

DEPARTMENT OF CHINESE STUDIES

- **Associate Professor Lee Cheuk Yin** was appointed Member of the Presidential Council for Religious Harmony in September 2008 for three years.

COMMUNICATIONS AND NEW MEDIA

- **Associate Professor Milagros Rivera**, Head of Department, was a member of the Advisory Council on the Impact of New Media on Society (AIMS). **Dr Lim Sun Sun** was a member of the AIMS Working Group. The duration of their appointment was 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2009.

During their work with AIMS, they gave input for the recommendations submitted to the government on how to deal with issues such as e-engagement, regulation of political films, protecting children from dangerous online content, etc. They also helped design a study commissioned by AIMS, which sought to ascertain the level of e-engagement among Singaporeans. The resulting report "Engaging New Media: Challenging Old Assumptions" was published in December 2008.

Shortly thereafter, the government issued a response in which it accepted three-quarters of AIMS recommendations, including amending the law that prohibits the showing of political films.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

- **Dr Lu Jingfeng** was appointed Assistant Editor for the Singapore Economic Review for the period of October 2008 to October 2010.
- **Professor Ivan Png** has been re-appointed as member of the Trustworthy Computing Academic Advisory Board, by Microsoft Corporation to a second three year term.
- **Professor Sun Yeneng**, Acting Head of Department, has been appointed by the Director of Bielefeld University, Professor Dieter Timmermann, as an Advisory Board Member of the Forschungsschwerpunkt Mathematisierung (FSPM - the Research Centre for Mathematical Modeling), a university level research centre at Bielefeld.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

- **Associate Professor Chng Huang Hoon** was appointed External Examiner for the Diploma in English Studies programme at the Centre for Applied English Studies at the University of Hong Kong from August 2009 to July 2012.
- **Associate Professor Robbie Goh Boon Hua** was appointed Co-Chief Editor of the book series *Asia Research Institute-Springer Asia Series* published by Springer, Netherlands from December 2008.
- **Associate Professor Michelle M. Lazar** was appointed to the editorial board of the international refereed journal *Social Semiotics* published by Carfax, United Kingdom, from October 2008.
- **Ms Nora Samosir** will be performing in the main programme of the prestigious Edinburgh International Festival in August 2009 in Ong Keng Sen's work, *Diaspora*. This is a multidisciplinary work which explores the effects of diaspora. The Festival is one of the most high profile international showcases of the performing arts.
- **Emeritus Professor Edwin Thumboo** received the *Distinguished Award* by the International Association for World Englishes in December 2008 for exceptional scholarly contributions and insightful leadership in the study of World Englishes at its annual meeting in Hong Kong (3 to 5 December 2008). This is the second time that the award has been given since the Association's founding in 1978.

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

- In January 2009, **Professor Lily Kong** was appointed to serve on the board of the Public Service Commission (PSC) for a term of five years. Professor Kong is the youngest appointee to serve on the board of the PSC and is one of two women on the board. She was sworn in by H.E. President S R Nathan on 29 January 2009 at the Istana.
- **Dr Karen Lai**, Research Fellow, won the *International Royal Geographical Society-Institute of British Geographers, Economic Geography Research Group PhD Prize 2009*.
- **Associate Professor Wong Poh Poh** was appointed member of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies Board of Trustees, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, for the period 1 November 2008 to 31 October 2011.

Staff Awards, Achievements, Appointments

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

- **Associate Professor Yong Mun Cheong** will be appointed Head of the Department (1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012).

- On 3 April 2009, **Associate Professor Thomas DuBois**, delivered the 37th Annual Asian Studies Lecture at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia. The lecture, entitled "Religion and the Chinese State - Three Crises and a Solution" drew a strong attendance from the university and the public, and addressed the reasons behind the repression of Falangong, Tibetan Buddhism and certain types of Christianity, as well as the new interest of the Chinese state in reviving Confucianism.



- On 9 April 2009, **Associate Professor Brian P. Farrell** was appointed the Regional Coordinator Pacific Region (Australia-Asia) for the Society for Military History, the largest professional society of military historians in the world. This appointment is for an indefinite period of time.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

- **Dr Reuben Wong** was awarded the Fulbright Singapore Visiting Scholar Award from 2008 to 2009. He will be on a Fulbright Visiting Fellowship at the Stimson Center, Washington DC, from late April to July 2009, and will work on a research project, "The role of the United States in European Union-China strategic relations". He will be working with Stimson Fellow Dr Alan Romberg. Dr Wong also has a secondary affiliation at the Transatlantic Centre, The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (Johns Hopkins University), in Washington DC, working with Dr Dan Hamilton.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

- **Dr Steven Graham** was selected by the British Council to represent Singapore at the forthcoming PMI2 Connect ASEAN workshop "Sustainable Research Networks Workshop" which is to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 3 to 5 March 2009. This is an extension of his "Cognitive Neuroscience of Learning" grant awarded by United Kingdom Prime Minister's PMI2 Connect Initiative. The grant supported collaboration with some of Dr Graham's ex-colleagues from Cambridge (who are now based in Exeter). His project was shortlisted from 88 projects.

- **Professor Ramadhar Singh** was conferred a fellowship by the National Academy of Psychology (India) on 16 December 2008 at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, India.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

- **Dr Sudha Nair** was selected for this year's *Distinguished Alumni Award* from George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University in St Louis (the top school of Social Work in the United States). She received the award on 28 April 2009 at Washington University of St Louis.



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

- **Associate Professor Paulin Straughan** was appointed as Visiting Research Fellow at the University of New South Wales, Australia, from 1 March 2009 for a period of three years. She was also appointed Family Research Advisor to the Ministry of Youth, Development and Sports on 1 September 2008 for two years.
- **Professor Jean Yeung** was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) Ministry of Education, Singapore in January 2009.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAMME

- **Dr Pattana Kitiarsa** has been actively involved in organising and running activities for the benefits of Thais in Singapore. Some of these include conducting Sunday English classes for construction workers at the Friends of Thai Workers Association and speaking on "Globalisation and Human Trafficking from Thailand to Malaysia and Singapore" in a training workshop entitled 'How Could the Thai Expatriate Community in Singapore Contribute to the Prevention of Human Trafficking' at the Royal Thai embassy.
- **Adjunct Associate Professor Ooi Kee Beng** was recruited as Visiting Associate Professor to City University of Hong Kong's Department of Public and Social Administration to lecture on Malaysian Governance from 16 to 31 March 2009. This is the first time the department's course on Governance in Asia will include a study of Malaysia. He was appointed editor of the *Penang Economic Monthly* published by the Social Economic Research Institute of Penang since March 2009.

Reaching Out

With his expertise on Southeast Asia's economic development and ASEAN regional integration, **Associate Professor Teofilo C Daquila** has continued to contribute to the outreach activities of the Southeast Asian Studies Programme and FASS targeted at secondary, junior college and polytechnic students.

On 2 April 2009, he gave a lecture titled "Southeast Asia's Changing Economic Landscape: Determinants and Challenges" at Raffles Junior College (RJC) as part of its Raffles Asia Programme 2009.



Assoc Prof Daquila with RJC students and teachers: Ms Samantha Wong, who coordinates the Raffles Asia Programme and Mr Dave Sowden (partly captured)



Assoc Prof Daquila with his mentees from NYGH, RI and RGS at the HSSRP Symposium 2009 held at NUS

As part of the 2008-2009 Humanities and Social Sciences Research Programme (HSSRP) jointly organised by NUS FASS, NTU School of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Gifted Education Branch of the Ministry of Education on 4 April 2009, Associate Professor Daquila mentored three groups of secondary school students from Raffles Institution (RI), Nanyang Girls' High School (NYGH) and Raffles Girls' Secondary School (RGS). The students wrote on topics concerning behaviour of young Singaporeans towards their general consumption, blogging activities and purchase of electronic devices.

On 8 April 2009, Associate Professor Daquila met with seven students from Nanyang Polytechnic, acting as a resource person for their research project titled *ASEAN and Economic Crisis* to be presented at the Pre-University Seminar 2009 which involves students from 27 junior colleges, integrated programme schools and polytechnics. The seminar will be held at NUS from 1 to 5 June 2009.

He has also taught a sabbatical module involving Secondary 4 students of Nanyang Girls' High School on 26 and 28 May 2009, for the second time.

In addition to his outreach activities, Associate Professor Daquila has been appointed to the editorial board of the Korea Review of International Studies (KRIS) since November 2008. Having been published since 1997 by the Global Research Institute of Korea University's Graduate School of International Studies, KRIS is an interdisciplinary journal that promotes research in international studies including international relations, international law, international management, and international economics.