



The journal of research into
rural and regional social issues
in Australia and New Zealand

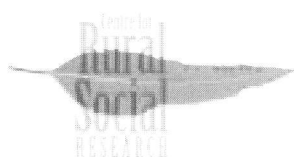
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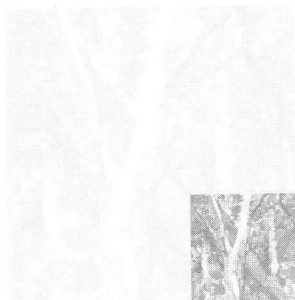
Phone: 02 6933 2778
Fax: 02 6933 2293
Email: crsr@csu.edu.au

www.csu.edu.au/research/crsr/rursoc



CHARLES STURT
UNIVERSITY





News, Conferences and Happenings

The Sunshine Coast State of the Region Conference

Coolum Hyatt, Queensland

24 June, 2005

The Conference is being co-hosted by SCRIBE (Sunshine Coast Research Institute for Business Enterprise) of the University of Sunshine Coast and the Committee for Economic Development of Australia.

The Conference will provide an up to date review of the economic, social and environmental trends on the coast and highlight recent research presently being undertaken.

Website details will be posted soon.

Dr Scott Prasser
Director
Sunshine Research Institute for Business Enterprise (SCRIBE)
University of the Sunshine Coast
Maroochydore DC 4558
Phone: (07) 5459 4494
Fax: (07) 5430 1231
Email: sprasser@usc.edu.au

International Conference on Issues, Problems and Prospects in Southeast Asia: The Geographical Perspective (IPPSEA)

12 - 13 September, 2005

Eastin Hotel, Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia

The Department of Geography, University of Malaya, is organising an international conference in celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the University of Malaya. The conference will debate issues, problems and prospects in the Southeast Asian region (individual countries, subregions, or the region as a whole) from the geographical perspective.

Papers are invited on the following topics:

- Urban/social issues;
- Transportation;
- Environment;
- Biotechnology;
- Agriculture and rural issues;
- Population and migration;
- Economy/industrialisation;
- Tourism; and
- Politics

Important Dates

- Deadline for submission of abstracts:
1st July 2005
- Deadline for submission of full papers:
1st August 2005.

Poster presentations are also invited for ongoing research projects.

For further details contact:
The Secretariat
International Conference on IPPSEA 2005-02-23
C/- Department of Geography
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
University of Malaya 50603
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Email: ippsea@yahoo.com
<http://geografi.um.edu.my>

CFP: 10th International Metropolis Conference

Toronto, Canada

17 - 21 October, 2005

The International Metropolis Project

The International Metropolis Project aims to strengthen research, policy and practice on issues related to migration, including migration flows and their management, integration, and diversity. Its activities include conferences, publications and co-ordinated exchanges that encourage dialogue, analysis and innovative approaches to migration-related policy at all levels of government. The Metropolis network brings together people from a range of backgrounds and disciplines, with members from more than 20 countries and international organisations who share a vision of interconnectivity among migration research, policy, and practice.

The International Metropolis Project is committed to collaboration between countries and, in particular, between those in the research, policy and community sectors. The work of the Metropolis Project demonstrates this commitment and is, in large part, the reason for its success. Through its various initiatives, the Metropolis Project supports the development of policy that is based on solid research, informed thought and a keen understanding of the issues.

The 2005 Conference marks the 10th anniversary of the International Metropolis Project.

Our Diverse Cities: Migration, Diversity and Change

The 10th International Metropolis Conference will feature some of the world's key thinkers who will stimulate debate on questions such as:

- How does increasing diversity affect the economic, social, cultural, justice, and political aspects of the world's cities?
- What are the benefits and challenges of diversity for our societies?

- To what extent are national migration policies consistent with the interests of the cities that become home to migrants?
- What are our best available policy and program options? How can they be made transferable from one setting to another?
- What are the respective roles of national and local governments in ensuring the best outcomes for all? What ought to be the role of international and intergovernmental organisations in managing migration?
- How can we more effectively take advantage of the wealth of research that is being carried out worldwide on these issues?

The unwavering pace of international migration is dramatically changing the world's cities.

Immigrants, refugees, temporary workers, and migrants primarily settle in urban areas where populations have become increasingly diverse with respect to culture, race, language, religion, and ethnicity.

These forms of diversity intersect with those of gender, class, ability, and sexual orientation, thereby producing a diversity of greater depth that poses yet greater challenges for our societies.

While some cities have embraced this rapidly deepening diversity as a strength, even as a competitive advantage, others are struggling with the social and governance challenges that it presents.

Although national governments regulate entry to states, it is usually their cities that must respond to the resulting social changes. When changes arise from large-scale migration over a long period of time and from a wide range of countries, governments and service providers must work exceptionally hard to develop the policy and program measures required for healthy and successful nations and communities. All orders of government, as well as the many organisations of civil society active in the fields of migration and diversity, face a range of dilemmas in addressing integration, diversity management, multiculturalism, and social inclusion. At the same time, they face the delicate challenge of precluding social exclusion, discrimination, marginalisation, and profiling.

The Conference aims to take the discussion beyond the familiar rhetoric to discern which policy and program measures can be beneficial and how they can be implemented in order to achieve the desired results.

Who Should Attend

The 2005 Metropolis Conference will be of interest to policy makers, administrators and representatives from non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as well as academic researchers. Metropolis wants to reach all those with a professional interest in international migration and urban management issues.

Graduate students and interested stakeholders in the private sector are encouraged to attend this event. A special registration fee will be made available for graduate students and NGO representatives.

Please note: The Metropolis Project does not have the financial resources to support participants and workshop presenters. Participants and workshop presenters need to secure their own funding to participate at this event.

Contact Details

Metropolis 2005 Secretariat

You can reach the Metropolis 2005 Conference Secretariat at:

Tel: +1-416-392-4990

E-mail: metropolis2005@toronto.ca

Robert Davis - Project Manager

2nd State of Australian Cities Conference

*Griffith University, Southbank, Brisbane
30 November - 2 December, 2005*

Following the successful State of Australian Cities Conference held in December 2003, the Australian Sustainable Cities and Regions Network, has announced that it will convene the 2nd State of Australian Cities conference in Brisbane. The conference will be hosted by the Urban Research Program (URP) at Griffith University.

Themes

The Conference will focus on the contemporary form and structure of Australian cities. The overarching conference meta-themes will be: The Sustainability and Vulnerability of Urban Australia.

The proceedings will be grouped into six key sub-themes, each the focus of one of more conference sessions and each with its own multi-disciplinary Editorial Review Panel:

- The city economy - economic change and labour market outcomes of globalisation, land use pressures, changing employment locations.

- The social city - including population, migration, cultures, immigration, polarisation, equity and disadvantage, housing issues, recreation.
- The environmental city - sustainable development, management and performance, natural resource management, limits to growth, impacts of air, water, climate, energy consumption, natural resource uses, conservation, green space.
- Changing city structures - the emerging morphology of the city - inner suburbs, middle suburbs, the CBD, outer suburbs and the urban-rural fringe, the city region.
- City governance - finance, taxation, provision of urban services, public policy formation, planning urban government, citizenship, accountability and the democratic process.
- Infrastructure - transport, mobility, accessibility, communications and IT, water supply and sewerage and other urban infrastructure provision.

Organisation

The Conference will run for two and a half days. Sub-theme sessions will run concurrently. All sessions will be chaired by members of the theme selection committees, who will also select rapporteurs for the plenary sessions. A final plenary on the last day will bring together the themes and provide an opportunity for delegates to develop a research agenda.

Costs will be minimised in order to make the Conference as inclusive as possible.

Conference registration details will be provided at the URP's website: www.griffith.edu.au/centre/urp

Submissions of Paper Proposals

Registration of interest in presenting a Conference paper should be sent in the first instance to:

Professor Patrick Troy,

Secretary to the National Sponsoring Committee at patrick.troy@anu.edu.au

Or by post to: Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies

Building 43, Australian National University, ACT. 0200

PhD Scholarships

We invite applications from suitably qualified persons for two PhD Scholarships funded by an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant. Commencing in 2005, the project will investigate

governance issues in non-metropolitan regions. Its inter-disciplinary team of Chief Investigators includes Professor Brian Dollery and Associate Professors Neil Marshall and Tony Sorensen from the University of New England's Centre for Local Government.

Successful applicants will work with the Chief Investigators on one of the following specific projects.

Project 1: Alternative models of local governance for rural and regional Australia.

The PhD student awarded this Scholarship will work primarily with Professor Brian Dollery to identify feasible models of local governance for rural and regional communities, especially in Northern NSW. It will test their relative efficiency and effectiveness on a range of criteria including service delivery, infrastructure provision, and social sustainability, using real and simulated data. The project requires travel in northern NSW and occasional visits to Canberra and Sydney.

Project 2: Changing patterns of regional governance in rural and regional NSW

This project will employ case studies to analyse the intersection of Australia's three formal tiers of government, their client agencies, and ad hoc regional networks in the delivery of public services, infrastructure supply, and regional or community development. It will examine especially the effectiveness and efficiency of related strategies and programs and how new patterns of regional governance may be emerging. The project involves field-work in selected regions, and the selected student will primarily work with Associate Professors Tony Sorensen and Neil Marshall.

Award: Each Scholarship carries a stipend of \$20,000 p.a. for three years and funds are also available for relevant fieldwork. Applicants may specify an interest in either or both of the positions. Those appointed will have a strong academic background in one or more of the following fields: economics, political science, public administration, geography, or local government, together with an interest in Australian local government and/or regional governance.

Further information: Potential applicants for Project 1 should contact Professor Brian Dollery on (02) 6773 2500 or email bdollery@une.edu.au.

Those interested in Project 2 should contact Tony Sorensen (02 6773 2500, Tony.Sorensen@une.edu.au) or Neil Marshall (02 6773 2475, nmarshall@une.edu.au).

General information on research at UNE can be found at: <http://www.une.edu.au/research-services/phd.html>. Look especially at the PhD rules: <http://www.une.edu.au/research-services/phdpost/PhDrules1-1-2005.doc>.

Application: Applicants should use the application form found at the following web-site: <http://www.une.edu.au/research-services/Home/phdapp.doc>, and include a sample of their academic writing not less than 2000 words in length.

Applications should be addressed to Professor Brian Dollery, School of Economics, University of New England, Armidale NSW 2351, Australia.

Closing date: Friday 1 April, 2005, however after this date please contact Professor Brian Dollery to clarify if either position is still open.

Beyond Clusters: Current Practices & Future Strategies

Ballarat, Australia

30 June - 1 July, 2005

The cluster conference is hosted by the Centre for Regional Innovation & Competitiveness (CRIC) at the University of Ballarat. CRIC is inviting scholars and practitioners to submit papers for presentation at the conference.

The conference will address a range of critically important themes relating to clustering. Papers are welcomed on the following topics:

- Cluster Policy
- Clustering Tools
- Cluster Measurement and Benchmarking
- Skills and training
- Cluster investment and attraction
- Beyond Clusters

The conference will result in two refereed publications: a special journal edition on clustering and refereed conference proceedings published by VURN press. Full papers will be subject to a double blind peer review process. If you are interested in contributing to one of these refereed publications, please submit an abstract of up to 400 words no later than 29 April, 2005. Full papers will be due by 27 May, 2005.

For more information and guidelines for submissions, please visit our website at: <http://www.cric.com.au> or contact Dr Patrice Braun on (03) 5327-9465 or email p.braun@ballarat.edu.au