

INTERCULTURADELAIDE

Cultural Adaptivity for the Asian Century | Adelaide Convention Centre, 9 July 2015



InterculturAdelaide is a major public policy summit and action research project taking place in Adelaide on 9 July. Its aim is to bring together scholars, policymakers and other stakeholders to consider the idea of “interculturality”—broadly defined as a set of cultural skills supporting openness and adaptivity. The summit aims to stimulate a discussion in South Australia of Australians’ own diversity, both ancient and modern, and our relationships with diverse regional neighbours in Asia.

The summit is embedded inside the **Ninth International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS9)**, hosted by Adelaide in July 2015. ICAS9 will be the largest Asia-oriented event ever held in Australia, with 1,000 participants expected from more than 50 countries.

The day’s special focus is the rich and complex connections between Australians and our neighbours in **Southeast Asia, India and China**. We will examine migration from these regions to Australia, as well as our sharpened focus on these regions as Australia’s partners in trade, investment and cultural exchange. InterculturAdelaide will ask:

- How can interculturality assist Australians to view diversity not as a threat, problem or resource to be managed, but simply a feature of what we are?
- How can Australians formulate new and relevant notions of community to better support our changing needs as a diverse people?
- How can Australians harness our own diversity to find a new, prosperous place for ourselves in a rapidly restructuring global environment?
- How can Australians join with others to help support the growth of interculturality? Could such alliances help to undermine prejudice, racism, even violent extremism?

Keynote Speakers

- Professor Prasenjit Duara, Raffles Professor of Humanities and Director, Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore. In light of our diversity and that of our Asian neighbours, Prof. Duara will ask: **how relevant is the concept of secularism?**
- Professor Gary Bouma AM, UNESCO Chair in Intercultural and Interreligious Relations—Asia Pacific, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at Monash University, Acting Director of the Global Terrorism Research Centre, and Associate Priest in the Anglican Parish of St John’s East Malvern, Victoria. Prof. Bouma will speak on **religious diversity and interculturality**.

Panels and Ideas Laboratories

InterculturAdelaide is a mixed-format event, featuring panels of expert talks and free-discussion “ideas laboratories”. The program is designed to maximise input and reflection, and the day’s proceedings will inform the drafting of a policy paper for submission to the South Australian Premier.

To provide a structure to the day, the ideas laboratories will be organised around six key policy areas:

- Education and Research
- Cultural Industries and Urban and Regional Environments
- Sports and Tourism
- Food and Wine
- Health and Services
- Inclusion, Cohesion, Resilience and Countering Radicalisation

Call for Abstracts

Abstracts are invited from academic and professional experts who wish to present a twenty-minute talk related to any aspect of the broader questions listed overleaf, and/or the key policy areas listed above.

Abstracts must be submitted online by Friday 12 June. To submit your abstract, please visit the online submission portal at <http://abstracts.webges.com/icas9>, and follow the prompts from there. Accepted presenters may be invited to submit a full paper for publications proposed after InterculturAdelaide.

General Invitation

If you do not wish to present a talk, you are still invited to attend, listen and learn. For the day registration rate charged by ICAS9, the ideas laboratories are also open to any stakeholder with an informed interest in interculturality. A limited number of registration bursaries will be available for selected stakeholders to attend without paying the registration fee.

Further Information

InterculturAdelaide is organised by the **International Centre for Muslim and non-Muslim Understanding** at the University of South Australia, the **Department of Asian Studies** at the University of Adelaide, and the Ninth International Convention of Asia Scholars. The summit is also supported by the **Government of South Australia** through the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

For further information about the event and its aims, please contact its conveners, **Dr Amrita Malhi** (amrita.malhi@unisa.edu.au) and **Dr Gerry Groot** (gerry.groot@adelaide.edu.au). For administrative and logistical assistance, or for queries about abstracts and registrations, please contact **Ms Alison Manser** at International Convention Management Services (icas9@icms.com.au).

