Just before departing NIU on Nov. 13, the fall 2010 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program group poses for a class picture outside their home away from home at the Holmes Student Center. Details below (Photo by Maria “Rai” Hancock).

Springfield to Washington, D.C., then home for SEAYLP group

No Friday lecture this week: Happy Thanksgiving to all center friends and associates

1. Springfield to Washington, D.C., then home for fall SEAYLP group
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3. Southeast Asia Club spring student conference: call for papers
4. CSEAS Outreach prepares for Global Fest 2011
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CSEAS Quick Links
1. Springfield to Washington, D.C., then home for fall SEAYLP group
There were tears and cheers from participants, host families, graduate assistants, and others connected with the fall 2010 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) as the NIU portion of the program ended with a farewell reception Nov. 12 at the Holmes Student Center. The next day, it was time to board a Huskie Bus bound for Springfield, Ill., and other sites in between central Illinois and Washington, D.C., where the study tour ended Nov. 15. In D.C. and surrounding areas, the students and adult leaders from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam spent time at the Lincoln Memorial, the National Museum of American History, the Newseum, historic Annapolis, Md., and on the water in the Chesapeake Bay before hunkering down at their hotel to make final preparations for their diplomatic simulation presentation at the U.S. State Department on Nov. 18. “They did a great job on their simulations and at the State Department briefing. They also got to talk to the desk officers for their respective countries,” said Maria “Rai” Hancock. The next day the group took a guided tour of the U.S. Capitol and spent time in the afternoon in a workshop evaluating and recapping their SEAYLP experience with center director Jim Collins and program manager Coral Carlson, assisted by fellow students students Hancock, Shahin Aftabizadeh, Shay Galto, Mary Thomas, and Jordan York, all of whom have spent the past three weeks patiently guiding participants through the program’s rigorous schedule of workshops, field trips, and activities. The entire SEAYLP group left for Dulles International Airport early Saturday, Nov. 20, to arrive home in Southeast Asia on Sunday, Nov. 21. The center will follow their progress in the months to come.

2. J.D. Bowers wins NIU international educator of the year
The center offers its warmest congratulations to associate history professor J.D. Bowers, who was named Outstanding International Educator of 2010 Monday, Nov. 15, during NIU’s International Education Week festivities last week by the Division of International Programs. Bowers received the award in recognition for his work in teaching and other activities, including the founding of NIU’s Genocide and Human Rights Institute (which holds a summer teachers institute co-sponsored by CSEAS), NIU STAND (a student anti-genocide group), and the history department’s Cyprus study abroad program. Fellow associate history professor and center associate Eric Jones, who directs the Malaysia summer study abroad program and gave the closing lecture of the week, received a certificate recognizing his contributions to international
education at NIU. Center associate Susan Russell (anthropology) received the International Educator honor in 2003, preceded by emeritus center associates Ladd Thomas (political science, 2001) and Dwight King (political science, 2005).

3. Southeast Asia Club spring student conference: Call for papers

Students who want to polish their presenting skills will have the chance to do so Saturday, **April 23**, at the Southeast Asia Club’s annual spring student conference. The club is now accepting abstracts from both graduate and undergraduate students through Friday, **Jan. 14** with final papers due Wednesday, **March 23**. The theme of the conference is “Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia.” Papers may be submitted outside the theme, but must have some connection to Southeast Asian studies. The keynote speaker for the conference will be University of Chicago historian Mark Bradley, professor of international history whose areas of specialty include postcolonial Southeast Asia and twentieth-century U.S. international history. Bradley, who received his Ph.D. in history from Harvard University in 2005, is the author of *Imagining Vietnam and America: The Making of Postcolonial Vietnam* (University of North Carolina Press, 2000), which won the prestigious Harry J. Benda Prize from the Association for Asian Studies. All papers must be submitted in English and presentations will be limited to 15 minutes to be followed by five minutes of discussion. A cash prize will be awarded to best undergraduate and graduate papers. The conference is free and open to all.

4. CSEAS Outreach prepares for Global Fest 2011

Center outreach coordinator Julie Lamb is getting materials together for **Global Fest 2011: A Celebration of World Languages and Cultures**, which has been scheduled for Friday and Saturday, **March 11** and **12**, at Normal Community West High School in Normal, Ill. The event is co-sponsored by CSEAS, the Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Rotary International and several National Resource Centers for area studies at the University of Illinois. Over the years, the center has offered introductory lessons in Southeast Asian languages and interactive cultural activities as its contribution to the festival. Participants also may sample introductory lessons in Asian, African, European, Latin American, and Middle Eastern languages; interactive activities, performances and exhibits; and arts and crafts displays. Each year, nearly 800 middle school and high school students, teachers, group leaders, and specialists from around the state come to Global Fest. For details, contact Karen Hewitt at **khewitt@illinois.edu**.
5. Study abroad in SEA through NIU: Malaysia/Brunei and Thailand
NIU is offering two opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia next summer with NIU faculty members and center associates. Andrea Molnar, associate professor (anthropology), is leading a group to Thailand to explore cultural diversity while associate professor Eric Jones (history) will take students to Malaysia and Brunei. Both are NIU study abroad programs offering course 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.

6. Save the dates: Spring Southeast Asia student conference

7. Seeking students for advanced Thai and Vietnamese programs abroad
Applications are being accepted for two programs offering advanced Thai or Vietnamese language study abroad. The Consortium for Advanced Thai is offering an eight-week program of intensive Thai study June 20–Aug. 12 at Chiang Mai University in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The program, which receives funding from the U.S. Department of Education, will be offered depending on sufficient enrollment and receipt of funding, and is coordinated by the University of Washington Southeast Asia Center. The center is a member of the consortium. Deadline to apply: Feb. 1. The Vietnamese Advanced Summer Institute will take place June 13–Aug. 5 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, offering an intensive eight-week program of Vietnamese language study. Deadline to apply: Feb. 11. For either program, NIU students who apply may be considered for possible funding, and should coordinate through the center and the NIU Study Abroad Office. Call the center at 815-753-1771 or e-mail cseas@niu.edu; the Study Abroad Office may be reached at 815-753-0304 or niuabroad@niu.edu.
8. Conferences and calls for papers

- **International Conference on Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia**, Jan. 4–5, 2011, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Theme is “Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia: Islam, Mergers, and Margins.” Details forthcoming; CSEAS co-sponsoring.

9. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- Cambodian-born Sokvannara Sar, who came to the United States to study ballet at the School of the American Ballet in New York and is the subject of a new film, *Dancing Across Borders*, will dance the role of the Cavalier in two performances with the Evansville Dance Theatre on Saturday, **Dec. 18**, at the Victory Theatre in Evansville, Ind. For details, see the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra website.

- The **Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute** is a non-profit group dedicated to the education, preservation, and promotion of Thai culture and fine arts in the Chicago area through classes and performances. The group is located in the Boys and Girls Club, 3400 S. Emerald St., Chicago. For details, call 312-725-0640 or write Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute, 1960 Oak Knoll Drive, Lake Forest, IL 60045.

- The Indonesian Consulate General 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.

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**CSEAS Quick Links**

- **CSEAS Calendar**
- **Southeast Asia Club**
- **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.