

## Cluster News Update

June 22, 2010

### Holding Cluster Workshops

In order to produce successful research results, cluster members in Korea are holding bimonthly cluster workshops. We already had two workshops so far. In the first workshop, which was held on April 16, Korean scholars discussed the research themes and effective ways to enhance our cluster activities.

The second workshop was held on June 11. In this workshop, professor Park Sa Myoung at Kangwon National University and Professor Kang Hee Jung at Sogang Institute for East Asian Studies presented their draft papers under the titles of “Chinese Influence and Southeast Asian Response: In Search of an Interactive Perspective” and “Hindu Arts in the Early Classical Period in Southeast Asia,” respectively.

In these presentations, prof. Park divided time periods into four, including traditional, colonial, the Cold War, and open periods, in which Sinocentrism, nationalism, socialism, and capitalism were the prevalent ideologies in China. He investigated how these ideologies have influenced in Southeast Asian societies.

Meanwhile, prof. Kang researched the influx of Indian culture in Southeast Asia before the 7<sup>th</sup> century. She particularly compared the statues of Shiva and Vishnu in India and Southeast Asia.

The third workshop will be held on August 20, where every Korean cluster member will present their draft papers and discuss whether these individual works are rightfully integrated into the research theme of our cluster.

### Inviting a New Cluster Member

Dr. Andrew Alan Johnson, who currently joined SIEAS as a research professor, joined our cluster. He studied at the College of William and Mary, George Washington University, and Cornell University, and received his doctorate in anthropology from Cornell with a focus on Northern Thailand. His studies in Thailand and Laos have included work on urban space and the idea of the city in Southeast Asia, (re-)interpretations of Northern Thai history, and spirit mediumship, and his dissertation concerned the Northern Thai concept of the city and the crisis of urban anxiety in the post-1997 period. He is currently planning research involving folk religion in Thailand’s Red Shirt movement. The title of his cluster paper is “Reversing the flow of foreign and indigenous: how local knowledge becomes a foreign quality.”

<Photos>



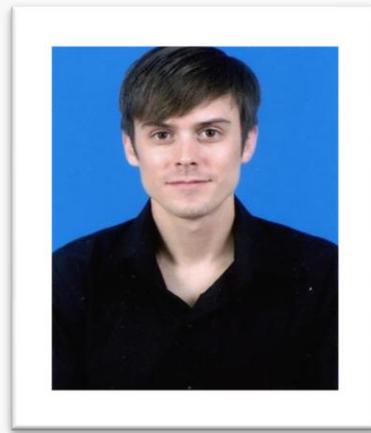
<photo 1: prof. Kang Hee Jung is presenting her paper>



<photo 2: participants at the cluster workshop>



<photo 3: prof. Shin Yoon Hwan, director of SIEAS>



<photo 4: prof. Andrew Johnson>