

# the academic bulletin

semester one



## Welcome CAPTains to a new academic year!

We have several highlights this Semester: a new Senior Seminar on “Understanding Communities: Theory and Practice” which helps students with CE engagement, a Reading Group on “Gender and Politics”, a Research Forum on Migration (15 Sep) and the biennial CAPT Student Symposium (22 Sep).

I hope you'll have a productive time learning and growing in CAPT this Semester.

**Assoc Prof Reuben Wong  
Director of Studies, Aug 2018**

The poster for the CAPT ISS Student Symposium features a dark red background. On the left, the text "COLLEGE OF ALICE & PETER TAN" and "CAPT ISS STUDENT SYMPOSIUM" is displayed in white. Below this, the date "22ND SEPTEMBER 2018 | 9AM - 6PM" and location "UTOWN AUDITORIUM 3" are listed. A decorative pattern of yellow and black geometric shapes is at the bottom left. On the right, under the heading "Keynote Speakers", two women are shown: Ms. Yin Myo Su and Ms. Anthea Ong. Each speaker has a brief bio and a small portrait.

**Keynote Speakers**

**Ms. Yin Myo Su**  
Founder: Inle Heritage Foundation,  
Inle Heritage Private School  
Managing Director: Inle Princess Group  
Hospitality, Heritage Preservation &  
Women's Empowerment

**Ms. Anthea Ong**  
Founder: Hush TeaBar, A Good Space,  
Project Yoga-On-Wheels  
Impact Entrepreneur/Investor  
Human-centered Design,  
Inclusivity & Wellness

CAPTISS (CAPT Student Symposium) is held once every two years. The theme this year is *“Sharing Spaces”* – the symposium hopes to provide a space for diverse communities to be mutually empowered through the sharing of ideas, practices and experiences.

Join us for CAPTISS 2018! Be part of the conversation!  
For more information, please visit [bit.ly/captiss](http://bit.ly/captiss)

Register here:



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# the academic bulletin

## NEW MODULE: **UNDERSTANDING COMMUNITIES: THEORY & PRACTICE (UTC2409/UTS2407)**

This module helps students to critically understand the unmet needs and issues of marginalised communities (e.g. the elderly and the disabled). It does this by providing students with opportunities to actively engage with a selected community, and to study its challenges in-depth. Students will be equipped with the basic concepts and skills of research and evaluation to study the community's programmes and policies. They will apply the knowledge they acquire in the classroom to real-world situations. This year we are collaborating with community partner St Luke's Elder Care.



Dr Mukhopadhyay



Ms Chang-Koh

### Contact:

Dr Kankana Mukhopadhyay ([kankana.m@nus.edu.sg](mailto:kankana.m@nus.edu.sg)) & Ms Sue Chang-Koh ([rc3scsf@nus.edu.sg](mailto:rc3scsf@nus.edu.sg))

## NEW READING GROUP: **GENDER & POLITICS**

First session on Thursday, 30 Aug, 4-6pm, Reading Room

Led by Academic Visitor A/P Netina Tan from McMaster, Canada, this reading group surveys key concepts and contemporary debates on the participation and representation of women and men in politics. It asks why gender inequality continues to persist around the world in both developed and developing countries, comparing cases in South and Southeast Asia, including Singapore. Some questions include: why we need more women in politics; whether women represent women, intersectionality, and the role of international norms and social activism.

Contact: Assoc Prof Reuben Wong ([polwongr@nus.edu.sg](mailto:polwongr@nus.edu.sg)) & Dr Linda Matar ([linda@nus.edu.sg](mailto:linda@nus.edu.sg))



A/P Wong,  
A/P Tan and  
Dr Matar

Find out more and sign up at [www.capt.nus.edu.sg/current-students/reading-groups](http://www.capt.nus.edu.sg/current-students/reading-groups)



# the academic bulletin

## READING GROUP: **HEALTHY COMMUNITIES** – **GLOBAL HEALTH**

First session on Wednesday, 29 Aug, 5-7pm, SR6

Healthy Communities (HCRG) is an interdisciplinary Reading Group for people who are interested in bridging the gap between evidence and practice, and in examining the real-world issues that individuals, communities and health systems face in trying to improve the health of populations. This semester, the RG will focus on Global Health programmes, and what makes them effective, or otherwise. We will be using a case study approach to understand principles for meeting health needs in different countries.

We are privileged to have **Dr Liow Chee Hsiang** (photo on right) from the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health as a co-convenor this semester.

Contact: Assoc Prof Adeline Seow ([adelineseow@nus.edu.sg](mailto:adelineseow@nus.edu.sg))

Find out more and sign up at [www.capt.nus.edu.sg/current-students/reading-groups](http://www.capt.nus.edu.sg/current-students/reading-groups)



The book 'Millions Saved' is our focus this Semester.



## READING GROUP: **MINORITIES & LANGUAGES**

First session on Tuesday, 28 Aug, 6-8pm, SR6

This reading group will explore the policies, challenges and research related to minorities and languages, with a special focus on Singapore and the region.



Why is Mandarin an official language in Singapore and Hokkien only a “dialect”? How and why has the number of Indian languages available as Mother Tongue in schools expanded since independence? Why have other Southeast Asian countries chosen some languages over others for official status? The group will discuss these questions and consider how language and education policies relate to concepts of identity, ethnicity and nation building.

Contact:

Assoc Prof Bruce Lockhart ([hisbl@nus.edu.sg](mailto:hisbl@nus.edu.sg)) & Ms Wong Soon Fen ([rc3wsf@nus.edu.sg](mailto:rc3wsf@nus.edu.sg))



# the academic bulletin

## ACADEMIC VISITORS THIS SEMESTER

**Dr Netina Tan** is Associate Professor of Political Science at McMaster University, Canada. Her work focuses on authoritarian resilience and the political inclusion of women and ethnic minorities. She is interested in the socio-political developments in East and Southeast Asia. Besides working on her new book on *Hegemonic Party Survival in Singapore and Taiwan*, she is also working on new methods to study the substantive representation of elected women and minority leaders.

Dr Netina Tan will be leading the **Gender & Politics Reading Group** together with Assoc Prof Reuben Wong and Dr Linda Matar.



**Dr Roberto Di Napoli** is Professor of Higher Education Scholarship and Practice and Head of the Centre for Innovation and Development in Education at St George's, University of London.

Dr Di Napoli will visit CAPT classes and hold a Master's Tea on learning in higher education. He will also be working with CAPT Fellows on a Teaching & Learning research project and engage in Fellows in discussions about the latest theories in higher education.

**Ms Priyanka Jain** leads the research programme at the Centre for Migration and Labour Solutions (Aajeevika Bureau) that develops innovative solutions and knowledge on internal migration in India. Ms Priyanka's current research interests include the political economy of informal work and labour migration, occupational health and safety, housing for migrants and women's work.

Ms Priyanka will be involved in **UTC 2404 (Re)Building Communities: Insights from India** and **UTC 2403 Citizenship in a Changing World**.





# the academic bulletin

## THE CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE: PROJECTS LAST SEM.



### Project Kindle (second run)

**Partner:** Methodist Children & Youth Centre

**Project:** Using evidence-based elements of mentoring and group-engagement to convey socio-emotional lessons to foster children.

### Road to Recovery: Insights from the Lens of Women in Rehabilitation

**Partner:** Women in Recovery Association (WIRA)

**Project:** Discovering latent problems that women face on their road to recovery through primary and secondary research.



### Project Jiak Simi: Food Stories of Golden Kismis Residents

**Partner:** Toh Yi Residents Committee & Hannah Presbyterian Services

**Project:** Examining social experiences associated with food and proposing measures to engage residents.

“ The journey has sure been a **rewarding** one – I am thankful for the **lessons learnt**, friendships forged and memories made over the past 4 months. I would **definitely return** to the garden again to visit the aunties and uncles, or perhaps try out gardening for myself.

– Angeline Loh ”

### Establishing Relations between Gardeners and their Eating Habits in Toh Yi Community Gardens

**Partner:** Toh Yi Gardens

**Project:** Gathering evidence of social and health benefits to support establishment of future community gardens.



If you're interested in taking a Capstone for credit, please visit:  
<http://capt.nus.edu.sg/current-students/capstone>



# the academic bulletin

## SI-STEER NEPAL

SI-STEER Nepal is the first STEER trip in the College of Alice and Peter Tan (CAPT) which is student-initiated and co-organized with fellows - Ms Wong Soon Fen and Dr Kankana Mukhopadhyay. Partnering with Ridge View Residential College (RVRC), this trip revolved around the theme of **"Development, Dilemmas, Design"**. RVRC lent its expertise in sustainability and environmental conservation, adding another perspective to this trip.



Visiting a PET bottle recycling centre

To learn more about the trip, visit [www.captsocialinnovation.com](http://www.captsocialinnovation.com).



## STEER BOTSWANA

STEER Botswana was held from 19 May to 5 June 2018. Led by Dr Tan Lai Yong, Dr Toh Tai Chong, Assoc Prof Reuben Wong and Ms Lee Meng Choo, this is CAPT's second STEER trip to Botswana. The focus was on the challenges facing the Economy, Education and Environmental sectors. The team also caught glimpses of these issues in Johannesburg (South Africa) and Livingstone (Zambia) as they transited through these cities.



**“ This study trip has given me much insight into the culture and historical background of Southern Africa that has helped shape the region into what it is today. ”**

- Koh Ming Hui



# the academic bulletin

## OVERSEAS SERVICE LEARNING TRIPS

### CAPT @ SMILE VILLAGE



CAPT's Social Innovation (SI) Wing partnered with Solutions to End Poverty (STEP) and Smile Village. Asset mapping of the village was done in order to pinpoint key issues and needs of the community. The team of 15 then engaged the community with plans that involved digital literacy and gamified learning, a cultural exchange to enhance the arts scene in the community, and an expansion of the markets and products available to the village enterprises. Learn more here: [www.captsocialinnovation.com](http://www.captsocialinnovation.com).

### CAPT KAMAL

CAPT Kamal is an overseas service learning trip to India featuring partnership between CAPT and Dream School Foundation that involves planning and executing summer camps for students from vulnerable socio-economic backgrounds. Our project aims to inspire and encourage the pursuit of knowledge and character development through both academic and non-academic programs.



### CAPT's CATwalk Trip

Nine CAPTains participated in the Malaysian Conservation Alliance for Tigers (MYCAT)'s CATwalk programme from 11 to 13 May. MYCAT's CATwalk programme provided an avenue for participants to do their part for tiger conservation by trekking in the rainforests of Pahang. These pristine rainforests are the last bastions of Malaysia's diverse wildlife, and very different from the oil palm plantation landscape encountered in the south. The issue is complex but the passion of the MYCAT team in the work that they do really inspired the team.