MAJOR ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS

Research projects


- Teacher migration from Pacific Island countries and the sustainability of education systems (Robyn Iredale, Carmen Voigt-Graf and Siew-Ean Khoo).

- Rural Migrant Labour in Large Chinese Cities (Fei Guo, Graeme Hugo and Yuan Xin, funded by Australian Research Council).

- Linkages Between Temporary and Permanent Migration in Australia (Graeme Hugo, funded by Australian Research Council)

Conferences and workshops

- The International Geographical Union Regional Conference was held in Brisbane in July 2006. The IGU Commission on Population and Vulnerability and APMRN organised eleven sessions on vulnerable populations. Many APMRN members attended and presented papers.

- There were four sessions on International Migration and a plenary session on Transnationalism at the Australian Population Association 13th Biennial National Conference held in Adelaide in December 2006. Seventeen papers on a range of topics were presented. Further information is available on the APA website at http://www.apa.org.au/index/home

- A two-day conference on “An International Perspective on Immigration and Immigration Policy” was held in Canberra in December 2006. It was organised by the Economics Program of the Research School of Social Sciences at ANU. The conference was held in association with the publication of the book Public Policy and Immigrant Settlement edited by Deborah Cobb-Clark and Siew-Ean Khoo (Cheltenham,UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2006).

- A two-day workshop on “Asia-Pacific Skilled Migration to Australia” was held at Macquarie University, Sydney, on 19-20 April 2007. It was organised by the Macquarie University Centre for Research on Social Inclusion and funded by the Australian Research Council’s Asia-Pacific Futures Research Network. Twelve papers were presented. Details on the website: http://www.crsi.mq.edu.au/SkilledMigration.htm
• The Metropolis International Conference will be held in Melbourne this year on 8-13 October. It is being organised by the Monash Institute for the Study of Global Movements. Details are available on the conference website.

• An international conference on “Migrant Communities, Urban Poverty and Social Protection in China” was held in Beijing, 22nd – 23rd October 2005. The conference was funded by the Ford Foundation and was coordinated by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Macquarie University (Fei Guo co-coordinated and Robyn Iredale was invited speaker).

Other activities

• The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has set up a Migrant Statistics Unit. Further details are available in their first e-newsletter, Migrant Statistics News April 2007 (Catalogue No. 3413.0). This is available on the ABS website http://www.abs.gov.au.

• Robyn Iredale and Siew-Ean Khoo coordinated an application for funding for a research project on “The economic integration of skilled migrants in Australia, Germany, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom,” in response to the call for proposals on that topic from PME Metropolis. Other participants in the proposal included Graeme Hugo and Carmen Voigt-Graf and seven European researchers. Although the proposal reached the second stage, it was unfortunately not funded.

• Siew-Ean Khoo was the keynote speaker on “Gender and migration in the Pacific region” at the Australian launch of the UNFPA State of the World Population Report 2006 at Parliament House in Canberra. The focus of the 2006 report was on women and migration.

Publications

Publications on Australian immigration issues include:

• Baas, M. 2006. Students of migration: Indian overseas students and the question of permanent residency, People and Place, 14 (1): 8-23
• Betts, K. 2006. The ageing of the population and attitudes to immigration, People and Place, 14 (2): 26-38
• Betts K. and M. Gilding, 2006, The growth lobby and Australia’s immigration policy, People and Place, 14 (4): 40-52
• Birrell, B. 2006. The Productivity Commission on the economics of immigration, People and Place, 14 (1): 1-7


• Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, 2006, Bridging visas and bridging visa Es, *People and Place*, 14 (2): 39-41.


• Hugo, G. 2006, Defining Australia’s national population in the era of globalisation, *People and Place*, 14 (4):26-33


Publications by Australian migration researchers on migration issues in other regions include:
