

demoz

Newsletter of the Australian Population Association

Demoz Number 73

January 2016

Contents

APA news	2
<i>President's message</i>	2
<i>Editors' message</i>	2
Graeme Hugo Colloquium 2015	3
2015 W.D. Borrie Prize	4
Welcome to new members	4
News from statistical organisations & State governments	5
<i>Australian Bureau of Statistics</i>	5
<i>NSW Department of Planning & Environment</i>	6
<i>Australia New Zealand Population Workshop</i>	7
News from research centres & institutes	9
<i>School of Demography, ANU</i>	9
<i>The Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University</i>	12
<i>Demography group, Macquarie University</i>	14
<i>Applied Population Studies, Flinders University</i>	16
Features and commentary	17
<i>Tell us about your PhD: Ricardo Safrá de Campos</i>	18
Useful information	20
<i>Forthcoming conferences and workshops</i>	20
<i>APA National Council</i>	21

APA NEWS

President's message

Greetings to all members and welcome to 2016. This is a big year for the APA. First, it's a leap year so make the most of that extra day! Second, 2016 sees the next Australian Census being rolled out in August. And finally, in November/December our next APA biennial conference will be held in Sydney.

There will also be events held in selected locations around Australia. The annual competition for the Borrie prize has recently been announced. And you can continue to expect regular communications from your hardworking Council.

What contribution will you make to *your* Association this year?

Have you recently read a book or article that made you really think? Why not jot down a few points about it to include in the next Demoz? Are you hosting a visitor who might be able to share their insights with APA members? Why not consider a gathering of members to listen. Or is there an issue that concerns you, an issue that doesn't seem to be getting any coverage? Perhaps you can find others to give this issue an airing. Maybe you could organise a session at the Conference.

We look forward to welcoming many of you to the Conference later this year. Further details will be provided soon. In the meantime, you can start thinking about the paper you can give – or would like to hear.

If you think demography and population studies matter, it's time to step up and let others know. Quality research, analysis and commentary is needed to fill the gaps, balance the material being aired and add evidence to important contemporary debates. This is not the time to remain in the background.

Why not include making a contribution to *your* APA as one of your 2016 resolutions?

Alison Taylor

Editor's message

Welcome to the (somewhat belated) second edition of Demoz for 2015! Thank you to everyone that kindly contributed items of interest, particularly at this busy time of year.

Let me begin by wishing you all the best for the New Year! I trust you have all had a happy and safe holiday period (and all the mince pies have been consumed?!). This new year is shaping up to be a fantastic one for the APA with our biennial conference occurring, this time in Sydney. Make sure you keep your eye out for upcoming information and key dates.

If you have any additional material that you would like to see included in the next Demoz issue, or any ideas for improving our publication, please don't hesitate to get in contact with either myself or Gen. Contributions to this bi-annual publication are welcome at any time. Our contact details are included at the end of the publication.

Amina Keygan.
Editor.

GRAEME HUGO COLLOQUIUM 2015

Members of the Australian Population Association met at the ANU on the 2nd of December to celebrate the life and work of colleague Graeme Hugo, the ‘quintessential scholar’.

Professors Peter McDonald, Martin Bell and Gavin Jones each detailed the influence of Graeme’s scholarship on their own work. Peter presented recent work on the impact of international migration on employment in Australia. Martin focussed on internal migration and the development of ideas surrounding the movement of people. Gavin outlined the impact of Graeme’s work on the measurement and understanding of rural-urban movement in Asia.

Dr Salut Muhidin talked about what he had learned from Graeme and his work. Two things that came out were the attention to detail and the ability to graphically represent concepts surrounding movement. Graeme’s work spanned many areas of demography and Dr Don Rowland detailed his significant body of work on population ageing – 100 papers.

At lunch Peter McDonald launched a new demographic methods book authored by Gordon Carmichael, *Fundamentals of Demographic analysis: Concepts, Measures and Methods*. The book is an invaluable contribution to teaching demographic methods. We heard from former students and colleagues of Graeme about his passion for passing on the traditions of demography and his open door approach to students. Dr Gour Dasvarma highlighted Graeme’s contribution to building a demographic teaching program across universities in Adelaide.

Professor Dean Forbes and Terence Hull gave very personal accounts of their long associations with Graeme. These considered presentations highlighted the cumulative effect of background, experiences and opportunities that contributed to Graeme’s academic career. Dr Dianne Rudd gave us an insider account of life on Graeme’s team. Through a series of photographs of Graeme, with varying lengths of hair, she painted a picture of a fearless leader who worked incredibly hard. This close knit group provided the foundation for Graeme’s work, even if they didn’t always know where he was.

The day finished with Professor Glenn Withers’ account of Graeme’s contribution to public policy. There is no doubt that Graeme made an impact. Throughout the day we heard mention of the traits that made Graeme a truly exceptional scholar: intelligent, inquiring, hard working, competitive, supportive, open and driven.

The presentations will be available on the APA website soon.

Ann Evans.

2015 W.D. BORRIE PRIZE FOR THE BEST STUDENT PAPER ON A POPULATION-RELATED TOPIC

Students of demography and population studies, enrolled in an Australian or New Zealand tertiary institution in 2015, are invited to submit an entry for the Borrie Prize by 29 February 2016.

There are three prize categories:

- a. Undergraduate (\$500 and a certificate);
- b. Honours/Masters/GradDip (\$600 and a certificate); and
- c. PhD (\$700 and a certificate).

Papers can be on any population-related topic of the student's choice. There is no set word limit. However papers will usually be 2,000–6,000 words, about the same length as journal article. Excessively long entries are discouraged.

For more information about judging criteria and how to submit go to the APA website at www.apa.org.au

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following new APA members.

<u>Name</u>	<u>State/Territory</u>
Jessie Porter	Victoria
Vanessa Leung	NSW
Nicole Day	NSW

NEWS FROM STATISTICAL ORGANISATIONS & STATE GOVERNMENTS

Australian Bureau of Statistics

ABS Demography has a new Director

After two years as the Director of Demography, Denise Carlton has moved into a new role in the ABS as Program Manager for the Strategic Partnerships Branch. I'd like to thank Denise for all her valuable contribution and wish her the very best in her new role.

I am very excited to have been appointed as Director of the ABS Demography program. I bring into this role experience in social policy having recently worked in the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training and as ABS Outposted Officer to the Commonwealth Department of Social Services. I look forward to meeting my demography colleagues in the New Year to discuss and collaborate on this very important and exciting field of statistics.

Demography program highlights

The ABS Demography program has a substantial schedule of releases each year.

Some key highlights since the last issue of Demoz include:

Births, Australia, 2014 (3301.0) was released on 29 October 2015. Australia's total birth rate in 2014 was 1.80 babies per woman, down from 1.88 in 2013. There was a strong pattern in our major cities, showing that the highest birth rates were in outer suburbs and very low rates were in the inner city. Consistent with previous years, Victoria recorded the lowest fertility rate (1.73) and Northern Territory the highest (2.10).

Deaths, Australia, 2014 (3302.0) was released on 12 November 2015. The key headline was that life expectancy hit a historic high. Males and females born today can both expect to celebrate their 80th birthday milestone. The national number of registered deaths rose 4% from 2013. This is indicative of Australia's growing and ageing population.

Australian Demographic Statistics, June, 2015 (3101.0) was released on 17 December, 2015. Highlights include the finding that the number of centenarians increased by 550 to 4,440 over the year ending June 2015, with almost four times more females than males. This reflects the higher life expectancy for females. Australia's median age remained unchanged between 2014 and 2015 at 37, but has increased by 3 years since 1995.

Upcoming ABS releases to look out for in the New Year are:

The Migration, Australia, 2014-15 (3412.0) which will be released on 25 February 2016. This provides statistics relating to the estimated resident population (ERP) by country of birth, overseas migration and interstate migration.

The ABS has developed a new ongoing series of Regional Internal Migration Estimates (RIME) based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard, including SA2s and LGAs. The next release of RIME for 2014-15 will be available from 30 March 2016 in Migration, Australia (3412.0).

The Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2013-14 (3218.0), will be released on 30 March 2016. This contains estimates of the resident population of areas of Australia for 30 June 2004 to 2014. Estimates are provided for Statistical Areas Level 2 to 4 (SA2s - SA4s), Greater Capital City Statistical Areas (GCCSAs), Significant Urban Areas (SUAs), Remoteness Areas (RAs), State Electoral Divisions (SEDs), and states and

territories of Australia, according to the 2011 edition of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).

ABS Population Estimates Technical Workshop

The ABS hosted the annual Population Estimates Technical Workshop (PETW) in November in conjunction with the Australia and New Zealand Population Workshop in Perth. This forum is an opportunity to provide key Commonwealth, State and Territory representatives with an update from the ABS on recent developments in official population estimates and to facilitate expert input into ABS directions. Topics at PETW included the upcoming 2016 Census of Population and Housing, the 2016 Post Enumeration Survey, an update on ABS' Transformation Program as well as an around the table discussion on the RIME and the peer review process for sub-state ERP. The ABS would like to thank the contribution of all attendees, including those who attended virtually!

Ms. Beidar Cho
Director, Demography.

NSW Department of Planning & Environment

The Demography Unit has been working on a range of projects to ensure strategic planning and policy is informed by a robust population evidence base. Over the past six months, this has included:

- informing the development of a new regional plan for the [Illawarra-Shoalhaven](#) and draft regional plans for the [Hunter](#) and [Central Coast](#)
- a robust evidence base for a review of the NSW Ageing Strategy.

Centre of Excellence

In October 2015 the Demography Unit was recognised as a Centre of Excellence under the NSW Government ICT Strategy. This means the Demography Unit is a custodian of NSW government strategic information assets, including the NSW population, household and implied dwelling projections.

Implications of population ageing in NSW

The Demography Unit, in partnership with NSW Treasury, facilitated a workshop focussing on population ageing with staff from across NSW government. Held in October 2015, the aim was to give participants a good understanding of population ageing issues and to explore the challenges created by the changing demography of NSW's population. Outcomes from the day are informing a review of the NSW Ageing Strategy. Follow-up activities will focus on ensuring agencies collect and disseminate information about people in the older ages, especially the oldest age groups.

International Conference of Population Geographies

Our team presented three papers on different aspects of our work at the International Conference of Population Geographies held in Brisbane 30 June to 3 July 2015. With this conference being held in Australia for the first time ever, it was a great opportunity to talk with the world's best demographers and geographers about the work we do in New South Wales.

Kim Johnstone – [Population Geography, Planning and Policy – Too Much Evidence? A case study of sub-regional urban planning in Sydney, Australia](#)

Angelique Parr – Reflecting on the Past to Improve the Future. An evaluation of New South Wales population projections

Alison Taylor – Deconstructing people’s moves: visualising the significance of internal migration to NSW’s population geography

Publications

Three bulletins focusing on population changes in New South Wales have been released since July 2015. These are available from the Department of Planning and Environment [website](#) or request a copy by emailing population@planning.nsw.gov.au.

The recent release of *Demography for Planning and Policy: Australian Case Studies* included a chapter by Kim Johnstone, “Communicating Population Projections to Stakeholders: A Case Study from New South Wales”.

Staff changes

Andy Tice joined the team in early September as Senior Demographer. He is a geographer with specialist skills in GIS for demographic analysis. Andy has previously worked for UNSW City Futures Centre and local government in the United Kingdom.

Dr Alison Taylor, Chief Demographer, leaves the team at the end of this year. She brought a wealth of experience to the role and her leadership has transformed the way population evidence is communicated by NSW Government. Alison’s achievements include launching the Department’s first interactive web tools for exploring population projections, the development of a world-first migration mapping tool to assist planners understand local populations and housing needs, and the development of a team of expert demographers. Alison’s demographic expertise and its application across a broad range of policy arenas, alongside a commitment to best practice standards for demography, will be missed.

Australia New Zealand Population Workshop

The 2015 Australia New Zealand Population Workshop was hosted by the Western Australian Department of Planning in Perth on the 25-27 November. The annual workshop is attended by state government demographers and related professionals engaged in the preparation of population projections from around Australia and New Zealand. The workshop enhances collaboration between the states and NZ and facilitates discussion and debate on demographic methods and techniques resulting in the improvement of forecasting work across government.

Representation at the ANZPW included:

- Department of Planning (WA)
 - Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Vic)
 - Queensland Government Statistician’s Office
 - Northern Territory Treasury
 - Australian Bureau of Statistics
 - The Treasury
 - Department of Social Services
 - Geoscience Australia
 - Statistics New Zealand
 - Department of Treasury (WA)
 - Department of Education (WA)
 - Department of Health (WA)
 - Department of Housing (WA)
-

One of themes of the workshop was the concept of usual residence and whether it is still relevant. The current definition of usual residence serves many purposes and there are no plans by the ABS at this stage for this definition to change. In addition to usual residence, various planning agencies require alternative population estimates, usually described as “service populations”. For example, in emergency response planning, Geoscience Australia uses alternative sources of information to estimate the population at a place and time during the day.

Other topics discussed at the agenda included:

- Age-sex structures
 - How the local building form can influence the type of age-sex structure attracted to them. For example, inner city areas in major cities tend to be characterised by young adults, resulting in age-sex pyramids resembling “Christmas trees”.
 - The importance of the cohort component model and the way in which the age and sex structure influences the future. An issue such as the size of the population aged 85 and over being the product of neither births nor migration but of simple ageing is not usually picked up by non-demographers.
- The future of net overseas migration
 - The distribution of NOM around the country has recently seen major changes. There is some evidence that very large projects on a national scale can change this distribution but that NOM share is returning to normal
 - This was shown by modelling each state’s share as a stable proportion once an offset was used. In essence there is a bias towards NSW and biases against other states. Despite independent models for each state, the model mirrored national NOM across a wide level of NOM.
- Small area projection methodology for forecasting
 - Queensland has used SA1 data as a building block for aggregated school age enrolment forecasts. While the individual SA1s are not of sufficient quality to be used on their own the aggregated data appear robust.
 - Statistics New Zealand gave an overview of the modelling issues with stochastic ethnic population projections.
- Household modelling
 - The Department of Social Services described some of their experiments with the Tom Wilson Sequential Propensity Household Projection model against various policy settings.
 - Victoria described the two approaches it uses to understand future households. The first is a household propensity model and the second is by examining the life cycle of suburbs as an alternative predictive tool.
- Forecast evaluation
 - The WA Tomorrow forecasts have been evaluated in the context of a continually changing (i.e., revised and census rebased) estimated resident population to show the extent to which such forecasts are led by these changes.
 - A side effect was to show that there are patterns with regards to revisions that may indicate areas of possible improvement.

Anna Piscicelli.

NEWS FROM RESEARCH CENTRES & INSTITUTES

School of Demography, ANU

Events and activities

The School of Demography, previously the Australian Demographic & Social Research Institute, was launched on 18 November.

Staff and students presented papers at the 8th International Conference on Population Geographies held in Brisbane, the Asian Population Association Conference held in Kuala Lumpur and the British Society for Population Studies Conference in Leeds.

Gordon Carmichael's text book, *Fundamentals of Demographic Analysis: Concepts, Measures and Methods*, was launched by Professor Peter McDonald on 2 December. It provides an introduction to demographic analysis and a thorough grounding in basic concepts, principles and techniques. The book is available from Springer.

School of Demography staff were involved in teaching demography and social research in an intensive two week course (September/October 2015) for twenty academic staff members from Yangon University in Myanmar. This is the third of four groups to complete the course.

James Raymer taught a workshop on *Demographic Analysis with Own Data* in Busan, South Korea in August. This workshop was part of the 2nd KOSTAT Summer Seminar on Population, coordinated and sponsored by the Asia Pacific Population Institute and Statistics Korea.

Future events

An International Conference on Afghan Migration Researching Aspirations, Movements, Demography & Integration will be held on 23 – 24 March. The conference brings together researchers working on Afghan migration, with a particular emphasis on empirical research and policy implications. The conference seeks to place Afghan migration to Europe and Australia within a broader global context by drawing on recent research on Afghan migration to its nearest neighbours, within the sub-region, to and through transit countries and to final destination countries. Further information can be found on our website (<http://demography.anu.edu.au/afghan-migration-conference>).

Public lectures and guest speakers at ANU Demography seminars

Associate Professor Vladimir Canudas-Romo, from Max-Planck Odense Center on the Biodemography of Aging in Denmark, gave a public lecture on 17 December on 'Measures for comparing the mortality history of cohorts.'

Professor Philip Rees, Professor Emeritus at the School of Geography, University of Leeds, visited ANU in July and gave a seminar on 'Ethnic population projections for the UK and local areas, 2011-2101: A second chance to get them right'.

Dr Abusaleh Shariff, Executive Director and Chief Scholar at the US-India Policy Institute, Washington DC and President, Centre for Research and Debates in Development Policy, New Delhi, gave a seminar on 'Growth with equity: Inclusion and demographic dividends in India'.

John C Caldwell African Research Visiting Fellowship

This Fellowship is offered jointly in the School of Demography and the National Centre for Epidemiology & Population Health at ANU.

Dr Makandwe Nyirenda, the inaugural recipient of Fellowship, visited ANU in December and gave a seminar on 'Researching health and well-being of older adults in a context of a severe HIV epidemic: A personal perspective.' Makandwe is from the HIV Prevention Research Unit at the South African Medical Research Council.

Dr Caroline Kabiru, from the African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC) in Nairobi, Kenya is the recipient of the Fellowship for 2015 and will visit ANU from March to May 2016. Her research interests centre on issues related to adolescent health, including resilience and positive youth development.

Grants

Iwu Utomo (School of Demography) with Peter McDonald and Robert Sparrow (Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU) have been awarded an ARC Discovery grant of \$427,700 for the project, 'Meeting the needs of older persons in Indonesia'.

Iwu Utomo and Peter McDonald were awarded \$15,000 from the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing (CEPAR) and \$20,000 from Andalas University, Indonesia for the project, 'Meeting the needs of older persons in Kebumen, Gunung Kidul and Bukit Tinggi (rural Indonesia): Policy approaches'.

Iwu Utomo, Peter McDonald and Ariane Utomo received US\$150,000 from the Ford Foundation for Wave III of the 'Greater Jakarta Transition to Adulthood Survey'.

James Raymer will be working with Associate Professor Georgina Chambers, Director of the National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit at the University of New South Wales, and other colleagues on a new NHMRC grant on 'Accountable fertility treatment: An evidenced-based framework for the provision of cost-effective, patient-centred fertility treatment in Australia'. The three year project was awarded \$423,312 and will start in 2016.

Heather Booth has been awarded a grant of \$9815 from the ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences for a 'Workshop on Heterogeneity in Mortality' to be held in 2016.

PhD news

Two students graduated in December. Liz Allen wrote her thesis on 'Individual, family and neighbourhood contributions to child excess weight and screen time among two Australian cohorts'. Helen Moyle wrote hers on 'The fall of marital fertility in late 19th Century Tasmania'.

Two students have begun their PhD study recently. Kuosheng Cheng will be working on 'Taiwanese holiday workers in Australia' and Tshering Jamtsho on 'Fertility decline, shift in childbearing desires and unmet need for contraception among fecund Bhutanese women – Do socio-demographic characteristics matter?'

Master of Social Research news

Two new courses have been developed and will be taught in 2016. Spatial Population Data Analysis will be taught in semester 1 by James Raymer and Population Dynamics and Ageing will be taught in semester 2 by Heather Booth.

Staff movements

Yanlin Shi was appointed as a Research Fellow in July to work on the ARC project on 'the demographic consequences of migration to, from and within Australia'. He received his PhD in statistics from ANU in 2014.

Qing Guan was hired as a Research Assistant in July after completing her Masters of Social Research-Advanced degree at ANU.

Liz Allen has moved to a position at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, ANU.

Vu Son's contract has ended, however, he will be remaining in the School as a Visitor.

The recruitment process for new lecturer in Demography position is almost complete and the successful candidate will be announced soon.

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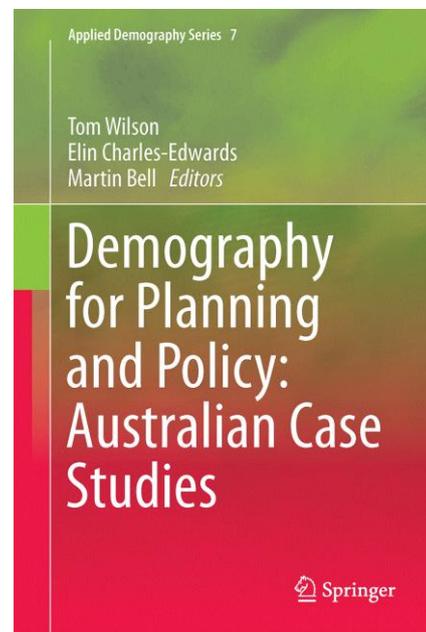
James Raymer.

The Northern Institute, Charles Darwin University

Happenings

First, a BIG congratulations to Kate Golebiowska and her family who welcomed baby girl Ewa to the world in early December. The NT population statistics will benefit at a time when new residents are very welcome!

We were pleased to welcomed back Tom Wilson to the team at CDU and Tom has already found plenty of work for himself in assisting the Northern Territory Government with various projections models. In particular, we are developing a new model with the Northern Territory Department of Treasury and Finance for use across government. Congratulations also to Tom and colleagues on the publication of the book *Demography for Planning and Policy: Australian Case Studies* (Springer).



Two new HDR students have commenced with us in the demography field. Sandra Stuart will be examining the issues around ageing in place in northern contexts. James Thurmer is interested in the effectiveness of policies for stimulating northern development through international migration. A new HDR student Sarah Ajowi will commence in 2016 in the field of international migration (and health, justice). She is interested in the effectiveness of campaigns about domestic violence in increasing reporting in the new African-born women settlers in the NT and Australia.

Speaking of the north, in July I spoke at the Developing Northern Australia conference (on *The Demography of Developing Northern Australia*) and Hannah Payer spoke on (*Tropical Gardens as Tourism Attractions*). There is a research brief on our website on the former (<http://www.cdu.edu.au/northern-institute/ni-research-briefs>).

Congratulations as well to Professor Dean Carson who has been successful in securing major research grants in Sweden, including an equivalent of an ARC, in partnership with the Centre for Rural Medicine (GMC) and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. The focus of Dean's work is on finding solutions to the persistent problem in recruiting and retaining public sector workers in remote areas of Northern Europe. His emphasis on addressing issues for primary healthcare workers.

Kate Golebiowska and Alicia Boyle released a technical paper from the project "How to engage the 'untapped' workforce for Northern development? Case study of Darwin, NT" and made a submission to the Australian Human Rights Commission (based on this project) "Willing to Work: National Inquiry into Employment Discrimination Against Older Australians and Australians with Disability".

Tony Barnes has been working across various projects with the AIHW, ABS, PMC and the Northern Territory Government with a focus on data linkage projects as well as assisting Huw Brokensha who is buried deep in a consultancy in which we are modelling likely uptake numbers for the NDIS in the Northern Territory.

Shout out!

We have two PhD projects in applied demography available, with the potential for a scholarship to suitable applicants. These are:

1. Combining methods for more accurate subnational population forecasts;
2. Understanding and forecasting overseas migration to and from Australia

Please contact Tom Wilson (tom.wilson@cdu.edu.au; 0423 342745) for more information.

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Demography group, Macquarie University

Current Projects

Fei Guo continues to work on her joint ARC DP project *Affinities in Multicultural Australia* with Ellie Vasta and Lucy Taksa. They have completed more than 60 intensive interviews in six ethnic communities in the Sydney area (Anglo-Celtic, Italian, Indian, Chinese, Lebanese and Sudanese Australians) in the first stage of data collection and currently planning to carry out an online survey among these communities across Australia. Fei is also working on a project examining employment outcome of international students in the Australian labour market. In addition, Fei and Lucy Taksa have been working on an article analysing the employment patterns and occupational attainment of Jewish population in Australia.

Work has commenced on a project which aims to establish a public access, electronic, historical demographic dataset repository and to research historical patterns of the schooling and religious adherence of Australia's population, funded jointly by Macquarie University and the Catholic Education Commission of NSW (CECNSW). The project involves Nick Parr and historians Lucy Taksa and Nikki Balnave from Macquarie, Crichton Smith and Brian Croke from CECNSW, and Sheruni De Alwis (research student), Steph Hull and Victoria Morley (recent demography undergraduates) as Research Assistants.

Salut Muhidin's research on health development in NTT province, Indonesia funded by WHO is in its final stage. Currently, the team is preparing its expected outcomes in terms of paper publications and news and policy briefs for the health office in NTT province and the Indonesian Ministry of Health.

Publications

Iredale, Robyn and Fei Guo (eds.) (2015) *Handbook of Chinese Migration, Identity and Wellbeing*, published by Edward Elgar Publishing, UK, is out in December 2015. See details at: <http://www.elgar.com/shop/handbook-of-chinese-migration>.

Markey, R., Ferris, S., McIvor, J., Thornthwaite, L., Wright, C.F., Muhidin, Salut, O'Neill, S, and Parr, Nick. (2015). Extending employment entitlements to non-standard workers: Alternative models for long service leave portability. *Journal of Industrial Relations*. Published online 26 August 2015.

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Parr, Nick, Li, Jackie, and Tickle, Leonie. (forthcoming) A Cost of Living Longer: Projections of the Effects of Prospective Mortality Improvement on Economic Support Ratios for Fourteen More Advanced Economies. Accepted for publication in *Population Studies*.

Wang, Haining, Fei Guo and Zhiming Cheng (2015) A distributional analysis of wage discrimination against migrant workers in China's urban labour market, *Urban Studies*, 52(13): 2383-2403.

Yang, Sisi and Zhanxin Zhang (2015) Rural Migrants' Income Distribution in Location Perspective - An Empirical Study of Ningbo, China", *Urban and Environmental Studies*, vol. 2, pp.74-90 (In Chinese).

Zhang, Xianling (2014) The Second Demographic Dividend in China: Based on Analysis of Population Age Structure and Household Savings, *Northwest Population Journal*, vol. 12 (In Chinese).

Presentations

Charles-Edwards, E., Muhidin, S., Bell, M. and Zhu, Y. (2015). Trends and patterns of internal migration in Asia. Presented at the 3rd Asian Population Association Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 27-30 July 2015.

Guo, Fei (2015) Educational Experience and Labour Market Outcome of International Students in Australia, presented at *the 90th Annual Conference of the Western Economic Association International*, Honolulu, Hawaii, 28 June– 2 July.

Guo, Fei and Haining Wang (2015) The Impact of New Rural Cooperative Medical Insurance Scheme on Happiness in Rural China, presented at *the Social Science Forum of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences*, 14-15 December 2015, Beijing.

Muhidin, S. and Raymer, J. (2015) Asian Migration Data and Estimation. Presented at the 3rd Asian Population Association Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 27-30 July 2015.

Pardosi, JF, Parr N., and Muhidin, S. Inequity issues and mother's pregnancy, delivery and child survival experiences in Ende District, Indonesia. Presented at the 3rd Asian Population Association Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 27-30 July 2015.

Muhidin, S. (2015). International migration and Indonesian diaspora. Presented at the 4th ICOBIRD-International Conference on Business, International Relations and Diplomacy, BINUS University, Jakarta, 3 November 2015.

Muhidin, S. (2015). Graeme's impact on Indonesian demography. Presented at the Australian Population Association Graeme Hugo Colloquium, ANU Canberra, 2 December 2015.

Parr, N. (2015) The Cultural, Linguistic and Religious Profiles of Australia's CEOs and Managing Directors - How Much is Explained by Age? Paper presented at the 29th Annual Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Academy of Management conference in Queenstown, New Zealand 2-4 December 2015.

Parr, N., Li, J. and Tickle, L. (2015) The Cost of Living Longer: Projections of the Effects of Prospective Mortality Improvement on Economic Support Ratios for Fourteen More Advanced Economies. Paper presented at the International Conference on Population Geographies in Brisbane, 30 June-3 July 2015.

Rachmad, SH., Agustini, HN. and Muhidin, S. (2015) Determinant factors of recent migration in Indonesia: Evidence from the 2010 Census. Presented at the 8th International Conference on Population Geographies, Brisbane, 30 June-3 July 2015.

Yang, Sisi and Fei Guo (2015) Migrants' Permanent Settlement Intention in Host Cities in China, presented at the *8th International Conference on Population Geographies*, 30 June–3 July, Brisbane.

Zhang, Xianling and Fei Guo (2015) The Impact of Population Aging on Savings in China, presented at the 8th International Conference on Population Geographies, 30 June–3 July, Brisbane.

External Teaching

Nick Parr taught a module on Life Tables to 20 Government Officials from the Sri Lankan Office of Census and Statistics for program funded by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade held at Griffith University on 13 November 2015.

Awards

Congratulations to our cotutelle PhD student with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Sisi Yang (Principal Supervisor Fei Guo) who was recently awarded the Faculty of Business and Economics HDR Research Excellence Award. Congratulations also to another PhD student Jerry Pardosi on his new job as Associate Lecturer in Public Health at UNSW, to Steph Hull (tutor and research assistant) on her job with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, and to our former undergraduate student Liz Allen on completing her PhD with ANU.

- Nick Parr

Applied Population Studies, Flinders University

Research collaboration with Lanzhou University of Technology, China

Associate Professor FangSu from Lanzhou University of Technology, China has recently joined the Applied Population Studies programme under Chinese Government Fellowship to work with Uday Saikia for a research project titled “Sustainable livelihood among Chinese farmers”. The proposed study aims to evaluate sustainable livelihood capitals in rural China through Sustainable Livelihood Framework. The data for this study is predominantly based on primary data collected through an extensive fieldwork in rural China. The project will analyse the relationship between livelihood strategies and livelihood capital leading to policy initiatives. As a lead author Associate Professor FangSu has so far published 20 peer reviewed papers in the fields of rural and ecological economics.

Key note speech at international conference

Uday Saikia and Gour Dasvarma delivered key note speeches at an inaugural seminar series titled “Human Resource Empowerment: Emerging Issues on Population Matters” organised by the Centre for Study of Social Statistics, Institute of Statistics, Indonesia. The seminar was held in Jakarta on 18th November. This seminar series is organised as an effort to develop the Institute of Statistics as a Centre of Excellence.



Uday Saikia receiving a token of appreciation from Prof Hamonangan Ritonga, Chairman of Institute of Statistics, Jakarta



Gour Dasvarma and Udo Saikia photographed with academic and research staff at the Institute of Statistics, Jakarta

PhD award:

Ms Dianne Panta has been awarded PhD for her thesis titled “The role of Indigenous Solid Waste Management Practices (ISWMP) in management of solid waste in urban centres In PNG”. Her PhD was supervised By Udo Saikia and Gour Dasvarma. Dianne has recently joined as a lecturer, University of Goroka, PNG.

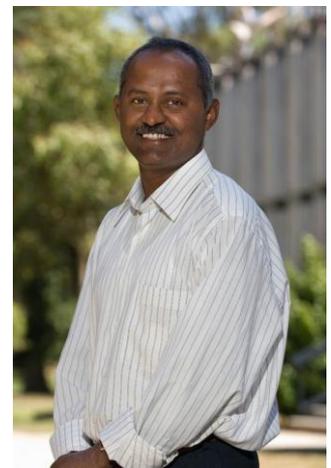
Udo Saikia.

FEATURES AND COMMENTARY

Associate Professor Dharmalingam Arunachalam.

Would you please give us a brief overview of your professional research background?

I was trained as a statistician/econometrician in my university studies. Then I did my PhD along the lines of qualitative social demography. My early ideas were shaped by the works of Jack Caldwell, Geoffrey McNicoll and Gavin Jones. My research straddles between quantitative and qualitative approaches, and falls in the substantive areas of family formation, migration, social cohesion and child and reproductive health. Although predominantly Australia focused, I also work on Indian population issues.



To date, what has been the project you worked on that gave you most satisfaction?

Not a single one but maybe three: my research with Genevieve Heard on family formation in Australia, with Ian Pool and Janet Sceats on New Zealand families, and with Philip Morgan on religious demography in India.

What do you find the most interesting aspects of demographic research at the moment?

I believe that pure demographic research while exciting is losing steam internationally. The interface between demography, identity, and social structures is probably more interesting than conventional areas of research.

What is the most interesting paper/book you've read recently?

I found the book *Between Sex and Power: Family in the World 1900-2000* by Göran Therborn very interesting.

What do you see as the current, most important challenges for demographers in Australia?

Pursuing theoretically interesting core demographic research is a major challenge as applied research has come to dominate mainstream demographic research. Funding for demographic research is also another major challenge.

If you hadn't become a demographer, what would you have been?

Probably an Economist!

What's your current favourite recipe to cook at home?

Meatballs with Spaghetti and Lasagne for the boys; occasionally Indian Rasam soup.

What do you like to do when you're not doing demography?

Spend time with family, travel and read junk magazines!

Tell us about your PhD: Ricardo Safra de Campos

Would you please give us a brief overview of your PhD research?

My research examines discrete forms of spatial mobility in relation to livelihood portfolios and capital assets among rural households during the 2010-2013 drought in semi-arid Northeast Brazil. The distinctive socioeconomic and physical context of the study's location provides a unique setting to explore these relationships. On the one hand, the settlement pattern provides greater spatial choice. On the other hand, a robust welfare system reduces vulnerability to external stressors such as extreme climatic events. At the same time, semi-arid Northeast Brazil suffers from cyclical droughts. The study employed well-established demographic techniques to capture permanent and seasonal migration, but developed a new toolkit (MISTIC - Mobility in Space and Time among Individuals and Communities) to capture and measure more nuanced variations in temporary mobility and local circulation. The findings revealed that the welfare system in Brazil, compared to other countries, has direct implications on livelihoods, and on the movement of individuals who could otherwise have engaged in seasonal or permanent migration due to these climatic events. As a result, and in contrast to findings elsewhere, shifts in local mobility became a more prevalent response to the recent drought.



What inspired you to research this topic?

Migration is widely acknowledged as one response to climate variability and other forms of environmental change, but the scarcity of reliable empirical evidence on this relationship has generated highly politicized disputes. Estimates of the number of environmental migrants in the present and future remain to a certain extent 'guesswork' with considerable variation in projected figures (ranging from 250 million to 1 billion movers). I was interested in exploring the environment-migration nexus in rural areas of Northeast Brazil beyond the well documented forms of population movement such as permanent or seasonal migration.

What is your background?

I am a Brazilian born geographer. I graduated from the Pontifical Catholic University of Sao Paulo, where I was also involved with research on the impacts of the sea breeze on the quality of life of the inhabitants of Sao Paulo. I have been conducting my PhD research at The University of Queensland since 2012 having just submitted my thesis for examination at the end of last year. In January, I am starting a post with the

University of Exeter, in the UK, as a Research Associate Fellow involved in the DECCMA project - Deltas, Vulnerability & Climate Change: Migration & Adaptation. My research interests involve spatial mobility, livelihoods, and climate change adaptation strategies, bridging the gap between population geography and environmental studies.

Which researchers/practitioners do you most admire?

I have been fortunate to work with great researchers during my candidature. My advisors Professor Martin Bell, Dr Elin Charles-Edwards and Dr Karen McNamara provided sound guidance and were always willing to share their inestimable knowledge with me. Their proven research expertise was fundamental in all stages of my study. I also admire the work of Professor Richard Bedford in the field of spatial mobility. Closer to my field of work and research expertise, I admire the work from Professor Graeme Hugo, whose seminal papers on the relationship between the environment and migration brought attention to several limitations which are still being addressed by current research. Internationally, I have been reading Professor Allan Findlay's work on the potential destination migrants in areas impacted by climatic and other environmental events.

What do you find the most interesting aspects of demographic research at the moment?

Demographic research is expanding its horizons without losing its core characteristics. There is a plethora of new and exciting research involving internal migration, the movement of international graduate students, and the impact of climate and other environmental hazards on migration to name a few, while more traditional fields such as life-course dynamics, longitudinal data analysis and population forecast continue to produce rigorous and excellent research. It is a great time to be involved with demographic and population geography research.

What is the most interesting paper you've read recently? Why?

Because of my new job, I have been reading many papers from Professors Neil Adger and Jon Barnett to enhance my knowledge on research on climate change adaptation strategies and resilience. Their work may be of interest for demographers working on regional areas or with traditional communities.

If you weren't doing a PhD now, what would you be doing?

I have always been a sports enthusiast. Growing up in Brazil, I played basketball and tennis during most of my youth until a severe injury prematurely ended any hopes of becoming professional. I believe that if I hadn't become a researcher I would be working within the sports industry.

What do you like to do on your days off?

I really enjoy playing sports. So much so that I had to deal with several injuries throughout my PhD candidature. Time and time again I would come to work on crutches or in a cast. It was a recurring comedy in my office. I also enjoy spending time with my family and friends and my two dogs.

What book do you have beside your bed?

Because I am currently packing for my move to the UK, I don't have a book beside my bed. But I always have a Lord of the Rings trilogy omnibus edition with me. I have revisited this timeless story at least half a dozen times since the first time I read it.

What is your favourite recipe or meal?

I like simple food. I think they tend to bring people together. My favourite meals are my wife's four cheese gnocchi and a good old fashioned Brazilian/Australian style barbecue.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Forthcoming conferences and workshops

2016

4th International Conference New Challenges for Statistical Software- The use of R in Official Statistics.

Place: National Institute of Statistics, Bucharest, Romania.

Dates: April 7-8, 2016

Website: <http://r-project.ro/conference2016/>

Australian Population Association Biennial Conference

Place: Sydney

Dates: Nov 29- Dec 2, 2016

Website: The Menzies Hotel, Sydney

2017

IUSSP International Population Conference

Place: Cape Town, South Africa

Dates: 29th October – 4th November, 2017

Website: TBA

Please let the editors know of other forthcoming conferences or workshops which would be of interest to APA members so we can list them in future issues of Demoz.

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Demoz

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Hosting local APA events

Members interested in holding local APA meetings or other events are requested to contact the Association secretary so that the event can be advertised to local APA members.



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