Research Seminar

‘Australia-China Relations Since 2000: The 'China Threat' Revisited’.

By: Professor Emeritus Colin Mackerras, Department of International Business and Asian Studies, Griffith University.

This paper explores some key themes in Australia-China relations since 2000. These include:

- Overall relations between the two countries under the Howard and Rudd governments;
- defence white papers issued by both governments and military relations; and
- hostile images and sources of friction allied to threat perception, such as the recent visit of Uyghur leader Rebiya Kadeer.

It also explores the ramifications of whether the economic rise of China has implied the revival or retention of the ‘China Threat’ in Australia. It concludes that the early twenty-first century has witnessed some revival of the fear of China notion, with considerable nervousness over the challenge China’s economic rise could pose to Western hegemony. On the other hand, we are seeing nothing like the perception of ‘China threat’ that was prevalent under the prime-ministership of Robert Gordon Menzies (1949–1966).

Professor Emeritus Colin Mackerras AO worked at Griffith University from 1974 to 2004. He has taught about China, and researched written extensively about it, especially its ethnic minorities, theatre and history, as well as Australia-China relations. He has published numerous books, articles and book chapters about Chinese and Asian affairs.

Thursday 24 September 2009
N72, Meeting Room -1.18
Nathan campus
12.30 -1.50pm

To RSVP, please contact Natasha Vary on (07) 3735 5322 or n.vary@griffith.edu.au no later than 5.00pm Tuesday 22 September 2009.