



## AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL ASIA PACIFIC FUTURES RESEARCH NETWORK

[www.sueztosuva.org.au](http://www.sueztosuva.org.au)

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### ARC Asia Pacific Futures Research Network Email Bulletin

**no. 1 (October 21 2004).**

Dear Network members,

The Management Committee of the APFN met on October 12 to discuss plans for the Network's program of activities for 2005 onwards. This letter is to inform you of the plans so far. With the ARC's support the next few years promise to be very stimulating and productive for researchers in the field of Asia Pacific Studies. However, we received only 60% of our requested funding so activities will have to be reduced accordingly.

#### **\*\*Network Structure\*\***

The Network is structured around geographically dispersed nodes. Node leaders are represented on the Management Committee and in addition to their "Australian geographic location" responsibilities will also have Asia Pacific country/region responsibilities. The latter are identified in square brackets below.

The Management Committee comprises:

Dr Shahram Akbarzadeh: Monash University	[West Asia/Islam]
Prof Colin Brown: Curtin University	[Southeast Asia]
Prof Stephanie Hemelryk Donald: University Technology Sydney	[China]
Prof Purnendra Jain: Adelaide University	[Japan & Korea]
Prof Robin Jeffrey: La Trobe University	[South Asia]
Prof Margaret Jolly: Australian National University	[Pacific]
Prof Michael Wesley: Griffith University	[Australia and Asia]

We also have the support of eminent Advisory Council.

The members to date are:

Mr Bruce Davis, Director-General, AusAid  
Mr Geoff Heriot, Chief, Corporate Planning & Governance, Australian Broadcasting Commission  
Mr Mick Keelty, Commissioner, Australian Federal Police  
Ms Pieta Laut, Executive Director, Public Health Association of Australia  
Professor Michael Kidd, Head, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners  
Ms Janet Neville, Secretary-General, LAWASIA  
Mr William Patterson, First Assistant, Department of Foreign Affairs

## **\*\*Planned Events\*\***

Next year, we envisage that a major event will launch the Network in August 2005. We hope that Griffith University will be in a position to host this event in Brisbane. It will draw researchers, public figures and industry partners together for a 3-day intensive program. In the months preceding and following this launch the Network will run a series of between 7-10 smaller and medium workshops, conferences and symposiums to generate the new research synergies anticipated in our initial application to the ARC.

By way of providing a loose focus to the Network's programs, each year the APFN will have a major research signature theme. For 2005 we have chosen "Towards a secure future in the Asia Pacific" which aims to promote research into issues of governance and security, human rights and strengthening regional relationships. Later years include communication and media, culture and religion, trade and industry, health and population. Your input into devising potential future themes is welcome.

## **\*\*Your participation\*\***

As Network members you will be invited to participate in conceiving of new network projects and running Network events. You may also be called upon by Node Leaders to advise on various aspects of the networks activities as well. Each node will also establish a small working party to help manage events. The funding has yet to arrive from the ARC but it shouldn't be too much longer.

As the APFN gradually develops its processes and procedures for allocating funds to different projects I will keep you informed about how your involvement and initiatives can be incorporated into the overall Network programs.

We will shortly be calling for applications for funding of such programs. In keeping with the spirit of the ARC's intentions the APFN events should ideally include a research-training component and be multi-national and interdisciplinary in focus. Successful projects will be funded up to a maximum of \$10,000.

## **\*\*Expanding the network's membership\*\***

As founding members of the Network your names and research track records were instrumental in ensuring that the application received a positive response from the ARC. However, there were many of your colleagues whose names for various reasons were not included in the official list. You may remember that in the final application we aimed to present broad national geographic coverage and an equal spread of regions of study while also maximising representation of current ARC grant holders.

Now that we are at the stage of implementing programs and calling for applications for project funding, we would like to expand the Network membership. If there are colleagues who you think should be included in the Network membership would you please send me an email with their name/title and email address? I will then formally invite their participation.

I will be making a general call for membership to the Network later but at this stage it is important that active researchers be identified and invited to participate. Your help in identifying colleagues would be most appreciated.

[NB the current membership is available for viewing on the pdf version of the application on your ARC GAMS website. The complete list is on the last few pages of the document]

**\*\*What to do next?\***

Email Louise [[apfn@anu.edu.au](mailto:apfn@anu.edu.au)] with the following details:

1. Nominate colleagues who are active researchers in this field that you feel should receive a personal invitation to join the APFN.
2. Start thinking up conferences, workshops, themes and projects that you'd like the APFN to help fund. Just keep in mind that the APFN can't fund research per se but can fund activities that will generate research.  
[AND be merciful and refrain from bombarding me with project suggestions just yet. It will take some time to get administrative support for the Network together]

Best wishes amidst the End of Semester Chaos,

Louise Edwards

ARC APFN Network Convenor

Contact email: [apfn@anu.edu.au](mailto:apfn@anu.edu.au)

Network Website: <http://www.sueztosuva.org.au>