

Panel proposal:

1. Title: Medical Business at the Close of the Colonial Era
2. Convener: William Bradley Horton (Akita University)
3. Brief description and explanation of the format

This panel will utilize a variation of the "circulating speech" format, incorporating elements of a standard panel.

- Short versions of the papers (4-6 pages) will be distributed in advance.
- Each presenter will be given (1) approximately 7 minutes to present critical parts of their research, followed by (2) a round of 5 minute comments on a "proposition".
- A discussant may also be included to comment on the proposition in the context of the papers, but also limited to 5 minutes.
- Following the round of presenter comments remaining time will be allocated to audience questions and comments, and open discussion.

This format combines a stronger element of research presentation, more audience accessibility (in availability of short paper versions), and more audience participation than a regular "circulating speech" panel.

4. Brief description of panel

During the early 20th century, great advances were made in medicine. Some of these advances were based on the availability of tropical products, like the bark of the cinchona tree as a source of quinine for malaria treatment. Hospitals and medical expertise expanded greatly everywhere in Southeast Asia during this period, both based on local need and experience, and global knowledge. Local medical knowledge and practices often continued in Southeast Asia, such as the use of Indonesian *jamu*, and sometimes were modernized with new production and marketing techniques. New medicines and chemicals developed or produced by large companies overseas like IG Farben dramatically altered the public health landscape. While WWII was a dramatic political break, as was the independence of new states, the impact on public health is potentially a separate issue. What is clear is that whether on a small scale or on a global level, business activity was a major part of medicine in Southeast Asia.

This panel asks presenters to prepare a research paper on a subject of their choice which illustrates some element of business involvement in this shifting health-scape in Southeast Asia immediately before WWII, during the war, or in the immediate postwar period. Additionally, presenters will be asked to consider the proposition that the end of the colonial era and World War II *reduced* local participation and innovation in the health sector, relating it to their own research topics.

5. Single session (4 presenters)
6. A designated discussant will be included if possible.