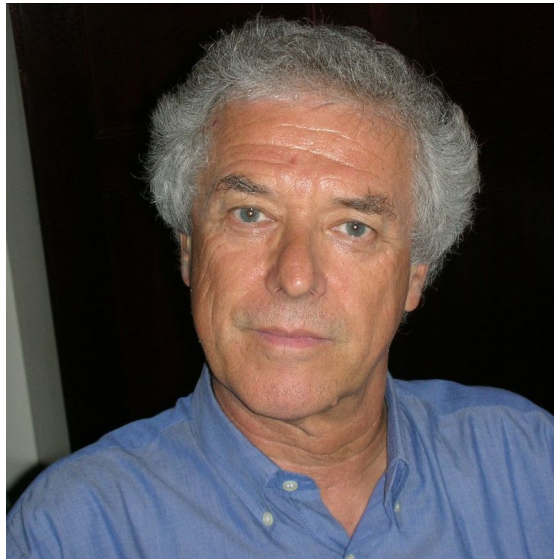




# Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils

**Welcome to the AASSREC Quarterly Newsletter  
July 2020**

## **Message from the President**



**Welcome to the first edition of the AASSREC Quarterly Newsletter.**

At a time when international collaboration has been seriously affected due to international travel restrictions in response to Covid-19, it is more important than ever to remain connected with our colleagues in the social sciences. Each quarter we'll be sending updates with news from the Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils and other notices relevant to the social sciences in the Asia-Pacific region.

The last several months have been a busy time for the AASSREC Executive Council and Secretariat. AASSREC is planning to hold a webinar at the end of the year. We'll have representatives from our member organisations discuss the social science contributions to managing the Covid-19 pandemic in their respective countries, and what the aftermath might be. We'll provide more information on the webinar as planning progresses.

I'm also delighted to announce the launch of the new [AASSREC website](#). Please take a look around - you'll find information on our member organisations, our biennial conferences and social science news from across the region. If you would like to share some news or events on our website or newsletter please do reach out to us - we'd love to hear what's happening.

Professor James J. Fox  
President of AASSREC

## New Forum on Scientific Evaluation



**FOLEC**

Foro Latinoamericano sobre  
Evaluación Científica



**Our Latin American equivalent has a new space for exchanging ideas - and they'd like your input.**

One of AASSRECs objectives is to work with other regional and international organisations. Now, there's a new opportunity to do this via our Latin American equivalent, the Latin American Council of Social Sciences ([CLACSO](#)).

CLACSO's Latin American Forum on Scientific Evaluation ([FOLEC](#)) is a new space for debate and exchange on scientific evaluation processes.

They want international organisations, researchers and specialists to come together as part of the process, in order to reach a common proposal on science evaluation to be presented at the next CLACSO conference in November 2021.

Read more about this initiative, including the report of the first seminar of the Latin American Forum on Scientific Evaluation [here](#).

## Research looks different in a pandemic: this new crowdsourced resource will help

A new crowd-sourced document, titled '**Doing Fieldwork in a Pandemic**', could be a helpful tool for researchers undertaking fieldwork in a pandemic - specifically, for those looking for ideas on avoiding in-person interactions to meet social distancing requirements.

The document has lots of suggestions of other research processes that will help you achieve similar ends under the unique research conditions we currently face.

The document has useful contributions from researchers all around the world and has also been translated into French.

To learn more and access the internationally popular resource document, click [here](#).



## India's ICSSR has 'overwhelming' response to COVID studies callout.

The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) invited proposals for research programs via a special callout for studies focusing on the social science dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For further information about the process and to keep up with which projects end up being funded, click [here](#).



## NSF Sri Lanka & ICSSR sign Memorandum of Understanding

The National Science Foundation (NSF) of Sri Lanka entered into a strategic partnership with the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) by signing a Memorandum of Understanding on 4 October 2019.

This partnership will enable the two institutions to strengthen the research collaborations between Sri Lanka and India in the field of Social Sciences. Accordingly, the exchange of scholars, organizing joint conferences, seminars & workshops and sharing literature will be fostered through this initiative.



## Upcoming Events



## Social Sciences Week AUSTRALIA | 7-13 September 2020

**Register your online event for Social Sciences Week in Australia, 7-13 September 2020.**

Social Sciences Week is a week-long series of events held across Australia each September offering insight into the impact of the social sciences on our lives.

Anyone in the world is welcome to register an event they wish to run in Social Sciences Week. Given the COVID-19 pandemic we are encouraging event organisers to run their event digitally, or at least to offer both an in person and digital offering where possible.

For 2020 events, we are particularly interested in events which touch on our broader theme of “the Social Sciences during a crisis”. However, all social-science themed events are welcomed.

To learn more or register your event in the program - click [here](#).

## Featured Books and Articles

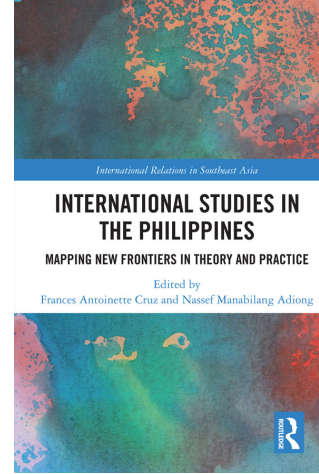
### **International Studies in the Philippines: Mapping New Frontiers in Theory and Practice**

**Edited by Frances Antoinette Cruz and Nassef Manabilang Adiong.**

How can local experiences and the social transformation generated by modernity help to enrich our understanding of the international? What might a version of the much-discussed “non-Western International Relations (IR)” look like? What continuities

and discontinuities from the Philippine experience in particular can be useful for understanding other post-colonial polities?

Cruz, Adiong and their contributors map horizons of non-Western approaches in Philippine experiences of IR, rooted in the Global South, and in local customs and practice. [Read more](#)



## Conferences

### Resilience theme draws a crowd to Philippine National Social Science Congress

The Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) gathered over 250 social scientists and delegates in a timely conference on resilience.

A total of 124 paper and research presentations across 36 panels sparked discussions on resilience in relation to issues spanning cultural identity, wars and disasters, digital technologies, environment and climate change management, and gender issues, amongst many others. [Read more](#)



### NSF Sri Lanka's international conference probes the social and cultural nexus of science and technology development.



The National Science Foundation (NSF) of Sri Lanka held an international conference on the “Social and Cultural Nexus of Science and Technology Development.”

The Conference was held in Colombo from 3-4 October 2019 with the aim of creating a platform to discuss, present and debate knowledge on how the science and technology development of a country is shaped by its socio-cultural factors.

For more information, including the conference proceedings click [here](#).

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Visit the [AASSREC website](#) for more news and events

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