

# **Workshop Announcement**

## **International Workshop on Sexuality and Migration in Asia**

*Co-Organized by*  
**Asian MetaCentre**  
**for Population and Sustainable Development Analysis**  
**Asia Research Institute**  
**National University of Singapore**

*and*

**Royal Holloway**  
**University of London**

*Supported by*  
**The Wellcome Trust**  
**United Kingdom**

*Date & Venue*  
**10 – 11 April 2006**  
**Singapore**

### **Context and Scope**

Asia is a key destination for the relocation of migrants from all over the world and, in addition, there is significant migration within the region. Contemporary studies of the impacts of migration have largely focused on family relationships, neglecting various forms of sexual intimacy that occur as a result of, and also shape and reshape, migration processes. The workshop will address this gap in the current literatures on migration, with empirical reference to the Asian context. It will be directed towards understanding the entanglement of

sexuality with gender, class, ethnic and national identities, from a comparative perspective. To achieve this, the workshop will be concerned with a diversity of relationships (including dating, extramarital affairs, casual sex or prostitution) between migrants from the same origin country, between migrants from different transnational communities, and between migrants and 'locals'. It will also consider the negotiation of intimate sexual relationships in a range of social spaces, such as the home, workplace or leisure settings. Particular attention will be given to exploring the similarities and differences between conventional understandings of transnational sexual intimacy limited to traveling white men whose relations with 'locals' are characterised as exotic and erotic encounters, and the experiences of migrants with other identities performing a range of sexualities (including heterosexuality and homosexuality). This workshop aims to explore and situate the dynamic relationships between migration and sexuality within sociopolitical contexts.

We welcome papers that focus on:

- Sexual intimacies and the politics of departure, arrival and settlement
- Transnational intimacies and transnationalism
- Sexualized migration and the productions of masculinity and femininity
- Class, ethnic and national identities and sexual intimacy in migration
- Sexual health
- The emotional dimensions of sexual intimacy
- Methodological issues on understanding sexuality and migration in Asia

## **Organising Committee**

**Dr Hsiu-hua Shen**, Asia Research Institute, NUS, Singapore

**Dr Katie Walsh**, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK

**Professor Brenda Yeoh**, Asian MetaCentre, Asia Research Institute and Department of Geography, NUS, Singapore

**Dr Katie Willis**, Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK

**Ms Theodora Lam**, Asian MetaCentre, Asia Research Institute, NUS, Singapore

**Ms Verene Koh (Secretariat)**, Asian MetaCentre, Asia Research Institute, NUS, Singapore

## **Registration Fee**

For those who would like to attend the workshop, registration fee of **S\$250** inclusive of 5% Goods and Services Tax is applicable. The registration fee covers the workshop papers and

meals (lunches and tea-breaks only) for the 2-day event. Applicants will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Interested applicants should send in their cheques or bank drafts of \$250 in Singapore Dollars, made payable to the “**National University of Singapore**” together with a completed registration form to our corresponding address. Please state your name and “Workshop on Sexuality and Migration in Asia” on the reverse side of the cheques or bank drafts. Interested applicants are to respond by **28 February 2006**.

## **Enquiries**

For general enquiries, please contact:

**Ms Verene Koh**

**International Workshop on “Sexuality and Migration in Asia”**

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Further enquiries should be directed to:

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- **Dr Katie Walsh** ([K.Walsh@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:K.Walsh@rhul.ac.uk)).