Events Calendar

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immigration to address labour force shortages brought on by low fertility rates and aging populations. The movement of these skilled immigrants often leaves the less developed countries of origin with a shortage of skilled workers in key service sectors such as health care and education.

Striking a balance and trying to address the needs of both origin and destination countries was often a topic of lively discussion at the conference. The consensus of delegates was that there is a great deal of work to be done to develop the policy and the capacity to address these many complex issues. The discussions and exchange at the conference helped to define the policies required and the important work yet to be done.

Review by Tom Carter, Canada Research Chair in Urban Change and Adaptation and Professor of Geography, University of Winnipeg, Canada.

Migration and Social Protection in China Conference, Beijing, 25-26 September 2007

The focus of the conference was on the key issues involved in establishing a social protection regime for migrant workers in China, consistent with the Chinese central government's objectives of 'establishing an harmonious society' and the integration of rural and urban populations.

The conference was both original in scope, and within the context of estimates that put China's number of internal migrants at around 150 million, made for timely critical analyses of the deficiencies in existing social security arrangements. The importance of the conference was underscored by the calibre of speakers and attendees, which included many of the world's most notable China specialists, along with representatives from the World Bank, the Ford Foundation, the ILO and UNESCO.

The overall conclusion drawn from the conference was that despite the range of work being undertaken by a key group of researchers around the world, there is still some distance to go with respect to instituting comprehensive social security coverage for China's huge and diverse cohort of migrant workers. However, the calibre of work on migration and social protection presented suggests that we should be optimistic about the progress being made towards meeting the challenge of protecting the social welfare of Chinese migrants.

Review by Professor Mark Duda, Harvard University.

November

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Australian Engineering Excellence Awards 2007
Parliament House, Canberra. www.engineersaustralia.org.au

29-30

Pushing Against Globalisation: A Local Perspective on Regulation in Asia Monash Conference Centre, Melbourne www.buseco.monash.edu.au/blt/apbrg/november-seminar-o7.html

December

3-6

7th International Business Research Conference University of Technology Sydney, Sydney, www.worldbizconference.com

3-5

Australia and New Zealand Marketing Academy Conference

University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. www.anzmaco7.otago.ac.nz

4-7

21st Annual Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management Conference Sofitel Wentworth, Sydney. www.promaco.com.au/2007/anzam

9-12

5th International Conference on Supply Chain Management and Information Systems Langham Hotel, Melbourne. www.scmis2007.org

12-14

20th Australasian Finance and Banking Conference Shangri-La Hotel, Sydney. www.banking.unsw.edu.au/afbc

January

29-31

9th Annual Global Development Network Conference

'Security for Development: Confronting Threats to Survival and Safety' Brisbane, Australia. www.gdnet.org/ninth_conference

February

6-8

22nd Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand Conference

Novotel St Kilda, Melbourne. www.alloccasionsgroup.com/airaanz