Open your home April 13–20 to be a homestay host for participants in the Center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). This U.S. State Department program brings high-school students from 10 Southeast Asian countries to NIU for three weeks to learn about leadership and civic engagement. Learn more about being a homestay host in item 2 below.

**Be a ‘home-bassador’**

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1. This week’s lecture: The Hmong and the Communist Party of Thailand

University of Wisconsin-Madison geographer Ian Baird will present “The Hmong and the Communist Party of Thailand: A Transnational, Transcultural and Gender Relations-Transforming Experience” at noon Friday, March 2, in Room 100 Campus Life. Beginning in the 1960s, many Hmong people in Thailand aligned themselves with the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT). By the 1970s, a large proportion of the Hmong population in Thailand had joined the struggle, and most of the CPT “liberated areas” were located in mountainous areas populated by Hmong people. In this lecture, Baird looks at the history of this relationship, arguing that from the very beginning, until the CPT’s rapid decline in the 1980s, Hmong involvement in the CPT was transnational, transcultural and transformative, with regards to gender relations. Baird, a Hmong Studies scholar, is co-leading a UW four-week study abroad program to Thailand and Laos in June (applications due March 2). To order a Southeast Asian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at CSEAS Brown Bag Order. To cancel an order, you must do so online by 10 a.m. Friday. Cost is $5 for students and $7 for faculty, staff and others. Pay in cash or by check. For lunch details, e-mail cseasbrownbag@gmail.com.

2. Family ties: Step up and be a host for SEA youth exchange programs

CSEAS and NIU’s International Training Office (ITO) are actively seeking area homestay hosts for two spring Southeast Asia youth exchange programs sponsored by the U.S. State Department at NIU.

CSEAS is looking for homestay hosts for 50 high school students and 10 adult leaders from ten Southeast Asian countries participating in the Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). The homestay dates for SEAYLP are April 13–20. Students may be placed in pairs and adults as singles. Hosts provide a bed for each participant, breakfast each day and most dinners, all meals during any weekend days at home, and transportation to and from class sessions at NIU. SEAYLP host family orientation is at 7 p.m. Monday, April 3, in the Sky Room, Holmes Student center. You can find details and applications on the SEAYLP website. For more information, contact SEAYLP Homestay Coordinator Jenny Ruff at SEAYLP@jennyruff.com or SEAYLP Administrative Director Anastasia Kocher at akocher1@niu.edu. And for the host family perspective, check out what local families have to say about being a homestay host in NIU Today.

ITO is seeking host families for two weeks in April for the Philippine Youth Leadership Program (PYLP), which brings 24 youths and 4 adult leaders from the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao and surrounding provinces in the Philippines to NIU for four weeks. The homestay dates for PYLP are April 15–28. PYLP host family orientation is 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 11 in

Top 10 reasons to be a host family

10. You can experience a different culture without getting on an airplane
9. It beats watching “NCIS” reruns
8. You’ll be able to pick out Southeast Asia on a map
7. Your kids may start answering you in Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Lao, Malay, Thai, Tagalog or Vietnamese
6. You could become an expert at making mango sticky rice
5. It’s something different to write about on Facebook
4. You’ll be the envy of family and friends
3. It’s a good excuse for spring cleaning
2. Your family portrait could replace the flying corn cob as the international symbol of DeKalb County
1. You’ll will make friendships of a lifetime
the Holmes Student Center’s University Suite. For details, see the PYLP website or contact ITO Homestay Coordinator Leslie Shive at lshive@niu.edu.

3. Catching up with Center associates NEW
* Judy Ledgerwood (College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Anthropology) is in print with the introduction to Svay: A Khmer Village in Cambodia, a new volume published by Cornell University Press drawn from groundbreaking ethnographic research into Cambodian rural life conducted by Ledgerwood’s mentor, the late anthropologist May Mayko Ebihara (1934-2005). Svay is a pseudonym for a rice-growing village near Phnom Penh that Ebihara studied between 1959 and 1960 for her dissertation (Columbia University, 1968), and to which she returned between 1989 and 1996 after the devastation wrought by the Khmer Rouge (1975–79) and the closure of the country under Vietnamese occupation until 1989. As a new PhD, Ledgerwood worked with Ebihara in her later study of the village and conducted subsequent research there across the last two decades. Ledgerwood’s introduction addresses how Ebihara’s thesis has been used by later scholars to address key issues in Khmer Studies.

* Tharaphi Than (Foreign Languages and Literatures), who is working on a curricula project about exiles for the International Institute for Asian Studies’ Humanities Across Borders project, writes about meeting a group of Burmese exiles in London in a Feb. 19 post for the project’s blog. In “Accidental Exiles: Burmese Stories – Part 1,” Than discusses how the exile experience crosses countries, generations and even definitions of the term “exile.” “There is no consensus among exile as to what name(s) best capture their lives,” Than writes about the individuals she met. “They did not choose to become exiles or they did not think they would still be living in a ‘third’ country three decades after the 8888 demonstration and other smaller protests they led or participated in. Many of them still struggle with their exilic identity.”

* Catherine Raymond (School of Art, Center for Burma Studies) has been away on sabbatical leave this semester. After conducting fieldwork in January in the Shan States in Myanmar with Center for Burma Studies graduate assistant Markie Striegel (art history) and Burmese students, Raymond served as a discussant at the International Conference on Burma/Myanmar Studies Feb. 16–18 at the University of Mandalay. She travels to Bangkok March 10 to present “Looking Beyond the Glass and Delineating Sacred Places: Trans-Asian Trade between China and Buddhist Mainland Southeast Asia” in the Art Centre at Silpakorn University.
Assistant CSEAS Director Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music), has been recommended by the Fulbright Peer Review Panel to be placed on the Fulbright Specialist Roster for three years (February 2018–February 2021). As a specialist, Wang is eligible to be matched with projects designed by host institutions in more than 150 countries. Wang was a Fulbright Scholar in Yogyakarta, Indonesia during the 2016–17 academic year and has led three arts and culture study abroad programs to Bali, Indonesia.

Kudos to Alan Potkin (CSEAS), who has launched a new website, Cultivate Understanding, to showcase his multimedia projects supporting environmental and cultural conservation. Since 1995, Potkin has traveled through extensively through the lower Mekong region and, with CSEAS associate Catherine Raymond, founded the Digital Conservation Facility Laos, which examines ways in which the loss of cultural assets parallels the loss of ecological assets.

4. Outreach update: Cambodia yesterday and today at Waubonsee

More than 100 students crowded a large classroom at Waubonsee Community College Feb. 21 to learn about Cambodia before and after the Khmer Rouge Period (1975–79), and about an upcoming study abroad program to the country led by Waubonsee sociology professor Kathy Westman. After an introduction (including his own study abroad experiences) by CSEAS Director Eric Jones (History), NIU College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Dean and CSEAS associate Judy Ledgerwood (Anthropology) talked about the challenges that have faced Cambodia rebuilding its society and economy and Westman discussed the study abroad program. She and co-leader Paul Edelman, political science professor at Sauk Valley Community College, will be taking community college students to Cambodia May 20–June 10. Partial travel funding available to students. Westman and Edelman designed their own program after traveling with Ledgerwood to Cambodia in summer 2016 on a three-week study tour for community college educators. Following the tour, Westman, Edelman and other participants created Cambodia lesson plans now posted as educational resources on the CSEAS website.

5. Second chance to apply for summer FLAS grants

CSEAS has reopened applications for additional summer 2018 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships for a second round. The application and information for the U.S. Department of Education grants are posted online. Deadline to apply is March 15. Summer FLAS fellowships provide for the summer study of Southeast Asian languages at any U.S. Department of Education-approved educational institution, especially those in Southeast Asia, but also including the
Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Questions? Contact Assistant CSEAS Director Jui-Ching Wang at jcwang@niu.edu.

6. Dwight Y. King Graduate Scholarship for the Study of Indonesia

Before his death in 2015, Political Science Professor and Center for Southeast Asian Studies Director Emeritus Dwight King established an endowment to award scholarships to international students, in particular Indonesian students, pursuing advanced degrees involving substantial Indonesia research. CSEAS invites students to apply for the first King award, the 2018–19 Dwight Y. King Graduate Scholarship for the Study of Indonesia. Applicants for this $1,000 award should be a student in good standing and at an advanced stage in their master’s or doctoral program. In keeping with King’s lifelong commitment to public affairs, students interested in working in developing countries will be given preference. Application must include a personal statement, research proposal, PDF of graduate transcript and a letter of recommendation. **Deadline to apply is March 15.**

7. Notes from all over: New at the library, new at NIU Press NEW

The Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection at Founders Library recently received a large donation, including 136 books and research materials, from CSEAS associate Kenton Clymer (History). Some of the archival materials will be added to two existing Clymer collections and others will be used to create a new collection of papers related to India, the Philippines and John Hay, all research materials for Clymer’s books. After all of the materials are processed, they will be available for use. . . .After 10 years of international conservation efforts coordinated by the Lao Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, the oldest palm-leaf manuscripts in Laos have been preserved, digitized and made available for study online. You can see the 12,000 texts from throughout Laos and dating from as early as the sixteenth century under Digital Collections in NIU’s Southeast Asia Digital Library. The collection is geographically and historically diverse, and includes different literary traditions, schools of scribes, languages and scripts, according to a **Feb. 15** article in the Vientiane Times. Most of the texts are from the Lao, Lan Na and Tai Lue traditions, with further texts in Tai Neua and Tai Dam. . . . NIU Press is set to release *Have Fun in Burma*, a coming-of-age novel by Rosalie Metro that takes place in modern-day Myanmar. Metro, who has a PhD in anthropology of education from Cornell University and currently teaches in the College of Education at the University of Missouri-Columbia, has been researching Burma/Myanmar since 2000. “[Metro] writes with authority about the country’s politics and about Buddhist practice, drawn from her own experience but also from her keen and sensitive observations,” writes the University of Oxford’s Matthew J. Walton in a back-cover review. *Have Fun in Burma* will be out in print **March 27**.
8. James Hoesterey to be keynote speaker for student conference
Emory University cultural anthropologist James Hoesterey will be the keynote speaker for the Southeast Asia Club’s Spring Southeast Asia Student Conference, Saturday, April 7, in Campus Life 100. Hoesterey, who received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is the author of Rebranding Islam: Piety, Prosperity, and a Self-Help Guru (Stanford University Press, 2015). He will present “Diplomacy, Soft Power, and the Making of ‘Moderate Islam’ in Indonesia.” Hoesterey’s appearance is co-sponsored by the Graduate Colloquium. Awards will be given for best undergraduate and graduate paper. Final papers due Friday, March 2. Email papers and any inquiries to niuseaclub@gmail.com (put Student Conference in the subject line).

9. Guest professor to teach summer POLS class
CSEAS and the Department of Political Science will welcome Professor Xi Ke from China’s Xiamen University in June to teach POLS 395, Contemporary Topics in Political Science—Selected Issues on China. The summer course will cover current security issues facing China and Southeast Asia in the areas of cybersecurity, health, the environment, energy, transnational crime, terrorism and society. It will run from 1 to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, June 18–28, in Room 246 DuSable. The class is cross-listed under HIST 391/691 and SEAS 490/690.

10. Latest podcast: Teaching about genocide and the Khmer Rouge NEW
In this special Southeast Asia Crossroads podcast focused on teaching about Southeast Asia, we talk to Cambodia expert and anthropologist Judy Ledgerwood as she explains how to teach about genocide and the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Accompanying lesson materials can be found on the CSEAS website (click on the link for Teaching about the Khmer Rouge under Lesson Plans and Curriculum). Check out our other podcasts as well. Our listenership keeps growing. Since the series’ inception in September 2016, Crossroads podcasts have been downloaded more than 4,700 times with listeners in 55 countries.

11. Hmong exhibit shifts to new Aurora location NEW
A modified version of the Pick Museum of Anthropology’s 2016 exhibit “Storytelling: Hmong American Voices” moves this week from the Aurora Public Library to Waubonsee Community College’s downtown Aurora location, 8 S. River St. The exhibit, In/Visibility: Hmong America and the Art of Storytelling, will be on display March 2–April 14 and explores Hmong American identity through first-person reflections, textiles and artwork by Hmong American artist J. Tshab Her. Remarks, refreshments and a guided tour by the
artist and Pick Museum staff will be part of an opening reception at 6 p.m. **March 2.** The exhibit is free and open to the public. The Pick Museum, the **Dunham Fund** and Waubonsee Community College provided funding for the Aurora exhibits.

**12 Apply online for Graduate School travel funding**
Are you going to a professional meeting or conference? You can apply online for Graduate School travel grants to travel to out-of-town (or out-of-country) professional meetings **April 1** to **June 20.** Grant proposals are due to the Graduate School by **March 19.** You must have completed one year of school with 3.5 GPA or above. See Graduate School **website** for details on its travel funding; submit applications to Dean, Graduate School, 223 Adams Hall.

**13. Outside SEA language, cultural study abroad opportunities**
* indicates full or partial funding

- * The Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL) program offered by the Center for Lao Studies is a five-week language and culture experience conducted by the Lao-American College located in Vientiane, Laos. Some funding available. **Deadline to apply: April 2.** For details, see SAIL website. To receive NIU credit, contact the NIU Study Abroad at niuabroad@niu.edu.
- **Advanced Study of Khmer (ASK):** Intensive six-week program **June 20–July 29** sponsored by the Center for Khmer Studies in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Coordinated through University of Hawai‘i-Manoa. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 28.** Partial funding available. For details, see ASK website or email Ms. Tith Srey Pich at juniorfellowships@khmerstudies.org.
- UW-Madison geographer Ian Baird and University of Minnesota historian Mai Na M Lee are leading a study abroad program to northern Thailand in June 2018 to learn about the Hmong populations in Thailand and Laos. The focus of the four-week program will be on refugee settlement and resettlement. The program includes seminars, guest speakers, field trips and homestays. **Deadline to apply: March 2.** For details, email Baird at ibaird@wisc.edu.

**14. Burnish your resumé with Southeast Asian Studies**
Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to a bachelor’s degree or a graduate certificate to an advanced degree and pull your resumé to the top of the pile. Visit the **CSEAS website** or stop by CSEAS at 520 College View Court. Undergraduates should contact adviser Maria Nihei at mhancock3@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Jui-Ching Wang at jcwang@niu.edu.

**15. Save the dates: Host families, gamelan, student conference, cultural events** **NEW**

- **March 2:** Deadline for final papers for April 7 Spring Southeast Asia Student Conference. Email to niuseaclub@gmail.com.
- **March 7:** NIU Gamelan Ensemble performs at noon at Triton College, River Grove. **NEW**
- **March 15:** Deadlines to **apply** for second round of summer FLAS funding and to **apply** for the 2018-19 Dwight King Graduate Scholarship for the Study of Indonesia.
- **April 7:** Spring Southeast Asia Student Conference, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Campus Life 100.
- **April 8:** New Year Water Festival, DeKalb Public Library. Sponsored by CSEAS, NIU Burma Interest Group and NIU Thai Studies Committee. **FREE.**
- **April 8:** World Music Concert, Boutell Memorial Concert Hall. **FREE.**
- **April 13–20:** SEAYLP Host Family Week.
- **April 21–26:** SEAYLP Global Youth Leadership Camp for area high school students.
- **April 23:** SEAYLP Culture Night, 6:30 p.m., location TBA. **FREE.**

**16. Looking for a few good SEA manuscripts**

The Northern Illinois University Press is seeking quality scholarly but accessible book-length manuscripts in Southeast Asian Studies to consider for publication. Address inquiries to Kenton Clymer, editor, Southeast Asian Series, NIU Press, at kclymer@niu.edu.

**17. Money for study NEW**

**NIU**

- **Student Engagement Fund:** Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning (OSEEL) and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences funding for faculty-mentored and community-based research projects, NIU faculty-led study abroad programs, and travel to conferences or competitions. Funding ranges from $1,200 to $3,500 per year. **Deadline for summer 2018: Feb. 28.** Email engage@niu.edu or visit OSEEL in Altgeld 100.

**Center for Khmer Studies**

- **Summer Junior Resident Fellowships:** Six-week undergraduate program, July 2–Aug. 10, Siem Reap, Cambodia. All costs covered except travel to Cambodia with small travel grants available. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 28.** See website.

**Institute of Thai Studies, Chulalongkorn University**

- **ENITAS, ENITS Scholarships:** Funding for graduate students and young scholars working on Thai-Tai and ASEAN studies. See website to apply.

**East-West Center**

- **Affiliate Scholar Program:** Short-term affiliation with the East-West Center for graduate students from around the world to pursue thesis or dissertation research in 2018. **Revolving deadlines to submit.** See website.

**ProFellow**

- **Dissertation Research Fellowships:** Check the ProFellow website for 30 different opportunities for dissertation research funding.

**Rotary International**

- **Rotary Peace Fellowships:** Fully paid fellowships for master’s degree (up to two years) or professional development certificate studies (three months) offered through six universities worldwide. See website.

**18. Conferences, symposia, calls for papers NEW**

- **UW-Madison Trans-Asia Graduate Student Conference,** March 2–4, Madison, WI. Theme: “Asia Re-Mixed.” For details, email tagsconference@rso.wisc.edu.
- **Cornell Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference,** March 9–11, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Theme: Possession and Persuasion. For details, email seapgradconf@gmail.com.
- **Association for Asian Studies Conference,** March 22–25, Washington, DC. See website.
- **7th Southeast Asian Studies Symposium,** March 22–24, Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta. Project Southeast Asia/University of Oxford. In collaboration with UI’s School of Environmental Science and Indonesia Environmental Scientists Association. See website.
NIU Spring SEA Student Conference, April 7, Campus Life 100. For details, email niuseaclub@gmail.com.

Midwest Political Science Association, April 5–8, Palmer House Hilton, Chicago. See website.

Asia-Pacific Conference on Business & Social Science, April 12–14, Kuala Lumpur. See website.


Escaping the Homeland: Contesting Diasporic Narratives, April 20–21, Yale University.


Asian Extremes: Climate, Meteorology and Disaster in History, May 17–18, National University of Singapore. See website.

International Conference on Business and Human Rights: Holding Governments Accountable in Asia, July 12–14, Bangkok. See website.

13th Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies, July 23–27, National University of Singapore. Call for papers. Deadline for abstracts: Feb. 28. See website. NEW

13th International Burma Studies Conference, Aug. 3–5, Bangkok. Deadline for proposals for papers or panels: April 15. See website.


Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, Oct. 19–20, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN. Abstract/panel proposals due: April 16. See website. NEW


19. Careers NEW

University of Hamburg

Professor Thai or Austronesian Studies: Tenure-track position to teach languages and cultures of Southeast Asia. Thai and/or Indonesian/Malay language necessary. Deadline to
Center for Strategic and International Studies

- **Internships**: Full- and part-time internships for undergraduates, advanced students and recent graduates who are interested in gaining practical experience in public policy. Based in Washington, DC. Rolling deadlines to apply. See [website](#).

Eurasia Group

- **Researcher, Political Risk Training Program**: One-year training assignment in political risk assessment with possibility of returning for second year. BA in political science, regional studies or economics with deep knowledge, some in-country experience and foreign language fluency of relevant country or sub-region. **Spring recruiting beginning now.** See [job listing](#).
- **Careers**: Submit your resume to be considered for other careers with Eurasia Group. See [website](#).

University of San Francisco

- **Assistant Professor International Studies**: Tenure track to begin August 2018. See [website](#).

Globaljobs.org

- **Job/internship opportunities**: Turn area studies into an internship or a career. See job listings at NGOs, think tanks, government, and private-sector employers. See [website](#).

Chinese Mutual Aid Association

- **Interns**: Pan-Asian social service organization accepting candidates for interns for business development, grant writing and workforce development and outreach liaison duties. Contact Michelle White at michellew@chinesemutualaid.org or 773-784-2900. See [website](#).

US Department of State

- **Student internship program**: Internship opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students at Washington headquarters and US embassies, consulates and missions worldwide. Explore postgraduate civil-service career paths as well. See [program website](#).

ASEAN/ASEC

- **Job listings**: Check [website](#) frequently for open positions at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC).

Asia Society

- **Career opportunities**: Internships and jobs posted regularly on [website](#).

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

- **Jobs listed under Opportunities tab of ASEAN website.**

DeveX: Do Good. Do It Well

- International aid and development jobs in 1,000 agencies, companies and NGOs in 100 countries. See [website](#).

DevMetJOBS.org

- International development jobs and consulting opportunities. See [website](#).

Hess International Educational Group

- **Teach English across Asia**: Taiwan-based organization offers free training, benefits, and flex scheduling. Email NIU alum Derek Wright at derek.wright@hess.com.tw or see [website](#).

Idealist.org

- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. See the [Idealist website](#).

Learn How to Become
- Privately funded website offers searchable database of meaningful volunteer and nonprofit career options and resources. See [website](#).

ReliefWeb

- Specialized digital service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs that posts jobs regularly. See [website](#).

World Health Organization

- Global health agency in the United Nations system encourages online applications for potential employment. See [website](#).

20. Area cultural opportunities

- If you missed the “Storytelling: Hmong American Voices” exhibit at the Pick Museum of Anthropology last year, you can see it at downtown Aurora campus of Waubonsee Community College, 8 S. River St., **March 2–April 14**. Opening reception at 6 p.m. **March 6.**

- The NIU Gamelan Ensemble will perform at noon **March 7** in the Student Center at Triton College, River Grove, part of the schools World Music Series. **NEW**

- Go behind the scenes of the Philippine Collections at the Field Museum. Contact the museum’s co-curation team at [cocuration.philippines@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:cocuration.philippines@fieldmuseum.org). To learn more about the museum’s Philippines work, see the co-curation team’s [newsletter](mailto:). **NEW**

- Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute of Chicago offers classes in Thai language, dance and music among other programs. See [website](#) for details or phone 312-725-0640.

- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit on display at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) also holds free Cambodian music and dance lessons.

- The Indonesian consulate in Chicago offers free Saturday classes: Indonesian language classes at 10:30 a.m. (intermediate) and 1 p.m. (children’s class); Indonesian traditional dance, 2 to 4 p.m.; and Javanese gamelan, 4 to 6 p.m. All classes held at the Indonesian Cultural Center, 711 W. Grand Avenue. Call 312-920-1880, ext. 104/105, or email [icc@indonesiachicago.org](mailto:icc@indonesiachicago.org). See the consulate’s [Facebook](#) page.

- Indonesian Dance of Illinois offers traditional dance and gamelan music lessons Saturdays in Evanston, Ill. See [website](#).

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You can help keep Southeast Asian studies program at NIU vibrant with your contribution through the NIU Foundation. To contribute online, see [How to Give](#) and where indicated, specify the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. If your employer matches your charitable donations, please take a moment to fill out that form and double your contribution. We appreciate every gift. Thank you!

Persons with a disability who need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact Office Manager Lisa Heal at 815-753-1771 or [lheal@niu.edu](mailto:lheal@niu.edu). If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, reply to this e-mail with request to remove your name. Thank you.