walker@foe.org.au
Sustainable Living Festival website: www.slf.org.au/festival
The Insidious Erosion of the Prohibition of Torture

The Castan Centre for Human Rights Law and Amnesty International Australia invite you to a public lecture to be presented by Sir Nigel Rodley, Human Rights Centre, University of Essex, one of the world's leading authorities on the laws of torture.

Monday 26 February
6.15 - 7.30 pm
Monash University Law Chambers, 472 Bourke Street, Melbourne
RSVP: email castan.centre@law.monash.edu.au
For more information: www.law.monash.edu.au/castancentre/events/rodley-lecture.pdf

Eliminating Racism: Valuing Diversity

The United Nations has declared 21 March as the global day for the elimination of racism. Discrimination and racism defines social relations between people in very negative ways and impacts on life chances. It is critical that academics, community workers, policy makers and affected communities continue dialoguing and strategising on this key issue. This forum will consider anecdotal and research-based evidence about racism and discrimination in Australia and strategies to counter these phenomena.

Speakers include Associate Professor Santina Bertone, Victoria University; Dr Helen Szoke, Director, Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission; Ms Margaret Donaldson, Director, Race Discrimination Unit, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission; Mr George Lekakis, Victorian Multicultural Commission; and Ms Joumanah El Matrah, Islamic Women's Welfare Council of Victoria.

Wednesday 21 March
9.00 am - 1.00 pm
Function Room 3, Level 12, Victoria University, 300 Flinders Street, Melbourne
$20 (cash only)
RSVP and more information: email sue.butterworth@vu.edu.au

NATIONAL

State of Australian Cities Conference

The Conference will focus on the contemporary form and structure of Australian cities, with the overarching theme of 'Growth, Sustainability and Vulnerability of Urban Australia'. The conference will be an opportunity for Australian and international academics to explore urban issues in Australia. Its purpose is to report on current research into issues of urban and regional sustainability, to discuss the research with practitioners and policy makers, to identify research gaps, and to improve our understanding of the state of Australian cities. It will also contribute to the development of early career researchers and government officers by offering them a forum to critically discuss their research.

Abstract submission deadline Friday 16 March.

Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 November
University of Adelaide and University of South Australia

INTERNATIONAL

Fragile States—Fragile Groups: Tackling Economic and Social Vulnerability

This conference will bring together researchers and practitioners to discuss different concepts and measures of fragility and vulnerability, to analyze causes and consequences of vulnerability, to consider appropriate policy options, and to identify future research directions.

Conference topics will include fragility concepts and measures; trade and financial shocks; weather and other environmental shocks; state failure and governance in fragile states; household vulnerability and fragile groups; poverty dynamics and economic insecurity; strategies for dealing with economic and social vulnerability; linking aid, debt relief, and fragility; and fragility and MDG implementation

The conference is intended for researchers and policymakers from the academic, government, and development communities as well as advanced PhD students in economics or social science disciplines. It will be held in English.

Abstract submission deadline Friday 16 March

Friday 15 and Saturday 16 June
World Institute for Development Economics Research of the United Nations
Helsinki, Finland
Abstracts and information: email fragile1@wider.unu.edu
Website: www.wider.unu.edu
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 2007
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, 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

Learning Together: Reshaping Higher Education in a Global Age

This international conference is for students, teachers, researchers and administrators concerned with the urgent and compelling challenges of learning and teaching in higher education in a global age, marred by inequalities, but rich in opportunities for dialogue. Through an innovative combination of the presentation of research with workshops on curriculum, the student experience and the challenge of higher education pedagogies, the conference will be a significant contribution to how we reshape higher education.

Sunday 22 to Tuesday 24 July
Institute of Education, University of London, UK
For more information: email b.haynes@pesa.org.au
Website: www.ioe.ac.uk/efps/conference/learningtogether

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.