Leadership in Japan - two public lectures

On 21 February 2003, the Griffith Asia Pacific Council hosted two public lectures on the Japanese political economy at the Hilton Hotel in Brisbane. The event was partially funded by a grant from the Japan Foundation in Tokyo and by the Japanese Consulate in Brisbane. The evening began with cocktails and, by the start of the lecture, nearly 170 people had gathered to hear the two guest speakers. The first speaker was the Honourable Mr Kono Taro, an LDP (Liberal Democratic Party) Diet member and his lecture was followed by a presentation on the Japanese economy by Dr Kenneth Courtis, Vice Chairman of Goldman Sachs (Asia) Ltd.

Mr Kono delivered a very lively and entertaining lecture on the importance of reforms in the Japanese political economy, arguing that a lack of political will and determination had contributed to the continuing economic stagnation and malaise in Japan. He spoke of his own experiences within the Diet and his determination to forge together an alliance of like-minded politicians who would pursue a reform agenda without getting bogged down with too many compromises. His lecture was a breath of fresh air and the gathered audience listened with rapt attention.

Dr Ken Courtis followed Mr Kono. Dr Courtis is no stranger to Australian audiences, having appeared regularly on Australian television as an expert commentator on Japan's continuing economic crisis. He painted a gloomy, dismal picture of an economy struggling to cope with fiscal deficits and mounting bad debt and agreed with Mr Kono that political will and action was absolutely essential to resolving the bottlenecks in the economy.

(Continued on page 2)
Editorial: from Council to Research Centre

This has been an exciting year! In late 2001, the Griffith Asia Pacific Council launched a new initiative alongside the Council's existing brief: the Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute or GAPRI. GAPRI began a rich program of research activities in 2002 and early 2003 under the Director, Professor Bob Elson - public lectures, visiting scholars, workshops, seminars and grant submissions. This newsletter highlights some of these activities, including the successful series of globalisation workshops that ended early this year.

GAPRI has now come of age. In an earlier editorial, Professor Elson claimed that GAPRI could create “cutting edge research initiatives” on the Asia Pacific. On the basis of work begun in late 2001, GAPRI applied for Research Centre Category A status and funding for the next four years as part of the University's restructuring process in 2002. In 2003, we became one of six highest-level Research Centres in the University, subject to further refinement of our aims and mission. All GAPRI members are delighted.

I am Director of GAPRI until July 2003 when Professor Elson returns from research leave to resume this position. On behalf of all GAPRI members, I would like to thank him publicly for all his work on behalf of us, the University and indeed the wider community.

Mary Farquhar, Director, Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute

(Continued from Page 1)

Leadership in Japan: two public lectures

(Continued from Page 1)

Both speakers impressed everyone in the packed hall with their in-depth knowledge and ability to engage the audience with a clear and lucid account of the complex sets of problems confronting Japan. It was a very successful event and the presence of a large crowd was testimony to the important position that Japan occupies in the Australian political economy.

Following the lecture, Mr Kono and Dr Courtis were guests at a dinner hosted by the Director of the GAPRI. Other dinner guests included the Vice Chancellor Prof. Glyn Davis, the Japanese Consul General Mr Yamazaki, the Vice Consul Mr Aoki, Chairman of the Treasury Corporation Sir Leo Hielscher, and Director of the Japan Foundation (Sydney), Mr Okamoto.

Associate Professor Javed Maswood, School of International Business and Asian Studies

Participants at the “Leadership in Japan: Transactional or Transformative” international workshop held prior to the public lectures, (back row, from left) Professor Purnendra Jain, University of Adelaide, Associate Professor Hayden Lesbirel, James Cook University, Associate Professor Javed Maswood, Griffith University, Professor Quansheng Zhao, American University, Dr Chris Pokarier, Queensland University of Technology, (middle row, second from left), Associate Professor Go Ito, Meiji University, (front row, from left) Professor Miranda Schreurs, University of Maryland, Professor Nobuhiro Hiwatari, University of Tokyo, Associate Professor Mary Farquhar, Director, GAPRI, Griffith University

GAPRI Members

- Rev Professor James Haire (Chair)
  President, Uniting Church in Australia
- Professor Dr Anuwar Ali
  Vice Chancellor, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
- Mr Bill Dunn
  Honorary Consul-General
  Royal Thai Consulate-General Brisbane
- Professor Robert Elson
  Director, Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute
  Griffith University
- Mr Norman Fussell
  Chairman, Flight Centre Limited
- Ms Beris Gwynne
  Executive Director
  Foundation for Development Cooperation
- Mr Paul Kelly
  International Editor, The Australian
- Professor John Dewar
  Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Business and Law)
  Griffith University
- Mr Kevin Rudd
  Federal Member for Griffith
  Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Professor Beverley Sparks
  Dean, International, Griffith University
- Mr Jusuf Wanandi
  Centre for Strategic and International Studies
  Jakarta
- Mrs Honor Lawler
  Manager, Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute
  Griffith University
Events hosted by Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute

Four Globalisation Workshops

On 25 October 2002, Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute hosted the first workshop on Human security in an era of globalisation. The workshop was designed to explore the impact of globalisation on human security issues in the Asia Pacific and to establish a future research agenda in the field. The key note address, on the theme of “Managing Globalisation and Human Security”, was given by Professor Ian Clark from the University of Wales, followed by presentations from Dr Pauline Kerr, Australian National University, General (retired) Tewat Putamanonda, Thailand, Dr Alan Dupont, Australian National University and Professor Bill Tow, University of Queensland. It is intended that the results of the workshop will help to form the foundation of a future research agenda for several of the Institute’s fellows.

The second workshop, on Imagining globalisation in the Asia-Pacific, held on 5 and 6 November 2002, was attended by Professor Arif Dirlik, University of Oregon, Professor Yu Keeping, Centre for Comparative Economics and Politics, Beijing, Dr Wolfgang Deckers, Richmond University, UK, Dr Gary Sigley, University of Western Australia, and six faculty staff from Griffith University.

The focus of the workshop was the way in which globalisation is perceived (‘imagined’) by theorists, governments and political parties in the Asia-Pacific region. An important theme running through the ten papers presented at the workshop was the paradoxes of globalisation, and particularly the usually positive way in which regional governments, supposedly representing national interests, are responding to globalisation, a process that may very well be eroding the sovereignty of nation-states. Five of the papers dealt with the way in which institutions and theorists in China perceive and are responding to globalisation, and canvassed issues of governance, minorities, cinema, Communist Party ideology, and China’s entry to the World Trade Organization.

The workshop successfully brought together scholars from different countries and different theoretical persuasions. There was lively debate in a constructive and thought-provoking atmosphere. The participants agreed that it had been a successful and rewarding experience, and a valuable stimulus to further research on globalisation.

The third workshop was on Globalisation and identity in the Asia-Pacific. The focus was on multiple and shifting identities in the region, encompassing affiliations outside national identity such as youth and religion. Two distinguished scholars participated in the discussion: Professor Joseph Tanney from the United States who specialises in religion and modernisation, and Professor Riaz Hassan of Flinders University in Adelaide, whose recent book, Faithlines: Muslim Conceptions of State and Society (Oxford University Press, 2002), excited world-wide interest.

Presentations by four Griffith University academics – Professor Drew Nesdale, Dr Julia Howell, Dr David Schak and Associate Professor Mary Farquhar – were followed by detailed discussion by the two visiting scholars. The discussion was constructive, imaginative and richly rewarding, leading to fully conceptualised research applications to the Australian Research Council in early 2003.

The aim of the fourth workshop, Benefits and costs of globalisation in the Asia-Pacific, held on 13-14 February, 2003, was to move away from a naive ‘pro-globalisation vs. anti-globalisation’ debate and develop a balanced perspective on the benefits and costs of globalisation.

The participants at the workshop were welcomed by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Glyn Davis. In an eloquent speech, he drew on nobel laureate AK Sen’s premise of ‘global doubts as global solutions’ to emphasise the need for a reasoned discourse on the benefits and costs of international economic integration in the Asia-Pacific.

A distinctive feature of this workshop was the presence of distinguished practitioners from premier international agencies (Dr Milanovic from the World Bank and Dr Muqtada from the ILO) as well as distinguished analysts from the Australian government (Mr Berne from the Economic Analysis Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) and leading academics from Australian universities (Professors Dowrick from the ANU, Quiggin and Rao from UQ). Several speakers from Griffith University complemented the presence and participation of invited speakers.

Beyond the immediate outcome of the publication and dissemination of the proceedings of the workshop, the current endeavour seeks to serve as a platform for developing and enhancing institutional linkages between Griffith scholars and the broader international community concerned about ensuring that the benefits of globalisation are equitably shared.
Griffith University and Logan City Council have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to collaborate on the development and delivery of world-class academic and technical training programs for Chinese government officials.

Under the MOU, Griffith will deliver the academic component of the training programs and Logan City Council will provide important practical experience which includes site visits to industry and government facilities and laboratories of international standard. The new training programs will be offered through Griffith's Logan campus and will feature courses in the areas of environmental management, waste management, water quality monitoring, nursing, public health, governance, urban development, roadworks and construction engineering, and business management.

The MOU comes after a successful Logan City China Trade Mission to China in early October, headed by Logan City Council Mayor John Freeman. “I am very pleased to report that the Trade Mission was hailed as a great success for our local business participants in terms of valuable discussions on trade opportunities,” Cr Freeman said. “To have Griffith University on board, and to establish this agreement will only further the potential for our city to win business from China.”

Griffith University Vice-Chancellor Professor Glyn Davis welcomed the collaboration with Logan City Council. “The University is delighted with the excellent outcomes from the Mayoral delegation to China which has generated this exciting opportunity to extend the delivery of leading education programs around the world,” Professor Davis said.

Patricia Chiao-tzu Lee from Taiwan has won one of the prestige Australia-Asia Awards for outstanding scholars selected from ten countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. With a total of A$160,000 for a period of three years, Ms Lee will undertake PhD study at the School of Public Health, Griffith University under the supervision of Associate Professor Cordia Chu, a well-known expert in workplace health. In fact, instead of Harvard University where she originally intended to go, she has chosen Griffith University for its innovative, sustainable and integrative approaches to public health, and the international track record of the staff of the School of Public Health in environmental health, health promotion and workplace health, all important fields to her research topic.

Patricia Lee’s research topic is “Development of Health-promoting Workplaces in Taiwan: Needs, Strategies and Barriers.” The study aims to examine contemporary challenges to workplace health and safety in Taiwan after entering into the World Trade Organisation, and to identify ways to deal with threats to health and well being of the workforce.

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Asia Pacific Visitors since October 2002

- His Excellency, Mr Vichit Xindavong, Ambassador of Lao Peoples Democratic Republic - 14 November 2002
- Mr Tony Mitchener, AEI Counsellor, AEI Indonesia, and Mr Robert Wardrobe, Deputy Commissioner to Indonesia - 25 November 2002
- Madame Kong, Director, Office of International Exchange, Shanghai Institute of Foreign Affairs and Trade - 9-13 December 2002 (This visit was sponsored by GAPRI and Griffith University International Centre)
- His Excellency, Major-General Jioji Konousi Konrote - High Commissioner for the Republic of Fiji - 18 February 2003
Graduate Profile:

Paul Martin, Griffith University International Business graduate

Paul Martin is currently one of Austrade’s Trade Commissioners in Jakarta, Indonesia. “I commenced in Jakarta in January 2000. It’s been an amazing three years,” Paul said. Over those three years Paul has seen the decentralisation of the Indonesian economy and political scene via the introduction of new tariff regimes post the International Monetary Fund austerity program in 1998 and the introduction of the regional autonomy law in January 2001.

Paul continued, “I’ve been fortunate enough to cover a wide range of industries in my three years in Jakarta from agribusiness and consumer products to education and information technology and telecommunications. This has enabled me to really get to know the local industry and work with them in getting more Australian products into the market. Some highlights have included coordinating two of the biggest events to have ever taken place in Indonesia – the Indonesia Food and Agribusiness Initiative in June 2000 and the Australian Education Week in June 2002”.

Prior to joining Austrade in 1997 as a Project Manager in Austrade’s South East Asia Regional Office in Canberra, Paul had worked as a HR Consultant in various Queensland Government Departments including the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. Paul initially got his first break just before graduating from Griffith University in 1994. “I sat a Qld Government graduate intake exam and started working full-time by the end of November. Although I really enjoyed working in human resources, I wanted to try my hand at international trade, the area of my studies, and when an opportunity to transfer to the Indonesia Secretariat of the Department of Economic Development and Trade (now State Development) came along, I took it!”

Paul followed his wife Andrea to Canberra in 1997 after she succeeded in getting into the Federal Government’s graduate program and was hired by Austrade shortly after moving to Canberra.

In January 2003, Paul will head up Austrade’s office in Mexico City as Austrade’s representative to Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. “I’m really looking forward to this new challenge and the new environment. I think that the skills I picked up at Griffith University, coupled with its excellent reputation for training international business students has really helped develop my career,” Paul said.

Griffith University’s many links with South Korea

• In November 2002, fifteen Griffith students, mainly from the School of International Business and Asian Studies, left for Korea for their internship. They will work as interns for large Korean companies such as Samsung, LG, Daelim, Korea Zinc, Kookmin Bank and Intercontinental Hotel for three months.

• Ms Fiona Antonucci, a graduate of the School of International Business and Asian Studies, was awarded a three-year full scholarship from the Korean government in 1999. With the scholarship, she completed her Master of Business Administration Degree from Seoul National University in 2002. Upon graduation with her MBA from Seoul National University, she was offered jobs from a number of companies and chose KIA Motors where she is currently working. She finished her International Internship in Korea in 1998.

• Lauren Patmore and Darren Bryans, two interns in Korea in 2001, were offered jobs by their internship companies and Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering Co has offered jobs for two graduates of the School of International Business and Asian Studies who were also interns in Korea in 2001.

• Professor Chong Hwa Kim, Duksung Womon University, received a grant from the Australia-Korea Fellow Program of the Department of Education, Training and Youth (DETYA), Canberra in 2001-02 to undertake a research project, “Factor Analysis of Relatively Lower

Professor O. Yul Kwon with the 2002 interns bound for Korea

Australia’s Share in the Korean Beef Import Market”, under Professor O. Yul Kwon’s supervision.

• Professor O.Yul Kwon, in the School of International Business and Asian Studies, received a grant of US$9,400 from Korea Foundation in 2002 for his research project, “An inquiry into the transition of Korean business”.

Paul Martin, Trade Commissioner, Austrade
Malaysia-Australia Colombo Plan – Scholarship Winners

Associate Professor Frank Clarke, Head of the School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Sciences recently represented the Vice-Chancellor at the Awards Ceremony for the Malaysia Australia Colombo Plan Scholarships (MACC) in Malaysia on 27 January 2003 hosted by the Acting High Commissioner of Australia, Mr Nic Brown.

Two Malaysian students were presented with MACC scholarships from Griffith University and received commemorative medals:

1) Ms Phang Shiau Shing (Sammy) received a scholarship from the School of Engineering to undertake a PhD in Engineering in 2003
2) Mr Oon Hun Lian, received a scholarship from the School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science to undertake a Bachelor of Biomedical Science.

The Malaysia-Australia Colombo Plan Commemoration Scholarships have been operating for the last 50 years and were set up in the post war era. The Colombo scholars have played key roles in Malaysia's development and in building Australia's strong links with Malaysia and many of these scholars are now prominent and influential in government, business and academia in Malaysia. Every year an awards ceremony is held in Malaysia to present the scholarships with much publicity given to universities participating in this scheme. Malaysia is a key market for international students at Griffith. The Australian Vice Chancellors'Committee invited all Australian Universities to participate in this scheme in 2001 and many universities now provide scholarships.

The Dean International, Professor Sparks, said that Griffith's participation in the commemorative scholarships was evidence of the University's continued commitment to building strong international relations with Malaysia.

School of Nursing in Singapore

After two and a half years of negotiations, the Bachelor of Nursing (Post Registration) Singapore program offered in conjunction with Cornerstone Training Centre (Pte) Ltd will commence in semester 1, 2003. Ms Trish Johnson, Lecturer, and Mr Gary Mellor, Associate Lecturer, will travel to Singapore to meet with local tutors, conduct the program orientation and commence the first two intensive seminars.

Trish Johnson will also attend the annual National Tertiary Careers Exhibition held during this time to promote the Bachelor of Nursing (Post-Registration) Singapore program.

The Premier of Queensland, Mr Peter Beattie, visited Singapore during February and met with the Minister for Education and the Minister for Health to showcase Queensland's capabilities in areas such as education, health, information technology etc.

During an official Queensland reception the Premier witnessed the signing of the Agreement between Griffith University and Cornerstone Training Centre. The Agreement was signed by Professor Bill Lovegrove who was accompanied by Mr Chris Madden from the International Centre, and Dr Tan Jing Hee and Professor You. Dr Tan Jing Hee is Chief Executive Officer/Director and Professor You is Director and Founder of Cornerstone Training Centre and retired emeritus Professor from the National University of Singapore.

Check out the Griffith Asia Pacific Council website for a list of GAPRI Research Seminars for Semester 1, 2003

www.gru.edu.au/centre/gapc

Choose “Activities” from the menu, and then “seminars” - all welcome
Griffith Staff and Student Activities in the Asia Pacific:

Japanese teaching team

The Japanese Language Teaching Team in the School of Languages and Linguistics has completed the “Self Assessment for Japanese Listening Proficiency” web site in 2002 at

www.gu.edu.au/school/lal/japanesemain/ISLPR_listening/ISLPRlistening_frame.html

This site provides any Japanese language learners to assess their own language proficiency levels according to International Second Language Proficiency Rating (ISLPR) scale.

The Japanese Language Teaching Team also held a two-day workshop on “International Second Language Proficiency Ratings (ISLPR) for Japanese Listening and Speaking” on 26 and 27 October 2002.

This seminar was designed to give Japanese language teachers a practical idea of how to assess Japanese listening and speaking proficiency, and it provided the participants with hands-on experience of interviewing and assessing Japanese language learners’ proficiency skills.

Both these projects were funded by the Queensland Program for Japanese Language Education and the Nippon Foundation.

Kaz Hagiwara
Japanese Language Co-ordinator
School of Languages and Linguistics

Publication

Associate Professor Javed Maswood and Dr Bill Case from the School of International Business and Asian Studies have contributed chapters on Japan and Malaysia respectively for the recent publication, International Business Risk, edited by Darryl Jarvis, published by Cambridge University Press.

Griffith Expands Queensland Aviation

Griffith University is expanding Queensland’s booming aviation hub by forming an alliance with Singapore’s Mil-Com Aerospace Training Centre, Premier Peter Beattie announced in March 2003. “An agreement which I witnessed today means that students from the Singapore training centre will be able to study Griffith University School of Aviation graduate courses for aerospace management. This is a major achievement for Griffith University, enhances Queensland’s reputation as a major aviation hub for south-east Asia and means more export dollars and jobs for Queensland” said Mr Beattie.

Milcom, which is Singapore’s biggest provider of engineering services for military and commercial planes, decided in 2002 to expand its business to include specialised aviation training and established a multi-million dollar aerospace training centre in Singapore. It chose FlightSafety Boeing and Griffith University as its partners and is now expanding into China, where it’s building a $A20 million training centre in Shenzhen. Mil-Com will refer students from Singapore and Shenzhen to Griffith University School of Aviation for courses resulting in the Certificate in Aerospace Planning, Certificate in Aerospace Management Accounting, Certificate in Aerospace Human Resource Management, Graduate Certificate in Aerospace Management, and Master of Aerospace Management.

“The Note of Appreciation” above was published in the Business Times 18 February 2003

By partnering with Mil-Com, Griffith University has the opportunity to spread its wings into the South-East Asia and China markets.

The agreement was signed by Mil-Com’s president and chief executive officer, Dr Diana Young, and Griffith University’s Deputy-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Bill Lovegrove, at Mil-Com’s new training centre. Professor Lovegrove was one of more than 30 business leaders whom Premier Peter Beattie led on a 10-day trade and investment mission to India, the UAE and Singapore.

Griffith University’s School of Aviation began professional pilot education in 1990 with the introduction of the Bachelor of Science with Aviation undergraduate degree. It was the first university in Queensland to offer a Bachelor of Aviation degree and Master of Aviation Management degree.

The School now offers four undergraduate degree courses in Aviation and six postgraduate courses. Since 1998 the Queensland Aviation industry has grown to more than 4,200 jobs, including 1,066 at Boeing Headquarters for defence and aviation-related work in Australia and the Asia Pacific, 1,750 at Virgin Blue Headquarters, 60 at Smiths Industries Aerospace Asia Pacific Headquarters, 230 at Qantas Catering, 680 at Qantas 767 maintenance facility, 130 at EADS Australian Aerospace, and 70 at National Jet Systems.
Vice Chancellor’s visit to Thailand: a report

I visited our partner universities in Thailand in December. This is a country where Griffith is well known thanks to many years of contact with Griffith staff and, in particular, links to the Thai Royal Family brokered by Griffith graduate and now Thai Consul-General in Queensland, Mr Bill Dunn. Griffith maintains a small but lively office in Bangkok and has secured significant numbers of Thai undergraduate students and a smaller flow of postgraduate numbers. Interest in research collaboration is growing, especially in the fields of environmental science, business and public administration.

Griffith’s oldest academic links in Thailand are with Chulalongkorn University. Typically described as the most prestigious Thai university, Chulalongkorn is named after an earlier Thai king and is still closely involved with the Royal Family. The campus comprises attractive low set white buildings, many trees and bustling crowds, mainly at the demonstration high school on the campus grounds (relatively common, it appears, for Thai universities). The purpose of the visit was to sign a memorandum of understanding with Chulalongkorn President, Tatachi Sumitra. This will extend our partnership with new possibilities for student and academic exchanges.

At Chulalongkorn I saw, for the first time, the ‘first year uniform’ worn by Thai students - a blue skirt and white shirt for women, with short white socks and black shoes, and a matching white shirt, blue trousers, black tie and black shoes for the men. Apparently this is standard across Thailand. Indeed when the relatively recently established Prince of Songkla University failed to require a uniform, there were delegations from anxious students. After first year the dress code relaxes, though students apparently adopt informal uniforms - blue jeans and a blue shirt, for example, means the Faculty of Engineering, while medical students wear their white coats constantly, even in nightclubs. Faculty do not escape either. Most wear blue blazers with the university crest in gold on the pocket, with a university tie for the men. Each institution also has its own song (in the case of both Chulalongkorn and Kasetsart universities, written by the present king) and a university colour.

Not surprising, therefore, to learn that alumni retain close attachment to their alma mater. Indeed some universities run ‘home coming’ days in which former students flock back to campus for an annual party.

Trying to get a handle on Thai higher education values can be difficult. The preference for student uniforms might suggest a rather regimented approach to learning, yet many academics here trained in the United States, Britain or Australia, and are committed to an inquiring, research-orientated education for Thai students.

Still, there are constant reminders of cultural difference. For example, while driving around Kasetsart University, with which Griffith also has strong links, I saw a student bowing and burning incense in front of three life-size bronze statues of the civil servants who founded the university in 1946. Hard to imagine in an Australian setting.