



AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL ASIA PACIFIC FUTURES RESEARCH NETWORK

www.sueztosuva.org.au

ARC Asia Pacific Futures Research Network Email Bulletin No. 5 (October 21 2005)

Dear Asia Pacific Futures Research Network Participants,

Please find below the latest news of events and activities relating to the network over the past few months.

Fourth Round Project Grant Outcomes:

The Fourth Round grants have been allocated and a further \$34,320 distributed to 6 researcher teams at 6 different institutions. The funded projects range from an Asian Research Forum at the National Library of Australia, a postgraduate colloquium on Islam and Secularism at Melbourne University and a conference on Youth and Media to be held at Monash University.

The full list of successful applications is available on the network's website:

http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/successful_apps.php

Summary of the Project Grant Applications for 2005:

The total grant funding allocated for this year was \$193,760 and 27 projects at 19 different institutions were funded. The Management Committee determined from the outset to put as much of our funding into project applications as possible. To that end, over 85% of our total funds this year have been distributed to different projects around the country.

We will call for applications for further 2006 programs in the new year.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank the Management Committee members who served on the four different grants committees this year: Professors C. Brown, S. Donald, M. Wesley, R. Jeffrey, M. Jolly, P. Jain and Dr S. Akbarzadeh. It was a time consuming task and these are all busy people so we owe them a considerable debt of gratitude.

Upcoming events:

Please visit the website details of the many upcoming network sponsored events for the remainder of 2005 and 2006. Your participation to each of these is welcomed and don't hesitate to bring them to the attention of colleagues and students. There are too many events to list here so follow the link for more details. <http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/e2005/>

Call for EOI for the 2006 Signature Event:

I will be circulating soon a call for EOI to host the 2006 Signature Event on the theme "Building Effective Communication in the Asia Pacific". In 2006 the network's focus will be media and communication and the signature event will be our largest single activity for the year. The Network will provide up to \$50,000 towards the event. More details will be supplied with the formal EOI document.

Griffith University hosted this year's signature event with the "Energy Security in the Asia Pacific" Conference and the Art Exhibition "Future Tense: Security and Human Rights". Thanks to Professor Michael Wesley and the Griffith Asia Institute for organising the Energy Security Conference. Thanks also to Associate Professor Pat Hoffie and Dr Simon Wright of Griffith University's Queensland College of Art and Dr Caroline Turner of the Humanities Research Centre at ANU for co-curating "Future Tense".

Advisory Council Meeting:

On September 23rd members of the Advisory Council and other industry partners gathered with the Management Committee at the Shine Dome, Canberra. The purpose of the meeting was to generate new projects of interest to the Advisory Council members relating to our 2007 Signature Theme of Mobility and Health in Asia Pacific Populations. The results of this meeting will flow through into project planning for future years.

We were joined in the evening by some Canberra-based colleagues for dinner at University House. UTS graduate student Dileep Govindaraju presented 4 short films directed and produced by his UTS class during the meal. Thanks are due to Francesca Beddie, Jenny Oates, Peter Rodgers and Andrea Haese for organising the event and for UTS staff and students for organising the entertainment.

Research Quality Framework:

You will all be aware that DEST is proposing to change the way research funding is allocated to Universities. The Management Committee made a submission on behalf of the Network to their working party. This can be found on the network website at: <http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/bulletins/>. Our goal with this submission was to encourage DEST to introduce a funding mechanism that facilitated research links between universities and resisted concentrating research funds in few locations.

Network membership:

Participants in the network currently stand at 232 with the October updated list downloadable from the website. Where other ARC networks have maintained a small membership our Management Committee opted for the broader model and aimed to reach as many researchers in Asia Pacific fields as possible. Our thinking was that the activities and programs funded by the network would in the broader membership model have a greater impact on the field.

Postgraduate Participation:

We have about 300 postgraduates on the mailing list and they receive updates of events and scholarships relevant to ECRs and postgrads. I circulate both network sponsored and independent events to the postgrad list on about a weekly basis. New Postgrads can register electronically from this link: http://www.sueztosuva.org.au/postgrad_register.php

Best wishes with your end of semester tasks,

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