Kim Beazley launches book in honour of Emeritus Professor Paul Dibb

The Hon Kim Beazley AC together with scholars from Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at ANU launched Geography, Power, Strategy and Defence Policy, a series of essays honouring the career and contributions of Emeritus Professor Paul Dibb. Essays examining the impact and influence of Professor Dibb’s role in both policy development and academia are written by multiple colleagues from throughout his career. Such contributors include former SDSC Head Brendan Taylor, Executive Director of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute Peter Jennings and Professor Hugh White AO.
Message from the Head of Department

This is the second e-newsletter intended as a periodic offering from the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australia’s leading university-based think tank. It is a pre-digested overview of policy-relevant research, projects, media commentary and upcoming events produced by SDSC staff. This is intended as a community service and we welcome all constructive feedback to john.blaxland@anu.edu.au

Professor John Blaxland, Head SDSC

Featured Publications

Books

Independent Ally: Australia in an Age of Power Transition
SDSC Visiting Fellow, Shannon Tow explores Australia as a regional power in the hegemonic power battle between China and the United States. Tow highlights how Australia has consistently developed and uniquely pursued independent foreign policy towards both powers by proactively negotiating the terms of the multifaceted relationships. The release of fresh archival material allows Tow to explore how six different Australian Prime Ministers successfully navigated these two ever-prominent power relationships over the last century.

Centre of Gravity Series

Integrated Asia: Australia’s Dangerous New Strategic Geography
Executive Director of La Trobe Asia, Nick Bisley highlights the issues of globalisation and major power rivalry that is perpetrating a China-centric integrated Asian strategic system. He examines this changing strategic geography and argues China will firmly sit at the heart of this strategic system that now encompasses the geopolitical theatres of Northeast, Southeast, South and Central Asia. Bisley highlights that nationalist ambition will be a key deterrent in expanding regional cooperation and thus Australia needs to re-orientate its strategic policy in a more integrated Asian strategic system.

PODCASTS

The Cove: War in the Sand Pit Conference 2017

John Blaxland and James Steinberg: Security Threats in Asia

ACADEMIC PROFILE

Professor Evelyn Goh: Professor Evelyn Goh aims to help widen the scope and depth of strategic policy research on Asian security. As the inaugural Shedden Professor of Strategic Policy Studies, Professor Goh has published extensive scholarship analysing the geopolitical dynamics of China, the U.S., Northeast and Southeast Asia. This analysis has included contemporary regional security strategy, environmental security and US hegemony in the Asia-
After Mosul: A Grueling Start Down a Very Long Road

Visiting Fellow at the Coral Bell School of Asia and the Pacific Studies, Matt Brown examines the consequences of the battle for Mosul and ongoing security threats presented by ISIS. Despite fewer civilian casualties and less damage to infrastructure than predicted, the threat of sectarianism violence and previous government abuse remains a prevalent concern in the region. Brown highlights Australian security assistance should focus on intelligence-led action against organised crime and insurgent networks, whilst promoting human rights through development aid and encouraging inclusive national and provincial governments.

» read more

Implications for Australia of the Crisis in the West and the Threat from China and Russia

Emeritus Professor Paul Dibb highlights the increasing rise of extremist nationalism and protectionist policies as a consequence of the global financial crisis. This has created a global and regional strategic outlook that is extremely uncertain and unstable. Dibb highlights that the central strategic challenge in our region is opacity about America’s commitment and alarm about a much more assertive China, as well as North Korea’s belligerent threats of nuclear war.

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Smaller, but enmeshed: Why Australia needs to make ASEAN an even stronger priority

Former Dean of Asian Studies at the ANU, Tony Miller and Adjunct Associate Professor at the SDSC, Ron Huiskan examine a lost Australian focus in and engagement with the Southeast Asia region. Miller and Huiskan emphasise that Australian support for ASEAN needs to be unambiguous and cooperation should be imperative to ensure increased value in the region.

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Prospects for the Rules-Based Global Order

SDSC Research Fellow, Dr Greg Raymond joins ANU Associate Professor of Law, Dr Hitoshi Nasu, Deputy Director of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies at RSIS, Professor Tan See Seng and Associate Professor of Law, Rob McLaughlin in an extensive analysis of current geo-political and legal structures. This Centre of Gravity Series
contains three articles focusing on the prospects rules-based order in the Asia-Pacific region, Russia and Crimea and in the global context.

» read more

What do we do at SDSC?

The Strategic & Defence Studies Centre is Australia’s oldest and largest academic centre focused on strategic and defence issues. Our expertise within strategic studies consist of three related research clusters: Military studies, Australian defence, and Asia-Pacific security. We offer Australia’s most respected graduate programs dealing with Australian Defence and Asia-Pacific and global security issues:

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Master of Strategic Studies
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