



Scheduled Speakers

Susana Barnes
Elizabeth F. Drexler
Clinton Fernandes
Hugo Fernandes
David Hicks
Michael Leach
John Miller
Maria Manuela Leong Pereira
Trudy Huskamp Peterson
Kelly Silva
Josh Trindade
David Webster

Planning Committee

Richard Fox (chair)
Elizabeth F. Drexler
David Hicks
Michael Leach
Alicia Turner
David Webster

Location

Washington DC
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel

The Timor-Leste Initiative

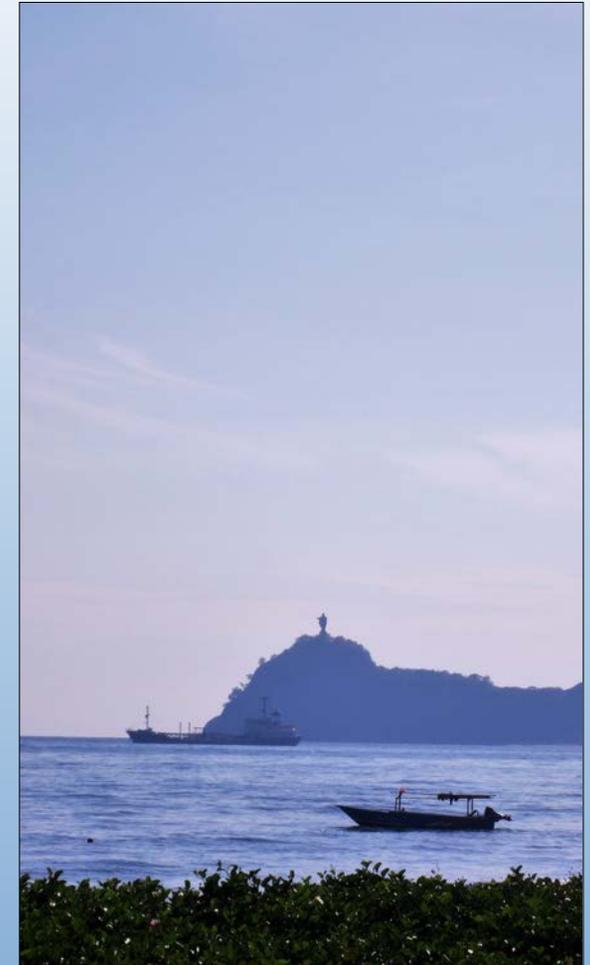
With generous support from The Henry Luce Foundation, the Southeast Asia Council's (SEAC) Indonesia and Timor-Leste Studies Committee (ITLSC) at the Association of Asian Studies (AAS) has recently launched a new initiative to raise the profile of Timor-Leste studies in North America. In addition to calling greater attention to Timor-Leste in institutions of higher learning, the initiative aims to increase the participation of Timorese scholars in the wider academy.

The study of Timor-Leste's history, culture and society is woefully underrepresented in North America, and this initiative will be an important step in developing the competencies and networks required to ensure a sustainable future for scholarship on this important member of the Southeast Asian family of nations.

As a first step, SEAC and the ITLSC have organized a series of panels, workshops and exhibits to be held during the annual meetings of the AAS in Toronto (2017) and Washington DC (2018). Additional information is available on the provisional website for the initiative at www.berubah.org/timor-leste-studies-initiative/

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Timor-Leste Studies 2018 Pre-conference Workshop



Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington DC
Thursday, March 22 2018

Presented by the Southeast Asia Council &
Indonesia and Timor-Leste Studies Committee

*With generous support from the
Henry Luce Foundation*



Association for Asian Studies



Program of Events

Coffee and Welcome

9:00 - 9:30 AM

Panel I:

Current Trends in Research on Timor-Leste

9:30 - 11:00 AM

Organizer: David Hicks

In contrast to the lengthy research-poor period during which Timor-Leste was under the successive colonial governments of Portugal and Indonesia, a great deal of research is now being conducted in this independent nation-state. So it now seems the time to assess the nature of this work, and the results it has produced. Accordingly, this panel considers current research, and that conducted in the recent past, by scholars in a range of academic disciplines, but also by practitioners, officers of national and international organizations, and others. The research domains to be dealt with embrace an extensive array of topics—including national, regional, and local politics; administrative issues (national and local); economy and finance; NGOs; religion; democracy; local traditions; health; and demography. Presenters include Susana Barnes, Josh Trindade, Kelly Silva and David Hicks.

Coffee Break

11:00 - 11:30 AM

Panel II:

Archives & Source Materials for TL Studies

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Organizer: David Webster

Although long neglected in scholarly studies of Southeast Asia, Timor-Leste has begun to receive more academic attention in recent years. Building on insights from last year's pre-conference workshop in Toronto, this panel will examine the growing base of source material available in Timor-Leste studies by examining archival sources and the role they play in historical memory. We will attempt to map future strategies to compile archival and other pertinent source materials. The panel will also survey those materials likely to be valuable in advancing the study of Timor-Leste in North American universities. Presenters include Hugo Fernandes, Susana Barnes, Clinton Fernandes, Trudy Huskamp Peterson and John Miller.

Lunch Break

1:00 - 2:30 PM



Panel III:

Historical Justice: Issues and Questions

2:30 - 4:00 PM

Organizers: Michael Leach & Elizabeth F. Drexler

Fifteen years after the restoration of Independence, historical justice remains a key issue in Timor-Leste's political life. Though post-independence governments have favored good relations with Indonesia over justice for victims, some progress has been evident in recent months with the establishment of the Centro Nacional Chega!—a successor body to the CAVR (Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation), which will become a permanent human rights record and archive. This panel will explore issues of historical justice in contemporary Timor-Leste, examining the positions of the state, victims' groups, legal associations, the Church and other actors. It will also examine the way issues of historical justice affect broader nation-building issues of school curriculum development, and influence themes in popular culture, and in political campaigns. Presenters include Elizabeth Drexler, Hugo Fernandes, Michael Leach and Maria Manuela Leong Pereira.

Coffee Break

4:00 - 4:30 PM

Prospective on the Future of the TL Initiative

4:30 - 5:00 PM

Reception + Book Launch, *Flowers in the Wall*

5:30 - 7:00PM (location TBA)



Association for Asian Studies

