



March 2022



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# NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Over the past six months the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) at Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) has remained as productive as ever.

One key development is a new open access initiative for our IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" book series. Thanks to the generous support of UBD, we will be able to publish 15 volumes in this series over the next five years as open access books.

In addition to making the work of scholars available to all, open access publishing also contributes towards achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. We are therefore pleased to be able to offer this opportunity for scholars to publish in our IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" book series.

As for that series, we have published five new volumes over the past few months, and they are highlighted in this issue of the newsletter. We have

also published two new volumes in our IAS Working Paper series.

Beyond publishing, the staff of IAS have all been active participating in online workshops and conferences, as well as teaching.

IAS also hosted a conference: the 5th Network of ASEAN-China Academic Institutes (NACAI) International Symposium on 16 October 2021 where participants from all of the countries of Southeast Asia and China discussed about "Trade linkages and supply chains resilience: Navigating the COVID-19 new normal."

Finally, we have had three staff members transition to new stages in their lives and careers. Professor of Borneo Studies Victor T. King has retired from his permanent position but will continue to participate in the work of IAS as a visiting scholar.

Meanwhile, Administrative Assistant Zainah Omar has retired, while Assistant Registrar Mariah Suleiman has been rotated to a different unit at UBD, and has been replaced at IAS by Mohammad Zainul Akmal bin Zaini.

We thank Victor, Zainah, and Mariah very much for their years of service, and we welcome Zainul to IAS.

#### **Bruno Jetin**

Associate Professor, Director of IAS



#### HONORING VICTOR T. KING

It is with feelings of both appreciation and sadness that the Institute announces the semi-retirement of our colleague, Victor T. King.

Professor King has recently completed a four-year contract as Professor of Borneo Studies in the Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam (2017-2022). Previously he was Eminent Visiting Professor at the Institute (2012-2013) and then Distinguished Visiting Fellow (2014-2015).

While Dr. King has officially retired from his full-times position, he will join the Institute as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow in Borneo Studies for a further three years.

Indeed, Professor King's work with IAS continues as he is currently hard at work editing a book project with Bruno Jetin (IAS), Jacqueline Pugh-Kitingan (Universiti Malaysia Sabah) and Noor Hasharina Hassan (IAS) arising from the Borneo Studies Network

online conference hosted by the Network and UBD in 2021, and to be published by IAS-UBD and Springer-Singapore in 2022 as Within Borneo, Beyond Borneo: Issues and Perspectives.

He is also continuing with a research project jointly with IAS Research Associate Magne Knudsen (FASS) which has run from 2018 and should be completed by 2023 with the publication of a book on The Iban of Brunei.

Some initial findings of this project were published in Victor T. King and Magne Knudsen, *The Iban of Temburong: Migration, Adaptation and Identity in Brunei Darussalam*, Gadong: Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Working paper No 65, 2021).

As such, althoughl officially retired, Professor King continues to work extensively with IAS.



#### VICTOR KING: PROFESSOR OF BORNEO STUDIES: AN APPRECIATION BY LIAN KWEN FEE

Victor King who was appointed as the first Professor of Borneo Studies in the Institute of Asian Studies in 2017 recently resigned from his position to return to Hull, where he has a home and garden to tend to.

In the four years that he has been here, he edited and co-edited nine volumes, published eight articles and chapters, and seven working papers. In his words, this was the most productive period of his long academic career which spanned over forty years.

His contribution to and the impact of his work are immeasurable, but he has left a legacy at IAS, which was conceived in 2012 to be a leading regional center of scholarship on Borneo and Southeast Asia studies. That legacy goes far beyond the publications that he has produced.

Through his extensive network of scholars who have worked on the region and generosity of

spirit, he has provided leadership, collaborations, and opportunities for local scholars to disseminate their work through international publishers.

Behind the scenes, he has given tireless support to both junior and senior colleagues in getting their work out to a wider audience.

To this end, no tasks were beneath him; and these included painstaking copy editing, cleaning up references, helping to improve the quality of the contributions, and working with publishers to produce the works.

All these he did driven only by the pleasure and pride he took in seeing the contributions of colleagues coming to fruition. While colleagues in IAS and the university regret that he has left, he has not retired and he has promised to return to IAS for shorter periods to help advance scholarship in Borneo studies.



## A SOCIOLOGY OF THE EVERYDAY IN CONTEMPORARY BRUNEI

Associate Professor **Paul J. Carnegie** recently co-authored an article with Professor **Lian Kwen Fee** for the *Brunei Museum Journal*.

The paper outlines a sociology of the everyday and its utility for developing our understanding of the ways in which people and communities in contemporary Brunei Darussalam perceive and interpret their lived experience.

Drawing on relevant examples, it considers the new angles of vision, scale, and scope that such an approach may offer.

The paper contends that positioning the ordinary and everyday as loci of investigation can assist in decoding complex aspects of continuity, negotiation, and transformation in Brunei Darussalam often overlooked by mainstream inquiry.

**Carnegie, P.J.** and **Lian Kwen Fee** (2022) *Deciphering Contemporary Brunei: Notes on a Sociology of the Everyday*. Brunei Museum Journal 2022, pp. 73-93.

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# IAS/SPRINGER BOOK SERIES OPEN-ACCESS INITIATIVE

The Institute of Asian Studies is pleased to announce that thanks to the generous support of the Universiti Brunei at Darussalam, the IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" book series is set to publish 15 open-access volumes over the next five years.

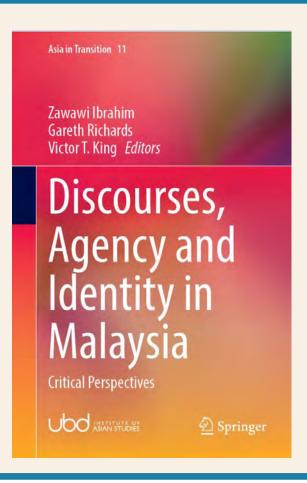
The "Asia in Transition" series addresses the interplay of local, national, regional and global influencesinSoutheast, Southand East

Asia and the processes of translation and exchange across boundaries and borders from a variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives.

For more information about the series, please visit the Springer website:

springer.com/series/13611

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).



#### **IDENTITY IN MALAYSIA**

The Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam is pleased to announce the publication of *Discourses, Agency and Identity in Malaysia: Critical Perspectives* edited by Zawawi Ibrahim, Gareth Richards, and Victor T. King (IAS).

This addition to the IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" Series seeks to break new ground, both empirically and conceptually, in examining discourses of identity formation and the agency of critical social practices in Malaysia. Taking an inclusive cultural studies perspective, it

questions the ideological narrative of 'race' and 'ethnicity' that dominates explanations of conflicts and cleavages in the Malaysian context.

The contributions are organised in the following three broad themes:

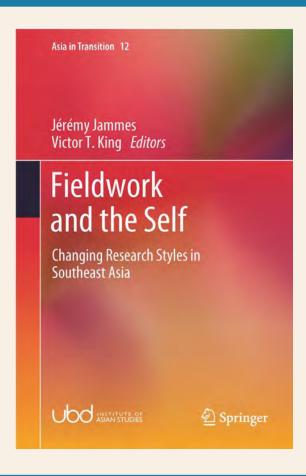
1) 'Identities in Contestation: Borders, Complexities and Hybridities' takes a range of empirical studies—literary translation, religion, gender, ethnicity, indigeneity and sexual orientation—to break down preconceived notions of fixed identities.

- 2) 'Identities and Movements: Agency and Alternative Discourses' deals with counter-hegemonic social movements—of antiracism, people, environmentalism young and independent publishing—that explicitly seek to open up greater critical, democratic space within the Malaysian polity.
- 3) 'Identities and Narratives: Culture and Media' provides a close textual reading of some exemplars of new cultural and media practices found in personal testimonies, popular

music, film, radio programming and storytelling who have consciously created bodies of work that question the dominant national narrative.

Discourses, Agency and Identity in Malaysia: Critical Perspectives is a valuable interdisciplinary work for advanced students and researchers interested in representations of identity and nationhood in Malaysia, and for those with wider interests in the fields of critical cultural studies and discourse analysis.





#### FIELDWORK IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

The Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam is pleased to announce the publication of *Fieldwork and the Self: Changing Research Styles in Southeast Asia* edited by Jérémy Jammes and Victor T. King (IAS), another contribution to the IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" Series.

The chapters in this volume were developed from a conference held at UBD in 2018 that was organized by then director of IAS Jérémy Jammes, currently Professor in Anthropology and Asian studies at the Institut

The Institute of Asian Studies at d'Études Politiques de Lyon, and Vic-Universiti Brunei Darussalam is tor T. King, Senior Professor of Borpleased to announce the publication neo Studies at IAS.

> Fieldwork and the Self presents new perspectives on Southeast Asia using cases from a range of ethnic groups, cultures and histories, written by scholars from different ethnicities, generations, disciplines and scientific traditions.

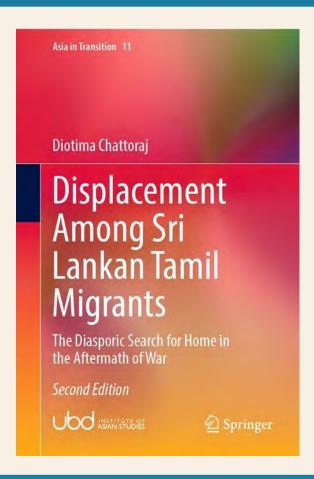
> The volume examines various research trajectories, engaging with epistemological debates on the 'global' and 'local', on 'insiders' and 'outsiders'

ers', and the role played by personal experiences in the collection and analysis of empirical data.

The volume provides subjects for debate rarely addressed in formal approaches to data gathering and analysis. Rather than grappling with the usual methodological building blocks of research training, it focuses on neglected issues in the research experience including chance, error, coincidence, mishap, dead ends, silence, secrets, improvisation, remembering, digital challenges and shifting tracks.

Fieldwork and the Self is relevant to academics and researchers from universities and international organisations who are engaged in teaching and learning in area studies and social science research methods.





#### SRI LANKAN TAMIL MIGRANTS

The Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam is pleased to announce the publication of volume 11 in the IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" Series: Displacement Among Sri Lankan Tamil Migrants: The Diasporic Search for Home in the Aftermath of War by Diotima Chattoraj.

This volume focuses on the concept of 'home' or 'place of origin' (expressed in Tamil as 'Ur') and its various dimensions, in turn related to issues of belonging, attachment, detachment, and commonality among the war-af-

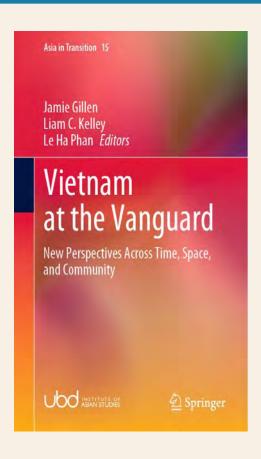
fected population in the post-war era of Sri Lanka.

Little research has been undertaken on displacement and forced migration since the end of the war, and so this book provides new insight into the intersections between externally and internally displaced people and notions of home in relation to gender, age, caste and class. It excavates the roots of the problem of not being able to return due to combinations of uncertainty, unemployment, and the loss of people and property.

The author shows that notions of 'home' vary considerably depending on multiple variables, and this is particularly pronounced between the different generations. The book also confronts how the migration from Sri Lanka over the border to India has brought on discernible changes to the lives of women in particular, in transforming their identities in multiple reinvented cultural manifestations, and cultivating a new kind of attachment towards their new homes.

Interdisciplinary in tenor *Displace-ment Among Sri Lankan Tamil Migrants:* The Diasporic Search for Home in the Aftermath of War, will be of interest to scholars in development studies with a focus on South Asia, as well as graduate students and researchers in the fields of migration, conflict studies, Sri Lanka studies, and sociology. It may also have an impact on policy-makers owing to its comprehensive, empirically-based analysis of the consequences of the Sri Lankan civil war for Tamils.





#### **NEW PERSPECTIVES ON VIETNAM**

The Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam is pleased to announce the publication of *Vietnam at the Vanguard: New Perspectives Across Time, Space, and Community* edited by Jamie Gillen, Liam C. Kelley, and Phan Le Ha as part of the IAS/Springer "Asia in Transition" Series.

This transdisciplinary edited book explores new developments and perspectives on global Vietnam, touching on aspects of history, identity, trans-

national mobilities, heritage, belonging, civil society, linguistics, education, ethnicity, and worship practices.

The chapters in *Vietnam at the Van*guard were first presented at Engaging With Vietnam: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue (EWV), an annual conference series co-organized by IAS Research Associate Phan Le Ha, Senior Professor in the Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Education (SHBIE) at UBD, and IAS staff member Associate Professor Liam C. Kelley. Professors Phan and Kelley serve as editors of this volume together with their colleague and EWV collaborator Jamie Gillen, Senior Lecturer and Director of Global Studies Programme at the University of Auckland.

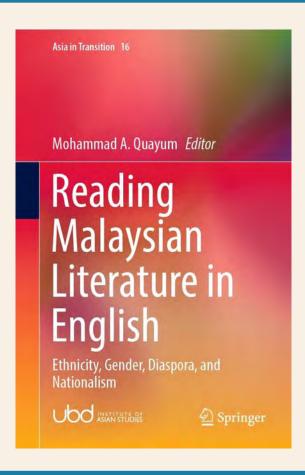
Vietnam at the Vanguard presents new scholarship and also represents new ways of knowing global Vietnam.

Over the past 10 years, knowledge production about Vietnam has diversified in various ways as globalization, the internationalization of higher education, and the digital revolution have transformed the world, as well as Vietnam. Whereas as late as a dec-

ade ago, knowledge about Vietnam was still largely the preserve of scholars in Vietnam and a coterie of related experts outside of the country at a select few universities, today we find scholars working on Vietnam in myriad contexts.

This transformation has introduced new voices and new perspectives, which this book champions. A critical text engaging a range of historical and contemporary debates about Vietnam, this book is an indispensable volume for the Southeast Asian Studies student and scholar in the humanities and social sciences.





### MALAYSIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Institute of Asian Studies welcomes the publication of *Reading* Malaysian Literature in English: Gender, Diaspora, and Ethnicity, Nationalism, edited by Mohammad **A. Quayum**, as part of the IAS/ Springer "Asia in Transition" Series.

This book brings together fourteen articles by prominent critics of Malaysian Anglophone literature from five different countries: Australia, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore, and the US. It tradition but also those who have reinvestigates the thematic and stylistic

trends in the literary products of selected writers of the tradition in the genres of drama, fiction, and poetry, from its beginnings to the present, focusing mainly on the postcolonial themes of ethnicity, gender, diaspora, and nationalism, which are central to the creativity and imagination of these writers.

The book explores the works of not just the established writers of the ceived little critical attention to date but who are equally gifted, such as The book will demonstrate that in Adibah Amin, Edward Dorall, Rehaman Rashid, and Huzir Suleiman.

The chapters collectively address the challenges and achievements of writers in the English language in a country where English is widely used in daily life and yet marginalised in the creative domain to elevate the status of writings in the national language, i.e., Bahasa Malaysia.

spite of such recurrent neglect of the medium, Malaysia has produced a number of outstanding writers in the language, who are comparable in creativity and craftsmanship to writers of other Anglophone traditions.

The book will be of interest to readers and researchers of Malaysian literature, postcolonial literatures, minority literatures, gender studies, and Southeast Asian studies.

Ibrahim, Z., Richards, G. & King V.T., eds. 2021. Discourses, Agency and Identity in Malaysia: Critical Perspectives. IAS/Springer Asia in Transition Series. Singapore: Springer.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-33-4568-3

Jammes, J. & King, V.T., eds. 2021. Fieldwork and the Self: Changing Research Styles in Southeast Asia. IAS/Springer Asia in Transition Series. Singapore: Springer.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-2438-4

Chattoraj, D. 2022. Displacement Among Sri Lankan Tamil Migrants: The Diasporic Search for Home in the Aftermath of War. IAS/Springer Asia in Transition Series. Singapore: Springer.

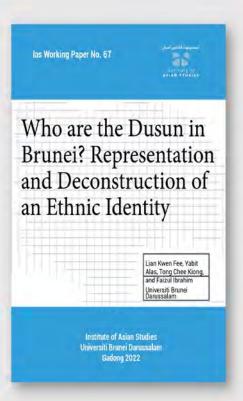
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-8132-5

Gillen, J., Kelley, L.C. & Phan, L.H., eds. 2021. Vietnam at the Vanguard: New Perspectives Across Time, Space, and Community. IAS/Springer Asia in Transition Series. Singapore: Springer.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-5055-0

**Quayum, M.A.**, ed. 2021. Reading Malaysian Literature in English: Ethnicity, Gender, Diaspora, and Nationalism. IAS/Springer Asia in Transition Series. Singapore: Springer.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-5021-5



#### IAS WORKING PAPERS

IAS Working Paper No
67: Who are the Dusun in
Brunei? Representation and
Deconstruction of an Ethnic
Identity by Lian Kwen Fee, Yabit
Alas, Tong Chee Kiong, and Faizul
Ibrahim.

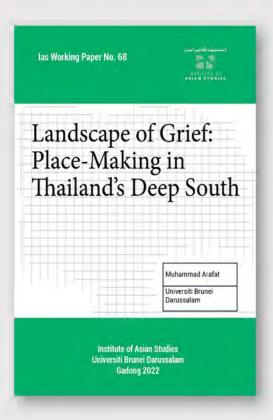
In this paper we address the question of what is Dusun identity and who are the Dusun by examining the work of local and foreign scholars and the views of informants who have been influential in the

community.

Equally important, we also identify critical issues that have dominated the work of these scholars and assess their relevance to current and future research on the Dusun.

These issues include ethnic identity and religion, ecology and language, and kinship and leadership. We come to the conclusion that ecological variations matter.

**Lian. K.F. et al.** (2021). Who are the Dusun in Brunei? Representation and Deconstruction of Ethnic Identity. Working Paper No. 66. Gadong: Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam.



IAS Working Paper 68: Landscape of Grief: Place-Making in Thailand's Deep South by Muhammad Arafat.

This paper discusses the construction of Patanian places in Thailand's Deep South, a region consisting of the provinces of Pattani, Narathiwat, and Yala, where the Malays constitute the ethnic majority.

Using the Krisek Mosque, the Tomb of Sultan Ismail Shah, and

the former home of Haji Sulong as examples, the paper shows how Patanian Malay narratives about these places illustrate their sorrow about the demise of the historical Malay kingdom of Patani and their community's strained political relationship with the Thai state and nation.

Viewed collectively, these places constitute a landscape of grief for the Patanian Malays.

Arafat, M. (2022). *Landscape of Grief: Place-Making in Thailand's Deep South*. Working Paper No. 68. Gadong: Institute of Asian Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

### WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES



The Wednesday Seminar series that IAS has hosted since 2012 has continued with the following seminars:

**Dr. Lisa Arensen** (IAS) on "Cooling the Land: Sacred Topographies & Land Use Management on Cambodia's Kulen Plateau"

**Dr Abdillah Noh** (FASS) on "Change Agents in Political Consolidation in Malaysia: Part of a Solution or Part of the Problem"

**Dr. James McLellan** (FASS) on "Borneo and Mindanao: A Comparative Study of

Translanguaging Practices, Identity Projection, Negotiation and Concealment"

**Dr. Merlin Franco** (IAS) on "Persistence of Nipah Sugar in the Popular Foodways of Brunei Darussalam"

**Dr. Nur Qistin Mohd Harunthmarin** (Ministry of Education) on "The Gothic Journey" (on Bruneian folklore)

**Dr. Khairudin Aljunied** (Academy of Brunei Studies) on "The Study of Islam in Southeast Asia"



#### NACAI CONFERENCE

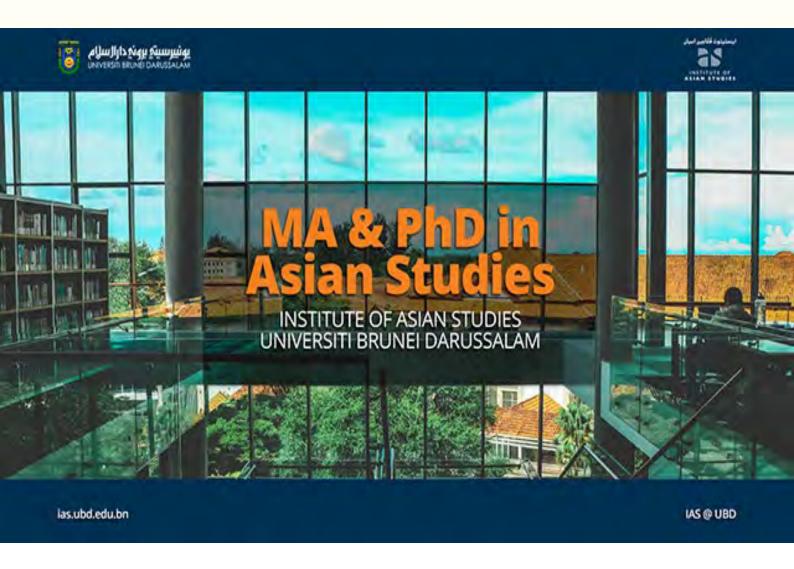
IAS hosted the 5th Network of ASEAN-China Academic Institutes (NACAI) International Symposium on 16 October 2021 and participants from all countries of Southeast Asia and China discussed about "Trade linkages and supply chains resilience: Navigating the COVID-19 new normal." The Research report from the conference has just been released and will be posted soon on the IAS website.

Bruno Jetin edited the report and contributed the introduction and a chapter called "Trade linkages and supply chains of Personal Protective Equipment and vaccines in ASEAN during the COVID-19 pandemic." In his con-

tribution, Bruno Jetin analyses the resilience and the fragility of the supply chains providing personal protective equipment and vaccines to ASEAN and shows that in some cases more diversified sources of supply could strengthen the resilience to the pandemic.

Established in 2017, the Network of ASEAN-China Academic Institutes (NACAI) consists of ten founding members: Institute of Asian Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences at Royal Academy of Cambodia, Center for China's Relations with Neighboring Countries at Fudan University, ASEAN Study Center at

Universitas Indonesia, Asia Research Center at National University of Laos, Institute of China Studies at University of Malaya, Department of International Relations at University of Yangon, Asian Center at University of the Philippines, Diliman, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, and Institute for Southeast Asian Studies at Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences.



### **GRADUATE STUDIES**

The Institute of Asian Studies offers both an MA and a PhD by research. These programs accept new students for both the August and January intake each year.

Prospective students can check the IAS website for information about application deadlines and requirements.

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#### STAFF APPRECIATION

The Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) held a special event to recognize and thank three staff members, Professor of Borneo Studies Victor T. King and administrative staff members Zainah Omar and Mariah Suleiman, for their many years of service to IAS.

Hosted by Director of IAS Dr. Bruno Jetin and Deputy Director Dr. Noor Hasharina Hassan, the event was graciously attended by then Vice Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darusssalam Datin Dr. Anita B. Z. Pehin Dato Abdul Aziz.

Professor Victor T. King is transitioning to semi-retirement after a long period of engagement with Brunei. Dr. King worked at the Brunei Museum in 1984 and 1985 while on sabbatical, was a regular visitor to UBD from its foundation and served as external examiner in Sociology and Anthropology at UBD in 1999-2000 and again in 2009-2010.

Professor King was then among the first of the academics to be appointed to the Institute of Asian Studies in 2012-2013 as an Eminent Visiting Professor. He returned to the Insti-

tute in 2014-2015 as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow, and for the past four years from 2017 has been in the post of Professor of Borneo Studies at IAS. Finally, Professor King plans to continue his association with IAS as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow in Borneo Studies.

Zainah Omar is retiring after having worked at IAS since its founding in 2012 and having worked at UBD since 1986.

Finally, Mariah Suleiman has served as Assistant Registrar at IAS since 2015 and is being rotated to a different unit at UBD as part of a routine administrative reshuffling. She will be replaced by Mohammad Zainul Akmal bin Zaini.

We will greatly miss Victor, Zainah and Mariah, but we take heart in knowing that they are all still close by and will remain in contact, and we warmly welcome Zainul to IAS!!



#### IAS STAFF NEWS

**Lisa Arensen** presented a paper on "Turning Away from the Trees: Reflections on Conviviality Between a National Park's Inhabitants & the Ground Beneath their Feet" at the Anthropology and Conservation conference, digitally hosted by the Royal Anthropological Institute on 25-29 October, 2021.

**Paul J. Carnegie** was an online attendee at the RESOLVE Global Forum Series on Conflict and Violent Extremism in Southeast Asia: Examining Trends in Malaysia and the Philippines, 11 February 2022, US Institute of Peace, Washington DC.

Liam C. Kelley presented a paper on "Integrated Knowledge: The Case of Sinology in Vietnam" at the Community of Shared Future for Mankind and Future Global Governance Conference, Yangzhou University, 18 December 2021.

Nobumichi Teramura presented a paper on "Perceiving Japan as a Source of Legal Ideas: A View from the Mekong Subregion" at the Comparative Law and Legal Transplant Session in the Asian Law and Society Virtual International Conference: Law Crisis and Revival in Asia hosted by the Faculty of Law at Chulalongkorn University, 17–18 September 2021.

**Dr. Teramura** also presented a paper on "Developing Brunei

Darussalam as an ASEAN Hub for International Islamic Finance Dispute Resolution: Opportunity or Over-ambition?" at the ASEAN Law Research Network Legal Blueprints Conference Series: Sustainable Development and Commerce in ASEAN Cities hosted by the Faculty of Law at the Singapore Management University, 12 November 2021.

**Dr. Teramura** also gave a talk on "Ex Aequo et Bono as a Response to the Over-judicialisation of International Commercial Arbitration" as part of the Decolonizing Arbitration Lecture Series hosted by Nagoya University Graduate School of Law on 2 December 2021.

Finally, **Dr. Teramura** gave the following two webinar presentations: "Online Legal Education in Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore," presented at Webinar: Asia-Pacific Online Legal Education Before and After the COVID-19 Pandemic hosted by the Sydney Law School on 1 February 2022 and "Cambodian Rules of Direct Jurisdiction," presented at Webinar: Direct Jurisdiction in Asia hosted by the Sydney Law School on 17 February 2022.

## IAS STAFF



**Bruno Jetin**Assoc. Prof.,
Director



Hasharina Hassan Lecturer, Deputy Director



**Lisa Arensen**Assist. Prof.



Paul J. Carnegie Assoc. Prof.



Chang-Yau Hoon Assoc. Prof.



**F. Merlin Franco**Assist. Prof.



**Lian Kwen-Fee** Professor



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



Victor T. King Professor



Nobumichi Teramura Assist. Prof.





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