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www.buseco.monash.edu.au/units/aberu/
“Chinese in Prato” Workshop and Conference 2008

On July 10, 2008 there will be a half day academic workshop on the “Chinese in Prato” jointly sponsored by the Asian Business and Economics Research Unit and the Centre for Community Networking Research. The workshop will be at Monash University Caulfield Campus.

On October 27, there will also be an academic conference on the 'Chinese in Prato' at the Monash Prato Centre in Prato which will be funded in part by a Strategic Initiatives Grant from the DVC (International).

Everybody from ABERU is welcome to attend these events and/or present a paper.

For further information on the workshop and conference contact Felicity Milne.
Felicity.Milne@buseco.monash.edu.au

For further information on the ‘Chinese in Prato’ project or to submit a paper for the workshop or conference contact Russell Smyth.
Russell.Smyth@buseco.monash.edu.au

www.buseco.monash.edu.au/units/aberu/
“Chinese in Prato” Workshop

Flyer

The Asian Business and Economics Research Unit and
The Centre for Community Networking Research
at Monash University
invite you to attend a half day workshop on
‘BUILDING BRIDGES: THE CHINESE IN
MELBOURNE AND PRATO’
Thursday 10th July 2008

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

8.30-9 Registration

9-10 Session One
Tom Denison and Graeme Johanson
Chinese Migrants and Internet Café Points in Prato

Angelo Andrea Di Castro and Marika Vierzany
Italian Media Perceptions of the Chinese Migrants in Prato

10.10-10.30 Morning Tea

10.30-12 Session Two
Dharma Arunachalam and Maryana Waliff
Lessons from Chinese Settlement in Melbourne for Urban Planning and Social Integration in Prato

Anja Fladrich
The Chinese Labour Market and Chinese Job Mobility in Prato

Zhang Xiaolv, Chen Yi and Russell Smyth
The Contribution of Donations of Overseas Chinese to Wenzhou Development: A Case Study of Guifeng Township in Rui’an County

TO REGISTER:
Registration is free. We will be supplying morning tea and lunch.
Please RSVP by Friday 27th June 2008, with details of your name, institution and any dietary requirements to Felicity Milne at:
Felicity.Milne@buseco.monash.edu.au.

For further information or any program enquiries please contact:
Graeme Johanson at: Graeme.Johanson@infotech.monash.edu.au or
Russell Smyth at: Russell.Smyth@buseco.monash.edu.au

VENUE:
Building H, Basement Level,
Theatre HB 39
Caulfield Campus
MONASH UNIVERSITY

Caulfield campus map is available at:

www.buseco.monash.edu.au/units/aberu/
2008 Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Workshop

Students undertaking Honours, Masters and DBA/PhD programs in International business and Asian Economics and related fields (international management and international marketing) are cordially invited to join other HDR students and their supervisors at a research workshop on Friday October 10th 2008. Students working on International business relating to Asia are particularly encouraged to present. The objectives of the workshop include:

• to provide a venue for students to report on their progress;
• to allow academics and fellow students to comment constructively and supportively on each others’ research;
• to allow academics involved in both International business and Asian Business research and related areas to get together and plan for 2008.

The form of student presentations may vary. Honours students and those who are newly enrolled might prefer to simply introduce themselves and briefly describe their topics. In most cases, students will have 20 minutes to present their project.

Expressions of interest in participating in the workshop and a thesis title should be delivered to Dr. Susan Freeman
susan.freeman@buseco.monash.edu.au

VENUE: Monash University Caulfield Campus. Building H, Basement Level, Theatre HB.39

www.buseco.monash.edu.au/units/aberu/
2008 HDR Student Workshop
Flyer

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<th>International Business Research Group (IBRG)</th>
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Faculty of Business and Economics

2008 Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Workshop:

Students undertaking Honours, Masters and DBA/PhD programs in International Business and Asian Economics and related fields (International Management, International Finance and International Marketing) are cordially invited to join other HDR students and their supervisors at a research workshop. Students working on International business relating to Asia are particularly encouraged to present.

The objectives of the workshop include:

• to provide a venue for students to report on their progress;
• to allow academics and fellow students to comment constructively and supportively on each others’ research;
• to allow academics involved in both International business, Asian business research and related areas to broaden their understanding of related fields.

The form of student presentations may vary. Honours students and those who are newly enrolled might prefer to simply introduce themselves and briefly describe their topics. Ideally, students who are presenting will have completed their first year. Students will have 20 minutes to present their project with an additional 10 minutes of supportive and constructive feedback.

Welcome:
Associate Professor Kate Hutchings is Director of the IBRG in the Department of Management, Monash University. Professor Russell Smyth is Director of the ABERU in the Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University. They will provide a welcome speech to staff, doctoral and honours students, invited guests and visitors.

Opening Address:
Professor Pervaz Ahmed holds the Chair in Management at Monash University Malaysia (MUM). He is currently the Director of the Higher Degrees (HDR) programmes at MUM. Before joining Monash University, he was Professor and Chair of Management at the University of Wolverhampton UK, where he set-up the Centre for Enterprise Excellence (CEE), and was the Director of the Japanese Management Research Unit. The CEE was a research unit which worked closely with industry, providing management advice and executing research on behalf of industry. He has published over a 100 research papers in international journals and the founding editor of the European Journal of Innovation Management, the International Journal of Management Concepts and Philosophy, International Journal of Business Ethics and Governance and International Journal of Management Practice. Professor Ahmed will assist with feedback for students.

Convenor:
Dr. Susan Freeman requests a RSVP for expressions of interest in participating in the workshop and a thesis title to be forwarded to (susan.freeman@buseco.monash.edu.au) by Friday September 28th, 2008. Please also RSVP for Catering purposes by this date.

Program:
Time: 9.30am to 5.00pm
Date: Friday October 10th, 2008
Venue: Building H, Theatre HB.39 (Basement Level), Caulfield Campus.
Catering: Morning/Afternoon Tea and Lunch (including vegetarian) will be provided
International forum for Contemporary Chinese Studies

Wednesday November 19 - Friday November 21

China’s rapid emergence as a global economic power has created strong demand throughout the world for cutting-edge research and policy analysis on contemporary China. This international forum has been established to bring together key research institutions, scholars, policy makers and industry leaders to form a platform aimed at facilitating the exchange of research and policy ideas related to China and its impact.

Following this inaugural conference, an annual conference will be held in different parts of the world, including China, Europe and the United States of America.

The central theme of the conference is the exploration of the dynamics, trends and policy issues affecting China’s sustainable development after three decades of reform.

You are invited to submit an abstract of 300 words by 30 May to sustainable-conference@nottingham.ac.uk

For more information please go to: http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/chinese/news_and_events/events.php?event_code=INAUGUR448&date=19-nov-2008
Reform in China over three decades

Asia Pacific Marketing and Development

27–28 September 2008
Renmin University of China, Beijing, China

Organised by: Renmin University of China; Department of Marketing, Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University; GICC International Marketing and Business Centre

Objective of the Forum

The Asia Pacific region is one of the most attractive, fastest growing regions in the world. The Chinese economy is developing particularly rapidly alongside those of India, Thailand and Vietnam. At the same time, closer economic and trade relationships are developing between countries, especially between China and Australia. China is now Australia’s second largest trading partner.

This forum will emphasise the need for educators and business leaders to recognise, appreciate, and understand the significance of marketing in the Asia Pacific region. In this forum, we will be engaged in exploration of theoretical and practical aspects of contemporary marketing in the context of the Asia Pacific region. We will explore marketing’s role and reformulation with emphasis on contemporary practice, technology, history and culture, as well as on theory development.

The forum will bring together academics from leading universities in China, including Beijing University, Tsinghua University, Nankai University, University of International Business and Economics, Fudan University, and universities in Australia, USA and Europe.

Renmin University of China (RUC, also known as the People’s University of China) was established in 1937. It has become an important teaching and research base in the areas of the humanities, social sciences, and management science in China. The RUC is a comprehensive research-oriented university and its Department of Marketing ranks amongst the best in the discipline among all Chinese universities. It is strong both in teaching and in research.

Renmin University is located in a western suburb of Beijing, the capital of China, and the host city for the 2008 Olympics. It is the cultural, political, and intellectual centre of the country, as well as a major industrial and commercial metropolis. There are many historic sites to visit, a pleasant climate, friendly and courteous residents and delicious cuisine.

Monash University is the youngest and largest of Australia’s ‘Group of Eight’, leading, research-intensive universities. It is consistently ranked in the top 50 universities in the world by the Times Higher Education Supplement and the Monash MBA is ranked number one in Australia by the Economist Intelligence Unit. The Department of Marketing is an important part of the Faculty of Business and Economics. It is ranked number one in Australia and New Zealand on staff publications in top-twenty ranked marketing journals (Polonsky et al., 2006). The department has 40 academics and provides a wide range of marketing courses at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level.

Key dates

- 10 June 2008
  Closing date for submission of abstracts of conference papers.
- 30 June 2008
  Notification to authors of outcome of review for abstracts.
- 30 July 2008
  Closing date for submission of conference papers.
Call for papers

Topics of interest

• Contemporary marketing and development
• Theoretical perspectives in Asia Pacific marketing and consumption
• Macro-marketing
• Theories of marketing and development – confrontations, cultures and consumption
• Global modernity and the local tradition
• Technologies of global marketing
• Branding and brand management
• Advanced marketing research methods
• Local and cross-cultural marketing
• Consumer behaviour
• e-Commerce and technology
• Marketing strategy and implementation
• Retailing and pricing
• Marketing education and teaching innovation
• International business and management

Paper submission and review process

Participants wishing to present a paper should submit an abstract of about 250 words by 10 June 2008 to the Program Committee. Abstracts should clearly state the purpose, results and conclusions of the work to be presented in the final paper. Papers should include author’s full name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone, fax numbers and e-mail address. All abstracts will be blind reviewed by the Program Committee. Authors will receive feedback by 30 June 2008. Full papers must be submitted by 30 July 2008.

Abstracts

Abstracts should include:
• Title of paper
• Author name(s), position(s) and institution affiliation
• Email address
• Short author biography (one paragraph)
• Text of abstract (no more than 250 words)
• Relevant theme

Final papers

Final papers, to be submitted by 30 July 2008, should include the same elements as listed above and the full text of the paper (5000 words).

Presentations

Speakers will have 30 minutes for their presentations including discussion. All speakers are required to register for the conference. All presentations should be in Microsoft Powerpoint (95-2000).

Program committee*

Bao-Cheng Ji  Chairman, Renmin University of China
Zhi-Hong YIN Business School, Renmin University of China
Yi-Lin LU Marketing Department, Renmin University of China
Jing JIANG Marketing Department, Renmin University of China
Felix MAVONDO Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University, Australia
Shanlei HENG Department of Marketing, Monash University, Australia
Lily Lin QIU GICC International Marketing and Business Centre Australia.

Program

Full program with details of presentations will follow.

* Proposed, not yet finalised
The Economic Freedom Network (EFN) Asia is pleased to announce its 2008 annual conference, titled ‘Private Property Rights: The Economic Foundation of a Free Society’, which will be held on 18-19 September 2008 in Manila, the Philippines.

The 2008 Conference will be held in Manila, the Philippines and will be the EFN Asia’s celebratory 10th annual conference.

This year’s conference aims to address the complexities of private property rights from the Asian perspective and experience. Topics of interest include, /but are not limited to/ the following:

• The Meaning of Property Rights: Legal and Economic Perspectives
• Property Rights in Asia: Forms, Changes and Challenges
• State-Owned Property
• Property Rights’ Indices
• Property Rights and Individual Liberty

For more information, please visit: www.fnfasia.org/efn
S.A.N.E.I. Tenth Call for Proposals

South Asia Network of Economic research Institutes, initiated in 1998, is a regional initiative to foster networking amongst economic research institutions in South Asia. SANEI in its ninth round is inviting research proposals with thematic focus on Ensuring Health for All & Perspective on Inter/Intra Region Migration. Proposals could relate to a single country or more than one in a comparative framework.

Eligibility
Proposals are invited from researchers and applicants from all social sciences. Applicants must be a national of any of the following countries in South Asia - Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, currently resident in these countries. Applications may be submitted by individuals or teams or Researchers.

Funding:
Maximum funding per project will be US $ 10,000 for Single Country Study each, US $20,000 for Two Country Study each & US $ 30,000 for Three Country Study each. Grants are awarded for one year only.

The closing date for submission of proposals is July 15th, 2008.

For more information please go to: www.saneinetwork.net
Fourth Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development

Planning Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi
17-18 December, 2008

The Policy and Planning Research Unit (PPRU) at the Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi, invites researchers to submit papers for the 4th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development. The Conference provides a forum for dissemination of modern research in economic growth and development economics using both theoretical and empirical approaches.

Papers with an India focus are especially welcome.

Please send your research paper with an abstract (in a separate page) of at most 150 words either by email or by post to the undersigned no later than 30 September 2008. Authors of accepted papers will be informed by 15 October 2008. All papers will be refereed. Outstation participants will be provided with accommodation and limited domestic travel support as per the rules of the institute.

For more information visit the conference website: http://www.isid.ac.in/~pu/dec_08_conf.html
The Politics of Wealth Distribution in Hong Kong

Article by Richard Cullen and Richard Simmons

A leading US politician, Tip O’Neill, famously argued that “all politics is local”. Despite the deep political interest taken by Beijing in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), this claim still largely holds true in Hong Kong. For example, the way Hong Kong political figures conduct themselves is what will most shape the outcome of the Legislative Council (LegCo) elections later this year. And perhaps no aspect of politics is more “local” than the way a government taxes - and then spends its revenue.

In 2007, we conducted a detailed survey, involving almost 800 face-to-face interviews, in which we questioned HKSAR residents on a range of tax and spending issues coupled with a simultaneous review of opinions on certain political reform issues. The demographic distribution of the sample was broadly similar to that of the population as a whole. (A complete review and analysis of the survey will be published later this year in the British Tax Review.)

A key finding of the survey was that there is little evidence of serious discontent with the current taxation system. Hong Kong citizens may be unhappy with certain aspects of their tax system (in particular, the distribution of the tax burden), but in general, strong criticism of the fairness in its operation, of the level of taxation, and of the value for money that citizens receive for their tax dollars is not apparent.

These findings, it is worth remembering, have emerged after more than a decade, since 1997, in which Hong Kong has
The Politics of Wealth Distribution in Hong Kong Cont...

witnessed increasing problems with poverty and income disparity. A 2007 report by the Hong Kong Council of Social Services has shown that 20% of Hong Kong people (well over 1 million residents) now live below the poverty line. The Gini coefficient, which measures income inequality in a society (the higher the coefficient, the greater the raw gap between rich and poor), was 0.518 for Hong Kong in 1996, 0.525 in 2001, and 0.533 by 2007. This figure is comparable to the wealth disparities in Third World nations like Niger and Papua New Guinea. (Comparable figures for Spain, the UK and the USA are 0.35, 0.36, and 0.41, respectively.)

Given these circumstances, it would not have been unreasonable to see a spike in the politics of “wealth-envy”, coupled with calls for concerted government action on wealth re-distribution to emerge from our survey. This, however, did not happen. One of the most interesting aspects of the survey was the way it showed that most ordinary Hong Kong people still believe that there is no such thing as a “free lunch”. Despite the increasing wealth gap, they see the family as having the responsibility of providing the primary social support system for individuals, and view the rôle of government as limited. People generally back the retention of Hong Kong’s low rate, simple tax system and its highly limited, “residual welfare state”. They are at their most insistent – across the income-spectrum - on the need for everyone in Hong Kong (rich, middle class and poor) to work hard. The welfare doomsayers within the ranks of Hong Kong’s business elite (who worry that Hong Kong is in constant danger of turning into a UK style, welfare state) are fretting without just cause.
It is not that people are unaware of the massive wealth disparities in Hong Kong, however. Rather, thus far, they have not been inclined to hold the government primarily responsible for their occurrence or their cure.

The HKSAR Government’s recent initiative to spend significant amounts of public money to groom new political talent under the enhanced “political appointment system” needs to be seen within this context. In view of the wealth disparities just outlined and the perception of a lack of transparency in the selection and payment systems for this new, high-powered, very well rewarded group, it is hardly surprising that the issue has attracted so much media – and popular – scrutiny in Hong Kong.

The self-reliance and patience of Hong Kong people is evident in the survey findings, but that patience is not without its limits. That same population is also better educated than ever before and articulate. This, combined with a highly energetic media, means that public opinion possesses, in Hong Kong’s special political circumstances, an amplified political impact.

It seems clear that the political composure of many people, from the grass roots up, is being tested right now by the way the HKSAR Government has chosen to implement and justify its new political appointment system. Could it be that this initiative by the government itself may help to provoke, for the first time, serious wide-spread questioning about governmental responsibility for the Hong Kong poverty divide? Frankly, it is too early to tell. But it does now seem likely that this very local issue may feature as a contested topic in the coming LegCo elections.