
Asialink Annual Report 2008

ASIALINK ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Index

1. CHAPTER 1: Overview & Program Highlights **Page 1**

2. CHAPTER 2: Program Descriptions **Page 3**

Attachment

Financial Report **Page**

CHAPTER 1: OVERVIEW

CHAPTER 2: PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

CORPORATE AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Events

- **HE DR Nguyen Thien Nhan, Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam and Minister for Education and Training and The Hon Julia Gillard MP, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia, Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Minister for Education and Minister for Social Inclusion were guests of honour at Asialink Gala Dinner where the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Australia was celebrated and MOU on education and training announced.**
- **Indian Minister of Science & Technology and Minister of Earth Sciences HE Kapil Sibal addressed a Melbourne audience in the Carrillo Gantner Theatre.**
- **The Asialink Conversations India, the signature Asialink second track dialogue, had a focus on India – ASEAN - Australia relations with 30 delegates from government, business and academia.**
- **Chairman's Club was launched, re-badging the Asialink 500 Fund, offering donors who give above \$1000 to Asialink, the membership of the Chairman's Club as well as the University's Chancellor's Circle.**
- **Dunlop event featured the Governor General who presented the 2008's Weary "Dunlop" medal to Richard Woolcott. Dr Sam Prince was named the Dunlop Fellow 2009 with community project plans in Sri Lanka.**

Business briefings

- **Alex Thursby, Group Managing Director Asia Pacific, ANZ and Andrew Wu, Group Director China, Louis Vuitton Moet Hennessy (LVMH); Muhammad Lutfi, Chief of Indonesia's Investment Co-ordinating Board; Victorian Commissioner in Greater China, Charles Brent, and Peter Scher, Executive Vice President for Global Government Relations and Public Policy at JP Morgan Chase & Co.**
- **Islamic Finance Colloquium was a half - day CBD event featuring international speakers and over 70 registrants.**
- **Women in Export networking event with DFAT's Victorian office.**

Ambassadors

- **Roundtable discussions of with ambassadors of India, Japan, Pakistan and Indonesia**
- **Luncheon with Korean ambassador HE Dr Kim Woo Sang**
- **Gala Dinner with Australian High Commissioner to China HE Dr Geoff Raby.**

Public lectures

- **150 events in 2008 with nearly 19,300 attendees including lectures about key economic, political and cultural issues in Asia; such as Passage to India lecture series – with a finale lecture by the former Under secretary General of UN Dr Shashi Tharoor; launches of significant books Dear Mr Rudd, Growing Up Asian in Australia and The Boat; and on regional security issues by the former US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs James Kelly and former CNN reporter Mike Chinoy.**
- **Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific's (CSCAP) was held for the first time in Melbourne, with six panels and a private breakfast address by The Hon Stephen Smith MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs**

University of Melbourne

- **Asialink** research partnership with the **Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research** to produce the Australia-Asia engagement index, illustrating the extent and nature of socio-economic linkages
- Asialink's partnership with the Asia Institute in organising the **Islamic Finance Colloquim**
- Supported University of Melbourne's charter of **knowledge transfer with academic participation in corporate and public programs**: VC Prof. Glyn Davis, Provost Prof. Peter McPhee and Deputy VC's Prof. Frank Larkins; Asia Institute – Director Prof **Abdullah Saeed** and Deputy Director **Dr Carolyn Stevens**; Confucius Institute – Ms **Barbara Hilder**; Melbourne Business School - Assoc. Profs **Mark Crosby**; Faculty of Arts – **Dr. Pradeep Taneja**, **Dr Ramaswami Harindranath**; Faculty of Economics & Commerce – Dean **Margaret Abernathy**

Sponsorship

- **Initiated contact with new fee-for-service sponsors as well as possible new corporate funders**
- **Maintained existing corporate funding as follows**: Platinum Corporate Members: **BHP Billiton, PricewaterhouseCoopers and United Group**; Gold Corporate Members: **Freehills, Westpac, IAG & ANZ**; Silver Corporate Members: **Singapore Airlines (in kind) & The Age (in kind)**; Bronze Corporate Members: **Invest Victoria, Trinity College & International House**

Partnership

- **Partnerships with 85 government, University of Melbourne, community, and literary groups. Strengthened partnerships with**: Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Victorian Government, US Consulate, US Studies Centre – The University of Sydney, Indonesian Consulate, Madman, Readings Books, Music and Film and the diplomatic posts, both in Australia and overseas.

ARTS 2008

Residency Program

- **Thirty eight artists, performers, writers and arts managers engaged in residencies in Asian countries. China, India and Japan remained high priorities for artists and there were many successful residencies in smaller countries such as Cambodia.**
- **2008 residents included novelist Linda Jaivin who undertook research for several important new projects as well as a book to be published in 2009; Jude Gun worked as an arts manager on a new music theatre work in Cambodia; Todd MacDonald who performed in an Australia-Korea co-production for Seoul Performing Arts Festival and Ash Keating's successful residency at Ssamzie Space in Seoul.**
- **The program has core-funding support from the Australia Council, with most DFAT bilateral councils also funding residencies. All State and Territory arts departments support artists from their states. Hosts in each country are a key part of the 'partnership' network of support.**

Touring Exhibitions

- **Six exhibitions toured Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam (to 12 cities in these countries) with over 20 Australian senior arts managers and artists**

accompanying them. The Visual Arts Touring Program has financial assistance from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australia Council for the Arts, and the Gordon Darling Foundation.

- Exhibitions included Brook Andrew: Eye to Eye, in partnership with Monash University Gallery of Art, exhibiting the work of the prominent indigenous artist in Manila and Singapore; From an Island South, in partnership with Devonport Regional Gallery, exhibiting the works of eight contemporary Tasmanian landscape painters in Bangkok; Streetworks; Inside Outside Yokohama, in partnership with Canberra Contemporary Arts Space, exhibiting key works by two of Australia's leading new video artists in Jakarta and Yogyakarta; run artist run, a project focused on Australian artist-run initiatives, including West Space, 1/2doz. and Conical Gallery developing projects in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and Singapore; The World in Painting, in partnership with Heide Museum of Modern Art, exhibiting the works of seven Australian painters in Manila and Hanoi; Under my skin, developed by Asialink, exhibiting the works of five Australian artists heavily influenced by their Asian residencies in Manila and Singapore. The touring exhibition program continues to receive consistent international support and media coverage.

Eastern Indonesia/Northern Territory Partnership Program

- The Eastern Indonesia – Northern Territory Partnership has come to a conclusion at the close of 2008, with the Ta Teut Amarasi – Awakening exhibition presented at the Darwin Festival in August, Hotel Sofitel in Melbourne over September/October and the Kupang Museum, West Timor from November to January 2009. Tanah Mereege, a collaborative performance between indigenous Australian group Yilila and musicians from Watublapi, Flores, at the Darwin Festival. A collaborative CD is due for release in 2009.
- The program is funded by the Ford Foundation, Jakarta, and Arts NT. Partners include Yaysan Kelola, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Yilila, Red Flag Dancers and Nomad Art Productions.

Indonesian Arts Management Internship Program 2008

- Four Indonesian arts managers undertook professional development internships in Australia this year. In March, Abdul Hakim, Chairman, Director and scriptwriter of Singkole Theatre Community, was hosted by Footscray Community Arts Centre and Polyglot Puppet Theatre, and Wiwid Setya, Assistant Lecturer at Jakarta Institute of the Arts' Faculty of Film & TV was hosted by the Programming Department of Sydney Film Festival, the Australian Film Television and Radio School's Producing Department & Atlab. In August, Nunuk Ambarwati, Program Manager at Yogja Gallery, and Bambang Witjaksono, artist and Lecturer at the Indonesian Arts Institute, travelled to Darwin for their residencies, hosted by Error! Contact not defined. and the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, and Charles Darwin University respectively.
- The program is funded by the Ford Foundation, Jakarta and managed in partnership with Yayasan Kelola. The program draws to a conclusion in 2008.

Strategic Ties for the Arts Program in Japan, 2005-8

- This program has core funding from the Australia Japan Foundation and the Australia Council and includes: exhibitions, curatorial exchanges and forums. 2008 saw three major exhibition partnerships between Tokyo and Sydney museums: Tokyo Wonder Site and Artspace in Sydney working on Between Site & Space, Tokyo Opera City Gallery and Performance Space working on Trace Elements and

the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo and the Museum of Contemporary Art Sydney working on a joint project of an Australian artist (Louisa Bufardeci) and a Japanese artist. All three projects will be shown in Sydney in 2009. The curatorial project for 2008 allowed three western Sydney curators, Kon Gouriotis, John Kirkman and Lisa Havilah, to spend time in Japan working with colleagues to develop new projects. A key part of the year was the Japan-Australia forum, held in Sydney in June, with 30 key professionals in the visual arts from both countries meeting to talk of joint strategies, projects and futures.

Advocacy

- **An important part of Asialink Arts' work is advocacy for our programs and issues of importance between Australia and the countries of Asia.**
- **Staff have spoken at forums around Australia and articles on our area of work published in journals and catalogues and chapters in books. All exhibition program projects are accompanied by full colour publications. The Japan program includes bilingual publications.**
- **Arts Newsletter published and disseminated in Australia and the region.**
- **Asialink Arts' Annual Forum 2008, Indonesia Callin; Indonesian Arts Today, held in Melbourne and included speakers from Indonesia and Australia.**

ASIALINK LEADERS PROGRAM

- **On-going funding from The Ian Potter Foundation for a further three years was gained and provided support for 15 participants working in the not-for-profit sector**
- **43 participants, including two prominent representatives of Islamic communities, a senior NSW police inspector, a paediatric surgeon working in West Papua, two representatives from Jetstar and a senior advisor in the Attorney General's Department.**
- **March retreat included a full day focusing on Islam and provided many with their first experiences of Muslim people and Islam in general.**
- **PricewaterhouseCoopers made its Sydney and Melbourne offices available with subsidised catering.**
- **Leadership Retreat in Canberra and Dr Margaret Byrne's two day intensive cross cultural program, were major highlights.**
- **Workplace Projects provide Asialink Leadership Program Fellows with the opportunity to explore an issue related to leadership and Asia within the context of work or other personal sphere of influence. Fellows assisted to develop and implement a practical strategy to address these issues including participants ran their own cross-cultural programs for staff and made recommendations to build such programs into regular staff professional development programs; Dr Kate Armstrong's project linked families of children living with chronic medical conditions in Vietnam with local NGOs that offer micro-finance, enterprise development and vocational training in both Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City; Luisa Rust from Austrade shared knowledge and experience within the Australian wine community on challenges and opportunities in the China wine market; Cath Cole from NSW Police worked to improve the reach of Crime Stoppers to allow people from Non English Speaking Backgrounds to access on-line information in their own languages particularly Mandarin, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, Arabic and Cantonese**

- Leadership alumni are involved in program management and selection panels; linked with current participants through a buddy/mentoring program and spoke at Leaders events; Alumni are being linked through an Asialink Facebook group with 97 current members. Michelle Isles, Anna Reynolds and Dorjee Sun, three outstanding Asialink Program Fellows, participated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bali.

HEALTH – ASIA AUSTRALIA MENTAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM

- Memorandum of Understanding signed on 20th September 2007 to formalise the partnership between the University of Melbourne and St. Vincent's Health as principal partners in Asia-Australia Mental Health. New management structure includes an executive with representation from Asialink, The Department of Psychiatry and St. Vincent's Mental Health Service and a Secretariat jointly based at Asialink and St. Vincent's Mental Health.
- A national Advisory Council for the consortium met in December 2007 and an international advisory committee will be established in 2008.

Relationships with Australian government

- Building upon its partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and AusAID, AAMH further strengthened its relationship with the Australian Government through links to the Department of Health and Ageing. Discussions about potential collaboration in future international mental health initiatives, as well as the development of closer ties with various governmental ministries of health, were progressed during the final quarter of 2007

China and Hong Kong

- A train the trainer package for developing multi skilled workers in case management was delivered in Hong Kong to 80 trainers and in Guangzhou to 200 Chinese hospital leaders
- A 4 day study tour of Victorian community mental health services conducted for 20 Chinese hospital directors and government officials; the Head of Hong Kong's Hospital Authority and 18 other Hong Kong hospital directors and government officials conducted in partnership with the Victorian Department of Human Services
- Ms Susan Dietz-Henderson, Australian Consul General in Shanghai co-hosted a lunch at her residence in Shanghai to celebrate the signing of: A MOU between the Peking University Institute of Mental Health and AAMH to implement an AusAID funded project in disaster related mental health care aimed at protecting children. This is the first Ausaid funded program in Mental Health; An MOU including Melbourne University, Peking University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong to develop national programs in community mental health. The program is a world first in tri-lateral training programs; an MOU brokered by AAMH involving beyondblue, Australia's national depression initiative, and the China Psychiatric Association in a program to raise community awareness about depression and reduce stigma in China.

Protecting Children in Disasters

- AusAID sponsored project brings together AAMH and the National Center for Mental Health PRC to develop guidelines for protecting children's mental health in disasters.

AAMH worked with Chinese colleagues to refine guidelines, develop training package for school communities and deliver the training program for pilot school sites in Beijing and Hangzhou.

2007 World Psychiatric Association International Congress (28th - 29th November 2007)

- AAMH played a pivotal role at the Congress coordinating both the Community Linkages and Cross-Cultural Collaboration streams. The congress attracted 3000 delegates. The Consensus Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Community Mental Health Development project was convened during the Congress

Asia Pacific Community Mental Health Development Project

- Two meetings held for this project involving senior Ministry of Health and key Professional Association heads from 12 Asian nations/ regions
- landmark project documents the status of mental health service in these countries and received WHO and WPA commendations at the WPA International Congress in Melbourne

Sponsorship

- 2007 was the second year of support from Janssen-Cilag who announced a substantial increase in support by way of an unrestricted grant of \$150,000 per annum for the next three years.

EDUCATION

Advocacy

- **National Forums:** The AEF conducted two major national education forums in 2008. The National Forum on Leading 21st Century Schools: Engage with Asia invited 230 leading educators from across Australia to professionally develop school and system leaders. In addition, the Asia Literacy Alliance was formed and developed the Call to Action: Asia literacy for every young Australian. 29 peak organisations have signed up to the Call to Action that has been widely distributed to influence policy development. The Forum on the Future of Chinese Language Education in Australian Schools, attended by 60 key stakeholders, emphasised the importance of long-term investment to increase student participation and engagement. The Australia China Council and the Confucius Institute funded the Forum.
- **National Policy:** The AEF advocated for Asia literacy consultations to support the development of new National Curriculum particularly the development of English, History and Science curriculum. The AEF led advocacy strategies for the inclusion of Asia literacy in the development of the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians. The Goals, supported by the Council of Australian Governments, now state that "Australians need to become 'Asia literate', engaging and building strong relationships with Asia." The AEF provided strategic input into the development National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program (NALSSP).
- **National Collaboration:** State/Territory Education Department Senior Officers met with the AEF to develop the second progress report on the implementation of the National Statement for the CEO's of Education Systems May meeting.

- **Keynotes and conference presentations:** The AEF gave nine major keynote addresses in 2008 and conducted workshops over 100 conferences.
- **AEF E-strategy:** A new AEF portal, 'Asia Online' is being developed to become the 'one-stop shop' on Asia for educators.
- **Becoming Asia Literate Grants to Schools:** The AEF secured funding of \$6.24 million, 2008-2011, to support schools to develop Asian languages and studies programs. This is a major element of NALSSP.

Curriculum Materials

- **The AEF completed one new text in 2008:** Now more than ever we live in one world... *How schools can, and do respond* and published three major reports all located at www.asiaeducation.edu.au
- Secured \$375,000 from AusAID to support the development of a text for secondary students on the Pacific.

Teacher Professional Learning

The AEF implemented national professional learning programs for over 14,000 teachers in 2008 including:

- 118 leading principals participating in the Leading 21st Century Schools: Engage with Asia Program
- AEF nationally, in partnership with Studies of Asia Advisors located in each State and Territory, delivered professional learning programs to 12,700

International Programs

- The AEF conducted Access Asia Study Tours to China (x2), Vietnam, Cambodia, Korea (x2) with 100 educators participating. In addition, the AEF hosted 34 senior educators from Indonesia, Korea and India.
- AEF secured an additional \$700,000 from AusAID for the Australia Indonesia BRIDGE Project. This funding, together with the funding received by the Australia Indonesia Institute from The Myer Foundation makes a total budget of \$1.45 million. A total of 90 Indonesian educators will link with Australian schools.
- Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships supported 118 Australian educators to undertake intensive language training to support the teaching of Indonesian, Chinese, Japanese and Korean.
- Endeavour Executive Awards: The AEF hosted Ms Lili Lu Secretary General from Shanghai Education Association for International Exchange and Professor Okhwa Lee from Chungbuk National University to support bi-lateral exchange and collaboration. Ms Maureen Welch, Director, AEF was hosted in India by Australian Education International.