Research Seminar

‘Critical Security Studies’ and the History of Australian Security'

By: Professor Mark Finnane
Chief Investigator, CEPS

In *Fear of security: Australia’s invasion anxiety* (2008), a re-working of an earlier history published in 2001, Anthony Burke seeks to deconstruct sovereignty and security, the former as a ‘value’, the latter as a ‘disciplinary straitjacket’, an expression of a constricting sameness that is nothing more nor less than fear of the Other. The objective of the book is to sketch a desired program for transforming our concept of security from an exclusion of the Other to one that is inclusive and cosmopolitan, one that embraces the possibility of ‘many sovereignties’. Along the way Burke paints a history of the Australian ‘security state’. But how good is the history, and how is it connected to the desired outcome of a world that embraces ‘human security’ in place of ‘national security’? In this paper I assess the historical value of this most recent, though admittedly rare, attempt to provide a history of security in Australia.

Mark Finnane is ARC Australian Professorial Fellow in the ARC Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security.

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE AND NOW VIDEO CONFERENCED TO THE GOLD COAST CAMPUS**

- Thursday 14 August 2008
- Room N72 -1.18
- Nathan campus
- 12.30 -1.50pm

**ALSO VIDEO CONFERENCED TO:**

- Room G34 1.04
- Gold Coast Campus
- 12.30 – 1.50PM

To RSVP, please contact Kathy Bailey on (07) 3735 3730 or kathy.bailey@griffith.edu.au no later than 5.00pm Tuesday 12 August.