TRANSCULTURAL ENDEAVOURS AS AN IMPERATIVE OF RESEARCH INTERNATIONALISATION FOR TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY UNIVERSITIES

How to enhance transculturalism, seen as crucial to nurture global citizenry with a cultural awareness of the other, and thus an imperative for the internationalisation processes of universities aiming to educate the future generations that are called to take up the grand challenges of humanity in the 21st century with a ‘glocal’ approach (i.e., for global futures with local knowledge)? A possible answer for research institutions is the one pioneered by Transculta (http://transcultura.org), the institute founded by Alain Le Pichon and Umberto Eco in 1988, on the occasion of the ninth century of the University of Bologna, to promote reciprocal anthropology (“To renew the conceptual field of the human sciences, limited by the context of Western cultures where it has developed to this day pour renouveler le champ conceptuel des sciences humaines, limité par le contexte des cultures occidentales où il s’est développé jusqu’à ce jour”) and connect the international network of researchers and research institutions that Alain Le Pichon was able to initiate with the programme “Ethnology of France by researchers of the third-world” (Ethnologie de la France par des chercheurs du tiers-monde, 1983-1986).


Research-intensive universities—where the research interests of faculty are shared with students—see an increasingly growing demand for internationalisation and interdisciplinary studies. The vision is that these processes can increase their sustainability and resilience with the inclusion of transculturalism, local knowledge and heritage, which are the treasure of human experiences.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER: ANDREA NANETTI

Andrea Nanetti received his education in Historical Sciences in Italy (Bologna), France (Paris-Sorbonne), Germany (Köln), Greece (National Hellenic Research Foundation), and USA (Brown), focusing on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, within a wide interdisciplinary approach that combined humanities (history, palaeography, philology, archival and library studies) with physics and computational data science. Dr. Nanetti pioneered digital humanities projects for archival documents (1997-1999 State Archive in Venice and 2005-2010 State Archive in Ravenna), chronicles (2002-2004 Virtual Library of Venetian Chronicles), historical maps (2000, Imola from Leonardo da Vinci to 1974), and primary sources in general (2007-today, cloud platform for pre-modern Afro-Eurasia). Since 1996, he has published 20 multilingual books (13 single authored), 2 edited journals, and over 70 essays in scientific journals and books in English, Italian, Chinese, Spanish and Modern Greek. He is playing multiple editorial roles including the ‘Committee for the Publication of the Sources for the History of Venice’. He was the Founding Co-Chair of the Singapore Heritage Science Conference series and member of numerous Conference Committees including the ‘International Conference on Culture and Computing’, VSMM, SOTICS, and CCS. At Nanyang Technological University Singapore, he serves as Associate Professor and Associate Chair (Research) of the School of Art, Design and Media, with a Courtesy Appointment at the School of Humanities, Senior Research Team Member of the Complexity Institute, and Faculty Member of the University Scholarly Program. He also serves the academic field of heritage science as Vice-Director of the International Research Centre for Architectural Heritage Conservation at Shanghai JiaoTong University, Senior Researcher at the European Centre for Living Technology of the University of Venice Ca’ Foscari, and in the Board of Directors of the Maniatakeion Foundation. https://tinyurl.com/andrea-nanetti

https://tinyurl.com/2019-crici1

This event is organised by the Interdisciplinary Cluster for Research on Intercultural Contact and Interaction (CRICI) at the School of Humanities, Nanyang Technological University. For more information, please email soh_comms@ntu.edu.sg