

# CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## Research Centres / State Key Laboratory

### Annual Report for the Period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010

<b>1.</b>	<b>Name of the Research Centre / State Key Laboratory (SKL)</b>
	Southeast Asia Research Centre (SEARC)
<b>2.</b>	<b>Membership and Management Structure</b>
2.1	Centre / SKL Director (Name & Department)
	Professor William Case, Department of Asian and International Studies
2.2	Core Team Members (Name & Department) <i>(no.: 4-6) (please indicate their expertise/roles)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Chan Yuk-wah, Department of Asian and International Studies (<i>gender, identity, and tourism in Vietnam and Cambodia, borderlands, diasporas</i>)</li> <li>• Dr Federico Ferrara, Department of Asian and International Studies (<i>electoral politics, Thai politics</i>)</li> <li>• Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Department of Asian and International Studies (<i>state-society relations, social movements, comparative democratization, political economy, nation building, Myanmar politics</i>)</li> <li>• Dr Jonathan London, Department of Asian and International Studies (<i>economic and political change, welfare regimes, institutional analysis, Vietnam politics</i>)</li> <li>• Dr Justin Robertson, SEARC Associate member (<i>international political economy, hedge funds and equity groups in East and Southeast Asia</i>)</li> </ul>
2.3	Research Fellow and Associate Member
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Nankyung Choi, SEARC Research Fellow (2 January 2008 - 1 January 2011 ) (<i>local elections, Indonesian politics</i>)</li> </ul>
2.4	Steering/Management/Advisory Committee, if established
	<p><u>Steering Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: Professor Gregory B. Lee (Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences), November 2010—current.</li> <li>• Chair: Professor Martin Painter (Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences), until November 2010.</li> <li>• Convenor: Professor William Case (Director, SEARC)</li> </ul>

- Member: Professor Mark Thompson (Associate Director, SEARC)
- Member Professor Joseph Cheng (Chair Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration)

Management Committee:

- Chair: Professor William Case (Director, SEARC; Professor and Acting Head, Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong)
- Professor Mark Thompson (Associate Director, SEARC, November 2010—current; Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Nicholas Thomas (Associate Director, SEARC, until November 2010; Associate Professor and Associate Head, Department of Asian and International Studies)
- Dr Catherine Chiu (Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences; Associate Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong)
- Dr Bill Taylor (Associate Professor, Department of Public and Social Administration, City University of Hong Kong)

Advisory Committee:

- Professor Mark Beeson (Winthrop Professor of Political Science and International Studies, University of Western Australia)
- Professor Donald K. Emmerson (Director, Southeast Asia Forum, Shorenstein APARC, Stanford University, USA)
- Professor Kevin Hewison (Director, Carolina Asia Centre, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA)
- Professor Paul D. Hutchcroft (Director, School of International, Political, and Strategic Studies, College of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University)
- Professor Andrew MacIntyre (Dean, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University)
- Professor Pasuk Phongpaichit (Professor of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)
- Professor Garry Rodan (Director, Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University, Australia)
- Professor Robert Taylor (Professor Emeritus, Visiting Professor, Department of Asian and International Studies) (*modern Myanmar political history, comparative constitutions of southeast Asia, the role of the military in politics*)

Centre Support Staff:

- Ms Josephine Yim, Executive Officer, SEARC (3 July 2006-)
- Mrs Mingjie Johnson, Senior Research Assistant, SEARC (21 December 2009 - 2 July 2010)
- Bui Thai Quyen, Research Provider for Vietnam Project (November 2010 - October 2011)
- Ms Phoebe So, Senior Research Associate, WEMC, SEARC (4 September 2006 - 30 June 2010)
- Ms Joy Tadios, Senior Research Associate, WEMC, SEARC (3 October 2006 - 8 September

	<p>2010)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Mandy Wong, Executive Officer, WEMC, SEARC (28 November 2007 - 31 December 2010)</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Mission statement and objectives</b>  <i>(please highlight changes, if any, since establishment of the Centre / SKL)</i></p>
	<p>The mission of the Southeast Asia Research Centre is to maintain its international reputation as a centre of excellence in academic and applied studies of contemporary Southeast Asia. <i>In keeping, however, with new priorities set by City University, greater attention is now given to theoretical and cross-disciplinary analysis, through which the intention of addressing real-world challenges in national political systems, workplace inequalities, gender relations, and disaster management. SEARC thus seeks to attract competitive external grant funding, to collaborate internationally with other institutions, to conduct disciplinary-based and cross-disciplinary research in compelling academic debates in the social sciences, to generate high-quality research publications, and to reach the public through open events and media engagement.</i></p> <p>SEARC's objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to advance the Centre's international reputation and City University's standing by researching political, economic, and social developments in contemporary Southeast Asia;</li> <li>• to obtain competitive external grant funding;</li> <li>• to extend links to scholars and institutions researching other parts of the developing world, especially China and Northeast Asia, whose concerns resonate with those of the Centre;</li> <li>• to conduct disciplinary-based and cross-disciplinary research;</li> <li>• to address major debates in comparative politics, political economy, and comparative sociology;</li> <li>• to produce high quality research publications on contemporary Southeast Asia;</li> <li>• to engage Hong Kong citizens, especially civil society organizations, through open forums and media engagement; and</li> <li>• to enhance the study of Southeast Asia in Hong Kong and to increase understanding of the region within the CityU and Hong Kong communities.</li> </ul>

**4. Research grants and other awards obtained during the reporting year**

- please provide information on the type of research grant, project titles, PIs, etc.

- please mark \* to indicate projects that involve collaboration among Centre / SKL members

#### 4.1 External research grants and other awards

PI (Dept) and Co-Is (Dept)	Approval Date	Grant Type (GRF, CRF, NSFC, PPR, SPPR, etc)	Project Title	Funding amount (\$)
Dr Chan Yuk Wah (SEARC core member)	2010	Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation	Chinese or Vietnamese? The Chinese Vietnamese Diaspora in Vietnam	US\$12,900
Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing (SEARC core member)	June 2010	GRF	The Political Economy of Rice: A Comparative Analysis of the Success and Failure of the Green Revolution in Southeast Asian Countries	HK\$461,756
Nicholas Thomas (former associate director of SEARC) [Co-I with Professor David Zweig (HKUST), Professor Jiang Wenran (UAlberta) and Professor Xu Nengwu (NUDST)]	June 2010	GRF	Resource Diplomacy Under Hegemony	HK\$542,080

#### 4.2 Internal research grants and other awards

PI (Dept) and Co-Is (Dept)	Approval Date	Grant Type (SRG, Start-up Grant for New Staff, ARG, etc)	Project Title	Funding amount (\$)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Please *indicate below* how the existence of the Centre / SKL has added value and assisted in supporting or securing research funding by Centre / SKL members other than through their capacity as Departmental staff. Sufficient information should be provided for (a) understanding of how projects listed above are related to the Centre / SKL's works and for (b) assessment of Centre / SKL's ability to attract external funding, this being one of the measures of their success

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SEARC provides a critical forum in which members of the Department of Asian and International Studies and other departments within the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences are able to

meet, collaborate, and energize their respective research agendas. Through its meetings, seminars, workshops and conferences, SEARC gives coherence to, and greatly raises the visibility of, the CityU community of scholars who are interested in political, economic, and social issues in Southeast Asia today. Through 2008, SEARC also received regular funding from the university and college that enabled it to support the research projects of SEARC core members and other CLASS faculty by regularly awarding small research grants (see table below). These grants, fully vetted by SEARC's Management Committee, were designed to aid recipient in quickly starting research projects or convening workshops that address contemporary Southeast Asian issues.

<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Project title</b>	<b>Amount (HKD)</b>	<b>Commencement</b>	<b>Status</b>
Dr Zang Xiaowei	Earnings Determination and Ethnicity in Malaysia	249,942.40	March 2001	Completed
Professor Kevin Hewison & Dr Raymond Chan	Labour Regulatory Regimes and Labour Standards: A Comparative Perspective	249,893.75	March 2001	Completed
Dr Joseph Kwok	NGOs Working with Women with Disabilities: An Exploratory and Comparative Case Study in Hong Kong and the Philippines	60,000	March 2001	Completed
Professor Kevin Hewison	Reconstructing Institutions and Power in Southeast Asia: Malaysia and Thailand	58,600	March 2001	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Political fault-lines in Southeast Asia: Pre-modernist Atavisms in Post-colonial Nation-states	60,000	June 2001	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Political fault-lines in Southeast Asia: Movements for Ethnic Autonomy in Nation-state Structures	59,940	June 2001	Completed
Dr Graeme Lang	Syncretistic Religions in East and Southeast Asia: A Comparative Analysis of Yi Guan Dao (China) and Cao Dai (Viet Nam)	10,450	June 2001	Completed
Dr Kanishka Jayasuriya	The Politics of Social Capital in Southeast Asia	59,920	July 2001	Completed

Prof Joseph Cheng	China's ASEAN Policy in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	75,000	August 2001	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Southeast Asian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong: Transnational Labour Networks in an Inter-ethnic Gendered Economy	60,000	February 2002	Completed
Dr Michael Jacobsen	Ethnification of Provincial Politics in Indonesia. Assessing Economic Decentralisation from a Provincial Perspective	54,500	February 2002	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	Movements for Local Autonomy in Riau Province, Indonesia	77,000	February 2002	Completed
Professor Ian Holliday	Just Cause and Contingent Factors: Burma 1990 and Beyond	6,002	February 2002	Completed
Dr Michael Jacobsen	Assessing Ethnic Chinese Entrepreneurs and Official Economic Policy Planning in North Sulawesi Province, Indonesia	58,500	February 2003	Completed
Professor Joseph Cheng	The ASEAN-China Free Trade Area: Genesis and Implications	49,865	February 2004	Completed
Dr Graeme Lang	China's Impact on Forests and the Forest-Products Industry in Southeast Asia	36,000	May 2004	Completed
Dr Angel Lin	Globalisation and Language-in-Education Policy and Planning (LPP) in Postcolonial Southeast Asian Societies	38,950	June 2004	Completed
Professor Ian Holliday	Confronting Authoritarianism in the Information Age: Virtual Political Mobilisation against Myanmar's Military Junta	16,006	June 2004	Completed
Professor Joseph Cheng	Broadening the Concept of Security in East and Southeast Asia: the Impact of the Asian Financial Crisis and the September 11 Incident	45,000	June 2004	Completed

Dr Vivienne Wee	New Immigrants from China to Laos	40,200	June 2004	Completed
Dr Vivienne Wee	National and International Responses to the tsunami in Aceh: Policy Monitoring, Evaluation and Recommendation, with Special Reference to Women and Children (Post-tsunami Aceh, Indonesia)	155,938	June 2005	Completed
Dr Jan Stark	Inter-Linkages between Malaysia and Pakistan	20,005.67	April 2007	Completed
Dr Jan Stark	“Snow Leopard” re-visited: Kazakhstan’s Ties with East Asia	46,852	March 2008	Completed
Dr Chan Yuk-wah	Migration Recycled: Viet kieu and the Construction of the Vietnamese Modernity	22,185	June 2008	Completed
Professor Martin Painter	Exploring the Regulatory State in Socialist market Economies: The Case of the Telecommunications Sector in China and Viet Nam	24,808	November 2008	Completed
Dr Justin Robertson	Where Exactly is US Capital in Asia	49,961.5	July 2009	Completed
Dr Chan Yuk-wah	Bat dau tu nay’ – Vietnamese Boatpeople and Diaspora in Hong Kong	53,109	July 2009	Completed

In mid-2010, however, it was conveyed to SEARC by CityU’s Advisory Group on Research Centres and through follow-up discussions with the committee chair, Professor Horace Ip, Acting Vice-President (Research & Technology), that all research centres in the university were henceforth expected to be fully self-financing. No additional funding would be made available either by the university or college. To be sure, SEARC’s core members have regularly sought competitive external grants as part of the Centre’s mission. Indeed, its success has been highlighted by its foundational associate director having obtained some HK\$53 million from the Department for International Development (DFID) of the UK government for its Women’s Empowerment in Muslim Contexts (WEMC) project in 2002. It should also be noted that both the SEARC director, Professor William Case, and the centre’s sole research fellow during 2010, Dr Nankyung Choi, carried out research (discussed below) that was funded by external sources. Specifically, Professor Case held a General Research Fund (GRF) grant for HK\$530,544 awarded by Research Grants

Council of the Hong Kong Government. It has been topped up by a Strategic Research Grant from CityU in the amount of HK\$53,054. Dr Choi continued to analyze and write up her findings during the year that were based on field work funded by a grant awarded by the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) in 2009. Her research grant was in the amount of 15,000 Euros, in addition to the costs of air travel between Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Leiden.

Nonetheless, despite its core members winning research funding from government grant-giving agencies in the UK, Hong Kong, and the Netherlands, SEARC's having so suddenly to rely only on self-financing marks a radical shift in its funding model by which it was originally envisaged to operate. SEARC and AIS, the department with which it is affiliated, thus encourage all of the centre's core members to pursue funding externally, as Dr Kyaw, Dr Thomas, and Dr Chan have done in 2010. Even so, as a research centre committed to social science inquiry about contemporary Southeast Asia, SEARC faces a major challenge in regularly gaining enough external funding that it will be able to continue its customary level of research activities.

## **5. Research activities carried out during the reporting period**

### **5.1 Collaboration among CityU members in terms of joint projects and publications**

The most prominent example of cross-departmental collaboration in 2010 involves SEARC's collaborating with the Governance in Asia Research Centre (GARC), based in the Department of Applied and Social Administration (SA), and the Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, to co-host an important conference on 9-10 December entitled 'Good Governance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Civil and Political Society'. Professor Martin Painter and Professor Linda Li of GARC, and Professor Case led organizational efforts for CityU. 15 papers were presented at the conference. Contributors are currently undertaking revisions in preparing for publication. Professor Li and the GAI's lead organizer, Dr Steven McCarthy, have been in discussions with the editors of *Governance* and *Pacific Affairs*, two major journals, about the possibilities for special issues. The organizers are also preparing to approach Routledge about an edited volume.

Professor William Case, SEARC director, Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, and Dr Jonathan London, after presenting papers at a workshop sponsored by SEARC in 2008 entitled 'Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency', published three chapters in a volume of the same name, edited by Professor Case and published by Routledge, in 2010.

### **5.2 Conferences/seminars organized**

*- please list conferences organized, the impact of these conferences and how these contributed to networking at local, regional or international levels*

- please also include, as appropriate, professional courses or training organized for the industry/business/community which help strengthen the links with these sectors

## **Conferences**

SEARC hosted one major international conference and co-hosted one smaller international conference during 2010. Both events served SEARC's central objective, specifically, to advance its internationalization and CityU's reputation by researching political, economic, and social developments in contemporary Southeast Asia. Further, in conformity with the University's Strategic Plan, these events encouraged recognition among international institutions for their knowledge creation and transfer.

- **'Authoritarianism in East Asia'**, hosted by SEARC, 30 June - 2 July 2010, City University, Hong Kong.

This conference was the latest and by far the largest in a series of academic events hosted by SEARC that have designed to deepen understanding of contemporary Viet Nam. It aimed to produce a comprehensive analysis of authoritarian political institutions in Viet Nam and use analytic questions arising from general and idiographic features of authoritarianism to advance analysis also of other authoritarian regimes in East Asia, specifically, China, North Korea, Hong Kong, and Macao. Hence, this conference advanced inter-regional and cross-cultural analysis, one of CityU's key goals in the humanities and social sciences. It also demonstrated SEARC's ability to attract top international experts on China (including Thomas Bernstein of Columbia University, Edward Friedman of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Dorothy Solinger of the University of California at Irvine), North Korea (Stephan Haggard of the University of California at San Diego), and Vietnam (Edmund Malesky of the University of California at San Diego).

The conference organizer, Dr Jonathan London, has received a written invitation from Professor Stephan Haggard of the University of California at San Diego and editor of the *Journal of East Asian Studies*, an SSCI journal, to submit a selection of papers from the conference for consideration as a special issue. Dr London is now revising the papers in order to make this submission. He is also preparing a wider selection of the papers for consideration by Routledge and Lynne Rienner as an edited volume.

- **'Good Governance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Civil and Political Society'**, co-hosted with Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) and GARC, 9-10 December 2010, City University, Hong Kong

Though smaller in scale, this second conference, a two-day event, also helped to advance important components in CityU's Strategic Plan. By bringing together political scientists, sociologists, and anthropologists who addressed a wide variety of countries, societies, and institutions in East and South Asia, this conference was also deeply cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural in character. Its major aim was to assess whether democratic politics or authoritarian rule are better able to promote good governance in policy making and

implementation. Conference organizers are in contact with *Governance* and *Pacific Affairs* over publication of a special journal issue. In addition, Professor Case presented a paper at this conference on the comparative performance of legislatures in Southeast Asia. Based on research that has been funded by his GRF award, this paper signifies a direct link between his external competitive grant and SEARC activities. In addition, this paper contained two of the case studies that feature in Professor Case's monograph, *Are Executives Less Accountable in New Democracies Than Under Electoral Authoritarianism?*, accepted for publication by the East-West Center in Honolulu in 2010.

### **Seminars**

One of the most popular services that SEARC has provided over the years has been its seminars, public forums, debates, and talks. Through these events, academics, professionals, social activists, students, and other interested members of the public have engaged one another in gatherings on the CityU campus, helping raise the university's local profile and its contributions to public life. By attracting new and established scholars from across Hong Kong's university community, they have catalyzed group research. And by attracting members of the local business community and large numbers of CityU students, these events have helped to meet a number of objectives specified in the university's Strategic Plan. In particular, finance professionals were drawn to SEARC's Financial Tsunami seminar series, thereby forging closer ties between the university and the Hong Kong business community. And by attracting students, SEARC has helped to strengthen the links between research and classroom teaching. Indeed, it bears underscoring that all of these events, whether large forums or seminars, CityU students have attended and participated enthusiastically in question and answer sessions.

During 2010, SEARC continued its tradition of hosting both academic seminars and public events. Especially well-attended were a debate and two talks that featured very high-profile speakers from major financial institutions based in Europe and Hong Kong. These speakers were invited and their events were chaired by Dr Justin Robertson, an assistant professor in AIS and core member of SEARC who has research interests in hedge funds and private equity groups that operate in East Asia.

### **Academic seminars and public events during 2010:**

- **'China's Economy is Overheated, Overvalued and at Risk of an Economic Setback'**, Dr Jim Walker (Managing Director of Asianomics) and Mr Louis-Vincent Gave (CEO of GaveKal), debate, 15 January 2010.
- **'China in the Wake of Global Financial Crisis: Is There Still a 'China Price'?**, Ms Alexandra Harney (the author of the acclaimed book 'The China Price'). Discussant: Dr Stephen Frost, Assistant Professor, AIS, CityU, 28 January 2010.
- **'China and Southeast Asia: The Politics of Asymmetrical Regionalism'**, Professor Mark Beeson (Winthrop Professor in Political Science and International Relations, University of

Western Australia), 1 April 2010.

- **‘Power, Piety and Southeast Asia's Age of Reformation (1,000 to 1,500 C.E.)’**, Dr Eric C. Thompson (Visiting Fellow, SEARC and Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore), 16 April 2010.
- **‘The International Dimensions of the Cambodian Tragedy 1969-1997’**, jointly organized with AIS Postgraduate Society, Dr Benny Widiono (University of Connecticut at Stamford and Former United Nations Representative in Cambodia), 11 June 2010.
- **‘Bilateral and Multilateral Security Politics in the Asia-Pacific: Emerging Trends’**, Professor William Tow (Department of International Relations, Australian National University's School of International, Political and Strategic Studies), 14 September 2010.
- **‘When Does the West Go Bust?’**, Mr Russell Napier (Edinburgh-based Consultant, CLSA), 16 September 2010.
- **‘Viet Nam and the Middle Income Trap’**, Professor Brian Van Arkadie (Career Development Analyst in Africa, Asia and Europe), 17 September 2010.
- **‘The Story Behind the Headlines: Philippine Politics after Hostage Debacle’**, Professor Mark Thompson (Professor of Politics, Department of Asian and International Studies), 22 September 2010.

### 5.3 Collaboration (local, regional and international) and publicity (e.g. Centre /SKL prospectus, newsletter and updated web page )

The Centre has a range of collaborative arrangements with individual researchers, Centres, and other universities. These include:

- Asian Political and International Studies Association (APISA)
- Asia Research Centre (ARC), Murdoch University, Perth, Australia
- Carolina Asia Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States
- Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China
- Griffith Asia Institute (GAI), Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia
- Hiroshima Peace Institute (HPI), Hiroshima City University, Japan
- Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), National University of Singapore
- Yuchengco Center, De La Salle University, Manila, the Philippines

#### **Media commentary/publicity**

SEARC has gained an impressive amount of local, regional, and international publicity. Core

members and Centre research staff are regularly quoted in the press on Southeast Asian affairs and contribute op-ed pieces. The range of outlets includes: *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *Bangkok Post*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Financial Times*, *South China Morning Post*, Associated Press, Reuters, CNN, BBC, Star TV, Voice of America and Chinese-language and Southeast Asian-language newspapers and magazines.

Media engagements, Professor William Case, 2010:

- Agence-Presses France (AFP), radio interview (Claire Truscott), “Thai PM Running Out of Options After Deadly Clashes—Analysis”, 12 April 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, public protest in Thailand, 14 April 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, public protest in Thailand, 12 March 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, protest and violence in Thailand, 16 March 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), television interview, “The Pulse”, protest in Bangkok, 19 March 2010.
- Voice of America (VOA), Bangkok, interview, political violence in Thailand 12 April 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, protest and violence in Thailand, 13 April 2010.
- Voice of America (VOA), Bangkok, web interview, “Thai Government Under Pressure to Dissolve”, 13 April 2010.
- Voice of America (VOA), Bangkok, web interview, “Southeast Asia Struggles with Democracy”, 13 April 2010.
- AFP TV (Agence-France Presse), television interview, political violence in Thailand, 19 May 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, protest and violence in Thailand, 20 May 2010.
- CCTV-9 (Beijing), “Dialogue” program, panel discussion, “Values in Changing Asia”, 9 October 2010.

Media engagements, Professor Mark Thompson, 2010:

- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, reactions to the Manila hostage crisis report, 22 September, 2010.
- Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK), radio interview, “Backchat” morning program, Aquino won’t pursue criminal charges, 20 May 2010.

Media engagements, Dr Jonathan London, 2010:

- BBC, Vietnamese Service. 29 June, 2010. “Interview with Jonathan London.” Published on line at <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/vietnamese/av/2010/06/100629\\_jonathan\\_london.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/vietnamese/av/2010/06/100629_jonathan_london.shtml)> in Vietnamese.
- Radio France International, Vietnamese Service. Interview, 28 June 2010. “Comparing Authoritarian Regimes in Viet Nam and China.” 16 Minutes. Published on line at <<http://www.viet.rfi.fr/viet-nam/20100628-so-sanh-hai-che-do-doc-doan-cua-viet-nam-va-trung-quoc>> in Vietnamese.
- Voice of America, Chinese Service. Interview, 19 July 2010. “China-Viet Nam tensions in South China Sea.” Published on-line at <

<http://www1.voanews.com/chinese/news/20100719-Vietnam-watches-China-reactions-98734769.html> in English.

- Voice of America, Chinese Service, 23 March 2010. “Vietnam Visa Restrictions in Hong Kong.”  
<<http://www1.voanews.com/chinese/news/asia/HK-lawmakers-urge-review-of-visa-restriction-on-Vietnam-20100323-88972972.html>> in English.
- BBC, Vietnamese Service. Interview, 8 June 2010. The Communist Party of Viet Nam is Highly “Successful.” Published online at <[http://www.bbc.co.uk/vietnamese/vietnam/2009/08/090806\\_vn\\_com\\_party.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/vietnamese/vietnam/2009/08/090806_vn_com_party.shtml)> in Vietnamese.

SEARC maintains an active website that is regularly updated. It displays the centre’s aims, its research agenda and themes, its management structure, data on funded research projects, information on centre’s events, the working papers series download, a link to the AIS program web page, and centre’s contact details. The site is <http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/searc/index.aspx>.

#### 5.4 Applied work undertaken

(patents, consultancy work and professional collaboration, etc.)

Dr Jonathan London, core member of SEARC, undertook extensive applied research during 2010 in the form of three technical reports commissioned by the United Nations on education, health services, and other development issues in Vietnam. His work produced the following published reports.

London, Jonathan, ‘Balancing Means with Ends: Institutional Responsibilities for the Provision and Payment for Education and Health Services’. Technical report for United Nations, Viet Nam’s *Viet Nam Human Development Report*: Completed July-November 2010, 82 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_, ‘Aligning Organizational Interests with Public Needs: Service Delivery Challenges in Viet Nam’s Education and Health Sectors’. Technical report for United Nations, Viet Nam’s *Viet Nam Human Development Report*. Completed July-November 2010, 27 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_, Brian Van Arkadie, Pham Thi Lan Huong, Tran Thi Hanh, Khuat Thi Hai Oanh, Do Nam Thang, and Dang Kim Khoi. *Joint Country Analysis: Development Challenges in a Middle-income Viet Nam*. Commissioned by the United Nations. Completed: December 2009-July 2010. 236 Pages.

Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, core member of SEARC, co-organized a conference with researchers at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore on 5-6 March 2009 entitled ‘Cyclone Nargis and Disaster Management in Southeast Asia’. During 2010, Dr Kyaw continued to edit the papers, many of which address practical issues of disaster management, for consideration by ISEAS as an edited volume.

## 6. Research output

(please list output items of core members which are **relevant to and supported by the Centre / SKL**, and state the impact of these output. Other output items generated by Centre / SKL members in their capacity as Departmental staff could be provided in a separate list)

### [Outputs relevant to SEARC]

#### Books and monographs

Case, William, *Are Executives Less Accountable in New Democracies Than Under Electoral Authoritarianism? Evidence from Legislatures in Southeast Asia*, Policy Studies 57 (Honolulu: East-West Center, in press).

Choi, Nankyung, *Local Politics in Indonesia: Pathways to Power in Indonesia* (London: Routledge, in press).

Ferrara, Federico, *Thailand Unhinged: Unraveling the Myth of Thai Style Democracy* (Singapore: Equinox, 2010)

\_\_\_\_\_, *Thailand Unhinged: The Death of Thai-Style Democracy* (Singapore: Equinox, forthcoming, 2011).

#### Edited books/journals

Case, William, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency* (London: Routledge, 2010).

Chan Yuk Wah, ed., *The Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora: Revisiting the Boatpeople in Hong Kong* (New York: Routledge, in press).

London, Jonathan D., ed. *Education in Viet Nam* (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Affairs, forthcoming, 2011).

#### Chapters in edited books

Case, William, 'Semi-democracy and Minimalist Federalism in Malaysia', in Baogang He, Brian Galligan, and Takashi Inoguchi, eds., *Federalism in Asia* (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2010).

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Malaysia', in Christopher Walker, Jake Dizard, and Sarah Cook, eds., *Countries at the Crossroads 2009: A Survey of Democratic Governance* (New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2010).

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Democracy, Governance, and Regime Cycling in Thailand', in Brian Bridges and Ho Lang-sang, eds., *Governance in Asia: The Limits of Electoral Democracy* (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 2010).

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Can the "Halfway House" Stand? Semidemocracy and Elite Theory in Three Southeast Asian Countries', reprinted in Allen Hicken, ed., *Politics of Modern Southeast Asia: Critical Concepts* (London: Routledge, 2010).

Chan Yuk Wah, 'Revisiting the Vietnamese Refugee Era: An Asian Perspective from Hong

- Kong', in Chan Yuk Wah, ed., *The Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora: Revisiting the Boatpeople in Hong Kong* (New York: Routledge, in press).
- \_\_\_\_\_ and Terence C. T. Shum, 'Refugee Migration and Settlement: Vietnamese Boatpeople Migrants in Hong Kong', in Chan Yuk Wah, ed., *The Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora: Revisiting the Boatpeople in Hong Kong* (New York: Routledge, in press).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'The Repatriated: From Refugee Migration to Marriage Migration', in Chan Yuk Wah, ed., *The Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora: Revisiting the Boatpeople in Hong Kong* (New York: Routledge, in press).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Banh Cuon and Cheung Fan: Searching for the Identity of the Steamed Ricesheet Roll', in Tan Chee Beng, ed., *Chinese Food and Foodways in Southeast Asia and Beyond* (Singapore: Singapore University Press, forthcoming, 2011).
- Kyaw Yin Hlaing, 'Aung San Suu Kyi: A Dissident Democrat', in Lowell Dittmer, ed., *Burma's Search for National Identity* (Washington DC: World Scientific, 2010).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Problems with Reconciliation in Myanmar', in Lex Rieffel, ed., *Myanmar/Burma: Outside Interests, Inside Challenges* (Washington DC: Brookings Institute, 2010).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Setting the Rules for Survival: Why the Burmese Military Regime Survives in an Age of Democratization', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency* (London: Routledge, 2010).
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- London, Jonathan, 'Reassertions of the State in Viet Nam's Health Sector', in M. Ramesh ed., *Bringing the Public Back into Public Services* (London: Routledge, 2010).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Governance and the Governance of Higher Education in Vietnam', in Ka Ho Mok ed., *The Search for New Governance of Higher Education in Asia* (New York: Palgrave, 2010).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Viet Nam and the Making of Market Leninism', in William Case, ed., *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia: Structures, Institutions, and Agency* (London: Routledge, 2010).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Education in Viet Nam: Historical Roots, Recent Trends', in Jonathan London ed., *Education in Viet Nam* (Singapore: ISEAS, in press).
- \_\_\_\_\_. 'Historical Welfare Regimes and Education in Viet Nam', in Jonathan London ed., *Education in Viet Nam* (Singapore: ISEAS, in press).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Social Policies in Transition: The Welfare Regimes in Viet Nam and China Compared', in Besharov, Douglas et al. ed., *Chinese Social Policy in a Time of Transition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2011).
- Taylor, Robert, 'Myanmar in 2009: On the Cusp of Normality?', in Daljit Singh ed., *Southeast Asian Affairs 2010* (Singapore: ISEAS, 2010).
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- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Modernization Theory's Last Redoubt: Modernization and Democratization in East and

Southeast Asia', in Yin-Wah Chu, ed., *East Asia's New Democracies* (London: Routledge, 2010).

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\_\_\_\_\_, 'Transition from Single Party Dominance? New Data from Malaysia', *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 10, no. 1 (January-April), 2010, pp. 91-126. (SSCI)

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Malaysia's 2008 General Election: Transition from Single-Party Dominance?', *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, vol. 29, no. 2, June 2010, pp. 121-156.

Chiu, Catherine, Kevin Hewison and Chong-wong Tiong, 'Foreign Direct Investment Links between Hong Kong and Southeast Asia', *Asia Pacific Forum* 47, 2010, pp.106-126.

Ferrara, Federico, 'The Legend of King Prajadhipok: Tall Tales and Hard Facts on the Seventh Reign in Siam', *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* (forthcoming, 2011).

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Painter, Martin and Yukyung Yeo, 'Diffusion, Transmutation, and Regulatory Regimes in Socialist Market Economies: Telecoms Reform in China and Vietnam', *Pacific Review*, forthcoming 2011 (SSCI).

Thomas, Nicholas and Catherine Lo Yuk-ping, 'How is Health a Security Issue? Politics, Responses and Issues', *Journal of Health Policy and Planning*, vol. 25, no.6, 2010, pp. 447-453 (SCI).

Thompson, Mark, 'Reformism versus Populism in the Philippines', *Journal of Democracy*, vol. 21, no. 4, 2010, pp. 154-68 (SSCI).

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Populism and the Revival of Reform: Competing Narratives in the Philippines', *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2010.

### **Papers and presentations at conferences/workshops/symposia/seminars**

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\_\_\_\_\_, 'Is Accountability Less in New Democracies Than Under Authoritarian Rule? Lessons in Executive-Legislative Relations in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia, presented at the workshop on *Good Governance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Civil and Political Society*, jointly organized and funded by SEARC and GARC of CityU and Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) of Griffith University, Australia, 9-10 December 2010.

Chan Yuk Wah, 'Asia in the Image of Refugee Migration: Vietnamese Migrants in Hong Kong',

presented at workshop on *In the Image of Asia: Moving Between and Across Locations*, organized by Humanities Research Centre, Research School of Humanities and the Arts, The Australian National University, 13-15 April 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Refugee Migration: The Vietnamese in Hong Kong', presented at workshop on *Cities and Ethnic Groups*, Research Centre on Ethnic Groups, Shanghai University, 17-18 May 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Reflecting on Reflexive Research in Translational Contexts', presented at *Hong Kong Sociological Association 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: Differences and Inequalities*, Baptist University of Hong Kong, 4 December 2010.

Chiu, Catherine C.H. and Phoebe Y. M. So. 'Engendering Action through Research: Potentials and Challenges', presented at the *5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Asian Studies Association of Hong Kong (ASAHK)*, organized by The University of Hong Kong, 8-9 January 2010.

London, Jonathan D., 'Welfare Regimes in the Wake of State Socialism: Viet Nam, China, and the Market-Leninist Welfare Regime', presented at the conference on *Authoritarianism in East Asia*, organized by SEARC, 29 June - 2 July 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Market-Leninism', presented at the conference on *Authoritarianism in East Asia*, organized by SEARC, 29 June - 2 July 2010.

Thompson, Mark, 'Good Governance versus Liberal Democracy?', presented at the workshop on *Good Governance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Civil and Political Society*, jointly organized and funded by SEARC and GARC of CityU and Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) of Griffith University, Australia, 9-10 December 2010.

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Chan Yuk Wah, 'China – Vietnam Relationships: An Anthropological Perspective', presented at Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Sun Yat-sen University, China, 27 October, 2010.

London, Jonathan, 'China and Viet Nam: Political Economies in the Wake of State Socialism', presented at *Summer Institute 2010: Asia as the Global Future*, University of Hong Kong, 21 June 2010.

### **[Other outputs by SEARC committee and core members]**

#### **Edited books/journals**

Cheng, J.Y.S., guest ed., *Hong Kong Journal of Social Sciences* (Hong Kong, PRC, July 2009 - June 2010), no. 37, Autumn/Winter 2009; no. 38 Spring/Summer 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_, guest ed., *Journal of Comparative Asian Development*, vol.9, no.1, Spring 2010.

Thomas, Nicholas, guest ed., 'Unhealthy Governance: Security Challenges and Policy Prospects', special edition of the *Journal of Health Policy and Planning*, vol. 25, no. 6, November 2010 (SCI).

Thompson, Mark and Claudia Derichs, ed., *Martyrs' Widows and Dynasties' Daughters:*

*Female Leaders in Asia* (Copenhagen: NIAS Press, forthcoming 2011).

### **Chapters in edited books**

- Case, William. 'Democracy and Democratization', in Mark Beeson and Nick Bisley, eds., *Issues in 21<sup>st</sup> Century World Politics* (London: Palgrave Macmillan), 2010, pp. 93-107.
- Cheng, J.Y.S., 'Preface and Introduction: Guangdong - Challenges in Development and Crisis Management', in Joseph Y.S. Cheng ed., *Contemporary China Research Project* (Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong, 2010), pp 1-10, (xi-xii).
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Guangdong: Challenges and Contradictions in Rapid Development', in Joseph Y.S. Cheng, ed., *Contemporary China Research Project* (Hong Kong: City University of Hong Kong, 2010), pp 11-47.
- \_\_\_\_\_, 'Democratization in Hong Kong', in Bridges Ho and Brian Lok Sang, ed., *Public Governance in Asia and the Limits of Electoral Democracy* (Cheltenham: Edmund Elgar, 2010), pp 147-171.
- Pham Thanh Nghi and London, Jonathan, 'The Higher Education Reform Agenda: A Vision for 2020', in Grant Harmon, Martin Hayden, and Pham Thanh Nghi ed., *Reforming Higher Education in Vietnam: Challenges and Priorities* (Heidelberg-London-New York: Springer, 2010).
- Thomas, Nicholas, 'China's Oceanic Relations', in Breslin, Shaun, ed., *Handbook of Chinese International Relations*. (London: Routledge, 2010), pp. 219-226.
- Thompson, Mark. 'The Relevance of Hegelian Monarchy: Modern Dynasties, Political Crises, and the "Perfect Prince"', in Mark Mancall, ed., *Monarchy and Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Thimphu: Bhutan Centre for Media and Democracy, 2010).

### **Journal articles**

- Cheng, J.Y.S., Kinglun Ngok and Wenjia Zhuang, 'The Survival and Development Space for China's Labor NGOs', *Asian Survey*, vol. 50, no. 6, 2010.
- Robertson, Justin, 'Private Equity Funds and Asian Political Economy: Domestic Private Equity Funds as New Actors', *Asian Survey*, vol. 50, no. 2, 2010 ([SSCI](#)).
- Thompson, Mark R. 'Japan's German Path and Pacific Asia's Flying Geese', *Asian Journal of Social Science*, vol. 38, 2010.

### **Book review**

- Cheng, J.Y.S., review of Ben Simpfendorfer, *The New Silk Road – How a Rising Arab World is Turning Away from the West and Rediscovering China* (Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2009), in the *JCAD*, published vol. 9, no. 2, 2010, pp. i-v, 1-202.

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- Chiu, Catherine, 'Facilitating Active Learning in an Introductory Sociology Course through Classroom Assessment Tasks and Outside of Classroom Assignments', presented at the

*Improving University Teaching (IUT) 35th International Conference*, Washington D.C, USA, 1-3 July 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Reflexivity as Methodological Power?', presented at the *12th Annual Conference of the Hong Kong Sociological Association*, Hong Kong Baptist University, 4 December 2010.

Thomas, Nicholas, 'Humanitarian Interventions with Chinese Characteristics', presented at the *60th Political Studies Association Annual Conference Europe and Global Politics*, University of Edinburgh, 29 March -1 April 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_, 'Interventions with Chinese Characteristics', presented at the conference *2010 New Zealand Political Science Association*, organized by University of Waikato, 2-3 December 2010.

### **Invited lectures/seminars**

Thomas, Nicholas, 'Rising Powers (1): China and East Asia (under the theme 'Asia in the World')', *Summer Institute 2010: Asia as the Global Future*, University of Hong Kong, 21 June 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Catherine Lo Yuk-ping, 'Contagious Diseases in Asia: Securitizing Response Strategies', presented at *2<sup>nd</sup> East Asia Security Outlook*, Ministry of Defense, Brunei, 7 January 2010.

### **6.1 SCI/SSCI/AHCI-listed papers**

Case, William. 'Transition from Single Party Dominance? New Data from Malaysia', *Journal of East Asian Studies*, vol. 10, no. 1, 2010 (SSCI).

Chan, Yuk Wah and Tran, Thi Le Thu, 'Recycling Migration and Changing Nationalisms: Vietnamese Return Diaspora and Reconstruction of the Vietnamese Nationhood,' *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, vol. 37, no. 6, forthcoming, 2011 (SSCI).

Cheng, J.Y.S., Kinglun Ngok and Wenjia Zhuang, 'The Survival and Development Space for China's Labor NGOs', *Asian Survey*, vol. 50, no. 6, 2010 (SSCI).

London, Jonathan D., 'Globalization & the Governance of Education in Viet Nam', *Asia-Pacific Journal of Education*, vol. 30, no. 4, 2010 (SSCI).

Painter, Martin and Yukyung Yeo, 'Diffusion, Transmutation, and Regulatory Regimes in Socialist Market Economies: Telecoms Reform in China and Vietnam', *Pacific Review*, forthcoming 2011 (SSCI).

Robertson, Justin, 'Private Equity Funds and Asian Political Economy: Domestic Private Equity Funds as New Actors', *Asian Survey*, vol. 50, no. 2, 2010 (SSCI).

Thomas, Nicholas, guest ed., 'Unhealthy Governance: Security Challenges and Policy Prospects', special edition of the *Journal of Health Policy and Planning*, vol. 25, no. 6, 2010 (SCI).

\_\_\_\_\_ and Catherine Lo Yuk-ping, 'How is Health a Security Issue? Politics, Responses and Issues', *Journal of Health Policy and Planning*, vol. 25, no.6, 2010, pp. 447-453 (SCI).

Thompson, Mark. 'Reformism versus Populism in the Philippines', *Journal of Democracy*, vol.

## 6.2 Other outputs

### **SEARC Working Paper Series 2010**

No. 105, January 2010, Ploy Suebvises, 'Constitutional Policymaking by the Thai Elite: Designing the Election System for House and Senate in the 2007 Constitution'.

No. 106, September 2010, Lotta Kivinen, 'Discourses in NGO advocacy of law and public policy for migrant domestic workers in Singapore'.

No. 107, September 2010, Elizabeth Nehrling, 'Beyond the Right to Rest: An Evaluation of the Social and Legal Structures Shaping the Agency of Foreign Domestic Workers in Singapore'.

No. 108, November 2010, Edo Andriess, 'Comparative Dynamics of Southeast Asia's Political Geographies'.

Papers from 2001-2009 and 2010 can be accessed at:

<http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/searc/doc.aspx?year=2010>.

## **7. Critical self-evaluation of the work of the Centre / SKL during the reporting period**

### 7.1 Summary of achievements (in 400 words)

SEARC held two major conferences during 2010, the first of which, *Authoritarianism in East Asia*, brought a large number of renowned experts on China and Southeast Asia to City University, including Edward Friedman of the University of Chicago, Thomas Bernstein of Columbia University, and Stephan Haggard of the University of California at San Diego. This is to be regarded as an important achievement by SEARC, the conference host, and core member and conference organizer, Dr Jonathan London. The second conference, *Good Governance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Civil and Political Society*, though smaller in scale, helped to advance an important component in CityU's Strategic Plan. By bringing together political scientists, sociologists, and anthropologists who addressed a great variety of countries in East Asia and Bangladesh, the conference was deeply cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural in character.

2010 was also a year in which earlier efforts led to significant payoffs. A SEARC-sponsored workshop entitled *Contemporary Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia*, held in 2008, resulted in the publication in 2010 of a volume of the same name, edited by SEARC's director, Professor Case. Further, as noted above, fieldwork undertaken by Professor Case during 2009-2010 led to acceptance by the East-West Center for publication of his monograph, *Are Executives Less Accountable in New Democracies Than Under Electoral Authoritarianism?* In addition, a SEARC-sponsored workshop entitled *Refugee Politics and the Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora—30 Years After the "Vietnamese Boatpeople"*, organized in October 2009 by Dr Chan Yuk Wah, a core member of SEARC, led to the acceptance in 2010 for publication by

Routledge of an edited volume entitled *The Chinese/Vietnamese Diaspora: Revisiting the Boatpeople in Hong Kong*. It is currently in press. Finally, Dr Nankyung Choi, SEARC's research fellow, continued work during 2010 on a sole author book entitled, *Local Politics in Indonesia: Pathways to Power*. It was accepted in that year by Routledge for publication. This volume too is currently in press. This is regarded as a major achievement for Dr Choi and for the Centre. In addition, Dr Choi's fieldwork in Indonesia funded by KITLV grant in 2009 led to her submitting a manuscript entitled 'Local Elites and Pathways to Power in Indonesia', to the *Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology* in late 2010. It is currently under review.

SEARC has also held a good number of other events, including academic seminars and public forums, debates, and talks. Through these events, SEARC has been able to advance some of the aims specified by CityU in its Strategic Plan: stimulating academic exchanges; developing links between research and the classroom setting; fostering ties to the business community; and reaching out to the Hong Kong's social activists and interested community members. Among the research centres at CityU, SEARC is uniquely positioned to perform this role. It is the only unit in the university which, in focusing on political, economic, and social issues in contemporary Southeast Asia, as well the region's ties to China, is able to engage international academics and the Hong Kong community through its regular schedule of conferences and public events.

In addition, as recorded above, Dr Jonathan London completed three consultancies commissioned by the United Nations to assess educational policy and health care delivery in Vietnam. His successful completion of these projects demonstrates SEARC's involvement in real world policy analysis. His efforts also resulted in publication of an academic monograph by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

SEARC also added new papers to its popular Working Papers series during 2010. By disseminating new research findings, the series has provided an outlet for both new and established scholars. The Centre also continued to provide regular commentary to the Hong Kong and foreign media. During dramatic events in Thailand in mid-2010, SEARC was contacted every few days by Radio Television Hong Kong, Voice of America, Agence France, and other media organizations. Indeed, SEARC is now the only research centre in Hong Kong that is able to comment authoritatively upon developments in Southeast Asia for the benefit of the Hong Kong community.

## 7.2 Benchmark for achievements

(where appropriate, please provide benchmarking data for the Centre / SKL's achievements)

It is difficult to benchmark SEARC with any local counterparts. As noted above, the Centre of Asian Studies, established at Hong Kong University in 1967, has recently been restructured in ways that have left it as little more than an administrative shell. The Hong Kong Institute for Asia-Pacific Studies at Chinese University of Hong Kong has been scheduled for closure in 2011. The Center for Asian Pacific Studies (CAPS) at Lingnan University, though similar to SEARC in size and funding levels, focuses closely in its conferences and seminars upon China and Northeast Asia.

SEARC thus stands alone in the Hong Kong community as the sole academic research unit that addresses the politics, economies, and societies of contemporary Southeast Asia. Thus, as most scholarly attention in Hong Kong shifts northward to China, SEARC continues to provide a window on a region that remains of vital importance to the local academic community, business, and public.

To be sure, research centres in other parts of the world that address Southeast Asia are able to fund more research fellows and assistants, field trips, and conferences than SEARC is able to. Principle centres of Southeast Asian studies are based at Kyoto University, Peking University, and Xiamen University. But unlike SEARC, these centres focus heavily on language and culture studies, especially as they involve the Chinese diaspora in Southeast Asia. By contrast, the lavishly funded Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), located at the National University of Singapore, is geared closely to policy analysis.

Centres attached to universities in the rich industrialized world, in addressing more academic questions about contemporary politics, political economy, and societies in the region, much more closely parallel SEARC's research agendas. Such institutions include the Asia Research Centre at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia, the Southeast Asia Program at Cornell University, the Council on Southeast Asia Studies at Yale University, the Center of Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin, the Center for Southeast Studies at the University of Michigan, the UCLA Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of California at Los Angeles, and the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. But these centres all receive major support from the universities in which they are housed, as well as from U.S. federal government departments and major corporate foundations, providing the bedrock upon which effectively to make bids for external grants. The scale on which these centres are funded provides evidence, were it needed, of the value of investing in the scholarly study of Southeast Asia. But as noted above, though SEARC once attracted support from CityU, it has been given no support for the past two years.

Thus, SEARC has identified the following institution as a local counterpart with which to benchmark its activities:

- Centre for Asian Pacific Studies (CAPS) at Lingnan University. CAPS focuses closely on contemporary Northeast Asia, especially China. Its operations and funding needs, however, appear similar to SEARC's. Its website (<http://www.ln.edu.hk/caps/advisoryboard.php>) reveals, however, that its advisory board is locally recruited. It held two conferences during 2010, the same number as SEARC, and six seminars, fewer than SEARC. It supports a working paper series, but lists none as added during 2010. Research publications can only be viewed by examining the CVs of listed Centre Fellows, raising questions over how they might have been catalyzed by CAPS activities.

More widely in the region, SEARC can also be benchmarked with the following institutions:

- Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), formed in 1982 at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. ISIS's website (<http://www.isisthailand.org/event.htm>) shows that its research agenda concentrates on traditional and non-traditional security issues in the region. But though it held an large number of seminars and public events during 2009, only a single 'high-level public discussion' is listed for 2010. It appears to support no academic conferences. It lists seven in-house publications, but no peer-reviewed academic papers.
- Yuchengco Center for East Asia, based at De La Salle University in Manila. The Yuchengco Center (<http://www.dlsu.edu.ph/research/centers/yc/>) was formed in 1994 to analyse relations between the Philippines and Japan. It later broadened its scope to address the East Asian region. It holds a major event each year, the Secretary Alfonso Yuchengco Policy Conference, but appears not to have held any other conferences since 2006. Seminars are irregularly scheduled. Its publications include an in-house monograph in 2010 and four occasional papers for 2009, but no peer-reviewed academic publications. It relies on local corporate sponsors for funding.
- Griffith Asia Institute (GAI), based at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia (<http://www.griffith.edu.au/business-commerce/griffith-asia-institute>). GAI is by far the most vigorous of the institutions with which SEARC might reasonably be benchmarked. It currently supports 18 full-time research professor and fellows who have published a wide range of books and peer reviewed articles on East Asian security, governance, China, politics, and Southeast Asia politics. It supports the activities of research higher degree students. It edits the Australian Journal of International Affairs (AJIA) and supports an in-house publication series. It averages one conference and three-to-four academic seminars per month. To do this, GAI receives generous funding from Griffith University with which

to support staff salaries and to undertake its many activities. Thus, in many respects, GAI provides the model for what SEARC aspires to be. However, while GAI's research fellows were awarded six Australian Research Council Discovery Grants during 2009, they have won but a single competitive external grant during 2010. Further, though a wide range of areas are addressed, they are investigated by GAI's researchers through the lens of Australian security issues. The number of public events is also very limited, indicating comparatively few links to the wider public.

Thus, in benchmarking with comparable research centers in the region, SEARC compares favorably with all of them except GAI which, owing to its funding and staffing, is able to produce far more grant applications and published research. Nonetheless, given the disparity in resources, SEARC's output in terms of conferences and other events that it holds and the research that its core members published can be evaluated as strong.

SEARC is thus unique within the East Asian region in that it focuses less on language, history, and culture in the Southeast Asia than on contemporary issues in politics, political economy, and societies that are perhaps of more pressing interest to Hong Kong's public. And though these latter agendas may also be pursued by other institutions in rich industrial countries, SEARC's research activities, though necessarily more modest, are far more economically undertaken. Put simply, when considering the amount of resources invested in SEARC, CityU and the wider community of Hong Kong are given an excellent return on published research, academic seminars, public events, and media commentary.

### 7.3 Evaluation of the Centre / SKL's work in meeting its objectives and international excellence

It is recognized that in comparison to past years, the pace with which SEARC hosted conferences and workshops slowed somewhat during 2010. The Centre's original funding model, designed to rely less on external grants and government-contracted projects than on regular university allocations from central and the college, was abruptly terminated during the year. The Centre's management thus uses the funds it retains cautiously while developing strategies by which to locate alternative funding sources. In addition, the Centre's director, Professor Case, carried out fieldwork in the Philippines during the summer months of the year that was associated with his GRF-funded project. He returned to take up duties as the AIS acting head in August, a particularly challenging time given the major restructuring that CityU, CLASS, and AIS all face. Thus, for the second half of 2010, SEARC went essentially without a full-time management.

Even so, SEARC hosted two major international conferences during 2010. Both events served SEARC's core objective, that is, to advance its international standing and CityU's reputation by researching political, economic, and social developments in contemporary Southeast Asia. Further, in compliance with CityU's Strategic Plan, these undertakings were deeply

cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary in their character. SEARC also maintained its schedule of academic seminars and public events. The costs associated with hosting these events is low, as SEARC is able to use university facilities. But these events make strong contributions toward CityU's goals of knowledge creation and transfer to the university's students and the broader Hong Kong community. SEARC's director also published an important edited volume during 2010, and its research fellow won acceptance from a major publisher for a sole-authored book. In addition, both the director and the research fellow held grants during the year with which to continue their research. Other core members of SEARC won grants during the year and together produced the many publications listed above. In sum, given the very limited managerial and funding resources with which SEARC had to work during 2010, its performance during the year can be evaluated as good.

#### 7.4 Evaluation of the Centre / SKL's management

As noted above, the Centre's director, Professor Case, carried out fieldwork overseas associated with his GRF-funded project during the summer months. He returned to take up duties as the AIS acting head in August, a challenging time for the university. However, with AIS's recruitment of Professor Mark Thompson, SEARC was able to appoint him as its new associate director in November. Professor Thompson, educated at Yale and based until recently at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg in Germany, enjoys an international reputation as an outstanding researcher of Southeast Asian politics and social change. He will make a strong contribution to enhancing SEARC's visibility and the pace of its activities during 2011.

SEARC's Management Committee is fortunate in counting among its members Dr Bill Taylor, an analyst of global and East Asian labor relations. A member of the Department of Public and Social Administration, his service gives the committee a cross-departmental and hence, cross-disciplinary base. During 2010, the Management Committee focused on questions arising over the loss of the DFID-funded WEMC project and the lack of any new allocation from the university. Dr Catherine Chiu, a member of the Management Committee, essentially labored full time during the year in winding down the project's many subcontracts with overseas partners. It is anticipated that Professor Mark Thompson's extensive knowledge of the European research funding bodies will be put to good use during 2011.

SEARC's Advisory Committee in place since its inception in 2002, is currently undergoing change. Professor Mark Beeson, Professor Donald K Emmerson, Professor Paul Hutchcroft, and Professor Andrew MacIntyre were recruited in 2011, giving the committee a new and dynamic composition. The expertise of its new members can be counted upon to give SEARC fresh guidance. SEARC's Steering Committee has also been transformed by the arrival in late 2010 of the new dean, Professor Gregory Lee, who serves as its chair. SEARC looks forward to its first meeting with him during 2011.

7.5 Evaluation on the participation / support of members in Centre / SKL's activities / group projects. Please provide evidence of synergistic collaboration among members and across different groups/teams in the Centre / SKL.

The SEARC-hosted conference, *Authoritarianism in East Asia*, was organized by Dr London, while a paper on political change in Hong Kong was presented by the SEARC director, Professor Case. Indeed, Dr London and Professor Case have collaborated on a number of conferences since Dr London's joining AIS a member of teaching staff and SEARC as a core member. SEARC's second conference during 2010, *Good Governance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Civil and Political Society*, also featured papers presented by Professor Thompson and Dr Federico Ferrara, an expert on Thai politics who, after joining AIS in mid-2010, was also recruited to SEARC as a core member. Also, as mentioned above, Professor Case presented a paper at this conference on legislatures and accountability in Southeast Asia, based on his GRF-funded research project. During the previous year, SEARC's director also participated in a workshop on ethnic Vietnamese migration that was organized by Dr Chan Yuk wah, and one on political change in Myanmar that was organized by Professor Robert Taylor, a SEARC Advisory Committee member, and Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, a core member of SEARC. It bears underscoring here also that the Centre once possessed the resources with which to jump start the research agendas of its core members with small grant funding.

In hosting academic seminars, SEARC also provides an outlet for its core members to present new research findings. It also hosted two visiting fellows during 2010, Dr Eric Thompson, an anthropologist from the National University of Singapore, and Mr Alex Grainger, a sociologist at the London School of Economics. While visiting SEARC, they interacted regularly with the centre's core members at seminars and other events, enhancing the cross-institutional collaboration that CityU calls for.

7.6 Evaluation of the Centre / SKL's visibility and reputation

SEARC was last reviewed externally in November 2004 and very positively assessed, confirming its standing as a world-class research centre able to advance the international standing of CityU. This reputation has also been enhanced by its regular production of special issues and articles in international journals, as well its publication of seven titles through the RoutledgeCurzon/City University of Hong Kong Southeast Asia Studies book series. These books have sold well, been favourably reviewed, and have attracted expressions of continuing support from the publisher. It bears underscoring too that in 2010, SEARC's director, Professor Case published an edited volume based on papers from a workshop that had earlier been hosted by SEARC. The centre's research fellow, Dr Choi, also won agreement from Routledge in 2010 to publish a sole authored volume written while at SEARC. In addition, a book edited by Dr Jonathan London, entitled *Education in Vietnam*, is currently in press at the Institute of

Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore.

SEARC researchers have continued to receive invitations to present their research internationally at workshops and on conference panels, observe elections overseas, and provide media commentary to local and international outlets. During 2010, Professor Case was invited by the Sogang Institute of East Asian Studies (SIEAS) based at Sogang University in Seoul, Korea, to present a paper addressing cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary methodologies in Southeast Asian Studies. The paper is now being considered for publication in the inaugural issue of the Institute's new journal, tentatively entitled *International Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* (IJSAS). In addition, Dr Choi was invited to present a paper entitled 'Political transformation, social cleavages and local power struggle in Indonesia' at a conference on *Local Politics and Social Cleavages in Transforming Asia* organized by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies of Kyoto University in Japan held on 17-18 December.

SEARC Researchers have also been active in applying for external funds. During June 2010, Dr Kyaw Yin Hliang, a core member of SEARC and a core member of SEARC, won a GRF award in the amount of \$461,756.00. Dr Nicholas Thomas, former associate director of SEARC and an associate professor in AIS collaborated as a co-investigator with scholars from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the University of Alberta, and NUDST in China to win a GRF award of \$542,080. Dr Chan Yuk Wah won a grant from the Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation for US\$12,900.

SEARC is regularly approached by new and established scholars who, attracted by the center's reputation, seek an institutional base during sabbatical and other periods of research leave. During 2010, SEARC agreed to host two international scholars as visiting fellows:

- Dr Eric C. Thompson, Visiting Fellow, SEARC (January - April 2010)
- Mr Alex Grainger, Visiting Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science, SEARC (October 2009 - May 2010)

Finally, SEARC researchers are regularly sought out by the local and international media to comment on political and social events in Southeast Asia. Their interviews and op-ed pieces have generated an impressive amount of local, regional, and international publicity. The range of print media outlets includes: *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *Bangkok Post*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Financial Times*, *South China Morning Post*, *Apple Daily*, Associated Press, and Reuters. SEARC's core members are also interviewed regularly by radio and television outlets, including CNN, BBC, Star TV, Voice of America, RTHK, and Channel NewsAsia.

### 7.7 Evaluation of the Centre / SKL's achievements, uniqueness, and competitive edge in the local/regional/international context

As noted above in the section above on benchmarking, SEARC is unique within the Hong Kong community today as the sole academic research unit that addresses the politics, economies, and societies of contemporary Southeast Asia. Thus, as much local attention shifts northward to China, SEARC continues to provide a window on a region that remains of vital importance to Hong Kong. SEARC achieves this through its academic scholarship, its applied research, and its community events and media commentary. Its researchers are regularly invited to international conferences and workshops; they regularly publish their research in high-quality outlets; and they are growing increasingly adept at securing competitive external funding. Thus, especially in view of its small organizational size and modest levels of funding, SEARC retains a competitive edge, enabling it to enhance CityU's growing reputation as a major center for social science inquiry

### 7.8 Evaluation of the Centre / SKL's ability to attract people and resources

As noted above, SEARC demonstrated its ability to attract major external funding through the WEMC project, funded by DFID, a major funding body of the UK government. Professor Case holds a GRF award from the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong that was extended during 2010 to run through mid-2012. Dr Nankyung Choi also completed work during 2010 that was funded by the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV) in 2009. Other core members of SEARC, including Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing, Dr Nicholas Thomas, and Dr Chan Yuk-wah, won major grants during 2010. SEARC recognizes, however, that in the current funding environment, it must attract still greater external funding. Accordingly, SEARC's Management Committee has met in order to devise new strategies. Professor Mark Thompson, SEARC's new associate director, will be central to these efforts.

SEARC has recruited a strong cohort of core members, including Professor Robert Taylor, a renowned scholar of Myanmar politics who joined in 2010. SEARC appointed Professor Mark Thompson, a noted specialist in Philippines politics, as its associate director in November 2010, adding greatly to its profile. It has recently restructured its Advisory Committee, recruiting noted Southeast Asianists like Professor Donald K. Emmerson, Professor Paul Hutchcroft, and Professor Andrew MacIntyre. SEARC is regularly approached too by overseas scholars seeking a base for sabbaticals and other forms of research leave, evincing SEARC's standing as a respected center for research on contemporary Southeast Asia.

### 7.9 Evaluation of the academic component (grants, collaboration, conference, etc) of the Centre / SKL

In the sections above, SEARC's performance in regularly sponsoring conferences, workshops,

and academic seminars is thoroughly documented. They show too that the two persons most associated with SEARC, Professor Case and Dr Choi, conducted research during 2010 that had been externally funded. Three of SEARC's core members, Dr Kyaw, Dr Thomas, and Dr Chan, also secured external grants during 2010. Nonetheless, SEARC's Management Committee recognizes that more must be done on this score if the centre is to meet its commitments to become fully self-financing. Meanwhile, SEARC members continued throughout the year to present papers at conferences and workshops to which they were often invited, as well as publish their research in books, edited volumes, and refereed journals, mostly of very high quality. Given the resources, then, with which SEARC currently operates, its academic performance can be evaluated as competitive.

#### 7.10 Evaluation of the applied component of the Centre / SKL

A decision was taken at the time of SEARC's formation to carry out academic, rather than policy analysis. Even so, through its workshops and the activities of its core members, SEARC contributed to CityU's aim to undertake applied research. For example, through the WEMC project, SEARC researchers and international collaborators were engaged in developing new strategies by which to enhance the standing of women in Muslim societies in Indonesia, China, Pakistan, and Iran. More recently, Dr Jonathan London, core member of SEARC, undertook extensive applied research during 2010 in the form of three technical reports commissioned by the United Nations on education, health services, and other development issues in Vietnam. The three reports that he authored or co-authored during 2010 are recorded above.

In 2009, SEARC co-hosted with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore a conference on the social and political impact of Hurricane Nargis in Myanmar's Irawaddy Delta area. Much of the conference involved an assessment of disaster relief efforts. Dr Kyaw Yin Hlaing is currently editing the papers for submission for publication by ISEAS as an edited volume.

### 8. Planned activities in 2011

- A talk on 'From Aquino to Aquino: Transitional Challenges and Presidential Leadership in Democratizing Philippines', to be presented by Professor Julio Teehankee and Professor Eric Batalla from de la Salle University, Manila, 24 February 2011
- A talk on politics in Thailand by Prof. Montesano from Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, February/March 2011
- Workshop on 'Chinese Investment in Southeast Asia', to be led by Dr Catherine Chiu on 17 June 2011
- Workshop on 'Disciplined Democracy and Prospects for Liberalization in Burma', to be led by Dr Kyaw in 2011
- Exploring possibility of international conference tentatively entitled, 'What's Wrong with

Democracy in Southeast Asia Today', to be co-organized by Professor Donald K. Emmerson of the Shorenstein Center at Stanford University

**9. Future plans and long-term strategic development strategy, including plans to generate income for sustaining Centre / SKL activities; bringing in new members; and where appropriate succession strategies with impending retirement/departure of the Director or its members**

*(College Centres are expected to have inspirations for international excellence. They should indicate in the reports their potential for further development and support as an area of excellence.)*

- To identify through the Management Committee new modes of funding. Professor Case and Professor Thompson plan to mount a joint application for GRF funding in 2011. However, it is anticipated that this search must be extended beyond traditional Hong Kong sources to European ones. For this reason, a Senior Research Fellow/Research Fellow will be employed to help with grant identification and research development.
- To recruit new leadership. Consideration is being given to transferring SEARC's directorship to Professor Thompson. The revitalization of SEARC's Advisory Committee will also continue.
- To continue to organize conferences and workshops that attract top local and international scholars and that lead to high-quality publications.
- To contribute to an intellectual climate in the department that encourages SEARC core members to apply for competitive external grants and to present their research at conferences, workshops, and seminars. The new Senior Research Fellow/Research Fellow will play a key role in this area.
- To increase collaboration between core members of SEARC and between them and scholars in other CLASS-based research centres and overseas institutions.
- To maintain SEARC's working paper series as an outlet for established, but especially new researchers to enter their findings quickly into the public domain.
- To continue engaging CityU students in seminars, thereby strengthening linkages between scholarly research and classroom teaching.
- To continue to invite eminent researchers and professionals to deliver seminars and talks that enhance the cross-disciplinary study of Southeast Asia and that strengthen ties to the Hong Kong community.

## 10. Report on Use of Funds during the reporting period

(please report funding secured and how Centre / SKL's funding is allocated and support, if any, to members)

<b>A. Funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
A1. Unspent funding as at 31 December 2009	3,591,231	
A2. Funding received from the University in 2010	0	
A3. From external sources in 2010 Professor Case's GRF and SRG, 2009-2011, totaling HK\$583,098	0	GRF funding was managed separately from SEARC, but contributed directly to SEARC activities through field trips and conference papers
A4. From other sources in 2010 (please specify, e.g. seminar fees, consultancy income, etc.)	0	
<b>B. Expenditure</b> (Expenditures in 2010 in the following budget categories)	<b>Amount (including commitments)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
B1. Staffing (clerical / administrative / research staff support)	<b>1,070,527</b>	
B2. Equipment	<b>9,580</b>	
B3. General Expenses (1) Conference, seminar organization (2) Funding allocated to members (please give names of members and project titles) (3) Visitors (4) Publications and publicity (5) Miscellaneous	<b>626,210</b> <b>0</b> <b>0</b> <b>0</b> <b>53,957</b>	
B4. Overseas travel (for research exchange)	<b>0</b>	
B5. Conference attendance / presentation	<b>0</b>	
B6. Entertainment	<b>2,819</b>	