Getting their feet wet: On their Nov. 2 trip to Chicago, the SEAYLP group spent part of the day collecting and testing water from the Chicago River at Bubbly Creek. Here Gabriel Chan (Singapore), Marina Tan (Malaysia), Kirthana Ganeson (Singapore), and Anita Shihaphanga (Laos), accompanied by adult leader Tan Peng from Brunei (in the back), check out their results, part of the group’s learning about river ecology issues during their time in the U.S.

Like water for SEAYLP: First week gets under way

Note: No CSEAS lecture this week

1. SEAYLP: After Chicago, learning about Lincoln, diplomacy, and the mighty Mississippi
2. Center marks fifth trip to Texas State University-San Marcos
3. CSEAS workshop for undergraduate advisors set for Nov. 16
4. Thai film series wraps up with Ong Bak this week
5. Director to speak after showing of Vietnamese rock band documentary this week
6. Save the dates: International Education Week at NIU
7. Study abroad in SEA through NIU: Thailand and Malaysia/Brunei
8. Proposals sought for NIU summer research and artistry grants
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NEW CSEAS Quick Links
1. SEAYLP: After Chicago, learning about Lincoln, diplomacy, and the mighty Mississippi

It didn’t take long for the twenty-eight energetic high-schoolers and their seven adult leaders who arrived in DeKalb on Oct. 27 from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam to dive into the Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) routine at NIU. By Nov. 1, all had moved in with their host families, made their country presentations at the official welcome luncheon, and were (and are) enthusiastically posting to daily discussion boards on the group’s Facebook page. They took field trips to Chicago and the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora in between workshops on campus about Southeast Asia geography, strategic planning, water testing with NIU biologist Richard Becker, and an ocean and fisheries diplomacy simulation that will end the program in Washington, D.C., Nov. 18. NIU alumnus Michael Coyne-Logan (history/education, 2000) of the Rock Island, Ill.-based nonprofit group Living Lands and Waters gave an inspirational presentation Nov. 4 on his group’s work to remove trash from the Mississippi River and to organize other efforts around the country to clean up local rivers. Said SEAYLP participant Marina Tan (Malaysia) on the SEAYLP Facebook page, “He inspired us all with his talk about how a young seventeen-year-old boy, only one year older than I am, made up his mind to make a difference, and actually saw it through. It truly is an inspiring thing that a youngster can make something happen in this world! After all, we’ve heard the talk, and we’ve definitely heard the stories, but it is just so powerful to see tangible proof that we CAN do things if we set our hearts to it.” If the first week was busy for the SEAYLP group, the coming week promises more as the group heads to the Mississippi River Museum in Dubuque, Iowa, Nov. 10 to learn still more about the country’s biggest river. Back at NIU, the students will continue preparation for their upcoming diplomacy simulation, study Lincoln’s leadership style in preparation for their visits to Springfield and Washington, D.C., and learn about non-governmental organizations from NIU’s Judith Hermanson, director of the university’s new Center for NGO Leadership and Development. The group is scheduled to complete the NIU segment of the program Saturday, Nov. 13, when they depart DeKalb for Springfield and a cross-country bus trip to the to the nation’s capital. They leave the U.S. from Washington, D.C., Nov. 20.
2. Center marks fifth trip to Texas State University-San Marcos

Center associates Kenton Clymer (history) and Michael Buehler (political science) traveled with CSEAS Director Jim Collins on Oct. 29 to Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas, for the fifth NIU-TSU Southeast Asian studies workshop. Buehler presented “ASEAN’s Domestic and International Security Challenges” and Clymer presented “The United States and the Decolonization of Empire in South and Southeast Asia: India, Indochina, and Indonesia.” Leah Renold of Texas State spoke about her new course on Southeast Asian history that she taught last spring to an undergraduate class of about thirty students. Hasanuddin University (Indonesia) professor Abdul Razak Thaha, who visited NIU from Oct. 25–30 to set up a visit by Hasanuddin officials in December, also joined the NIU delegation to Texas. He met with members of the public health program at Texas State to discuss student exchange.

3. CSEAS workshop for undergraduate advisors set for Nov. 16

CSEAS invites undergraduate academic advisors to a Nov. 16 workshop exploring the options for Southeast Asian studies at NIU, including language classes and other undergraduate courses, in addition to fellowship opportunities. The workshop will be held from 8:45 a.m. to noon in the Heritage Room at Holmes Student Center. Sign up by Nov. 8; a modest stipend will be given to the first ten advisors who call or e-mail center outreach coordinator Julie Lamb at 815-753-1595 or jlamb@niu.edu.

4. Thai film series wraps up with Ong Bak this week

The NIU Thai Association’s Thai film series concludes this week with the screening of Ong Bak, an action adventure film about a village kick boxer who travels to Bangkok to retrieve the village’s stolen Buddha statue, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11, in Room 120 Neptune Central. English subtitles and free soda.

5. Director to speak after showing of Vietnamese rock band documentary this week

University of London ethnomusicologist Barley Norton will discuss the making of his film, Hanoi Eclipse: The Music of Dai Lam Linh, a documentary about a controversial Vietnamese band in Hanoi, after it is shown at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 8, in Room 202 Music Building. A question-answer session will follow in Room 141. The screening is co-sponsored by CSEAS, Center for Burma Studies, and the College of Visual and Performing Arts. For details, see Visual and Performing Arts Dean Rich Holly’s blog.

6. Save the dates: International Education Week

- Nov. 15–19: The Division of International Programs celebrates International Education Week this week. The center is participating with an undergraduate advisor workshop Nov. 16 exploring Southeast Asian studies opportunities on campus and in
study abroad programs (see item 3 above). To cap the week, associate history professor and center associate Eric Jones will present “The Value of Study Abroad: Engaged Learning Through Global Engagement” at noon Nov. 19 in the Sky Room at the Holmes Student Center in a lecture co-sponsored by the center and International Programs.

7. Study abroad in SEA through NIU: Malaysia/Brunei and Thailand

NIU is offering two opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia during the summer of 2011 with 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 graduate and undergraduate students. For information about programs, financial aid, provost travel grants, 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. **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.**

8. Proposals sought for NIU summer research and artistry grants

The Division of Research and Graduate Studies has opened the field for faculty to submit proposals for its summer 2011 research and artistry activity grants. Proposals will be accepted in three categories: opportunity, enabling and completion grants. Proposals must be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies by Feb. 15; submitters must allow time for departmental review before submitting. Details and answers to frequently asked questions are available at the Research and Graduate Studies website.

9. Conferences and calls for papers

- **Cornell University Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Conference**, March 11–13, Kahin Center for Advanced Research on Southeast Asia, Ithaca, NY. Thirteenth
annual conference sponsored by Cornell’s Southeast Asia Program. Graduate students in gender studies, social and economic development, culture, musicology, art, history, religion, politics, government, international relations, and linguistics are encouraged to submit abstract and one-page CV. **Deadline: Jan. 10, 2011.** Some travel subventions available. Send to: seapgradconference@gmail.com. For details, e-mail seap@cornell.edu. **NEW**

- **Fourth International Indonesia Forum Conference**, June 28–29, Yogyaakarta State University, Yogyaakarta, Indonesia. Theme is “Enriching Future Generations: Education Promoting Indonesian Self-Development.” Co-sponsored by Yale University and Yogyaakarta State University. Send one-page abstracts in electronic form (PDF or MSWord) as well as brief CV to Frank Dhont at frank.dhont@yale.edu. For details, see the [conference website]. **Deadline: March 31, 2011. NEW**

- **International Conference on Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia**, Jan. 4–5, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Theme is “Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia: Islam, Mergers, and Margins.” Details forthcoming; NIU co-sponsoring. **NEW**

10. **Money for study: Fellowships, scholarships, and more**

- United Nations Development Programme is accepting applications for its Human Development Media Fellowship. Theme: Gender: Empowering Women as Agents of Change for Human Development.” **Deadline to apply: Nov. 30.** For details and application, go to [UNDP website] or e-mail mediafellowship@icfi.com. **NEW**

14. **Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities**

- 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.

**CSEAS Quick Links**

[CSEAS calendar](#)

[Conferences and calls for papers](#)

[Money for study: Fellowships, scholarships, and more](#)

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.