Asia(s): Challenges, Tensions, and Mobilities

Interdisciplinary Approaches

Carrefour des arts et des sciences
Université de Montréal, March 9-10 2017

Bringing together scholars from around the world who work on East, South, and/or Southeast Asia from a variety of disciplines (anthropology, history, geography, literature, sociology, political sciences, urbanism), this conference will examine a wide range of political, economic and sociocultural issues faced by these regions, including labour and law, urbanization, migrations and diasporas, minorities and women rights, new threats (from environmental challenges to security issues) and global health. The topics are both global, regional, and local, affecting individual lives and collective outcomes; they also interact with one another.

The conference is hosted jointly by the CERIUM (Centre d’études des Relations internationales de l’Université de Montréal), the PRIAS (Pôle de recherche sur l’Inde et l’Asie du Sud), and the CETASE (Centre d’études de l’Asie de l’Est),Université de Montréal, with the generous support of the Quebec Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie (MRIF).

This activity is also supported by the Vice-rectorat à la recherche, the Faculté des arts et des sciences de l’Université de Montréal, and the Chaire de recherche du Canada sur le pluralisme en santé.”
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Preliminary Program

Wednesday March 8

5:00 - 7:00 P.M. Cocktail reception (Cercle HEC, 3000 Chemin de la Côte-Sainte-Catherine)

Cocktail reception in the presence of the panelists, members of CETASE, PRIAS and CERIUM, University of Montreal officials and guests.
Thursday March 9

8:00 - 8:45  Welcoming of the participants (3150, rue Jean-Brillant, Carrefour des arts et des sciences, C-3061)

8:45 – 9:15 –Opening remarks

Conference introduction by Frédéric Mérand, director of the CERIUM, Karine Bates, director of the PRIAS and Laurence Monnais, director of the CETASE

Welcome address by the president of the Université de Montréal, Guy Breton, and introduction of the keynote speaker, David Malone, United Nations University Rector

9:15 - 10:30 - Opening Conference

David Malone, rector de la United Nations University (Tokyo, Japon)

10:30-11:00 - Pause-café/ Coffee break

11:00 - 12:30 - Panel 1 – Governance, Neoliberal Trends, and Labor (Disputes)

Chair : Frédéric Mérand, directeur du CERIUM, Université de Montréal

Bernard Bernier, Université de Montréal

Abe Shinzo’s Structural reforms. Orientations and Efficiency

Gregor Murray et Xiaoming Bao, Université de Montréal, Canada

Varieties of Harmony? The Uncertain Status of Collective Labor Conflicts in the Evolution of Employment Relations in China

Yoonkyung Lee, University of Toronto, Canada

An uphill battle: Korean labor movements against the neoliberal market and repressive political institutions
Meredith Weiss, State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany, États-Unis

Representation and Transformation: Permutations on democracy amid late-stage capitalism

12h30 - 2h30 P.M.: Lunch break

2:30 – 4:00: Panel 2 - Spaces of friction, Zones of Negotiation: Geopolitics and “Alternative” Social Environments

Chair: Jocelyn Coulon, ex-conseiller politique du Ministre des affaires étrangères, Canada

Olivier Guillard, Institut des Relations Internationales et Stratégiques (IRIS) Paris, France/chercheur associé au CERIAS, UQAM, Montréal

Trouble spots in South Asia

Livia Monnet, Université de Montréal, Canada

Legacies of Soviet-Era Nuclear Testing in Kazakhstan: Radiation and Trauma in Kurchatov 22 and The Polygon

Karine Gagné, Yale University, New Haven, USA

The Himalayan ways: Aspiration, Infrastructure, and Mobility in Zanskar, India

Jean Michaud, Université Laval, Québec, Canada

« Zomia » and the Southeast Asian Massif: New Paradigms in order to reflect on political, economic, and cultural integration of the Asian High lands

5:00 – Vernissage of the exhibition Tracés à l’encre (C-2081)

Exhibition of original ink drawings by Lise Boisseau for the 40th anniversary of the CETASE

Introduction and Address by Tania Saba, Dean, Faculty of arts and sciences, Université de Montréal
Friday March 10

9:00-10:30  Panel 3 – The Human Mosaic, Mobilities, and Challenges of Integration

Chair : John Leavitt, Université de Montréal

Brenda Yeoh et Theodora Lam, National University of Singapore, Singapore

*Singapore as DiverCity: Tensions and Challenges in a Globalising City-State*

Mathieu Boisvert, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Montréal, Canada

*South Asian Communities in Montreal: A Cultural Mosaic*

Benoît Hardy-Chartrand, Centre pour l’innovation dans la gouvernance internationale (CIGI), Waterloo, Canada

*The Weight of Insecurity: Challenges of North Korean refugees’ integration in South Korea*

Danièle Bélanger, Université Laval, Québec, Canada

*‘We no longer fear brides from afar’: marriage markets and gendered mobilities in rural Vietnam*

10:30 - 11:00 – Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 – Panel 4 : Urban Utopias

Chair : Dominique Caouette, Université de Montréal, Canada

Danielle Labbé, Université de Montréal, Canada

*Vietnam’s Red River Delta: An Incipient Mega-Urban Region under Chimeric Regional Planning and Predatory Governance?*

Madhav Badami, School of Urban Planning and McGill School of Environment, McGill University, Montréal, Canada
Presentation: Urbanization in India

Gabriel Fauveaud, Université de Montréal, Canada

*The Urban Fabric in South-East Asia: City projects and forced mobilities of population*

Samuel Y. Liang, Utah Valley University, Orem, USA

*Pragmatic Utopias: Bureaucratic Modernism in Chinese Urbanization*

12:30 – 2:00 – Lunch break

2:00 - 3:15 Panel 5 – Human Rights, Women Justice

Chair: Karine Bates, directrice du PRIAS, Université de Montréal

Tamara Relis, London School of Economics and Political Sciences, UK

*Human Rights and Legal Pluralities in Indian and Tibetan Communities in the Himalaya*

Hélène Piquet, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Canada

*Women and Access to Justice in China*

Livia Holden, Università di Padova, Italia

*Women’s Rights in Pakistan: an overview and two case studies*

3:15 - 3:45: Coffee Break

3:45 – 5:15: Panel 6 – Biosociality, Biopolitics, and Health Challenges, from the Local to the Global

Chair: Laurence Monnais, directrice du CETASE, Université de Montréal
Robert Peckham, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

‘Hot-Spot’ – A Genealogy: Notes on the Ecological History of Southeast Asia

Pascale Hancart-Petitet, Institut de Recherche pour le développement (IRD), Vientiane, Laos

From Ethnic Questionings to Methodological Adjustments... To the Production of Scientific Innovations. An Anthropological Journey in Laos

Kavita Sivaramakrishan, Columbia University, New York, USA

A State of Irritation: Framing Cancer and its Political Pathologies in India

Bilkis Vissandjée, Université de Montréal, Canada

Presentation: South Asian diaspora and access to health care in Quebec

5:30 – 7:30  Farewell Cocktail (C-2081)