

# Research Highlights Newsletter

March 2017

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## LKC NUS-Stanford Distinguished Fellowship

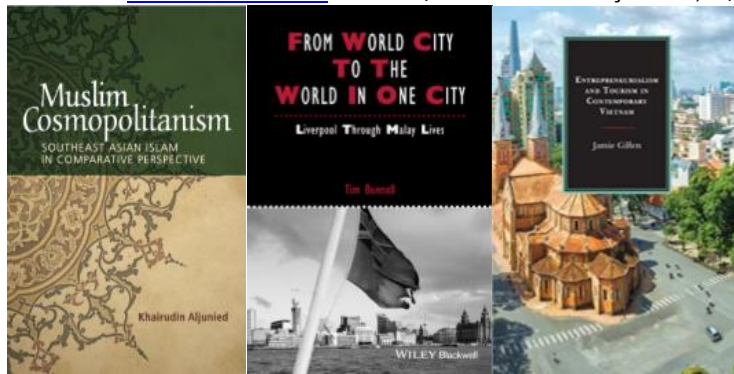


**Gerald Sim** arrives as Distinguished Fellow on Contemporary Southeast Asia this semester after spending the fall quarter at Stanford University. He will spend his time here completing a manuscript tentatively titled *Besides Hybridity: Postcolonial Poetics of Southeast Asian Cinema*, contracted with Indiana University Press. The book uses the region's unique colonial history to conceive of postcolonial aesthetics beyond the usual tropes of hybridity and syncretism, while attending to an understudied but thriving segment of world cinema. Individual chapters explore Singapore's spatial imagination, Malaysian soundscapes, and Indonesian cinema's relationship to genre.

Sim was a Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute in 2013 and 2016. He is the author of *The Subject of Film and Race: Rethorizing Politics, Ideology, and Cinema* (Bloomsbury Academic, 2014), a Neo-Marxian evaluation of film studies' engagements with race. His other writing on diverse topics that include Japanese cinema, film music theory, Edward Said, digital cinematography, and CNBC personality Jim Cramer, has been published in *Asian Cinema*, the *Quarterly Review of Film and Video*, *Discourse*, *Projections*, and *Rethinking Marxism*.

Sim holds a Ph.D. in Film Studies from the University of Iowa, and a BS in Biology from Duke.


2 March: [FASS Bookshare](#): with A/P Khairudin Aljunied, A/P Tim Bunnell, and Dr Jamie Gillen




Approved MOE Tier 2 Projects

Abstracts available [here](#).

Principal Investigator	Department	Project Title
<p>Dr Camilo Libedinsky</p> 	SINAPSE and Psychology	Prefrontal Cortex's Role in Working Memory Assessed by Recording and Stimulation <i>(abstract not available)</i>
<p>A/P Paulin Straughan</p> 	Sociology	Environmental Risk Factors in Childhood Obesity: A Social Ecological Approach
<p>Prof John Ham</p> 	Centre for Family and Population Research	Dynamic Models of Transitions in the Indonesian Labour and Marriage Markets
<p>Prof Catherine Tang</p> 	Centre for Family and Population Research	Family Dynamics in the Development of Behavioural Addiction in Singaporean Youth

<p>A/P Winston Goh</p> 	<p>Psychology</p>	<p>The Auditory English Lexicon Project: A Psycholinguistic Database of 10,000 Words</p>
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**Harvard-Yenching Institute Visiting Scholars Program**

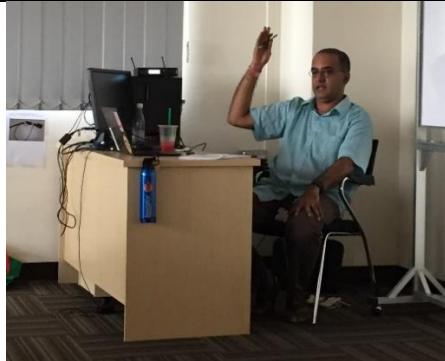
	<p><b>Xu Lanjun</b> has been accepted for her research project <i>The Cold War Cultural Nexus of China–Hong Kong–Southeast Asia: Cinema, Literature and Theatre (1940s-1960s)</i>, which employs a perspective of “inter-Asian connections” to study the complexity and multidimensionality of China’s cultural presence in this region within the context of the changing social and political milieu of the 1950s and 1960s by focusing on Chinese literature, cinema, radio and theatre. This project also aims to examine how Chinese cultural resources such as media and the arts were deployed by local elites to serve their ideological beliefs and develop their cultural identities. Unlike the conventional approach, which is framed by the primacy of the nation-state and the East-West binary, my argument is that this extensive flow of people, ideas, and cultural products between China and Southeast Asia depended on a set of robust transnational and multifaceted cultural networks, and therefore “China factor” in Southeast Asia or Nanyang (literally the Southern Seas) can be interpreted in the framework of the PRC regime’s diaspora propaganda, but should be also examined by engaging with some other contemporary transnational cultural paradigms such as Sinophone studies and global Chinese literature.</p>
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**RESEARCH CLUSTERS**



**RECENT EVENTS**

18 January: [‘Plotting and Scheming’: Land Acquisition and Market Values in Colonial Bombay City, 1898-1920](#) by Dr Shekhar Krishnan, Post-Doctoral Fellow at the ARI Science, Technology & Society Research Cluster



10 February: [The SIJORI Cross-Border Region: Transnational Politics, Economics, and Culture](#) by Dr Francis Hutchinson, ISEAS-YIH Institute



## UPCOMING EVENTS

9 March: [Urban Resistance and the Radical Imagination: Anti-gentrification movements in New York City ‘post-Occupy’](#) by Dr Laura Naegler, Lecturer, University of Liverpool, SG

6 April: [A ‘Model State’ For Malaysia?: Competing Visions of \(Re\)development in a UNESCO World Heritage City](#) by Dr Creighton Connolly, Postdoctoral Fellow, ARI

19 April: [Seminar](#) by Dr Hun Kee Kim, details TBA



## RECENT EVENTS

17 January: [Land-Cover and Land-Use Change in Mainland Southeast Asia](#) by Dr Jefferson Fox, East-West Center, Hawaii



14 February: [Screening of Age of Consequences](#) with ARI



17 February: [Floating Lives at Risk: Hydropower, Pulsing Ecosystems and Water-based Communities of the Tonle Sap](#) by Dr Carl Grundy-Warr, NUS Geography; Dr Carl Middleton, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand; and Dr Mak Sithirith, Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

3 March: [Workshop on Intergenerational Contact Zones in Asian Context: A Focus on Education and Integrated Service Spaces](#), co-organized by National Council for Social Services (NCSS), from 9-6pm at Temasek Polytechnic, Temasek Tourism Academy Events Hall, featuring A/P Shih-Tsen Liu, Nike, University of Taipei, Environmental Education and Resources; Masataka Kuraoka, Research Associate, Research Team for Social Participation and Community Health, Tokyo Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology, Japan; Elaine Tan and Stephanie Wee, Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA); Jenny Tiew and Pravina Narayanan Council for Third Age (C3A); and Caymania Low, NTUC Health

**Abstract:** In recent decades, efforts to promote intergenerational connections have intensified with a sense of urgency prompted by rapid global population aging and the awareness of the undesirable consequences of a widening intergenerational gap. In Asia, as concerns for age-friendly environment emerge, there is also increasing call for best intergenerational practices and ways to structure and integrate learning and services which will effectively promote intergenerational connection and understanding. This one day forum and workshop which aims to deepen our knowledge and skills in intergenerational practice will invite speakers to share their knowledge and experiences of fellow Asian societies equally affected by rapid population ageing. With the conceptual framework of Intergenerational contact zones (ICZ) as a background, we will learn to explore how best to expand spaces and programs for intergenerational connections with a focus on education and integrated social services.



## RECENT EVENTS

9 January: [Workshop on Migration and Aging and Migration in the Asia-Pacific and Europe](#), co-organized with Humboldt University and ARI. Invited speakers include Prof Paul Statham (University of Sussex) and A/P Loretta Baldassar (University of Western Australia)



2 February: [Kyōiku-ijū \(Education Migration\): Affluent Japanese Families' Transnational Education Strategies in Johor Bahru, Malaysia](#) by Dr Hiroki Igarashi (Chiba University), co-organized with Dept of Japanese Studies



7 February: [‘Privatised Services: Migration at what Price?’ Panel & Photo Exhibition, Central Library Theatre 2 \(6-10 Feb\)](#): co-organized with ARI



## UPCOMING EVENTS

28 March: [New Media Art and STS workshop](#)

Invited speakers/artists: Dr Alexander König (Art Academy of Trondheim); Sarah Grant (Tow Center at Columbia University); and Danja Vasiliev (winner of the Golden Nica Ars electronica)



**Book Publication: *A Year in the Life of Singapore***

This spring, SRN will publish its second book, *A Year in the Life of Singapore*. The 112 page volume features 50 pieces of research by FASS faculty members from 15 departments, all answering different questions about Singapore. Each research write-up is linked to a date of local, regional, or international cultural, social, or historical significance. If you are interested to read *A Year in the Life of Singapore*, please email Clare (fascyps) or Rachel (fasrda).

# RESEARCH CENTRES



## RECENT EVENTS

19 January: [Distinguished Public Lecture on Family and Population: Postindustrial Low Fertility in Europe and East Asia: Lessons for Singapore](#) by Professor Mary Brinton, Reischauer Institute Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Harvard University. Jointly organised with GAI.



### CFPR Seminar Series

13 January: [Separate & Unequal: Hukou, School Segregation, and Migrant Children's Education in Urban China](#) by Professor Wu Xiaogang, Professor of Social Science, and Director, Center for Applied Social and Economic Research (CASER), The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology





18 January: [One Egalitarianism or Several? Two Decades of Gender-Role Attitude Change in Europe](#) by Professor Mary Brinton, jointly organized with NUS Dept of Sociology



3 February: [Who benefits from Children in Highly Gendered Society? Exploring the Role of Children's Education in Parental Survival in South Korea](#) by Dr Lee Yeongjin, Postdoctoral Fellow, Asia Research Institute



10 February: [Maternal Education and the Multidimensionality of Child Health Outcomes](#) by Dr Kriti Vikram, Assistant Professor, NUS Department of Sociology



17 February: [India's Family Planning Program & Population Policies](#) by Prof Leela Visaria, Honorary Professor, Gujarat Institute of Development Research. Jointly organized with Asia Research Institute.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

3 March: [Population Age Structure and Labor Force in Asia](#) by Prof Leela Visaria, Honorary Professor, Gujarat Institute of Development Research. Jointly organized with Asia Research Institute.

10 March: [Multilingualism and Language Development in Singaporean Children](#) by A/P Leher Singh, Associate Professor, NUS Department of Psychology,

17 March: [Problems \(and Possible Solutions\) for the Recent Crisis in Psychological Research](#) by A/P Mike Cheung, Associate Professor, NUS Department of Psychology

24 March: [Hurdles and Hopes: An Ecological Analysis of Migrant Children in China](#) by Ms Gu Xiaorong, PhD Candidate, NUS Department of Sociology

31 March: [Exploring the Relation Between Immigrants and Native Workers: New Evidence Using Firms, Occupations and Employment Flows](#) by Dr Ken Ueda, Postdoctoral Fellow, CFPR and NUS Department of Economics

21 April: [Seminar](#) by A/P Xu Lanjun, Associate Professor, NUS Department of Chinese Studies

#### **Media Series with Lianhe Zaobao**

In the [5<sup>th</sup> article](#), published on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2016, A/P Maznah Mohamad and Dr Suriani Suratman talked about the role of marriage preparation courses in Malay marriages and divorce in Singapore.

In the [6<sup>th</sup> article](#), published on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017, Dr Ryan Hong discussed the impact of intrusive parenting on the development of maladaptive perfectionism in children with respect to academic achievement.

In the [7<sup>th</sup> article](#), published on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Dr Feng Qiushi discussed the perceptions of successful ageing among Singaporean elderly.



Global Production Networks Centre  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

## RECENT EVENTS

20 January: [Energizing GPN? A Global Production Networks perspective on the evolution of the liquefied natural gas sector and the emergence of a global gas market](#) by Prof Gavin Bridge, Department of Geography, Durham University



13 February: [Rethinking East Asia in the New Global Economy](#) by Prof Henry Wai-chung Yeung, NUS Geography, invited presentation to a seminar organised by The Bartlett School of Planning, University College London



14 February: [Global production networks 2.0 and the geographies of labour](#) by Prof Neil Coe, NUS Geography, invited keynote lecture to the GPN-Labour Workshop (*Global production networks in the spotlight: Chains or opportunities for workers?*), Macquarie University, Australia



23 February: [GW-CIBER GLOBAL BUSINESS FORUM: East Asia's role in the New Global Economy: Economy, Politics and US Investment](#) by Prof Henry Wai-chung Yeung, NUS Geography, invited presentation to GW-CIBER GLOBAL BUSINESS FORUM: East Asia's role in the New Global Economy organised by The George Washington University with the support of The Growth Dialogue, Korean Management Institute, Sigur Center for Asian Studies, Department of International Business



27 February: [Rethinking East Asia in the New Global Economy](#) by Prof Henry Wai-chung Yeung, NUS Geography, invited presentation to a seminar organised by the University of California, Berkeley



Next Age Institute  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

## RECENT EVENTS

21 February: [Introduction of the Financial Capability and Asset Building \(FCAB\) Initiative for Social Workers in Singapore](#)  
Read about it in [NUS News](#) and [local media](#).





Social Service Research Centre  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

*Make a difference to  
our social future with  
cutting-edge research*



## RECENT EVENTS

9 February-4 May: [Research Mentoring Programme](#)



20 February: [Applying Behavioural Science to Programme Design: Findings from Low-income Households with Debt](#)  
by Dr Ong Qiyang, Research Fellow, SSR



## UPCOMING EVENTS

1 March: [Engaging Residents at the Neighbourhood Level](#) by Associate Professor Ho Kong Chong, Department of Sociology, NUS