Ready for action: The 2011-12 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program team for 2011-12, led by Maria “Rai” Hancock, center, includes Scott Abel (history), Eric Boetje, Jordan York (anthropology), and Emily Kruse. The fall session of the three-week U.S. State Department-funded program begins Oct. 26. (CSEAS photo)

Center programs in full fall swing

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1. **This week’s lecture: Judith Hermanson on urban challenges in Indonesia, the Philippines**

Associate political science professor Judith Hermanson, director of NIU’s interdisciplinary Center for NGO Leadership and Development (NGOLD), will present “Urban Challenges in Indonesia and the Philippines” at this week’s CSEAS lecture at noon Friday, **Sept. 23**, Room 110, Campus Life Building.

Urban poverty is increasing in cities all over the world, including Southeast Asia, as more people live in urban settings than in agricultural enclaves. With this trend, two visions of future city life are emerging, Hermanson says: one of cities characterized by increasing poverty, social exclusion and decline; the other of inclusive cities characterized by equitable and sustainable growth. Her presentation will focus on some of the steps being taken to develop positive alternatives in the Philippines and Indonesia and describe models of inclusive, pro-poor development through civil society organizations and social enterprise that might be applied to give greater voice and opportunity to the urban poor. **Bring your lunch and feed your mind.**

2. **Dwight King honored by Indonesian consulate at Chicago reception**

NIU political science professor emeritus and former CSEAS director Dwight King was honored for his scholarship and contributions to the Indonesian people by the Indonesian Consulate in Chicago at a **Sept. 9** reception marking the 66th anniversary of Indonesian independence. “His capacity to advance the understanding between people in the United States and Indonesia has contributed for mutual partnership to a higher level” was written on the framed certificate signed by Indonesian Consul General Bahanadewa. King was unable to attend the event at The Chicago Club to receive the framed certificate and a gift, which was accepted on his behalf by center associate Patricia Henry (foreign languages and literatures). King received the award at home two days later from NIU Indonesian graduate students Srie Ramli and Philips Vermonte, who attended the reception and worked closely with King while he was on the faculty.

Also on hand from NIU at the reception were center associates Michael Buehler (political science), Andrea Katalin Molnar (anthropology), and Deb Pierce (International Programs), Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Nurul Aziz, and a number of Indonesian graduate students. Representatives of the Chicago mayor’s office and the Illinois governor and attorney general’s offices, international diplomats, and area business people were also on hand for the celebration, which featured dance performances, gamelan music, and a buffet. “Beautiful batik was in evidence everywhere,” Henry said.
3. Associates update: Promotion, review, and a trip to Harvard

* Congratulations to center associate Andrea Katalin Molnar, who has been awarded the rank of full professor in the Department of Anthropology. Molnar, whose specialty areas include East Timor, Indonesia, and Southern Thailand, is a cultural anthropologist with topical interests in religion, symbolism, Islam, social organization, political anthropology, language, ecological anthropology, and culture change, has conducted research in East Timor, Indonesia, and southern Thailand. An executive editor of Asian Affairs: An American Review, she conducted a Thailand Study Abroad program this past summer and will reprise the trip in summer 2012 (see Study Abroad Fair item below).

* Assistant CSEAS Director and assistant history professor Trude Jacobsen’s 2008 book, Lost Goddesses: The Denial of Female Power in Cambodian History (Nordic Institute of Asian Studies Press) was favorably reviewed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Katherine A. Bowie in the latest issue of the Journal of Southeast Asian Studies (Vol. 42.2 [2011]: 354-55). “This book is a major breakthrough in studies of the position of women not just in Cambodia, but also in Southeast Asia more broadly. Well researched, well argued, well written and clearly organized, Jacobsen’s book reveals the rich treasures possible from a feminist reading of traditional historical sources. I am looking forward to the debates this book is sure to provoke.”

* Center associate and assistant political science professor Michael Buehler has been asked to participate in a Harvard Kennedy School Indonesia Program seminar on democracy in Indonesia on Oct. 20. Buehler will be speaking on the panel, “Radical Islamist and Liberal Pluralist Islam in the Course of Indonesian Democratic Transition.”

4. Malay students celebrate Aidilfitri

Students from all three levels of Malay language study, along with three Malaysians working in CSEAS programs (Malay dictionary manager Darus Tharim, graduate assistant Jocelyn Sim, and Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Nabilah Idrus), gathered Sept. 14 at the home of CSEAS Director and Malay language professor Jim Collins to mark Aidilfitri, the Muslim celebration of the end of the holy month of Ramadan. Traditional Malay foods were served in “large quantities,” Collins said. “Beef rendang (beef, herbs and spices simmered in coconut milk until the sauce thickens into a savory paste), sayur lodeh (tofu, tempe, and tofu whey, long beans,
carrots cooked in herbs and spices, in particular turmeric, with fresh shrimp), numerous glutinous rice cakes for the season—*ketupat*, *palas*, and *lemang*—as well as cookies and cakes from Malaysia.” Despite there being no chocolate on the menu, Deb Pierce, Associate Provost for International Programs, and her husband Bob Fine joined the festivities and discussed Study Abroad and Fulbright fellowship opportunities with the undergraduates present. “The students I talked with very much appreciated the chance to enjoy Malay food,” Pierce said. “They realize that culture is an important part of any language learning experience, and food is a huge part of the culture of any society.”

5. **Thai collection fully accessible on Anthropology Museum database**

As the new home of the NIU Anthropology Museum in the soon-to-be reopened Cole Hall nears completion this fall, a major project to enter the museum’s inventory of Thai artifacts into an easily accessible database is also almost complete, says museum interim director Sara Pfannkuche. “This means that artifacts will now be easier to research, identify, and find,” she says. “Prior to this, approximately only twenty percent of our museum’s collection was in the database.” The database will make it much easier for faculty and students to use the collection. Museum staff and students have been working on inventorying and re-housing the museum’s entire collection of 12,000 archeological specimens, artifacts, and objects, half of which are from Southeast Asia including Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines, ever since fall 2010 when the collection was moved from the basement of Cole Hall to temporary storage in the Stevens Building while Cole was renovated and a new museum space created. Pfannkuche and her team are starting to move the collection into Cole Hall in preparation for the building’s re-opening. “Nothing solidifies learning by seeing something firsthand,” Pfannkuche said. “If you are discussing specific cultural groups from Thailand (Hmong, Karen, Lahu Nyi, or Akha), a visit to the museum will allow your students to see their cultural material.”

6. **Look for Southeast Asia programs at Sept. 21 Study Abroad Fair**

The center will have a table at Wednesday’s NIU Study Abroad Fair to promote studying abroad in Southeast Asia. At least two NIU programs for Southeast Asia are in the works for 2012, including a reprise of anthropology professor Andrea Molnar’s 2011 Cultural Diversity in Thailand program and a new public-health Study Abroad in Indonesia led by center affiliate Tomoyuki Shibata (Public Health). The fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Duke Ellington Ballroom, and will feature on-the-spot passport pictures and peer counseling by NIU students who have completed a Study Abroad program.
7. **Save the dates:** Southeast Asia trivia games, Fulbright deadline, fall conferences

- **Sept. 22:** Join the Southeast Asia Club this week for Southeast Asia Trivia and Basic Language Learning, a night of fun and games, at 5:30 p.m. in 456 DuSable. Snacks and coffee will be served. The club has set the rest of its fall meeting dates: **Oct. 6, Oct. 20, Nov. 3 and Nov. 17.**
- **Sept. 23:** Deadline to apply at NIU for 2012–13 Fulbright U.S. Student fellowships and for Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships. For details on how to sign up at NIU, contact Deb Pierce of International Programs at 815-753-1989 or dpierce@niu.edu.
- **Oct. 7–8:** Council on Thai Studies conference at University of Wisconsin-Madison. See details in Conferences below.
- **Oct. 29:** Fall symposium at NIU on cultural heritage sites and museums in mainland Southeast Asia, co-sponsored by CSEAS, the Center for Burma Studies, and University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- **Through Oct. 30:** “Echoing Balance,” exhibit of pieces inspired by Wayang Kulit shadow puppetry and created by center FLAS fellow Siew Lian Lim, at DeKalb Area Women’s Center gallery, 1021 State Street. Gallery open Friday evenings and by appointment; call 815-758-1351.

8. **Fall symposium on mainland SEA heritage sites, museums set for October at NIU**

   CSEAS, the Center for Burma Studies, and the Collaborative for Cultural Heritage and Museum Practices (CHAMP) at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, are co-sponsoring a fall symposium, Mainland Southeast Asia: Museums and Heritage Sites, on Saturday, **Oct. 29,** at the Holmes Student Center. The final schedule has not been set, but speakers so far include center associate and art historian Catherine Raymond, director of the Center for Burma Studies; center associate and anthropologist Judy Ledgerwood; anthropologist and CHAMP Director Helaine Silverman; U Nyunt Han, Regional Center for Archeology and Fine Arts (SPAFA), Bangkok; Rungsima Lertjanyarak, Vongchavalitkul University, Thailand; and Suprapa Somnuxpong, Kamphaeng Phet, Thailand. Watch this space and the center website for details.

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

   NIU is actively looking for families to act as hosts **Oct. 30–Nov. 10** for 25 high school students and six adult leaders from Brunei, 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

   **Top 10 reasons to be a host family**

   1. Your family will make friendships of a lifetime
   2. Your family portrait could replace the flying corn cob as the international symbol of DeKalb County
   3. Your house will be all ready for company
   4. You'll be the envy of family and friends
   5. It's something different to write about on Facebook
   6. You could become an expert at making sticky rice
   7. Your kids may start answering you in Lao or Malay or Vietnamese
   8. You'll be able to pick out Southeast Asia on a map
   9. It beats watching “Law and Order” reruns
   10. You can experience a different country without getting on a plane

   Sukhothai, a World Heritage site, will be one topic of discussion at the upcoming NIU/UIUC fall symposium on heritage sites and museums in mainland SE Asia.
families provide a bed for each participant, breakfast each day and most dinners, all meals during one free weekend (Nov. 5–6), and transportation to and from class sessions at NIU. For details, contact NIU host family coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu.

10. Conferences and calls for papers

- **Council on Thai Studies**, Oct. 7–8, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Call for papers’ deadline has been extended to Sept. 21, 2011. A block for rooms have been reserved at the Double Tree Hilton, 525 W. Johnson St., Madison, WI; group code is COTS and rooms are $179/night, single/double deluxe. For reservations, phone 608-251-5534. Students: Sleeping bag space available with advance notice. For details, email Kate Gillogly at gillogly@uwp.edu.

- **Southeast Asia: Between the Lines, Dec. 9-10, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.** An interdisciplinary graduate student conference to be held Dec. 9–10 in Ann Arbor. Submit 500-word abstract by Oct. 28 to Kate Wright at the UM Center for Southeast Asian Studies at katemw@umich.edu. If accepted, graduate students will receive a modest travel subvention and meals during the conference. For more information, call 734-764-5261.

- **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Oct. 28–30, St. Paul, MN. Annual conference at Macalester College. For details, see conference website.

- **Third International Graduate Student Conference on Indonesia 2011**, Nov. 8–9, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Theme: “Indonesian Urban Cultures and Societies.” For details, see conference website.

- **International Seminar: Twenty Years of Greater Mekong Sub-region**, Dec. 8–9, Chiang Mai University, Thailand. Call for papers to be presented at conference examining impact and future of creation of the sub-region. Two days of field studies follow the conference. Deadline for submission: Oct. 31. See posted details.

- **Third SEE-SEAInternational Conference**, Feb. 10–12, University of Chicago. Co-convened by CSEAS and the UC Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies. Theme: From the Adriatic to the Sulu Sea: Islam and Identity in Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia. Details will be posted on the center website.


- **Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference**, March 15–18, Toronto, Canada. Registration opens Sept. 14. For details, see the conference website.

- **Ninth International Conference on the Philippines**, May 22–25, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. Deadline for proposals and abstracts: Nov. 11. Send to ICOPHIL Committee, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1035. For details, contact asiansc@msu.edu.

11. Asia Foundation offers junior associateships for new grads
The Asia Foundation is inviting recent graduate degree holders to apply for three-month Junior Associates in Asian Affairs positions in the foundation’s offices in San Francisco or Washington,
D.C. According to the foundation’s website, “Successful applicants will gain further knowledge of the region and an understanding of the foundation's work through specific assignments such as the following: conducting research; contributing to proposal development; assisting with the design and implementation of programs; preparing reports on foundation projects; and other tasks as needed.” Up to three associates are chosen for summer and fall; they will receive a transportation allowance and a monthly stipend.

12. Job opportunities and internships
Ohio University
- Tenure-track opening for assistant professor in Political Science Department in area of human security with regional specialization (Southeast Asia, Latin America, or Middle East preferred). See position description at university website.

U.S. State Department
- Area studies can lead to a career in the diplomatic corps. Check out job opportunities and career paths at the State Department website.

13. Money for study
International Institute for Asian Studies / Leiden, the Netherlands
- Postdoctoral/research fellows: Researchers sought focusing on institute’s three thematic clusters: Asian Cities, Heritage and Social Agency in Asia, and Global Asia. Fellowships commence after September. Deadline to apply: Oct. 1. For application, see IIAS website.

14. 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. 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 consulate website.
- The Cambodian Association of Illinois holds free traditional Cambodian music and dance lessons Saturdays and Sundays at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago.

Persons with a disability who may need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or nschunem@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.