

Orientation to:

WriteShop for Book Chapter/ Academic Paper Publication



Carl Middleton Ph.D.

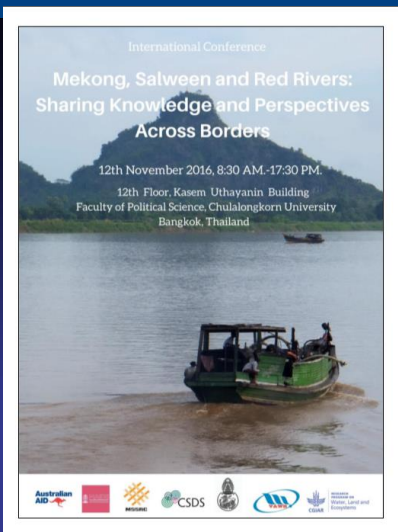
Workshop/ writeshop objectives

- Explain the goals and plans for Phase 2 of the fellowship program regarding publication in two books/ journal articles
- Work with the selected Phase 2 fellows to further refine their research outputs from Phase 1 suitable to be published in an international publication (book chapter / journal paper)
- Advise fellows on the remaining period of the fellowship, including the opportunities for presenting the work in conferences

Proposed publications

1. A jointly published book between MK31-33 by Strategic Information & Research Development (SIRD) Centre
 - Free e-book for wide distribution
 - Large number of printed copies for regional distribution
 - ISBN
2. A book to be published by Springer on the Salween
 - Free e-book for wide distribution + Springer's own promotion platforms
 - Some printed copies for regional distribution
 - ISBN
 - Strict peer review
3. Academic papers
 - Either individually or with your mentor, depending on contribution and **interest of fellow**





Workshop method

- **Plenary session** will provide key inputs to the writing process
- **Individual exercises** will allow you to focus quietly on your own writing (and that of your allocated partner)
- **Partnered work:** You have been allocated a partner, who you will provide feedback to over the course of the WriteShop.
- **Mentored group work:** You will work in small groups with mentors

Workshop groups

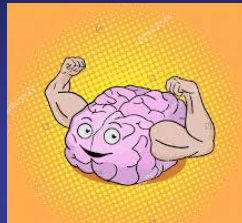
- Salween Fellows (MK31) and Khun Soimart (MK32) will be with Dr Carl Middleton
- Mekong Fellows (MK32) will be with Dr. Kanokwan Manorom
- Red Fellows (MK33) will be allocated between: Prof Tu; Prof Quang; and Dr. Nam

Review of agenda

Workshop agenda	Topic	Lead
Thursday March 23rd		
9:00 - 9:10	Welcome remarks from representative of Vietnam members of the Mekong River Commission (MRC)	Dr. Carl Middleton
9:10 - 9:30	Orientation to the workshop program	Dr. Carl Middleton
9:30 - 9:40	• Checklist "Pre-workshop" and checklist for reviewers	Dr. Carl Middleton
9:40 - 9:50	• Checklist Review your own or your partner's paper to give feedback	
9:50 - 10:20	• Checklist Give your partner and provide feedback for discussion on the conference paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These things that you really like about the paper • These areas that you think the paper could be strengthened in • One area idea that could be included into the paper 	
10:20 - 10:40	• Checklist Coffee break	
10:40 - 11:20	• Checklist Mentors will provide their prepared feedback on the conference papers (open)	Dr. Carl Middleton
11:20 - 11:40	• Checklist Strategies for producing a strong book chapter: strategies for producing a strong academic journal article in the field	Dr. Nam
11:40 - 12:00	• Checklist Strategies for producing a strong book chapter: academic journal article in the field	
12:00 - 13:00	• Checklist Lunch	
13:00 - 13:30	• Checklist Mentors will identify the main concept and argument in their own conference paper and their partner's conference paper. Each will be extracted and written in a couple of sentences.	
13:30 - 14:30	• Checklist Each fellow will discuss with their partner their understanding of the main argument of the other's paper, and how to improve it.	Mentors to facilitate in small groups
Friday March 24th		
9:00 - 9:10	• Checklist Welcome back	MK31-33 team leaders
9:10 - 9:30	• Checklist Structuring and outlining your work for a book chapter: identifying pages	Dr. Carl Middleton
9:30 - 10:00	• Checklist Review the outline of conference paper and consider how it should be revised for the book chapter	Facilitated by Dr. Carl Middleton
10:00 - 10:20	• Checklist Present your revised structure to your partner for feedback and discussion. Using mentors and cross-between partners.	Mentors to facilitate in small groups
10:20 - 10:40	• Checklist Coffee break	
10:40 - 11:00	• Checklist Mentoring/ training and outlining your chapter/ academic paper	Dr. Carl Middleton
11:00 - 11:20	• Checklist Review and consider how to improve your introduction	
11:20 - 12:00	• Checklist Group discussion on how each fellow's chapter will be revised and how it will contribute to the book. (G.O.A book chapter)	

Reviewing papers

- Have you ever had your work “reviewed” before? What was your experience?
- Have you ever had to review someone else’s work? What was your experience



“Critical friend”

- “A critical friend is a trusted person who asks provocative questions, provides data to be examined through another lens, and offers critiques of a person’s work as a friend. A critical friend takes the time to fully understand the context of the work presented and the outcomes that the person or group is working toward. The friend is an advocate for the success of that work”

Life is better
with friends :)



Involves a tension
between friendship and
critique

Typical review questions

- **General Comments:**
 - Importance and interest to the target reader?
 - “Scientific” soundness/ analytical approach?
 - Originality?
 - Does the paper tell a cohesive story?
 - Is a tightly reasoned argument evident throughout the paper?
 - Where does the paper wander from this argument?
 - Degree to which conclusions are supported by the data?
 - Do the title, abstract, key words, introduction, and conclusions accurately and consistently reflect the major point(s) of the paper?
 - Appropriate language and style?
 - Are all figures readable? Accurate?
 - **WITHIN THE WORD LIMIT**

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Typical review questions

- **Abstract**
 - Is it really a summary?
 - Does it include key findings / argument?
 - Is it an appropriate length
- **Introduction**
 - Is it effective, clear and well organized?
 - Does it really introduce and put into perspective what follows?
 - Are the key citations missing to frame the paper?

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Typical review questions

- **Methodology**
 - Is the method appropriate?
 - Is the description of methodology detailed enough and accurate?
 - Can a colleague reproduce the experiments and get the same outcomes?
 - Did the authors include proper references to previously published methodology?
 - Could or should the authors have included supplementary material?
- **Results and discussion**
 - Is the data shown clearly?
 - Is there a clear logic?
 - Does the data justify the interpretation and conclusions?
 - Are there too few/ too many figures, tables and diagrams?

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Typical review questions

- **Conclusion**
 - Does the conclusion conclude (not summarize)?
 - Does it comment on the importance, validity and generality of the paper?
 - Does it make unjustified claims and generalizations?
- **Citations**
 - Are all appropriate citations given? Are they included in the citation list?

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Next session

- **[Individual work]** Review your notes on your partner's paper, and prepare to give feedback
- **[Partner work]** Meet your partner and provide feedback for discussion on the conference paper
 - Three things that you really like about the paper
 - Three areas that you think the paper could be strengthened in
 - One new idea that could be included into the paper