



## Annual Progress Report 2009

The Southeast Asia Research Centre (SEARC) was inaugurated on 27 February 2001 as a faculty-based research centre within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (now the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, CHASS). In 2006, it was affiliated with the newly formed Department of Asian and International Studies (AIS). Professor William Case (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 reputation as an important setting for the study of political, economic, and social issues in contemporary Southeast Asia. While receiving funding in most years from City University, SEARC members have actively sought competitive external grant funding, helping to foster a steady output of high-quality publications and working papers. The Centre has also attracted many respected scholars as visitors who, in carrying out research projects and conducting seminars, have further energized the Centre. And in regularly sponsoring international conferences, workshops, public addresses, and roundtables, SEARC has contributed widely to public debate and intellectual life at City University (CityU).

In 2004, SEARC's founding Director, Professor Kevin Hewison, took up a new position as Director of the Carolina Asia Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. During 2005 and the first half of 2006, SEARC was directed by the Dean of FHS, though only in an acting capacity. Beginning in 2006, however, with the appointment of Professor William Case as the new Director, SEARC began a campaign of revitalization. During 2008, generous funding was made available to SEARC by CityU, enabling the Centre fully to resume its research activities.

### 1. MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

#### 1.1 SEARC's mission statement

SEARC's mission statement reflects the development of the Centre and the changing role of CityU within Hong Kong's tertiary education sector. It has recently been modified in order better to accord with the newly unveiled Strategic Plan of City University for 2010-15. More detailed discussion of SEARC's mission within the University is presented in Section 7 below.

The mission of the Southeast Asia Research Centre is to gain recognition as a centre of excellence in academic and applied studies of contemporary Southeast Asia. SEARC thus seeks to attract competitive external grant funding, to collaborate internationally with other institutions, to conduct multidisciplinary research in compelling academic debates in the social sciences, to generate high-quality research publications, and to interact with government agencies and local business in Hong Kong.

## 1.2 SEARC's aims

- To advance the Centre's international reputation and City University's standing by researching political, economic, and social developments in contemporary Southeast Asia
- To obtain competitive external grant funding
- 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 of the Centre
- To conduct multidisciplinary study
- To address major debates in the social sciences
- To produce high quality research publications on contemporary Southeast Asia
- 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.

## 1.3 SEARC's research themes

In late 2006, SEARC Management Committee reorganized the Centre's research themes, supplanting those that had in been in place since the Centre's inception. These themes, designed to provide broad research directions while reflecting changes in contemporary Southeast Asia and the expertise of its new researchers, will contribute to the Centre's ongoing revitalization. Further, in keeping with CityU's new Strategic Plan for 2010-2015, these themes are meant to be developed in multidisciplinary ways, using the tools of political science, sociology, and anthropology. They include:

- **The comparative politics of Southeast Asia: new democracies and contemporary authoritarianism**

Research conducted within this theme begins by addressing 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 possibly Thailand; closed authoritarian regimes in Burma/Myanmar and Brunei; and post-totalitarian regimes in Viet Nam and Laos. Reflecting the expertise of the Centre's Director, Professor William Case, particular attention is 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, and Cambodia. On this count, parallels also exist with Hong Kong's experience, encouraging comparative policy-relevant analysis. Research also extends to finer institutional questions of executive accountability, legislative activities, the patronage systems, and the prospects for transformative civil societies. This research theme is an important one, with the democratic or authoritarian elements of particular regimes holding major implications for political life across Southeast Asia's eleven countries and its half billion people.

- **Southeast Asia in the region: political, economic, and security dynamics**

In responding to suggestions made by CityU's Advisory Group on Research Centres in 2009, SEARC's 'international theme' has been broadened. Prominent among the research areas that

are addressed is Southeast Asia's investment links with other countries in the region, especially those that involve China. To date, China's investment in Southeast Asia has mostly involved extractive industries, raising a variety of questions over developmental gains and environmental pressures. But research is also needed into other kinds of investment involving other political and economic actors in East Asia, including private equity firms and hedge funds which, though usually headquartered in the West, now operate also from South Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia. In addition, Viet Nam has emerged as a major destination for foreign direct investment, especially from Hong Kong, with export manufacturing now rapidly diversifying beyond China.

Research undertaken within this theme extends also to questions about regional security, migration, tourism, communications, disaster management, and Southeast Asia's involvement in the construction of an East Asian identity and 'community'. These issues will be explored in multidisciplinary ways, providing new insights into such areas as non-traditional security threats, cross-national political influences, educational exchanges, Internet communications, and environmental pressures.

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

This theme addresses a range of issues that are best approached using multidisciplinary tools from sociology and anthropology. In many respects, this theme reflects what SEARC has traditionally researched most effectively: Several of its core members possess expertise in gender, religion, ethnicity, and the environment in Southeast Asia. Indeed, SEARC has produced numerous studies on the migration of workers from Southeast Asia to Hong Kong and other destinations throughout the region. It should be noted that this particular theme best lends itself to the applied research of real-world problems that has long been part of CityU's mission.

### **Viet Nam project**

- As a major part of SEARC's revitalization, the Centre has set up a specific Viet Nam country project. Viet Nam's rapid transition from a planned and collectivized economy to more marketized dealings – driven by a national leadership that fully recognizes the need for change – has consisted of serious reforms and poverty reduction, while avoiding severe social dislocation. Viet Nam 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, H.K. Chang, mandated that SEARC should reorient a substantial part of its research effort to the study of contemporary Viet Nam. President Chang recognized that in recent years, Viet Nam has emerged with one of the most dynamic economies and societies in Southeast Asia – a status that holds special implications for Hong Kong, yet has so far gone unaddressed by local scholars in any systematic way. He encouraged SEARC to extend its study so that it might become a major centre for research related to Viet Nam, something for which the Centre is well-positioned.

Funding was made available to SEARC for relevant research projects and staff support. Funding was also given 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 society, was recruited to AIS from Nanyang University in Singapore. With the funding made available to SEARC, Dr Chan and Dr London have organized a number of workshops addressing Viet Nam issues

over the past two years, while planning has begun for a major event in mid-2010 (see below). In early 2010, the unspent funds that had been dedicated to the Viet Nam Project were released by CityU management for more general research use by the Centre. It is envisioned, however, that a strong commitment to funding the study of Viet Nam will remain.

### **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 Themes are available from its web site at:

<http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/searc/themes.shtml>.

The Centre's Viet Nam and WEMC projects are available at:

<http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/searc/project.shtml>.

## **2. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

### **2.1 Core members**

The Centre's core members consist of its principal researchers. During 2009, they included:

- Professor William Case (Director, SEARC and Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Professor Martin Painter (Acting Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)
- Professor Graeme Lang (Acting Head and Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Catherine Chiu (Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Professor Joseph Cheng (Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)
- Dr David Chan (Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Chan Yuk-wah (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Michael Connors (Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Stephen Frost (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Jonathan London (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Justin Robertson (Assistant Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Bill Taylor (Associate Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

- Dr Nicholas Thomas (Acting Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)

## **2.2 Management Committee**

Selected from its core membership, SEARC's Management Committee is responsible for the operations of the Centre, including the management and allocation of resources for Centre members and projects. Reorganized in 2009, The Management Committee's members included:

- Professor William Case (Director, SEARC)
- Dr Nicholas Thomas (Acting Associate Head and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Catherine Chiu (Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Bill Taylor (Associate Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

## **2.3 Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee considers the Centre's overall direction, planning, budget, and projected outcomes. The members are:

- Chairman: Professor Martin Painter (Acting Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences)
- Convenor: Professor William Case (Director, SEARC)
- Professor Joseph Cheng (Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)
- Professor Graeme Lang (Acting Head, Department of Asian and International Studies)

## **2.4 International Advisory Committee**

SEARC's International Advisory Committee seeks to recruit outstanding scholars on Southeast Asia. The Committee provides SEARC with general advice about research developments in the region. Its members include:

- Professor Wang Gungwu (Director, East Asia Institute, Singapore)
- Professor Richard Higgott (Director, Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, The University of Warwick, United Kingdom)
- Professor Pasuk Phongpaichit (Professor of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)
- Professor Zhuang Guoto (Director, Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Xiamen University, China)
- Professor Richard Robison (Professor of Political Economy, Murdoch University, Australia)
- 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 and Director, Graduate School, University of Hull, United Kingdom)

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

## **2.5 Research Associates and Affiliates**

Since 2003, Research Associates (from within CityU) and Research Affiliates (from outside CityU) have been appointed by the Management Committee. These associations help to solidify the close working relationship between the Centre and these researchers.

### **Research Associates in 2009**

- Dr Raymond K H Chan (Department of Applied Social Studies)
- Dr Angel Lin (Department of English)

### **Research Affiliates in 2009**

- Professor Mark Beeson, Birmingham University, United Kingdom
- Dr Vedi Hadiz, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore, Singapore (now Murdoch University, Perth, Australia)
- Miss Mary Ho, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
- Dr Kanishka Jayasuriya, Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia (now University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia)

### **Visiting Fellows in 2009**

- Mr Alex Grainger, PhD candidate at the London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom (9 October 2009 - 31 May 2010)
- Ms Farida Shaheed, Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan (1 November 2007-30 June 2010)

## **2.6 Research and administrative staff**

### **Research Fellows in 2009**

- Dr Jan Stark, Senior Research Fellow, SEARC (January 2007 - 6 January 2009)
- Dr Nankyung Choi, Research Fellow, SEARC (2 January 2008 - )

### **Research Assistants/Associates**

- Mrs Mingjie Johnson, Senior Research Assistant, SEARC (21 December 2009-)
- Ms Ngo Tuyet-lan, Senior Research Assistant, SEARC (1 August 2008 - 30 June 2009)
- Mr Terence Shum, Senior Research Assistant, SEARC (3 August 2009 - 31 October 2009)
- Ms Phoebe So, Senior Research Associate, WEMC, SEARC (4 September 2006-)
- Ms Joy Tadios, Senior Research Associate, WEMC, SEARC (3 October 2006-)
- Miss Pan Chen-yi, Research Assistant, SEARC (13 July 2009 - 10 August 2009; and 24 August 2009 - 14 November 2009)
- Mr Chan Yun-wa, Johnny, Research Assistant (part-time), SEARC (15 July 2009 - 31 October 2009)

## Administrative Support

- Ms Josephine Yim, Clerical Officer, SEARC (3 July 2006 - 21 May 2009), Executive Officer (22 May 2009-)
- Ms Mandy Wong, Executive Officer, WEMC, SEARC (28 November 2007-)
- Mr Sunny So, Clerical Assistant, WEMC, SEARC (24 November 2008-)

## 3. RESEARCH GRANTS

Though new attention is given in CityU's Strategic Plan for 2010-15 to winning external competitive grants, core members of SEARC have long been active in seeking such funding. In particular, during SEARC's early years they established a critical focus on women's issues, ethnicity, religion, labour, migration, and the environment that has 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 recent awarding of grant funding, as well as the progress of ongoing projects is listed below:

### 3.1 External competitive grants

- In July 2006, Dr Vivienne Wee was awarded a grant of HKD53 million by the UK government's Department for International Development (DFID). This is the largest external 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)'** which will run until mid-2011. 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 Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at CityU, is also part of this project, coordinating SEARC's research on Muslim women in Guangzhou. In late 2009, Dr Wee was succeeded as Acting Director of the project by Ms Farida Shaheed, director of Shirkat Gah, a women's advocacy group based in Lahore, Pakistan. Dr Catherine Chiu assumed the role of Principal Investigator. The WEMC Secretariat remains based in SEARC.
- In 2008, the Director of SEARC, Professor William Case, was successful in his application for a GRF (formerly CERG) grant from the University Grants Council. The project (9041396-770), entitled **'Executive Accountability under Authoritarian Rule: The Role of Southeast Asia's Legislatures'**, has been funded over three years for HKD530,544. Commencing in January 2009 and extending until the end of 2011, the project involves testing a hypothesis that in Southeast Asia, legislatures operating under authoritarian regimes can sometimes better hold executives accountable than in the region's new democracies. Comparisons will be made across five country cases: Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, the Philippines, and Indonesia.

### 3.2 University grants

- During 2008, Professor William Case completed 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 evaluated the resilience of different political regimes in Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia – Southeast Asia’s largest economies – a decade after they had been tested by the Asian financial crisis of 1997-98. Fieldwork was undertaken in the capital cities of all three country cases during January 2008. A paper entitled **‘Capital, Crisis and Regimes: The “ASEAN Three” a Dozen Years Later’** was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, an SSCI journal, in mid-2008 and published in November 2009.
- During 2009, Professor William Case continued the 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 2007 for HKD174,319 over 15 months, commencing 1 October 2007. It was extended until June 2009, when the project was completed. 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. Professor Case attended three sessions of Malaysia’s parliament and interviewed opposition parliamentarians during December 2008. During 2009, he attended sessions of Indonesia’s parliament. Among the project’s outputs will be a paper to be delivered at the Association of Asian Studies annual meeting in Philadelphia in March 2010.

### 3.3 SEARC-funded research projects

During its first years of operation, SEARC was able to fund a range of small-scale research projects (see table below). Owing to budgetary constraints, this allocation of funding ceased in 2005. During 2007, however, new funding was obtained through which to resume research projects at a modest level. A few projects were thus funded during 2008 and 2009. To date, a total of HKD1,828,628.32 has been allocated to SEARC research projects. All applications were reviewed by members of the Centre’s Management Committee. Where funding exceeded HKD90,000, external refereeing was sought. Most of the funding obtained during 2007, however, will be reserved for raising SEARC’s research profile as a major centre for the study of contemporary Viet Nam.

Investigator	Project title	Amount (HKD)	Commencement	Status
Dr Zang Xiaowei	Earnings Determination and Ethnicity in Malaysia	249,942.40	March 2001	Completed
Professor Kevin Hewison & Dr Raymond Chan	Labour Regulatory Regimes and Labour Standards: A Comparative Perspective	249,893.75	March 2001	Completed
Dr Joseph Kwok	NGOs Working with Women with Disabilities: An Exploratory and Comparative Case Study in Hong Kong and the Philippines	60,000	March 2001	Completed

<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Project title</b>	<b>Amount (HKD)</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Status</b>
Professor Kevin Hewison	Reconstructing Institutions and Power in Southeast Asia: Malaysia and Thailand	58,600	March 2001	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Political fault-lines in Southeast Asia: Pre-modernist Atavisms in Post-colonial Nation-states	60,000	June 2001	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Political fault-lines in Southeast Asia: Movements for Ethnic Autonomy in Nation-state Structures	59,940	June 2001	Completed
Dr Graeme Lang	Syncretistic Religions in East and Southeast Asia: A Comparative Analysis of Yi Guan Dao (China) and Cao Dai (Viet Nam)	10,450	June 2001	Completed
Dr Kanishka Jayasuriya	The Politics of Social Capital in Southeast Asia	59,920	July 2001	Completed
Prof Joseph Cheng	China's ASEAN Policy in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	75,000	August 2001	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Southeast Asian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong: Transnational Labour Networks in an Inter-ethnic Gendered Economy	60,000	February 2002	Completed
Dr Michael Jacobsen	Ethnification of Provincial Politics in Indonesia. Assessing Economic Decentralisation from a Provincial Perspective	54,500	February 2002	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Movements for Local Autonomy in Riau Province, Indonesia	77,000	February 2002	Completed
Professor Ian Holliday	Just Cause and Contingent Factors: Burma 1990 and Beyond	6,002	February 2002	Completed
Dr Michael Jacobsen	Assessing Ethnic Chinese Entrepreneurs and Official Economic Policy Planning in North Sulawesi Province, Indonesia	58,500	February 2003	Completed
Professor Joseph Cheng	The ASEAN-China Free Trade Area: Genesis and Implications	49,865	February 2004	Completed
Dr Graeme Lang	China's Impact on Forests and the Forest-Products Industry in Southeast Asia	36,000	May 2004	Completed
Dr Angel Lin	Globalisation and Language-in-Education Policy and Planning (LPP) in Postcolonial Southeast Asian Societies	38,950	June 2004	On-going

<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Project title</b>	<b>Amount (HKD)</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Status</b>
Professor Ian Holliday	Confronting Authoritarianism in the Information Age: Virtual Political Mobilisation against Myanmar's Military Junta	16,006	June 2004	Completed
Professor Joseph Cheng	Broadening the Concept of Security in East and Southeast Asia: the Impact of the Asian Financial Crisis and the September 11 Incident	45,000	June 2004	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	New Immigrants from China to Laos	40,200	June 2004	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	National and International Responses to the tsunami in Aceh: Policy Monitoring, Evaluation and Recommendation, with Special Reference to Women and Children (Post-tsunami Aceh, Indonesia)	155,938	June 2005	Completed
Dr Jan Stark	Inter-Linkages between Malaysia and Pakistan	20,005.67	April 2007	Completed
Professor Joseph Cheng	Sino-Vietnamese Relations: Territorial Disputes, "China Threat" Perception and Peaceful Development	50,000 (estimated)	February 2008	On-going
Dr Jan Stark	Pakistan-Malaysia Linkages: Exploring New Diversified Regional Relations	40,000	March 2007	Completed
Dr Jan Stark	"Snow Leopard" re-visited: Kazakhstan's Ties with East Asia	46,852	March 2008	Completed
Dr Chan Yuk-wah	Migration Recycled: Viet kieu and the Construction of the Vietnamese Modernity	22,185	June 2008	Completed
Professor Martin Painter	Exploring the Regulatory State in Socialist market Economies: The Case of the Telecommunications Sector in China and Viet Nam	24,808	November 2008	Completed
Dr Justin Robertson	Where Exactly is US Capital in Asia	49,961.5	July 2009	Completed
Dr Chan Yuk-wah	Bat dau tu nay' – Vietnamese Boatpeople and Diaspora in Hong Kong	53,109	July 2009	Completed

## 4. COLLABORATION AND PUBLICITY

### 4.1 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

### 4.2 Publicity

SEARC has gained an impressive amount of local, regional, and international publicity. Core members and Centre research staff are regularly quoted in the press on Southeast Asian affairs and contribute op-ed pieces. The range of outlets includes: *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *Bangkok Post*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Financial Times*, *South China Morning Post*, Associated Press, Reuters, CNN, BBC, Star TV, Voice of America and Chinese-language and Southeast Asian-language newspapers and magazines. During 2009, Professor Case had a radio interview with Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) on political developments in Thailand. Dr Chan Yuk-wah had a radio interview with RTHK on China-Viet Nam relations. Dr Connors published an op-ed piece on political leadership in Thailand in the *Bangkok Post*.

## 5. 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 2009.

### 5.1 Academic workshops and symposiums

SEARC hosted or co-hosted one conference, four major workshops and one symposium during 2009, averaging one every second month (listed below). In addition, papers from a workshop held the previous year, entitled 'Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia', were published by Routledge in a book volume edited by Professor Case, as well as in special issue of *The Pacific Review*, guest edited by Professor Case. *The Pacific Review* is an SSCI journal (see appendix).

- **'National Conciliation and Consolidation Process in Burma/Myanmar'**, workshop convened by Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 8-9 January 2009, City University of Hong Kong.

- **‘Interrogating Gendered Power Structures: Developing a Transformative Research Framework for Women’s Empowerment in Muslim Contexts’**, symposium organized by WEMC, 25 February 2009, City University of Hong Kong.
- **‘Lessons from Nargis: Disaster Management in Southeast Asia’**, co-funded with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), National University of Singapore, workshop convened by Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 5-6 March 2009, National University of Singapore.
- **‘Unhealthy Governance: Securitising Infectious Diseases in Asia’**, co-organized with the Centre of Asian Studies of The University of Hong Kong with funding from the Ford Foundation, conference convened by Dr Nicholas Thomas, 21-22 May 2009, Hong Kong University.
- **‘Refugee Politics and the Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora (30 Years after the ‘Vietnamese Boatpeople’ in Hong Kong)’**, workshop convened by Dr Chan Yuk-wah, 16-17 October 2009, City University of Hong Kong.
- **‘State Violence and Political Transition in East Asia’**, co-organized and co-funded with Hiroshima Peace Institute of Hiroshima City University of Japan and the Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA), workshop convened by Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 9-11 December 2009, City University of Hong Kong.

During 2009, preparation began for a major two-and-a-half day conference to be held on 29 June to 1 July 2010, entitled **‘Authoritarianism in East Asia: Viet Nam, China, and North Korea’**. Bringing together 35 distinguished academics, mostly from North America, it will be convened and organized by Dr Jonathan London.

## 5.2 Academic seminars

SEARC organized a large number of seminars in 2009, averaging two every three months. Seminars addressing the impact of the recent global economic crisis were especially popular. These events featured high-profile speakers from major financial institutions based in Europe and Hong Kong. In each case, they were invited by Dr Justin Robertson, a member of the AIS staff and a core member of SEARC who has a strong research interest in hedge funds and private equity groups.

- **‘Consolidating Party Oligarchy? Indonesia’s Political Parties and 2009 General Elections’**, Dr Nankyung Choi (Research Fellow, SEARC), 20 March 2009.
- **‘Neo-Patrimonial Democratization? The Evolution of Political Parties in Cambodia’**, Dr Melissa G. Curley (Lecturer, Department of Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland, Australia), 15 May 2009.
- **‘What’s a Norm’s Life Cycle and How Does it Help Manage HIV/AIDS?’**, Dr Alan Collins (Senior Lecturer, Department of Politics and International Relations, Swansea University, United Kingdom), 19 May 2009.
- **‘Law and Politics in the South China Sea’**, Mr Nong Hong (PhD Candidate of International Relations and Comparative Politics, University of Alberta, Canada), co-organized with AIS, 26 May 2009.
- **‘The Default Position: The Military and Politics in South East Asia since the Second World War’**, Professor Robert H. Taylor (Former Professor, London University, United Kingdom), co-organized with AIS, 2 June 2009.

- **‘Thailand’s Turbulent Politics since the 2006 Coup’**, Professor Duncan McCargo (Professor, Southeast Asian Politics, University of Leeds, United Kingdom), co-organized with AIS, 7 September 2009.
- **‘Kokang and the Sino-Myanmar Relations’**, Dr James K. Chin (Centre of Asian Studies, The University of Hong Kong), 27 October 2009.
- **‘Patterns of Health Care Reforms in East Asia’**, Professor M. Ramesh (Professor, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, The University of Hong Kong), 4 December 2009.

### 5.3 Public events

One of the most popular activities that SEARC has undertaken over the years has been its public forums and talks. Through these events, academics, professionals, social activists, and interested members of the public have engaged one another through gatherings on the CityU campus, helping raise the university’s local profile and its contributions to public life. During 2008, SEARC continued this tradition hosting three events (a complete listing of those organized in past years is available on the SEARC website). The first consisted of a public lecture given by Mr Rob Gifford, formerly National Public Radio’s correspondent in Beijing, now its London Bureau Chief. This was one of the many events that were part of the annual Man Hong Kong International Literary Festival, marking the first time that CityU had been invited to participate in the event. The address was attended by over sixty CityU staff members and students, as well as members of the public.

- A talk on **‘Human Rights in South-East Asia’**, Dr Homayoun Alizadeh (Regional Representative for South-East Asia, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), co-organized with AIS, 26 February 2009.
- A discussion with Louis-Vincent Gave, CEO of GaveKal, on the **‘Global Financial Crisis’**, 13 March 2009.
- A roundtable on **‘Responding to the Global Financial Crisis: The Emerging Powers and Asia’**, Professor Andrew F. Cooper (Professor, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada) and Dr Gregory Chin (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, York University, Canada), 19 August 2009.

During 2009, another two public events in the series of ‘Is the Global Economic Crisis Really Over?’ were scheduled for January 2010 by Dr Justin Robertson. The first, on 15 January, was a debate entitled **‘China’s Economy is Overheated, Overvalued and at Risk of an Economic Setback’**, involving two of Asia’s leading economists, Dr Jim Walker (Founder and Managing Director of Asianomics) and Mr Louis-Vincent Gave (CEO of GaveKal). The second talk, on 28 January, was entitled **‘China in the Wake of the Global Financial Crisis: Is there Still a “China Price”?’** given by Ms Alexandra Harney (the author of *The China Price*).

## 6. APPLIED WORK UNDERTAKEN

In past years, SEARC focused closely on 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 involved 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 a specialist website devoted to labour law and practice in Hong Kong, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand. This site enabled researchers, labour activists, union organizers, and others to compare labour laws in each of these countries. It was launched in May 2004. By the end of that year it had received over 2,000 hits, and by early 2008 had received some 9,800 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 Wan Chai 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 attention for SEARC, leading to Professor Case’s invitation to give an extended commentary on TVB Pearl and an address at the Hong Kong Club. 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 *East Asia: An International Quarterly*, published in late 2008.

By far the largest applied research effort undertaken by SEARC, however, has involved the WEMC project, a project undertaken for DFID over a five-year period. As recorded above, 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.

## 7. RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### 7.1 Research development

In mid-2008, the Southeast Asia Research Centre was allocated HKD1.0 million by CityU’s Advisory Group on Research Centres. This, together with the funding that had previously been made available from the president’s discretionary fund for the Viet Nam Project, as well as the funding granted for the WEMC project by DFID, made a great increase in research activity possible. SEARC required no additional funding during 2009, already possessing enough that its members were able to continue producing top publications and conference papers for example at peak events such as the annual meeting of the Association of Asian Studies (AAS). It should be recognized that the acceptance rate of papers proposed for conferences at this level is less than ten percent. (Details are presented in the Appendices.)

In line with CityU’s mission statement (see text box, above), SEARC’s principal goal is to develop a world-class research centre for the university and to advance knowledge regarding significant political, economic, and social changes in contemporary Southeast Asia.

#### City University’s Vision and Mission

**Vision: City University of Hong Kong aspires to become a leading global university, excelling in research and professional education.**

**Mission: To nurture and develop the talents of students and to create applicable knowledge in order to support social and economic advancement.**

## 7.2 New directions

SEARC seeks to preserve its traditional strengths in the study of ethnicity, religion, labour, migration, women's issues and cross-national relations between China and Southeast Asia. These issue areas are of particular interest to the Hong Kong government. They are also shared to some extent by the local business community. But as part of its efforts to support CityU's Strategic Plan for 2010-15, as well as respond to the recommendations made by CityU's Advisory Group on Research Centres in 2009, new directions in research have been charted.

As noted above, SEARC has begun to focus more intently on questions about: (i) democratic change and authoritarian durability in Southeast Asia and Hong Kong; (ii) regional exchanges involving countries in Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia; and (iii), under its 'State-Society Interface' heading, gender relations and women's empowerment in a range of Muslim countries and communities in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in Asia. In addition, while SEARC will give new attention to broadly based questions on relations between Southeast Asia and China, greater emphasis will also be given to more specific questions about economic change in Viet Nam, as well as the implications this holds for the country's politics, social minorities, borderlands, and competitions with China over markets and security. These new directions, while respecting SEARC's commitments to applied research, will align the Centre's activities even more closely with vibrant scholarly debates, using the multidisciplinary tools of comparative and international political economy, political sociology, and international studies.

Moreover, in fully recognizing CityU's commitments to applied research, SEARC hopes to nurture other areas of policy-related study, particularly in environmental studies. It is envisaged that as the Department of Asian and International Studies with which it is affiliated acquires new teaching staff, greater expertise in environmental issues in East and Southeast Asia will become available. Accordingly, SEARC's new research aim is in concert with new directions proposed for AIS by its Acting Head of Department, Professor Graeme Lang, who has outlined GE courses and research projects addressing environmental questions. This should also help SEARC to respond more closely to the needs of undergraduate students. The Centre regularly recruits fair numbers of undergraduates to help as organizers, ushers, and photographers for SEARC seminars, conferences, and other events. In performing their duties, they have gained new insights into SEARC's research pursuits, as well as procedures involved in event organizing. CHASS graduate students who share SEARC's research interests also benefit intellectually by their frequent attendance at its seminars. And if funding becomes available, SEARC will readily host the postdoctoral fellows and visiting scholars envisioned in CityU's Strategic Plan.

SEARC will also remain strongly committed to bringing all of its research activities to closure in the form of high-quality publications. To the extent that it can, it will continue to provide small-grant funding to CHASS-based faculty members in support of tightly focused research projects that lead to larger-scale proposals, but also to more immediately publishable outcomes. It plans also to continue organizing focused workshops involving moderate numbers of selected participants, seemingly the most efficient way in which to produce publishable output. The process will be aided also, if funding allows, by SEARC's retention of the in-house editor it has recruited, thus quickening turn-around and submission times. Finally, as it carries out its research activities, SEARC seeks to strengthen the cross-institutional links that it has started to develop through its workshops, leading to even greater scholarly vibrancy. During 2009, SEARC collaborated in research activities with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore, the Hiroshima Peace Institute, and the University of Hong Kong. Plans are being made with the Griffith Asia Institute in Brisbane, Australia to co-host a workshop of governance in Asia later in 2010, meeting both the need for more cross-institutional collaboration, as well as for a regional focus.

### 7.3 Achievements

SEARC Research Outputs 2009	
Category	Number
Books and monographs	2
Edited books/journals	5
Chapters in edited books	26
Refereed journal articles	20
Papers and presentations	17
Academic workshops and symposiums	6
Academic seminars	8
Public events	3

SEARC's research outputs are discussed in various parts of this report and are listed in Appendix A. During 2009, there were significant achievements that augur well for the next few years. The table, left, lists the number of outputs published or accepted for publication in 2009.

Among its most notable achievements has been the revitalization of the *RoutledgeCurzon/City University of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Studies* series, with Professor William Case, Dr Vivienne Wee, and Professor Graeme Lang serving as co-editors. This series, which had lapsed for some years, will again enhance the Centre's international reputation as a centre of research excellence. To date, seven titles have been published. In 2008, a volume entitled *US-Asia Economic Relations* was published in this series by Dr Justin Robertson, an AIS staff member and core member of SEARC. A volume edited by Dr Wee, entitled *Political Fragmentation in Southeast Asia*, is scheduled to be published in 2010.

## 8. 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 seven 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 have reached 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 Director in July.

Since then, SEARC researchers have continued 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 have also been active in applying for external funds, while publishing articles in high-quality international journals and books from highly regarded publishers. As noted above, in 2008, Dr Justin Robertson published a single-author book in the RoutledgeCurzon/City University of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Studies series. In 2010, an eighth title, *Political Fragmentation in Southeast Asia*, edited by Dr Vivienne Wee, is scheduled for publication.

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 even further the high regard in which it is already held. But the new aims and staff turnover have meant that a more regular schedule of workshops and conferences hosted by the Centre could only be achieved in 2008. Further, Dr London, currently the pivotal staff member in SEARC's new mission to study Viet Nam'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, two of SEARC's most longstanding and productive core members, Professor Martin Painter and Professor Graeme

Lang have been preoccupied with administrative duties as Acting Dean and Acting Head respectively. SEARC's leading researcher on Thailand, Dr Michael Connors, who arrived in late 2008 and about whom SEARC had great expectations, only remained at CityU for a year. Nonetheless, beginning in 2008, the tempo of research activity increased greatly.

- **Budgetary resources.** 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 during 2006. When new funding was finally made available in 2007, it was committed almost solely to the Viet Nam Project, delaying the recovery of more established research areas. However, funding was so generously made available by CityU in 2008 meant that no new funding was requested in 2009. The Centre will, however, seek renewed funding in 2010.

As noted above, SEARC researchers apply regularly for competitive external grants. They also endeavour to produce research in areas that bear relevance for local industry. They have also 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 has attracted approximately HKD150,000 per year in overhead payments 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 researchers to spend time overseas. Without this, very little in the way of new information can be gained that leads to 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 intellectually, it is essential that its researchers be able to engage fully with the Southeast Asia region.

## 9. PLANS (SEARC, WEMC project, Viet Nam project)

- **SEARC**

One of SEARC's research themes specified above involves democratic change and authoritarian durability in the Southeast Asian setting. Thus, conferences and workshops will continue to be held that principally address country cases in Southeast Asia, but extend their coverage throughout the region. In addition, a major aim of SEARC over the next several years will also be to reach beyond the community of Southeast Asian specialists to engage scholars writing about political regimes, political economy, and international exchanges in other parts of the developing world, especially China, Northeast Asia, and Latin America. It is expected too that findings and lessons made through this cross-regional analysis will have relevance for Hong Kong as its very unique political regime continues to evolve.

Conferences, workshops and public events scheduled in 2010:

**‘Executive Accountability, Institutions, and Civil Society’**, an international workshop to be co-hosted by SEARC, the Griffith Asia Institute, and possibly City University’s Governance in Asia Research Centre, November or December 2010, CityU.

**‘Is the Global Economic Crisis Really Over?’**, a debate given by Dr Jim Walker (Founder and Managing Director of Asianomics) and Mr Louis-Vincent Gave (CEO of GaveKal), 15 January 2010, CityU.

**‘China in the Wake of the Global Financial Crisis: Is there Still a “China Price”?’**, a talk given by Ms Alexandra Harney (Author of *The China Price*), 28 January 2010, CityU.

- ***Viet Nam Project***

During 2009, the revision and editing of the papers presented at two workshops during the previous year continued in order to prepare them for publication. Preparation also began during 2009 for the major conference on authoritarianism in Asia to be held in mid-2010 and discussed above.

Conference scheduled in 2010:

**‘Authoritarianism in East Asia: Viet Nam, China and North Korea’**, an international conference to be convened by Dr Jonathan London, 29 June - 1 July 2010, CityU.

- ***Women’s Empowerment in Muslim Contexts: Gender, Poverty and Democratisation From the Inside Out Project (WEMC)***

In July 2009, the WEMC project completed its third year. As noted above, leadership of the project’s research programme consortium was transferred in late 2009 from Dr Vivienne Wee to an acting director, Ms Farida Shaheed. The project is scheduled to run until mid-2011, during which time its output of deliverables will increase.

Workshops scheduled in 2010:

**‘Leadership & Research Methodology Workshop on Women’s Empowerment in Muslim Contexts: Gender, Poverty, and Democratisation from the Inside Out’**, organized by WEMC. This workshop was followed by the Third annual Research Management Committee Meeting (15-19 January 2010), held on 20 January 2010, CityU.

## APPENDIX A

### SOUTHEAST ASIA RESEARCH OUTPUTS BY SEARC'S CORE RESEARCHERS

(Published or accepted for publication in 2009)

#### Books and monographs

Choi, Nankyung, *Democracy and Political Parties in Indonesia: A View from Yogyakarta* (Köln: Lambert Academic Publishing), 2009, x + 229pp.

Taylor, Robert, *The State in Myanmar* (London: C. Hurst; Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press; Singapore: National University of Singapore), 2009, xxv + 555.

#### Edited books/journals

Case, William, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia*, (London: Routledge), 2009, vi + 192pp. [extended version of special issue of *The Pacific Review* listed below]

Case, William, guest ed., 'Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia', *The Pacific Review*, (Routledge/Center for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, Warwick University), vol. 22, no. 3, July 2009.

London, Jonathan, ed., *Education in Viet Nam* (Singapore: Institute for Southeast Asian Studies), accepted for publication in 2009.

#### Chapters in edited books

Case, William, 'Low-quality Democracy and Varied Authoritarianism: Elites and Regimes in Southeast Asia Today', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 1-15 [also published in *The Pacific Review* listed below].

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Electoral Authoritarianism in Malaysia: Trajectory Shift', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 62-84 [also published in *The Pacific Review* listed below].

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Regime Types and Resilience in Thailand and Malaysia', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 162-73.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Thai Elections 2005: Northern Gains and Southern Exceptionalism', in John Funston, ed., *Thaksin's Thailand: Populism and Polarisation* (Bangkok: Institute of Security and International Studies/Chulalongkorn University; National Thai Studies Centre/Australian National University), 2009, pp. 100-27.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Democracy and Security in East Asia', in William T. Tow, ed., *Security Politics in the Asia-Pacific: A Regional-Global Nexus?* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 2009, pp. 122-43.

- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Democracy, Governance and Regime Cycling in Thailand', in Brian Bridges and Ho Lang-sang, eds., *Governance in Asia: The Limits of Electoral Democracy* (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar), accepted in 2009.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Democracy and Democratization', in Mark Beeson and Nick Bisley, eds., *Countries at the Crossroads 2009: A Survey of Democratic Governance* (London: Palgrave-Macmillan), accepted for publication in 2009.
- Chan Yuk-wah, 'Cultural and Gender Politics in Border Tourism in Viet Nam', in Michael Hitchcock, Victor King and Mike Parnwell, eds., *Tourism in Southeast Asia: Challenges and New Directions* (Copenhagen: NIAS Press), 2009, pp. 206-21.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Language Power: Relational Rhetoric and Historical Taciturnity', in Ho Khai Leong, ed., *Connecting and Distancing: Southeast Asia and China in Perspectives* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies [ISEAS]), 2010, pp. 230-51.
- Choi, Nankyung, 'Batam's 2006 Mayoral Election: Weakened Political Parties and Intensified Power Struggle in Local Indonesia', in Maribeth Erb and Priyambudi Sulistiyanto, eds., *Deepening Democracy in Indonesia? Direct Elections for Local Leaders* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies), 2009, pp. 74-100.
- Connors, Michael K., 'Another Country: reflections on the politics of culture in the Muslim South', in J. Funston, ed., *Divided Over Thaksin: Thailand's Coup and Problematic Transition*, (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies), 2009, pp. 110-21.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Liberalism, Authoritarianism and the Politics of Decisionism in Thailand', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 85-103 [published also in *The Pacific Review* listed below].
- Kyaw Hin Ylaing, 'Setting the Rules for Survival: Why the Burmese Military Regime Survives in an Age of Democratization', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 16-36 [also published in *The Pacific Review* listed below].
- London, Jonathan D., 'Viet Nam and the Making of Market Leninism', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency* (London: Routledge), 2009 [also published in *The Pacific Review* listed below].
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Education in Viet Nam: Historical Roots, Recent Trends', in Jonathan D. London, ed., *Education in Viet Nam* (Singapore: Institute for Southeast Asian Studies), accepted for publication in 2009.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Historical Welfare Regimes and Education in Viet Nam', in Jonathan D. London, ed., *Education in Viet Nam* (Singapore: Institute for Southeast Asian Studies), accepted for publication in 2009.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Social Policies in Transition: The Welfare Regimes in Viet Nam and China Compared', in Besharov, Douglas et al. ed., *Chinese Social Policy in a Time of Transition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), accepted for publication in 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Governance and the Governance of Higher Education in Viet Nam,' in Ka Ho Mok ed., *The Search for New Governance of Higher Education in Asia* (New York: Palgrave), accepted for publication in 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Reassertions of the State in Viet Nam's Health Sector', in M. Ramesh, Eduardo Aralar, Xun Wu, eds., *Reasserting the Public in Public Services: New Public Management Reforms* (London: Routledge), accepted for publication in 2009.

Taylor, Robert, 'Myanmar', in Ian Storey, ed., *Regional Outlook: Southeast Asia 2009-2010* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies), 2009, pp. 35-39.

### **Refereed journal articles (and commissioned articles in refereed journals)**

Case, William, 'Low-quality Democracy and Varied Authoritarianism: Elites and Regimes in Southeast Asia Today', *The Pacific Review* (Routledge/Center for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, Warwick University), vol. 22, no. 3, July 2009, pp. 255-68.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Electoral Authoritarianism in Malaysia: Trajectory Shift', *The Pacific Review* (Routledge/Center for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation, Warwick University), vol. 22, no. 3, July 2009, pp. 311-34.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'After the Crisis: Capital and Regime Resilience in the ASEAN Three', *Journal of Contemporary Asia* (Taylor and Francis), vol. 39, no. 4, November 2009, pp. 649-72.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Transitions from Single Party Dominance: New Data from Malaysia', *Journal of East Asian Studies* 10(1), accepted for publication in 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Political Legitimacy in Malaysia: Historical Roots and Contemporary Deficits', *Politics and Policy*, accepted for publication in 2009.

Choi, Nankyung, 'Democracy and Patrimonial Politics in Local Indonesia', *Indonesia*, vol. 88, October 2009, pp. 131-64.

Connors, Michael K., 'Liberalism, Authoritarianism and the Politics of Decisionism in Thailand', *The Pacific Review*, vol. 22, no. 3, July 2009, pp. 355-73.

Hewison, Kevin and Catherine C. H. Chiu, 'Hong Kong-invested Companies in Thailand: Labour Relations and Practices', *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, vol. 39, no. 1, 2009, pp: 1-22.

Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 'Setting the Rules for Survival: Why the Burmese Military Regime Survives in an Age of Democratization', *The Pacific Review*, vol. 22, no. 3, 2009, pp. 271-92.

London, Jonathan D., 'Viet Nam & the Making of Market Leninism', *The Pacific Review*, vol. 22, no. 3, July 2009, pp. 375-99.

Robertson, Justin, 'Global Monitor: Privacy Equity Funds', *New Political Economy*, vol. 14, no. 4, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Private Equity Funds and Asian Political Economy: "Domestic" Privacy Equity Funds as New Actors', *Asian Survey*, accepted for publication in 2009.

Taylor, Robert, 'Myanmar: Reconciliation or Reconsolidation: Isolation or Resolution?', *Asian Affairs* 40(11), pp. 210-223.

### Encyclopaedia entries

Case, William, 'Malaysia', in Lynne Daniels, ed., *The Far East and Australasia 2009* (Oxford: Routledge, pp. 703-18.

### Conference, workshop and symposia papers and presentations

Case, William, 'Studies in Democratic Quality: Re-equilibrating Malaysia and Oscillating Thailand', Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting (AAS), Chicago ILL, 26-29 March 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Legitimacy in Malaysia: Historical Roots and Contemporary Deficits', Workshop on *In Search of Legitimacy*, Australian Research Council project funding, National University of Singapore, 27-28 July 2009.

Chan Yuk-wah, 'Refugee Buddhism: the religious practices of the Vietnamese Buddhists in Hong Kong', presented at the *workshop on 'Refugee Politics and the Chinese / Vietnamese Diaspora – 30 Years after the 'Vietnamese Boatpeople' in Hong Kong'*, organized by SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, 16-17 October 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Refugee migration and settlement: Vietnamese migrants in Hong Kong', presented at *2009 Workshop on 'Chinese Circulatory Diaspora'*, Centre of Asian Studies, The University of Hong Kong, 9-10 December 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Terence Shum, 'From a Refugee Port to Business Partner: Hong Kong-Viet Nam Relationship', presented at the *workshop on 'Refugee Politics and the Chinese / Vietnamese Diaspora – 30 Years after the 'Vietnamese Boatpeople' in Hong Kong'*, organized by SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, 16-17 October 2009.

Chiu, Catherine C. H., 'Researching with a Transformative Agenda: The Challenge of Producing Knowledge for Action', presented at the symposium on *Interrogating Gendered Power Structures: Developing a Transformative Research Framework for Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts*, organized by the Research Programme Consortium on 'Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts' (WEMC), SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, 25 February 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, Kevin Hewison and Chong-wong T'iong, 'Foreign Direct Investment Links between Hong Kong and Southeast Asia', presented at the *Joint Workshop on 'Comparing Hong Kong and Taiwan Business in Southeast Asia'*, co-organized by the Centre of Asian Studies, The University of Hong Kong and the Centre for Asia-Pacific Studies, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, 19 June 2009.

Kyaw, Yin Hlaing, 'The Role of Civil Society in the National Reconciliation Process in Myanmar' presented at the *workshop on 'Understanding National Reconciliation and Consolidation Process in Burma/Myanmar'*, organized by SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, 8-9 January 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'The UN and the National Reconciliation Process in Myanmar', presented at the *workshop on 'Understanding National Reconciliation and Consolidation Process in Burma/Myanmar'*, organized by SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, 8-9 January 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Understanding Government Repression and Political Changes in Myanmar', presented at the *workshop on 'State Violence and Political Transition in East Asia'*, jointly organized and funded by SEARC of CityU, Hiroshima Peace Institute (HPI) of Hiroshima City University, Japan and Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA), Malaysia, 9-11 December 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Social Capital, Civil Society and Disaster Management', presented at the workshop on *Cyclone Nargis and Disaster Management in Southeast Asia*, organized by Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore, 5-6 March 2009.

London, Jonathan D., 'Child Poverty in Viet Nam', presented by video recording at the workshop on *Paths Towards Reflexive Sociology: Ethnography Matters*, organized by Faculty of Arts, University of Porto, Portugal, 10-11 December 2009.

Wee, Vivienne and Farida Shaheed, 'Why Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts? Developing an Interrogative and Transformative Research Framework', presented at the symposium on *Interrogating Gendered Power Structures: Developing a Transformative Research Framework for Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts*, organized by the Research Programme Consortium on 'Women's Empowerment in Muslim Contexts' (WEMC), SEARC, City University of Hong Kong, 25 February 2009.

### **Consultancy reports**

London, Jonathan D. *An Analysis of Child Poverty in Viet Nam: Analysis and Recommendations for the 2008 National Target Programmes and P135-II Mid-term Review*, report for UNICEF, January 2009.

Taylor, Robert, *Situational Analysis and Trend Assessment*, report for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, January 2009.

### **Other deliverables**

London, Jonathan D. 'Child Poverty in Viet Nam', video, presented at the conference *Paths Towards Reflexive Sociology: Ethnography Matters*, Porto, Portugal, 10-11 December 2009.

### **Invited lectures and seminars**

Chan Yuk-wah, *17 Years of Politics and Tourism in the China-Viet Nam Borderlands*, organized by Hong Kong Anthropological Society and The Hong Kong Museum of History, 15 January, 2009.

London, Jonathan D. 'Viet Nam and China', invited lecture for *University of Hong Kong Summer Institute 2009: Asia as the Global Future*, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Hong Kong, 2 July 2009.

## Public and professional service

Case, William, discussant, workshop on “State Violence and Political Transition in East Asia”, SEARC of CityU, Hiroshima Peace Institute (HPI) of Hiroshima City University, Japan and Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA), Malaysia.

Chan Yuk-wah, interviewee, ‘HK-Viet Nam relationship’, Political Affairs section, U.S. Consulate General, Hong Kong, 30 April 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, interviewee, ‘China-Viet Nam relationship’, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), 11 May 2009.

Chiu, Catherine C.H., Principal Investigator, Research Programme Consortium on Women’s Empowerment in Muslim Contexts (WEMC) project.

Connors, Michael K., author, op-ed article, ‘Country Needs Change, So He Wants to Make History’, *Bangkok Post*, 2 April 2009.

Robertson, Justin, delegate, ‘Lessons from Nyargis: Disaster Management in Southeast Asia’, workshop on *Cyclone Nargis and Disaster Management in Southeast Asia*, co-hosted by Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and SEARC, Singapore, 5-6 March 2009.

Shaheed, Farida, Acting Director, Research Programme Consortium on Women’s Empowerment in Muslim Contexts (WEMC) project.

## OTHER OUTPUTS BY SEARC’S CORE RESEARCHERS

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Cheng, J.Y.S., ed., *The Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, (City University of Hong Kong: Contemporary China Research Project), vol. 8, no. 1 and 2, Spring and Fall 2009.

Thomas, Nicholas, ed., *Regionalism and Governance in Asia*. (London: RoutledgeCurzon, 2009). xxv + 342pp.

### Chapters in edited books

Chan Yuk-wah, ‘No, We Are Not ‘Eco-Tourists’: Hill-Walking and Eco-Tourism in Hong Kong’, in Shalini Singh, ed., *Domestic Tourism in Asia: Diversity and Divergence* (London: Earthscan Publishing Ltd., 2009, pp. 219-34.

\_\_\_\_\_, ‘Disorganized Tourism Space: Chinese Tourists in an Age of Asian Tourism’, in Tim Winter, Peggy Teo and T.C. Chang, eds., *Asia on Tour: Exploring the Rise of Asian Tourism* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 67-78.

Cheng, J.Y.S., ‘The 1979 Oil Shock and the ‘Flying Geese Model’ in East Asia’, in Viewpoints Special Edition, *The 1979 “Oil Shock”: Legacy, Lessons, and Lasting Reverberations*, (Washington DC: Middle East Institute), August 2009, pp. 57-59.

Shaheed, Farida, 'The Women's Movement in Pakistan: Challenges and Achievements', in Amrita Basu, ed., *Women's Movements in the Global Era: the Power of Local Feminism* (Boulder CO: Westview Press), accepted for publication in 2009.

Thomas, Nicholas, 'Understanding Regional Governance in Asia', in Thomas, Nicholas, ed., *Regionalism and Governance in Asia* (London: Routledge), 2009, pp. 1-31.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'China's Regional Governance: Developing Norms and Institutions', in Thomas, Nicholas, ed., *Regionalism and Governance in Asia* (London: Routledge) in 2009, pp.116-45.

### **Refereed journal articles (and commissioned articles in refereed journals)**

Cheng, J.Y.S. and Shi H.G., 'China's African Policy in the Post-Cold War Era', *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, vol. 39, no. 1, February 2009, pp. 89-115.

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Chan Yuk-wah, Discussant, Postgraduate Student Forum, Department of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 27 February 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_, Interviewee, 'HK's Future', HK for Culture, 4 March 2009.

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Chiu, Catherine, President, Hong Kong Sociological Association.

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\_\_\_\_\_, presenter, session on 'Technology Facilitated OBA – Real-Time Response Systems' at a symposium on OBTL, organized by the Task Force on Outcome-based Approaches in Student Learning (OBATF), 27 May 2009.

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**APPENDIX B**  
**WORKING PAPER SERIES**

**(New for 2009)**

No. 102, November 2009, Michael K. Connors, 'Ambivalent about Rights: "Accidental" Killing Machines, Democracy and Coups d'etat'.

No. 103, November 2009, William Case, 'Transition from Single-party Dominance? New Data from Malaysia'.

No. 104, December 2009, Michael H. Nelson, 'Electoral Rules Concerning the House of Representatives in the 2007 Thai Constitution'.

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<http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/searc/doc.aspx?year=2009>.