From: Sharika Thiranagama <thiranas@newschool.edu>
Date: Thu, Sep 6, 2012 at 1:12 PM
Subject: AISLS: Announcement of Sri Lanka Graduate Conference- Nov 8th & 9th at Stanford University
To: aisls-l@lists.pdx.edu

“Sri Lanka: Intersections”

2012 Sri Lanka Graduate Student Conference

The 2012 Sri Lanka Graduate Conference will be on **November 8th and November 9th** at the **Center for South Asia, Stanford University**, Palo Alto and will be co-funded by the American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies and the Center for South Asia, Stanford (http://southasia.stanford.edu/). As with the two previous graduate conferences, this workshop will bring together graduate students both in the final writing up stage and pre-research/planning stages from a variety of disciplines and institutions. In 2012, we have switched from the East Coast to the West Coast and we hope to encourage fruitful intellectual as well as geographical crossings. The graduate conference aims to enhance intellectual exchange on Sri Lanka, emphasize the production of empirical and non sectarian knowledge, focus attention on recent potential transformation of key concepts, and strengthen and build a new cohort of researchers (and research) across disciplines and institutions as well as strengthen relationships between American graduate students and local intellectual circles in Sri Lanka.

Accordingly, in 2012 our theme is “Intersections”. To intersect is both to cut across and also to create new meeting points. As with previous conferences, our focus is thus wide-ranging and we welcome panel and paper proposals on Sri Lanka that cross disciplines and bring new or old themes and concepts together in unusual ways.

The workshop takes place over 2 days. On November the 8th, the first session will be a small closed pre-dissertation development seminar for selected participants (see below for details). In the afternoon, the Sri Lanka Graduate Conference and the Center for South Asia will present a jointly hosted **public event** on literature and war with new young South Asian novelists. On November 9th, we will host three student panels.

We would like to invite three sets of participants. Firstly, paper and panel proposals for the three student panels. **Panel proposals and single papers proposals are due on October 8th.** Secondly, we invite participants to apply for the pre-dissertation development seminar. This seminar is to assist graduate students in developing their research projects and will be a closed session for 4-5 participants. Students in Masters and PhD programs across the humanities and social sciences are encouraged to apply. Those interested in the **Pre-dissertation Development Seminar** should email a 300-word explanation of your interests and why you would like to participate for **October 8th.** Those who wish to **participate in the conference without presenting** must send expressions of their interest by **October 12th.** We have limited funding for travel for those outside the Bay area, please let us know if you are unable to access
departmental funding by **October 12th**. Places are limited so please apply soon. You can find this information also at [https://sites.google.com/site/srilankagraduateconference/home](https://sites.google.com/site/srilankagraduateconference/home) from Sep 15th onwards.

Please send emails with “Sri Lanka Graduate Student Workshop” in the subject line. Please send all emails to Sharika Thiranagama ([sharikat@stanford.edu](mailto:sharikat@stanford.edu)).

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