

Editor's Note

The articles in Volume 3 focus on themes and methodologies which continue to give Pacific Asia much of its contemporary and historical relevance. The first theme explores contemporary migration issues in Micronesia and Taiwan. Topics found in theme one include migration patterns' impact on families, in particular children and women, in relation to children's development paths, education, ways of learning, spatial strategies, resocialization and marriage. The second theme investigates colonial legacies and the need for social change on Fiji and Guam. Historical formations, access to economic and political resources, uneven development and reversing the colonial gaze are put forth in the articles which make up the second theme. Contemporarily economic structures and adaptation in The Federated States of Micronesia and The Republic of Palau are the focus of our third theme. Authors give first-hand insight into entrepreneurship, race relations, small-scale business development, traditional knowledge and micro-finance in Koror, Colonia and the FSM. The final theme focuses on qualitative methods and discourse analysis with emphasis on the ways in which discourse analysis contributes to the production of knowledge in environmental research. As a whole, these themes represent multidisciplinary perspectives on social change in Pacific Asia, advancing our knowledge and understanding of the region.

Volume 3 begins with an article by our first invited author, Mary L. Spencer, titled "Paths of Central Caroline Island Children During Migration and Times of Rapid Change." This in-depth article incorporates first-hand research conducted on Romonum Island, in Chuuk Lagoon, with scholarly works focusing on migration and child development. Dr. Spencer's thesis focuses on the need to incorporate everyday life routines, practices, and cultural ways of learning in order to understand Micronesian students' educational attainment and needs in public schools. The conceptual focus shifts from children to spouses in the second article, by Ying-chun Liu and Lan-Hung Nora Chiang. "Together and Apart: Spatial Tactics of Women in Seafaring and Commuting Households in Taiwan" examines traditional and contemporary spatial relations for spouses living in different households. With a particular emphasis on women, the authors' timely article examines the ways in which spatial tactics are linked to informational technologies, the division of reproductive labor and a change in gender norms.

Our second theme, colonial legacies and the need for social change, starts with a thought-provoking article by Hao-Li Lin, titled "Colonial Uneven Development, Fijian Vanua, and Modern Ecotourism in Taveuni, Fiji." Her detailed account of the history of uneven development works in tandem with her case-study on post-colonial forms of development – most notably ecotourism. This juxtaposed model emphasizes the importance of understanding colonial economic structures when analyzing contemporary economic, social and cultural relations of marginalized groups. The colonial legacy of Guam and contemporary political relations are discussed in Michael L. Bevacqua's astute article, "The (Un)exceptional Life of a Non-Voting Delegate: Guam and the Production of American Sovereignty." The author puts forth insightful theoretical and descriptive analyses which pinpoint the political realities of sovereignty and the need to reconceptualize Guam's political and economic relations with the United States.

The third theme, contemporarily economic structures and adaptation, begins with a compelling article by Todd Ames titled "The Greening of Yap: The Transformative Reemergence of Subsistence Agriculture and Its Impact on Rural Community Development in Yap, F.S.M." The author analyzes the current economic state of the FSM, in particular Yap State through first-hand interviews, observations and secondary analyses. Emphasis is on food

expenditures, total household income and expenditures, population growth and subsistence activities in relation to community development. The conceptual focus shifts from the FSM to Palau in “The Emergence of Local Entrepreneurs in Palau,” written by Chen Yuping. Dr. Yuping looks at economic change and adaptation through a racial lens and the ways in which local entrepreneurship, identity and social status are linked to perceptions, patterns and practices found in the local economy. Subsequently, in “Micro-Traders: A Case Study of Micro-Finance on Yap Proper, Federated States of Micronesia,” Angeline Ames (Editor) puts forth evidence of the success of micro-finance in Colonia. Adaptation is addressed through changes in access to capital, market resources, and economic well-being after joining a micro-credit project; demonstrating ways in which traditional economic activities have a stronghold on Yap’s mixed economy.

Our final theme focuses on the unique characteristics of qualitative methods and discourse analysis. Dennis S. Erasga takes an in-depth epistemological look at the underpinnings of qualitative approaches in “Methodological Promises of Discourse Analysis in Philippine Environmental Research.” Erasga’s innovated article is a methodological critique of genealogy and claims-making texts. On one hand, discourse analysis employs analytic concepts and tools of genealogical analysis. On the other hand, discourse analysis utilizes themes and discursive episodes found in claims-making texts.

Erasga’s article is followed by an impressive book review section. Two contemporary books - one focusing on Japan, the other on the Marshall Islands - are analyzed based on content and contribution to specific topic areas. The section starts with an evaluation by reviewer C. S. Schreiner of *Japan’s Frames of Meaning: A Hermeneutics Reader*, by Michael F. Marra. Schreiner’s compelling and insightful review speaks to Japanese studies and the German intellectual models, methodological awareness, the history of concepts, aesthetic discourses and hermeneutic scholarship. Schreiner knows of the author well, and accredits him extensively for his contributions to Asian hermeneutics. Our literary critique section continues with Unaisi Nabobo-Baba’s astute review of *What Island*, by P.K. Harmon. Nabobo-Baba’s imaginative assessment is an intriguing interpretation of the author’s poems which expressively illustrate life in the Marshall Islands by focusing on the environment, ethnicity, cultural survival and political dependence. Nabobo-Baba pulls in other works on Pacific Island cultures to substantiate her critique. Both book reviews are versed analyses of literary and artistic works.

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