Onlookers are seated behind a wall of glass at the international war crimes tribunal that began in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in 2009. The tribunal convicted the first senior Khmer Rouge leader on July 26. NIU professors Kenton Clymer and Judy Ledgerwood were in Phnom Penh that day, and discuss the verdict at this week’s CSEAS lecture. (Associated Press photo)

Witnesses to history: Cambodia tribunal’s first verdict

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1. This week’s CSEAS lecture: Clymer, Ledgerwood on first Khmer Rouge verdict

NIU professors and Cambodia specialists Kenton Clymer (history) and Judy Ledgerwood (anthropology) will present “The Khmer Rouge Tribunals’ First Verdict” at this week’s center lecture from noon to 12:50 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4, in Room 110 in the Campus Life Building. Clymer and Ledgerwood were at the U.N.-backed war crimes proceedings in Phnom Penh on July 26, 2010, when the court handed down its first guilty verdict against a senior Khmer Rouge figure. They will offer their perspectives on the ruling against Kaing Guek Eav, better known as Duch, who was director of the infamous Tuol Sleng prison during the 1975–79 Khmer Rouge regime. Duch was responsible for the deaths and torture of more than 14,000 Cambodians imprisoned there. His guilty verdict and 30-year sentence marks the first verdict by an internationally recognized court against the Khmer Rouge, who are estimated to have caused the deaths of more than 1.7 million Cambodians during their brutal regime. Four surviving and now elderly Khmer Rouge leaders are still awaiting trial, expected to begin later this year, according to the Phnom Penh Post.

2. Southeast Asia book series to be produced as e-books, too

The latest Southeast Asia title from Northern Illinois University Press, the forthcoming Tagalog Verb Dictionary by CSEAS associate Rhodalyne Gallo-Crail (foreign languages and literatures) and CSEAS adjunct Michael Hawkins of Creighton University, will be published as an e-book as well as a traditional printed book. The move is a new initiative by NIU Press, which began selling its new books in both formats this month. NIU Press e-books are available through Amazon’s Kindle Store and Barnes & Noble’s NOOKbook Store. The Press hopes to partner with Google Editions in the coming months. “Although we remain committed to the printed book, we believe that e-book technology will allow us to better reach our readership and disseminate scholarship to as wide an audience as possible,” Press Director J. Alex Schwartz told NIU Today.

3. This week the deadline to apply for FLAS, Neher fellowships

Tuesday, Feb. 1, is the deadline to apply for both the 2011–12 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships and the 2011–12 Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia. FLAS fellowships are awarded to graduate and undergraduate students to study Southeast Asia languages on campus; currently NIU offers Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Malay, Tagalog, and Thai. Students may also apply for summer FLAS grants, a different program that provides for language study at approved institutions in the U.S. or in Southeast Asia. The deadline to apply for that program is March 1. All FLAS fellowships are funded by a U.S. Department of Education Title VI grant. The Neher fellowship is open to graduate students only; applicants must be in good standing and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian studies. For information and applications for these and other fellowship opportunities elsewhere, see Student Funding on the center website.
4. Southeast Asia Club holds first spring meeting this week

The Southeast Asia Club holds its first spring meeting from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 31, in Room 480, DuSable Hall. Subsequent meetings will be held at the same time and location on Feb. 14, Feb. 28, March 21, April 4, and April 18. The club will be occupied this spring with hosting its spring student conference (see next item) and planning a Southeast Asia culture night among other activities. For details, contact club president Mirah Kertayuda at kertayuda_school@yahoo.com or secretary Melanie Francia at melaniefrancia@gmail.com.

5. Still time to submit abstracts for SEA Club spring student conference

Students who want to share the results of their Southeast Asia research will have the chance to do so Saturday, April 23, at the Southeast Asia Club’s annual spring student conference. The conference theme is “Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia.” University of Chicago historian Mark Bradley, a specialist in postcolonial Southeast Asia and twentieth-century U.S. international history, will give the keynote address. A cash prize will be awarded to the best undergraduate and graduate papers. Abstracts should be 400 words and will be accepted until Feb. 28 with final papers due March 23. Send abstracts to conference organizer Robert Kollas at rkollas@niu.edu. More details are available on the conference website. The conference is free and open to all.

6. Summer study abroad in SEA through NIU: Learn about funding this week

NIU is offering two opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia this 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, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. The NIU Study Abroad Office hosts “How to Find $$$ to Study Abroad” from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 3, in Room 100, Campus Life Building.

- 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 more details, 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. Program includes lectures, briefings, field trips, and visits to Thai sites including temples, museums, the Royal Palace, markets, and beaches. On field visits, NIU students will be paired with Thai students. Financial aid available to qualified applicants. **Deadline to apply: April 15.**

7. **There are a lot of good reasons to be a SEAYLP host family**

NIU and the center are actively looking for local households to act as hosts **April 10–22** for 22 high school students and four adult leaders from Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand participating in the spring 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 (**April 16–17**), and transportation to and from class sessions at NIU. For details, contact NIU host family coordinator (and past host) Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu. For details about the SEAYLP program, see the center website.

8. **Lifetime Learning Institute to hold Burma study group this spring**

With the recent release of Burma/Myanmar’s Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, world attention is again focused on that country. NIU’s [Lifelong Learning Institute](#) is offering a Wednesday study group beginning **March 16** to learn about the history, culture, geography, politics, international relations, and everyday life in Burma from faculty associates of NIU’s centers for Burma Studies and Southeast Asian Studies. “This promises to be a visually rich study group as NIU’s Southeast Asian studies faculty share their photographs, from slides taken in the 1970s to digital pictures taken as recently as December 2010,” said former center associate Arlene Neher, who is convening the group with CSEAS associates Catherine Raymond, director of the Center for Burma Studies, and Kenton Clymer (history) and emeritus faculty Richard Cooler, Clark Neher, and George Spencer plus several international students from Burma. The study group will meet 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays **March 16 to May 4**. For details, contact the institute at 815-753-5200 or LASEP@niu.edu.
9. NIU extends Southeast Asia expertise to Buddhist college in Taiwan
CSEAS adjunct Alan Potkin will travel to the Dharma Drum Buddhist College (DDBC), Taipei, Taiwan, in mid-March as part of a new exchange with Dharma Drum to share information related to his work with the Digital Conservation Facility Laos in Vientiane. An agreement formalizing the exchange, which will include visits to NIU by DDBC scholars later in 2011, was signed in December by Provost Ray Alden, Associate Provost for International Programs Deborah Pierce, and Rich Holly, dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts. “Dharma Drum, which was Taiwan’s first officially chartered institute of higher Buddhist education, is widely known for its innovative and technically-sophisticated Internet and digital learning and publishing applications relating to Chinese Buddhist teachings, history, and sacred sites,” Potkin said. “The DDBC [digital archives] group has relatively slender experience, however, with analogous projects focused on Southeast Asian Theravada Buddhism.” Potkin and Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond (art history) are involved with the preservation of Theravada Buddhist temple art in Vientiane in collaboration with the Faculty of Fine Arts there. Potkin and Raymond currently are working on the archiving of Buddhist temple murals for NIU’s Southeast Asia Digital Library project funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

10. International Training Office seeking host families for PYLP program
NIU’s International Training Office (ITO) is looking for area families to act as hosts in May for twenty-two Muslim and non-Muslim youth and four adult leaders from the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao who are coming to NIU in April to participate in the eighth Philippine Youth Leadership Program (PYLP), directed by center associates Susan Russell (anthropology) and Lina Davide-Ong (ITO). The six-week program runs April 16–May 21; the home-stay segment is May 1–14. Students are placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Contact host family coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu.

11. Save the dates: Lectures, deadlines, and spring student conference
- **Feb. 9**: Deadline to submit applications to the Peace Corps; apply online.
- **Feb. 10**: Indonesian Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Nanda Octavia will present “A Glance of West Sumatra,” focusing on the capital city of Padang, at the NIU Division of International Programs Brown Bag Series at noon in 300 Faraday West.
- **Feb. 15**: Proposals for faculty Summer Research and Artistry Awards due for summer 2011 research activities. For submission details, see Division of Research and Graduate Studies website.
- **Feb. 23**: Joseph Nye, former dean of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, will speak at NIU, time and place to be announced. Nye’s appearance is co-sponsored by political science department, the Office of International Programs, the Office of the President, and the Zeta Gamma chapter of Phi Beta Delta. For details, contact the political science department at 815-753-1011.
- **March 3**: Center associate John Hartmann will co-present “Folk Epidemiology Recorded in Palm Leaf Manuscripts of Laos” with Bethany Elkington (University of
Illinois-Chicago) at the NIU Division of International Programs Brown Bag Series at noon in 300 Faraday West.

- **April 23:** Southeast Asia Club’s annual spring student conference on Southeast Asia at NIU. This year’s topic: “Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia.” Abstracts accepted until Feb. 28; final papers due March 23. Open to all graduate and undergraduate students. Free.

12. **Remembering Ellen C.K. Johnson**

The center was saddened to hear last week of the death of Ellen C.K. Johnson, 69, retired anthropologist from the College of DuPage and longtime friend of the center. Johnson was enroute to a vacation in Southeast Asia, one of her favorite parts of the world, when she was stricken by an apparent stroke, according to her obituary in the Naperville Sun. The author of several academic textbooks on Thailand and India, Johnson frequently attended the center’s weekly Friday lectures. The center extends its condolences to her family and friends.

13. **SEASSI applications available online**

Applicants for this summer’s Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI), set for June 13–Aug. 5, can do the paperwork online to apply. The eight-week intensive Southeast Asia language course held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is open to undergraduates, graduate students, and professionals. Languages taught are Burmese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Javanese, Khmer, Lao, Thai, and Vietnamese. NIU students who wish to apply for a summer FLAS fellowship for SEASSI must submit applications to the center by March 1 (see bulletin item 3 above). Tuition scholarship applications from SEASSI are due April 15. For details on SEASSI, e-mail seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu.

14. **Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs**

- **Advanced Study of Khmer (ASK) Summer Abroad Program, June 13–Aug. 5**
  The Advanced Study of Khmer (ASK) Summer Abroad Program offers intensive eight-week training in Khmer language-culture for third-year students in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Applications due: Feb. 28. Administered by the Khmer Language Program at the University of Hawaii and funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Fulbright-Hays, and Group Projects. For details, see program website.

- **Advanced Indonesian Abroad Program, June 13–Aug. 13**
  Applications for priority consideration for the 2011 Advanced Indonesian Abroad (COTIM) program at the Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana in Salatiga, Indonesia, are due Feb. 16. Letters of recommendation are due Feb. 25. Nine-week intensive Indonesian language program is Fulbright-funded and coordinated through the Southeast Asian Studies Program at Ohio University. NIU is a participating COTIM institution. For details and application materials, see COTIM website.

**NOTE:** 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, in addition to liability and insurance protections.
15. Conferences and call for papers

- **Transforming Cambodia Studies: Social Change and Cultural Transitions since 1979**, July 7–9, Siem Reap, Cambodia. **Deadline for abstracts: Feb. 28**; scholars will be informed of acceptance by early April. For details, see the [conference website](http://conference.khmerstudies.org) or e-mail conference@khmerstudies.org.

- **Visions of the Future, 11th International Conference on Thai Studies**, July 26-28, Bangkok. Abstracts are still being requested for papers for this conference hosted by Mahidol University and the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia. For details, email thaistudies2011@gmail.com.

- **AAS-ICAS Joint Conference**, March 31–April 3, Honolulu, Hawaii. Association of Asian Studies and International Convention of Asia Scholars annual meeting. For details, see the [conference website](http).

16. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

The Chicago-based [Friends of the Gamelan](http://chicagogamelan.org) will present an evening of traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan music, led by artistic director Joko Sutrisno of Minneapolis, at 6 p.m. Sunday, May 1, at the Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. The group also offers beginning gamelan lessons and a regular performance ensemble. Students who complete the beginning gamelan class may participate in the spring concert. For details, e-mail info@chicagogamelan.org.

- The [Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute](http://thaitc.org) 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](http://www.camassoc.org) 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.*