

Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt/M

– Südostasienwissenschaften –

Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für Ostasienstudien (IZO)

Einladung

zu einem Gastvortrag

mit

Dr. Paul Kratoska

[NUS Press, National University of Singapore]

English-language academic publishing and scholarship in and on Asia

Following the Pacific War, the countries of East and Southeast Asia expanded tertiary education and promoted scholarship in national languages that was directed toward reshaping understandings of history and society derived from scholarship that focused on the activities of the West in Asia. A substantial published literature emerged from these efforts, issued in part by a rapidly growing number of new university presses. Whether post-war scholarship, produced in many cases by young researchers as part of postgraduate degree programs in Western universities, achieved the objective of creating alternative interpretations is open to question, but books and articles written in national languages have clearly had little impact outside the countries where they were published.

Over the past decade, universities in East Asia and to some extent in Southeast Asia have begun pressing their academic staff to publish research findings in English. While this initiative has the potential to bring new understandings of Asia to readers around the world, there is evidence that meeting the expectations of editors and other publishing “gatekeepers” involves conforming to scholarly agendas set in North America and Europe. It also comes at a time when scholarly publishing is undergoing far-reaching changes that affect the way academic research and teaching materials are disseminated.

Paul H. Kratoska is Managing Director of NUS Press, the publishing division of the National University of Singapore. He was editor of the *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* from 1995-2002 and is currently a regional editor for the *International Journal of Asian Studies*. He has served on the Board of Directors of the US Association for Asian Studies and is currently a member of Council with the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. His research interests include the Japanese Occupation in Southeast Asia, history textbooks, rice cultivation and nutrition in Southeast Asia, and academic publishing.

am Dienstag, dem 18. Oktober 2011, um 16.00 Uhr c.t.,

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gez. Prof. Dr. Arndt Graf

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