Come to Wednesday’s Area Studies Open House: The center is co-hosting an open house with the Center for Burma Studies and the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 24. Come for music, games, food, fun, info, and a chance to connect with friends, colleagues, and others interested in area studies. (CSEAS file photo)

Flags up, new semester at the center begins

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SEA * FYI
ILLINOIS is one of the top five U.S. states exporting to Southeast Asia. The others are California, Texas, Washington and Oregon. U.S. exports of goods and services to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries totaled $66 billion in 2008 while U.S. imports from the region totaled $115 billion. The top five exporters to the U.S. from Southeast Asia are Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Vietnam.

Source: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, and East-West Center
1. New faces, new places at the center

The center is bustling with new faces in new places this fall. New CSEAS assistant director and assistant history professor Trude Jacobsen, who is splitting her time this year between the History Department and the Center for Women’s Studies, will be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In her CSEAS role, Jacobsen will advise graduate students, serve on the center’s principal committees, and assist in grant report writing and outreach activities. Jacobsen succeeds assistant political science professor Kheang Un, who served as assistant director since 2006 and is currently in Cambodia on a Fulbright fellowship. In other staff news, Liz Poppens Denius is the center’s new communications manager. She will work closely with center director Jim Collins and outreach coordinator Julia Lamb on all aspects of center communications and media, including the weekly CSEAS e-bulletin, website, Mandalak newsletter, social media presence, and outreach communications. Jayeeta Chowdry-Woodstrup has joined the center as a part-time assistant to office manager Nancy Schuneman. This year’s center graduate assistants are Shahin Aftabizadeh (M.A. candidate, anthropology) and Allison Hogshead (M.A. candidate, anthropology). CSEAS graduate assistant Maria “Rai” Hancock (M.A., history, 2011) is back at the center this year, managing the 2011–12 Southeast Asia Youth Fellowship Program, as is Laura Iandola (Ph.D. candidate, history), who is teaching the center’s Southeast Asia survey course, ILAS 225.

2. CSEAS welcomes new Burmese instructor for 2011–12, begins search for professor

U Mya Hla of Fort Wayne, Ind., has been appointed Burmese instructor for the 2011–12 academic year. Mya Hla has 24 years of teaching experience, serving as a Burmese instructor at the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute, Purdue University, Indiana University, and with NGOs elsewhere in the country. He has also served as a translator and interpreter for various Burmese communities since moving to the United States from Burma, where he was also a teacher, interpreter and translator. Welcome to DeKalb, Mya Hla!

The center has also received authorization from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to initiate a search in cooperation with the Foreign Languages and Literature Department for a tenure-track Burmese position starting in the 2012–13 academic year, said CSEAS Director Jim Collins. “In this climate of economic siroccos, the college’s support of Southeast Asian studies keeps us optimistic about our initiatives to strengthen the center’s national profile and to increase its international contribution to the field,” he said.

3. Save the dates: Weekly lectures to begin, Indonesian culture night, Fulbright deadline

- **Sept. 9:** 2011–12 CSEAS weekly lecture series begins with University of Illinois ethnomusicologist Philip Yampolsky presenting “Music of Timor, East and West,” at noon in Room 110, Campus Life Building. Bring your lunch and feed your mind.
- **Sept. 10:** Indonesian Culture Night: 6 to 9 p.m., Wirtz Hall. Sponsored by Indonesian students at NIU.
• **Sept. 23:** Deadline to submit 2012-13 applications for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program for graduating college seniors, grad students, young professionals and artists to study abroad or to be an English teaching assistant for one academic year. Contact Deb Pierce at 753-1989.

4. **FLTAs land at NIU:** Four Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants will be teaching in the Southeast Asian languages program this year. They are: Michael Melo (Tagalog), Syarifah Farah Nabilah Syed Idrus (Malay), Chanida Phongnapharuk (Thai) and Nurul Aziz (Indonesian). They will be assisting language professors and center associates Rhodalyne Crail, Jim Collins, John Hartmann, and Patricia Henry respectively. (CSEAS photo)

5. **Crossroads now fully accessible, searchable on JSTOR**
The center’s biannual journal, *Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, which ceased publication in 2009 after 26 years in print, will live on forever online through the scholarly digital archive, JSTOR. The journal was invited more than a year ago to become part of JSTOR’s Arts & Science IX collection. Over the summer, the center received final confirmation that the complete Crossroads run, from vol. 1.1 (1983) to volume 19.2 (2008), is now fully accessible and searchable on JSTOR through the archive’s nearly 6,500 participating libraries, including NIU’s, and institutions worldwide. More than 1,000 academic journals and other content are included in JSTOR, a service of ITAKA, a non-profit organization that works to preserve the scholarly record and to advance research and teaching in sustainable ways through digital technologies.

6. **NIU Cambodian life history project to culminate in exhibit opening Sept. 15**
A five-year project to collect the life histories of Cambodian elders who survived the Khmer Rouge era and now live in the Chicago area is about to come to fruition in an exhibit at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial (CAHM) in Chicago, the result of an ongoing collaboration between CAHM and the NIU Anthropology Department through the efforts of center associate Judy Ledgerwood. The Chicago exhibit, Witnessing the Cambodian Killing Fields, is scheduled to open Sept. 15 at the museum, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. For details on the exhibit, call 773-878-7090. The project was funded by grants from the Henry Luce and Joyce foundations. In addition to the exhibit, Living Memory of the...
Khmer, a series of videotaped interviews with Cambodians who experienced the 1950s to the 1990s in Cambodia, is now part of the Southeast Asia Digital Library at NIU. See it online at the SEADL website.

7. Coming to the web and print: Spring/summer 2011 Mandala
What has everybody been doing over the summer? NIU alumna Lyndy Worsham is continuing her work using Geographic Information Systems technology to map displaced persons in Burma; a record number of NIU students traveled to Southeast Asia for intensive summer language training; faculty associates have been researching, writing, presenting, traveling, and promoting NIU throughout the region; and the center makes some changes as it adapts to new budget realities. Read about this and more in the next issue of the center’s newsletter, The Mandala, posting soon to the center website.

8. Third SEE-SEA conference set for February
The date has been set for the third Southeast Europe-Southeast Asia conference co-convened by CSEAS and the University of Chicago Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies. From the Adriatic to the Sulu Sea: Islam and Identity in Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia will take place Feb. 10–12 at the University of Chicago. The first conference was held March 30, 2009, at NIU and the second Jan. 4–5, 2010, at The National University of Malaysia. “Our choice of Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia for the foci of these conferences is motivated by the fact that in each of these regions at opposite ends of the traditional Islamic world,” said CSEAS Director Jim Collins. “Islam is an important historical and social factor that continues to interact with both previous and subsequent cultural traditions and political realities in ways that are informatively comparable. This third conference understands ‘identities’ in the broadest possible manner and the papers will examine phenomena from music and literacy to politics and spirituality and beyond.” Details will be posted on the center website when available.

9. Council on Thai Studies’ calls for papers for upcoming COTS conference
The Council on Thai Studies invites students, faculty, and other scholars of Thailand and Tai peoples to submit papers for its annual meeting to be held Oct. 7–8 at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. “This is a premier opportunity to exchange ideas and present new and ongoing research,” said organizer Kate Gillogly, UW assistant professor of sociology/anthropology. “We welcome all topics at this conference.” Submission deadline: Sept. 9. Email to Gillogly at gillogly@uwp.edu. A block of rooms will be reserved at the Lowell Center, 610 Langdon St., Madison, WI, 53703. For reservations, phone 866-301-1753 or email lowell@ecc.uwex.edu.

10. University of Toronto to hold one-day Theravada Buddhism workshop
A one-day intensive workshop for doctoral and post-doctoral scholars researching aspects of Theravada Buddhism will be held at the University of Toronto March 11, 2012. Applications from a range of disciplines will be reviewed by a committee of scholars and selected
participants will be awarded a travel stipend. This workshop is funded through an award from the Henry Luce Foundation to the Theravada Buddhist Civilizations Project. Details are posted on the center website.

11. Conferences and calls for papers
   - **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Oct. 28–30, St. Paul, MN. Annual conference at Macalester College invites submissions pertaining to Asia and its subregions from all academic disciplines. For details, see conference website.
   - **Third International Graduate Student Conference on Indonesia 2011**, Nov. 8–9, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Theme: “Indonesia Urban Cultures and Societies.” Proposals for papers and panels are welcome. Deadline for abstracts: Aug. 30. Send to Nina Mariani Noor at igsci@ugm.ac.id & igscindonesia@gmail.com. For details, see the conference website.

12. Job opportunities and money for study
   **International Institute for Asian Studies / Leiden, the Netherlands**

13. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities
   - 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.
   - 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.

*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.*