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July 2020



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NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2020 has presented the world with unprecedented challenges. As we move into this uncharted territory, the Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam is continuing to pursue its mission of producing insightful knowledge about Asian societies.

From its original focus in 2012 on key issues in Asian studies such as the historical study of nation-states and national identity, ethnicity, social stratification, and the place of religions, our research program has more recently expanded into new areas.

Our new research clusters and publications now focus on Asia-wide regional integration and human

security, migration, mobility and Asian diaspora, biocultural diversity, traditional knowledge and languages, tourism and heritage, and identities, narratives and representations, constructed not only through human interactions but also through transnational flows of ideas and images.

In 2020, IAS is also actively recruiting new staff and post-doctoral scholars to assist with the work of the institute.

Bruno Jetin

Associate Professor,
Director of IAS

SELECT RECENT STAFF PUBLICATIONS AT A GLANCE

Jetin, Bruno & Luis Reyes Ortiz (2020). "Wage-led demand as a rebalancing strategy for economic growth in China". *Journal of Post Keynesian Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01603477.2020.1774392>

Carnegie, P. J. and **V. T. King** (2020). "Mapping Circumstances in Oceania: Reconsidering Human Security in an Age of Globalisation". In S. Amin, D. Watson and C. Girard (eds.) *Mapping Security in the Pacific: A Focus on Context, Gender and Organisational Culture*. London and New York: Routledge, pp. 15-29.

Carnegie, Paul J. (2020). "On Constitutions and Power: An Anatomy of Indonesian Reforms 1999-2002". IAS Working Paper No. 55. Gadong, Brunei Darussalam.

Franco, F.M., Chaw, L. L., Bakar, N., Abas, S. N. H. (2020). "Socialising over Fruits and Vegetables: The Biocultural Importance of an Open-air Market in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam". *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*, 16(6).

Kamsani, K., **F. M. Franco**, F. Slik (2020). "A Comparative Account of the

Traditional Healing Practices of Healers and Non-healers in the Kiudang Area of Brunei Darussalam". *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*.

Harjatanaya, Tracey, and **Chang-Yau Hoon** (2020). "Politics of Schooling in Post-Suharto Indonesia: A Study of the Chinese Minority". *Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education*, 50(1): 18-35.

Chan, Jennifer Kim Lian and **Victor T. King** (2020). "The Coronavirus Pandemic and Tourism in Southeast Asia: Case Material from Malaysia". *Horizon Journal of Humanities & Social Science Research*, 2(S): 87 – 102.

Kelley, Liam C. (2020). "Taxation and Military Conscription in Early Modern Vietnam: Nguyễn Đình Trong in Comparative Perspective". *Journal of Vietnamese Studies*, 15(2):1-39.

Lian Kwen Fee (2020). "Retracing the Political Construction of Race and Ethnic Identity in Malaysia and Singapore: Career of a Concept". IAS Working Paper No. 53. Gadong, Brunei Darussalam.



Brunei

BIOCULTURAL DIVERSITY IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of the Institute of Asian Studies **Merlin Franco** has recently published two articles dealing with issues of biocultural diversity in Brunei Darussalam.

The first is a co-authored article on the biocultural importance of Tamu Kianggeh, an open-air market in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

Entitled "Socialising over Fruits

and Vegetables: The Biocultural Importance of an Open-Air Market in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam", the article investigates ways in which Tamu Kianggeh serves as a meeting ground for ethnic and biological diversities.

The second is a co-authored article on traditional healing practices and medicinal plants in the Kiudang area of Tutong District of Brunei.

Entitled "A Comparative Account of

the Traditional Healing Practices and Healers and Non-healers in the Kiudang Area of Brunei Darussalam”, the article compares the traditional medicinal knowledge and associated spiritual practices of healers with that of non-healers, to understand the

relevance of healers in contemporary times. At the same time, the study also aims to understand the number of species collected from the forests for healing purposes, compared to those from human influenced habitats.

Franco, F.M., Chaw, L. L., Bakar, N., Abas, S. N. H. (2020). “Socialising over Fruits and Vegetables: The Biocultural Importance of an Open-air Market in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam”. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*, 16(6). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-020-0356-6>

Kamsani, K., **F. M. Franco**, F. Slik (2020). “A Comparative Account of the Traditional Healing Practices of Healers and Non-healers in the Kiudang Area of Brunei Darussalam”. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jep.2020.112788>





China

ECONOMIC GROWTH IN CHINA

Associate Professor and Director of IAS **Bruno Jetin** has co-authored an article with Luis Reyes Ortiz, Professor of Finance at Kedge Business School, on rebalancing China's economic growth.

The authors examine the unfulfilled policy goal in China of rebalancing growth in favor of domestic consumption. They identify factors that have limited efforts to rebalance

growth, and conclude that a pro-labor policy may now contribute to rebalancing China's growth and make it less dependent on exports, overinvestment and carbon-intensive industries.

This, the authors argue, is good news for China which now has to face a new global crisis due to the Covid19 pandemic.

Jetin, Bruno & Luis Reyes Ortiz (2020). "Wage-led demand as a rebalancing strategy for economic growth in China". *Journal of Post Keynesian Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01603477.2020.1774392>

CORONAVIRUS & TOURISM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Professor **Victor T. King** has published a timely article on the effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Tourism in Southeast Asia.

Co-authored with Professor Jennifer Kim Lian Chan of the Borneo Tourism Research Centre at Universiti Malaysia Sabah, the article offers an early examination of the effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic on tourism in the state of Sabah, with a particular focus on the East Asian market of Chinese and Korean tourists.

Some of the policy and practical responses to these effects on the part of the tourism industry are also considered.



Chan, Jennifer Kim Lian and **Victor T. King** (2020). "The Coronavirus Pandemic and Tourism in Southeast Asia: Case Material from Malaysia". *Horizon Journal of Humities & Social Science Research*, 2(S): 87 – 102.



Southeast Asia

DEBATING SOUTHEAST ASIA

The Institute of Asian Studies has established a close working relationship with the Korea Institute of ASEAN Studies (KIAS) at Busan University of Foreign Studies (BUFS). It has regularly sent delegates to Busan's annual conferences on Southeast Asia along with colleagues from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UBD.

A special issue of KIAS's journal *Suvannabhumi: Multi-disciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* will be published in July 2020 (volume 12[2]) edited by Professor **Victor T.**

King on 'Debating Southeast Asia'. The eight papers in this special issue were presented at the BUFS International Conference on 23-25 May 2019 on the theme of the 'The Recognition and Construction of Southeast Asia as a Whole'.

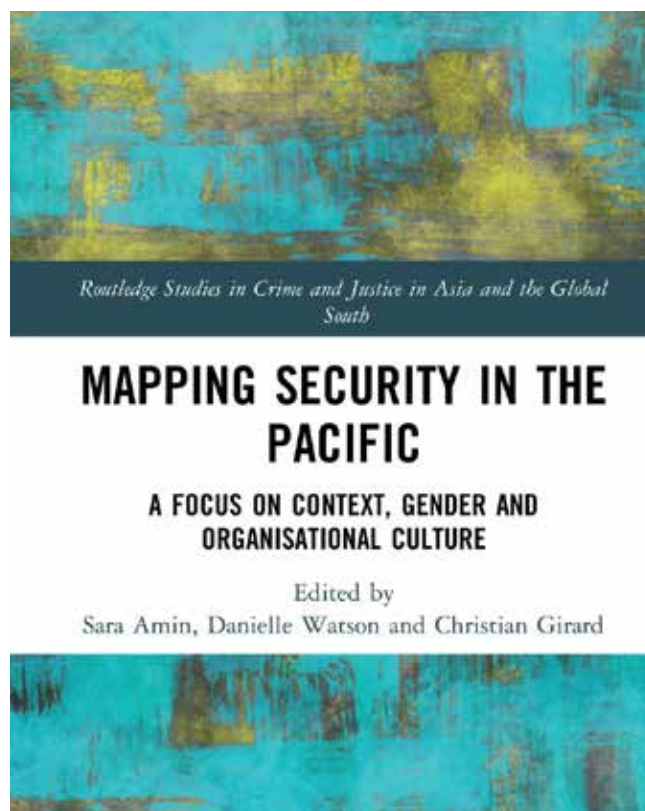
In their different ways the papers explore the issues arising from defining and constructing Southeast Asia as a region in the era of globalization, addressing whether or not the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) might extend its membership to include

such countries as Timor-Leste and Australia (and New Zealand), the contribution of Southeast Asian Studies as a 'grounded', multidisciplinary enterprise in understanding Southeast Asian cultures, histories and identities, and more general issues raised by area studies and its place in academic activity in such arenas of debate as climate change and environmental crises.

Harjatanaya, Tracey, and **Chang-Yau Hoon** (2020). "Politics of Schooling in Post-Suharto Indonesia: A Study of the Chinese Minority. *Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education*, 50(1): 18-35.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03057925.2018.1493573>

MAPPING HUMAN SECURITY

Associate Professor **Paul J. Carnegie** and Professor **Victor T. King** published a new chapter "Mapping circumstances in Oceania: Reconsidering human security in an age of globalisation" in *Mapping Security in the Pacific: A Focus on Context, Gender and Organisational Culture* (Routledge). The chapter focuses on the utility of various social science concepts and approaches for developing our understanding of marginality and precariousness in the 21st Century.



Carnegie, P. J. and **V. T. King** (2020). "Mapping Circumstances in Oceania: Reconsidering Human Security in an Age of Globalisation". In S. Amin, D. Watson and C. Girard (eds.) *Mapping Security in the Pacific: A Focus on Context, Gender and Organisational Culture*. London and New York: Routledge, pp. 15-29.



Indonesia

THE POLITICS OF SCHOOLING IN POST-SUHARTO INDONESIA

Associate Professor **Chang-Yau Hoon** has published a new co-authored article on education in Indonesia entitled, “Politics of Schooling in Post-Suharto Indonesia: A Study of the Chinese Minority”.

This article explores how schools have responded to the ambivalent relations between Chinese and non-Chinese in Indonesia by examining the multicultural position that Indonesian teachers adopt and the

pedagogical strategies they employ in promoting positive inter-ethnic relations.

With extensive data collected from interviews with teachers in three schools in Medan with different student ethno-religious compositions, the article argues that the multiculturalism paradigm embraced by the majority of teachers emphasizes a liberal multicultural outlook that seeks to achieve

integration and prejudice reduction. of multiculturalism in tandem with Indonesian's concept of nationalism and national identity, including the vision of diversity enshrined in the national motto Bhinneka-Tunggal-Ika (Unity-in-Diversity).

In their examination of these schools, Associate Professor Chang-Yau Hoon of IAS and his co-author, Dr. Tracey Harjatanaya, also consider theories

Harjatanaya, Tracey, and Chang-Yau Hoon (2020). "Politics of Schooling in Post-Suharto Indonesia: A Study of the Chinese Minority. Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education, 50(1): 18-35.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03057925.2018.1493573>

INDONESIAN REFORMS 1999-2002

Associate Professor **Paul J. Carnegie** has published an IAS Working Paper entitled "On Constitutions and Power: An Anatomy of Indonesian Reforms 1999-2002 ."

a normative projection of what could be whilst the latter involves the manner in which reform is brought about.

In this working paper, Dr. Carnegie anatomizes the constitutional reform process that took place in Indonesia from 1999-2002.

Proposing constitutional reform and the process of establishing it are two distinct matters. The former is largely

Dr. Carnegie examines the merits or otherwise of the gradualist approach to constitution-making that was employed in Indonesia and considers whether or not such an approach is appropriate for establishing meaningful constitutionalism in plural and divided societies.

Carnegie, Paul J. (2020). "On Constitutions and Power: An Anatomy of Indonesian Reforms 1999-2002". IAS Working Paper No. 55. Gadong, Brunei Darussalam.



Vietnam

RETHINKING VIETNAMESE HISTORY

In a new article, Associate Professor **Liam C. Kelley** offers a reassessment of the historical development of the southern half of Vietnam.

The southern half of Vietnam has long been characterized by historians as historically less-centralized, less-Confucian and less-bureaucratic than the Vietnamese heartland in the Red River delta. However, through a comparative examination of tax

collection and military recruitment in these two regions in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Dr. Kelley argues that the southern half of Vietnam in many ways surpassed its northern counterpart in its centralized control of the population.

The paper thus presents a new and more assessment of the state of Vietnam's government just prior to the colonial era.

Kelley, Liam C. (2020). "Taxation and Military Conscription in Early Modern Vietnam: Nguyễn Đình Trong in Comparative Perspective". *Journal of Vietnamese Studies*, 15(2):1-39.
<https://doi.org/10.1525/vs.2020.15.2.1>

SPECIAL ISSUE ON VIETNAM

Associate Professor **Liam C. Kelley** has co-edited a special issue of the Journal of Vietnamese Studies.

Entitled “The Collaboration Project between Engaging With Vietnam and the Journal of Vietnamese Studies,” this special issue contains papers from an annual multi-disciplinary conference on Vietnam called Engaging With Vietnam: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue (EWV) that Dr. Kelley co-organizes with Dr. Phan Le Ha, Senior Professor in the

Sultan Hassanah Bolkiah Institute of Education (SHBIE) Director of the International and Comparative Education Research Group (ICE), and IAS Research Associate.

The papers in this special issue were presented at the 9th Engaging With Vietnam conference held 12/2017 – 1/2018 in Vietnam with the theme of “Touring Vietnam: Exploring Development, Tourism, and Sustainability from Multi-disciplinary and Multi-directional Perspectives”.

Phan Le Ha, **Liam C. Kelley**, Jamie Gillen (eds.) (2020). “Special Issue: The Collaboration Project between Engaging With Vietnam and the Journal of Vietnamese Studies”. 15(1).





Malaysia & Singapore

RACE AND ETHNICITY

Professor **Lian Kwen Fee** has published an IAS Working Paper on “Retracing the Political Construction of Race and Ethnic Identity in Malaysia and Singapore: Career of a Concept”.

experience of the race riots in Kuala Lumpur on May 13th in 1969. In graduate school in New Zealand, he conducted research on the Chinese and the Maoris.

In this paper, Dr. Lian traces the development of his work on race and ethnicity over his academic career, and reflects upon the pre-occupation with the representation of race and politics in social science discourses.

Upon returning to Singapore to work, Dr. Lian went on to examine Malay identity in the region, the marginalization of Tamils as an underclass in Malaysia, and then engaged in a broader consideration of race, class, and politics in Peninsular Malaysia precipitated by the General Election of 2008.

Professor Lian’s interest in race and ethnic relations originated his

Lian Kwen Fee (2020). “Retracing the Political Construction of Race and Ethnic Identity in Malaysia and Singapore: Career of a Concept”. IAS Working Paper No. 53. Gadong, Brunei Darussalam.



NEW VOLUME IAS/SPRING BOOK SERIES

The latest volume in the IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" series has recently been published: *The Divergent Nation of Indonesia: Heterogeneous Imaginings in Jakarta, Kupang, and Banda Aceh* by **Stefani Nugroho**.

Dr. Nugroho's book is the product of her PhD thesis she submitted in 2014 in the National University of Singapore, for which she was awarded the best thesis in the same

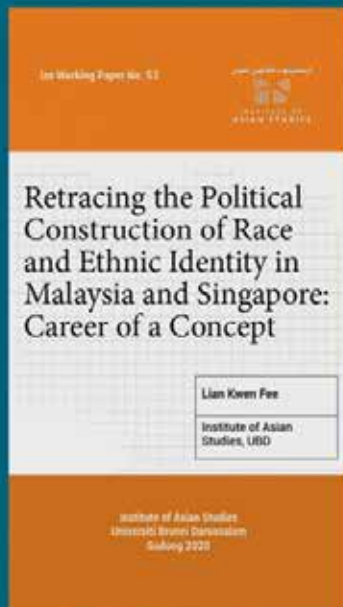
year. She was Fulbright Scholar in 2015 before joining the Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam as Postdoctoral Fellow in 2016, where she began revising her thesis for publication. Her work is a significant contribution and a departure from the many in the past that have attempted to come to grips with one of the most perplexing and ethnically pluralistic societies in the region. Previous works on Indonesian

nationhood have been dominated by the perspective of elites, influenced by the knowledge that Indonesian nationalism was precipitated by a common opposition against Dutch colonial rule and oppression, and therefore framed within the narratives of colonial history.

Dr. Nugroho's contribution is remarkable for several reasons. First, she examines Indonesia as a postcolonial nation but at the same time she is mindful of its colonial origins. Secondly, she is determined to move away from the essentialist and unitary conception of the nation that has dominated previous scholars. She does this by methodologically disaggregating the nation-state. Thirdly, she interrogates the nation from below: how do ordinary people who are usually not consciously engaged in the nation

project articulate their notions and aspirations of what it means to be Indonesian. Selecting youth from three diverse research sites, namely Muslim Aceh in the western periphery, Jakarta in the centre, and Christian Kupang in the eastern periphery, she uses photo-elicitation to encourage young Indonesians to explore their views on what otherwise is an abstract topic of conversation. In her own words, she "engages with the heterogeneity of the construction of the nation and in so doing disrupts the hegemonic notions of Indonesia".

If you have a scholarly work or an edited volume that you would like to submit to the IAS – Springer "Asia in Transition" books series, please feel free to contact Editor-in-chief Bruno Jetin (bruno.jetin@ubd.edu.bn).



IAS WORKING PAPERS

Already in 2020 IAS has added three new papers to its Working Paper Series, bring the total number of papers now to 55.

The three most recent papers are:

“Retracing the Political Construction of Race and Ethnic Identity in Malaysia and Singapore: Career of a Concept” by Professor Lian Kwen Fee;

“On Constitutions and Power: An Anatomy of Indonesian Reforms 1999-2002” by Dr. Paul J. Carnegie;

“Performative Mimicry and Postcolonial Exoticism: A Re-politicising of the Female Body in the Work of Cheryl Lu-Lien Tan and Amir Faliq” by Mahfuzah Abd Wahab.

The editors of the IAS Working Paper Series invite submissions for consideration:

Professor Lian Kwen Fee (kwenfee.lian@ubd.edu.bn)

Associate Professor Paul J. Carnegie (paul.carnegie@ubd.edu.bn)

WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES

The regular Wednesday Seminar series that IAS has hosted since 2012 continued in the first half of 2020 with such seminar as the following:

Professor Victor T. King on “Professor Donald E. Brown’s Study of Brunei and His Contribution to Anthropology.”

Dr. Haji Tassim bin Abu Bakar on “Development, Change and

Modernization in Kampong Ayer over the Last Fifty Years.”

Dr. Stephen Druce on “An Evaluation of Donald Brown’s Historical-Anthropological Work on Brunei.”

Liam C. Kelley on “Rethinking Trade and the Environment in Southeast Asian History.”

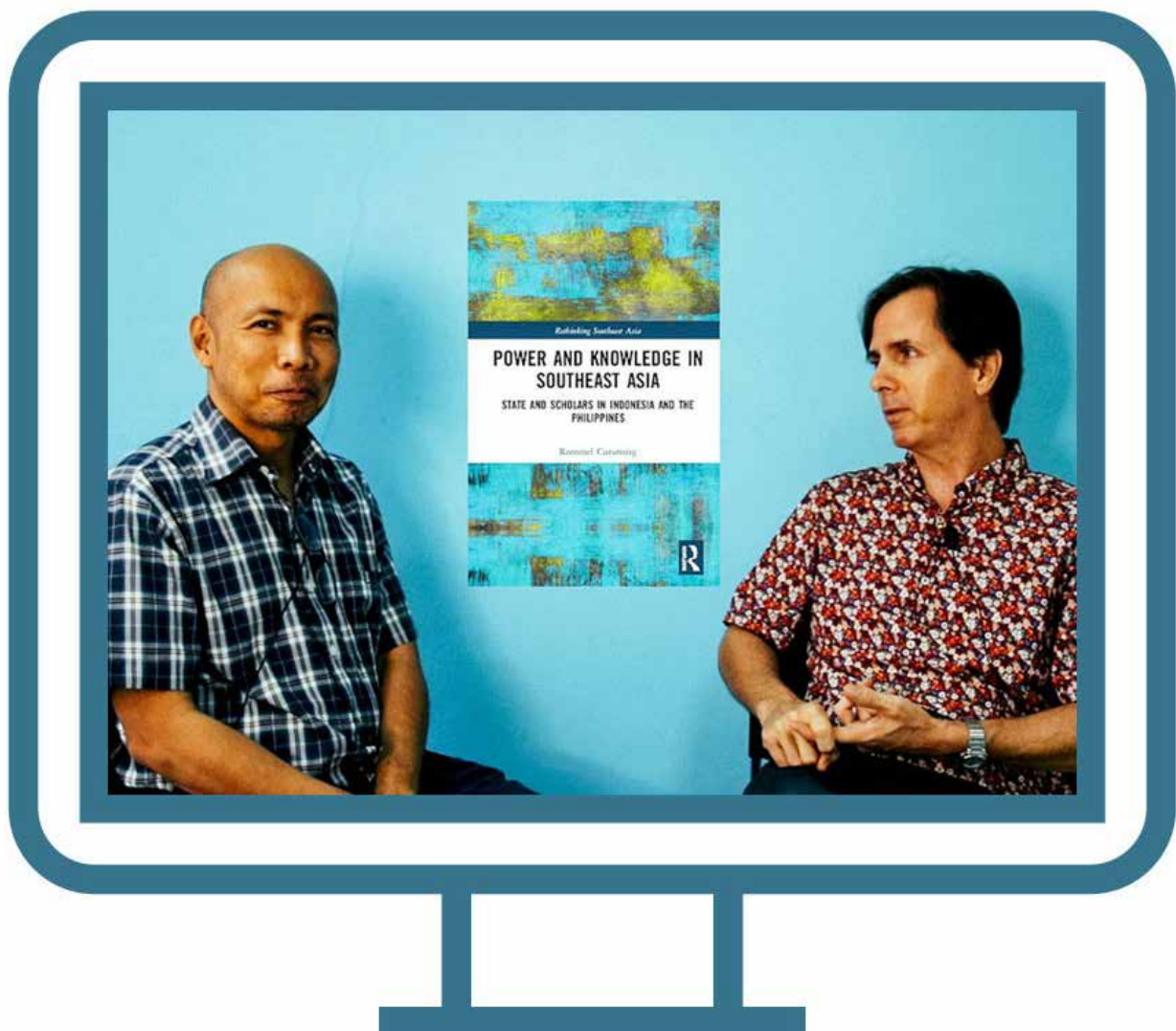


VIDEO INTERVIEWS

The Institute of Asian Studies continues to produce video interviews with leading experts on Asian societies from various disciplines (economics, sociology, education, anthropology, history) and to share those videos publicly on the IAS website.

Recent videos include an interview with Dr. Rommel Curaming from the

Program in History and International Studies at UBD on his new book, *Power and Knowledge in Southeast Asia: State and Scholars in Indonesia and the Philippines* (Routledge 2019), as well as an interview with Dr. Stephen Druce from the Academy of Brunei Studies at UBD on his research on premodern political formations in South Sulawesi.





INDUSTRY 4.0 PUBLIC LECTURE

The Institute of Asian Studies and Universiti Brunei Darussalam co-hosted a public lecture on “Industrial Revolution 4.0 and Inclusive Future of Work” by Dr. Mia Mikic, Director of the Trade, Investment and Innovation Division at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) .

The talk, presented to a full audience and moderated by IAS Director Dr. Bruno Jetin, discussed the advanced technologies involved in the fourth industrial revolution, or Industry 4.0, and provided an overview of the different degrees to which ASEAN states are prepared for this transformation.



IAS STAFF NEWS

Professor **Victor T. King** presented two talks on 27 February 2020 at the Borneo Tourism Research Centre, Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu on “ASEAN Tourism Development: Borneo Case Studies” and “Writing for Academic Publication.”

Since 2016, Professor **Victor T. King** has been Senior Editorial Advisor for two publication series of the Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development at Chiang Mai University and published by Chiang Mai University Press: “Critical Perspectives on Regional Integration” and “Consortium of Development Studies in Southeast Asia.”

The two series are primarily focused on the five mainland Southeast Asian countries of Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Lao PDR and Cambodia.

40 volumes have been published to date, and Professor King is now engaged in advising on, evaluating

and editing a further 10 volumes for the Center to be published in 2020-2021.

Assistant Professor and Deputy Director of IAS **Merlin Franco's** published research on the the biocultural diversity of open-air markets was featured on Royal Television Brunei's evening news (14 February 2020).

Associate Professor **Paul J. Carnegie** recently gave a virtual presentation on “Human Security, Marginality and Precariousness in Southeast Asia” at the Asian Conference on Asian Studies (ACAS2020), Tokyo, Japan.

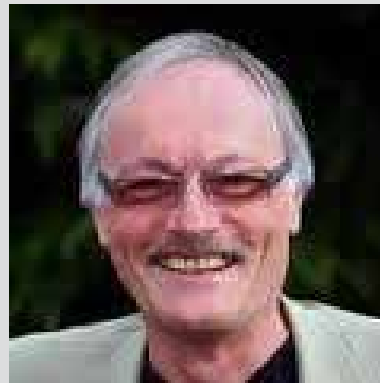


Bruno Jetin
Assoc. Prof.,
Director

IAS STAFF



**F. Merlin
Franco**
Assist. Prof.,
Deputy
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**Victor T.
King**
Professor



**Lian Kwen-
Fee**
Professor



**Chang-Yau
Hoon**
Assoc. Prof.



**Paul J.
Carnegie**
Assoc. Prof.



**Liam C.
Kelley**
Assoc. Prof.



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