Lions in winter: Lion dancers perform in front of local businesses in Ho Chi Minh City to drive out bad luck for the new year. (Travel Blog photo / 2009)

The center celebrates the Year of the Tiger: Best wishes for the lunar new year to all of our colleagues and friends

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1. This week’s center lecture: Mace Bentley, NIU associate geography professor
Associate geography professor and center associate Mace Bentley will present “Enriching the Southeast Asian Classroom through Emerging Technologies” at this week’s center lecture series at noon Friday, Feb. 12, in Room 110, Campus Life Building. The lecture will cover the creation of podcasts and enhanced podcasts aimed at “placing” learners in Southeast Asia. These multimedia techniques are utilized to stimulate discussion and curiosity for in-class or online activities. To order a Thai lunch, call 815-753-1771 or e-mail cseas@niu.edu by noon Thursday. Lunches are $4 for students, $5 for others.

Mace Bentley

2. Deadline extended to Feb. 15 for FLAS fellowships
The center has extended the deadline to apply for the 2010–11 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships to Monday, Feb. 15. The federally funded FLAS fellowships assist students in becoming proficient in one of the six Southeast Asia languages offered at NIU: Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Malay, Tagalog, and Thai. They are open to undergraduate (at only intermediate or advanced levels) and graduate students (at all levels). CSEAS Director Jim Collins strongly encouraged interested students to apply for the grants, which will be awarded for the 2010–11 academic year pending funding. “These fellowships not only provide tuition waivers and substantial stipends, but they also are a valuable asset in a student’s CV,” he said. Application guidelines are available at the center website under Student Funding.

3. Deadline extended, topics expanded for SEA Club conference papers
There’s still time to submit papers for the NIU Southeast Asia Club’s upcoming annual student conference, which will explore power dynamics in Southeast Asia from the perspective of gender roles, sex, and violence. The club, which has been accepting papers from graduates and undergraduate from all disciplines on the conference focus, will also consider papers on other Southeast Asia topics. Deadline for submission is Friday, Feb. 19. There is a $100 prize for best undergraduate paper and a $250 award for best graduate paper. E-mail contact name and address, major area of study (region and discipline), paper title, and 250-word abstract to Matthew Jagel at Reebok74@comcast.net. Call 630-709-3999 or e-mail seaclubniu@yahoo.com for other details. Barbara Watson Andaya, author of The Flaming Womb: Repositioning Women in Early Modern Southeast Asia (University of Hawaii Press, 2008), will be the keynote speaker for the March 20 conference, which will be preceded by the club’s annual Southeast Asia culture night on March 19.

4. International Ramayana Conference proposal deadline Feb. 15
Presentation proposals are due Monday, Feb. 15, for the Third International Ramayana Conference set for Sept. 17–19, 2010 at NIU’s Naperville campus. The two-day event, co-
sponsored by the center and the University of Illinois Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and the International Ramayana Institute of North America, will include a Ramayana-based teacher workshop. See the [center website](#) under Conferences.

5. Words into action: Grad assistants begin work on dictionary project

Graduate assistants Sarah Wiley (history), Sean Dolan, and Brett McCabe (both anthropology) met with CSEAS Director Jim Collins Jan. 31 at his home to discuss the center’s online Malay dictionary project and their roles in it. The three students, all of whom have studied in Malaysia, are enrolled in upper-level courses in the Malay language at NIU. Their collective experience and training in Malaysia, Brunei, and Indonesia make them uniquely qualified to work on the dictionary project, Collins said. At the meeting, the group considered workflow issues and strategies, as well as their specific roles in the project. Under Collins’s direction, the students will be writing draft definitions as well as collecting relevant cultural information to be displayed and explained in the groundbreaking multimedia dictionary.

6. Seeking host families for April and May youth leadership programs

NIU is looking for area families to act as hosts in April and May for participants in two programs bringing in high school students and adult leaders from Burma, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, and Thailand. Home stays for the Southeast Asia Youth Fellowship Program (SEAYLP) are scheduled for April 11–22; home stays for the Philippine Youth Leadership Program (PYLP) are set for May 2–15. Students will be placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. For details, contact coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu.

7. Faculty, student Thai travel grant applications due March 5

Center faculty associates and NIU students are invited to apply for travel grants for research in Thailand through the Thai Teaching and Research Endowment Fund. Individual faculty travel awards are $1,000 and must be applied to research-related travel incurred by June 15, 2011. Applications should be submitted to center office manager Nancy Schuneman by March 5. Travel awards for individual students are $1,500 for graduate students and $1,000 for undergraduates. Applications should be submitted to Chalermsee Olson at the NIU Library by March 5. For details, see the [center website](#) under News & Events.
8. Apply this spring to study abroad in Southeast Asia this year through NIU

- **History and Culture of Malaysia, May 9–28, Kuala Lumpur**: Three-week program beginning in Kuala Lumpur led by assistant history professor Eric Jones. Students will visit nature reserves (orangutans and proboscis monkeys), historical sites, religious centers, and rural areas throughout Malaysia and Brunei, where they will interact with the region’s ethnically and religiously diverse populations. Three credit hours. Open to graduate and undergraduate students. Application deadline: March 1. Contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.

- **Cambodia Field School, July 15–Aug. 15, Phnom Penh**: Four-week ethnographic field school led by anthropology professor Judy Ledgerwood. Students will study Cambodian culture, religion, and various field-study methods, including surveys, interviews, and participant observation. A collaborative project with the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh. Three or six credit hours. Open to graduate or advanced undergraduate students. Application deadline: April 1. Contact the Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.

9. Deadlines approaching for summer SEASSI scholarships

Summertime and the language learning is easy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison at the June 14–Aug. 6 Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI). Graduate and undergraduate students are invited to apply for full and partial scholarships to attend this intensive eight-week Southeast Asia language program offering Burmese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Javanese, Khmer, Lao, Thai, and Vietnamese. (NIU language professor and center associate Saw Tun will be teaching the Burmese section). Deadline for full scholarships (tuition and stipend) offered by SEASSI: Feb. 19. Deadline for partial tuition scholarships is April 16. Students may apply online at the program website. For details, e-mail seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu or call 608-263-1755. SEASSI is also on YouTube. SEASSI is a cooperative program of Southeast Asian studies programs at 12 U.S. universities, including NIU.

10. New volume of *Journal of Burma Studies* published

NIU’s Center for Burma Studies has published volume 13 of its *Journal of Burma Studies*. Articles and authors and articles include “From Ava to Mandalay: Toward Charting the Development of Burmese Yazawin Traditions” by Alexey Kirichenko, “Three Nineteenth-Century Law Book Lists: Burmese Legal History from the Inside” by Andrew Huxley, and “Rockets and Ashes: Pongyibyan as Depicted in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century European Sources” by Ralph Isaacs. For abstract details, see the center’s website.
11. NIU student to speak about genocide research in Cambodia

NIU senior and Lincoln Laureate Shay Galto will speak about her research on genocide in Cambodia at the NIU Presidential Commission on the Status of Women and the Women’s Resource Center’s networking luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, at the Chandelier Room in Adams Hall. Galto is also the president of the NIU chapter of STAND, a student run anti-genocide coalition. Lunch reservations are required; call 815-753-9824 or e-mail mwoiwoode1@niu.edu by Monday, Feb. 8.

Shay Galto

12. International Programs weekly lecture series: Soveacha Ros

Bring your lunch and listen to Soveacha Ros present “Quality Assurance Implementation at the Royal University of Phnom Penh: Cambodia: Stakeholders’ Perceptions, Practices, and Challenges” at the Division of International Programs lunchtime lecture series from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, in Room 300, Faraday West. For a complete list of spring speakers, see the division website.

13. Javanese women and Islam topic of upcoming lecture at Loyola

"The Gender Paradox: Javanese Women and the Appeal of Conservative Islam" will be the subject of a lecture by Nancy J. Smith-Hefner, Boston University anthropologist, at 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 15, in Loyola Lakeshore Piper Hall, Chicago. The free lecture is part of Loyola’s “Islam, Engagement, and the Public Sphere” series.

14. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

Students interested in taking language or area studies abroad through non-NIU programs are advised to work through NIU’s Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall. By doing so, students can receive NIU credit and possibly have NIU financial aid apply, according to Associate Provost for International Programs Deborah Pierce. The Study Abroad Office also protects student interests with regard to liability and insurance.

- **Advanced Filipino Abroad, June 11–Aug. 7:** Open to intermediate Tagalog students (juniors, seniors, or graduate students) for eight weeks of intensive language training at De La Salle University at Dasmarias and Manila. Funded by U.S. Department of Education and supported by the SEA Consortium Centers (including CSEAS) and the Consortium for the Advancement of Filipino. Grants covering transportation and partial program costs are available. **Application deadline: Feb. 8.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, see the program website or contact director Teresita Ramos at teresita@hawaii.edu. Note: Because the U.S. State Department has issued a warning on travel to the Philippines, undergraduate NIU students may not travel there for NIU credit or use NIU facilities or funds to go there. Graduate students may travel to the Philippines through NIU only if they are approved by the Study Abroad office.
● **Advanced Indonesian Abroad, June 14–Aug. 14:** Open to advanced Indonesian students for nine weeks of intensive language training at Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana in Salatiga, Indonesia. Fulbright-funded program coordinated through the Southeast Asian Studies Program at Ohio University under the auspices of Consortium for the Teaching of Indonesian and Malay. **Application deadline: Feb. 11.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For details, see COTIM website or contact Anthony Medrano at 740-593-1841 or medrano@ohio.edu.

● **Freeman Indonesia Nonprofit Internship Program (FINIP), June 15–Aug. 17:** New nine-week exchange program sponsored by Institute of International Education in three cities: Jakarta, Bandung and Yogyakarta. Program pairs ten Indonesian students pursuing U.S. degrees with ten U.S. undergraduates and arrange internships for them to work together in an Indonesian nonprofit organization. **Application deadline: Feb. 15.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, e-mail finip@iie.org or call 212-984-5542.

● **Advanced Study of Khmer, June 14–Aug. 6:** Open to third-year Khmer students for eight weeks of intensive language training, cultural education, and one-week home stays in rural Cambodia. Administered by the Khmer Language Program at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. **Application deadline: Feb. 26.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, e-mail sak@hawaii.edu or call 808-956-8070.

● **USINDO Summer Language Program in Indonesia, June 4–Aug. 13:** Ten-week intensive language study of Bahasa Indonesian. Students live with host families and participate in cultural workshops, such as cooking, martial arts, and gamelan. **Application deadline: March 31.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, see the U.S.-Indonesia Society website.

15. Calls for papers

● **U.S. State Department Office of Historian Conference on American Policy and War in Southeast Asia: 1946–75, Sept. 29–30, Washington, D.C.** Conference to be held at department’s George C. Marshall Conference Center. **Proposals due: March 1.** Send to Dr. John M. Carland, Program Committee Chair. E-mail vietnamconference@state.gov or fax to 202-663-1289. For details, see conference website.

● **Second Cambodian Studies Forum, May 22, Ohio University Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Organized by graduate students at OU and its Southeast Asian Studies Program, the forum is an informal organization of scholars interested in all aspects of Cambodian Studies. Papers welcome on all topics and in all fields. **Abstracts due: March 1.** For details, contact Huong Nguyen at cambodianstudies@gmail.com or Anthony Medrano at medrano@ohio.edu or 740-593-1841. NEW
15. Area Southeast Asia cultural events

- **Year of the Tiger**: Chicago’s annual Lunar New Year parade will take the streets in the city’s Chinatown neighborhood at 1 p.m., Sunday, **Feb. 14**, with marching bands, floats, lion teams, and a 100-foot dragon. All will wind down Wentworth between 24th Street and Cermak Road. Other activities start at 11:30 a.m. For details, see the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce [website](#).

- The Chicago-based Friends of the Gamelan will present a spring concert of traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan music, led by Joko Sutrisno, artistic director of the Sumunar Gamelan Ensemble of Minneapolis, at 6 p.m. Sunday, **April 25**, at the Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students. For details, e-mail [info@chicagogamelan.org](mailto:info@chicagogamelan.org) or see the group’s [website](#).

- The Indonesian Consulate in Chicago offers **free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes** on weekends. For details, see the consulate [website](#).

- The Cambodian Association of Illinois holds **free traditional Cambodian music and dance lessons** Sundays at the Cambodian American History Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The music program runs from 10 a.m. to noon; the dance program from 1 to 3 p.m. For details, call Anneth Houy at 773-878-7090. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on weekends by appointment.

*If you are a person with a disability who may need assistance at any center-sponsored event, contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or nschunem@niu.edu. If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.*