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1. Report from the NZASIA President

Next year we will return to the practice of holding our biannual international conference in the middle of the year rather than in November. This was done mainly to accommodate speakers from the northern hemisphere, but also because many conference participants intend to travel overseas in November and would be unable to attend if the conference was held then. The keynote speakers for next year's conference are Sugata Bose, Jeff Wasserstrom and Robert Buswell. Information on the conference is included in the Newsletter and also on the NZASIA website (nzasia.org.nz/conference.html). We look forward to seeing you next year.

As you will see from the fieldwork reports included below, there have been some very good candidates for the Asia:NZ-NZASIA scholarships over recent years. But this year we had a smaller pool of applicants, many of whom were inelligible. Remember, these scholarships are for postgraduate students working on an Asia-related topic and are designed to support fieldwork in Asia. Please bring the scholarships to the attention of any students who may benefit from the opportunity to undertake fieldwork. The deadline for next year's applications is 1 May 2009, and information about the scholarships can be found on the NZASIA website (nzasia.org.nz/scholarships/).

Duncan Campbell leaves us at the end of the year to take up a position in Australia, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the work he has done for the Society over a number of years, most recently as Treasurer. Duncan will remain involved with NZASIA, however, and will take over from James Beattie as Reviews Editor of NZJAS next year.

Next year will also see a transition with the Society's journal, the *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*. Henry Johnson's term as Editor comes to an end and the journal will be moving from Otago to Auckland. Paul Clark will take over editing the journal, with the support of colleagues at the University of Auckland. On behalf of the Society I would like to thank Henry for the work he has put in as Editor over the past three years, and also James Beattie for his work as Reviews Editor.

Brian Moloughney
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2. In Memoriam

Dan CHAN Chung Yock (1907-2008) O.N.Z.M., Q.S.M
Henry Douglas CHAN Min-hsi (1937-2008) BA MA (Canterbury) MA (London)¹

Sadly, April and May this year saw the deaths of two remarkable Chinese New Zealanders, both of whom were surnamed Chan and were born in villages in the Cantonese speaking districts of southern China, and both of whom arrived in New Zealand within a few years of each other as a result of the Japanese invasion of China in 1937. Both men had connections of long standing with Australasia, however - Henry's great-grandfather had migrated to Australia in the 19th century, whilst Dan's father had lived in Sydney for almost a decade before Dan was to join him as a teenager, his older brother too having lived in New Zealand since 1921. In their own different ways, both men made important and lasting contributions to their communities, whilst also serving to ensure that the specific and unique histories of the various and interrelated New Zealand and Australia Chinese communities would be both preserved and more widely understood, the one having played a critical role in the creation of the Chinese New Zealand archive, the other in convincing us all of the interest and importance of this archive.

Forced to leave his young family behind him by the war, Dan Chan arrived in New Zealand in 1938, having earlier undertaken his high school education in Australia, before returning to China to work in business (managing a cotton mill) in Hong Kong and Shanghai. Once here, Dan Chan soon found employment editing the *Q Sing Times* on behalf of the New Zealand Chinese Association, thus inaugurating a lifetime's engagement with the activities of the local Chinese associations. In 1946, Dan Chan shifted to Wellington to assist with the establishment of the Seyip Association.² In 1949 he was appointed secretary of the Dominion Federation of New Zealand Chinese Commercial Growers, and it was in this capacity that he undertook the production between 1949-1972 of the *New Zealand Chinese Growers' Monthly Journal*. Published in both English and Chinese, first handwritten but then printed by means of New Zealand's only set of Chinese offset printing type, acquired by the Federation from Hong Kong for the sum of £4000, this journal served for more than twenty years as the sole national mouthpiece for the Chinese communities during a critical period of their developing sense of identity.

After the war, Dan Chan was finally reunited with his wife, Wong Yu Oi, and surviving son, and from the mid-50s onwards, until his retirement in 1968, he ran a variety of businesses in Wellington, including a fruit and vegetable shop, a fish and chip shop on Molesworth Street, and a restaurant on Lambton Quay.

In 1989, Dan Chan gifted his papers to the Alexander Turnbull Library, National Library of New Zealand/Te Puna Matauranga o Aotearoa. Included in this donation were complete sets of both the *Q Sing Times* and the *New Zealand Chinese Growers' Monthly Journal*, and, along with the wealth of other related printed matter collected by the

¹ In preparing this short note about these two men and their various contributions, I am indebted to the following published obituaries of them, respectively: Peter Kitchin, "Migrant Never Forgot Community", *The Dominion Post*, 5 June, 2008; and John Fitzgerald and Harriet Veitch, "Historian Pursued Identity for Australian-born Chinese", *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 5 July, 2008; along with the "Tribute to Henry Chan" presented at his funeral by Gordon Wu on behalf of the Tung Jung Association of New Zealand.

² Dan Chan was later to write and publish a history of this association: *History of the Seyip Association of New Zealand*, Wellington (Wellington: Dan Chan, 1997).

library over the years by the indefatigable Nigel Murphy, these journals form the core of a body of material of inestimable importance awaiting future generations of researchers into the Chinese dimension of New Zealand's history.³

In recognition of his contribution to his community, Dan Chan was awarded a Queen Service Medal in 1986 and, in 2007, was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit.

Over many years, both Dan Chan himself and his son, Laywood Chan, have been generous philanthropists, particularly in the field of higher education, in the case of the latter, with particular reference to encouraging research into aspects of Chinese New Zealand history.

Born in the year of the Japanese invasion of China, Henry Chan arrived in Auckland in 1940, his father having been sent there in the early 1930s to establish a branch of the family's greengrocery business.⁴ Having studied at Auckland Grammar, he went on to complete an MA at the University of Canterbury.

Upon his appointment to a lectureship at Massey University in Palmerston North in 1968, to teach modern European intellectual history, Henry became the first New Zealand-educated person of Chinese descent to be appointed to an academic post in this country. Soon, Henry was married, to Mary Joiner, a colleague in the English Department at Massey, and in 1974 the couple spent a year in London where Henry undertook postgraduate studies in Chinese history at SOAS. Not long after their return to New Zealand, Mary was offered a post at the University of New South Wales where she taught until her retirement in 2000, and Henry took up a lectureship in Chinese history with the University of Newcastle where he, too, was to remain until his retirement. Both his academic career and his life since retirement were characterised by his intense sense of mission and the energy that he brought to his tasks; a great organiser, Henry was always full of projects of one sort or another - as John Fitzgerald and Harriet Veitch state in their obituary, "He had a hand in virtually every important event and institutional initiative in Chinese-Australian studies over the past two decades".

After his retirement, Henry was affiliated to the University of New South Wales and the University of Sydney, and, in 2004, held a Research Fellowship with the National Library of New Zealand, during which term and in collaboration with members of the local Chinese community he edited (and later republished under the imprint of his own Echo Point Press) *Zengcheng New Zealanders: a History for the 80th Anniversary of the Tung Jung Association of New Zealand Inc.*

³ For brief descriptions of this body of material, see two short articles by Nigel Murphy, "Print Culture of Other Languages: Languages other than English, Maori and Pacific Islands: Chinese: The 20th century", in Penny Griffith, Ross Harvey, and Keith Maslen, eds., *Book & Print in New Zealand: A Guide to Print Culture in Aotearoa* Wellington: Victoria University Press, 1997), pp. 271-75; and "Appendix: Present archival and library resources on the study of the Chinese in New Zealand, including recent Asian immigrants", in Manying Ip, ed., *Unfolding History, Evolving Identity: The Chinese in New Zealand* (Auckland: Auckland University Press, 2003), pp. 280-97.

⁴ Henry Chan writes about his difficult relationship with his father in his moving chapter ("Ears Attuned to Two Cultures") in Josephine M.T. Khu's *Cultural Curiosity: Thirteen Stories about the Search for Chinese Roots* (Berkeley, Los Angeles & London: University of California Press, 2001), pp. 111-27.

Some years ago, Henry issued the following and powerful call to arms for researchers in the field:

What might a new historiography of the Chinese in Australasia look like? Despite the development of the ethnographic eye and the sinological ear in Australian and New Zealand historiography, the next major advances in our understanding of the history of our Chinese communities will come about through collaborative research involving our American colleagues and our Chinese colleagues, both in the PRC and in Taiwan, to develop a comparative history of the diasporic Chinese on the ‘White’ PacRim and one that links this history to the *qiaoxiangs* in China. Such a history will be truly transnational and trans-Pacific and part of Chinese diasporic history...Only then will the ‘Chineseness’ and the ‘China’ of the history of the Chinese in Australasia be restored. (*The Overseas Chinese in Australasia: History, Settlement and Interactions* (2001), p. 7)

Henry’s sudden death has removed him from these developments; his example however will continue to inspire those that take up where he left off.

Duncan Campbell
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3. Fieldwork reports from the recipients of the 2008 ASIA:NZ–NZASIA Research Awards and the Malay Studies Scholarships

3.1 Rakhee Chatbar

Rakhee is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Geography at the University of Otago. Her thesis examines the use of information and communication technologies for development in India, with a specific focus on Mission 2007, a nation-wide initiative aimed at bridging the digital divide between urban and rural India.



My research involves a study of attempts to bridge the digital divide by providing access to information through new technologies, generally referred to as Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Specifically, my thesis will examine one such project being implemented by an NGO, the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), which has set up ‘Village Knowledge Centres’ in villages across a number states in India. The role of these centres is to provide access to information to the rural population, “to empower vulnerable people in order to make better choices and achieve better control of their own development and to build skills and capacities of the rural poor with a view to enhancing livelihood opportunities” (www.mssrf.org). In my study I wish to assess the effectiveness of this project, looking at patterns of usage and changes in the quality of

life in the community. In my fieldwork I used qualitative research methods, such as a semi-structured questionnaire and interviews, on-site study of such initiatives in tandem with observation, and interaction with members of the community in which the information kiosks are situated as well as with representatives of the Foundation. The research was carried out at the centres set up by MSSRF in the state of Tamil Nadu and the union territory of Pondicherry.

On my arrival in Chennai in December 2007 I contacted the MSSRF office was guided to get in touch with the director of the Informatics Division. This division oversees the operations of the Knowledge Centres. Following this, I discussed the plans for my fieldwork with the director and he provided me with the names of the people in charge of areas of interest to my research. Then I started scheduling interviews with the representatives of the Foundation and consultations with the concerned people regarding the visits to the villages. Based on the research questions and consultations with the NGO's representatives, I visited villages in Pondicherry and in 3 districts in Tamil Nadu, namely Nagapattinam, Thanjavur and Pudukottai. The selected villages can be divided into three groups based on the source of livelihood - agriculture, fishing and mixed. The Village Knowledge Centres (VKCs) in a district are all linked to the Village Resource Centre (VRC), which is like the central node. The co-ordinator of the VRC manages and oversees the operation of all the VKCs attached to the VRC. Each VKC is managed by either one or two Knowledge Workers (KW), volunteers from the village. The VRC is also the first point of contact for the KWs.

I visited 15 villages in the state of Tamil Nadu and the union territory of Pondicherry. I spent a few days in most of the villages. The trip facilitated gathering data and meeting people who have contributed to the establishment of the Knowledge Centres. In each of the village I approached the Knowledge Centres and interviewed the KWs as well as the beneficiaries. Following this I went around the village to gather contextual information and spoke to other community members to incorporate a wider cross-section of the community in the research.

Some of the highlights of the trip: I had to commute long distances to reach some of the villages, not always on account of their distance from the towns I had stayed in, but due to poor access to public transport. For instance, I had to travel nearly 60 kms to reach the village of Agalankan, which is just 15 kms from the town of Nagapattinam, due to poor public transport facilities. In order to reach Agalankan I had to traverse through the Union Territory of Pondicherry, which affected the affordability of private transport to the extent that it was not financially viable. The conditions of the road made some trips really bumpy. Though I was in good health overall, the bumpy rides took their toll on my back and I had to simply rest for a few days.

Preliminary analysis of the data collected indicates that the majority of the beneficiaries are young people living in the vicinity of the Centre. The most used resources are daily newspapers and the Microsoft Unlimited Potential Programme, a course that trains people in learning to use the Microsoft platform. The Centres located in the community where the major source of livelihood is agriculture are being used by more adults than those in the fishing community. A detailed analysis will help to explicate the causal relationships of this phenomenon. The key boundary partner in most of the villages in this study is the elected *gram panchayat*. *Gram panchayat* is a decentralised form of governance of certain aspects of village administration by a body elected by the villagers. The institutions of *gram panchayat* play a very important role

in determining the accessibility of the Centres.

The trip offered a rare experience of allowing me to participate in the opening ceremony of a Knowledge Centre in the village of Attani. This was an important event in the village that went for nearly three hours with many important people of the village and the local media in attendance. This proved to be an opportunity for first hand observation of the importance and workings of a panchayat in a rural setting. I also witnessed the closing down of a Centre in Kovalam, which provided me with insights into the workings of the organisation in the wake of failures.

Presently, I am in the process of transcribing the data I collected and the information has served of crucial importance to how the PhD dissertation will be framed. More significantly, the data gathered provides the very material for constructing a detailed exploration of the operation of an NGO working under the auspices of a development agenda and its impact on the selected rural areas in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. I could not have understood the concerns, aims, values, and initiatives of the local communities if it were not for the Asia:NZ - NZASIA Research Award.

3.2 Huyen Thi Thanh Do

Huyen was working towards a Masters of Arts in Development Studies at the University of Auckland. Her research explored the challenges involved in ensuring 'water for all' in Vietnam.

My fieldwork was conducted in Hanoi and the Central Highland province of Dak Lak for two months from March 18 to May 17, 2007. The aim of my fieldwork was to collect qualitative data for my research into the juncture and/or disjuncture between mainstream and everyday water governance in Vietnam.

When in the field, I had formal and informal interviews with 30 informants, who I preferred calling 'experts', from different levels of water governance. Some were from international development agencies assisting Vietnam in reforming its water sector. Some came from the government agency being mandated with water resources management and its line agencies at sub-national levels of the Central Highland province of Dak Lak. Some were from two poor irrigated communities in the Lak District of Dak Lak. I also gained permission to partake in two water governance-related workshops where I was able to extend my informant network and to gain fruitful insights into a range of issues in relation to water governance at various levels. I also had conversations with experts from related fields such as rural sociology and cultural studies to understand better the contextual settings that may affect market-based water governance in my home country.

Through these 'expert talks,' I could see the human facets of my informants' concerns about their subsistence, livelihoods, and political, economic and social status. All of these human concerns pose insurmountable obstacles to any alternative orthodox mode of water



governance being introduced into local people's life through various instruments of deployment. The saying "the King's law stops at the village gate" still has its fullest meaning in the modern polycentric context of Vietnam. In other words, the 'expert talks' provided a more vivid picture of the complexity and particularity of everyday knowledge and practice of water governance over time and space.

The timing for my fieldwork was chosen carefully because I was aware that if I headed to Vietnam earlier or later, I would not have received that much help. The Vietnamese have a saying that "*tháng Giêng là tháng ăn chơi*" (January in the Lunar calendar is the month for feasts & festivals). So the month after *Tết* (Lunar New Year, normally happening in February) holidays in Vietnam is normally not a time for serious work for many organisations. June, on the other hand, is a month made busy by periodical half-year reporting. Seasonally, for the subject of my study, the time was also a good one to be in Dak Lak as April is the last month of the 6-month dry season in the Central Highland province and water problems are more serious then because of the high incidence of droughts during this time. (There was no rain at all during the two weeks that I was in the field). At the other extreme, the frequent floods in the province during rainy season from May to November would have restricted my access to communes.

Prior to undertaking my field research, I was advised to avoid exposing myself to too much to unfamiliarity. While respecting this advice I chose to challenge myself by opting to work in an unfamiliar context. Instead of implementing my Plan A in which I would have interviewed with Hanoi-based informants, I went instead with my Plan B—which was to go down to the lowest level of water governance in order to better understand my subject matter. Knowing some key informants beforehand made things easier for me in Hanoi as well as in Dak Lak. I got some resource persons who helped touch base for me in the fieldwork. One 'gatekeeper' at the Hanoi-based water management agency helped me substantially in establishing contacts at national and sub-national levels either through his "*giấy giới thiệu*" (literally meaning 'introduction letters', or 'to whom it may concern' letters) or direct/indirect verbatim introduction. Similarly, in Dak Lak, I had my former colleague touch base for me before and during my field visit. Within settings I was familiar with in Hanoi, I was able to talk with my informants in a relaxed environment. Sometimes, diplomatic talks were initiated to ease the way through sensitive issues and to address or bypass uncooperative persons but by the end of the day my daily task was fulfilled.

The sense of unfamiliarity, which I expected to encounter before beginning my fieldwork, came from my first-ever visit to Dak Lak, one of the most politically sensitive localities in Vietnam. Family and friends questioned me why I had to go that far (about 45 minutes by plane from Hanoi towards the south central part of Vietnam) to conduct my fieldwork and why I had not chosen my home province so as to make things easier and less complicated. I decided to set out to avoid biases in my findings by experiencing a new context, and avoiding the experienced bureaucracy in my infamous 'all-by-itself' province. More importantly, Dak Lak was selected because of its tremendous water problems following the coffee land's pursuit of the national call for industrialisation, modernisation and world market integration to combat poverty being one of the poorest provinces in Vietnam. Through one ex-colleague, I was able to meet with a number of resourceful informants involved in water governance in Buon Ma Thuot and villages selected for my field study.

I was aware that a lack of familiarity with the region would place my security at risk, especially when travelling alone to research destinations. Some tips were provided for

me before I went into the field. Strategies to be applied to protect myself were provided by family members and friends. One friend advised me to wear a fake wedding ring to avoid unwanted attentions a single woman might attract and I was advised to avoid alcohol in all forms. I was also advised to stay with people I knew and to avoid being alone in deserted places. Dressing down, driving carefully and always having a cell phone were other valuable pieces of advice I kept in mind throughout my time there. Nonetheless, the generous help, enthusiasm and guidance of the decent people I met turned my two weeks in Dak Lak (from April 2-17, 2007) into an unforgettable chapter of my life. The unfamiliar became familiar to me and I quickly warmed to the people I met, the places I visited and the families that hosted me. Dak Lak has now become one of a few places I want to return to.

I would have obtained a fuller picture of local knowledge of water governance and local perspectives of potential water markets if I had more time living with water users on the ground. However, water governance-related life-stories shared by interviewed irrigated farmers and their village heads were invaluable inputs and good proxies for me to address my research questions. The fieldwork indeed opened up my eyes in that it provided me with substantial understandings of local knowledge and situations that have been largely ignored and/or simplified in water-related policymaking. I better grasped how and why water markets may or may not function well in the case of Vietnam. The research will have significant implications for the water sector there. I will always be grateful to the Asia-New Zealand Foundation and the New Zealand Asian Studies Society for generously funding my field research.

3.3 Sally Liangni Liu

Sally Liangni Liu is a doctoral candidate in the School of Asian Studies at the University of Auckland. Liangni's research focuses on the transnationalism of New Zealand's new Chinese immigrants, both as individuals and as members of a family unit. She aims to develop a new paradigm to replace the traditional immigration-settlement model used for understanding the Chinese diaspora.

In my PhD I am investigating what drives new Chinese immigrants from People's Republic of China (PRC) to return to China and their plans for the future. I conducted my fieldwork in China between November 2007 and February 2008. The traditional view sees immigration in terms of 'permanent settlement', whereas in my research I posit that the new Chinese immigrants are transnationals whose movements are associated with the forces of globalization, and with the economic and political transformations in both New Zealand and their country of origin, and beyond. During my 3-month stay in China, I went to two "mega cities" (Shanghai and Beijing) to do interviews and collect qualitative data. These two cities are the places that most new Chinese immigrants choose to return to because of their booming economies and



better work opportunities. I also carried out the interviews in an in-land city of China (Chengdu), where I am originally from and have a lot of personal networks.

Through networks mainly built up by the New Zealand Consulate-General in Shanghai and Auckland University alumni in Beijing, I approached a number of potential interview participants prior to my arrival in China. Some participants were contacted through informal networks, such as my colleagues in the School of Asian Studies and personal friends in New Zealand. Interviewed participants were more than happy to introduce me to their returnee friends. I also met some participants in the Kiwi Club of Shanghai, which is a club coordinated by the New Zealand Consulate-General and has a gathering every month. In total, I carried out 27 in-depth face-to-face interviews with returnee Chinese.

The interviews were designed to investigate four sections of the returnee's life: 1) personal background (gender, age, place of birth), citizenship, years in New Zealand, the date of becoming a permanent resident, migration category, geographic movement prior and subsequent to migration to New Zealand, education history, work history, English proficiency, family composition, and movement patterns of family members; 2) migration movements, decision making processes and experiences, including reasons for initial immigration to New Zealand and further movements, and the opportunities and challenges faced; 3) sense of belonging and identity, including the pattern of family contacts and interactions, social networks and the sense of home; 4) future plans.

My days were full of formal and informal activities during my stay in China. During the daytime, I usually carried out 2 or 3 interviews. Some interviews were conducted in the subject's office, some in their homes, and some were conducted in a handy cafe or teahouse. The day was often followed by dinner parties with some of my participants. Some of them even invited me to have dinner or have a drink with their colleagues and friends. These activities provided me additional opportunities to understand my participants' current lives. Through these interactions, I saw the dynamics between my participants and their friends in China, which allowed me to develop a richer understanding of their lives after returning to China, both professionally and personally. The day ended with me updating my fieldwork journal and tidying up the interview records and notes.

My fieldwork also consisted of a series of social events. I met Wen Chin Powles, the New Zealand Consul General in Shanghai, and Paul Rothville, Deputy Consul General in Shanghai. I also went to Kiwi Club Shanghai to attend the monthly gathering of New Zealanders who currently stay in China. Bobbi, a young architect and part-time gift shop owner from New Zealand, invited me to attend the 'happy hour', which she initiated to provide casual social occasions for overseas young people to meet each other. In Beijing, the meeting of alumni of Auckland University was held in advance because of my arrival. Many people I met in these social occasions showed interest in my research and gave me a lot of useful suggestions.

The preliminary results drawing from my field interviews suggest that the forces determining the movement of the new Chinese immigrants are multi-layered. Those returnees have employed strategies of trans-nationalism in order to preserve and enhance both their economic and social capital. The main reason for them to return to China seems to be economic, but family responsibilities (such as taking care of the

elders and reuniting with their spouses) and the desire for a more familiar social and cultural environment were also contributing factors. The geographic separation of some immigrant family members seems to be determined by the particular needs at different stages in their lives. For instance, a husband might return to China to generate income to support the family members who stayed in New Zealand. But the relatively peaceful society and attractive natural environment of New Zealand would determine their eventual return. In terms of the sense of belonging, the results suggest that the transnational movements of those new Chinese immigrants challenged their sense of being Chinese, and forced them to reconstitute their ideas of 'home'. I shall argue in my thesis that, for those new Chinese immigrants, home is no longer place-bound, if ever it was. Rather than immigration disrupting the relationship between self-identity and 'home', it can instead allow for a renegotiation.

My time spent in China was a very worthwhile, both in terms of data collection and gaining inspiration towards my overall doctoral research project. This trip would not have been possible if it was not for the support of the Asia:NZ - NZASIA Research Award. I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to the financial support Asia:NZ - NZASIA provided me!

3.4 James To

James To is a PhD student in the Political Science department at the University of Canterbury. He is studying China and Taiwan's relationship towards the Overseas Chinese (OC), particularly developments over the last decade.

The aim of my doctoral thesis is to examine and analyse the relationship between OC and China and Taiwan. It is closely linked to the foreign policy of both Beijing and Taipei - consequently, the relationship has changed according to the geo-political environment of the time, particularly with the re-emergence of China and the increasingly independent direction of Taiwan. The fieldwork (partly funded by the Asia:NZ NZASIA Research Award)



enabled me to research OC issues in the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Fiji and China. The research consisted of examining primary source material such as official policy, visiting sites affected by ethnic tensions and understanding the views of diplomats, locals and OC through interviews and private communication.

My trip began in late August 2007. The first stop was Nadi, Fiji, where I visited OC businessmen. They were helpful in providing local knowledge and additional contacts throughout Fiji and the Pacific. Their links with China are based mainly along commercial interests, which the PRC embassy has been increasingly active in promoting. As a reasonably tight-knit community, it was easy to quickly assemble a good pool of interviews with other business and community leaders. I visited the University of South

Pacific campus in Lautoka where I found interesting books on the history of Chinese in the Pacific and Fiji.

My next stop was Tonga. As Nuku'alofa is a reasonably small town (and aided by my fluency in Cantonese and Mandarin) I had met with leading OC leaders (such as the president and vice-president of the Tongan Chinese Federation, business people, and store owners who were directly affected by the rioting) within several hours of arriving in the capital without prior appointment. As for other sources, I had previously made arrangements to visit local Tongan representatives (government and business leaders, a leading journalist and an academic) and the NZ High Commissioner, Mr Michael McBryde through the advice of Dr Malakai Kolomatangi, a Tongan academic based at the University of Canterbury. Each provided their insight and opinions of November 16 2006. While in Nuku'alofa, I also made arrangements to meet with PRC diplomats who provided me with their version of events.

Over the course of a week, I met with more OC and locals and gradually built up a solid perspective of what occurred. I also made friends with several store owners, one of whom welcomed me into her shop. This allowed me a chance to stand behind the counter and even serve customers. I could understand what it was like to be an ethnic Chinese in Tonga firsthand. I experienced the way a Chinese was treated (sometimes friendly and polite, sometimes much less so) and the local ways and customs of doing business (money and change was often scrunched up and thrown between customers and shop assistants). What surprised me were the buying habits of locals, which would be similar throughout the Pacific. Cigarettes were sold by the stick, sugary snacks and drinks were equally popular. People seemed to spend whatever small change they had as quickly as they came up with it, often coming back several times over an hour to buy candy or gum.

There was no issue of difficulty with communication. Most people spoke English and Tongan, including the store owners. What brought on the animosity between Tongan and Chinese (and I would the same find in the Solomon Islands) was an entrenched cultural misunderstanding due to different sets of values and way of doing business. It was these issues that were mis-used by a minority to encourage jealousy and a pent-up feeling of frustration as a political platform for violence.

There were few hindrances during my time in Tonga. Accommodation and western-style food, however was relatively expensive. People were friendly and it was easy to get around by foot, or by taxi. Things progressed at a slower pace, but this made scheduling easier. The only inconvenience was that everything closed down on Sunday for church. However, I used this opportunity to take a local tour and visit famous sites around the main island.

My next stop was Suva. Suva is considered even by locals to be a little dangerous. While I did not personally encounter any problems with safety, I was advised by hotel staff to take a taxi rather than walk during the evenings. As I was only in Suva for two days, my schedule was very busy. I had made arrangements to meet with local businessmen, community leaders, a PRC diplomat and an OC academic. In a way, having such a tight schedule made me feel more productive despite the rush from one visit to another. I went to the Suva campus of the University of the South Pacific, where I met with the head librarian Mrs Joan Sin-Yee, who was very knowledgeable about OC in the Pacific and added me to her network of those interested in such issues.

Another significant person to visit was Mr Bill Yee, who had extensive knowledge of OC history in Fiji. My most important stop was the trip to the Yat Sen School, and is unique in that it has both Taiwanese and Chinese support. I met with some of the administration and trustees of the school.

My next stop was Honiara in the Solomon Islands. I had made prior arrangements through ROC diplomat Mr Ken Lai, and the embassy was extremely hospitable to me. I was able to meet with all the embassy staff and the ambassador Mr George Chan who I spoke with several times over the week. I was also invited to a special dinner to welcome a trade delegation from Taiwan, and meet with leading Solomon government officials who also attended. They also helped with setting up a lunch meeting with a local journalist. I was also given a tour of the Taiwanese agricultural assistance mission where I saw firsthand how some of the aid is being spent to help at the grass roots level. It was also was a good opportunity to see the Taiwanese perspective and their foreign policy position which is often overlooked or misinterpreted.

For the other side of the picture, I was fortunate to have several contacts amongst the local OC community, both old and new migrants. Sir Henry Quan has been in the Solomons for three generations. His son Matthew now continues the family business. I was fortunate to meet with Mr Shilling Wong and other local Chinese Association members who gave me the perspective of long-time OC. I also met with newer migrants. Each had their story to tell. Safety in Honiara did not appear to be a problem. People were friendly and welcoming. The only difficulty for me was the heat and humidity, which took a couple of days to adjust to. I got around mainly on foot, and took a taxi, minivan occasionally. In all, my Pacific fieldtrip was a success. I accumulated a balanced perspective of the events of April and November 2006, and managed to build a large network of new friends and contacts for future exchanges.

In November 2007, I went to China to look at the PRC position on OC affairs. I spent two weeks in Beijing during late autumn. Despite the smog (I enjoyed three blue sky days during my time there) and traffic, I had few problems. As I have lived in Beijing before, I could get around and operate with little hindrance. It is easy to get sick in China because of the air and water, but I quickly recovered with some medicine I had brought over in anticipation of illness.

In the first week, I quickly met up with familiar faces, including my thesis supervisor Dr Anne-Marie Brady, and making new contacts such as Duncan Campbell (Treasurer of NZASIA). I also met with academics from Tsinghua University, officials from the Returned OC Federation and the State Council for OC Affairs. It was important to meet such people, as they could provide the references required to find important materials.

The rest of my time was spent in the National Library (looking up historical policy and information) and a smaller research facility that also held a useful collection. I also visited a publishing house where I bought several books on OC history. There is a small learning curve when researching at Chinese libraries. Most collections are held in storage and need to be accessed through a computer system. With some help, I quickly mastered how to use this. Fortunately, I was also able to browse shelves, which helped with amassing material.

The second part of my China trip was spent in Guangzhou. Apart from research, I was a participant in an international OC conference celebrating 15 years of Guangdong OC

Affairs, bringing together hundreds of delegates to share and report on OC affairs in their part of the world. It was an excellent opportunity to meet with OC from all walks of life, and to find out the current situation of OC and new policy developments. To my delight, I met with Dr Yang Jian of Auckland University (who happens to be writing a paper on Chinese foreign policy in the Pacific). I also met with Guangdong OC Affairs Office officials who were helpful in referring me to staff at the Jinan University OC research facility. I was also able to visit the library and find additional resources for my thesis. I also presented some of my findings of OC in the Pacific at a seminar at Jinan University. Overall, my China fieldtrip was also very successful. I managed to find the material I wanted, and added many new contacts.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Asia:NZ Foundation and the New Zealand Asian Studies Society for assistance in funding my research. The Research Award not only made the fieldwork possible, but also introduced me to very helpful members of the Society. I hope my findings add value to the current pool of academic literature and I can share this with the networks that I have been associated with. This in turn will also assist other researchers in New Zealand and China to work more closely together through future exchanges.

3.5 Jason Young

Jason is undertaking a PhD project exploring the evolution of Chinese institutions in the Political Science and International Relations Programme at Victoria University of Wellington. His research focuses on how government institutions are adapting to the changing conditions arising from the large-scale internal migrations as a result of the growth of the market economy in China.

I am studying the dynamics of institutional change in China's household registration system (*hukou*). My research involves exploring the changes that have taken place in this institution over the period since 'reform and opening' began in 1978. I am interested in the dynamics of these changes and the relationship between this institution and the stunning, but geographically and socially uneven, economic growth that has facilitated and driven the movement of roughly 200 million *nongmingong* (rural migrant workers) to the industrial hub of China's 'golden coast'.

The Research Award allowed me to go directly to Beijing to conduct fieldwork and gather resources and data for this project. My fieldwork was conducted over two months from the end of December 2007 until February 2008. During this time I was based at China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing. Being based at the heart of political China and having direct access to scholars, migrants, and library and ministry resources allowed me to refine my studies and gather the



required data for my PhD. Moreover, as the classic Chinese saying goes, seeing it once is better than being told 100 times, and the chance to observe the contemporary migratory changes China is experiencing was invaluable for my work.

My fieldwork consisted of three parts. The first involved attempting to interview Ministry of Public Security officials, relevant academics and *nongmingong*. Secondly, I wanted to gather together all the Chinese texts, academic articles and newspaper articles not available, or not yet available, to scholars outside of China. Finally, I wanted to observe the contemporary makeup of the Beijing population and get a feel for the dynamics of Beijing's 'tidal wave' of urbanisation.

Through China University of Political Science and Law I was able to meet with academics and discuss the *hukou* institution as well as the economic and migratory changes occurring in Beijing and China. This broadened my understanding of the issues I am researching and allowed me to critique the secondary sources I had already incorporated into my studies. I found that the Chinese scholarship on these issues was both richer and more focussed on social stability and steady economic growth than English sources but that these scholars also viewed the *hukou* institution as a necessary part of China's institutional framework where in English language scholarship it is often critiqued as an abnormality. Discussions with migrants provided me with a glimpse of the drivers of contemporary rural-urban migration, insight into the aspirations of Chinese internal migrants as well as an understanding of the importance of *hukou* status to social and economic opportunity within Beijing. My attempt to gain formal (and recorded) interviews with Chinese Public Security Bureau officials and 'hukou police' in the end was not fruitful and so these informal interviews with migrants, academics and students became invaluable for my understanding of the issue of *hukou* reform in China.

The second goal of my fieldwork in Beijing was to gather a chronology of Chinese language sources of the dynamic changes in the *hukou* institution as well as analysis of the reasons and drivers for these changes. I was pleased to find that there is a wealth of literature on my topic of research and that contemporary Chinese political science scholars have worked hard to analyze these. These sources and data from the China Statistical Bureau provided me with the necessary tools to analyse the post-'reform and opening' period of *hukou* reform as well as an understanding of the latest academic research on this issue.

The final goal of my fieldwork was to gauge the impact of contemporary economic and migratory changes on the pressure to reform China's ancient and sturdy *hukou* institution. Being based at China University of Political Science and Law allowed me to frequent Zhongguan Village nearby, an area with a flourishing migrant community and a hub of construction and development. Through exploration of this and other migrant communities I managed to see the conditions in which migrants live and find out many of their main concerns. Of particular interest to my studies was the reaction I got when asking about the utility of temporary and permanent *hukou* status. My time in China also gave me an understanding of the economic stratification of Chinese society and the pressure on government officials to both manage the movement of labour migrants whilst maintaining social stability and control in major metropolitan areas.

Overall, my time doing fieldwork in China contributed greatly to the resources, data and conceptual understanding of my research endeavour. This time gave me access to up to date scholarship on the issue as well as primary sources (laws, policy, and regulations) and informal interviews. Without this time in Beijing I feel I would have missed the significance of the contemporary migratory and developmental changes on the pressure for government to reform the *hukou* institution. I would like to extend my

thanks to the Asia-New Zealand Foundation and the New Zealand Asian Studies Society for their support and guidance in this endeavour.

3.6 Suriani Abdul Hamid

Suriani is undertaking a PhD in marketing at Lincoln University. In her thesis she is examining and comparing how adolescents in New Zealand and Malaysia develop knowledge about over-the-counter medicines, and how the socialisation process influences their attitudes and behaviour towards the use of such medicines.



My PhD research is a study of cross cultural adolescence consumer socialisation of over-the-counter medicines. Since this study focuses on adolescents, and taking into consideration the ethical aspects of research involving individuals in this age group, the best means of approaching this segment of the population is through schools. I spent two months in Malaysia conducting fieldwork, which had two parts. The first part, which was the main objective, involved administering my questionnaires in high schools in Johor Bahru, Johor; while the second part involved library research at three public university libraries in Malaysia.

To expedite my fieldwork, when I was still in New Zealand, I sent an application for data collection at high schools to the Economic Planning Unit (EPU), which is a unit in the Prime Minister Department. Approval was granted prior to my trip to Malaysia. The first week in Malaysia was used to do administration work related to my fieldwork. I met the person in charge at EPU to get my research pass (without this pass I could not gain access to schools even though I had approval). From Kuala Lumpur, I then travelled to Johor where data collection would be administered. There, I had a meeting with two high school teachers to verify the translation from the English version to the Bahasa Malaysia version (the official language in Malaysia) and to check the readability of my questionnaire. High school teachers were engaged to check the translation instead of a registered translator to ensure the questionnaire could be understood by students. Furthermore, the two high school teachers that I engaged in the verification had more than 10 years experience in teaching language; one is a graduate in Malay language and another a graduate in TESL. After amendments were made to the questionnaire, I photocopied the questionnaires and my fieldwork at high schools started in week two.

With the research pass issued by EPU, I did not have any problems in getting access to the schools. I approached four schools and all four agreed to participate in the study. The only problem was the time that I could administer the questionnaires. As I needed approximately 100 students to participate in each school, this meant at least three classes would be involved. For each school, there was one person appointed to assist me. To ensure that the teaching and learning process was not interrupted, I could only administer the questionnaires when the teacher had a meeting or was away from school for workshops or attending courses. Due to that, I had to go a few times to each school depending on their convenience. The person-in-charge in each school would set the

time and date. However, there were also times where I went to the school at the date and time set by the school but could not administer the questionnaire because of their busy schedule. Overall, I received good assistance from the school principals, counsellors and teachers. Data collection in high schools last for five weeks. In total, there were 421 respondents involved in the study from the four schools.

After completing my fieldwork in Johor Bahru, I travelled back to Kuala Lumpur to conduct my library search. For my library search, I went to the libraries at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia in Bangi, Selangor; Universiti Malaya in Kuala Lumpur; and Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang. Both Kuala Lumpur and Selangor are located in the central part of Peninsular Malaysia, while Penang is in the northern part of the country. In total I took two weeks to travel to the three libraries and conduct my research. The purpose of this research was to obtain better information about non-prescription medicine, issues related to such medicines, statistics on usage, and relating to the laws and regulations in Malaysia. I also obtained reports and articles relating to adolescent use of such drugs. I received good assistance from the librarians and did not have any problems gaining access to the libraries, despite libraries in Malaysian universities not being as accessible to the public as libraries in New Zealand.

Two days before I left Malaysia, I returned my research pass and brief report of my fieldwork to EPU. I am grateful that my fieldwork went on smoothly in Malaysia with the financial support from Malay Studies Post-Graduate Research Award granted by Asia:NZ Foundation and the New Zealand Asian Studies Society.

3.7 Ruth Mei Yun Lum

Ruth was an MSc student in the School of Psychology at the Victoria University of Wellington. Her thesis explored the well-being of single-ethnic and dual-ethnic children and adolescents in Malaysia.

For my Masters, I was interested to know whether there were differences between single (both parents are from the same ethnicity) and dual ethnic (parents are from different ethnicities) children and adolescents in regards to their level of ethnic identification and how this ethnic identification affects areas of well being like self-esteem, national identity, life satisfaction, school satisfaction and mastery. I was also interested to know whether one's ethnic identity had an effect on perceived discrimination, attitudes towards other groups, anti-social behaviour and bullying. Malaysia is a multicultural and multi-ethnic country and because there are so many ethnicities in Malaysia, my study chose to focus and compare between single and dual ethnic children and adolescents whose parents were from the 3 main races in Malaysia (Malay, Chinese and Indian).



For my fieldwork, I spent 2 ½ months in Malaysia conducting a survey with students from 10 primary and 8 secondary schools in the Wilayah Persekutuan and Petaling Jaya states in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Upon reaching Malaysia, I lodged an application to

conduct my research at the Economic Planning Unit in Putrajaya, Malaysia. The application process was done electronically and within a month I received approval to conduct my research. Most children in schools in Kuala Lumpur have a good or at least a moderate understanding of English but to make sure the questionnaire did not disadvantage students who were not fluent in English it was translated into Malay. While awaiting for the approval, I was able to get couple of students to look at the questionnaire that I was using, which I had translated into Malay to give me feedback on words or Malay grammar that were not right or hard to understand. During this time I was able to polish up my questionnaire.

Once my research was approved, I was asked to collect a researcher's pass which would allow me access into schools and it would also serve as a form of identification and proof that I had governmental approval. The trip to Putrajaya to collect my research pass was an adventure on its own. Putrajaya is an area in Kuala Lumpur that has been specially developed and designed to become the new federal administrative centre of Malaysia and therefore all official dealings with the government are held there. Besides the governmental offices, Putrajaya is home to the Prime Minister of Malaysia and it had big beautiful man made lakes as well as a wetlands reserve. It was quite a remarkable sight to see herons perched so close to a city. However, the road signs in Putrajaya can be slightly ambiguous and thus led to some frantic moments trying to find the Economic Planning Unit office in Putrajaya.

After I had received my researcher's pass, I then approached the heads of schools that I wanted to survey and informed them about the research I wanted to conduct. Initially, heads of schools were quite cautious in allowing their schools to be used but once they saw the official letter from the government they were very helpful. I approached a mixture of public and private schools but, even with approved governmental permission, private schools declined to be involved in the research. Once I received permission from the heads of schools, I was assigned a teacher to help me find participants that fit my participant criterion. My initial plan was to get a list of potential participants and then use a process of random selection to identify those to give the questionnaire to. However, all of the schools were reluctant to allow me to view student information and so I had to find a compromise and allow their teachers to find suitable participants for me.

Participants were to be a mixture of single and dual ethnic students, males and females and preferably in equal numbers for ethnicity and gender. Participants were also to be selected from various social economic statuses. Once participants were selected, they were given an information sheet and parental consent form. A week after, I returned to the school to conduct the survey with them. It was an enjoyable but highly stressful 1 ½ months of data collection. At each school, I was given an allocated room to conduct the survey in. Most rooms were equipped with tables and chairs and some even had air-conditioning. However, at some of the primary schools, the room allotted had no tables and chairs so students had to sit on the floor to do the survey. After the students were done with the survey, they were given a gift of appreciation for their time and effort. Their gift of appreciation consisted of items they could use for school worth RM 5. Students in the primary schools received a set of coloured pencils, mechanical pencils and an eraser and the students in the secondary schools received a set of files, pens and mechanical pencils. I was able to survey 300 students for my research which was more than the originally planned number of 180 students.

It was a great experience dealing with children and adolescents of varying ages and to be able to relate to them on a level that they understood was challenging yet rewarding. After this experience, I am truly more appreciative of teachers in schools. One of my data collection days had me with a class of twenty 10 year olds and while the students were doing the survey two of the boys decided to have an argument which resulted in one of the boys crying and getting upset. So I had to mediate the situation and explain to the boys why the other was upset and get them to say sorry to the other while trying to keep the other students in that class focused on finishing the survey and trying to answer all the questions they had. I also had an experience with a primary school student who had a very poor level of understanding of Malay and I had to go through each question in the questionnaire with her so she could understand it and answer it.

Speaking in Malay was yet another interesting and funny experience for me. I have a good understanding of Malay but am not fluent in it and once while explaining the instructions to a group of secondary school students my brain decided to forget one of the simplest words - star. I ended up having to ask them the Malay word for it which brought about laughter from me and them because I had forgotten such an easy word.

One difficulty that I had while carrying out my fieldwork was to do with the recruitment of dual ethnic participants. Although there are increasing numbers of children from mixed marriages in Malaysia, it was harder to get equal numbers of participants from dual ethnic backgrounds as compared to single ethnic backgrounds. In most secondary schools, there were very limited numbers of dual ethnic students aged 16 years old. I had the least number of dual ethnic participants for that age group. In one primary school, the parents of dual ethnic students were not willing to allow their children to be a part of the survey. This is an interesting occurrence that, in the future, I would like to investigate more as to what opinions and reservations parents that are in a mixed marriage have, especially towards their children being involved in studies regarding ethnicity. Also, another point to note, the majority of dual ethnic children came from affluent families even though schools in the lower decile level were targeted to get a good representative sample. This would be another interesting phenomenon to study; whether certain factors increase a person's likelihood of engaging in a mixed marriage.

My fieldwork was crucial for the completion of my Masters and has provided me with insight about the attitudes towards conducting research in Malaysia and how Malaysia is still an untapped resource especially with its capabilities to add to research especially in the area of cross-cultural psychology and ethnic identity research.

4. Regional Updates

4.1 AUT

2008 research projects

Nancy McIntyre, School Manager in the School of Hospitality and Tourism graduated with a Master of Philosophy with First Class Honours. Her research examined acculturation and workplace interpersonal conflict experiences of migrant Chinese in

New Zealand. Interviewing 25 migrant Chinese found that assertiveness has to be learned since it runs counter to their educational, cultural tradition, and familial upbringing. The principles of Confucianism are deeply rooted, such as respect for authority and an emphasis on 'giving-face' to others and preserving social harmony. From her study findings, there is empirical evidence that Confucian principles are deeply entrenched in the ethnic minority migrant Chinese' psyche irrespective of which country of origin they come from.

Asia-related activities and events

Asian Movie Nights

To promote cultural awareness and good-will within AUT University, AUT Chinese Centre in association with the learning centre Te Tari Awhina organised four free movies including two Chinese, one Indonesian and one Taiwanese movie in 2008 for AUT staff, students and the general public. Seven Asian movie nights will be organised in 2009.

On May 27th 2008 The Centre for Asian and Migrant Health Research hosted a key stakeholder consultation forum on to discuss a possible integrated service delivery model for refugee and immigrant health professionals seeking New Zealand registration. The forum involved dialogue between agencies such as the Medical Council, Tertiary Education Commission, Ministry of Health, Department of Labour, District Health Boards, Non Governmental Organisations such as the Auckland Regional Migrant Services Trust, and Professor Leslyanne Hawthorne, from the University of Melbourne. A European perspective was provided by video link by Ceri Butler from the Department of Primary Care and Population Science, University College London, a key proponent of multi-stakeholder approaches.

This was followed up with a workshop at the Human Rights Commission's Diversity Forum involving District Health Board (DHB), educator and research perspectives in August. The first half of the workshop focused on initiatives from the three Auckland DHB's to capitalise on overseas registered health professionals and featured educator and researcher perspectives. The second half involved discussion groups to make recommendations to advance the agenda of capitalising on a diverse health workforce.

Dr Wanzhen Gao, Ruth DeSouza, Professor Janis Paterson and Lucy Lu recently completed a project about cervical cancer screening in Mainland Chinese women living in Auckland. An article and letter have been published in the New Zealand Medical Journal which found the uptake of cervical cancer screening is lower among women migrants from Mainland China living in New Zealand than that of the national New Zealand average. In addition, it is lower than that of Chinese women living in North America. The study highlights the information needs of new immigrants and older or younger women.

On 1st October AUT University hosted a one day India Business Forum at the Hyatt Hotel in Auckland. Over 220 people attended this one day event aimed at broadening and highlighting New Zealand's relationship with India and the business opportunities this offers New Zealanders, especially in business. Guest speakers from India and New Zealand presented a range of angles on the New Zealand India relationship, with Trade Minister Phil Goff providing an update from a government perspective, and indicating an optimistic note on the possibility of a Free Trade Agreement being eventually

negotiated between New Zealand and India. The India Business Forum is the third in a series offered by AUT to the New Zealand Business community, two earlier ones being; the China Business Forum in 2006 and the Trans Tasman Business Forum in 2007.

Future events

AUT University and the Refugee Council of New Zealand are planning a conference from 9th-11th July 2009. The Conference theme “Looking Back and Moving Forward Together” reflects the 21 years since the first refugee resettlement conference held in 1988. The 2009 Conference aims to celebrate achievements in refugee resettlement and discuss new developments in the field. It provides an opportunity for participants to discuss critical issues, identify research and policy gaps, compare international experiences and strengthen networks by sharing knowledge, skills and experience

Working in Cambodian

Barbara Remihana went to Cambodia for six weeks at the beginning of this year to teach Dental Surgery Assistance to Cambodian students at the International University in Phnom Penh. This is her report of the trip.

I taught over 30 students with an interpreter and a qualified dentist who had been accepted to study in Japan the following year. The students were very eager to learn and soaked up information like a sponge. Due to the language difficulties a lot of the lectures I taught were in picture form. There was a small clinic for their practical as their new teaching clinic was not in full use.

When I was not teaching I was helping set up and produce protocols for the new 30 chair dental teaching clinic. This was a bit of a challenge as the cross - infection and sterilization systems were quite antiquated and needed to be brought up to universal standards, taking the lack of resources into account. I have been asked to go back in 2009 which I would really like to do, it's nice to feel you've made a little difference.



Some Patients



My Students

Ruth DeSousa

4.2 Massey University

School of Language Studies

In July 2008 Professor Philip Williams stood down from his position as Head of School. He subsequently returned to the United States. Professor Paul Spoonley is currently serving as the acting Head of School.

The School has recently made two new appointments in Japanese. Mr. Toshiaki Yamauchi was appointed permanent part-time tutor in 2007. In his teaching, Toshi focuses on language acquisition, but he also has expertise in contemporary social issues.

Dr. Kazuki Takada was appointed in July 2008. Kazuki was awarded his Ph.D. from Edinburgh, U.K., in 2005. Prior to coming to Massey, he taught Japanese language and literature at Durham University, U.K., for three years. Kazuki's current research concerns intercultural influences on modern Japanese literature using perspectives from comparative literature.

In the Chinese section, Mr. Li Dong has published three Chinese-English dictionaries in the last four years, with a fourth appearing in print in 2009. The publisher is Tuttle Publishing.

Department of Applied and International Economics

Professor Srikanta Chatterjee addressed a seminar at the German Development Institute, Bonn, in May 2008. The title of his talk was "A Comparative Perspective on the Recent Economic Performance of China and India."

Also in May, he addressed a seminar at the Trinity College, Dublin. The talk was titled "Growing Affluence and Declining Nutrition: A Contemporary Indian Quandary".

In the same month, Srikanta attended the European Economics and Finance Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, in May. He presented a paper titled "A Quarter Century of Freer Trade: A closer Look at the Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Agreement".

School of People, Environment and Planning

Dr. Robyn Andrews has published an article in *Sites* titled 'Quitting India: The Anglo-Indian culture of migration', (2007) as well as pieces in an Anglo-Indian anthology. In July she attended a conference at St Catherine's College at Oxford and presented a paper titled "Saffron Christians? Anglo-Indian Practices of Christianity." The conference was titled "Encounters and Intersections: Religion, Diaspora and Ethnicities" and was held 9-11 July, 2008.

In December 2007 Robyn ran the Anglo-Indian researchers' conference. (For details see 2007 newsletter.)

Rosemary Haddon

4.3 University of Auckland

This year, School of Asian Studies has moved to a new address (Arts 2, 18 Symonds Street). We are now all on a single floor and more centrally located, with an easy access to the library etc. The School has hosted a visiting scholar, Professor Mabuchi, a sociologist from Kansai University for 2008. Manying Ip has been made Fellow of the New Zealand Academy of the Humanities. Wayne Lawrence has received an award for his study of Okinawan dialects. Wayne Lawrence and Lawrence Marceau have been on research leave in Okinawa and Hawaii respectively for the second semester. Young-Hee Lee, after an unfortunate traffic accident in 2007, is making a good progress and looking for returning to teaching next year.

Research and publications

Matt Allen has published 'Okinawans in Japan' In Michael Weiner (ed). *Japan's Minorities* (3rd edition) Routledge and reviewed Miyume Tanji, *Myth, Protest and Struggle in Okinawa* in *Social Science Japan*, 11,1, 172-4. He has also presented 'Reconstructing Orientalism in Western Film: Japanese Story, Last Samurai, Lost in Translation' at Victoria University of Wellington, School of Asian Studies, Invited Seminar Series.

Matt Allen and Rumi Sakamoto have received the Faculty Research Development fund for a project 'Culinary Globalization and New Zealand: the case of sushi in Auckland'. They have presented 'Remaking sushi in Auckland: Globalisation in everyday life' at School of Asian Studies seminar series (26th May 2008), and are currently writing an article 'Soft Power, Sushi, and Authenticity: Tokyo fusion'. Their translation of Yoshida Keisei, 'US Bases, Japan and the Reality of Okinawa as a Military Colony' appeared in *Japan Focus*. The paperback edition of Allen and Sakamoto, *Popular Culture, Globalisation and Japan* was published this year.

Chako Amano published two translation articles, 'Learning to Be: A Perspective of Education for Sustainable Development in Oceania' by Konai Thaman, p.50-69, and

'Learning from the Wisdom of Maori Culture: Similarities with the Rudolf Steiner Philosophy' by Heather Peri, p.110-116, in: Yoshiyuki Nagata, Atsuhiko Yoshida (ed.), *Sustainable Education and Culture: Deepening ESD in the Pacific Rim*, Osaka, Seseragi Shuppan.

Hilary Chung represented UOA at U21 Conference on Diaspora as part of the Annual Meetings of U21 held at University College Dublin, Dublin, May 2008.

Paul Clark has published *The Chinese Cultural Revolution: A History*, Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press; "Six Chapters of Old School Life" 老校六记, in Li Yansong, Xia Hongwei, eds, *Honglou fei xue: haiwai xiaoyou qingyi Beida (1927-2008)* (Red buildings, flying snow: foreign alumni recall Peking University), Beijing: Beijing daxue chubanshe, 2008, pp. 140-143; review of Yomi Braester, *Witness against History: Literature, Film and Public Discourse in Twentieth-century China*, Stanford University Press, 2003, in *China Review International*, 14, 2 (Fall 2007) [to appear in Fall 2008]. He has also written two forthcoming works: "The Triumph of Cinema: Chinese Film Culture from the 1960s to the 1980s," in Zhu Ying and Stanley Rosen, eds, *Chinese Cinema at 100: Art, Politics & Culture*, Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press; "Model Theatrical Works and the Remodeling of the Cultural Revolution," in Richard C. King, ed., *Art and Artists in the Cultural Revolution*, Vancouver: UBC Press.

He has presented; "The Triumph of Cinema: Chinese Film Culture from the 1960s to the 1980s," at the Chinese Cinema at 100: Art, Politics & Culture conference at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 25-26 April; "Finding Heroes: Film and the Rise of Chinese Youth Cultures, 1968-2008", Presented at the Locality, Translocality, and De-Locality: Cultural, Aesthetic, and Political Dynamics of Chinese-Language Cinema conference, Shanghai University, 12-13 July 2008 and "From *yundong* to YouTube: Researching Chinese Youth Cultures," sponsored by the Centre for Asian Studies and the Research Centre on Translation, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 3 April 2008.

He has designed the course and delivered the first lecture (24 September) in the new undergraduate elective course at Peking University on "New Zealand: History and Culture". Will return for three weeks in December to give three further lectures in the course, attended by fifty students, and served on the 2008 Humanities Panel for the Marsden Fund, Royal Society of New Zealand

Wayne Lawrence has published 'Yonaguni-hougen-no keitouteki-iti [the genealogical position of the Yonagunidialect], *Ryuukyuu-no hougen*, 32, 59-67; (with T. Takagaki) "Nihongo-kyoiku [Japanese language education]" in Aoyagi, Machiko (ed.), *Nyuuziirando-o-siru-tame-no 63 syou* [63 chapters for knowing New Zealand], Tokyo, Akashi-shobo, 284-287.

Lawrence Marceau has published a review of Peipei Qiu, *Bashô and the Dao: The Zhuangzi and the Transformation of Haikai*. In *Monumenta Nipponica* 63-1, Spring 2008: 190-93; and presented: "Aesop Adapts: Transforming the *Fables* in Early Modern Japan from Adult to Children's Fiction, 1593-1844" at the Eighth International Conference of the Australasian Children's Literature Association for Research (ACLAR), Victoria University of Wellington, 29 June, 2008; "Aesop's *Fables* and their Images in Early Modern Japan" at the international colloquium, Japanese Aesthetics: International Perspectives, hosted by the Art History and Theory Programme, University

of Canterbury, Christchurch, 2 August, 2008; "Viewing the Unseen in Early Modern Japan: Toriyama Sekien and His Illustrated Books of Creatures, 1776-84." He has also presented "Kimono: Art to Wear in Edo Japan." Invited by the Consulate-General of Japan, Auckland for "Japan's Edo Period: Culture from the Perspective of Kimono," Auckland Museum, 16 February, 2008 and "'It's a Hit!' Behind the Scenes in Edo Popular Publishing." Invited by the School of Languages and Cultures—Japanese Programme, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, 1 August, 2008.

Harumi Minagawa has published 'Quantifier position in Japanese and the domain of specificity and indefiniteness' in *Journal of Japanese Linguistics* 24, pp. 69-88.

Manying Ip has published *Being Maori-Chinese: Mixed Identities*, Auckland, Auckland University Press; Ip, Manying. 'Looking at the "Other"—Chinese views of Maori' in Manying Ip ed. *The Dragon and the Taniwha: Maori and Chinese in New Zealand*, Auckland University Press; Bedford, Didham, & Ip. '1926-1986: Maori Chinese interactions during the "assimilation years"' in Manying Ip ed. *The Dragon and the Taniwha: Maori and Chinese in New Zealand*, Auckland University Press; Ip, Manying. 'Locating Chinese New Zealanders: comparing contemporary 'Quality migrants' with the 'undesirable aliens' of yesteryears', Chinese Heritage Centre, University of Singapore. Accepted for conference proceedings in April 2008; Ip, Manying 'The Asianisation of New Zealand', *Bulletin of New Zealand Studies*, New Zealand Studies Centre, University of London; 'Chinatowns', 'Returning overseas Chinese', and 'Overseas Chinese: an overview', Entries for *Encyclopaedia of Modern China*; Review of Jaqueline Leckie *The South Asian Community/Indian Community in New Zealand*.

She has also submitted a full manuscript of *The Dragon and the Taniwha: Maori and Chinese in New Zealand*. Auckland University Press (2009); and submitted IP, M & Liangni Liu, 'Examining the Female Factor in Chinese Transnationalism: The New Zealand Case' to SITES, University of Otago.

She also delivered a number of invited lectures including: 'Writing about Chinese, Asians, and "others": my journey', New Zealand-China Friendship Society, Wellington. 17 June, 2008; 'Civil Society and the Asian Communities'. *Leadership New Zealand Forum*. 7 March 2008.

Edward McDonald has published a chapter as part of a multi-lingual news media project, *Maintaining symbolic control over Taiwan: arguing with scare quotes in the Mainland press*. in Thomson, Elizabeth A. & P.R.R. White (eds). *Communicating Conflict: Multilingual Case Studies of the News Media*. London, Continuum. 2008. He has also published the book *Meaningful Arrangement: exploring the syntactic description of texts*. London, Equinox. 2008, which provides an introduction to syntactic analysis using Mandarin Chinese and Scottish Gaelic as the two main languages under description. He is also coordinator of the Linguistics Node for the three-year project *The Formation and Development of Academic Disciplines in 20th Century China*, coordinated by Prof. John Makeham from the Australian National University, and presented the paper *Can Chinese be "modern" without parts of speech?: reflections on a century of adoption and reaction* at the second workshop of the project at Minzu University, Beijing, Oct 30-Nov 1, 2008. His paper *Getting over the walls of discourse: "character fetishisation" in Chinese Studies* was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Asian Studies* in Dec 2007.

Ellen Nakamura has published “Working the Siebold Network: Kusumoto Ine (1827-1903) and Western Learning in Nineteenth-Century Japan”. *Japanese Studies* 28 no. 2, 2008, pp. 197-211/ Nakamura, E. “Ogino Ginko’s Vision: “The Past and Future of Women Doctors in Japan (1893)” Has been accepted for publication in *U.S.-Japan Women’s Journal*, no. 34, 2008. She has presented “Translating Western Knowledge in Nineteenth-century Japan: Psychiatry in the Medical Journal *Taisei mei-i-ikō* (Articles by Renowned Western Doctors, 1837)” at The 12th International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia, July 14-18. Baltimore, USA.

Richard Phillips published “‘A picturesque but hopeless resistance’: Rehe in 1933,’ *Modern Asian Studies* 42 (4), 733-50.

Rumi Sakamoto published ‘Confucianising Science: Sakuma Shozan and wakonyosai ideology’, *Japanese Studies*, 28, (2), pp. 213-226; “‘Will you go to war? Or will you stop being Japanese?’ Nationalism and History in Kobayashi Yoshinori’s Sensoron”, *Japan Focus* and a review of Sawa Kurotani, *Home Away from Home: Japanese corporate wives in the United States*, *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*, 19, (2), 248-250, 2008. Also reviewed David Chapman, *Zainichi Korean Identity and Ethnicity for New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies* (forthcoming).

Robert Sanders has published ‘The Development of “pou” in *Taiwan and Peking Mandarin*, *Festschrift in Honor of Professor Robert Liang-Wei Cheng the Occasion of his Retirement.*, Taipei, Taiwan, Crane Publishing Company, pp. 171-180; ‘Tonetic Sound change in Taiwan Mandarin: The Case of tone 2 and tone 3 Citation Contours,’ 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, *Proceedings of the 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, Columbus, OH, 25-27 April 2008* ‘Citation Tone Change in Taiwan Mandarin: Should Teachers Remain Tone Deaf?’ *Journal of the Chinese Language Teachers Association*, 43, (2), pp. 101-116. He has presented ‘tonetic Sound Change in Taiwan Mandarin: The Case of Tone 2 and Tone 3 Citation Contours,’ 20th North American Conference of Chinese Linguistics, Columbus, OH, 25-27 April.

Tomoko Shimoda has published ‘[Representations of Parenting and Gender Roles in the Shōshika Era: Comparisons of Japanese and English-Language Parenting Magazines](#)’, *Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies*; ‘Images of Motherhood and Fatherhood in Advertising’, *Proceedings of the International Conference on Communication and Media - Contemporary Roles and Challenges*, University Utara Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 14-16 June 2008. She has reviewed *Media Structures and Practice. As Time Goes By*, edited by Ulla Carlsson and Knot Helland (forthcoming in the *Journal of International Communication*). She has presented ‘Images of Motherhood and Fatherhood in Advertising’ at the International Conference on Communication and Media - Contemporary Roles and Challenges, University Utara Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 14-16 June 2008; ‘Changing Representations of Middle Aged Women in the Japanese Media’ at the 10th International Interdisciplinary Congress of Women, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain, 3 - 9 July, 2008.

Changzoo Song has published “Korea and China over *Chosŏnjok*: De-territorialised nationalism vs. *Zhonghua* nationalism” in *International Review of Korean Studies* Vol. 3, 56-78. His article “Brothers Only in Name: The Alienation and Identity Transformation of Korean Chinese Return Migrants in South Korea” was included in Takeyuki (Gaku) Tsuda (ed.) *Diasporic Homecomings: Ethnic Return Migrants in Comparative Perspective*, which is being published by the Stanford University Press (2009: 344-371).

He also organised the *Reinventing Government: Between Public and Private* with Kyung Hee University's Institute of Civil Society and New Governance (held at the University of Auckland on July 5) where he presented his paper "State as Nationalisation Agency in Korea".

Rumi Sakamoto

4.4 University of Canterbury

CONFERENCE REPORT

On 25-26 August the School of Languages and Cultures at the University of Canterbury hosted an international conference with the theme 'Cultural Interactions and Interpretations in a Global Age'. Thirty-one papers were presented ranging across diverse cultural fields such as history, language, literature, film, dance and manga. Many related to China in one way or another, for reasons given below. The keynote speaker was Professor Howard McNaughton from the School of Culture, Literature, and Society (Canterbury), who spoke of his recent experiences in China - 'Pacing the Putong in A Global Age'.

The principal overseas presenters were a delegation from Capital Normal University in Beijing, and the Canterbury conference was in reciprocation of a conference held in Beijing in 2005 hosted by Capital Normal, at which about twenty staff from Canterbury delivered papers. Selected papers presented in Beijing were subsequently published (by the People's Press), and it is also planned to publish selected proceedings from the 2008 conference. Though most presenters were from Canterbury and Capital Normal, some were from other institutions in China and New Zealand.

The conferences were part of links between the University of Canterbury and Capital Normal University that have been developing over the last several years. It is hoped that the links will continue to grow into regularised staff and student exchanges, and of course regular conferences.

Anne-Marie Brady

4.5 The University of Otago

2008 has been a very active year at the University of Otago for research and research dissemination.

Publications

Dr. Jacob Edmond, Department of English, published a paper, titled "The Borderline Poetics of Tze Ming Mok." in a special issue he edited of *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies on Representing Asia, Remaking New Zealand in Contemporary New Zealand Culture* (10.1, 2008: 108-133.)

Dr. David Bell, College of Education, published a paper, titled "*Ukiyo-e* in New Zealand" in *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*, 10.1, 2008: 28-53. He also published

an article titled “Looking at a Japanese picture: Asian Art in the New Zealand Curriculum” in *NZAHTA Newsletter*, September 2008 and two reviews in *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*: “Kim Brandt, Kingdom of Beauty: Mingei and the Politics of Folk Art in Imperial Japan”, (10 .1, 2008: 144 - 149); “Chris Uhlenbeck and Margerita Winckel eds., Japanese Erotic Fantasies: Sexual Imagery of the Edo Period”, (10 .1, 2008: 150-157).

Dr. Takashi Shogimen, Department of History, co- edited with Cary J. Nederman *Western Political Thought in Dialogue with Asia*, Lexington Books/Rowman and Littlefield, 2008 and also published a paper, titled “Treating the Body Politic: Medical Metaphor of Political Rule in Late Medieval Europe and Tokugawa Japan” in *The Review of Politics*, 70 (2008): 77-104.

Dr. Vijay Devadas, Department of Media, Film and Communication, co-edited with Chris Prentice a special issue of *Sites: A Journal of Social Anthropology & Cultural Studies* on ‘Everyday Postcolonial Politics’ 5.1 (2008) and wrote two of the papers included in the Special Issue: ‘Postcolonial Studies and the Cultural Politics of Everyday Life’ (with Chris Prentice, pp.1-19) and ‘15 October 2007, Aotearoa: Race, Terror and Sovereignty’ (pp.124-151). Dr. Devadas also published two book chapters: (with Selvaraj Velayutham) “Encounters with “India””: (Ethno)-Nationalism in Tamil Cinema”, in Selvaraj Velayutham (ed). *Tamil Cinema: The Cultural Politics of India's Other Film Industry*, Routledge, 2008: 154-171; ‘Makkal Sakti: The Hindraf Effect, Race and Postcolonial Democracy in Malaysia’, in . Goh, D. et al (eds). *Race and Multiculturalism in Malaysia and Singapore*, Routledge, Forthcoming 2009.

Dr. Will Sweetman, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, published ‘Hinduism—History of Scholarship’ (plus 70 short entries) in Denise Cush, Catherine Robinson & Michael York, ed., *Encyclopedia of Hinduism*. Routledge, 2008: 329-339; he also published a translation of ‘Ute Hüsken, Visnu’s Children. Prenatal Life-Cycle Rituals in South India’ for the Heidelberg Studies in South Asian Rituals, Harrassowitz, 2008.

Dr. Xiaohuan Zhao, Department of Languages and Cultures, is working on a co-authored book on *Xinxilan: lishi, minzu yu wenhua chuantong* [New Zealand: Its History, People and Culture]. He also published a paper, titled “Collection, Classification and Conception of Xiaoshuo in the Taiping Guangji” in *Journal of Asian Cultural Studies*, 35 (forthcoming).

Dr. Paola Voci, Department of Department of Languages and Cultures, published a book chapter (with Stephanie Hemelryk Donald) “Chinese Cinema: Politics and Scholarship.” In James Donald, Patrick Fuery, and Michael Renov, eds. *Handbook of Film Studies*, Sage. 2008: 54-73. She also published a paper, titled “Multiculturalism’s Pitfalls on New Zealand TV: The Rise and Fall of Touch China TV” in *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies*, 10.1 (2008): 85- 107.

Dr. Voci also wrote an entry to the Chineabeat blog on the coverage of the Chinese Olympics in NZ media: <http://thechinabeat.blogspot.com/2008/08/big-and-small-nationalisms-view-from.html>. The essay will be also published in Jeffrey Wasserstrom, Ken Pomeranz and Kate Merkel-Hess eds., *China in 2008: A Year of Great Significance*, Rowman & Littlefield, Forthcoming.

Dr. Jacqueline Leckie, Department of Anthropology, Gender and Sociology, edited a special issue of *Sites. A Journal of Social Anthropology and Cultural Studies*, on *Asia in Aotearoa* (result of 17th NZ Asian Studies International Conference, 2007), forthcoming at the end of 2008.

Professor Henry Johnson, Department of Music, edited with Jerry J. Jaffe *Performing Japan: Contemporary Expressions of Cultural Identity*. Global Oriental, 2008. He also published two papers, "Composing Asia in New Zealand: Gamelan and Creativity" in *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies* 10.1 (2008): 54-84 and (with Rosemarie Patterson and Errol Moore) "Life and Music in Malaysia: 'The Malaysian Stopover'" in *Sound Arts* 4.1 (2008): 17-18.

Associate professor Jing-Bao Nie, Bioethics Centre, is currently engaged in a Marsden research project on "Predicaments of Social Engineering: Ideology and Ethics of China's Birth Control Program".

Associate professor Nie published three books chapters, "The Discourses of Practitioners in China"; "Medical Ethics through the Life Cycle in China" and (with Takashi Tsuchiya and Lun Li) "Japanese Doctors' Human Experimentation in Wartime China and its Challenges for Contemporary Medical Ethics." in Robert Baker and Larry McCullough, eds. *The Cambridge World History of Medical Ethics*, Cambridge University Press., 2008. He also wrote three book chapters, "Exploring the Core of Humanity: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Concept of Personhood", in Tze-wan Kwan, ed. *Responsibility and Commitment: Festschrift for Gerhold Becker*, Edition Gorz; "China's Birth Control Program through a Feminist Lens: Toward a Women-Centre Population Policy" in Jackie L Scully, Laurel Baldwin-Ragaven, Petya Fitzpatrick, eds. *Feminist Bioethics: At the Centre, on the Margins*. Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming and "Radical Disagreements on Chinese Views of Fetal Life: Why and How Should Bioethics Take Seriously China's Internal Diversity?" in IP King-tak, eds. *Ethical Reflections on Regenerative Medicine*. Rodopi, forthcoming.

Associate professor Nie also published a paper, title, "The Limits of the State Intervention in Sex Selective Abortion: The Case of China" in *Culture, Health and Sexuality*, forthcoming and a book review, "The Search for an Asian Bioethics" (A Review of Two New Books on Asian Bioethics) for the Inaugural Issue of the *Asian Bioethics Review*.

Dr. Erica Baffelli, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, published a book chapter on 'Kōfuku no kagaku', in Ulrich Dehn and Birgit Staemmler eds. *New Religious Movements in Japan in their Context of Society and Culture*, LIT Verlag, forthcoming. She also published a paper, titled "I manga delle nuove religioni: dalle serie degli anni Sessanta ai reigekiga di Kuroda Minoru" (New Religions and Mangas: from the Nineteen-Sixty Series to Kuroda Minoru's Reigekiga) in *Atti del XXX Convegno di studi sul Giappone Lecce, 21-23 settembre 2006*, Congedo editore, 2008: 47-61 and a book review, "Nancy K. Stalker, *Prophet Motive: Deguchi Onisaburō, Oomoto, and the Rise of New Religions in Imperial Japan* Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2008" in *Japanese Studies*, 28/2, 2008: 247-248. Dr. Baffelli also contributed to the translation of *Enciclopedia delle Religioni*. A cura di M. Eliade. Vol. 12 Eurasia (Encyclopedia of Religion, M. Eliade ed., Vol.12 Eurasia), Milano: Jacabook, forthcoming.

Conference Papers

Dr. Bell, delivered a series papers in NZ: 'Frames on the Land in Japan: Ukiyo-e Landscapes for Japanese and New Zealand Audiences' at the Japan/New Zealand International Symposium, University of Waikato, August 2008; 'The Fine Line: Utamaro, Kamekichi and Edo sensibility' at the 'Colloquium- Japanese aesthetics: International Perspectives', Christchurch, August 2008; 'Looking at a Japanese Picture: Asian Art in the New Zealand Curriculum, conference: Art History for the Twenty-first Century' at the NZAHTA Conference, Christchurch April 2008.

Dr. Devadas was invited speaker at the *Inhabiting Diversity and the Asia Pacific Workshop*, Centre for Research on Social Inclusion, Macquarie University (21-22 April, 2008) and presented a paper on '*Makkal Sakti: The Hindraf Effect, Intercultural Relationships and Malaysian Political Life*'. He also presented a paper, with Anand Patwardhan, 'Postcolonial State Power & South Asian Solidarity' at the *XIV Biennial Conference of the Film and History Association of Australia and New Zealand: Remapping Cinema, Remaking History*, 27-30 Nov 2008.

Dr. Sweetman, delivered a series papers: 'The Cessation of the Oracles: authenticity and authority in missionary reports of possession in India' at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, 1-3 November 2008; 'Hyperreal Hinduism: the mūrti as simulacrum' at the New Zealand Association for the Study of Religions Conference, Rotorua, 2-4 July 2008; 'Embodiment of the divine in Hinduism', at The Body in the Study of Asian Religions Seminar Series, Asian Studies Institute, Victoria University of Wellington, 2 May 2008.

Dr. Zhao organized and chaired a panel on 'Magic, Mythical, and Mundane in *The Extensive Records of the Taiping Period*' for the ASCJ (Asian Studies Conference Japan), 21-22 June in Rikkyo University, Tokyo. He also delivered a series of papers in Japan, New Zealand and China: 'Towards the Classificatory System of Narratives of the *Taiping Guangji* [Extensive Records of the Era of Supreme Peace (976-983)]' at ASCJ 2008; 'Language, Cognition, and Trans-cultural Transformation of Literatures across Time and Space: With Special Reference to Tang *Chuanqi* Stories' at the International Conference on Cultural Interactions and Interpretations in a Global Age, 25-26 August in the University of Canterbury, Christchurch; 'Duang Guangting's (580-933) Female Immortal World: A Textual and Thematic Study of the *Yongchng jixian lu* [Records of the Assembled Immortals in the Heavenly Walled City]' at the 14th CATL (Chinese Association of Tang Literature) Annual Conference/the International Conference on Tang Literature 2008, 25-29 October at the Chinese Poetics Research Centre, Wuhu, China.

Dr. Voci was invited speaker at the *New Media and the Documentary Impulse* Colloquium sponsored by the Luce Foundation. East Asian Institute, University of California, Berkley, December 5, 2008 and delivered a paper on 'Ceci n'est pas un documentaire: Truths, Lies and Online Videos'. She also presented a paper on 'Browsing audiences: from street posters to video posting' at the *Remapping Cinema, Remaking History*, the XIVth Biennial Conference of the Film and History Association of Australia and New Zealand, 27-30 November 2008.

Dr. Leckie delivered a series papers: 'Self and Sanity: Negotiating Psychiatry in Fiji' at European Society for Oceanistes Conference, Verona, 12-14 July 2008; 'Colonial Minds': Madness and Psychiatry in Fiji' at the Seminar, Hautes Etudes Sciences Sociales, Paris, 19 June 2008; 'The Gujarati Diaspora to New Zealand (Aotearoa): New

Communities and Identities' at Club-Gujarat & Sindhi-Club, Paris, 18 June 2008; 'The Indian Diaspora to New Zealand: New Communities and Identities' at the South Asian Studies Programme, National University of Singapore, Open Seminar, 11 June 2008; 'Global Gujarat in Aotearoa/New Zealand: Establishing New Communities, International Conference on Global Gujarat and its Diaspora' at Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan, January 17-19, 2008.

Dr. Nie organized a Special Session on "Engineering Population in Asia and the West: An Unsettled Bioethical Issue," and delivered a paper at the 9th World Congress of Bioethics, Rijeka, Croatia, Sep 2008. He also presented a paper on "Bioscience under the spell of nationalism: Three East-Asian Cases against a Confucian Ideal" at the workshop on "Biopolitics in Asia" at the University of Vienna, Oct 2008.

Dr. Baffelli organized a panel with Dr. Birgit Staemmler on '(Re)presentation: Religious Discourse and New Media in Japan' and presented an individual paper on '(Self)presentation: Japanese New Religions Online' at the 12th International Conference of the European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJIS), Salento University, Lecce, Italy September 20-23, 2008. She also delivered a paper on 'Sōkagakkai and "Buddhist politics"' at the NZASR 2008 Conference: Being Heard, Being Engaged: Religious Diversity and the Diversity of Religious Studies Research, Rotorua 2-4 July 2008.

Events

Dr. Jackie was co-convenor of 'Localising Asia in New Zealand Symposium' Asia in New Zealand Research Cluster, University of Otago, (to be held Jan 2009). She also delivered a public lecture on 'Indian Settlers' at Festival of Cultures, Palmerston North City Library, 26 March 2008.

Professor Johnson organized two concerts: *Sounds of Japan*, shakuhachi and shamisen, Marama Hall, 2008 and *Nakajima Shigeru*, shakuhachi, Marama Hall, 2008.

Dr. Voci delivered a public presentation on 'Chinese cinemas: aesthetics, politics and society. A Celebrate China 2008 event' at the Dunedin Art Gallery, 30 March 2008.

The symposium 'Postcolonial Popular Cultures', organized by the Postcolonial Studies Research Network has been held at the University of Otago, December 14-16 2008. Postcolonial Popular Cultures conference will be held at the University of Otago from 14-16 Dec 2008.

Erica Baffelli

4.6 Victoria University at Wellington

Research & Publications

Tim Beal has delivered the following Conference papers this year: 'American decline and its impact on Indian foreign policy' (20th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies, Manchester); 'The Koreas' search for international legitimacy', (British Association of Korean Studies, Clare College, Cambridge); 'Asymmetrical knowledge

management in a cross-cultural business alliance: L&T's engagement with New Zealand' [with Michel Rod], Conference - Doing Business in India, IFIM Business School, Bangalore). Together with colleague Michel Rod, Tim will be travelling to Japan in October and Singapore in November for fieldwork on a project about the emergence of wine culture in Asia. Information about the project is available at: http://www.vuw.ac.nz/~caplabtb/wine_project_site/.

Stephen Epstein has received a three-year Marsden Fund grant for a project entitled Korea and its Neighbours: Globalisation and National Identity in the 21st Century. He delivered lectures on contemporary Korean images of China at UCLA and the University of Washington in June and later this year will present on representations of Korean-Vietnamese marriages at the Pacific and Asia Conference on Korean Studies in Hanoi and on South Korean popular culture's changing assessments of North Korean identity at a workshop at L'École des Hautes Études Sociales in Paris.

This year Stephen McDowall taken up a Postdoctoral Fellowship in Chinese Studies at VUW, enabling him to work on his book, *Traces of Hatchet & Chisel: Qian Qianyi's (1582-1664) Reflections on Yellow Mountain*, which will be published by Hong Kong University Press in 2009. He also gave a seminar in the School of Languages and Cultures Research Seminar Series on 'Culture, Identity & Global Trade: Some Reflections on the Opening of the Dunedin Chinese Garden.'

Sean Redmond's *Studying Chungking Express* book has been revised and reprinted this year (Auteur press). He is currently working on a monograph for the Wallflower Press Director Series on Takeshi Kitano, entitled *This is the Sea: the Cinema of Takeshi Kitano*.

Staff Movements

This year, VUW welcomed the arrival of Wei Tingxin, who will teach Chinese at VUW for two years under an arrangement with the Chinese Ministry of Education, and two visiting lecturers in Political Science and International Relations with interests related to Asia, Virginie Grzelczyk and Priya Chacko. Virginie Grzelczyk completed her dissertation on US-North Korea negotiations at the University of Maryland in 2006. She is working on a book manuscript, "Negotiating with the Enemy: How to Deal with a 21st Century North Korea?". Priya Chacko is presently teaching 'The Politics of South Asia' and 'Nationalism in World Politics'. Her research interests include the domestic and international politics of South Asia, identity, post-colonial theory and international relations and non-Western thought in international relations. She is currently building on her doctoral research on the relationship between India's self-image and its foreign policy discourse and exploring the importance of the political thought of Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi and investigating the centrality of colonialism and imperialism in the formation of International Relations as a discipline.

Duncan Campbell, the director of the Chinese Programme and a stalwart member of the NZ Asian Studies community, will be leaving VUW after 15 years to take up a position at ANU. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours. Professor Othman Yatim will conclude his term as the Chair of Malay Studies at the end of this year. A successor has yet to be announced. Events hosted by the Chair this year included a conference in Kuala Lumpur on Malay and Maori language and culture and the annual SAAD lecture, given by His Royal Highness Raja Dr Nazrin Shah, The Crown

Prince of Perak, Malaysia, entitled "Dialogue and Diversity in the Contemporary Islamic World."

Other Asia-related activities

Among the events hosted this year by VUW's Asian Studies Institute were a trimester-long seminar series held in conjunction with the Religious Studies Programme on "The Study of the Body in Asian Religions." The series featured talks from VUW staff members Art Buehler, Anna Gade, Paul Morris, Michael Radich and Rick Weiss as well as Barbara Holdrege of the University of California at Santa Barbara, Ben Penny of the Australian National University, Donald Swearer of Harvard University and Will Sweetman from the University of Otago. Cho Eunsu, an Associate Professor of Buddhist Philosophy from Seoul National University has been a visiting scholar with ASI for the year.

A sampling of seminars given by visitors to VUW in 2008 include Family Planning, Modernity and Tibetan Agency in China by Mona Schrempf, Central Asian Seminar, Institute for Asian and African Studies, Humboldt University Berlin; Cultural Hybridity in British South Asian Women's Film and Literature by Yasmin Hussain, School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds; Stories of *Kisaeng*: Life, Music and Training by In-Suk Kim, University of Canterbury; Locally-determined Health Services in Rural Bangladesh by Edric Baker of The Kailakuri Health Centre, Bangladesh. Numerous seminars were delivered by VUW's own Asianists in the university's various Research Seminar Series, including that of the Asian Studies Institute itself.

Larger events included two well-attended roundtables. In May, ASI and the Chair of Malay Studies held a session on Gender, Islam and Politics with Sharyn Graham Davies Auckland University of Technology, Nurlena Rifai, Visiting Fellow and Lecturer, Faculty of Education and Teacher Training, State Islamic University (UIN) Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, Indonesia and Rehanna Ali, Shura Council for the International Muslim Association of NZ, Regional Representative of the Islamic Women's Council of NZ. On August 8, the day of the opening of the Olympics, ASI together with the Asia:NZ Foundation held a lively roundtable discussion on "China, New Zealand and the Media," which analysed New Zealand media portrayals of NZ's evolving relationship with China, as well as portrayals of the many significant events related to China this year (e.g. the protests in Tibet, the Olympic torch relay, the Sichuan earthquake, and the run-up to Olympics themselves. Among the speakers were Fran O'Sullivan of the New Zealand Herald, Douglas van Belle of VUW's Media Studies Programme and political scientist Jian Yang of the University of Auckland.

This year the Asian Studies Institute published a volume on *Understanding Indonesia: Foreign Policy, Islam and Democracy* with papers from a conference by that title held in conjunction with the Indonesian Embassy. The Institute's Translation Paper Series also the publication of "An Unexpected Legacy: Xie Tiao's 'poems on things'". This handsome volume contains an introductory essay and a set of fifteen poems from the fifth century poet Xie Tiao, translated by Diana

Stephen Epstein

5. NZASIA Journal Next Issue

Articles

New Zealand-China Relations: Common Points and Differences

ANNE-MARIE BRADY

After Ten Years of Transfer of Sovereignty: Political Stability and Reforms in Hong Kong

JERMAIN T.M. LAM

Music, Nationalism and the Search for Modernity in China, 1911-1949

HONG-YU GONG

Takeda Kiyoko: A Twentieth-Century Japanese Christian Intellectual

VANESSA B. WARD

Graduate Research Essay

Japanese Travel Culture: An Investigation of the Links Between Early Japanese Pilgrimage and Modern Japanese Travel Behaviour

LEAH WATKINS

Review Articles

Seeing The Wood for the Trees: Empire, Nation-Making and Forest Management

JAMES BEATTIE

Recent Re-visions of Ming History

STEPHEN MCDOWALL

The Source and the Period Eye: New Perspectives on Japanese Visual Culture

DAVID BELL

6. The 18th International Conference of the New Zealand Asian Studies Society

The next NZASIA conference will be held at Victoria University of Wellington, from 6-8 July, 2009. Details on the conference can be found at www.nzasia.org.nz.

Keynote speakers:

Sugata Bose

Sugata Bose is Gardiner Professor of History at Harvard University. His field of specialization is modern South Asian and Indian Ocean history. His most recent book is *A Hundred Horizons: the Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006). He was a recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1997. Professor Bose will deliver the NZASIA Nicholas Tarling Lecture.

Jeff Wasserstrom

Jeff Wasserstrom is Professor of History at the University of California, Irvine. He is a specialist in modern Chinese history. His most recent publications are *China's Brave New World-And Other Tales for Global Times* (Indiana University Press, 2007) and *Global Shanghai, 1850-2010* (Routledge, 2008).

Robert Buswell

Robert Buswell is Professor of Chinese and Korean Buddhist studies, and chair of the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, at the University of California, Los Angeles. He founded UCLA's Center for Buddhist Studies in 2000, and was the initial faculty director of the Center for Korean Studies. His most recent books include *Christianity in Korea*, with Timothy S. Lee (University of Hawai'i Press 2007) and *Cultivating Original Enlightenment: Wohnyo's Exposition of the Vajrasamadhi-Sutra* (Kumgang Sammaegyong Non) (University of Hawai'i Press, 2007). He is the president of the Association of Asian Studies for 2008-2009.

7. Membership

We remind you that the membership fee includes a subscription to the New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies (published twice yearly). The subscription period runs from 1 January to 31 December. Other benefits of membership include

- the Newsletter
- conference participation with reduced rates, including reciprocity with ASAA conferences
- the potential for networking with other members
- the benefits of keeping abreast of developments in Asian Studies, including scholarship opportunities

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