Nomination of JY Pillay Fellows (2019-2020)

1. The JY Pillay Fellowship

The JY Pillay Comparative Asia Research Centre (CARC) was set up under the Global Asia Institute (NUS GAI) to pursue comparative research into key development issues facing Asia, in particular its three giants – India, China, and Indonesia. The Centre focuses specifically on cross-national comparative studies within Asia (see current research programme below). Named in honour of Professor J.Y. Pillay, renowned Singaporean policy maker and corporate leader, the Centre was established in 2012 with funding consisting of generous gifts from Singapore Exchange and Singapore Airlines and co-funding from NUS. With the income accumulated through these endowment gifts, the Centre is now able to fund a number of JY Pillay Fellowships annually to support academic visits by senior professors to the CARC and the hosting Department in NUS for 1 to 3 months. Ideally, such distinguished fellows should use the fellowship to augment their sabbatical or extended research leave and to conduct collaborative research aligned with the core focus and mission of the Centre and the hosting Department. Each fellow is expected to interact with faculty members in NUS and to deliver a JY Pillay CARC lecture during the fellowship.

2. Introduction to the CARC’s research programme

The CARC’s current research programme, entitled “Comparative Asian capitals: organizing market economies across East and South Asia”, is designed to tackle one of the most important questions in social science research on Asia – how and why are Asia’s market economies organized differently? It seeks to provide a state-of-the-art understanding of the dynamic industrial transformations of market economies in East and South Asia. During the past three decades, substantial research conducted in a wide range of social science disciplines, such as business and organization studies, comparative political economy, development studies, economic sociology, and legal studies, has shown that high-growth Asian economies owe their meteoric rise to unique configurations of business firms, inter-organizational networks, innovation and financial systems, political-legal structures, and state and non-state forms of governance. Several important and highly influential conceptual perspectives have been developed to understand and explain these varieties and configurations of economic organization in Asian capitalisms. They have also made very significant impact on the social sciences in the global research communities.

Although the processes and outcomes of economic organization in individual Asian countries have been studied in different disciplines throughout the world, the above critical dimensions of economic organization in Asia have not often been brought together in a truly comparative and multidisciplinary setting. As a “programme architect”, the CARC funds ongoing research projects of cross-national
comparative studies in a multidisciplinary fashion that straddles different disciplines, schools, and faculties in NUS. Through a combination of cutting-edge theoretical and empirical research in a wide range of comparative Asian contexts, these projects offer critical information and policy insights to those in the private and public sectors who are interested in doing business in Asia and in the divergent processes and outcomes of economic development in Asia.

3. Fellowship terms and conditions

We seek prospective fellows from outside Singapore who are senior professors in their fields and whose research augments or extends the core focus of the CARC and the hosting Department/School.

We do not accept individual applications. All prospective fellows should be nominated by one or more NUS faculty members through the respective Heads of Departments (or Deans of Schools if appropriate). The appointed fellow will stay with the Department (or School) during the fellowship period.

The Centre offers funding for (1) all-inclusive monthly honorarium of $10,000 for up to three months; (2) economy-class return airfare; and (3) relevant benefits under the prevailing NUS Visiting Appointment Scheme (HR214/09).

Priority will be given to nominations co-funded for 50% by the hosting Departments/Schools.

4. Nomination procedure and timeline

We encourage all nominating faculty members to ensure the consent and availability of prospective fellows.

The nomination should comprise (1) a write-up of no more than 3 pages explaining the international reputation and research impact of the prospective fellow, the likely period of visit in 2019-2020 and the plan for activities during the fellowship, and the expected benefits to the hosting Department; (2) detailed CV and publication list of the fellow; and (3) an indication of the amount of co-funding, if any, from the Department/School.

Please submit the nomination to gaibox7@nus.edu.sg stating “JY Pillay Fellowship Nomination” in the subject line and copy your Faculty’s Vice-Dean Research Office. The deadline for this first call is 31 October 2018 (for 2019 visit) and 31 January 2019 (for 2020 visit).

Thank you.

Henry Yeung
Distinguished Professor and Director, JYP CARC