#### **GRADUATE CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

#### **VENUE**

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
National University of Singapore, Kent Ridge Campus
AS7 Shaw Foundation Building, 5 Arts Link, Singapore 117570

# REGISTRATION COUNTER SECRETARIAT, AS7 FOYER

Please collect your conference kit and name badge at the Registration Counter. The badge must be worn at all times to gain entry to sessions and functions.

Please check the Message Boards regularly for updates or announcements. Messages for fellow delegates may be posted there.

# **SESSION ETIQUETTE**

As a courtesy to the presenters and participants, please switch off (or put on silent mode) all beeping devices (mobile phones, etc.) during all sessions.

#### **GRADUATE CONFERENCE SITE PLAN**

Keynote/Plenary/Closing Sessions A	AS7, Level 1, Rooms 01-16/17/18 (Room ABC)
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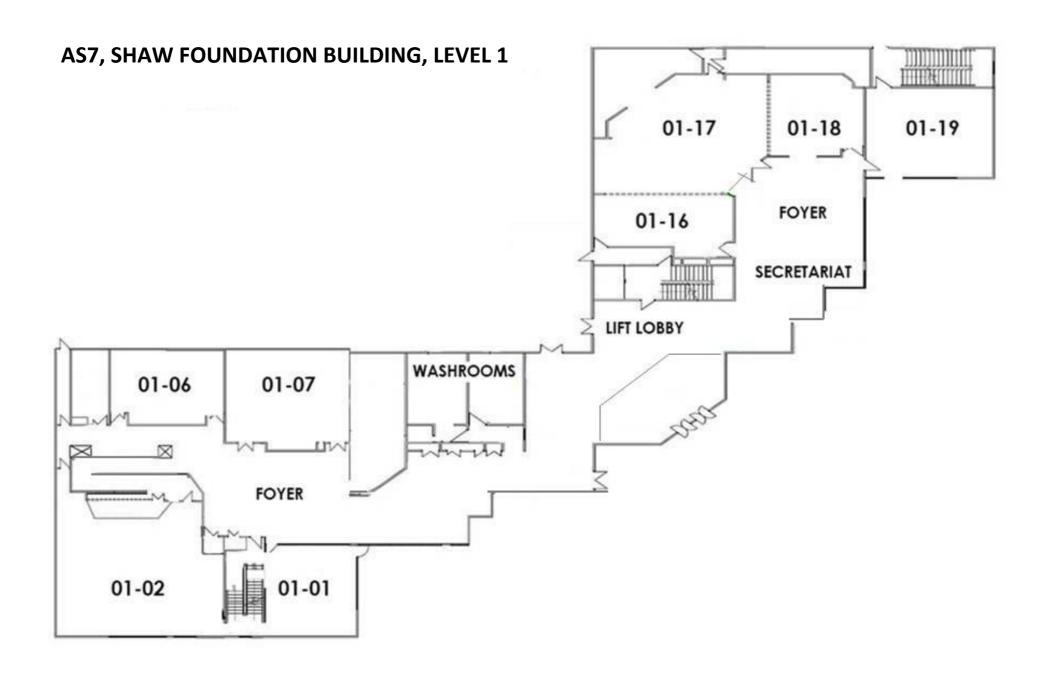
Breakout Sessions AS7, Level 1, Room ABC

AS7, Level 1, Room 01-19 AS7, Level 1, Room 01-01 AS7, Level 1, Room 01-07

Secretariat /Internet Stations AS7, Foyer

Tea-Breaks AS7, Foyer

Book Displays AS7, Foyer



	М	ONDAY, 1 JULY 201	. 3	
09:00 - 09:30	REGISTRATION (AS7 FOYER, LEVEL 1)			
09:30 - 09:45	OPENING ADDRESS (ROOM ABC)			
		<b>Professor Chua Beng Huat</b> f Department of Sociology, Cluster Leader tional University of Singapore, and Inter-A		
09:45 - 10:45		KEYNOTE ADDRESS (ROOM ABC)		
	INTER-REFERENCIN	IG SOUTHEAST ASIA: FROM MIMIC	RY TO RESONANCE	
		<b>Professor Chua Beng Huat</b> f Department of Sociology, Cluster Leader tional University of Singapore, and Inter-A		
	Chairperson  Associate Professor Daniel Goh  Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore, and Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society			
10:45 – 11:15		TEA BREAK		
11:15 – 12:30		PANEL SESSIONS		
	ROOM ABC PANEL 1	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 2	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 3	
	QUEER THEORY I	HOME, WOMEN & FAMILY	IDENTITY & SPATIAL CONSTRUCTS I	
	Chairperson <b>Keren Yi</b>	Chairperson Jasnea Sharma	Chairperson Ji Youn Kim	
11:15	Heteronormalizing a Queered Chanel in Online Chinese Fan Communities  Jing Zhao  University of Wisconsin, USA	Understanding the Pain of Separation of Mass Migration: A Gender Analysis of <i>Bidesia</i> Songs  Asha Singh  Tata Institute of Social Sciences - Mumbai, India	What Does it Mean to Preserve Age-old Traditions? Focusing on the Old Restaurants on Pimaguil  Soo Young Yang Seoul National University, South Korea	
11:30	An Other Othered By Other Others:  Manila Luzon and the Irreverence of Drag  Ma. Paula Luz M. Pamintuan-Riva University of the Philippines – Baguio	Privacy, Gender and Space: A Study on Iranian Women's Privacy at Houses  Mohammad Nouri National University of Singapore	City, Space and the Informal Survivalism: The Study of Street Vendors in Dhaka City  Md. Tarek Khan University of Dhaka, Bangladesh	
11:45	Online Comrade Literature from Mainland China: Communicating Messages to Subvert Repressive Heteronormative Ideologies of Gender and Sexuality on the Chinese Cyberspace  Rachel Leng  Duke University, USA	Toward a Promising Family Future— The Question of Gender Equality Policy in Contemporary Taiwan  Li-Fang Lai  National Central University, Taiwan	"Invited" Muslim Community in Korea and Afterwards <b>Ji Youn Kim</b> National University of Singapore	
12:00	Somewhere, Between 'In' and 'Out': (Self)Representing Queerness Using Online Social Media in Neoliberal China  Keren Yi  The University of Melbourne, Australia	State, Borders, Home and Identity: An Asian Perspective  Jasnea Sharma  National Chengchi University, Taiwan		
12:15	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS			
12:30 – 13:45		LUNCH		

MONDAY, 1 JULY 2013			. 3
13:45 – 15:00	PANEL SESSIONS		
	ROOM ABC PANEL 4 QUEER THEORY II Chairperson Wen-Ling Kung	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 5 GENDER - FILM Chairperson Ziquan Ni	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 6 IDENTITY & SPATIAL CONSTRUCTS II Chairperson Kathleen Azali
13:45	Queer Romance in South Korea  Junan Jang  Korea National University of Arts,  South Korea	Islamic Masculinity in Indonesian Islamic Movies (The Representation of Men and the Practice of Men's Power in Indonesian Islamic Movies in the Post New Order Period)  Muria Endah Sokowati Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia	From Africa to China: An Exploration of Place-making Practices and Structures of Belonging amongst Africans in Guangzhou  Roberto Castillo  Lingnan University, Hong Kong
14:00	'We Are All Different, There Are No Differences' — The Discourse of Sexual Diversity in Contemporary Japan Shu Min Yuen The University of Melbourne, Australia	New Malaysian Femininity: Redefining Malay Womanhood in Yasmin Ahmad's Films  Humairah Bte Zainal National University of Singapore	'Fair Travel' as a Global Justice Movement <b>Jiyoon Kim</b> The University of Tokyo, Japan
14:15	"Born This Way/Gay?" Chinese Queer Liberalism and Homosexual Biopolitics  Yuinting Ong The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Women's Gender Roles in Contemporary Thai Romantic Comedy Films Kanakkorn Witedwittayanusat Nanyang Technological University, Singapore	Biopolitics in Japanese Railway Stations: The Significance of Gates, Escalators and Manner Posters  Kaima Negishi The Australian National University
14:30	The Representations of LGBT Spatial Politics in Two Taiwanese "Tongzhi" Films— From Crystal Boys (1986) to Formula 17 (2004) Wen-Ling Kung Academia Sinica, Taiwan	Female Masculinity in King Hu's A Touch of Zen  Ziquan Ni The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Potentials and Challenges of Alternative Space <b>Kathleen Azali</b> University of Airlangga, Indonesia
14:45	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS		
15:00 – 15:15		BREAK	

MONDAY, 1 JULY 2013			13
15:15 – 16:15	PANEL SESSIONS		
	ROOM ABC  PANEL 7  CULTURAL IDENTITY –  LITERATURE & FILM I	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 8 CULTURAL POLICY, ARTS & GOVERNMENT	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 9 WAR & MEMORY – TV & FILM
	Chairperson Maria Myutel	Chairperson Tobias Zuser	Chairperson Satoko Kakihara
15:15	Reinterpreting the 80-90s Hong Kong "Geung Si" Films (Jiang Shi Dian Ying) in Postcolonial Context  Mandy Yee Man Liu Lingnan University, Hong Kong	When Heaven Burns, When Censorship Backfires: A Case Study of Audience Subversion and Submission  Jui Liang Sim Nanyang Technological University, Singapore	The Wartime Memory and Women's Representation in Japan: From the Analysis of NHK Morning Television Series "Asadora" Vicky Hsin-Yi Huang Doshisha University, Japan
15:30	Trashy Horror vs. Popular Piety: What Makes 'Good' National Cinema? Meghan Downes The Australian National University	Across the City, Toward the Nation: Train as Site of Poetry, Poetry as Site of the Train Oscar Tanoco Seruiña Jr University of the Philippines – Diliman	Memory and Nation in Chinese and Japanese Trial Films Amanda Weiss The University of Tokyo, Japan
15:45	Indians and Soap Opera in Indonesia: Behind <i>The Seen</i> Maria Myutel  The Australian National University	Boundaries of Cultural Space: "Hidden Agenda" in Hong Kong's Cultural Policy and Urban Redevelopment  Tobias Zuser Lingnan University, Hong Kong	Love and Lie in Family Drama: Forced Intimacies and Neoimperialism  Satoko Kakihara  University of California – San Diego, USA
16:00	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS		
16:15 – 16:30		BREAK	

		MONDAY, 1	JULY 2013	
16:30 – 17:45	PANEL SESSIONS			
	ROOM ABC  PANEL 10  CULTURAL IDENTITY –  LITERATURE & FILM II	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 11 POPULAR CULTURE	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 12 RELIGION	ROOM 01-07 PANEL 13 LABOUR
	Chairperson Jose Mari Cuartero	Chairperson Mateja Kovacic	Chairperson Jay Lai leng Lau	Chairperson Minjoo Lee
16:30	Laughter, Spatial Practice and Politics in Hong Kong Comedy Films Ray Kwok Wai Lai The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Yaoi and Boys Love in Southeast Asia: A Case Study on the Emergence of a Global Subculture of Resistance to Patriarchal and Heteronormative Social Orders  Tricia Abigail Santos Fermin Osaka University, Japan	Revisiting Hong Kong Cultural Pluralism: The Case of Sheungshui Mosque Developing Process  Login Lok-Yin Law Hong Kong Baptist University, and The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Financialization and Imaginaries Emanating from "Financial Literature" in Shanghai <b>Giulia Dal Maso</b> University of Western Sydney, Australia
16:45	Are They Finnishness or Japaneseness?: A Discourse Analysis of Criticisms of Aki Kaurismäki's Films in Japanese Media Rie Fuse University of Tampere, Finland	Where the Violent Things are: Cultural History of Japanese Rock Crowds  Sota Takahashi Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan	Tourism as Spiritual Warfare: Rethinking Global Pentecostalism with Short- term Mission Trips by Cell Church Mission Network in Hong Kong  Jay Lai leng Lau Lingnan University, Hong Kong	Appearance as a Competence: Focusing on Appearance Management Practice  Steffie Yeonjoo Kim Seoul National University, South Korea
17:00	Affect and Asian Identity Politics: Exploring Affect's Potency in Arundhati Roy's The God of Small Things  Jose Mari Cuartero University of the Philippines — Diliman, and Ateneo De Manila University, Philippines	What is Resistance? Looking at Tokyo's Contemporary Punk Culture  Haruka Iharada Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan		Return to Proletariat or Invention of another Political Subjectivity?: New Cultural Politics of Non-labor Subjects in Japan since Late 1990s Minjoo Lee The University of Tokyo, Japan
17:15		Imaginary Worlds of Japanese Anime <b>Mateja Kovacic</b> Hong Kong Baptist University		
17:30	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS			
17:45	END OF DAY ONE			

TUESDAY, 2 JULY 2013			13
09:15 - 09:30	REGISTRATION (AS7 FOYER, LEVEL 1)		
09:30 - 10:30	PANEL SESSIONS		
	ROOM ABC PANEL 14 ARTS CRITIQUE & POLITICS Chairperson Bernadette Ryan	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 15 IDENTITY – FILM & TV Chairperson M. Regina Widhiasti	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 16 CYBERSPACE & POLITICS Chairperson Ryosuke Hidaka
09:30	"Shuhari" – What is the Japanese Sense of Tradition? A Heretic Goshu Ondo Singer during the "World Music" Boom Ai Fujimoto Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan	"Pure-Love" and Transnationality: Examining Post-Millennium Japanese "Pure-Love" Films  I-Te Rita Sung State University of New York at Stony Brook, USA	Away in the Philippines – Development of Cyber Customary Practices on Interpersonal Conflicts within the Framework of the Philippine Political System  Teresa Paula S. De Luna University of the Philippines – Diliman
09:45	History, Identity and Political Culture: The Imagination of Space in Post-1997 Hong Kong Films  Dan Shen  Lingnan University, Hong Kong	Television as <i>Dispositif</i> : Contemporary Chinese Women, Urbanity and Chinese Entertainment Television  Xuenan Cao Hong Kong Baptist University	CCTV for Censorship, Control, Television and Vendetta? How the State-run Television Shocked Chinese Spectators  Gabriele de Seta The Hong Kong Polytechnic University  Dino Cheung The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
10:00	Creative Australia: Insights into Creativity and Thai phleng phuea chiwit Music  Bernadette Ryan Central Queensland University, Australia	Becoming a Queen in Your Kitchen: Idealizing Modern Indonesian Women  M. Regina Widhiasti  Universitas Indonesia	How Japanese Desk Top Music Culture was Brought under Control <b>Ryosuke Hidaka</b> <i>Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan</i>
10:15	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS		
10:30 - 11:00		TEA BREAK	

TUESDAY, 2 JULY 2013			L 3
11:00 – 12:00	PANEL SESSIONS		
	ROOM ABC PANEL 17 AN EAST ASIAN IMAGINARY I	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 18 MIGRATION I	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 19 MEMORY & VIOLENCE IN MEDIA
	Chairperson Anneke Coppoolse	Chairperson Carol Chan	Chairperson Pei Jean Chen
11:00	Supranational Identity Formation in Government Elites through Regional Institution-Building: Proposal for Future Research on East Asian Regionalism José Guerra Vio National Chengchi University, Taiwan	Migration Strategy and Organization of Transnational Spaces: A Case Study of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Korea You II Sang Hanyang University, South Korea	Shrieks of Silence: Reconstruction of the Kumher Massacre of 1992 <b>Ridhima Sharma</b> Tata Institute of Social Sciences – Mumbai, India
11:15	Performative Subjects outside the State: Jiang Wen's "Devils on the Doorstep"  Xiangjing Chen  Cornell University, USA	Situating 'Development' in the Migration-Development Nexus: The Perspectives of Non-Migrants and Return Migrants in Asia  Carol Chan  University of Pittsburgh, USA	The Memories of a Spark: Reconstructing the 1965 Riots in Madurai against the Imposition of Hindi  Sriram Mohan Tata Institute of Social Sciences – Mumbai, India
11:30	Being On Foot: How Pedestrian Mobility in Transnational Hong Kong and Shenzhen Shapes Places and Defines Identities  Anneke Coppoolse Lingnan University, Hong Kong		Examining Colonial Governmentality of Sexuality through the Lens of Female Same-Sex Suicide in 1920-30s' East Asia  Pei Jean Chen Cornell University, USA
11:45	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS		
12:00 – 13:30		LUNCH	

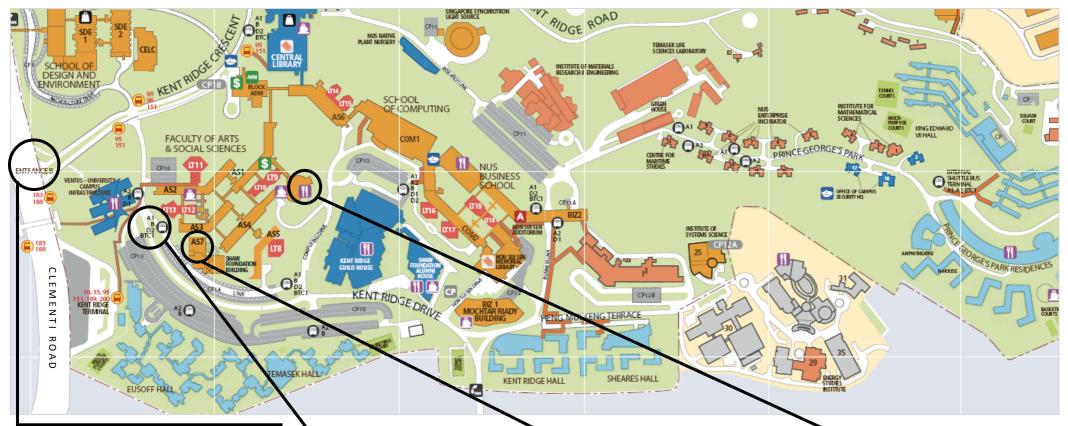
	TUESDAY, 2 JULY 2013		
13:30 – 14:45	PANEL SESSIONS		
	ROOM ABC PANEL 20 AN EAST ASIAN IMAGINARY II	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 21 MIGRATION II	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 22 CULTURAL SIGNIFIERS & NATIONALISM I
	Chairperson Lulu Zhou Egret	Chairperson Jungmin Kwon	Chairperson Sisi Tang
13:30	The Multiple Dimensions of Audience Engagement: (Re)constructing a Shared Imagination of East Asia  S.M. Geitty Tambunan Lingnan University, Hong Kong	Remittances as Form  Paul Nadal  University of California – Berkeley, USA	Formation and Reconstruction of Ethnic Boundaries between Russian and Kazakh Language Speakers (Case Study of Kazakhstan National University Student Groups)  Julia Khan  Hanyang University, South Korea
13:45	A Dream of SM Entertainment: Cultural Sub-imperialism, Developmentalism, and Financialization of KPOP  Sangkyu Lee Seoul National University, South Korea  Daemin Park Seoul National University, South Korea	Desire to be Modern: Taiwan and its Immigrant Penumbrae  Kris Yu-Shiuan Chi National Central University, Taiwan	China's Modernist Ascendancy: At What Cost to "Traditional Culture"?  Tung-Yi Kho  Lingnan University, Hong Kong
14:00	Re-conceptualizing Fan-Celebrity Relationships and Re-negotiating Fan Identities: A Cultural Studies' Perspective  Lulu Zhou Egret The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Imagined Japanese: The "Homecoming" Process of Mixed Heritage Japanese-Filipinos  Megumi Hara Osaka University, Japan	Deciphering the Nationality Signifier through Desire and Recognition: The Multivalency of China/PRC-ness  Peidong Yang  University of Oxford, UK
14:15		The Ethnography of Third Culture Kids: Experiences of Growing up in the US and Returning to Home  Jungmin Kwon  Brown University, USA	Confucius Institute: A Cultural Ambassador or a Political Propagandist? Sisi Tang National Chengchi University, Taiwan
14:30	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS		
14:45 – 15:00		BREAK	

	TUESDAY, 2 JULY 2013			
15:00 – 16:15	PANEL SESSIONS			
	ROOM ABC PANEL 23 YOUTH CULTURE  Chairperson	ROOM 01-19 PANEL 24 CIVIL SOCIETY & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION Chairperson	ROOM 01-01 PANEL 25 CULTURAL SIGNIFIERS & NATIONALISM II Chairperson	
	Malikova Nataliya	Guoyuan Sun	Roslynn Ruoh Theng Ang	
15:00	Youths, Social Media and National Identity Lee Ken Teo National University of Singapore	The Return to Punitive Society? State of Juvenile Delinquency in the Philippines from 2006 to 2011  Jose Carlo Garcia De Pano University of the Philippines – Diliman	The Whiteness in East Asia  Vincent Chung  National Taiwan Normal University	
15:15	Inseparable Usual Images: Reading Media Consumption and Cultural Identity in Indonesian Youth Artwork  Evelyn Huang Jakarta Institute of the Arts, Indonesia  Salima Hakim Multimedia Nusantara University, Indonesia	Visual Art, Collaboration and the Subaltern <b>Felicia Ee Ping Low</b> National University of Singapore	Beyond "China Factor"? — Rethink Democratic Identity in Taiwan and Hong Kong <b>Ted Keng-Liang Cheng</b> <i>Lingnan University, Hong Kong</i>	
15:30	The Role of the Media in Redefining the Concept of Youth Subcultural Graduation: Analyzing Media Discourses around Senior Gyaru and Gyaru-o Who Do Not "Graduate" Yusuke Arai Hitotsubashi University, Japan	Imagination of an Alternative Social Transformation through Education: A Study of a Youth Volunteering Programme in the Non-formal Education Sector in China Guoyuan Sun Lingnan University, Hong Kong	Ainu Pride: Beyond a Reproduction of a Dichotomous Self <b>Roslynn Ruoh Theng Ang</b> New York University, USA	
15:45	Ideologies and Their Oppositions among Youth Social Movements in Japan <b>Malikova Nataliya</b> <i>Hitotsubashi University, Japan</i>			
16:00	QUESTIONS & ANSWERS			
16:15 – 16:30		BREAK		

	TUESDAY, 2 JULY 2013
16:30 – 18:00	PLENARY SESSION (SEMINAR ROOM ABC)
	CULTURAL STUDIES IN ASIA: CONTESTATIONS AND CHALLENGES IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD
	Chairperson
	Professor Kuan-Hsing Chen Professor of Graduate Institute for Social Research and Cultural Studies, Coordinator of Center for Asia-Pacific/ Cultural, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan, and Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society
	Panelists
	Professor Meaghan Morris  Chair, Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society, and Professor of Gender and Cultural Studies, The University of Sydney, Australia, Distinguished Adjunct Professor, Department of Cultural Studies, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, Fellow of the Academy of the Humanities of Australia, and Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of the Humanities
	Professor Melani Budianta
	Professor of Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Indonesia
	Professor Ashish Rajadhyaksha
	Senior Fellow, Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, India
	Professor Tejaswini Niranjana  Lead Researcher of Higher Education Innovation and Research Applications,  Senior Fellow of Centre for the Study of Culture and Society, India,  Visiting Professor of Tata Institute of Social Sciences — Mumbai, India,  Advisor of Access to Knowledge Programme, The Centre for Internet and Society, India, and  Visiting Faculty, Centre for Contemporary Studies, Indian Institute of Science, India
18:00	CLOSING REMARKS
	Associate Professor Daniel PS Goh  Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore, and Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society
18:30	END OF GRAUDATE CONFERENCE
18:30 – 20:00	GRADUATE CONFERENCE DINNER @ AS7 FOYER

#### MAP OF CONFERENCE VENUE

AS7, Shaw Foundation Building, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences National University of Singapore (Kent Ridge Campus)



## TRAVELLING BY TAXI

- Enter by Entrance B of NUS into
   Kent Ridge Crescent
- Turn right at the first traffic light into Kent Ridge Drive
- Turn left into the second Carpark #14 after the overhead bridge



## **NUS INTERNAL SHUTTLE BUS**

A1, B, D2, BTC1 http://www.nus.edu.sg/oed/services/t ransport/shuttle-bus-services.htm



# **SHAW FOUNDATION BUILDING**

**AS7** Faculty Of Arts & Social Sciences 5 Arts Link Singapore 117570



# **FOOD OUTLETS**

The Deck Stalls @ Level 1

Local Food, Snacks,
 Fruit Juices, Coffee & Tea

The Deck Stalls @ Level 2

- Burger King
- Sapore Italiano
- Indonesian Express

#### NUS INTERNAL SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE "A" ROUTE

Hop on here

Service A2 (Blue) Prince George's Park Residences (PGP) → Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) Service A1 (Red) Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) → Prince George's Park Residences (PGP) **Service A1** Kent ← To Jurong Ridge Campus **Service A2** AYER EXPRESSWAY 4 ENTRANCE A KENT YONG LOO LIN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE MAIN BUILDING NATIONAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL ROAD HUS GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR INTEGRATIVE SCIENCES & ENGINEERING 33,183,188 🙀 ROAD SCHOOL OF DESIGN SCIENCE PARK (FASS) FACULTY OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES ENTRANCE B KENT RIDGE **MRT STATION** A2 (End) PGP → FASS (Circle Line - CC24) Alight here. **INTERNAL SHUTTLE** A2 (End) FASS → MRT. A1 (End) MRT → FASS. A2 (Start) PGP → FASS A2 (Start) FASS → MRT. **BUS TERMINAL** Alight here. Alight here. Hop on here. Hop on here. Use the pedestrian crossing **AS7. SHAW FOUNDATION BUILDING** to get to get to the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences (FASS) A1 (Start) FASS → PGP. A1 (End) FASS → PGP PRINCE GEORGE'S A1 (Start) MRT → FASS. opposite side.

Alight here.

Hop on here.

PARK RESIDENCES (PGP)

5 Arts Link, Singapore 117570

#### **LOCAL INFORMATION**

## **Currency Exchange**

Singapore's currency is the Singapore dollar (S\$ or SGD). Money changing services can be found at Singapore Changi Airport, shopping centres and hotels around the island. There are also an abundance of automated teller machines (ATMs) which accept most major credit cards such as Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

## **Drinking Water**

It is safe to drink water straight from the tap in Singapore. However, for those who prefer bottled mineral water, local supermarkets and grocers always have ample stock.

## **Electricity**

Singapore voltage is 220-240 volts AC, 50 cycles per second. The power plugs used in Singapore are of the three-pin, square-shaped type.

### Language

English is the language primarily spoken in Singapore. Mandarin, Malay and Tamil, together with other dialects, are used as well.

#### **Mobile Phone**

Singapore's international dialing code is +(65). While in Singapore and if you have international roaming service on your cell phone, you do not have to press +(65) as it will automatically connect you to the local numbers here. There are two mobile phone networks - GSM900 and GSM1800 - and three mobile telephone service providers - SingTel, M1 and StarHub.

#### **Smoking**

Smoking is prohibited in all airconditioned areas (e.g. shopping centres, restaurants, cinemas, public buses, the MRT, taxis, lifts), common corridors, void decks and staircases within residential buildings, outdoor hospital compounds, as well as a 5-metre radius from any entrance/exit and bus shelter.

#### Weather

Singapore is known for its hot and humid weather, with little variation throughout the year. The average daytime temperature is 31°C (88°F), dropping to around 24°C (75°F) in the evenings. The monsoon season can bear down pretty heavily on our tropical weather from November onwards, so be prepared for rain on a daily basis during this period.

#### **Tax Refund Schemes**

To enjoy tax-free shopping in Singapore, simply look out for retailers that display the "Tax Refund" logo on their shop front and spend SG100 in a single receipt to qualify. More information can be found at the Tourist Refund Scheme page on the Singapore Customs website at www.customs.gov.sg

## **Tipping**

Tipping is not widely practiced in Singapore as most hotels and restaurants apply a default 10% service charge.

#### **LOCAL INFORMATION**

#### **Transport**

The public transport in Singapore is well connected with commuters able to choose between train, taxis and buses.

## **Mass Rapid Transport (MRT)**

This is a fast and efficient form of transport, with a train arriving every few minutes. Fares range from \$\\$1.00 to \$\\$2.00, from vending machines at the stations. Operating hours vary a little but trains run from around 05:15 to 00:15. It is recommended to check what time the last train leaves from the respective stations if you are planning a late night.

#### Bus

Bus fares range from \$\$1.00 to \$\$2.00. If you are paying in cash, please ensure you have the correct fare, as bus drivers do not give change. Alternatively, you can purchase an Ez-Link card, which is a stored-value fare card, from bus interchanges and MRT stations. Ez-Link cards may be used for bus and MRT fares.

## Taxi

Taxis can be flagged from hotels and taxi stands, as well as on the streets, if there are no taxi stands nearby and traffic is not disrupted. Flagged taxi fares starts between S\$3.00 and S\$3.40 for the first 1km. There are additional charges for trips from Changi Airport (from S\$5.00 onwards, depending on the time); to and fro from the Central Business District (S\$3.00 from Monday to Saturday, 17:00 to midnight), Peak Hours (25% of the metered fare on Monday to Saturday from 06:00-09:30 & 18:00 to midnight); After Midnight (50% of the metered fare shown). Advance booking numbers (booking surcharge varies from S\$8.00 to S\$18:00):

 Comfort CityCab
 (65) 6552 1111

 Comfort Premier Cabs
 (65) 6552 2828

 SMRT Taxis
 (65) 6555 8888

 Premier Taxis
 (65) 6363 6888

#### **Useful Telephone Numbers**

Police 999
Ambulance & Fire Brigade 995
Non-Emergency Ambulance Service 1777

Singapore Tourism Board 1800-736 2000

Postal Enquiries (SingPost) 1605 Local Directory Assistance 100 International Directory Assistance 104

Singapore General Hospital (65) 6222 2322 / (65) 6234 4311

Mount Elizabeth Hospital (65) 6737 2666 Gleneagles Hospital (65) 6473 7222