

SOUTHEAST ASIA RESEARCH CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT 2007

The Southeast Asia Research Centre (SEARC) was inaugurated on 27 February 2001 as a faculty-based research centre within Humanities and Social Sciences (FHS). In 2006, it was affiliated with the newly formed Department of Asian and International Studies (AIS). Professor William Case (Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies) was appointed Director of SEARC in July 2006. Dr Vivienne Wee (Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies) is Associate Director.

During its first four years of operation, SEARC established a strong international and regional reputation as a focal point for the study of political, economic, and social issues in contemporary Southeast Asia. Though possessing its own budget for research projects, SEARC members actively sought competitive external grant funding and commissioned a range of research projects, leading to a steady output of high-quality publications and working papers. It also attracted many respected scholars from outside the region who, in conducting seminars and carrying out research projects, helped further to enliven the Centre. SEARC also contributed more broadly to academic and public debate at City University (CityU) by regularly sponsoring public addresses, forums, roundtables, and international conferences.

In 2004, SEARC's founding Director, Professor Kevin Hewison, took up a new position in the United States. Thus, during 2005 and the first half of 2006, SEARC was directed by the Dean of FHS, though only in

an acting capacity. SEARC had been established with a budget from the University of HKD12.5 million over a six-year period, reduced in its second year of operation to HKD8.5 million. During 2005, the University lent some short-term support, while SEARC's core members tried to secure external funding. But by 2006, salary commitments and outstanding grant projects left SEARC with scant resources. However, with the appointment of a new Director and the winning of a large external grant by the associate Director, SEARC began a campaign of revitalization during late 2006-2007.

MISSION, AIMS AND RESEARCH THEMES

SEARC's mission statement reflects the development of the Centre and the changing role of CityU within Hong Kong's higher education sector.

SEARC's **aims** are:

- To advance the Centre's international standing and City University's reputation by researching political, economic, and social developments in contemporary Southeast Asia
- To produce high quality academic publications on Southeast Asia
- To establish mutually beneficial links with international researchers and institutions committed to Southeast Asian issues
- To extend links to scholars and institutions researching other parts of the developing world, especially China, Northeast Asia, and Latin America, whose concerns resonate with those at the Centre
- To provide the Hong Kong government, business community and civil society

organizations with policy relevant information about the region

- To enhance the study of Southeast Asia in Hong Kong and to increase understanding of the region within the CityU and Hong Kong communities

SEARC'S **research themes**

In late 2006, the SEARC Management Committee approved adoption of three new research themes, supplanting those that had in been in place since the Centre's inception. These themes, designed to provide broad research direction, while reflecting changes in contemporary Southeast Asia and the expertise of its new researchers, will contribute to the Centre's ongoing revitalization. They include:

- **'New democracies and contemporary authoritarianism'**

Research conducted under this theme begins by addressing at a broad level major trends of political continuity and change in the Southeast Asian setting. Southeast Asia has long been recognized as one of the world's most politically 'diverse' regions, with new democracies in the Philippines, Indonesia, Timor Loro Sae, and seemingly in Thailand again today; closed authoritarian regimes in Burma/Myanmar and Brunei; and post-totalitarian regimes in Vietnam and Laos. Reflecting the expertise of the Centre's Director, Professor William Case, particular attention will be given to what have been identified through comparative analysis as 'hybrid' regimes, highly durable political systems which, in combining democratic procedures with authoritarian controls, are characteristic of several Southeast Asian countries, including Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia. On this count, parallels also exist with Hong Kong's experience, encouraging comparative policy-relevant analysis. Research will also be extended to finer institutional questions of executive accountability, legislative activities, the patronage systems that

flourish within the region, and the prospects for transformative civil societies. This research theme is an important one, with the democratic or authoritarian elements that are constitutive of a particular regimes holding major implications for political life across Southeast Asia's eleven countries and its half-billion people.

- **'Economic openings, state mediations, societies in flux'**

Research conducted under this theme will address new patterns of foreign investment in Southeast Asia, emanating largely from China, but also from new private equity firms, many of which though headquartered in the West have a large presence in Hong Kong. In addition, local equity firms and powerful sovereign funds have appeared in South Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia. At the same time, Viet Nam has emerged as a major destination for foreign direct investment, especially from Hong Kong, with export manufacturing now rapidly diversifying beyond China.

This theme will also promote research addressing Southeast Asia's role as the motor force behind East Asian free trade agreements and notions of an East Asian 'community' and 'identity'. But more than focusing on cross-national activities and their mediation by governments, these studies will explore major implications for political and societal restructuring.

- **'State-society interface: contestations and convergences over gender, values, identities, rights and resources'**

This theme will address a range of contested issues that are best approached using interdisciplinary tools from sociology, anthropology and other social sciences. In many respects, this theme reflects what SEARC has traditionally researched most effectively, with several of its core members possessing expertise in gender, religion and ethnicity in Southeast Asia and the challenges confronted by Southeast

Asian migrant workers in Hong Kong and elsewhere. Issues involving the environment will also be explored, especially as they involve China's policies of resource extraction in the Southeast Asian region. This is probably the theme too that best lends itself to applied research and real-world problems.

- **Vietnam project**

As a major part of SEARC's revitalization, the Centre has begun setting up a specific Vietnam country project. Vietnam's rapid transition from a planned and collectivized economy to more marketized dealings—driven by national leadership that fully recognizes the need for change—has consisted of serious reforms and poverty reduction, while avoiding severe social dislocations. Vietnam has thus been hailed as Asia's next 'tiger' economy, with powerful implications for China and Hong Kong.

In early 2007, the then CityU president, HK Chang, mandated that SEARC should reorient a substantial part of its research effort to the study of contemporary Viet Nam. Funding was then made available to SEARC for relevant research projects and staff support. Funding was also made available to the Department of AIS, with which SEARC is affiliated, in order to recruit as many as three Viet Nam specialists who would then join the Centre as core members. In mid-2007, Dr Chan Yuk-wah, who researches Vietnamese diasporas, relations with China, and Chinese minorities in Viet Nam, was reappointed to AIS. In early 2008, Dr Jonathan London, a specialist in Viet Nam's contemporary politics and political economy, was recruited to AIS from Nanyang University in Singapore. With the funding made available to SEARC, Dr London has recently proposed three conferences and workshops for 2008 (see below).

- **Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts (WEMC) project**

In 2006, Dr Vivienne Wee, Associate Director of SEARC, began a five-year applied research project to discover and implement strategies through which women living in Muslim countries and communities might change inequitable patterns of dominance. The independent project is funded by the UK Government's Department for International Development, with SEARC as the lead research partner and administrator of the Research Programme Consortium implementing the project. The project fits squarely within SEARC's 'State-society interface' research theme. It is elaborated more fully in section 3.1 below.

The Centre's Research Agenda is available from its web site, at:

http://www.cityu.edu.hk/searc/Research_Agenda.htm.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Core members of SEARC have been active in seeking funding for research projects from external competitive sources and from CityU. In the first four years of its operation, SEARC was also able to provide in its own right smaller amounts of funding for closely targeted research projects. In 2007 funding became available to resume this small grant funding on a modest scale, though the bulk of it will be directed exclusively to the study of Viet Nam. In addition, SEARC established during its early years a critical focus on women's issues, ethnicity, religion, labour, migration and environment that bolstered the success rate of its members in making applications. The research that followed has contributed to academic debates across a range of fields, while also demonstrating policy relevance. The awarding of grant funding in 2007, as well as the progress of funded projects is listed below:

External competitive grants

- In July 2006, Dr Vivienne Wee, SEARC Associate Director, was awarded a grant

of HKD53 million by the UK government's Department for International Development (DFID). This is the largest grant ever won by a researcher at CityU. The grant supports a five-year project entitled '**Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts: Gender, Poverty and Democratisation From the Inside Out (WEMC)**'. This award is part of DFID's programme to enhance women's empowerment globally and to attain the third goal in the United Nations' Millennium Campaign, specifically, to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women. Dr Wee's project brings together an innovative coalition that synergizes world-class academic institutions and leading civil society organisations. It is implemented by an international Research Programme Consortium (RPC) comprising CityU researchers and collaborating institutions that includes: SEARC (CityU), International Gender Studies Centre (Oxford University), Department of Community Health Services (Aga Khan University, Pakistan), Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre (Pakistan), Solidaritas Perempuan (Indonesia), Semarak Cerlang Nusa (Indonesia), Women Living Under Muslim Laws (Regional Coordination Office - Asia), and ENGENDER (Singapore, Hong Kong). Dr Catherine Chiu, Core Member of SEARC and Associate Head of AIS, is also part of this project, coordinating SEARC's research on Muslim women in Guangzhou. Dr Wee herself, apart from being the Director of the RPC, is also the lead researcher in the research on Indonesia.

During 2007, Dr Wee continued to provide intellectual leadership and strategic management in her second year as Director of the RPC. Research continued in Muslim communities and countries in four Asian sub-regions – China (East Asia), Indonesia (Southeast Asia), Pakistan (South Asia), and Iran (West Asia), and it will be supplemented by analysis of cross-border interactions.

However, the relevance of this project extends beyond Muslim contexts to non-Muslim milieus with other kinds of disempowering forces. The project will analyse women's empowerment strategies, identify sources of support for strengthening women's agency as insiders challenging disempowering structures, build analytical capacity and strategic alliances that catalyse transformative research, and pinpoint ways for promoting good governance, democratization, and appropriate development. It is thus very much an applied research project through which to identify women's indigenous strategies for empowerment in ways that can transform unfavourable power relations.

- During 2007, Dr Vivienne Wee, collaborating with Dr Chan Yuk-wah, Mr Chong-wong Tiong and Ms Phoebe So, completed a research project funded by the Competitive Earmarked Research Grant (CERG) scheme. Entitled '**China and Southeast Asia: Challenges, Opportunities and the Re-construction of Southeast Asian Chinese Ethnic Capital**' (9040959), this project received funding of HKD516,508 over 30 months. It examines the nature of interactions between the governments and societies of China and Southeast Asia following sustained economic growth in the post-Cold War era. Change has intensified following the Asian economic crisis, which altered the relative positions of China and Southeast Asia in the global economy. The current literature focuses on formal institutions such as ASEAN+3 and on government-centred bilateral relationships. This project examines three other important changes: (i) changing investment relationships; (ii) changing Southeast Asian government policies towards China and towards Southeast Asian populations of Chinese descent; and (iii) the reconstruction of relations between Southeast Asian Chinese and China. The focus is on

Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

- In October 2007, Dr Vivienne Wee received a grant of HKD273,000 from the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) for a project on **“Culture”, Women, Violence: Debunking and Rejecting Cultural Justifications for Violence Against Women**’. This ground-breaking project differs from other projects on violence against women by focusing on a key mechanism that leads to the perpetuation of such violence – namely, the misuse of culture as a mode of justification. Such ‘cultural’ justifications systematically reproduce particular patterns of violence as social norms, thereby rooting violence in the very fabric of social relationships and interactions. The project was launched in conjunction with the WEMC Research Programme Consortium’s forums on ‘Culture’, Women, Violence, organised in Turkey in collaboration with the Istanbul Bilgi University and the Middle East Technical University. UNIFEM’s grant is for Phase 1 of the project, which covers a video-link between Istanbul and New York during the forum, as well as preliminary footage for a film on ‘Culture’, Women, Violence. Further funding is expected for Phase 2 of the project.

In seeking additional external funding during 2007, SEARC Director Professor William Case and core member Dr David Chan made CERG applications for 2008-2009. Professor Case submitted a proposal entitled **‘Legislatures, Accountability, and Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia**’. Dr Chan submitted a proposal entitled **‘A Comparative Study of Transnational Higher Education in Hong Kong, China, and Malaysia**’.

University grants

- During 2007, Dr Vivienne Wee completed her project entitled **‘Illegal Indonesian Women Migrants in Hong Kong and Macau: Policy Implications**’. The grant (grant type: Other Miscellaneous Research Projects) was awarded by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in May 2005 for HKD59,999 over 12 months, but was extended during 2006 until May 2007 (with a final report submission date of February 2008). Using an innovative framework of ‘cultural economy’, this study addresses the causes and motivations of illegal migration and settlement by Indonesian domestic workers in Hong Kong and Macau. It will lead to specific policy recommendations for the suitable management of these temporary migration flows, with implications for policies of labour export, import and management, and for international relations between sending and recipient states.
- During 2007, Professor William Case obtained a university grant for a project entitled **‘Ownership Patterns and Political Regimes in the “ASEAN Three”**’. The grant (grant type: New Staff Start-up Grant, 7200101) was awarded for HKD99,974. The study evaluates the resilience of different political regimes in Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia—Southeast Asia’s largest economies—a decade after they were tested by the Asian financial crisis of 1997-98. Fieldwork was undertaken in the capital cities of all three country cases during January 2008. Early findings indicate the project will provide a useful corrective for the notion that democratic regimes are best able to weather economic shocks.
- During 2007, Professor William Case obtained a university grant for a project entitled **‘Can Legislatures Hold Governments More Accountable under Contemporary Authoritarianism than in New Democracies? Evidence from Southeast Asia**’’. The grant (grant type: Strategic Research Grant, 7002186) was awarded by the University Research Committee in September for HKD174,319 over 15 months,

commencing 1 October 2007. The study compares the motivations and performances of legislators operating under a semi-authoritarian regime in Malaysia with those of legislators in a new democracy in Indonesia. It hypothesizes that because legislators under the former kind of regime seek to impose accountability rather than to gain patronage, they are more effective in exposing and deterring various government abuses.

SEARC-funded fieldwork

- SEARC funded fieldwork expenses of Dr Chan Yuk-wah in Vietnam during August-September 2006 (9360052), enabling her to further her research project, **'Ethnicity, Transnationality and Economy: The Economic Roles of Ngaoi Hoa in the New Political Economy of Vietnam'** during 2006. This field trip was funded at HKD13,216. It was carried out under a project that had initially been funded through a CERG (9040959) held by Dr Wee. It has resulted Dr Chan's writing a book chapter entitled **'Chinese Diaspora or Vietnamese Diaspora? Viet-kieu Goc Hoa in Vietnam'** (in French and English), Michel Dolinski, ed. to be published in 2008 (title to be confirmed).
- SEARC funded Professor William Case's accompanying a study tour to Vietnam organized for undergraduate students by Dr Chang Yuk-wah through the Dept of AIS during 20-30 May. During this study tour, Professor Case met with researchers at the Institute of Southeast Asia, the Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences in Hanoi, and the Open University in Ho Chi Minh City in order to begin laying the groundwork for collaborative research between SEARC and institutions in Vietnam.

COLLABORATION AND PUBLICITY

Collaboration

The Centre has a range of collaborative arrangements with individual researchers,

Centres and other universities. These include:

- Murdoch University, Perth, Australia
- The Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands
- Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia
- National University of Singapore, Singapore
- Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies, Wollongong University, Wollongong, Australia
- Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia
- Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China
- Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Carolina Asia Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States

Publicity

SEARC has gained an impressive amount of local, regional and international publicity. Core members and Centre research staff have often been quoted in the press on Southeast Asian affairs and issues. The range of outlets includes: *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Financial Times*, *South China Morning Post*, Associated Press, Reuters, CNNi, BBC, Star TV, Voice of America and Chinese-language and Southeast Asian-language newspapers and magazines. In March 2007, Professor William Case provided live election commentary on the Hong Kong chief executive election for TVB Pearl (Hong Kong). He was also interviewed for a special evening report on the election. In September, Professor Case was interviewed by Radio Television Hong (RTHK) over the suppression of democracy activists in Burma. In October, Kyaw Yin Hlaing was interviewed by RTHK about the Buddhist protests in Burma against the military government. In May, Bryan Wong Pak Nung was interviewed about the Philippine elections for a webcast by Voice of America. In December, he was interviewed by

Television Broadcasting Company (Hong Kong) on the Pearl Report programme about extra-judicial killings in the Philippines.

SEARC maintains a comprehensive web site (<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/searc>). However, given the changes in the Centre's membership and research focus, its website began a fundamental overhaul in 2006. It is anticipated that a more modern formatted design will be adopted in 2008. During 2007, SEARC revived its Working Paper Series. This series once attracted a large number of hits and highly favourable feedback, but had been left nearly to lapse in 2005. During 2007, however, 14 new papers were added, making a total of 97 working papers available for download. SEARC is thus restoring the series to its former prominence, posting papers written by its core members while seeking scholarly papers from outside contributors. At the time of preparing this report in early 2008, the site had recorded more than 38,000 hits.

APPLIED WORK UNDERTAKEN

In past years, as SEARC matured and its research programme evolved, the Centre's focus turned increasingly to projects that held prospects for real-world application, not least in Hong Kong. SEARC's research thus came to focus on (i) labour migration, labour standards, and corporate social responsibility; and (ii) China and Southeast Asia.

One example of the significant output that resulted from these activities involves a project entitled *Labour Regulatory Regimes and Labour Standards: A Comparative Perspective*, funded by the Centre and concluded in 2004. This project generated a range of publications and provided the basis for the successful CERG application. It also produced six working papers that later became the basis for the Centre's specialist web site devoted to labour law and practice in Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam (<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/searc/labourlaw/>). This site enabled researchers, labour activists, union organizers and others to

compare sections of law in each of these countries. It was launched in May 2004. By the end of that year, it had received more than 2,000 hits, and by December 2005, this had increased to approximately 5,000. At the time of writing this report in early 2008, the site had received 9800 hits.

Another example of this applied research involves a consultancy undertaken by SEARC researchers, Dr Vivienne Wee, Dr Chan Yuk-wah, and Ms Cathy Chan, for the Wanchai District. It investigated the ways in which Indonesian migrant workers access public facilities and services. It resulted in the publication in 2006 of a report entitled 'A Survey of the Social Integration of Indonesians in Wan Chai District'.

During early 2007, Professor William Case and Ms Phoebe So studied the campaigning and voting dynamics of the Hong Kong chief executive election. In their analysis, parallels and contrasts were drawn with the political systems of several Southeast Asian countries and states within federal systems, leading to the canvassing of various reform proposals. This gained some attention for SEARC, leading to Professor Case's being invited to give extended commentary on Pearl TV and an address at the Hong Kong Club (see appendix). A manuscript based on the observations made by Professor Case and Ms So was also included in SEARC's working paper series and later formed the basis for a journal submission to *Asian Survey* (University of California) that is currently being refereed.

By far the largest applied research effort undertaken by SEARC, however, has involved the WEMC project, a consultancy undertaken for DFID over a five-year period. This project is geared to discovering and disseminating various strategies through which women in Muslim countries and communities, (specifically, Indonesia, Pakistan, Iran, Muslims in China, Indonesian labour migrants and Afghan refugees) might increase their positions in context-specific power relations in order to attain more equitable statuses and access to

resources in family and community relations, education, career prospects, and citizenship rights. In its aims and breadth, it is difficult to think of a project in the social sciences today that could have more worthwhile research application.

RESEARCH OUTPUT

SEARC's research outputs are discussed in various parts of this report and are listed in Appendix A. During 2007, there were some significant achievements that augur well for the next few years (see below table).

Among its most notable achievements has been the establishment of the ***RoutledgeCurzon/City University of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Studies*** series, with Professor William Case, Dr Vivienne Wee, and Dr Graeme Lang serving as co-editors. This series enhances the Centre's international reputation as a centre of research excellence. To date, six titles have been published. A volume edited by Dr Wee entitled *Political Fragmentation in Southeast Asia* is scheduled to be published in 2008. A contract has also been awarded to Dr Justin Robertson, a core SEARC member, for a volume entitled *U.S.-Asia Economic Relations: A Political Economy of Crisis and the Rise of New Business Actors*, to be published in the series in late 2008.

SEARC Research Outputs 2007	
Category	Number
Monograph and edit books	2
Book Chapter	6
Refereed journal articles	6
On-line Publications	4
Papers for conference, workshop, symposia, etc.	15
Academic Conference	1
Academic Workshop	2
Academic Seminars	6
Roundtables, forums and public seminars	1

EVALUATION

SEARC was externally reviewed in November 2004 and very positively assessed, confirming its standing as a world class research centre able to help enhance the

international profile of CityU. This reputation has also been reflected in its frequent production of special issues and features of international journals, as well its publication of six titles through the RoutledgeCurzon/City University of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Studies book series. These books have sold well, been favourably reviewed, and have attracted expressions of continuing support from the publisher.

During 2005 and the first half of 2006, however, after the departure of SEARC's founding Director and the decline in its resources, SEARC seemed to reach a plateau. Thus, during the second half of 2006, a campaign to revitalize SEARC was started. To lead this effort, Professor William Case was appointed as the new Director in July.

A senior research fellowship was also advertised and applicants were sought whose reputations gave confidence that they would contribute to the Centre's scholarly vibrancy and research output. Toward the end of 2006, an offer was made to Dr Jan Stark, based at the Centre for Development Research in Bonn, Germany, and an expert in political Islam in Southeast and Central Asia, to join SEARC as a senior research fellow for a year. Dr Stark, fluent in Malay/Indonesian, Arabic, Persian, English and German, and with publications in several international journals of comparative politics, accepted SEARC's offer and began his appointment in 2007. His appointment was then renewed though 2008.

Toward the end of 2007, with funding provided by the dean, Dr Nankyung Choi was recruited from Nanyang University in Singapore to join SEARC as research fellow for two years. Dr Choi specializes in democratization and electoral politics, especially in Indonesia, interests that squarely accord with SEARC's new research themes. She took up her appointment in January in 2008.

Funding was also approved by the former

president to appoint research associates and possibly another research fellow to help in advancing SEARC as an internationally recognized centre for the study of politics, economy, and society in contemporary Viet Nam. At the time of writing, advertising was about to be placed by the Department of AIS for the recruitment of a second teaching staff member with a specialization in some aspect of contemporary Viet Nam. It is anticipated that the successful candidate will become a core member of SEARC and collaborate with Dr London and Dr Chan in rapidly advancing the Centre's Viet Nam-oriented research.

Meanwhile, SEARC researchers continue to receive invitations to present their research internationally at workshops and on conference panels, observe elections overseas, and provide media commentary to local and international outlets. They are also active in applying for competitive external funds, while publishing articles in high-quality international journals and books from highly regarded publishers. A seventh title (mentioned above), *Political Fragmentation in Southeast Asia*, edited by Dr Vivienne Wee, is scheduled for publication in 2008 through the RoutledgeCurzon/CityUniversity of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Studies series. Dr Justin Robertson also holds a contract for book publication in late 2008.

But while growing more active toward the end of 2006 and seeking to make a strong contribution to CityU's international profile and research output, hence contributing to the university's mission and role, SEARC still faced challenges in three principal areas.

- **New SEARC profile.** The new profile of SEARC and its researchers means that the Centre has strong prospects to raise the high regard in which it is already held. But the new aims and staff turnover have meant too that a more regular schedule of workshops and conferences hosted by the Centre has only recently come into place (see section 10 below). SEARC has been somewhat

hampered in this too by the recentness of the funding that it has received and the fact that most of it has been committed to Viet Nam, yet Dr London, currently the pivotal staff member in SEARC's new mission to study Vietnam's contemporary politics and political economy, did not take up his appointment until 2008. A third Viet Nam specialist has yet to be appointed. Meanwhile, three of SEARC's most longstanding and productive core members, Professor Martin Painter and Dr Graeme Lang have been preoccupied with new administrative duties.

- **Budgetary resources.** As documented below, operating expenses, outstanding commitments for staff salaries, and small grant funding awarded in past years left SEARC nearly bereft of resources throughout 2006 and the first quarter of 2007. Thus, while the WEMC project flourished with independent funding, SEARC was unable to support anything further in the way of research projects and workshops. In late 2006, the SEARC Director, Professor William Case, was invited by the President of City University, Professor HK Chang, to include the study of contemporary Vietnam in the Centre's activities. As part of SEARC's revitalization, then, a proposal for a 'Vietnam Project' was duly submitted, and discussions carried over into 2007. As noted above, SEARC researchers apply regularly for competitive external grants. They also endeavour to produce research in areas that bear relevance for industry, especially in Hong Kong. And they have been commissioned to undertake projects by various Hong Kong government bodies. But while producing studies on migration and labour standards, SEARC's standing as a social sciences-based research centre makes it difficult to attract corporate donors. Government projects have also been irregular. SEARC did attract approximately HKD150,000 in overhead from DFID for its administration of the WEMC project. However, SEARC will

likely remain dependent on CityU for the bulk of its budgetary resources.

- **Fieldwork.** As a research centre dedicated to the study of the Southeast Asian region, it is essential that SEARC researchers be given adequate time to carry out fieldwork. Conducting interviews, targeted surveys, archival research, and other forms of data collection all require that researchers spend time overseas. Without this, very little in the way of new information can be gained that leads to the publications in respected book series and SSCI journals that CityU rightly values. Moreover, as their contacts fade and language skills atrophy, researchers are reduced to recycling old material or synthesizing the data and interpretations of others, soon eroding their credibility among academic peers and media analysts. SEARC researchers remain fully committed to their classroom and administrative commitments at CityU. But the University's tight restrictions on research leave—even during term breaks—make it difficult to carry out extended research, especially across several country cases. For SEARC to prosper in the future, it is essential that its researchers be able to engage fully with the Southeast Asia region.

PLANS

- ***Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia***

As detailed above, while preserving some of its long-standing expertise in regional political economy, women's issues, religion, ethnicity, migration, and labour, SEARC has identified some new core research themes. On this score, the Centre will move ahead with projects related to democracy and contemporary authoritarianism. An international workshop will thus be held in May 2008 through which new forms of authoritarianism in the Southeast Asian region will be analyzed. Participants will not only be asked to address different national polities, but also to take

different analytical approaches, encouraging vibrant exchanges over methodologies and frameworks.

Another workshop to be held during the second half of 2008 or first half of 2009 will narrow the focus on contemporary authoritarianism in the region to the specific functioning of electoral procedures and legislative institutions. These questions about authoritarian durability lie at the heart of the discipline of comparative politics today. And Southeast Asia, in displaying a great diversity of regime types and many different shades of authoritarian rule, provides data that can thus be brought much more fully than it has been into mainstream debates.

A major aim of SEARC over the next several years, then, will be to reach beyond the community of Southeast Asian specialists to engage comparativists writing about regime continuity and change in other parts of the developing world, especially China, Northeast Asia, and Latin America. It is expected too that findings and lessons made through comparative analysis will have relevance for Hong Kong as its very unique political regime continues to evolve. In doing this, SEARC does not envision having the resources with which regularly to convene international workshops to which scholars based in North America and Europe might be invited to CityU. But by keeping contact and maintaining communication, these scholars can be encouraged to visit SEARC when they are in the region for other events. Funding for this outreach venture has been specified in the budget projections for 2008 and 2009.

- ***Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts: Gender, Poverty and Democratisation From the Inside Out Project***

In July 2007, the WEMC project completed its first year. It is scheduled to run another four years until 30 June

2011. Research and publication activities by the Research Programme Consortium will continue to develop, with the following conference panels planned for 2008:

1. WEMC will organise 10 panels and one roundtable on **'Muslim Women in Diverse Contexts: Gender, Development and Women's Voices'** at the 16th International Congress of Anthropological & Ethnological Sciences on the theme of 'Humanity, Development and Cultural Diversity' (15-23 July 2008, Kunming, China). WEMC Key Partner, the International Gender Studies Centre of Oxford University, will play the key organising role.
2. WEMC will organise a panel on **'Women's Movements in Contestations of Power in Muslim Contexts'** at the 11th AWID International Forum on Women's Rights and Development (November 14-17 2008, Cape Town, South Africa)

- ***Vietnam Project***

Before his retirement in late 2006, CityU's president, H.K. Chang, allocated the Department of AIS and SEARC funding with which to advance university as an important centre for the study of Vietnam. President Chang recognized that in recent years, Viet Nam has emerged with one of most dynamic economies and societies in Southeast Asia—a status that hold special implications for Hong Kong. Thus, he encouraged SEARC to extend its study so that it might become a major centre for research related to Vietnam. Over the next two years. SEARC plants several events that will draw scholars from Vietnam and other international settings to examine critical aspects of Viet Nam's continuing transformation. For 2008, SEARC will host an international workshop titled 'Remaking the

Vietnamese State: Implications for Vietnam and the Region', as well as a conference on 'Viet Nam and East Asia' later in the year.

Internationally there is considerable interest in making comparative sense of the changes underway in Viet Nam and China. SEARC is well positioned to facilitate development of such activities in 2009 will sponsor a workshop on 'Asian Socialisms'. Bringing China and Viet Nam scholars together, the conference will examine aspects of social, political, and economic change in two societies whose governance structures combine market-based economic institutions and Leninist political principles.

In 2009, SEARC plans a symposium or small number of talks that will examine relations between Hong Kong and Viet Nam. For the last 20 years, Hong Kong has been one of the most important sources of foreign investment flowing to Viet Nam. It is there remarkable that there has been no concerted effort to analyze the nature of Hong Kong's emerging relationship with Viet Nam. Other Viet Nam activities may include periodic talks by visiting scholars and the development of institutional ties between SEARC and research institutions in Viet Nam.

- ***Other events for 2008***

In March, SEARC will host a session of the renowned Hong Kong Literary Festival, featuring an address on China-Southeast Asian relations by a well-known correspondent in the region and published book author, Rob Gifford. In May 2008, SEARC will co-organize with the Hong Kong Society for Indonesian Studies a two-day conference on ethnic Chinese integration in Indonesia. Meanwhile, throughout 2008 and beyond, the WEMC project will continue to generate a range of workshops, conferences, public addresses, and various other forums

ORGANISATION

Core members

Professor William Case (Director, SEARC and Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr Vivienne Wee (Associate Director, SEARC and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Professor Martin Painter (Acting Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science and Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Dr Graeme Lang (Head and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Professor Joseph Cheng (Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Dr Catherine Chiu (Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr David Chan (Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr Yuk-wah Chan (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr Stephen Frost (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr James Lee (Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Dr Justin Robertson (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr Bill Taylor (Associate Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Dr Bryan Wong (Assistant Professor, Department of Applied Social Studies)

Dr Xiaowei Zang (Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies) (2004-2006)

Dr Jonathan London (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies) (2007—)

Management Committee

Professor William Case (Director, SEARC)

Dr Vivienne Wee (Associate Director, SEARC)

Dr Catherine Chiu (Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

Dr James Lee (Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Steering Committee

Chairman: Professor Martin Painter (Acting Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences)

Convenor: Professor William Case (Director, SEARC)

Dr Vivienne Wee (Associate Director, SEARC)

Professor Joseph Cheng (Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Dr Graeme Lang (Head, Department of Asian and International Studies)

International Advisory Committee

Professor Wang Gungwu (Director, East Asia Institute, Singapore)

Professor Richard Higgott (Director, Centre

for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, The University of Warwick, UK)

Professor Pasuk Phongpaichit (Professor of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)

Professor Zhuang Goutu (Director, Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Xiamen University, China)

Professor Richard Robison (Professor of Political Economy, The Institute of Social Studies, The Hague)

Professor H H Michael Hsiao (Director, Asia-Pacific Research Program, Academia Sinica, Taipei)

Professor Garry Rodan (Director, Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia)

Professor V T King (Professor of Southeast Asian Studies, University of Hull, UK)

Professor Kevin Hewison (Director, Carolina Asia Centre, University of North Carolina of Chapel Hill, USA)

Research Associates

Dr Raymond K.H. Chan (Department of Applied Social Studies)

Dr Angel Lin (Department of English and Communication; on secondment to Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Research Affiliates

Dr Mark Beeson, York University, York, United Kingdom

Dr Andrew Brown, Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, Australia

Dr Vedi Hadiz, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Miss Mary Ho, Department of Applied Social Sciences, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

Dr Michael Jacobsen, Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark

Dr Kanishka Jayasuriya, Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia

Ms Nancy Tong, WEMC, SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Visiting Fellows in 2007

Ms Chew Choo-lin (1 March 2007-29 February 2008)

Mr Caspar Schauseil, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), The Johns Hopkins University, United States (30 July 2007-31 August 2007)

Ms Ngo Tuyet-lan, Faculty of Oriental Studies, Viet Nam National University, Vietnam (1 October 2007-31 July 2008)

Ms Khadija Zaheer, Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan (15 October 2007-14 October 2008)

Ms Farida Shaheed, Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan (1 November 2007-31 October 2008)

Dr Lee Yong-chul, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University, Japan (8 November 2007-7 February 2008)

Research Fellows in 2007

Dr Jan Stark, Senior Research Fellow, SEARC (January 2007—)

Dr Astrid Tuminez, Senior Research Fellow, SEARC (part-time) (January 2006—)

Research Associates / Assistants

Ms Mary Ho, Senior Research Associate (October 2006-January 2007)

Mr Chong-wong Tiong, Senior Research Associate, SEARC (November 2006—)

Ms Naomi Lo, Research Assistant (until August 2006); Senior Research Associate (October 2006-December 2007)

Ms Phoebe So, Senior Research Associate, WEMC, SEARC (September 2006—)

Ms Joy Tadios, Senior Research Associate, WEMC, SEARC (October 2006—)

Executive and Clerical Officers

Ms Josephine Yim, Clerical Officer, SEARC (July 2006-)

Miss Beatrice Ng, Executive Officer, WEMC, SEARC (March 2007-December 2007)

Ms Mandy Wong, Executive Officer, WEMC, SEARC (December 2007—)

APPENDIX A

Research Outputs BY SEARC and SEARC-Affiliated Researchers

Monographs and special features

N. Ganesan and Kyaw Yin Hlaing (eds.), *Myanmar: Politics, Society, and Ethnicity*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), 2007.

Robertson, Justin (ed.), *Power and Politics After Financial Crises: Rethinking Foreign Opportunism in Emerging Markets*, Houndmills: Palgrave, 2007.

Chapters in edited books

Case, William, 'Semi-democracy and Minimalist Federalism in Malaysia', in Baogang He, Brian Galligan, and Takashi Inoguchi (eds.), *Federalism in Asia*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2007, pp. 124-43.

Chan Yuk-wah, 'Fortune or Misfortune? Border Tourism and Borderland Gambling in Vietnam', in Janet Cochrane (ed.), *Asian Tourism: Growth and Change*. UK: Elsevier Publishing, 2007, pp. 145-55.

_____, 'Border Encounters: Chinese Businesspeople in the Vietnam-China Borderlands', in Suryadinata, Leo (ed.), *Chinese Diaspora since Admiral Zheng He with Special Reference to Maritime Asia*, Singapore: Chinese Heritage Centre, 2007, pp.181-201.

Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 'Associational Life in Myanmar', in N. Ganesan and Kyaw Yin Hlaing, eds., *Myanmar: Politics, Society, and Ethnicity*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2007, pp. 143-71.

Robertson, Justin, 'Introduction: Key Theoretical Divides and Directions', in *Power and Politics After Financial Crises: Rethinking Foreign Opportunism in Emerging Markets*, Houndmills: Palgrave, 2007, pp. 1-28.

_____, 'Conclusion: Contesting the Return to State-Led Economies', in *Power and Politics After Financial Crises: Rethinking Foreign Opportunism in Emerging Markets*, Houndmills: Palgrave, 2007, pp. 252-60.

Refereed journal articles

Case, William, 'Democracy's Quality and Breakdown: New Lessons from Thailand', *Democratization* 14(4), 2007, pp. 622-42.

_____. 'Brunei in 2007: Not a Bad Year', *Asian Survey* 42(1), 2007, pp. 189-93.

Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 'The Politics of State-Society Relations in Burma', *Southeast Asia Research* 15(2), 2007, pp. 213-54.

Sim, Amy. 2007. 'The sexual economy of desire: girlfriends, boyfriends and babies among Indonesian women migrants in Hong Kong', *Sexualities*, accepted for publication in 2007.

Stark, Jan, 'The Crescent Rises over Nusantara: Discourses of Islamization in Southeast Asia', *Internationales Asienforum*, accepted for publication in 2007.

Tuminez, Astrid S., 'This Land Is Our Land: Moro Ancestral Domain and Its Implications for Peace and Development in the Southern Philippines', *SAIS Review* vol. XXVII no.2 (Summer-Fall 2007), pp. 77 (commissioned).

Papers for conferences, workshops and symposia

Case, William, 'Patterns of Ownership and Regime Outcomes in the Asean Three', 5th International Conference of Asian Scholars (ICAS 5), Conference on 'Sharing a Future in Asia', Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur, 2-5 August 2007.

_____, 'Political Regimes in the "Asean Three"', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Chan, David, 'A Comparative Study on the Corporatization of Higher Education in Singapore and Hong Kong', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Chan Yuk-wah, 'Crossing Borders: Vietnamese Women and Chinese Men at the Vietnam-China Borderlands' presented at *Desire, Dialogue, Democracy: The 2007 International Conference on Inter-Asian Culture, Communication, Conflict and Peace*, Hong Kong, 4-5 May 2007.

_____, 'Repositioning Nguoi Hoa in Vietnam's New Political Economy Since Doi Mmoi', presented at *The 6th Conference of the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas Conference* (ISSCO), Peking University, China, 21-23 September 2007.

_____, 'Taste, Smell, Memory: The Politics of Food of the Hoa People in Vietnam', presented at *The 10th Symposium on Chinese Dietary Culture*, Penang, Malaysia, 12-14 November 2007.

_____, 'How long will the friendship last? Vietnam-China relations and Vietnam's policies towards the ethnic Chinese since Doi Moi' presented at the *International Conference Southeast Asia and China: Connecting, Distancing and Positioning*, Singapore Society of Asian Studies, Singapore, 1 December 2007.

_____, 'Accumulative Discrimination: A Critique on Racial Discrimination Bill': Communal Structures, Capacity, and Ownership', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Chiu, Catherine C.H. and Naomi Lo, 'Agency without Contestation: Narratives of Successful Muslim Women in Guangzhou, China', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Lang, Graeme and Vic Li, 'Ecological Modernization' or the 'Treadmill of Production'? The Attempt to Implement 'Green GDP' Accounting in China', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Sim, Amy, 'Women's Leadership, Empowerment and Issues in Women's Labour Migration from Indonesia', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

So, Phoebe, '*Yan Nèih Muih*: The Formation of Racial Stereotypes of Indonesian Domestic Workers in Hong Kong', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Wee, Vivienne and Farida Shaheed, 'Indigenous Feminisms: Resistance to Culturally Embedded Patriarchies', presented at Conference on 'Reclaiming Feminism', Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex, 9-11 July 2007.

Presented also at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

_____, Neng Dara Affiah and Phoebe So, 'The Indonesian Women's Movement in Political Contestations: Past, Present and Future Challenges', presented at the *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, co-organized by the Hong Kong Sociological Association, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Invited lectures

Case, William, 'Hong Kong's 2007 Chief Executive Election', Vision 2047 Foundation, Hong Kong Club, Hong Kong, 26 March 2007.

_____, 'Politics and Terrorism in Southeast Asia', Asia Society, Hong Kong, Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 22 November 2007.

Wee, Vivienne, 'Desire, Dialogue, Democracy: Self, Other(s), All', keynote address at the 2007 InterAsian Conference of Culture, Communication, Conflict, and Peace,

organized by the Department of English and Communication, City University of Hong Kong, 4-5 May 2007.

_____. 'Is the Killing of Women for Exercising Sexual Autonomy Found Only in Muslim Contexts?', concluding remarks at the Launch of a Global Campaign 'Stop Stoning and Killing Women', organized by Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML), 26 November 2007.

Public and professional services

Case, William, presenter, 'Political Liberties and Terrorist Outcomes in Southeast Asia', Conference on Terrorism, Human Security and Development: Human Rights Perspectives', School of Law, City University of Hong Kong/United Nations University, Hong Kong, 16-17 October 2007.

_____, referee (four journal submissions on Southeast Asia), reader (book proposal on democracy in East Asia), examiner (two PhD. theses on Southeast Asia).

Wee, Vivienne, William Case, Graeme Lang, editors, *RoutledgeCurzon-City University of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Series*.

_____ and Lin Chew, discussants, 'Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation and Capacity Development', Department for International Development (DFID), London, 2 August 2007.

_____, Farida Shaheed, Homa Hoodfar, and Maria Jaschok, discussants, 'RPC and DRC Learning Event', Department for International Development (DFID), 17-18 September 2007.

OTHER OUTPUTS BY SEARC RESEARCHERS AND CORE MEMBERS

Chapters in edited books

CHENG, J Y S, 'China's Asian Policy: Multipolarity, Regionalism and Peaceful Rise', *China-Japan Relations in the Twenty-first Century – Creating a Future Past?*, M Heazle and N Knight (eds), Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK and Northampton, MA, USA, 2007, pp. 149-174.

Xiaowei Zang, 'Gender and Ethnic Variation in Love Marriage in Urban Malaysia', in Sunil Kukreja (ed.), *Cross Cultural Studies on the Family* (New Delhi: Serials Publications, 2006), pp. 44-62.

Refereed journal articles (and commissioned articles in refereed journals)

Chan, D.K.K. 'Global Agenda, Local Response: The Changing Education Governance in Hong Kong, Globalisation, *Societies and Education* 5(1), 2007, pp. 109-124.

_____ and W. Lo, 'Running Universities as Enterprises: University Governance Changes in Hong Kong', *Asia Pacific Journal of Education*, Vol. 27, No. 3, 2007, pp. 305-322.

Chan Yuk-wah, 'Chinese American Death Rituals: Respecting the Ancestors', Chung, S. F. and P. Wegars (eds.) (2006), Lanham: ALTAMIRA Press, *Journal of Chinese Overseas*, Vol. 3, No. 2, 2007, pp. 269-71.

Ching Chan, Selina and Graeme Lang, 'Temple Construction and the Revival of Popular Religion in Jinhua', *China Information* 21(1): 43-69.

Chiu, Chiu, 'Workplace Practices in Hong Kong Invested Garment Factories in Cambodia', *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 37 (4): 431-448. (Runner-up Prize of the Best Paper Award of the journal, 2007).

Lang, Graeme and Selina Ching Chan, 'Divination in Chinese Temples', *Chinese Cross Currents* 4(3): 56-75.

Robertson, Justin, 'Reconsidering American Interests in Emerging Market Crises: An Unanticipated Outcome to the Asian Financial Crisis', *Review of International Political Economy* 14(2), 2007, pp. 276-305.

Taylor Bill and Li Qi, 'Is the ACFTU a trade union?', *Journal of Industrial Relations* (Fall 2007).

Xiaowei Zang, 'Minority Ethnicity, Social Status, and Uyghur Community Involvement in Urban Xinjiang', *Asian Ethnicity* 8/1 (February 2007), pp. 25-42.

Papers for conferences, workshops and symposia

Chiu, Catherine, 'Trust in Out-groups in Hong Kong: An Exploration of the Relationship between Structural, Action and Cultural Dimensions of Social Capital', presented at the *8th European Social Network Conference*, Corfu Island, Greece, May 1-6, 2007.

Taylor, Bill, 'Japanese Capital, Chinese labour: strategies of control and resistance in the Japanese supply chain', presented at *Work Employment and Society Conference: Beyond these shores: sinking or swimming in the globalised new economy?*, Aberdeen University, Scotland, 12-14 September 2007.

_____, 'International influence on labor reform in China', presented at *Labour Unions And Democracy In A Globalizing Asia Conference*, SUNY-Binghamton, US October 5-6 2007.

_____ and Qi Li, 'State management of labour capital relations in China: a lack of capacity or lack of interest?', presented at *International Conference on State Capacity of China in the 21st Century*, Department of Public and Social Administration, City University of Hong Kong and Centre for East Asian Studies, University of Bristol, UK, 19-20 April 2007.

Wong, Pak Nung, 'Juxtaposing Justices: The Spiral of Vendettas and Frontier State Rule' Chair of the Panel 'Law and Security', presented at the *International Convention of Asian Scholars* 5, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2-5 August 2007.

_____, 'Representing Revolutionary Justice: The Spiral of Vendettas and the State in a Philippine Frontier.', presented at the *Philippine Political Science Association (PPSA) 2007 International Conference*, Manila, Philippines, 2-3 April 2007.

_____, 'Juxtaposing Justices: The Spiral of Vendettas and Frontier State Building', presented at the *Second Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, 26-27 January 2007*.

Book reviews

CHENG, J Y S, review of K L Ho and K C Hou, *Ensuring Interests: Dynamics of China-Taiwan Relations and Southeast Asia*, Contemporary Southeast Asia, 29(1), Singapore, April 2007, pp. 201-203.

_____, review of G Jonsson, *Towards Korean Reconciliation – Socio-Cultural Exchanges and Cooperation*, (Ashgate Publishing Limited, Aldershot, Hampshire, 2006), *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, 6(1), Hong Kong, Spring 2007, pp. 187-189.

_____, review of B N Ghosh, *Gandhian Political Economy: Principles, Practice and Policy*, (Ashgate Publishing Limited, Aldershot, Hampshire, 2006), *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, 6(1), Hong Kong, Spring 2007, pp. 190-192.

_____, review of W Blaas and J Becker (eds), *Strategic Arena Switching in International Trade Negotiations*, (Ashgate, Aldershot, Hampshire, 2007), *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, 6(2), Fall 2007, Hong Kong, PRC, pp. 409-411.

_____, review of T Islam, *Microcredit and Poverty Alleviation*, *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, (Ashgate, Aldershot, Hampshire, 2007), 6(2), Fall 2007, Hong Kong, PRC, pp. 413-415.

Taylor Bill, review of M Gallagher by [2005 U. Michigan Press], *Contagious Capitalism*, *The China Journal* 58: (July) pp. 179-181

_____, review of Fang Lee Cooke, *HRM, Work and Employment in China*, *Human Resource Management Journal* (2006, Routledge), (April) 17(2), pp. 198-199.

Invited lectures

Chan Yuk-wah, 'Experiences of death management in Hong Kong', Centre for Catholic Studies of Chinese University of Hong Kong, 10 April 2007.

_____, 'Globalization and the emergence of Chinese tourists', PSHE KLA Teacher Professional Development Programme: Enriching Knowledge for the Integrated Humanities (S4-5), Core Modules Series, Hong Kong Education Ministry, YMCA International House, Hong Kong, 29 November 2007.

Taylor Bill, 'Mining accidents in China, lessons from the history of mining in the UK', Department of Politics and International Studies, Warwick University, UK, 16th May 2007.

Wong, Pak Nung, 'Sovereign, *Déjà Vu!* The Law/Force Indistinction in Governing a Philippine City, 1987-2002', Yuchengco Center, La Salle Institute of Governance, and the Department of Political Science, De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines, 3 December 2007.

Public and professional services

Case, William, judge, Model United Nations Club of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, February 2007.

_____, speaker, 'Democracy in Hong Kong', City University of New York (CUNY) Faculty Delegation Visit to Faculty of Humanities and Social Science', City University of Hong Kong, 9 July 2007.

Chan, David, Sociology Subject Specialist, *Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ)* (June 2004 - June 2011).

Chan Yuk-wah, Resource Person to a Dialogue on 'Racial Differences or Discrimination', organized by ATKI-HK (Indonesian group of migrant workers), Ho Tung Secondary School, 30 December 2007.

_____, judge, Youth Learning Project on Pacific Economic Cooperation 2007, organized by Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation and the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups, 3 May 2007.

Cheng, J Y S, Editor, *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development*

Chiu, Catherine C.H., organizer, *Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference*, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Asian and International Studies and the Southeast Asia Research Centre, City University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Sociological Association, City University of Hong Kong, 8 December 2007.

Taylor Bill, Discussant, *International Conference on State Capacity of China in the 21st Century*, Department of Public and Social Administration, City University of Hong Kong and Centre for East Asian Studies, University of Bristol, UK, 19-20 April 2007.

_____, Expert Delegate representing the UK, *EU-China Dialogue Seminar On Human Rights*, organised by German Presidency of the European Union, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peoples Republic of China, Berlin, Germany, 10-11 May 2007.

_____, Discussant, *International Symposium: Hong Kong Ten Years After*, *Centre d' Etudes Français sur la Chine Contemporaine*, Centre D' Etudes et de Recherches Internationales Sciences Po Paris and Contemporary China Research Project, City University of Hong Kong, 29-30 June 2007.

Wong Pak Nung, Article Reviewer, *Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, City University of Hong Kong.

Wee, Vivienne, Director, Research Programme Consortium on Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts.

_____, Member of Editorial Board, *Development Outreach*, Washington DC, World Bank Institute.

_____, Honorary Research Fellow, Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. 999

APPENDIX B

ACADEMIC AND PUBLIC EVENTS

SEARC regularly organizes academic workshops and seminars, as well as public events in various formats. These events frequently involve international participants, thus increasing CityU's exposure and strengthening its cross-national links. Usually held on university premises, they have generated considerable publicity for CityU, raising its intellectual vibrancy and civic vitality. SEARC has thus continued this tradition, hosting a number of events during 2006.

Academic conference

- **'Hong Kong Sociological Association 9th Annual Conference – Society and Reflexivity: Challenges in Asia**, co-organized and co-funded with the Hong Kong Sociological Association and the Department of Asian and International Studies, City University, 8 December 2007. Dr Catherine Chiu, a core member of SEARC and member of AIS, served as Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee. This marked the first time that the HKSA conference was held at CityU and was regarded as one of the best attended.

Academic workshops

- Research methodology workshops, led by Dr Vivienne Wee as part of the WEMC project in collaboration with Semarka Cerlang Nusa and Solidaritas Perempaan, Jakarta, 6-8 April, 27-31 May, 22-23 June, 25 August, 28 September, 8-11 November 2007.
- “Culture”, Women, Violence: Rejection “Cultural” Justifications for Violence Against Women’, forum led by Dr Vivienne Wee as part of WEMC project, Istanbul and Ankara, 26-27 November 2007.

Academic seminars

- **'Timor-Leste and the State Failure Paradigm'**, address given by Professor James Cotton, (University of New South Wales, Australia), 8 February 2007.
- **'Responsible Governance: Asian Democracies Revisited'**, Professor Wazir Karim (University of Malaya, Malaysia), 12 April 2007.
- **'Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts: Democratization from the Inside Out'**, Dr Vivienne Wee, given at United Nations, New York, 20 July 2007.
- **'Political Regimes in the “ASEAN Three”: Communal Structures, Ethnicity, and Ownership'**, Professor William Case, given at Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University, 25 July 2007.
- **Women in Multiple Contexts in China: Majority and Minorities, Centre and Peripheries'**, Dr Vivienne Wee, given at United Nations, New York, 26 July 2007.
- **'Is the Political and Economic Consensus Formed in Malaysia after May 13, 1969 Fraying'**, Mr N Balakrishnan (Ex-journalist (Dow Jones) and Investment Analyst (Bankers Trust)), 5 December 2007.

Public events

One of the most popular activities that SEARC has undertaken over the years has been its public addresses, roundtables and forums. Through these events, academics have shared their research findings and insights with members of the public, greatly enhancing the application of their research. In turn, industry representatives and civil society activists have shared their sentiments with academics and broader audiences. A complete listing of

those organized in past years is available on the SEARC website.

- **‘Public Seminar – Big Questions about Asia and China’**, Mr Jonathan Anderson, Senior Global Emerging Economist, UBS Investment Bank, 4 December 2007.
- This seminar, delivered by Mr Jonathan Anderson, a senior investment banker with vast international experience and now based in Hong Kong, drew a large audience that readily appreciated his financial analysis and projections of global and regional trends. Attracting an investment banker of Mr Anderson’s stature marked an important success for SEARC.

APPENDIX C

WORKING PAPER SERIES

- No. 83, January 2007, William Case, 'Democracy's Quality and Breakdown: New Lessons from Thailand'.
- No. 84, February 2007, Jan Stark, 'Malaysia's Foreign Policies and a New Asian Regionalism'.
- No. 85, April 2007, Stephen McCarthy, 'The Politics of Piety: Pageantry and the Struggle for Buddhism in Burma'.
- No. 86, May 2007, William Case and Phoebe So, 'Hong Kong's 2007 Chief Executive Election: Comparators and Consequences'.
- No. 87, May 2007, Michael H. Nelson, 'People's Sector Politics' (Kanmueang Phak Prachachon) in Thailand: Problems of Democracy in Ousting Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra'.
- No. 88, June 2007, Edo Andriessse, 'Personal Power Networks and Economic Development in Satun (Thailand) and Perlis (Malaysia)'.
- No. 89, October 2007, Vivienne Wee, 'A Cultural Economy of Regionalisation: Ethnicity and Capital in the Changing Relations between China and Southeast Asia' (in Chinese).
- No. 90, October 2007, Michael Jacobsen, 'Decentred Diaspora or Grounded Cosmopolitanism? – On Negotiated Identities and International Linkages in Southeast Asia' (in Chinese).
- No. 91, October 2007, Stephen Frost and Mary Ho, 'Mainland Investment on the Move: State-owned Enterprises and Outward Direct Investment in Southeast Asia' (in Chinese).
- No. 92, October 2007, Wang Wangbo, 'The Characteristics of Southeast Asian Chinese Investments in Mainland China since 1978' (in Chinese).
- No. 93, October 2007, Vivienne Wee, Michael Jacobsen and Tiong Chong-wong, 'Oscillating between Economic Opportunities and Contextual Constraints: Assessing the Positioning of Southeast Asian Ethnic 'Chinese' Entrepreneurs in relation to China' (in Chinese).
- No. 94, October 2007, Michael Jacobsen, 'De-linking the Chinese Diaspora – Manadoese Chinese Entrepreneurship in North Sulawesi' (in Chinese).
- No. 95, October 2007, Edmund Terence Gomez and Chin Yee-whah, 'Malaysia in China: Transnationalism, Business Networks and Enterprise Development' (in Chinese).
- No. 96, November 2007, Andrew Selth, 'Modern Burma Studies: A View from the Edge'.
- No. 97, November 2007, Troy Johnson, 'Voices from Aceh: Perspectives on Syariat Law'

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