

**Michael Laffan**

Michael Laffan is professor of history at Princeton University, where he teaches courses on the history of Southeast Asia and Islam across the Indian Ocean. A native of Canberra, Australia, he is the author of *Islamic Nationhood and Colonial Indonesia* (Routledge 2003) and *The Makings of Indonesian Islam* (Princeton, 2011) and *Belonging across the Bay of Bengal* (Bloomsbury, 2017). He is now turning his attention to South Africa and Sri Lanka in the hope of learning more about the broader history of Islam under the hardly-benevolent rule of the Dutch East India Company.

**Contact details**

Department of History  
Princeton University  
129 Dickinson Hall  
Princeton, NJ 08544-1017

Departmental Fax: 609-258-5326  
Main Office Phone: 609-258-4159

**Work history**

Professor of History, Princeton University, 2010-  
Assistant Professor of History, Princeton University, 2005-2010  
Research Fellow, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, 2002-2004  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages and Societies, 2001

**Qualifications**

Doctor of Philosophy (Southeast Asian History), the University of Sydney, awarded 27 April 2001  
Bachelor of Asian Studies (Arabic), First Class Honours, ANU, awarded 21 April 1995

**Research Languages**

Indonesian / Malay (Roman and Jawi scripts), Modern Standard Arabic, Egyptian Colloquial Arabic, Dutch

## Publications

### *i. Sole Authored Works*

- The Makings of Indonesian Islam: Orientalism and the Narration of a Sufi Past.*  
Princeton University Press, 2011.
- Islamic Nationhood and Colonial Indonesia: The Umma Below the Winds.* London  
and New York: RoutledgeCurzon, 2003. (Paperback available as of 2007.)

### *ii. Edited collections*

- Belonging across the Bay of Bengal: Religious Rites, Colonial Migrations, National  
Rights* (Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2017)
- (With Max Weiss) *Facing Fear: The History of an Emotion in Global Perspective.*  
Princeton University Press, 2012.
- (With N.J.G. Kaptein) *Fatwâs in Indonesia. Islamic Law and Society* Vol. 12, No. 1,  
2005.

### *iii. Peer Reviewed Journal Articles*

- "From Javanese Court to African Grave: How Noriman became Tuan Skapie, 1717-  
1806," *Journal of Indian Ocean World History*, 1 (2017)
- "The Sayyid in the Slippers: An Indian Ocean Itinerary and Visions of Arab  
Sainthood, 1737-1929," *Archipel* 86 (2013), 191-227.
- "Another Andalusia: Images of Colonial Southeast Asia in Arabic Newspapers,"  
*Journal of Asian Studies* 66-3 (2007): 689-722.
- (with Michael Feener) "Sufi Scents across the Indian Ocean: Yemeni hagiography  
and the earliest history of Southeast Asian Islam," *Archipel* 70 (2005): 185-208
- "An Indonesian community in Cairo: Continuity and change in a cosmopolitan  
Islamic milieu," *Indonesia* 77 (April 2004): 1-26.
- "New charts for the Arabic ocean: Dictionaries as indicators of changing times,"  
*Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde* 159-2/3 (2003): 351-87.
- "When *kiais* came to Cairo," *Archipel* 66 (2003): 5-12.
- "The tangled roots of Islamist activism in Southeast Asia," *Cambridge Review of  
International Affairs* 16-3 (2003): 397-414.
- "Between Batavia and Mecca: Images of Agoes Salim from the Leiden University  
Library," *Archipel* 65 (2003): 109-22.
- "'A Watchful eye': The Meccan plot of 1881 and changing Dutch perceptions of  
Islam in Indonesia," *Archipel* 63-1 (2002): 79-108.
- "Making Meiji Muslims: The travelogue of `Ali Ahmad al-Jarjawi," *East Asian  
History* 22 (2001): 145-70.
- "Raden Aboe Bakar: An introductory note concerning Snouck Hurgronje's informant  
in Jeddah (1884-1913)," *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde* 155-4  
(1999): 517-42.
- "Mustafa and the Mikado: a Francophile Egyptian's turn to Meiji Japan," *Japanese  
Studies* 19-3 (1999): 269-86.
- "Cairo to Singapore: personal transition of reformist ideas," *Journal of Arabic,  
Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies* 4-1 (1998): 18-33. [Also released in 1998  
as a working paper]

"Watan and Negeri: Mustafa Kamil's "Rising Sun" in the Malay world," *Indonesia Circle* 69 (1996): 156–75.

*iv. Chapters in Edited Volumes*

"From Wayfarer to Wedono: Snouck Hurgronje and the Sufi Threat on Java, 1884-1892," in Léon Buskens and Jan Just Witkam, *Scholarship in Action. Studies on Life and Work of Christiaan Snouck Hurgronje (1857-1936)*. forthcoming

"Introduction: Dhows, Steamers, Lifeboats," and

"Looking Back on the Bay of Bengal: An African Isolate Reoriented," in Michael Laffan (ed.) *Belonging across the Bay of Bengal: Religious Rites, Colonial Migrations, National Rights* (Bloomsbury Academic Press, 2017), 1-14 and 207-222.

"Sufism, Literary Production and Nineteenth Century Southeast Asia," in Rachida Chih, Catherine Mayeur-Jaouen and Rüdiger Seeseman (eds.), *Sufism, Literary Production and Printing in the Nineteenth Century*, Würzburg, Ergon, 2015, pp. 337-50.

"A Sufi Century? The Modern Spread of the Sufi Orders in Southeast Asia," in James Gelvin and Nile Green (ed.), *Global Muslims in the Age of Steam and Print*. University of California Press, 2014, 25-39.

"A Religion that is Extremely Easy and Unusually Light to Take On: Dutch and English Knowledge of Islam in Southeast Asia, ca. 1595-1811," in Peter Boomgaard (ed.) *Empire and Science in the Making: Dutch Colonial Scholarship in Comparative Global Perspective*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2013, 165-84.

"Tracing the temporal boundaries of a Jawi ecumene: reflections from a distance," in Hiroyuki Yamamoto et.al. (eds), *Bangsa and Umma: Development of People-Grouping Concepts in Islamized Southeast Asia*. Kyoto University Press, 2011, pp. 37-49

"Understanding *al-Imam's* critique of *tariqa* Sufism," in Azyumardi Azra, Nico Kaptein and Kees Van Dijk (eds), *Varieties of Religious Authority: Changes and challenges in 20<sup>th</sup> century Indonesian Islam*. Singapore: ISEAS, 2010, pp. 17-53

"Ifta' sebagai Terjemahan Tergambar: Hirarki Tersamar dalam Bahasa dan Tulisan Islam, in Henri Chambert-Loir (ed.), *Sadur: Sejarah Terjemahan di Indonesia dan Malaysia*. Jakarta: KPG (Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia), 2009, pp. 445-457

"Menebar Habis Bayang-Bayang Allah: Renungan tentang Pemindahan Konsep-Konsep Politik Arab ke dalam Bahasa Melayu dan Indonesia," in Henri Chambert-Loir (ed.), *Sadur: Sejarah Terjemahan di Indonesia dan Malaysia*. Jakarta: KPG (Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia), pp. 549-568

"Finding Java: Muslim nomenclature of insular Southeast Asia from Śrîvijaya to Snouck Hurgronje," in Eric Tagliacozzo (ed.) *Southeast Asia and the Middle East: Islam, Movement and the Longue Durée*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2009, pp. 17-64

- "When is a Jawi Jawi? A short note on Pieter Sourij's "Maldin" and his Minang Student "Sayf al-Rijal,"" in *Lost Times and Untold Tales from the Malay World*, Jan van der Putten and Mary Kilcline Cody (eds), Singapore: NUS Press, 2009, pp. 139-147
- "The New Turn to Mecca: Snapshots of Arabic Printing and Sufi Networks in late 19<sup>th</sup> century Java," in Catherine Miller and Niloofar Haeri (eds) *Langues, religion et modernité; Revue des Mondes Musulmans et de la Mediterranee*, 124-2, 2008, pp. 113-31.
- "National Crisis and the Representation of Traditional Sufism in Indonesia: The Periodicals *Salafy* and *Sufi*," in *Sufism and the 'Modern' in Islam*, Julia Day Howell and Martin van Bruinessen (eds). London: I.B. Tauris, 2007, pp. 149-71
- "Lightning, Angels and Prayers for the Nation: Reading the *fatwas* of the Jam`iyah Ahlith Thoriqoh al-Mu`tabaroh," in R. Michael Feener and Mark Cammack (eds), *Islamic Law in Contemporary Indonesia: Ideas and institutions*, Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2007, pp. 66-80, 279-81
- "From alternative medicine to national cure: Another voice for the Sûfi orders in the Indonesian media," *Archives de Sciences sociale des Religion* 135 (Juillet - Septembre 2006): 91-115.
- "Tokyo as a Shared Mecca of Modernity: War echoes in the colonial Malay World," in Rotem Kowner (ed.), *The Impact of the Russo-Japanese War*, RoutledgeCurzon, 2006, pp. 219-238
- "The *fatwa* debated?: *Shura* in an Indonesian context," *Islamic Law and Society*, 12-1 (2005): 93-121.
- "Translation from the *Fihrist of an-Nadim* (four passages)" in: Iain Gardner and Samuel N.C. Lieu (eds) *Manichean texts from the Roman Empire*. Cambridge University Press, 2005. Diverse passages throughout – see pp. 46-7, 75-76, 155, 165-66
- "Writing from the colonial margin: The letters of Aboe Bakar Djajadiningrat to Christiaan Snouck Hurgronje," *Indonesia and the Malay World* 31/91 (2003): 356-80.

vi. *Working Papers*

- "Notes on Jawi Printing and *tariqa* Sufism between Mecca and Singapore, 1860-1900" in KAWASHIMA Midori, ARAI Kazuhiro, YAMAMOTO Hiroyuki (eds), *Proceedings of the Symposium on Bangsa and Umma: A Comparative Study of People-Grouping Concepts In the Islamic Areas of Southeast Asia*. Sophia University, Section for Islamic Area Studies (SIAS), SIAS Working Papers Series No.1., 2007, pp.4-24
- "What can collaborators tells us about the idea of an Islamic Indies?" in KAWASHIMA Midori, ARAI Kazuhiro, YAMAMOTO Hiroyuki (eds), *Proceedings of the Symposium on Bangsa and Umma: A Comparative Study of People-Grouping Concepts In the Islamic Areas of Southeast Asia*. Sophia University, Section for Islamic Area Studies (SIAS), SIAS Working Papers Series No.1, 2007, pp.113-31
- "What is Indonesian Islam?" Paper presented at the UCLA symposium "Islam and Southeast Asia: Local, National and Transnational Studies," on May 15, 2006. CSEAS Colloquium Series, *UCLA Center for Southeast Asian Studies*.  
[http://repositories.cdlib.org/international/uclaseas/op/Laffan\\_Indonesian\\_Islam](http://repositories.cdlib.org/international/uclaseas/op/Laffan_Indonesian_Islam)

"Finding Java: Muslim nomenclature of insular Southeast Asia from Śrīvijaya to Snouck Hurgronje," *Asia Research Institute Working Paper*, No. 52, October 2005. <http://www.ari.nus.edu.sg/pub/wps.htm>

vii. *Encyclopaedia and Sourcebook Entries*

- "Crossroads Region: Southeast Asia, 1400-1800," in Jerry Bentley, Sanjay Subrahmanyam and Merry E. Wiesner-Hanks (eds.), *The Cambridge World History*, Vol. 6, Part 1 (2015), pp. 772-92
- "Southeast Asia," *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*, Gerhard Bowering et.al. eds., Princeton University Press, 2012, 21-23.
- "The Spread of Islam into Southeast Asia to 1500," *World History Encyclopedia, Era 5: Intensified Hemispheric Interactions, 1000-1500*, ABC-CLIO, 2009
- "Religious Practices and Cultural Expressions," in *Interweaving Cultures: Islam in Southeast Asia, A guide for Students and Teachers*, New York, Asia Society, 2007, 14-19.
- Entries in *Medieval Islamic Civilization: An Encyclopedia*, Josef W Meri, (ed.). New York, Routledge, 2006, svv. Java (I, 412-13); Malay Peninsula (II, 461-66); Southeast Asia: History and Culture (II, 765-66); Southeast Asia: Languages and Literatures (II, 766-67).
- "Seruan Azhar: a paper published by Southeast Asian students in Cairo, 1925," in Camron Michael Amin, Ben Fortna and Elizabeth B. Frierson (eds) *The Modern Middle East: A Sourcebook for History*. Oxford, 2006, pp. 112-15
- Entries in *Southeast Asia: A Historical Encyclopedia, From Angkor Wat to East Timor*, Ooi Keat Gin (ed.) Santa Clara etc., ABC-CLIO, 2004. svv. The Aceh Wars (I, 122-23), Iskandar Muda (II, 667-68), Islam in Southeast Asia (II, 668-672), The Islamic resurgence (with Greg Fealy, II, 672-674), Snouck Hurgronje (III, 1224-25), Van Heutsz (III, 1384-85).
- "An exposition concerning the Malays," trans. and ed., in Charles Kurzman (ed.), *Modernist Islam; A sourcebook*. Oxford University Press, 2002, pp. 339-43.

vii. *Reviews, Special Introductions and Commentary*

- Review of Lodewijk Wagenaar (ed.), *Aan de Overkant: Ontmoetingen in Dienst van de VOC en WIC (1600-1800)*, *BMGN-LCHR* 131: 2 (2016).
- Review of Seema Alavi, *Muslim Cosmopolitanism in the Age of Empire*, in *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 48 (2016): 399-401.
- Review of David Motadel (ed.), *Islam and the European Empires*, in *Oxford Journal of Islamic Studies*, Advanced Access 2015, 10.1093/jis/etv098  
(With Barbara Metcalf and Usha Sanyal), Obituary for William Roff, *Perspectives on History*, September 2013
- Review of Paul Wormser, *Le Bustan al-Salatin de Nuruddin ar-Raniri: Réflexions sur le Rôle culturel d'un Étranger dans le Monde malais au XVIIe Siècle*, in *BKI* 169-4 (2013): 569-72.
- Review of Abigail Green and Vincent Viaene (eds), *Religious Internationals in the Modern World: Globalization and Faith Communities since 1750*, in *Journal of Global History*, 8-3 (2013), 506-508.

- Review of Sunil Amrith, *Migration and Diaspora in Modern Asia* in *Reviews in History*, review no. 1187, 2012. Online at <http://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/review/1187>
- Review of Anne L. Foster, *Projections of Power: The United States and Europe in Colonial Southeast Asia, 1919-1941*, in *International Journal of Asian Studies* 9-12 (Jan 2012): 129-31.
- Review of Michael Feener and Terenjit Sevea, eds., *Islamic Connections: Muslim Societies in South and Southeast Asia*, in: *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde* 167-4 (2011): 577-579.
- Review of Timothy Daniels, *Islamic Spectrum in Java*, in: *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 43-2 (2011): 371-374.
- "Of Cloves and Kings," in: John Delaney (ed.) *Strait Through: Magellan to Cook and the Pacific* (Princeton: Princeton University Library, 2010), vi-ix.
- Review of Syed Muhd Khairudin Aljunied, *Colonialism, Violence and Muslims in Southeast Asia*, in: *Journal of Islamic Studies* 21-3 (2010): 474-76 [doi: 10.1093/jis/etq047]
- Review of William R. Roff, *Studies of Islam and Society in Southeast Asia*, in: *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 41 (2010): 350-351.
- "Fire-hardened matriarchs?" Review of Jeffrey Hadler, *Muslims and Matriarchs: Cultural Resilience in Indonesia through Jihad and Colonialism*, in: *Indonesia* 87 (April 2009): 135-37.
- Review of Mark Sedgwick, *Saints and Sons; The Making and Remaking of the Rashīdi Ahmadi Sufi order, 1799-2000* and Ian Richard Netton (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Islamic Civilisation and Religion*, in: *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, 164-2/3 (2008): 332-34.
- Review of Thomas Gibson, *Islamic Narrative and Authority in Southeast Asia*, in: *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, 51-2 (2008): 403-405.
- Review of Anak Agung Banyu Perwita, *Indonesia and the Muslim World: Islam and secularism in the foreign policy of Soeharto and beyond*, in: *Indonesia*, 85 (April 2008): 175-77.
- Review of Amirul Hadi, *Islam and State in Sumatra: A study of seventeenth-century Aceh*, *International Journal of Turkish Studies*, 13-1/2 (Fall): 268-71.
- Review of Michael Wood, *Official History in Modern Indonesia*, in: *International Journal of Mideast Studies*, 39-3 (2007): 486-8.
- "Contouring Islam in Indonesia" (interview), *Harvard Asia Quarterly*, 10-1 (Winter 2006): 37-43.
- Review of Cribb, 2000, *Historical Atlas of Indonesia*, in: *Crossroads* 17-2 (2006): 159-61.
- Review of Riddell, 2001, *Islam and the Malay-Indonesian World: Transmission and Responses*, in: *Crossroads* 17-2 (2006): 161-63.
- Review of Azyumardi Azra, *The Origins of Islamic Reformism in Southeast Asia*, in: *Journal of Asian Studies* 64-2 (2005): 512-13.
- Review of Selçuk Esenbel and Inaba Chiharu, eds, *The Rising Sun and the Turkish Crescent*, in: *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 31-1 (2005): 192-6.
- "From Zâbaj to Jâwa," *IAS Newsletter* 35 (November 2004): 17.
- Review of Day, *Fluid Iron: State formation in Southeast Asia*, in: *RIMA* 37-2 (2003): 140-3.
- Review of Mrazek, *Engineers of happy land*, in: *BKI* 159-4 (2003):638-40.

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- Review of De Jonge and Kaptein, 2002, *Transcending borders*, in: *Archipel* 64 (2003): 210-11.
- "Lectures on the present, lessons from the past," *IAS Newsletter* 30 (2002): 4-5.
- Review of Philpott, *Rethinking Indonesia*, in: *RIMA* 36 (2002): 112-15.
- Review of Tarling, *Southeast Asia, a Modern history*, in: *IAS Newsletter* 28 (2002): 30.
- Review of Suwandi, *A Quest for Justice*, in: *IAS Newsletter* 27 (2002): 36.
- Review of Mobini-Kesheh, *The Hadrami Awakening*, in: *Archipel* 62 (2001): 226-231.
- Review of Brown, *Rethinking Tradition in Modern Islamic Thought*, in: *Journal of Arabic, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies* 5-1 (1999): 82-83.
- Review of Madelung, *The Succession: a study of the early caliphate*, in: *Journal of Arabic, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies* 5-1 (1999): 83-84.
- "Muslims deserve benefit of balance," *Canberra Times*. Tuesday, 23 November 1999: 9.
- "A visit to Jakarta's *Bayt al-Qur'an*," *ISIM Newsletter*, 1-3 (1999): 18.
- Review of Mona Abaza, *Indonesian Students in Cairo*, in: *Review of Indonesian and Malaysian Affairs*, 31-1 (1997): 263-65.

### **Scholarships, Grants, Fellowships and Awards**

Fellow, Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies, August to October 2017  
Scaliger Fellow, Leiden University Library, July 2017  
Professeur Invité, EHESS, Paris, May-June 2016  
Old Dominion Faculty Fellow, Council of Humanities, Princeton University, 2015-16  
Behrman Fellow, Council of Humanities, Princeton University, 2010-12  
Philip and Beulah Rollins Bicentennial Preceptorship, 2009-2011  
Research Fellow, Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies, July-August, 2009  
(together with Michael Feener) Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore; Research Grant for conference, Moments in the Making of Islamic Southeast Asia, 5-6 February 2007, SG 13000, 2007  
Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute – October to December 2006  
Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore  
Honorary Research Fellow, University of Queensland, 2006  
IIAS Fellow, Leiden, 2002-2005  
Asian Studies Association of Australia President's Prize, Best doctoral dissertation of 2000, awarded 2001  
The James Kently Memorial Scholarship, University of Sydney, 1997  
Australian Post-Graduate Award, Sydney University, 1996-1999

### **Membership of Professional Bodies**

Association for Asian Studies, Asian Studies Association of Australia, Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV), Association Archipel (Paris), Modern Asian Studies (board)

### **Peer Refereeing and Service to the Field (selected)**

Preliminary report for Habilitation of Etienne Naveau; articles for Indonesia (SEAP, Cornell)  
Book proposals for Brill, Edinburgh University Press, Verhandelingen van het Koninklijk Instituut, University of Chicago Press.  
Articles for Journal of Islamic Studies, Modern Asian Studies, Comparative Studies in Society and History

### **Previous Years:**

Tenure cases for SUNY Buffalo, Pratt Insitute  
Promotion and Appointment of New Chair of History Department, NUS  
Tenure cases for National University of Singapore; ANU; EHESS, Paris; Council for Higher Education in Israel and Yad Hanadiv  
Fellowship review for Clare Hall, Cambridge  
Monographs for Cornell University Press, KITLV Press; Duke University Press; University of Hawaii Press; University of North Carolina Press, Princeton University Press; University of Sydney; University of Pittsburgh Press



Dissertations and Theses for University of Sydney, University of Cape Town

Member of editorial board of *Modern Asian Studies* (2012-), *Verhandelingen van het KITLV* (2012-)

Advisory Board of American Institute for Indonesian Studies, AHRC International Research Network (Leicester University) "A Persian Church in the land of Pepper."

Articles for *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, *Islamic Law and Society*, *International Journal of Turkish Studies*, *International Journal of Mideast Studies*, *World Politics*, *Comparative Studies of Society and History*

### **Courses Taught**

Undergraduate

HIS 241: Faith and Power across the Indian Ocean Arena

HIS 342: Southeast Asia's Global History

HIS 400: Indian Ocean Encounters

HIS 438/NES 446: Jakarta and Rabat: Islam, Society and Politics

Graduate

HIS 517: Southeast Asian Islams

HIS 537: Islam Across the Indian Ocean

### **Generals Committees**

(major field):

Fadzilah Yahaya, Megan Brankley, Saarah Jappie, Genie Yoo, Saumyashree Ghosh

(minor field):

Claire Cooper, Elaine Ayers, Wayne Soon, Christina Welsch, Morgan Robinson, Devika Shankar, Lindsey Stephenson

### **PhD Examinations at Princeton**

Megan Brankley Abbas (Advisor), "Knowing Islam: The Entangled History of Eastern Academia and Modern Islamic Thought," May 2015

Jacob Olidort, "In Defense of Tradition: Muhammad Nasir al-Din al-Albani and the Salafi method," May 2015

Nadav Samin, "The Dark Matter of Tribal Belonging: Genealogical Representation and Practice in Saudi Arabia," September 2013

Fadzilah Yahaya (Advisor), "Courting Jurisdictions: Colonial Administration of Islamic Law Pertaining to Arabs in the Straits Settlements and the Netherlands East Indies, 1860-1941, September 2012

Maja Petrović, "The Land of the Foreign Padishah: India in Ottoman Reality and Imagination," January 2012

Jennifer Johnson Onyedum, "Humanizing Warfare: The Politics of Medicine, Health Care, and International Humanitarian Intervention in Algeria, 1954-62," March 2010

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Mitra Sharafi, "Bella's Case: Parsi Identity and the Law in Colonial Rangoon,  
Bombay and London, 1887-1925," 2006

### **University Service**

Committee for the Princeton University Community, 2016-  
Faculty Advisory Committee on Policy, 2016-  
Fung Fellows Program, 2016-  
Center for Collaborative History, Director, 2013-  
PIIRS Undergraduate Fellows Coordinator, 2011-  
Fung Academic Fellow, 2012-13  
Davis Center Committee, 2011-  
Committee on Course of Study, 2011-13  
Fulbright Committee, Princeton University, 2010-16  
Committee member for interdepartmental seminar series (NES and History), Sufism  
Today, 2005-06; and Islam and Education, 2006-07  
Co-ordinator (with James McDougall) for the Undergraduate Fellows' Program,  
Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, 2005-06  
Faculty Fellow and AB Advisor, Wilson College, 2005-11

### **Presentations, 2005-2017**

"Who was Tuan Guru" – Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies, 28 September  
2017  
– Timbuktu Books, 7 October 2017  
– Leiden University, 24 October 2017  
"Translating Citizenship: The Cocos Islands become an Australian Muslim Territory,  
1955-59," CHAT, Center for the Humanities, Temple University, 8 March  
2017  
Commentator: "South-South: Intellectual History across Middle East and South Asia,  
1857- 1948", Columbia University, 21 October 2016  
Paris Lectures:  
"Sighting the Grave of Sayyid Alawi," Institut du Monde Arabe, 22 May 2016  
"Another Andalusia? Southeast Asia in the Muslim World," EHESS, 3 June  
2016  
"Hajj and Nation Revisited: The Importance of the Hajj for Ideas of Indonesian  
Nationhood," INALCO, 14 June 2016  
"Sufism, Literary Production and Nineteenth Century Southeast Asia,"  
EHESS-IISMM, 15 June 2016  
"Jawi, Melayu, Nusantara", Sawyer Seminar, UMass Amherst, 9 April, 2016  
"A Most Colonial Moment", presenter at and co-organiser of workshop on The  
Postcolonial Moment, Princeton University, 13-14 November 2015  
"From Javanese Court to African Grave," University of Pennsylvania, 23 September  
2015  
"From Javanese Court to African Grave," Vanderbilt History Seminar, 14 September  
2015  
"From Javanese Court to African Grave," KITLV, Leiden, 24 August 2015  
Co-organiser and discussant for workshop, "Sharpening the Edges: Instating state and  
power in Indian Ocean History," Leiden University, 17 August 2015  
"From Javanese Court to African Grave," Oxford University, 8 May 2015  
Comment on Jennifer Foray, "Imperial Aftershocks: The Legacies of Decolonization  
in the Netherlands", Davis Seminar, Princeton University, 3 October 2014

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- Presenter and organiser of conference, "Belonging Across the Bay of Bengal: Migrations, Networks, Circulations", Princeton, 31 October 2014
- "The Sayyid in the Slippers," Harvard, 13 December 2013
- "At Sea with Sayyid Alawi," Wisconsin, 26 April 2013
- Discussant, "Looking beyond National Borders and Cultural Boundaries: Transnational Connections and the Reform of Islamic Education, 1820-1950," Middle East Studies Association, Denver, CO, 2012
- Panelist, "MESA Beyond the Middle East: Revisiting and Reimagining the Area Studies Paradigm," Middle East Studies Association, Denver, CO, 2012
- Coordinator (with Bhavani Raman) of PIIRS Exploratory Workshop, "Texts and Textbooks in South and Southeast Asia: Rethinking Asian Circulations". Convened at Princeton University, 18-19 May 2011
- "Muslim Identity in Southeast Asia: Thailand and Indonesia Contrasted" (With Duncan McCargo), Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI) and the Center for the Study of Democracy, Toleration, and Religion (CDTR), Columbia University, 9 December 2011
- "Making a Majority Minority," Inaugural Workshop on Pluralism, Coexistence and Conflict, Harvard University, 28 October 2011
- "Mecca's Place in Indonesian History," Teaching About Asia Workshop for K -12 Teachers, Princeton University, 21 October 2011
- "The Makings of Indonesian Islam," ANU, 27 July 2011
- "Cairo as an Indonesian Cosmopolis," Georgia State University, 15 April 2011
- "The Makings of Indonesian Islam," University of British Columbia, 26 March 2011
- "The Makings of Indonesian Islam," Cornell University, 17 March 2011
- "The Makings of Indonesian Islam," Northern Illinois University, 17 September 2010
- "When is a Jawi Jawi?," Islamic Studies Colloquium, Princeton University, 21 April 2010
- Discussant, Cemil Aydin, "'The Muslim World' as a Site of Global Intellectual History, 1839-1924," presented to the Davis Center, Princeton University, 2 April 2010
- "The Colonial Makings of Indonesian Islam," presented to Ali Vural Ak Center for Islamic Studies, George Mason University, Virginia, 31 March 2010
- Discussant and Chair, "New Perspectives on Southeast Asian Islam and the Middle East," Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, 25-28 March 2010
- "The Colonial Makings of Indonesian Islam," Work in Progress Seminar, the Davis Center, Princeton University, 23 March 2010
- "A Sufi Century in Southeast Asia?," presented to the conference "Soufisme et production écrite au XIXe siècle," IFAO, Cairo, 16-19 March 2010
- "A Sufi Century?," presented to the conference "Circuits and Networks: Muslim interactions in the first age of globalization," UCLA, 25 February 2010
- "The Colonial Makings of Indonesian Islam," invited speaker at UNC, Chapel Hill, 18 February 2010
- "Implicit Hierarchies of Islamic Languages and Scripts," presentation to Seminar on Translation, Princeton, 14 December 2009
- "The Makings of Indonesian Islam," Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies, 8 July 2009
- Discussant at PIIRS-sponsored Conference, "Indonesia, Islam and Democracy," Columbia University, 2-3 April 2009

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- Chair for Graduate Student Panel on Islam in Southeast Asia, Northern Illinois University, 31 March 2009
- "On the Language of Mohammedan Priests: Anglo-Dutch Knowledge of Islam at the Death of Leyden," presented at the conference: "Science and Empire – Dutch 'colonial' science around 1800 in comparative perspective," Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences, Amsterdam, 28-29 August 2008
- Presenter on Historiographical Methodology to Indonesian students at Zagazig, Egypt, on 2 August 2008
- Invited talk on historiography and Indonesian history, the Indonesian Student Association, Cairo, 26 July 2008
- "Sufism in Singapore," invited presentation given at the Kevorkian Center, NYU, 13 March 2008
- "They Suck the Blood of the Poor and Destitute: Casting Popular Sufism as Medieval Degeneration in the Malay World," Work in Progress Presentation given at the Davis Centre, Princeton University, 27 February 2008
- "Radical in Retrospect: Why should 1908 matter for the history of Islam in Southeast Asia?" Invited presentation given to Institute for Historical Research, London, as part of the seminar series, Comparative Histories of Asia, 10 January 2008
- "Islam, Sufism and anti-Imperialism in Indonesia: 1888 in retrospect," presentation to Asia Society Workshop for Educators, Integrating Asian Studies into the Education Curriculum: Islam in Asia. NYC, 12 October 2007
- Invited participant to the Australian Institute of International Affairs forum, Indonesia: From neighbour to partner? Queensland Parliament, 27 June 2007
- Work in Progress talk, at "History in the Making" symposium, Department of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics, University of Queensland, Australia, 8 June 2007
- "Notes on Jawi printing and tariqa Sufism between Mecca and Singapore, 1860-1900" and (2) "What can the letters of collaborators tell us about the idea of an Islamic Indies?," invited keynote presentations to the Symposium on Bangsa and Umma: A comparative study of people-grouping concepts in the Islamic Area of Southeast Asia, May 12, 13, and 19; Sophia University, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, and Kyoto University
- "Snouck Hurgronje and a Change in Attitude to the Sufi Orders in Indonesia," Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, Queensland, Australia, 4 April 2007
- "Snouck Hurgronje's evolving attitude to tariqa sufism and its implications for his career in the Dutch East-Indies," invited presenter to the conference, Scholarship in Action: Views on Life and Work of Christiaan Snouck Hurgronje (1857-1936), Leiden, 16 February 2007
- Organizer of and presenter at conference "Moments in the Making of Southeast Asian Islam", Singapore, 5-6 February 2007
- "Snouck Hurgronje's Java Diary, 1889-1891," Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 22 November 2006
- "Another Andalusia: Images of Southeast Asia in the Arabic Press, 1890-1930," Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 21 November 2006
- "What is Indonesian Islam," UCLA/UCB symposium, Islam and Southeast Asia: Local, National and Transnational Studies, UCLA, 15 May 2006
- Presenter at Teachers' Workshop, "Islam(s) in Asia," UCLA, 13 May 2006
- Presenter, Islam Beyond Mecca Teacher's Workshop, NES, 29 April 2006

MICHAEL LAFFAN, CV  
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- Discussant, Shadows from the Past, PIIRS Graduate Conference, 8 April 2006
- "Snouck Hurgronje's Java Diary," paper presented to East Asian Studies Colloquium, 30 November 2005
- "Preliminary Notes on a History of the Provincialization of Sufism in Indonesia," paper presented to final meeting of the KNAW project, The Dissemination of Islam in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Indonesia, Bogor, 8 July 2005
- "Snouck Hurgronje and the discovery of traditional Islam on Java," invited paper presented to the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford University, 25 May 2005
- "Tokyo as a shared Mecca of modernity," Colonial and Imperial Histories Colloquium, Department of History, 2 May 2005
- Princeton in Asia, gave talk to departing graduates destined for assignments in Southeast Asia, Princeton, May 2005
- "Southeast Asia on the Arab printer's block," Brown Bag Paper presented to the Department of Near Eastern Studies, 21 February 2005
- Undergraduate and graduate seminars at UC Berkeley, 25 Mar 2005