SEAYLP in the spring: This semester’s team of graduate assistants for the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Fellowship program is led by Coral Carlson, back right, and includes, from left, Maria “Rai” Hancock, Shawn McCafferty, Shahin Aftabizadeh, and Sean Dolan (GA Mary Thomas was not present for the photo). The group met Feb. 19 to refine plans for the spring session, which will involve participants from Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand. They will arrive on campus in April; local host families are still being sought. See page 4. (CSEAS photo)

SEAYLP team readies for spring program

1. **This week’s center lecture:** Political science graduate student Scott LaDeur on the effectiveness of Indonesian and Thai lobbies on Capitol Hill
2. Remembering Constance Wilson
3. Deadlines to study abroad in SEA: March 1 for Malaysia, April 1 for Cambodia
4. Faculty, student Thai travel, language award applications due March 5
5. Center applies to participate in FLTA program for 2010–11
6. See the world: Student Fulbright workshop set for March 31
7. Spreading the musical message to area schools
8. Seeking host families for Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program
9. Susan Russell presents at international studies conference
10. Texas professor donates Singapore books to CSEAS
11. International Ramayana Conference proposal deadline now April 30
12. Global synergy subject of International Women’s Day Luncheon
13. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs
14. Calls for papers
15. Area Southeast Asia cultural events
1. This week’s center lecture: Scott LaDeur, Ph.D. candidate, political science

Political science graduate student Scott LaDeur will address “The Impact of Middle Powers on Congressional Foreign Policy Legislation: The Cases of Thailand and Indonesia 1993–2008” at this week’s center lecture at noon Friday, Feb. 19, in Room 110, Campus Life Building. LaDeur’s presentation will focus on the effectiveness of Indonesia and Thailand in lobbying the U.S. Congress to achieve their respective foreign-policy goals. For a Thai lunch, call 815-753-1771 or e-mail cseas@niu.edu by noon Thursday. Lunches are $4 for students, $5 for others. For upcoming speakers, see the center website.

2. Remembering Constance Wilson

The center sadly received word last week that NIU history professor emeritus and longtime center colleague Constance M. Wilson, 72, died Wednesday, Feb. 17, in her home state of Maine after a sudden illness. “Just before we received this unexpected news, we were informed that Professor Wilson had arranged to bequeath her collection of microfilms, documents, books and cultural artifacts to the Center for Southeast Asian Studies,” center director Jim Collins said Thursday. “This reflects her long-standing commitment to Southeast Asian studies at this university, including her willingness to serve as a founding member of our Board of Advisors.” Wilson, a Thai specialist, received her bachelor’s degree from Swarthmore and her Ph.D. from Cornell University. She came to NIU as a history instructor in 1967 and became a full professor in 1988. She was a core contributor to the center, serving as acting center director and the editor of the center’s journal, Crossroads, in the 1980s among numerous other activities. After retiring from NIU, Wilson relocated to Seattle in 2002 where she was affiliated with the University of Washington. Moving back to Maine in 2008, she remained actively engaged as a scholar until the very end of her life, serving as the editor of a just-published volume in the center’s monograph series, The Middle Mekong River Basin: Studies in Tai History and Culture, to which she also contributed four chapters. The center extends its deepest condolences to Wilson’s family and friends.

3. Deadlines to study abroad in SEA: March 1 for Malaysia, April 1 for Cambodia

The deadlines for traveling to Malaysia with assistant history professor Eric Jones and to Cambodia with anthropology professor Judy Ledgerwood are coming up: March 1 for Malaysia and April 1 for Cambodia. Both are NIU Study Abroad courses offering credit for both graduate and undergraduate students.

- **History and Culture of Malaysia and Borneo, May 9–28, Kuala Lumpur:** Three-week program beginning in Kuala Lumpur led by Eric Jones. Students will visit nature reserves, historical sites, religious centers, and rural areas throughout Malaysia and Brunei. 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. For a video about the program, see YouTube.
Cambodia Field School, July 15–Aug. 15, Phnom Penh: Four-week ethnographic field school led by 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.

4. Faculty, student Thai travel, language award 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 also by March 5. Olson is also accepting applications by March 5 from undergraduates applying for advanced Thai language study grants of $500 per semester for the 2010–11 academic year. For details on both travel and language awards, see the center website under News & Events.

5. Center applies to participate in FLTA program for 2010–11
The center has applied to the Institute of International Education (IIE) to again participate in the U.S. State Department’s Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program, which is administered by IIE. The center is requesting FLTAs in Indonesian, Malay, Tagalog, and Thai for the 2010–11 academic year. The FLTA program enables young educators overseas to refine their teaching skills, increase their English language proficiency and extend their knowledge of the cultures and customs of the United States while engaging in non-degree studies at accredited post-secondary institutions in the U.S. Along with their studies, FLTAs teach or assist in teaching language courses, supervise language labs, and lead language table discussions. For details, see the program website.

6. See the world: Student Fulbright workshop set for March 31
Finishing your bachelor’s degree? Want to teach English in Indonesia? How about enrolling in a master’s degree program in Malaysia? Do you need to conduct your
dissertation research, or just a post-master’s research project, in Cambodia or the Philippines? The U.S. State Department’s Student Fulbright Program can help open the door. This competitive fellowship program, coordinated by the Institute of International Education (IIE), allows students to teach English abroad for a year or to conduct postgraduate dissertation research. Recent NIU Fulbrighters to Southeast Asia include Michael Hawkins, who went to the Philippines in 2007–08 and now teaches history at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, and Paul Chambers, who went to Thailand from 2001–02 and is now a senior research affiliate at Payap University in Chiang Mai. Not only do Fulbright students return to the U.S. with a significant understanding of the people and culture of their host country, says Associate Provost for International Programs Deborah Pierce, they have access to U.S. embassy events, programs, and contacts that can be “life-changing.” Interested students can learn more at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, at a student Fulbright workshop in the Heritage Room at the Holmes Student Center. Featured speakers will be Lauren Hansen, current Fulbrighter in Germany, and IIE representative Megan Spillman. There will be a faculty workshop the following day from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room.

7. Spreading the musical message to area schools

Jui-Ching Wang

About 200 students at Kingston Elementary School in Kingston, Ill., will learn about the Balinese gamelan from NIU assistant music professor and center associate Jui-Ching Wang on Tuesday, March 9, when Wang conducts three workshops in the rural DeKalb County school. Wang was invited to Kingston by music teacher Liz Moore who met Wang at a conference in 2009. Reaching out to music teachers all over Illinois, Wang introduced Southeast Asian children’s songs and musical activities in January to 80 general music educators at the Illinois State Music Education Association’s All-State Conference. Wang provided phonetic pronunciation of the lyrics of songs from the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia; showed video and audio clips of authentic performances of the songs; and suggested possible substitutions for traditional Southeast Asian instruments. “The materials were well-received,” Wang said. “Participants asked about possible visits to NIU and some asked me to conduct workshops at their schools.” Wang is also working on an April 11 performance by the NIU Gamelan Ensemble for NIU’s annual world music concert. The ensemble will perform “Cycle as Opposed to Line” by composer Patrick Liddell, a recent Ph.D. graduate of Northwestern University who, with the support of the center, will come to NIU to rehearse with the gamelan players prior to the concert. The NIU Gamelan Ensemble is composed of students enrolled in MUSC398A/698A. The April 11 concert will be 3 p.m. in Boutell Hall.

8. Seeking host families for Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program

If you’re interested in learning about Southeast Asia from a Southeast Asian, and you’ve got an extra bedroom in the house, consider being a host family. NIU is looking for area
families to act as hosts in April for participants in a program bringing in high school students and adult leaders from Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand. Home stays for the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Fellowship Program (SEAYLP) are scheduled for April 11–22. Students will be placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Contact coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 (e-mail lshive@niu.edu) or see the SEAYLP website for host family application forms and information.

9. Susan Russell presents at international studies convention
NIU anthropology professor and center associate Susan Russell was in New Orleans last week to present “Blurring the Lines Between Academia and Policymaking: Conflict Transformation and Nation-Building in the Philippines” in a panel sponsored by the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society Feb. 19 at the 2010 International Studies Association annual conference. Russell won the society’s Faculty Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education in 2009.

10. Texas professor donates Singapore books to CSEAS
Center director Jim Collins announced and acknowledged the generous donation last week of a collection of more than thirty books from Professor Thomas J. Bellows at the University of Texas-San Antonio. The collection focuses mainly on Singapore. Seven of the books will be housed in the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection at Founders Library; the remainder will remain with the center.

11. International Ramayana Conference proposal deadline extended to April 30
The deadline for presentation proposals has been extended to April 30, 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. For details, see the center website under Conferences.

12. Global synergy subject of International Women’s Day Luncheon
Sociology professor emeritus Kay Forest will present “Searching for Global Synergy: Connecting with Women in Development” at NIU’s International Women’s Day luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 3 in the Chandelier Room in Adams Hall. Lunch tickets are $15; reservations required. Contact Pamela Rosenberg at 815-753-9530 or e-mail prosenberg@niu.edu.
13. 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 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.

14. **SEASSI invites students to apply by April 16**
Graduate and undergraduate students are invited to apply by **April 16** for the June 14–Aug. 6 Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Partial tuition scholarships are available for the 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). Students may apply online at the [program website](#). For details, e-mail seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu or call 608-263-1755.

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.

14. Area Southeast Asia cultural events

- 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 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.