

## PRIDE, PREJUDICE, POWER & RACE IN CRICKET

A two-day WORKSHOP on this topic will be held on the 26/27<sup>th</sup> November 2008 in Adelaide at the University of South Australia. It is sponsored by The Australia-Pacific Futures Research Network and University of South Australia in partnership. This event will be open to participants by **INVITATION ONLY** as we want the discussion to be kept within manageable limits. Several overlapping themes will be at the centre of our debates, viz., (a) The expression of virulent verbal comments both on field and off field among spectators as well as on web sites, whether directed at one's opponents or, on occasions, at one's own players, by overzealous fans acting in disappointment or cricketers acting from design or 'spontaneous combustion'; (b) The politics of commodity power and national pride in the organisation of cricket, including the potential revolution associated with 20/20 cricket and the new IPL project, and (c) The popular culture of cricket in contemporary times, with special attention to its popularity in India.

We hope the discussions will be leavened by analytical approaches, but expect both academics and a few sports journalists to be part of the venture. The workshop will be interdisciplinary and will intentionally cater to the participation of several generational cohorts, inclusive of postgraduates selected competitively from applications.

Note that the session on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November will commence circa 11.00 am while those on the Thursday will be from 9.30 am to circa 5.30 pm. There will be four sessions devoted to the presentation and discussion of circa three papers each; and there will be three Keynote Papers followed by discussions. We are happy to note that the following individuals have agreed to enliven the occasion with their ideas as **Keynote Addresses**: Professor **Brian Stoddard** of Australia; **Dr. Boria Majumdar** of India and Mr. **Huw Richards** of England (see details in smaller print below).

There will also be a Public Forum at circa 5.30 pm on the 26<sup>th</sup> November held at the Bob Hawke Centre University of South Australia devoted to the topic "Power Plays in Cricket." This event will be open to all and sundry.

### POSTGRADUATE TRAVEL STIPENDS -- CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Depending on the field we wish to encourage postgrad participation from places beyond Adelaide by funding, whether in part or whole, the travel costs and accommodation, of **five to eight postgraduates**. We therefore invite individuals to submit an application for consideration of their names. This correspondence should be emailed to both:

richard.hosking@flinders.edu.au

**before 20 August 2008**. The application should (1) specify name, postal address and institutional affiliation; (2) contain a **300-word abstract** that

either comments on any of the themes specified above or summarises the analytical approach favoured by the applicant in his/her own field of research; and (3) a short letter of no more than one page from a reputed scholar recommending the applicant. If applicants from more distant locations such as Brisbane and Wellington are in a position to secure funds for one-half of their travel this should be indicated as it boosts the numbers we can invite.

## **CALL FOR POTENTIAL PAPERS**

While the organisers will be sponsoring papers through their own networks, we are ready to entertain possibilities from outside our ken. Towards this end we invite individuals to propose **a title guided by the themes noted above, supplemented by a 300-500 word summary** of the proposed paper. Here, too, one's name, safe address and institutional affiliation should be indicated. These applications should reach Professors Hosking by **31 August 2008 at the latest**.

We note here that we cannot provide travel costs to these applicants. As for accommodation that depends on our finances come early October. However we have already made reservations at the Visitors' Quarters of the Royal Adelaide, accommodation that is remarkably cheap. Rooms at student colleges also may be available.

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*Dept of Anthropology University of Adelaide*  
*Chief Co-ordinator, PPPR*

In combination with

Bernard Whimpress, Curator, Bradman Museum, Adelaide Oval  
and  
Richard Hosking, Professor of English, Flinders University