Visiting scholars from Indonesia: From left, Niko Gosal, Olga Singkoh, and Grace Luntungan, all Ph.D. candidates at Universitas Sam Ratulangi (Manado, Sulawesi Utara), recover from jet lag in the balmy late September weather at NIU. Center director Jim Collins, who is serving as their NIU faculty mentor in the Foreign Languages and Literatures department, joins them in the shade.

Visiting east Indonesian scholars arrive at NIU

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1. This week’s lecture: Grant Olson on Thai Buddhism and food

Center associate Grant Olson (Foreign Languages and Literatures) will present “Thai Buddhism and Food: Creating the ‘Good Life’” at noon Friday, Oct. 8, in Room 110, Campus Life Building. “Food is related to the fundamental establishment of the Middle Way, the beginning as well as the end of Lord Buddha’s career,” Olson says. “Food suggests a key role for laity (especially women) and tales that include food continue to demonstrate how Buddhism is a recipe composed of various syncretic elements.” Bring your lunch and feed your mind.

2. CSEAS, International Programs welcome Indonesian scholars to NIU

On Sept. 30, nine east Indonesian scholars joined three colleagues already at NIU to participate in a three-month visiting scholars program, funded by the Indonesian Department of Education through the Directorate of Higher Education. CSEAS, with support from the Division of International Programs, is coordinating their activities at NIU during this time. The Indonesians, all Ph.D. candidates in diverse academic fields at three universities in Sulawesi (Universitas Hasanuddin, Universitas Negeri Makassar, and Universitas Sam Ratulangi), will work with NIU faculty members who will serve as their mentors. They will also conduct library research, attend seminars and conferences, as well as observe lectures and study syllabi in order to broaden their experience and deepen their knowledge as working scholars. “This program, established in early 2008 to strengthen human resources at Indonesia’s universities and tertiary institutions, has provided opportunities for large numbers of Indonesian doctoral candidates to study abroad. In 2008, CSEAS coordinated three visiting scholars from east Indonesia; our success in coordinating that program has yielded a dramatic increase in scholars choosing NIU for this program. We now expect a total of sixteen visiting scholars this fall,” said center director Jim Collins.

3. CSEAS participates in Indonesian reading materials workshop in Madison

On Sept. 24–25, CSEAS visiting scholars Olga Singkoh, Niko Gosal, and Grace Luntungan joined director Jim Collins in a language pedagogy workshop, the Indonesian Reading Materials Development Workshop, held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This workshop was part of a larger project funded by the U.S. Department of Education aimed at developing
authentic teaching materials using the principles of language proficiency. Collins is a member of the core team with Professor E. Rafferty (principal investigator) and Dr. Erlin Barnard, both faculty members of the University of Wisconsin. Center associate Patricia Henry (Foreign Languages and Literatures) also attended the event.

4. Study abroad in SEA through NIU: Thailand and Malaysia/Brunei
NIU is offering two opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia during the summer of 2011 with two NIU faculty members and center associates. Associate anthropology professor Andrea Molnar is leading a group to Thailand to explore cultural diversity, while associate history professor Eric Jones will take students to Malaysia and Brunei. Both are NIU study abroad courses offering credit for both graduate and undergraduate students. For information about programs, financial aid, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.

- **Study Abroad Malaysia/Brunei: History and Culture of Southeast Asia, May 15–June 3:** Three-week program led by associate history professor Eric Jones incorporates a home-stay experience with significant time spent in Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Penang, the jungles of Sarawak and Borneo, and the Islamic center of Brunei. Financial aid available to qualified applicants. For a video about the program, including images from the 2007 trip, see Jones’s video on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com). **Deadline to apply:** March 15.

- **Cultural Diversity in Thailand, May 30–June 25:** Three-week program led by associate anthropology professor Andrea Molnar focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The course introduces students to the culture and diversity of cultural groups in Thailand, the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups, and the practical implications of these relations in everyday Thai life. **Deadline to apply:** To be determined.

5. Provost’s office offers travel grants for NIU study abroad programs
Through NIU’s Office of the Provost, $20,000 is being made available through the Study Abroad Office for travel grants to students pursuing study abroad courses. Grants will be given in $500 or $1,000 increments to be applied to student travel on NIU-approved summer 2011 study abroad programs. Students must be accepted for the summer 2011 semester to be eligible. Applications will be available at the Study Abroad Office in spring. Students must submit an essay as part of the application. Students receiving grants also will be required to contribute five hours to promoting study abroad at NIU during the semester immediately after their return to campus. For details, contact the
6. Two center faculty associates elected Phi Beta Delta officers

Anthropology professors and center associates Judy Ledgerwood and Susan Russell are the president-elect and secretary-elect respectively of the NIU chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the honor society for international scholars. They will serve with student vice presidents Ed Breuer and Maimouna Konate with terms that begin in 2011. Ledgerwood succeeds outgoing president Kurt Thurmaier, professor of public administration and also a center associate. The NIU chapter of the international society was founded in 2004 with the induction of 80 members, which include faculty and students. It was named the outstanding Midwest chapter of the organization in 2008 and 2009.

7. Experience the culture: Southeast Asia Club to meet Oct. 4

The Southeast Asia Club will meet from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 4, in Room 206, DuSable Hall. Throughout the year, the club offers opportunities to experience Southeast Asia through culture nights, a student conference, and other activities. For details, contact club president Mirah Kertayuda at kertayuda_school@yahoo.com and secretary Melanie Francia at melaniefrancia@gmail.com.

8. CSEAS website offers new calendar feature

It’s easier to keep track of Friday lectures, special events, and other CSEAS activities with the center website’s new calendar page. To see it, click on the third tab in the left column on the center’s home page. Put together by center web manager Caroline Quinlan, the calendar also incorporates related campus lectures and activities. To submit an item on the calendar, contact Quinlan at cquinlan@niu.edu.

9. Seeking host families, warm coats for SEAYLP

NIU is actively looking for area families to act as hosts Oct. 31–Nov. 11 for 28 high school students and seven adult leaders from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam participating in the fall session of the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). Students are placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Host families provide a bed for each participant, breakfast each day and most dinners, all meals during one free weekend (Nov. 6–7), and transportation to and from class sessions at NIU. Host family orientation will be at 7 p.m. Oct. 25 in the Heritage Room of the Holmes Student Center. For details, contact NIU host family coordinator Leslie Shive.
at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu. For details about the fall SEAYLP program, see the center website. The center is also collecting fall and winter jackets for its SEAYLP participants. Look for collection boxes in the Stevens Building, Founders Library, and various dormitories. Youth and adult sizes are needed. Deadline is Oct. 10. For details, call 815-753-1981.

10. Center education consultant receives higher education award
North Central College education professor and CSEAS consultant Nancy Keiser received the Best Paper in Education award last week from the American Institute of Higher Education at their fifth international conference in Orlando, Florida. Keiser, along with North Central colleagues Maureen Kincaid and Kristine Servais (all three NIU College of Education alumni), received the recognition for their paper, “Using a Collaborative Leadership Model in a Teacher Education Program.” The paper will be published in the American Journal of Educational Studies. Keiser has been a CSEAS consultant since 2003. Most recently, she presented at the center’s annual genocide and human rights summer institutes, and has co-presented with center outreach coordinator Julie Lamb on Southeast Asia at a number of regional, national, and international conferences.

11. Save the dates: Fiscal power in Southeast Asia; trickster tales; COTS conference
- **Oct. 14:** Larry Schroeder, professor of public administration at Syracuse University, NIU alumnus, and a leading expert on intergovernmental finances in Southeast Asia, will discuss decentralizing fiscal power in Southeast Asian countries from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the Illinois Room at the Holmes Student Center. Schroeder, who has experience in Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand, is being honored as an outstanding alumnus by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences on Oct. 15. The lecture is co-sponsored by CSEAS; the Dept. of Economics; the Dept. of Public Administration; and Phi Beta Delta, Zeta Gamma Chapter. NEW
- **Oct. 20:** The trickster tales of Sri Thanonchai, or Xiang Miang, as he is called in Laos, are part of a widely shared cultural package—about a prototypical hero with different names and traits as he moves across the Mekong and Southeast Asia. The attempt to translate the tales’ humor into English—in text or art—depends on both the intentions of the translator or artist and the receptivity of the audience. Language professor and center associate John Hartmann will present “Translating Humor: Examples from Southeast Asian Trickster Tales” at noon in 110 Watson, part of the Foreign Languages and Literatures department’s fall Brown Bag Lecture Series. Political science graduate student Pinitbhand Paribatra, a Ph.D. candidate, helped research and write the presentation.
- **Oct. 20:** NIU Career Services’ Job Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Convocation Center.
- **Oct. 29–30:** Council on Thai Studies annual conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Keynote speaker: Niti Pawakapan, anthropology professor,
Chulalongkorn University, currently visiting scholar at NIU. Contact: Kathleen Gillogly at gillogly@uwp.edu.

12. Money for study: Fellowships, scholarships, and more

- The Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies at Leiden (KITLV) has established a post-doctoral fellowship for the study of medical history in early modern Southeast Asia. KITLV is looking for a historian to participate in its Health, Disease, and Medicine in Southeast Asia project. Candidates will be expected to live in Leiden for four to six months. Senior KITLV researcher Peter Boomgaard is the supervising scholar. Applications should include a resume, brief research proposal, and timetable; send to Gerry van Klinken at klinken@kitlv.nl. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 1.**

- Undergraduate or graduate students learning Indonesian are eligible for a summer scholarship through the U.S. State Department’s [Critical Language Scholarship Program](https://culturalexchange.state.gov/critical-language-scholarship-program). Scholarships provide fully funded, group-based intensive language training and cultural enrichment for seven to ten weeks. Students in all disciplines, including business, engineering, law, medicine, the sciences, and the humanities, are encouraged to apply. **Deadline to apply: Nov. 15.**

- The U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs is actively seeking three graduating seniors and master’s-level students for its new [Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship program in Laos](https://exchange.state.gov/education/fulbright/teaching-assistantship-program) for the 2011–12 academic year. Students must be committed to teaching English in Laos for 10 months. All instruction is in English, but knowledge of some Lao will be needed. **Deadline to apply: Oct. 18.**

- The Council of Overseas American Research Centers (COARC) is expanding its multi-country research fellowship program for 2010–11 to include master’s degree candidates. Doctoral candidates are already eligible for the fellowships, which are given to both individuals and teams who carry out research in two or more countries outside the U.S. Details on the fellowships will be available on the [COARC website](http://coarc.org) in October.

- The Center for Khmer Studies, the American Overseas Research Center in Cambodia, invites applications from U.S. scholars in all disciplines who wish to conduct research in Cambodia. Ph.D. fellowships are as long as eleven months for doctoral dissertation research. Senior fellowships also available to scholars who already hold a Ph.D. The fellowship is open to U.S. citizens only. **Deadline to apply: Nov. 15.** For details, e-mail publishing@khmerstudies.org.

- The National Security Education Program’s David L. Boren scholarships and fellowships provide unique funding opportunities for American students to study in many countries, including Southeast Asia. Applications for the 2011–12 undergraduate scholarships and graduate student fellowships are online at the [NSEP website](http://www.nsep.org). Boren Scholarships provide up to $20,000 for an academic year’s study abroad. Boren Fellowships provide up to $30,000 for language study and
international research. **Deadlines to apply:** Feb. 1 for fellowships; Feb. 10 for scholarships. For details, e-mail boren@iie.org or call 800-618-NSEP.

13. Conferences and calls for papers

- **Fifth Annual International Workshop and Expo on Sumatra Tsunami Disaster and Recovery**, Nov. 23–24, Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Organized by Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center at Syiah Kuala University and others. Tsunami area and historic Aceh tours Nov. 25. See conference website for details.

- **Power and Change in Malaysia and Singapore**, Dec 10–11, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. Sponsored by the Malaysia and Singapore Society of Australia. E-mail to massa.colloquium@anu.edu.au. Some postgraduate registration fees will be waived on a competitive basis.

- **Hmong in Comparative Contexts**, March 4–5, University of Wisconsin-Madison. First biannual conference organized by the new University of Wisconsin-University of Minnesota Hmong Studies Consortium. Keynote speaker: French scholar and Hmong-in-Asia specialist Christian Culas. **Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals:** Dec. 10. For details about the conference or consortium, contact Ian Baird at ibaird@wisc.edu.

- **Governance, Human Rights, and Development: Challenges for Southeast Asia and Beyond, First International Conference on International Relations and Development**, May 19–20, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand. Scholars and graduate students encouraged to submit abstracts. E-mail to abstracts@icird.org. **Deadline:** Oct. 30. See conference website for details.

14. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities: Chicago gamelan open house

- Chicago’s **Friends of the Gamelan** are offering its annual open house from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, **Oct. 5**, at the Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. Event will include music, refreshments, and simple gamelan lesson. The group’s beginning gamelan classes run from 6 to 7:15 p.m. **Oct. 12 to Nov. 16** at the same location. The group’s spring gamelan concert will be **May 1. NEW**

- 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 Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. 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 nschuem@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.*

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