

# Ronald A. Lukens-Bull, Ph.D.

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## Areas of Specialization

Islamic Education and Leadership; Religion and Culture; Southeast Asian Religious Experience; Modernity and Globalization; Comparative Muslim Cultures

## Education

Ph.D.	Social-Cultural Anthropology	Arizona State University, 1997
M.A.	Social-Cultural Anthropology	Arizona State University, 1991
B.A.	Sociology-Anthropology	Seattle Pacific University, 1988

## Professional History

### University of North Florida

- 2006-present *University Honors Fellow*
- 2005-present *Associate Professor of Anthropology*
- 1999-2005 *Assistant Professor of Anthropology*
- 2000-present *Affiliated Faculty in Religious Studies*

### Walailak University, Thailand

- 2005 *Fulbright Senior Specialist in Southeast Asian Islam.*

## Books

*A Peaceful Jihad: Negotiating Identity and Modernity in Muslim Java.* New York: Palgrave McMillan, 2005.

*Jihad ala Pesantren di Mata Antropolog Amerika (Jihad ala Indonesian Islamic Boarding Schools in the Eyes of an American Anthropologist).* Yogyakarta: Gama Media, 2004.

*Sacred Places and Modern Landscapes: Sacred Geography and Social-Religious Transformations in South and Southeast Asia* (Editor). Tempe: Arizona State University Program for Southeast Asian Studies, 2003.

## Articles and Chapters

"Commodification of Religion and the 'Religification' of Commodities: Youth Culture and Religious Identity" " in Pattana Kitiarsa (ed.) *Religious Commodifications in Asia: Marketing Gods.* London: Routledge, *Forthcoming*

“Lost in a Sea of Subjectivity: The Subject Position of the Researcher in the Anthropology of Islam” *Contemporary Islam: Dynamics of Muslim Life*. 1(2) 2007:173-192.

“Next Year in Orlando: (Re)Imaging Israel in Christian Zionism.” *Journal of Religion and Society*. Volume 9, 2007 (with Mark Fafard)

“Pesantren Education and Religious Harmony: Background, Visits, and Impressions” In Michael Pye, Edith Franke, Alef Theria Wasim, and Abdurrahman Mas’ud (eds.) *Religious Harmony: Problems, Practice and Education*. Berlin: de Gruyter. Pp. 315-321, 2006.

“Youth Culture and the Negotiation of Religious Identity.” In Michael Pye, Edith Franke, Alef Theria Wasim, and Abdurrahman Mas’ud (eds.) *Religious Harmony: Problems, Practice and Education*. Berlin: de Gruyter. Pp 303-312, 2006 (with Alethia Calbeck)

"Island Southeast Asia" in *Peoples and Cultures of Asia*, Raymond Scupin, ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2005.

"Ronald McDonald as a Javanese Mystic and an Indonesian Freedom Fighter: Reflections on the Global and the Local." *Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* 17(1):106-122, 2003

“An Accidental Imago Mundi: Spatializing Religious and Social Change in Islamic Java” in Ronald Lukens-Bull, editor *Sacred Places and Modern Landscapes: Sacred Geography and Social-Religious Transformations in Asia*. Tempe: Arizona State University Program for Southeast Asian Studies. Pp. 203-226, 2003.

"Islamic Ethics of Leadership and Followership from Ethnographic, Historical, and Textual Sources" *Ihya 'Ulum al-Din International Journal* 4 (1): 61-74, 2002.

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"Two Sides of the Same Coin: Modernity and Tradition in Indonesian Islamic Education." *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*. 32(3):350-372, 2001.

"President, Caliph, or Saint?: Conceptions of Leadership in Post-Suharto Indonesia" *Ihya 'Ulum al-Din International Journal* 3(1): 21-36, 2001

"Teaching Morality: Javanese Islamic Education in a Globalizing Era" *Journal of Arabic and Islamic Studies*. Vol. 3:26-48, 2000.

"The History And Current State Of The Anthropological Canon On Indonesian Islam." *Ihya 'Ulum al-Din International Journal* 2(1): 1-20, 2000.

"Between Text and Practice: Considerations in the Anthropological Study of Islam." *Marburg Journal of Religion* 4 (2): 10-20, 1999.

- Translated into Turkish [alewiten.com/metodoloji120803.htm](http://alewiten.com/metodoloji120803.htm)

- reprinted in Andrew Rippen, ed. *Defining Islam: A Reader*. Equinox Publications. Forthcoming June 2007

“Metaphorical Aspects of Indonesian Islamic Discourse about Development” in *Intellectual Development in Indonesian Islam*. Chapter 8. Tempe: ASU Program for Southeast Asian Studies Monograph Series, 1996. (Translated in to Indonesian as 1998 "Aspek Metaforis Wacana Islam Indonesia Tentang Pembangunan" *Jalan Baru Islam: Mematakan Paradigma Mutakkir Islam Indonesia*. Jakarta: Mizan. Pp. 237-254.)

## **Service Publications (Book Reviews, Encyclopedia Entries, Newsletters)**

“Book Review: *The Muslims of Thailand* by Michel Gilquin (tr. Michael Smithies)”. *Journal of Islamic Social Sciences* 24(2):109-11, 2007.

“Indonesia” in Thomas Leonard, editor. *Encyclopedia of the Developing World*. Routledge – Taylor and Francis Group, 2005.

"Preface" in Abdurrahman Masud. *Menggagas Format Pendidikan Nondikotomik'* (Establishing Non-Dichotomous Education). Yogyakarta: LKIES, 2002.

"Lessons from Java: Fathering in a Cross-Cultural Perspective" API News, June 2001.

"Globalization, human geography," "Islamic Fundamentalism," "Modernity, sociological," "Ritual," and "Tradition." *Reader's Guide to the Social Sciences*. London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers., 2001.

"Book Review: *The Pesantren Tradition: A Study of the Role of the Kyai in the Maintenance of the Traditional Ideology of Islam in Java* by Zamakhsyari Dhofier." *Journal of Asian Studies*. 59(4):1091-1092, 2000.

"The Sacred Geography Of An Indonesian Islamic Modernity." *International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World Newsletter*. 3, 1999

"Book Review: *Young Heros: The Indonesian Family in Politics* by Saya Shiraishi." *Journal of Asian Studies*. 58 (2): 579-581, 1999

"Book Review: *Small Sacrifices* by Anne Schiller." *Review of Religious Research*. 40 (2): 184-185, 1998.

"Book Review: *Showing Signs of Violence* by Kenneth George." *Journal of Asian and African Studies*. XXXIII, 1: 11-12, 1998.

"Ronald McDonald: Reflections on Commercialism in Indonesia" *Suvannabhumi* 7(2):6-7, 1996.

"Social Discourse in Java" *Suvannabhumi* 5 (2):6, 1994.

## Courses

Magic, Science, and Religion  
Islam and the West  
Religion and Culture  
Comparative Islamic Cultures  
Peoples and Cultures of Southeast Asia  
Religions of Asia  
Cross-Cultural Methods  
Sacred Journeys

Pilgrimage and Sacred Geography  
Film, Anthropology, and the Other  
Film and Culture  
Peoples and Cultures of the World  
Survey of Anthropological Theory  
Political Anthropology  
Introduction to Anthropology  
Comparative Religions

## Other Teaching/Training Experience

2006-2007 *Undergraduate Research Project Mentor*. I worked with Andrew Magee, who received an UNF Undergraduate Research Grant for his research evaluating a development NGO in Thailand that engages short-term volunteers from Western nations. Andrew's funding was supplemented by a special award from Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

2006 *Summer Study Abroad Course Leader*. I lead a group of 14 students and one other faculty member to Singapore, Malaysian Borneo and Thailand. The theme for the trip was Nature and Culture. The course asked students to examine human conceptions of nature in varied settings: both rural and urban as well as Buddhist, Animists, and Muslim religious contexts.

2005-2006 *Undergraduate Research Project Mentor*. I have supervised Justin Martin who received an UNF Undergraduate Research Grant to examine how social networks function as the relationships move back and forth between cyberspace and real life. Justin presented a poster at the 2005 American Anthropological Association meetings in Atlanta, GA. This paper was published in the *Osprey Journal of Ideas and Inquiry*

2005-2006 *Undergraduate Research Project Mentor* I mentored Naima Brown, who received an UNF Undergraduate Research Grant to examine the multi-national and multi-ethnic Islamic center in Jacksonville as a foci for the experiences of American Muslims in the Southeastern United States. This paper was published in the *Osprey Journal of Ideas and Inquiry*.

2004-2005 *Undergraduate Research Project Mentor*. I worked with Mark Fafard, who received an UNF Undergraduate Research Grant for his project on modern Christian pilgrimage at the Holy Land Experience theme park in Orlando, Florida. A poster was presented at the 103<sup>rd</sup> American Anthropological Association meetings in Atlanta, GA December 2004. This paper was published in the *Osprey Journal of Ideas and Inquiry*. This research led to a peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of Religion and Society*.

2003 *Summer Study Abroad Course Leader*. I lead a group of 11 students and one other faculty member to Malaysia and Thailand. The theme for the trip was Pilgrimage vs. Tourism. It asked students to reflect on different kinds of travel and their impact on local settings as they travel. International politics and epidemics forced the trip to be reconfigured multiple times.

2001-2002 *Undergraduate Research Project Mentor*. I worked with Faridha Salama who received an UNF Undergraduate Research Grant for her project on the cultural adjustment of refugees from 3 different countries in Jacksonville. This paper was published in the *Osprey Journal of Ideas and Inquiry* 3:138-152.

2000-2001 *Undergraduate Research Project Mentor*. I worked with Anita Davis who received an UNF Undergraduate Research Grant for her project "Japanese Ningyo: Destined for the Trash Can." This was published as Anita Davis and Ronald Lukens-Bull (2001) "Ningyo: Destined for the Trash Can?" In *A Pilgrimage of Color 2001 National Conference Culture Monograph Series*. Morehead, KY: NAAAS/NAHLS/NANAS/IAAS . Pp. 39-69 and in the *Osprey Journal of Ideas and Inquiry*.

## Invited Presentations

“Pendidikan Islam di Asia Tenggara: Perbandingan dan Pentinjauan tentang Masa Depan” (Islamic Education in Southeast Asia: Comparative Perspectives and Perspectives on the Future”). Institut Agama Islam Negeri Raden Fatah (National Islamic Institute Raden Fatah), Palembang, Indonesia August 2007.

Islam, SE Asia, and Clashing Civilizations.” School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, April 2007.

“A Peaceful Jihad: an Overview.” Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore, May 2005.

"In Search Of Liberal Muslims: The Case of Indonesian Islamic Schools." University of South Carolina Islamic Studies Program Inaugural Lecture, March 2005.

"Methods and Issues in the Ethnographic Study of Islam" Graduate Program, Indonesian Islamic Institute, Surabaya October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

"Youth Culture and the Negotiation of Religious Identity" Religious Harmony: Problems, Practice and Education. Yogyakarta/Semarang September 27<sup>th</sup> - October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004.

"Sectarian Violence in Eastern Indonesia in the Context of Indonesian Islam" *Sectarian Violence in Eastern Indonesia: Causes and Consequence*, University of Hawaii, May 2003.

"Islamic Ethics of Leadership and Followership from Ethnographic, Historical, and Textual Sources." Seminar on Political Ethics sponsored by IAIN Walisongo, Semarang., June 2002.

"Contemporary Islamic Education" Universitas Islam Indonesia, Yogyakarta, June 2000.

"A Peaceful Jihad: Islamic Education in a Globalizing World" Indonesian Islamic Institute, Semarang, June 2000.

## Conference Presentations

“Madrasah, by any other name: Pondok, Pesantren, and Islamic Schools.” Seminar Serantau Islam Hadhari, Kuala Lumpur, August 2007.

“The Way We (Never) Were: The Use of History in Indonesian Islamic Discourse.” Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Phoenix, April 2007

“Warning – Dangerous Curves Ahead: Anthropological Perspectives on Islamic Curricular Initiatives” (Invited Session). American Anthropological Association, San Jose, November, 2006.

“Identity, Tension, and Violence in Indonesian Islam.” International Conference on Southeast Asia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, December 2005

“Youth Culture, Globalization, the Negotiation of Religious Identity in Indonesia.” Workshop on Religious Commodifications in Asia: The Re-enchantment of a Globalizing World, hosted by the Asia Research Institute at the National University of Singapore, November 2005

"Defending the Peaceful Jihad: Indonesian Islamic Responses to Violence." Association of Asian Studies, San Diego, CA, March 2004.

"The Place of Commodities in the (Attempted) Creation and Maintenance of an Indonesian Islamic Public Sphere" Association of Asian Studies, New York, NY, March 2003.

"Honk If You Love Allah: Negotiating Indonesian Islamic Identities Through Bumper Stickers." American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, November 2002 (with Alethia Calbeck)

"Negotiating Modernity and Tradition in Pesantren Education." Association of Asian Studies, Washington, DC, March 2002.

"The Problem of Prayer: Ethical and Methodological Considerations in Participant Observation with Muslims." American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 2001.

“Kyai, President, or Wali : Contesting Islamic Notions Of Leadership In Post-Suharto Indonesia." Association of Asian Studies, Chicago, IL, March 2001.

"Be (Com)ing Kyai: Contesting And Constructing Javanese Islamic Notions Of Manhood And Nationhood." American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 2000.

"Indonesian Islamic Identities on National and International Stages." Association of Asian Studies, San Diego, CA, March 2000.

"Ronald McDonald is a Javanese Mystic and an Indonesian Freedom Fighter." American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL, November 1999.

"Spatializing Religious and Social Change in Islamic Java." Association of Asian Studies, Boston, MA, March 1999.

"Imagining Modernity in Javanese Islamic Education." American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA, November, 1998.

"Javanese Islamic Education in a Globalizing Era." Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast, Walla Walla, WA, 1998

"Changes in Indonesian Religious Education" Indonesian Studies Council National Conference, Tempe, July 1997.

"Historical Roots of the Anthropological Canon on Indonesia." American Ethnological Society, Seattle, WA, 1997.

"Teaching Morality: Javanese Islamic Education in a Globalizing Era" American Anthropological Association San Francisco, CA, November 1996.

Ronald Lukens-Bull "Islamic Boarding Schools and Social Discourse in Java." Association for Asian Studies, Boston, MA, March 1994.

"Muslim Intellectuals, Ulama, and Metaphors: Aspects of Indonesian Islamic Discourse about Development." Intellectual Developments in Indonesian Islam. Tempe, AZ, February 1993.

## **Other Conference Activities**

Discussant, *Toward a Definition of Islam: Case Studies in North America and Europe*. Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Phoenix, AZ, April 2007

Panelist "The Future of Southeast Asian Studies" International Conference on Southeast Asia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, December 2005

Panel Organizer and Chair, *Seeking Peace and Understanding: Indonesian Responses to Violence*. Association of Asian Studies, San Diego, CA, March 2004

Panel Organizer and Chair, *The Role of Media in the Construction and Contestation of an Indonesian Islamic Public Sphere*. Association of Asian Studies, New York, NY, March 2003.

Panel Organizer and Chair, *Looking Forward: Education in Indonesia*. Association of Asian Studies, Washington, DC, March 2002

Panel Organizer and Chair, *Who Are You and What Are You Doing?: The Subject Position of the Researcher in the Anthropology of Islam*. American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC, November 2001

Panel Organizer and Chair, *Contesting Islamic Political Visions in Post Soeharto Indonesia*. Association of Asian Studies, Chicago, IL, March 2001.

Panel Organizer and Chair, *Contesting And Constructing Islamic Identities In The Periphery*. American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA, November 2000

Panel Organizer, *Cultural, National, and Islamic Identities in Asia*. Association of Asian Studies, San Diego, CA, March 2000.

Program Chair, Indonesian Studies Council National Conference, Eugene, OR. July 1999.

Panel Organizer, *Spatializing Change: Sacred Geography and Social-Religious Transformations in Southeast Asia*. Association of Asian Studies, Boston, MA. March 1999.

Panel Organizer, *Inventing Modernity And Tradition In Islamic Societies*. American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, PA. November 1998

## Service Presentations

“Islam in Southeast Asia” Asia Pacific Orientation Course 07C, Okinawa, Japan, July 2007

“Indonesia: Culture and History” Asia Pacific Orientation Course 07C, Okinawa, Japan, July 2007

“Islam in Southeast Asia” Asia Pacific Orientation Course 07B, Ft. Walton Beach, Fl March 2007

“Indonesia: Culture and History” Asia Pacific Orientation Course 07B, Ft. Walton Beach, Fl March 2007

“Theology of Terror or A Peaceful Jihad: Islamic Responses to Modernity.” Lakewood United Methodist Church, November 2006.

“Understanding Islam: A Theology of Terror or A Peaceful Jihad.” Week Of Welcome. University of North Florida, August 2005.

“Anthropology as a Career .” Home Education Resource and Information Expo, July 2005.

“Middle East Political Reform.” University of North Florida Honor Society, February 2005.

“Observing Ramadan and Celebrating Id al-Fitr” Discovery Montessori School, Kindergarten Class. Jacksonville Beach, FL 19 November 2004.

“PDAs in Research and Teaching” University of North Florida OFE (Office of Faculty Enhancement) miniConference, November 2004.

“Challenges of Setting Up a New Program” Workshop on Innovative Approaches to Teaching Study Abroad. University of North Florida Office of Faculty Enhancement 24 October, 2003.

“What is Islam” Discovery Montessori School, Upper Elementary Class, Jacksonville Beach, FL.  
May 2003

“What is Islam?” Good Shepard Center November 2001.

“Faces of Islam” (Moderator) University of North Florida, October 2001.

“Understanding Terrorism” (Panelist) University of North Florida, September 2001.

## Honors/Grants/Scholarships

- 2006 UNF Transformational Learning Opportunity Grant to take students to Southeast Asia in Summer 2006
- 2005 Fulbright Senior Specialist -- Walailak University, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand
- 2005 UNF Faculty International Grant
- 2004 US-Indonesia Society (USINDO) Travel Grant
- 2000 UNF Faculty Summer Research Grant
- 1994 Henry Luce/ ASU Southeast Asia Program Dissertation Fellowship
- 1993 Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society
- 1992 U.S. Department of Education Grant to attend Advanced Indonesian Abroad
- 1991 Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship to attend SEASSI.

## Manuscript Reviews

- 2007 Reviewed article manuscript for *Review of Indonesian and Malaysian Affairs*
- 2007 Reviewed article manuscript for *Contemporary Islam*
- 2007 Reviewed final Table of Contents and final format of book (*Sacred Realms*, Warms et al) for Oxford University Press.
- 2006 Reviewed article manuscript for *Contemporary Islam*
- 2006 Reviewed book revision (*Sacred Realms*, Warms et al) for Oxford University Press.
- 2006 Reviewed book revision (*Introducing Anthropology*, Park) for McGraw-Hill
- 2006 Reviewed book manuscript for Pearson Education
- 2005 Reviewed book revision for Oxford University Press.
- 2005 Reviewed book manuscript for Pearson Education
- 2005 Reviewed article manuscript for *Comparative Education Review*
- 2004 Reviewed special issue for *Crossroads*.
- 2004. Reviewed book manuscript for Oxford University Press.
- 2004 Reviewed book revision for Sage Press.
- 2003. Reviewed article manuscript for *Crossroads*
- 2003. Reviewed article manuscript for *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*
- 2002. Reviewed article manuscript for *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*

## Professional Memberships and Service

Since 1989 American Anthropological Association  
Since 1993 Association of Asian Scholars (AAS)  
1998-2001 AAS Indonesian Studies Committee, Board Member  
Since 1999 Society for the Anthropology of Religion  
1999-2000 History of Islam (islam-l) list moderator  
2000 University of Florida, Dyson Initiative Advisory Board Member  
Since 2007, Editorial Board, *Contemporary Islam: Dynamics of Muslim Life*  
Since 2007, Founding Co-Editor, *Global Networks: Contemporary Studies in Muslim Communities*. Book Series with Springer Publications.

## References

Robert Hefner, Professor, Department of Anthropology, Boston University, 617-353-2194;  
[rhefner@bu.edu](mailto:rhefner@bu.edu)

Mark Woodward, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Arizona State University. 480-965-2530; [mark.woodward@asu.edu](mailto:mark.woodward@asu.edu)

Richard Phillips, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of North Florida. 904-620-2850; [rphillips@unf.edu](mailto:rphillips@unf.edu)

Karl Heider, Carolina Distinguished Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of South Carolina. 803-777-5130; [heiderek@sc.edu](mailto:heiderek@sc.edu)

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