

Dear DSAA Members and Supporters,

COVID-19 has brought uncertainty and disruption to all of our lives. We recognise that for many of our members the current pandemic will have affected you both personally and professionally. Many of us are worried about our students, colleagues and partners here in Australia and overseas. Led by our values of inclusion and equality, we ask our entire community to look out for one another during this time.

The impact of COVID-19 on the future of our planet, of humanity, and of our societies will be profound. 'Development' as ideology, imaginary, concept and practice is bound to take on new meanings and orientations, with long-term, and differential, consequences. There is danger, but also opportunity, in this current conjuncture. As a field that includes efforts to understand historical processes, predict and influence our collective future trajectories, Development Studies is well placed to provide intellectual leadership at this critical moment.

The DSAA aims to provide a platform for sharing knowledge and research about the uneven consequences of COVID-19, and to promote dialogue about possible futures. In the coming weeks we will be announcing news of an upcoming webinar and discussion forum, and a COVID Analysis and resources page on our website.

In the meantime, if you have any suggestion for possible activities, or have any announcements, please get in touch contact@developmentstudies.asn.au

Free Membership for Students and Low-income members

The DSAA committee acknowledges the challenging financial circumstances facing many of our members, particularly students and those in un-salaried employment. We have therefore decided to waive all membership fees in the student and low-income category for the next year. Low income will be defined by current weekly income (the pro-rata rate of \$40,000 a year, or \$770/week) with consideration for economic hardship given on a case by case basis.

Membership income remains important to the ongoing running of the DSAA, and we hope that members in salaried employment will continue to support the association when membership fees become due.

Annual General Meeting

We are in unusual times. Most, if not all of our members, are currently focused on managing day-to-day activities and responsibilities, and dealing with the additional pressures of life under lockdown. As such, we do not think that it will be an appropriate time to hold our planned AGM and elections to a new committee in July 2020. We want our membership to feel a part of these activities, and hence we are delaying the AGM until mid-November 2020 when we all, hopefully, have a little more

breathing space. We will be making further announcements confirming the date and timetable for the nomination of seats for election to the committee later in the year. In the meantime, if you would like to become more involved in the DSAA, please contact Tanya: tanya.jakimow@anu.edu.au

Development in Practice – opportunity to join the DSAA Editorial team’s Eoi

The DSAA Committee is currently drafting an Expression of Interest to become the new editorial team for the international peer-reviewed journal: *Development in Practice*. Our ambition is to fulfil the journal's core mission to stimulate new thinking in development and humanitarianism through engagement across academia, research, practice and policy. We share the commitment to decolonising knowledge practices, and being inclusive of voices often missing from mainstream academic dialogue. In addition, we would seek to show the value of critical theory and reflection for advancing thinking and practice. Taking on the editorship would help raise the profile of DSAA, and help us gain the experience to potentially launch our own journal in the future.

We are seeking DSAA academic members who would like to be part of our EOI. The lead editor position would require someone with a passion for the work and for whom an editorial position would contribute towards their career aims. They would require a strong research background and publication record in development studies; editorial experience desirable but not essential. As a team effort, the DSAA editorial team would share the workload, offer support/mentoring and be co-responsible for the delivery of an excellent publication.

If you are interested in being involved, or alternatively, have strong feelings about the DSAA taking on this commitment, please email Tanya: tanya.jakimow@anu.edu.au . Details about the opportunity are found here: https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/cdip-call-for-editor/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=EmailStudio&utm_campaign=JPB13075+-+1_3617498

Resource for Ethics

Dr Patrick Kilby at the Australian National University has developed a two page resource for researchers who are applying for ethics approval for a project in the field of development studies. It explains key principles of ethical research, how these relate to various clauses in the National Statement, and tips as to how to satisfy these principles in research design, and the ethics application. Please contact Patrick directly for a copy: patrick.kilby@anu.edu.au

CALL FOR PAPERS

2020 DEVNET Conference ‘Development Matters’, 2-4 Dec 2020

We are very excited about the upcoming 12th Biennial Conference of the Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Studies Network from 2-4 December, 2020

at Massey University in Palmerston North. With current containment efforts of COVID-19 in both Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand showing signs of success, and with many Pacific nations largely unaffected at present, they are hoping to retain the face-to-face collegial feel of previous conferences, plus also include virtual participation.

At the 2020 DevNet Conference we will explore contemporary development matters, by asking the questions:

- Why does development matter and how?
- How can we achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?
- How can we stop climate destruction while also reducing poverty and inequality?
- What are Indigenous perspectives on social change?
- Should we abandon the 'development project' and embrace an alternative way of viewing human and planetary life?

Key dates

Session proposals are due **24 April 2020**. A session is a 75-90 minute segment of the conference that has a unified theme. We are seeking creative, inspirational formats in addition to conventional paper presentation sessions. **Session proposals could include** debates, workshops, reflections on policy, round tables, talanoa/kōrero outside on mats, slam poetry and so forth.

Following a review of the session proposals, a Call for Papers will open on **15 May 2020**. This is this time when individuals can submit abstracts which either relate to a specific named session, or which align more broadly with the conference themes.

Please find further details here: <https://devnet.org.nz/category/devnet-conferences/>

Call for contributions to *Encyclopedia of Development*

Professor Matthew Clarke has been commissioned by Edward Elgar to edit their upcoming *Elgar Encyclopedia of Development*. The primary purpose of this Encyclopedia is to be a lasting reference for researchers, practitioners and students engaged in the study and practice of international and community development. It is proposed that the *Elgar Encyclopedia of Development* will consist of no less than 150 terms/concepts/practices/influential writers, with entries being 1,000 to 3,000 words in length.

Matthew is seeking contributors to this volume, and invites potential contributors to nominate one or two entries that they would be interested in. Please pass on to other colleagues who may also be able to contribute. The intention is for this Encyclopedia to be a collaborative project with contributions from across the globe. Contributions are not due till August, 2021. All contributors will receive a copy of the Encyclopedia upon publication (expected in 2022).

Please contact Matthew directly if you are interested, or have any suggestions for this volume at mclarke@deakin.edu.au

Crossroads: Intersectionality in Critical Feminist Research, Practice and Policy

An international conference titled Crossroads: Intersectionality in Critical Feminist Research, Practice and Policy will be hosted at the Australian National University on 3-4 November, 2020. This conference will discuss the meanings of intersectionality in feminist analysis and emerging gender politics. It will consider the power of the concept to advance and deepen feminist thought, and the theoretical and methodological challenges as well as practical implications of translating a sophisticated feminist theory into research, policy-making and practice in all parts of life.

The organisers invite everyone interested in intersectionality to participate in discussions with a wide range of actors who are affected by the circulation of the concept, including civil society activists, union-workers, academics, researchers, policy-makers as well as professionals who apply these policies, and development institutions. Keynote addresses will be given by Professor Raewyn Connel (University of Sydney, Australia) and Professor Sirma Bilge (Faculté des arts et des sciences, Département de sociologie, Université de Montréal, Canada)

If you would like to deliver a paper, please correspond with Kuntala.Lahiri-Dutt@anu.edu.au, attaching a short (not more than 250 words) *abstract*, along with a proposed title, as *Word documents*, by **30 May, 2020**. Please also send a short (not more than 150 words) *bio* at the same time. If you want to propose a panel, please nominate the session title, a brief content (length as above) and the names of panel speakers. It will be up to you to put together a panel.

For more details, please view the Call for Papers document either as a [MS Word](#) or [PDF document](#).