



Monash Asia Institute Bulletin (2/2010)

8 February 2010

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Monash Asia Institute and Monash News

Item 1. New courses offered by Monash Asia Institute

The **Master of International Crisis Management** has been designed to meet the needs of professionals for academic training in the currently neglected field of complex crisis management, including the core issues of human security, conflict and natural disasters.

The course introduces students to the principles of multi-disciplinary crisis management through evidence-based case studies, and stresses the importance of a people-centred approach and a sound understanding of relevant issues such as human rights, vulnerable groups and sustainability.

Details: <http://www.monash.edu.au/pubs/2010handbooks/courses/4051.html>

Enquiries: Sharmini Sherrard <Sharmini.Sherrard@adm.monash.edu.au>

Islamic Business and Economics Unit (MAI4002) is a new postgraduate-level subject offered by the Monash Asia Institute, Monash University. It is a recommended elective subject for the [Master of Asian Studies](#) and the [Master of Islamic Studies](#) programmes, but its interdisciplinary orientation and broad focus make it an ideal elective for anyone interested in some of the most vital questions facing the Muslim community and humanity as a whole. The unit introduces students to the controversial questions about Islamic business and economics. A carefully selected range of case studies compares and analyses the differing opinions of scholars, religious leaders, bankers, merchant families, owners of tech-start ups, academics, public intellectuals, journalists and government officials – all stakeholders in the debate on the compatibility of Islam with the modern world.

Details: <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mai/mibe/>

Enquiries: Sven Schottmann <Sven.Schottmann@adm.monash.edu.au>

The **Master of Asian Studies** course, now offered by the Monash Asia Institute, is a three-semester programme which aims to prepare you with a range of new and exciting directions for your career. The program is an excellent way to top off a BA. It is also tailored to the needs of mid-career professionals and entrepreneurs wanting to direct their career towards Asia.

Details: <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mai/pgrad/maas/>

Enquiries: MAI.Enquiries@adm.monash.edu.au

Item 2. Confirmation seminar for PhD upgrade

Friday 19 February 2010, 10:00 am
Room H595, Level 5, Building H
Monash University Caulfield campus

The Establishment of the Disability Council of Cambodia: A Case Study in Development and Disability in a Weak State

Catherine Lewis, Master of Development and Governance candidate, Monash Asia Institute

This research aims to examine the interactions between state, INGOs and donors in providing services to people with disability. In particular, it seeks to research how neo-liberal policy, the lack of technical capacity of the state and issues around INGOs as service providers affect these interactions and the provision of services.

The field data was gathered in Phnom Penh in June 2004. Interviews were supplemented by literature to develop an analysis of the political and aid environment in Cambodia in the 1990s. They provide a fine-grained study of the circumstances and processes which led to the establishment of the DAC.

The research points to the need for INGOs to accept that they are operating in a political environment, and tailor their understanding and skills to that environment if they are to serve their beneficiaries interact effectively with states and donors.

Enquiries: MAI.Enquiries@adm.monash.edu.au with 'Disability Council of Cambodia' in the subject heading of the email.

Item 3. Monash Conference

Sponsored by:

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Office, the Cultural Sociology of Education and the Language, Literacy and Social Inclusion Research Groups, Faculty of Education, Monash University, Australia

Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 February 2010
Monash University Conference Centre
30 Collins Street, Melbourne

Engaging with Vietnam: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue

This conference will feature Vietnam-related research by Vietnamese and international researchers and research students in Australian universities and organisations. It aims to cover a wide variety of disciplines, ranging from education to geography, social sciences to art, and from health to business and economics. The conference wishes to explore how knowledge about Vietnam has been constructed and reconstructed in the context of globalisation, mobility and transnationality, and how processes of knowledge mobilisation take place at the local, regional, global and glonocal levels. It also wishes to listen to the participants' perspectives regarding the issues of 'brain drain and brain exchange' and making contributions to Vietnam through research work. Suggestions from researcher presenters and participants on how to build and sustain effective collaborations between researchers working on Vietnam-related issues will be sought as well.

Details: <http://www.engagingwithvietnam.com/home>

Enquiries: Phan Le Ha (PhD), Senior Lecturer in Culture and Pedagogy,
Faculty of Education, Conference Chair and Convenor
Email: ha.phan@education.monash.edu.au

Item 4. 7th International Congress of Morita Therapy

Thursday 4 March – Saturday 6 March 2010
Sebel Albert Park Hotel, Melbourne

This 7th Congress puts Shoma Morita, MD squarely in the circuit of historical figures in psychiatry and shows how Morita therapy is a culturally viable treatment outside Japan. Morita therapy is indigenous to Japan and provides a sophisticated theory on human development that informs psycho-social assessment and treatment. This therapy has since been found effective in treating a range of anxiety disorders, trauma-based disorders, including borderline features, dissociative-based disorders, and contextual and clinical depression.

The overriding theme of the congress, 'Contexts for Psychosocial Health', will provide much stimulating and thought provoking dialogue in a sequence of roundtable discussions.

Details: <http://www.conferenceworks.net.au/morita-therapy>

Item 5. Call for Papers

The Vietnam Inheritance: Cultural, social and political legacies of the Vietnam War in Australia

An Interdisciplinary Symposium marking the 35th anniversary of the end of the war

29 & 30 April 2010, Monash University, Caulfield Campus

Jointly convened by the School of Political and Social Inquiry, and the School of English, Communications and Performance Studies, Faculty of Arts, Monash University.

This symposium provides an opportunity for scholars from a range of disciplines to reflect on the impact of the war and its aftermath in Australia on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of its conclusion. In particular, we are interested in explorations of the cultural, social and political legacies of the war in Australia. Topics which may be covered include:

- the legacy of the war on Australian media, journalism and reportage of war and other
- emergencies
- post-war Vietnamese migration to Australia and the Vietnamese diaspora
- the legacy of 'boat people' on the contemporary politics of asylum seeking in Australia

- the war and Australian culture (including Vietnamese-Australian cultural production)
- the legacy of the Saigon babylift on intercountry adoption to Australia
- the war and tourism
- the war and Australian geopolitics

Selected papers from this symposium will be published in an A-ranked journal

Advice to prospective contributors

Abstracts of 200 words and brief author/s bio/s to be submitted by to Denise Cuthbert at denise.cuthbert@arts.monash.edu.au by **Friday 26 February 2010**.

Notice of inclusion in symposium program by Monday 8 March

Authors wishing to have their work considered for publication should be in a position to submit full versions of papers promptly following the symposium. Details of submission dates and publication schedule to follow as soon as possible.

Convenors

Denise Cuthbert
Robin Gerster
Kevin Foster
Faculty of Arts, Monash University

Generously supported by the Office of the Campus Director, Caulfield Campus, Monash University.

Item 6. Postgraduate workshop: The life and work of Giuseppe Tucci

Hosted by Monash Asia Institute and Italian Institute of Culture (Melbourne)

Wednesday 29 September and Thursday 30 September 2010
First Floor, Building H, Monash University, Caulfield campus
900 Dandenong Rd, Caulfield East 3145, Australia

On the shoulders of giants: the Tucci legacy in modern scholarship

Call for papers

As an introduction to the international conference on the life and works of Professor Giuseppe Tucci we seek papers dealing with the broad areas in

which Tucci worked. These include philosophy, archaeology, folk-oral traditions, history and philological religion studies. Young Australian scholars are offered the opportunity to present a paper on aspects of this wide range of studies, covering West Asia to the Far East, the broad span of Tucci's interests.

Paper length - 20 minutes. Questions -10 minutes.
Abstracts of 300 words to be submitted by 10 April, 2010

The Steering Committee will confirm paper acceptance by early June 2010.

Published Proceedings

An edited volume of the proceedings of this symposium is proposed, and contributions to the conference may be submitted for publication in this volume. Contributors who are unable to attend the workshop, but would like to contribute a paper to the volume are invited to submit papers for consideration by 30 June 2010.

Details: <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mai/tucci/pgsymposium.php>

Please submit abstracts to:

Dr Andrea Di Castro: andrea.dicastro@arts.monash.edu.au or Dr David Templeman: david.templeman@adm.monash.edu.au.

Item 7. Conference

Hosted by Monash Asia Institute and the Italian Institute of Culture (Melbourne)

Friday 1 October 2010, 10am to 5pm
First Floor, Building H, Monash University Caulfield campus
900 Dandenong Road Caulfield East, Victoria 3145, Australia

Giuseppe Tucci - Explorer and Extraordinary Scholar Celebrating Asian Cultures

The last great European explorer in Asia, Giuseppe Tucci (1894–1984) walked through the sands and the mountains of Asia in search of the vestiges of ancient cultures. He mastered languages including Latin, Chinese, Sanskrit and Hebrew and discussed philosophical problems in Sanskrit with Indian pundits.

Ahead of his time, he recognized the internationalist nature of Buddhism, and charted its spread into areas that scholarship had not yet investigated. He had profound knowledge in the fields of philology, history, philosophy, psychology, history of religion, and ethnography. His dignified, literary writing style was

highly regarded by his fellow scholars. He initiated research in anthropology, archaeology and history in Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nepal. Tucci is remembered internationally for his contribution to the study of Tibetan culture, history and religion, fields in which he was the pre-eminent scholar over several decades.

The lead-up to the symposium will include a series of films about Tucci, Italian culture and explorations of Asia at the Institute of Italian Culture in Melbourne, and a two-day forum for post-graduates.

Major international speakers from various disciplines will present papers; see: <http://www.arts.monash.edu.au/mai/tucci/>

RSVP (essential for catering purposes)
David.Templeman@adm.monash.edu.au or
andrea.dicastro@arts.monash.edu.au

Item 8. Addition to MAI Family

The Monash Asia Institute family welcomes another new member, Adelia Eashak, born in Malaysia on 15 December 2009 to parents, Mr Shahril Ismail, Monash Asia Institute PhD candidate and Ms Maizatul Akmal Musa, PhD candidate at Victoria University, Melbourne. We send our congratulations and best wishes to the proud parents on this special occasion.

News from other institutions

Item 9. Seminar

MALAYSIA: Mahathir, Malaysia and the political challenges Australia continues to face in the East Asia region

Tuesday, 16 February 2010, 6pm-7.30pm
Yasuko Hiraoka Myer Room, Level 1, Sidney Myer Asia Centre, Gate 4,
The University of Melbourne, (Cnr Monash Road and Swanston Street)

Barry Wain, former Asian Wall Street Journal editor and current writer-in-residence at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore, will discuss leadership in Malaysia. He will draw on his political biography of Mahathir, a definitive history of the former prime minister's life and career. Barry's book, *Malaysian Maverick: Mahathir Mohamad in Turbulent Times*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan in December 2009.

Barry will discuss the idea that Mahathir's success is due to a number of contradictions. He was "a Malay champion who was the Malays' fiercest critic

and an ally of Chinese-Malaysian businessmen; a tireless campaigner against Western economic domination who assiduously courted American and European capitalists; and a blunt, combative individual who extolled the virtues of consensual Asian values."

Professor Tony Milner, Professorial Fellow and International Director at Asialink and Basham Professor of Asian History at the Australian National University, will comment on Mahathir's and Malaysia's continuing response to Australia's ambitions in the East Asia region.

ENQUIRIES: Florence Wong 613 8344 0389,
f.wong@asialink.unimelb.edu.au

REGISTER ONLINE:

http://www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/calendar/events/featured/malaysia_leaders

[hip_in_malaysia,_before_and_after_mahathir/registration](http://www.asialink.unimelb.edu.au/calendar/events/featured/malaysia_leaders/hip_in_malaysia,_before_and_after_mahathir/registration)

Item 10. Conference

Wednesday 17 to Friday 19 March 2010
University of Technology, Sydney

The Indian Ocean and South Asia Research Network at the University of Technology, Sydney will host a conference in March 2010 on strategies for sustainability in the Indian Ocean region.

Advancing a sustainable future: strategies for cross-disciplinary practice across the Indian Ocean

How do we conceptualise sustainable futures across the Indian Ocean region in ways that are both environmentally sensitive and socially equitable?

This conference will bring together academics and activists working in a range of fields, including environmental engineering, sustainable architecture, humanities, geography and the social sciences, and environmental and intellectual property law to address this question.

Given the complex nature of sustainability issues and their impacts, this conference aims to open up a space for vital conversations across disciplines and broad areas of activism and research.

Details: <http://iosarn.com/events/conferences/>

Enquiries: Ms Cornelia Betzler: Indian.Ocean@uts.edu.au or Professor Heather Goodall: Heather.Goodall@uts.edu.au

Item 11. Website of the month: chinadialogue

<http://www.chinadialogue.net/>

Founded by international journalist Isabel Hilton in 2006, chinadialogue is a bilingual source of high-quality news, analysis and discussion on all environmental issues, with a special focus on China.

About the MAI Bulletin

The Monash Asia Institute Newsletter incorporates news items from the research centres of the Monash Asia Institute, partner organisations and other groups working to promote Asian Studies in Australia.

For further information about the Monash Asia Institute and this newsletter:

<http://www.monash.edu.au/mai/>

To unsubscribe, please send an email to: Monash-Asia-Institute Enquiries,

MAI.Enquiries@adm.monash.edu.au