

CONTESTING INDONESIA SEMINAR SERIES

Scott Guggenheim

AusAID

Chair: Toby Carroll
Research Fellow, Centre on Asia and Globalisation, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Date: Thursday, 12 February 2009

Time: 12.15 p.m. - 1.30 p.m.

Venue: Seminar Room 3-1, Level 3
Manasseh Meyer
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
469C Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259772

This is a brown bag seminar and you are most welcome to bring your own packed lunch

Closed and Open Peasant Communities: A Review of State Development and Grassroots Politics in Post-New Order Indonesia

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Scott Guggenheim is an anthropologist who spent many years working for the World Bank before recently joining AusAID. Best known for his work on large-scale community development programs in Indonesia and Afghanistan, Dr. Guggenheim has also managed innovative research programs on social capital, conflict and recovery, culture and development, and corruption in development projects.

SYNOPSIS

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's announcement that he was planning to make the National Program for Community Empowerment ("PNPM") the cornerstone of his national poverty reduction strategy marked both continuity and change in how the national government politically approaches rural communities. Seen in the context of Indonesia's ongoing democratic reforms and the still volatile program for decentralization, PNPM fits into a pattern of engaging new political actors. Seen from Indonesia's history of poverty reduction through mass mobilization for development, PNPM fits into a long pattern of central elites building political bases through community development. This talk will concentrate on describing PNPM itself, with a special focus on the political dynamics that led to the program's design, and a close look at the "black box" of community institutions and their role in Indonesia's ongoing social reforms.

This seminar is part of the Contesting Indonesia series organised by the Centre on Asia and Globalisation, at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. The series provides an opportunity for scholars and practitioners within the region to present their take on the world's third largest democracy. It runs from October 2 2008 into early 2009. For more information on the series please contact spymle@nus.edu.sg or visit <http://www.spp.nus.edu.sg/CAG/home.aspx>