NEW ZEALAND
ASIA INSTITUTE
Te Roopu Aotearoa Ahia

Annual Report
2012
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The New Zealand Asia Institute seeks to develop graduates, knowledge and ideas that enhance New Zealand’s understanding of, and ability to engage productively with, Asia.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The New Zealand Asia Institute (NZAI) acknowledges with gratitude the generous financial support from the Japan Foundation, the Korea Foundation, the Korean Embassy, the Japan Society for New Zealand Studies, and the Pacific Institute of Public Policy in Vanuatu, without which the successful completion of the 2012 programme and research projects would not have been possible.

The Institute would also like to thank the following institutional collaborators for their cooperation and support for the activities of the Institute in 2012: New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand Ministry for Culture and Heritage, New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Immigration New Zealand, Asia New Zealand Foundation, NZ Race Relations Commission, NZ National Commission for UNESCO, NZ Committee of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (NZPECC), Japanese Consulate-General in Auckland, Korean Consulate-General in Auckland, New Zealand Contemporary China Research Centre at the Victoria University of Wellington, Auckland University of Technology, University of Otago, University of Waikato, Korean Society in New Zealand, Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies in Hawaii, Australian Catholic University, Australian National University, University of New South Wales, University of Western Australia, University of Wollongong, University of California at Berkeley, Daito Bunka University, Deakin University, Japan Institute of International Affairs, Keio University, Mizuho Research Institute in Japan, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Tohoku University, University of Tokyo, Waseda University, Rikkyo University, Hanyang University, Kookmin University, Seoul National University, Fudan University in China, Leiden University, Kalyanamitra in Jakarta, Halal Industry Development Corporation in Malaysia, Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector in Malaysia, Markmore Energy in Malaysia, Pelaburan MARA Berhad in Malaysia, Pathfinder Press in New York, Shigeru Ban Architects in Tokyo, ASB Bank, Augen Software, COSCO NZ, Greenlea Meats Ltd, Giles Brooker Ltd, Medicine Mondiale, Wendy Pye Group, and WHK.

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The Institute is also grateful for the administrative and web services support provided by the University of Auckland Business School and the University of Auckland Library.

Finally, NZAI would like to thank Ms Kimberley Wu for her invaluable contribution to its development during her tenure as External Relations Co-ordinator from January 2010 to December 2012.
1. OVERVIEW

2012 was a fast-paced and productive year for the New Zealand Asia Institute (NZAI). It continued to grow its research programme, develop its collaborative partnerships locally and internationally, and build its staff capacity. It participated in the official celebrations of the 60th, 50th and 40th anniversaries of diplomatic relations between New Zealand and Japan, Korea, and China respectively, and brought a well-appreciated literary and conceptual depth to those gala events. NZAI’s academic contributions to the commemoration of those historic landmarks in New Zealand’s engagement with Asia will be published in 2013-2014.

NZAI and the University of Auckland Business School launched their Asia Dialogue Series in 2012. The inaugural conference was held in July. The focus of the one-day forum was on New Zealand’s market opportunities in the fast-growing global halal economy. The conference organisers were fortunate to secure a group of leading business people from Malaysia and New Zealand to address the audience.

Riding on the success of Asia Savvy in 2011, NZAI sponsored the student-led conference again in September 2012. The dedication of the student organisers, the eager participation of students from across New Zealand, the enthusiastic discussions during the conference, and the generous support of corporate sponsors have all urged and encouraged NZAI to not only run another Asia-Savvy in 2013, but also help make it a regular event.

In addition to the above fora, NZAI also made a successful funding bid to the Japan Foundation for a joint project that it initiated in 2011 with the Pacific Institute of Public Policy in Vanuatu. The project, *The South Pacific Agenda for Survival and Growth: A Framework for Coordinated Participation of Asian Donors?* involved a research team of nineteen scholars from twelve universities and institutions in New Zealand, Vanuatu, Australia, China, Japan, Holland, and the United States. The research findings, which were presented at a conference in Vanuatu in December, will be published in an edited volume in 2013-2014.

As part of its business Engagement with Asia project, and Growing New Zealand Business project, NZAI has developed a benchmarking tool for assisting New Zealand small- and medium-sized enterprises in achieving their full potential. Two postdoctoral fellows, Dr Antje Fiedler and Dr Ben Fath, were recruited to work on the project, which also involves an extensive series of interviews with small business owners.

With the help of NZAI, the Indonesian language returned to The University of Auckland in 2012 after a decade of absence. The first course ran over six weeks in September and October. The full enrolment gave NZAI the confidence to continue the class in 2013.
Finally, the Institute made a sustained effort to expand its collaborative network across the University. With Dr Jian Yang from Political Studies elected to the New Zealand Parliament in late 2011, A/Prof David Robb from the Department of ISOM graciously accepted NZAI’s invitation to step in as the new Director of its China Studies Centre.

2. PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

Research

*Business Engagement with Asia: A Study of Leading NZ Companies*

It is widely acknowledged that Asia is crucial for the future of the New Zealand economy. In recognition of this, the New Zealand government has been active in negotiating free trade agreements in the region. Yet recognising the increasing importance and signing free trade agreements do not automatically translate into increased business engagement. In fact, it would seem that many NZ companies, if they are active outside NZ, prefer to do business in the UK, US or Australia, where the “psychological distance” is small. Some other companies seem to be doing business in Asia more by accident than by design – having been approached by Asian customers, for example – and these businesses may lose out when other sources of supply become available. Against this backdrop, NZAI launched a project in 2010 to identify key characteristics of NZ companies that lead to their successful engagement with Asia.

In 2012, this multi-year project was progressed from in-depth interviews of selected businesses to the construction of a data base. With over one hundred businesses of various sizes and in different stages of gaining a footing in Asian markets, the database is expected to enable research and practitioner-oriented publications, as well as input material for education programmes.

*Growing New Zealand Businesses*

This on-going project is jointly conducted with researchers in the Department of Management and International Business. It combines a survey with interviews, looking at the factors which promote or impede growth of NZ businesses. Specifically, it examines business and founder characteristics, innovation, collaboration, finance, growth limitations, governance, and owner-manager relations with the business. A similar survey has been conducted in Australia by researchers at the University of Queensland, and in the UK by researchers at the University of Cambridge, which permits the comparison of NZ businesses with peers in those countries.

In 2012, staff, postdoc fellows and research students involved in this study embarked on the development of an online benchmarking tool intended for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to gain insights of their strengths, weaknesses and potential for
improvements. Built on the rich knowledge gained from a survey of 2,000 NZ businesses, this tool is intended to provide a road map for SMEs to develop and implement effective strategies for growth.

For more details, please visit http://www.business.auckland.ac.nz/uoahome/about/our-research/bs-research-groups/growing-new-zealand-businesses-gnzb.

**Compressed Development**

This project is co-ordinated by Prof Hugh Whittaker and includes a team of researchers from New Zealand, Japan, China and the US. It focuses on the tensions arising at the interface of development and globalization. Focusing on East Asia, and taking a broad perspective that spans the economic and social dimensions of development, the research team contends that the path charted by the “late development” model has become all but impassable, and is now better conceived as one of “compressed development”. Key differences are 1) the extent and consequences of compression; 2) the primary mode of engagement with the world economy – via global value chains; and 3) the interaction of these. Compressed development forces states to address a number of simultaneous challenges, resulting in “policy stretch”. The research has sketched features of an “adaptive state” suited to navigating the path of compressed development.

In 2012, the research team and network focused on developing their new findings in the areas of compressed capitalism and compressed development in emerging Asia, the changing developmental state in East Asia, opportunities and traps for local industries and enterprises entering global value chains, and social policy challenges for human development.

**Conferences**

**New Zealand in the Global Halal Economy**

On 13 July, the NZ Asia Institute and the Business School launched their *Asia Dialogue* series with a one-day conference on the fast-growing global halal economy and increasing market opportunities for New Zealand. Muslims make up 22% of the world’s population. The integrated halal economy, encompassing meat, dairy and lifestyle products, financial services, and logistics, is currently worth an estimated US$2.3 trillion. New Zealand was recognised in 2011 as a “Best Service Provider” at the Annual International Halal Journal Awards and is thus well positioned for growth in exports of halal products as emerging markets continue to expand. The conference offered a timely forum for the industry, the policy circle, and the research community to share insights on how to carry the momentum forward.
The conference presented a line-up of prominent business leaders and policy makers from Malaysia and New Zealand. They were Business School’s Adjunct Professor Tan Sri Halim Saad, Tan Sri Dato’ Dr Syed Jalaludin Salim and Dato’Seri Jamil Bidin, respectively Chair and CEO of Malaysia’s Halal Industry Development Corporation, Dato’ Yusi Mohamed Yusoff, Vice Chair of the investment and financial services conglomerate PMB, Tony Egan, CEO of Greenlea Premier Meats, and Dr Kathy Lloyd, market access counsellor at the NZ Ministry of Primary Industries. The speakers scoped out the halal market for NZ businesses with stringent halal standards, projected future possibilities of the industry at the nexus of religion, science and innovation, detailed keys to best practice in relationship development, contractual negotiations and quality assurance, suggested mechanisms to overcome barriers in trade issues and politics, and drew up steps to build New Zealand’s share of the world halal economy and brand.


Asia-Savvy 2012: Visions and Realities of New Zealand and Asia

Supported by NZAI, this student-led conference brought together, on 7 – 8 September, a wide range of speakers with experience in government, business, education and the arts. They were Neil Walter, Chair of the National Commission for UNESCO, Theresa Weir of Immigration New Zealand, Race Relations Commissioner Joris de Bres, Dr Edwina Pio from Auckland University of Technology, screenwriter Roseanne Liang, Liu Feng of COSCO NZ, Giles Brooker of Giles Brooker Limited, Felix Lee of the ASB Bank, Tony Browne of the NZ Contemporary China Research Centre, Mitchell Pham of Augen Software, Greg James of WHK, and Sir Ray Avery of Medicine Mondiale.

The speakers explored opportunities and the problems facing New Zealand and New Zealanders in their expanding relationship with Asia. The 100-strong conference participants, consisting mainly of tertiary students from across New Zealand and in one case from Cambridge, UK, responded enthusiastically with heated panel and group discussions on meaningful pursuits for the Asia-Savvy, social enterprise, and community leadership. They felt that the conference delivered its promise of taking a serious look at
the realities of, and an inspiring glimpse of the visions for, New Zealand and Asia. They strongly urged NZAI to help continue this student-centred initiative.

NZAI will publish all the speeches in an E-book in 2013.

Ms Sian Coleman from Auckland and Ms Mahoney Turnbull from Otago

**New Zealand, Korea and Asia-Pacific: From Distance to Closeness**

The small Korean peninsula has experienced in concentrated form almost every feature of this century of change: colonialism and post-colonial dilemmas, the force of nationalism, the ideological antagonisms of the Cold War, rapid urbanisation and the rise of global economics and culture. In terms of the speed and depth of the transformation and the complexity of its recent history, very few countries can rival Korea. The Korean people have become masters at handling crises and wresting from them achievements that surprise the rest of the world. New Zealand, too, in its own way, has engaged in these global developments. Already linked to developments in Europe and around the world as a member of the British Commonwealth, it not only participated in both World Wars to a degree far out of proportion to its small population, but pioneered significant developments in political franchise, economic policy and social welfare that have now become accepted or commonly known practices around the globe.

New Zealanders made their first significant contact with the peninsula during the Korean War and within a decade of the ceasefire opened diplomatic relations with the Republic of Korea. By now, they are far more conscious of belonging to the Asia-Pacific region of which Korea is an influential member. Since 1962, contacts between the two nations have grown from small beginnings to an important and healthy engagement. Korea in the northwest Pacific and New Zealand in the southwest Pacific are effective partners despite their geographic separation.

To examine the diminishing distance and increasing mutual interests between the two nations, NZAI held an international conference on 16 – 17 November and brought to Auckland twenty-four speakers from eighteen universities and organisations in New Zealand, Korea, Australia and the United States. They were Ambassador Andrea Smith
from NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Korean Ambassador to New Zealand H.E. Mr Yongkyu Park, President David Hong of the Korean Society of Auckland, Dame Wendy Pye of Wendy Pye Group, Kyongho (Patrick) Hwang of Kt-oic & e-future Co. Ltd, Ian McGibbon from NZ Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Dr Danielle Chubb from Deakin University, Dr Koo Bon-giu from Hanyang University, Prof Andrei Lankov from Kookmin University, Prof Hyun-Chin Lim and Dr Jong-Cheol Kim from Seoul National University, Dr Elizabeth Thurbon from the University of New South Wales, Prof John Ravenhill and Dr Roald Maliangkay from the Australian National University, Dr Joanna Elfving-Hwang from the University of Western Australia, Prof Thomas Gold from the University of California at Berkeley, Dr Stephen Epstein from the Victoria University of Wellington, Dr Andrew Butcher from the Asia New Zealand Foundation, Paul Bellamy from Wellington, and Prof Ken Wells, Dr Changzoo Song, Dr Sung-Young Kim, Dr Francis Collins, and Kim Hyeeun from The University of Auckland. Their presentations will be published in an edited volume in due course.

The conference was partially supported by a Korea Foundation endowment grant and the Korean Embassy in Wellington.

Korean Ambassador to NZ H. E. Mr Yongkyu Park (3rd right front row), NZAI Director Prof Hugh Whittaker (3rd left front row), NZAI’s Korea Studies Centre Director Dr Richard Phillips (2nd left front row), Conference Organiser Prof Ken Wells (2nd right front row), and invited speakers posing for “Gangnam Style”.

**Resilience: Japan and New Zealand Moving Forward**

Sixty years ago, the San Francisco Peace Treaty, signed on 28 April 1952, ushered in a new era of bilateral relations between New Zealand and Japan. Since then, Japan has grown into one of New Zealand’s most important trading partners. Its economic miracle has also arguably played a key enabling role in the development of New Zealand’s links with the region of East Asia. In the wake of the Christchurch earthquakes and Tohoku
triple disasters, the two countries are further bound by the “resilience” of their respective people in turning destruction into a fresh start.

To mark the 60th anniversary of NZ-Japan diplomatic and economic relations and to celebrate their ever stronger bilateral ties, NZAI, the Waseda Institute for New Zealand Studies (WINZS), and the Japan Society of New Zealand Studies (JSNZS) hosted a joint conference in Auckland on 3 – 4 December. Twenty-two speakers from seventeen universities and institutions in New Zealand, Japan and the Netherlands were invited to reflect on highlights and issues in the bilateral relations and share their research findings on how disaster-afflicted communities in the two countries were “turning disaster into opportunity”, or “wazawai tenjite fuku to nasu” in Japanese. Attention particularly focused on innovation and technology partnership between the two countries in the near future. One of the highlights in that regard was the public lecture given by well-known Japanese architect Shigeru Ban on the Cardboard Cathedral he designed for Christchurch.

The other invited speakers included Japanese Consul-General in Auckland Mr Kazutoshi Inadome, Hon Philip Burdon, Chair of Japan New Zealand Partnership Forum, former NZ Ambassador to Japan Ian Kennedy, former Japanese Ambassador to New Zealand Tetsuya Endo, former NZ Ambassador Tim Hannah, Prof Shunji Yamazaki from Daito-Bunka University, Prof Shujiro Urata and Prof Michio Yamaoka from Waseda University, Chizu Hori from Mizuho Research Institute, Prof Osamu Abe from Rikkyo University, Prof Noriyoshi Tsuchiya from Tohoku University, Prof Yoichiro Sato from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Prof Ryuji Komatsu from Keio University, Dr Bryce Wakefield from Leiden University, Dr Seishi Gomibuchi from NZ Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Dr Michael Cameron from the University of Waikato, Prof Henry Johnson from the University of Otago, and Prof Andrew Barrie, Prof David Grinlinton, Prof Rob Scollay, and Dr Chris Akroyd from The University of Auckland. Their papers will be published as an E-book by NZAI in 2013.
The South Pacific Agenda for Survival and Growth: A Framework for Coordinated Participation of Asian Donors?

External support is very important for the economic well-being of the developing economies in the South Pacific. Yet while aid volume fluctuates and flows are volatile, effective funding mechanisms are found to be more sensitive than volume per se. Much has been said and written about the South Pacific as a “diplomatic market” for donors and recipients. Critical comments focus primarily on bilateral development partners from Asia to the region. Little, however, has been said on how aid coordination and harmonisation are feasible in the region, and how they may be achieved. Also missing from the debate is the voice from major Asian donors reflecting on their respective domestic discussions on the issue and possible improvement.

Taking a forward-looking approach, NZAI and the Pacific Institute of Public Policy in Vanuatu (PiPP) jointly initiated a research project in 2011 on the potential for collaboration among Japan, China and Taiwan. This research was approached through examination of domestic discussions in the three key Asian donors and perceptions and insights from the South Pacific, New Zealand, Australia, and the United States. Empirical studies of the three key Asian donors were complemented by observations of development-related issues.

With the help of a grant from the Japan Foundation, NZAI and PiPP hosted a conference in Vanuatu on 11 – 13 December at which the nineteen invited researchers from thirteen universities and research institutions in New Zealand, Vanuatu, Australia, China, Japan, the Netherlands, and the United States presented their research findings. The researchers included Derek Brien and Dulciana Somare-Brash from PiPP, Dr Bryce Wakefield from Leiden University, Prof Shen Dingli from Fudan University, Prof Rouben Azizian from the Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies in Hawaii, Prof Yoichiro Sato from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Prof Kate Hannan and Dr Charles Hawksley from the University of Wollongong, Prof Stewart Firth from the Australian National University, Dr Jian Zhang from the University of New South Wales, Dr Nichole Georgeou from Australian Catholic University, Dr Marc Lanteigne and Nicki Wrighton from the Victoria University of Wellington, Dr Charles Johnston from Auckland University of Technology, and Prof Nicholas Tarling, Dr Steven Ratuva, Prof Natasha Hamilton-Hart, Prof Ken Jackson and Dr Xin Chen from The University of Auckland. The research findings will be published in an edited volume in 2013 – 2014.
The research team visiting the Melanesian Spearhead Group Secretariat headquartered in Vanuatu.

**Seminars, Lectures, Workshops, Short Courses**

**Japan’s Regional Policy towards Indonesia/Mekong**

During his visit to NZAI in February, Prof Masaya Shiraishi from Waseda University gave a seminar on the 29th on Japan’s engagement with continental Southeast Asia. He explained why and how the Indochina peninsula had served as a proving ground for Japanese diplomacy since the San Francisco Peace Treaty signed in 1952, officially ended World War II. He maintained that while Japan was today understandably sensitive towards a rising China in the Mekong sub-region, it should still try to establish a new vision on regional public goods that would accentuate “commonness” and “inclusiveness”. Such a vision, in his opinion, would inspire Japan to take upon itself the challenge of building a regional architecture to help coordinate the thus far competing GMS (continental Southeast Asia + China), Japan-Mekong (continental Southeast Asia + Japan), and US-Lower Mekong (Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam) cooperation schemes.

**Central Asia: Europe or Asia?**

Prof Rouben Azizian from the Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies in Honolulu spent his sabbatical leave at NZAI from mid December 2011 to early March 2012. While with the Institute, he gave a seminar on Central Asia’s identity debate, security outlook and economic relevance for the Asia-Pacific region. Focusing on the five former Soviet states in the region, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, Dr Azizian discussed the emerging local consensus on the region integrating into a “Eurasian” union. He maintained that Central Asia, while still in transition, was relevant to the Asia-Pacific region including New Zealand because of the common concerns about the rise of Islamic militancy and terrorism in Central Asia, the management and future of
the rich and varied energy resources there, and China’s increased presence influencing the balance of power. Sustaining regional stability in Central Asia was, however, not merely a geopolitics issue. In Prof Azizian’s opinion, New Zealand might work with the region more closely on food security, education, and social development endeavours.

Changes Facing Women Today in Indonesia: Why Previously-Banned Books Are Now Being Published

On 3 May, NZAI’s Southeast Asian Studies Centre hosted the visit of Director Rena Herdiyani and Deputy Director Hegel Terome of Kalyanamitra in Jakarta, and President Mary-Alice Waters of Pathfinder Press in New York. Founded in 1985, Kalyanamitra is a women's rights organisation. It recently published, through Pathfinder Press, the Indonesian version of two classics on women’s liberation movement. These two works are *Woman’s Evolution* by Evelyn Reed, and *Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State* by Frederick Engels. The Southeast Asian Studies Centre held a panel discussion for the visitors to share with interested New Zealanders their views on the situation of women’s rights in Indonesia before and after Suharto. Also on the panel was Prof Sharyn Graham Davies from AUT, who published in 2011 *Gender Diversity in Indonesia* (Routledge).

The Future of Solar Technology as Clean Energy

NZAI was pleased to be invited again by the Japanese Consulate-General in Auckland to host a public lecture by a Japan Foundation-sponsored visiting scholar on 31 July. The distinguished guest speaker was Prof Yoshitaka Okada, Director of the Research Centre for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Tokyo. He gave a concise but thorough overview of Japanese solar cell research, development and production. NZAI was grateful that the cross-faculty Energy Centre, the Energy Research Group of the Faculty of Engineering, and Environmental Management of the School of Environment accepted its invitation to jointly organise the lecture, which attracted more than one hundred attendees from the industry, academic/research circles, and the general public.
Design Your Own Solar Cells and Learn about Solar Photovoltaic Technology

Following the above public lecture, NZAI, again in collaboration with the Energy Centre of the Business School, the Energy Research Group of the Faculty of Engineering, and Environmental Management of the School of Environment, sponsored a workshop on 1 August for interested students to learn to make their own solar cells. The workshop was conducted by Dr Takuya Hoshii, also a Japan Foundation-sponsored visiting scholar from the University of Tokyo. More than sixty students from across Auckland campus showed up for the hand-on experience.

From Kampung to City and Back Again

Since independence, Malaysia’s economic growth has been fuelled by its oil and gas reserves. As these resources are depleted and their territorial ownership is contested, future economic growth is uncertain. On 8 August, NZAI hosted a seminar by Dr Hugh Byrd from the Department of Architecture and Planning on how the industrialised society might have to adapt in order to survive. Dr Byrd’s talk was based on a trilogy of books he recently authored: *Energy & Ecology: A View of Malaysia beyond 2020*, *Energy & Building Control Systems in the Tropics*, and *Towards a Sustainable Built Environment in Malaysia*.

China’s Current Economic Situations and Policy Implications

During his visit to New Zealand, facilitated by the NZ Contemporary China Research Centre, Prof Xuesong Li from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences stopped at NZAI and gave a seminar on 6 September. Prof Li is a leading economist in China. Using computable general equilibrium (CGE), dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE), and micro-econometrics models, he is regularly invited to forecast China’s economy and evaluate its economic policies. He is the author of the *Bluebook of Chinese Economy 2012*. His talk on China’s economic situation in general and fiscal and monetary policies in particular attracted wide public interest.
Japanese Agriculture at the Crossroads: Structural Change, Policy Reform and Prospects for TPP

On 17 September, NZAI, in association with NZPECC, hosted a seminar by Prof Masayoshi Honma from the University of Tokyo on the globalising process of Japan’s agricultural sector. He outlined the Japanese government’s effort to induce young people to take up farming and to enlarge the scale of operation to 20-30 hectare per farm household. Yet it remained uncertain, according to Prof Honma, whether this attempt and other new measures adopted by Tokyo would be sufficient further to globalise Japan and prepare its politically sensitive sectors for ever-growing international pressure for freer trade including that from TPP.

Indonesian language Returns to The University of Auckland

In September and October, NZAI held its first Indonesian language course. The evening course ran over six weeks - long enough to give participants a basic ability to communicate in Indonesian: to greet people, exchange personal information, ask and give directions and to order food. Indonesia, a country of 270 million people, is already among New Zealand’s top ten trading partners and is set to become even more important given the growth rate in two-way flows of trade, investment and tourism, along with a steady increase in Indonesian students coming to New Zealand. A further bonus of learning Indonesian is that the language is based on an old lingua franca of trade across maritime Southeast Asia and is hence understandable in Malaysia, parts of Southern Thailand and by some in Singapore.

Indonesian Economic Development and Trade: Opportunities and Challenges

NZAI, in association with The University of Auckland Business School, was honoured to host a public lecture by H. E. Mr Gita Wirjawan, Indonesian Minister of Trade, on 11 October. The distinguished guest speaker detailed Indonesia’s economic resilience, impressive fiscal sector performances, consumers’ increasing spending power, and growing working-age population. All this has helped boost Indonesia’s international trade and investment profile. The challenge is how to sustain Indonesia’s rapid economic growth.

Interest in Indonesia?

Answering public requests, NZAI’s Southeast Asian Studies Centre put on a one-day seminar on 10 November on Indonesia. Prof Natasha Hamilton-Hart, Director of the Centre, Prof Nicholas Tarling, NZAI Fellow, Dr Chris Wilson from the Department of Political Studies, Prof Sharyn Granham Davies from the Auckland University of Technology, and Dr Graeme MacRae from Massey University at Albany spoke at the seminar and led the discussions among the participants. The topics covered included Indonesia’s nation building, critical political changes since 1998, law and order and
public views on policing, business governance and business-government relations, environment and development, Bali beyond the beaches, foreign relations, and culture through the documentary lens. Thirty-five participants gave up a Saturday and enrolled in this forum.

**Killing Innovation Softly: Japanese Software Challenges**

During his stay in Auckland for the *World Business Capability Congress 2012*, Prof Robert E. Cole from the University of California at Berkeley visited NZAI and gave a seminar on 6 December on the weakness of Japanese hi-tech firms in software and its competitive consequences. He believed that the shortage of critical skills, the slowness of Japanese firms in recognising the importance of software, and the organisational structure of the Japanese software industry all contributed to the declining performance of Japanese hi-tech firms relative to those in the United States.

**Visitors**

*January*

Prof Rouben Azizian, Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies, USA (5/1-3/3)

*February*

Sir Colin and Lady Maiden, Auckland (1/2)
Dr and Mrs Wilf Malcolm, Auckland (1/2)
Prof Russell Stone, Auckland (1/2)
Ms Tara Jahn-Werner and Dr Alan Cocker, Auckland (1/2)
Dr M. Lamb and Mr G. Lamb, Auckland (1/2)
Mr and Mrs George Dibley, Auckland (1/2)
Mrs Pam Russell and Mr Peter Russell, Auckland (1/2)
Prof Michio Yamaoka, Waseda University, Japan (23/2-8/3)
Prof Masaya Shiraishi, Waseda University, Japan (27/2-2/3)

*April*

Ms Fu Rong, Foreign Affairs Office, Qinghai Province, China (26/4-30/10)

*May*

Ms Rena Herdiyani, Kalyanamitra, Indonesia (3/5)
Mr Hegel Terome, Kalyanamitra, Indonesia (3/5)
Ms Mary-Alice Waters, Pathfinder Press, New York (3/5)
Prof Sharyn Graham Davis, Auckland University of Technology (3/5)
Mr Kazutoshi Inadome, Japanese Consul-General in Auckland (29/5)
Ms Mitsuko Ito, Deputy Japanese Consul-General in Auckland (29/5)
Mr Mutsuhito Maeda, Japanese Consulate-General in Auckland (29/5)

June

Prof Shunji Yamazaki, Daito Bunka University, Japan (4/6)
Mr Mark Sinclair, NZ Ambassador designate to Japan (19/6)

July

Tan Sri Halim Saad, Markmore Energy, Malaysia (13/7)
Tan Sri Dato’ Dr Syed Jalaludin Salim, Halal Industry Development Corporation, Malaysia (13/7)
Dato’Seri Jamil Bidin, Halal Industry Development Corporation, Malaysia (13/7)
Dato’ Yusli Mohamed Yusoff, Pelaburan MARA Berhad, Malaysia (13/7)
Dr Kathy Lloyd, NZ Ministry of Primary Services (13/7)
Mr Tony Egan, Greenlea Premier Meats, New Zealand (13/7)
H.E. Beibut Atamkulov, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Malaysia, (13/7)
Prof Yoshitaka Okada, University of Tokyo (31/7-1/8)
Prof Takuya Hoshii, University of Tokyo (31/7-1/8)
Ms Yuko Oku, Japan Foundation (31/7-1/8)

August

Prof Hongyan Zhang, Qinghai University, China (9/8)
Mr Thomas Appleton, NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (9/8)
Ambassador and Mrs Ian Kennedy, NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (14/8)

September

Prof Xuesong Li, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China (6/9)
Mr Neil Walter, NZ National Commission for UNESCO (7-8/9)
Ms Theresa Weir, Immigration New Zealand (7-8/9)
Mr Joris de Bres, NZ Race Relations Commission (7-8/9)
Dr Edwina Pio, Auckland University of Technology (7-8/9)
Ms Roseanne Liang, Screenwriter (7-8/9)
Mr Liu Feng, COSCO NZ (7-8/9)
Mr Giles Brooker, Giles Brooker Ltd (7-8/9)
Mr Felix Lee, ASB (7-8/9)
Ambassador Tony Browne, NZ Contemporary China Research Centre (7-8/9)
Mr Mitchell Pham, Augen Software (7-8/9)
Mr Greg James, WHK (7-8/9)
Sir Ray Avery, Medicine Mondiale (8/9)
Prof Kiyohide Higuchi, Waseda University, Japan (12-25/9)
Prof Masayoshi Honma, University of Tokyo (17/9)

October

H. E. Mr Gita Wirjawan, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia (11/10)

November

Ambassador Andrea Smith, NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (16/11)
Ambassador H.E. Mr Yongkyu Park, Republic of Korea Embassy to NZ (16-17/11)
Mr David Hong, Korean Society of Auckland (16-17/11)
Mr Ian McGibbon, NZ Ministry for Culture and Heritage (16-17/11)
Dr Koo Bon-giu, Hanyang University, Korea (16-17/11)
Prof Andrei Lankov, Kookmin University, Korea (16-17/11)
Dr Jong-Cheol Kim, Seoul National University (16-17/11)
Prof Thomas Gold, University of California at Berkeley (16-17/11)
Dr Danielle Chubb, Deakin University, Australia (16-17/11)
Prof John Ravenhill, Australian National University (16-17/11)
Dr Roald Maliangkay, Australian National University (16-17/11)
Dr Joanna Elfving-Hwang, University of Western Australia (16-17/11)
Dr Paul Bellamy, Wellington (16-17/11)
Dr Stephen Epstein, Victoria University of Wellington (16-17/11)
Dame Wendy Pye, Wendy Pye Group (17/11)
Mr Kyongho (Patrick) Hwang, Kt-oic & e-future Co. Ltd, Korea (17/11)
Dr Andrew Butcher, Asia New Zealand Foundation (17/11)
Prof Parvadhavardhini Gopalakishnan, Manipal University, India (23/11)
Prof Michio Yamaoka, Waseda University, Japan (29/11-5/12)

December

Mr Shigeru Ban, Shigeru Ban Architects, Tokyo (3/12)
Mr Kazutoshi Inadome, Japanese Consul-General in Auckland (3-4/12)
Hon Mr Philip Burdon, Chair of Japan New Zealand Partnership Forum (3-4/12)
Ambassador Ian Kennedy, NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs (3-4/12)
Ambassador Tetsuya Endo, Japan (3-4/12)
Ambassador Tim Hannah, Auckland (3-4/12)
Prof Shunji Yamazaki, Daito-Bunka University, Japan (3-4/12)
Prof Shujiro Urata, Waseda University, Japan (3-4/12)
Ms Chizu Hori, Mizuho Research Institute, Japan (3-4/12)
Prof Osamu Abe, Rikkyo University, Japan (3-4/12)
Prof Noriyoshi Tsuchiya, Tohoku University, Japan (3-4/12)
Prof Yoichiro Sato, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Japan (3-4/12)
Prof Ryuji Komatsu, Keio University, Japan (3-4/12)
3. PERSONNEL

In 2012, the Institute was pleased to have A/Prof David Robb from the Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management taking up the Director position of NZAI’s China Studies Centre. The previous Director, Dr Jian Yang, was elected to the NZ Parliament in late 2011. The Institute was meanwhile sorry to farewell Ms Kimberley Wu, who finished in December her contract with the University as NZAI’s External Relations Coordinator.

4. PUBLICATIONS

NZAI

New Zealand Asia Institute 2011 Annual Report.

Asia Info, May 2012.

Asia Info, October 2012.

Staff


Robb, D. J., Liu, F., Lai, R., & Ren, Z. J. (2012). Inventory in mainland China: Historical,


5. CONCLUSION
2012 was another collaborative and rewarding year for NZAI. The Institute continued to
work closely with interested staff and postgraduate students in the Business School in
building the economic/business dimension of its research portfolio. The Institute’s
continued success in obtaining institutional grants from external sources made possible
other research projects and activities it carried out in 2012. These ventures enabled the
Institute to further its strategic collaborative relations with leading universities and
research institutions in Asia as well as New Zealand. That, in turn, contributed to the
internationalisation of the University and helped increase New Zealand’s academic
presence in the Asia-Pacific region. With the increasingly broad involvement of Asia-
related academics and postgraduate students on campus, NZAI will endeavour to further
capitalise on the institutional opportunities presented by New Zealand’s ever intensified
engagement with Asia in 2013.

Professor Hugh Whittaker
Director
February 2013