The World Bank: Much misunderstood?

by Professor Patrick Weller and Professor Xu Yi-Chong

Consider the image of the World Bank. It is dominated by the US. It adopts poor economic and financial policies that it imposes on poor countries, leading to environmental degradation. It tramples on national sovereignty, and acts with arrogance, ignoring democratic accountability.

The Bank is treated as a single entity, for good or bad. The President speaks for the Bank, or by proxy for the US.

Consider the Bank from the inside and a different image is presented. The staff are dispersed, yet most are devoted to development. They are heavily involved with local officials. They are sensitive to local demands.

These are two different images. We want to ask how such diversity is created and what we might draw from these lessons.

→ Thursday 8 March 2007
→ Room N72_-1.18 (Business 2)
→ Nathan campus
→ 12.30-1.50pm

A light lunch will be served on arrival. To RSVP, please contact Jill Moriarty on (07) 3735 7624 or j.moriarty@griffith.edu.au no later than 5.00pm Monday 5 March.