Enter the (Year of the) Dragon:
Happy Lunar New Year to all from CSEAS

1. **This week’s lecture**: Trude Jacobsen on debt bondage in mainland Southeast Asia
2. Apply by Feb. 1 for 2012–13 FLAS and Neher fellowships
3. Flex your FLAS app: Writing workshop offered **Jan. 23**
4. Last week to sign up for Southeast Asian Studies classes
5. Islam in Southeast Europe/Southeast Asia conference set for Feb. 9–11 at UC
6. **Save the dates**: SEA Club this week; museum opening, first anniversary event coming up
7. **Outreach**: Bringing Southeast Asia to Tyler School
8. Summer study abroad with NIU? Consider Indonesia, Malaysia, or Thailand
10. Call for presentations on teaching Southeast Asia to undergraduates
11. Center associates update: Kenton Clymer with a Burma note
12. Relief efforts continue to aid flood victims in Cambodia, Thailand and the Philippines
13. Money for study
14. Job opportunities and internships
15. Conferences and calls for papers
16. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities
1. This week’s lecture: Trude Jacobsen on debt bondage in mainland Southeast Asia

Assistant CSEAS Director Trude Jacobsen (history) will lead off the center’s spring lecture series with “Will the Real Slaves Please Step Forward: Debt Bondage in Mainland Southeast Asia” at noon Friday, Jan. 27, Room 110 (Honors), Campus Life Building. In Burma, Cambodia, and Siam, after the highly regulated practices of slavery and debt bondage were abolished by colonial administrations, many of these arrangements continued unregulated. Europeans then, argues Jacobsen, were unaware there were many different categories of people obligated to perform labor for others. “Not all ‘slaves’ were condemned to a life of servitude; often, individuals or their families entered into contracts in which their labor was pledged for a set period,” Jacobsen says. Jacobsen will be discussing whether the failure by the colonial governments to discern these differences explains the endurance of human trafficking and the proliferation of increasingly younger children in the sex sector in Cambodia and Burma today. Bring your lunch and feed your mind.

2. Apply by Feb. 1 for 2012–13 FLAS and Neher fellowships

The submission process is open for graduate and undergraduate students to apply for 2012–13 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships, which provide for Southeast Asian language study at NIU. Pending funding, FLAS grants will be awarded for fall 2012 and spring 2013 semesters. Applications are due Feb. 1. Applications are also being accepted for the 2012–13 Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia, which is also due Feb. 1. To apply for either fellowship, students must be in good standing with the university and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian studies. Applications and details are posted on the CSEAS website. Note: According to NIU policy, students awarded a FLAS fellowship will have their financial aid reduced by the dollar amount equal to the fellowship award. Teaching assistantships are not affected, contrary to what is currently stated on the form.

3. Flex your FLAS app: Writing workshop offered Jan. 23

Associate History Professor Eric Jones, chairman of the center’s Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) committee, invites students preparing applications for 2012–13 FLAS fellowships to attend a Statement of Purpose writing workshop from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, in Room 110 Watson. Students are asked to read the Social Science Research Council’s “On the Art of Writing Proposals” beforehand and to bring three drafts of their application’s Statement of Purpose to the workshop. Jones and other committee members will outline important proposal elements and, along with the students, critique the drafts. For details, contact CSEAS at 753-1771.

4. Last week to sign up for Southeast Asian Studies classes

Friday, Jan. 27, is the last day to register for spring-semester classes, including those on the Southeast Asian Studies course list, which has five new classes this spring. CSEAS Director and language professor Jim Collins is introducing students to a survey of the history of modern...
lexicography, with special emphasis on English dictionaries and national and minority language of Southeast Asia, in FLST 483/583 (two sections, undergraduate and graduate) from 4 to 5:15 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday in Room 354 Founders Library. NIU art historian and Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond is exploring music, dance and theatre as visualized in Southeast Asian art in ARTH 494/701 from 2 to 4:40 p.m. Mondays in Room 202 Jack Arends Hall. Assistant history professor and CSEAS Assistant Director Trude Jacobsen is delving into the history of Buddhist Southeast Asia in HIST 442/552 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in 446 DuSable. Political science Ph.D. candidate Dan Pojar Jr. is teaching on contemporary foreign policy in Southeast Asia in POLS 384, which meets from noon to 12:50 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in 246 DuSable. Assistant music professor Jui-Ching Wang is offering an introduction into the mysteries of playing gamelan music (no audition required) in MUSC 398-1/698-1, which will be held 5 to 7 p.m. Mondays in Room 102 Music Building. The spring course list includes only those classes that can be used to fulfill the SEAS graduate concentration or undergraduate minor/contract major.

5. Islam in Southeast Europe/Southeast Asia conference set for Feb. 9–11 at UC
From the Adriatic to the Sulu Sea: Islam and Identity in Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia, the third conference co-convened by CSEAS and the University of Chicago’s Center for East European and Russian/Eurasian Studies (CEERES) examining two edges of the Islamic world, will take place Feb. 9–11 at UC. The conference, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 5 p.m. Feb. 9, at the International House Assembly Hall, 1414 E. 59th St., with introductions by CEERES Director Victor Friedman and CSEAS Director Jim Collins, followed by the keynote address, “Islamization of the Modern or Modernization of Islam: A Brief Critical Review of Islam in Contemporary Southeast Asia,” by Malaysian National University Distinguished Professor Datuk Shamsul Amri Baharrudin. On Feb. 10, panels will start at 9 a.m. at the Franke Institute, 1100 E. 57th St., and conclude at 6 p.m., followed by dinner. Panel topics are Music, Language and Identity; Health and Wealth; Ways of Being Muslim; and Progressive Modernity. From NIU, CSEAS Assistant Director Trude Jacobsen (history) and CSEAS affiliate J.D. Bowers (history) will be among those presenting. A teachers workshop is scheduled for 8:30 to noon on Feb. 11, also at the Franke Institute. Alex Barna of UC’s Center for Middle Eastern Studies will present an overview of the basic tenets/types of Islam and strategies for incorporating Islam into lesson plans and curricula; Ermin Sinanovic of the U.S. Naval Academy will present “Comparing Islam in Southeast Europe and Southeast Asia,” with a special focus on how the two fit into global Islam. Registration for the workshop is required; email immertreu@uchicago.edu. See entire conference program on the CSEAS website.

6. Save the dates: SEA Club this week; museum opening, first anniversary event coming up
- Jan. 26: “Travel through Southeast Asia through Your Taste Buds,” Southeast Asia Club welcome-back event, 5:30 to 7 p.m., 466 DuSable. For more information, email niuseaclub@gmail.com.
- **Jan. 28:** Graduate Record Examination test prep sessions conducted by College of Liberal Arts & Sciences External Programming begin. Spring session I: **Jan. 28–Feb. 11;** spring session II: **April 14–28.** Register at least one day before first class meeting for early bird discount. See [External Programming website](#) to register. For details, contact Mark Pietrowski at 815-753-1456 or [pietrowski@niu.edu](mailto:pietrowski@niu.edu).
- **Feb. 24:** Abstracts for papers due for Southeast Asia Club Student Conference in April. See item below.
- **Feb. 12:** NIU Anthropology Museum open house in museum’s new Cole Hall location. Museum opens **Feb. 14** with regular hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays.
- **March 5:** Opening of “Islamic Cultures in Reflection: A Southeast Asia Photographic Exhibition,” at 4 p.m., Holmes Student Center Gallery, with wine-and-cheese reception. First CSEAS 50th anniversary event begins year of activities leading up to 50th anniversary on March 5, 2013.

7. **Outreach: Bringing Southeast Asia to Tyler Elementary School**

Tyler Elementary School in DeKalb is “traveling” the world to Asia this month and included stops in Southeast Asia four days last week with another scheduled for **Jan. 26** this week. Last week, CSEAS Outreach Coordinator Julia Lamb and Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) manager Maria “Rai” Hancock Nihei (M.A. history, 2011) visited Tyler **Jan. 17–18** and **Jan. 20** to share SEA customs, read picture books, and guide about 200 pre-kindergarten through fifth-grade students through a table-top display of SEA objects and artifacts from the CSEAS outreach collection. The center’s visit, dubbed “Adventure in Asia,” was part of the school’s Around the World program coordinated by Tyler media assistant Heather Larson. This week, NIU student and former Thai Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Piyanthida Sereebenjapol (Ph.D. candidate, education) will perform Thai dance on **Jan. 26** at the school’s Multicultural Family Literature Night, which is being coordinated by Tyler reading...
specialist (and NIU liaison) Stacie Keegan. “This was a great activity and very fun,” said one fifth-grader at the Adventure in Asia event. “Learning the countries and trying some of the [clothing] on was the best part.”

8. Summer study abroad with NIU? Consider Indonesia, Malaysia, or Thailand

It’s time to get serious about spending time in SEA this summer. NIU is offering three opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia with NIU faculty members. CSEAS associate Eric Jones (history) will take students to Malaysia for the seventh time; Andrea Katalin Molnar (anthropology) is reprising her 2011 Culture and Diversity in Thailand program; and CSEAS adjunct Tomoyuki Shibata (nursing and health studies/public health) is conducting his first study abroad program to Indonesia. As NIU programs, all offer undergraduate and graduate course credit. For details on programs, financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. Study Abroad 101 workshop meets at 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in 417 Williston.

- **Public Health and Health Education in Indonesia, June 4–22**: Three-week program open to a wide academic audience, including students of public health, nursing, pre-med, nutrition, geography, environmental studies, and Southeast Asian studies. Program builds on summer 2011 research project in Makassar, Indonesia conducted by assistant public health professor Tomoyuki Shibata in cooperation with Hasanuddin University. Mandatory pre- and post-program meetings: Feb. 6, March 5, April 2, May 14, and Aug. 27. Deadline to apply: March 1. For details, email Shibata at tshibata@niu.edu.

- **Cultural Diversity in Thailand, June 15–July 14**: Four-week program focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The course introduces students to diversity of cultural groups in Thailand, power relations between dominant and minority groups, and practical implications of these relations in everyday Thai life. Deadline to apply: March 1.

- **Study Abroad Malaysia: History and Culture of Southeast Asia, July 22–Aug. 10**: Three-week program will be of interest to students interested in history of Southeast Asia, globalization, comparative religion, colonial and post-colonial culture and incorporates significant time in Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Penang, the jungles of Sarawak and Borneo, and the agricultural Cameron Highlands. Deadline to apply: March 15.


The Southeast Asia Club invites papers for its 2012 spring student conference, date and location to be announced. The conference theme and emphasis of the keynote address will be “Western Influence in Southeast Asia.” Papers may be submitted on any topic pertaining to Southeast Asia. Abstracts are being accepted through Feb. 24. They should be no more than 400 words and submitted as Word documents. Paper due dates will be sent after abstracts are received and approved.
Best paper awards will be given for both undergraduate and graduate papers. Send abstracts to conference organizer Robert Kollas at rkollas@niu.edu.

10. Call for presentations on teaching Southeast Asia to undergraduates
CSEAS is hosting a one-day conference, Teaching Southeast Asia to Undergraduates, at NIU Saturday, April 28, for college-level instructors and is currently accepting proposals for presentations on teaching Southeast Asian history and politics, current events, religions and cultures, human rights, arts and music or geography. Modest travel stipends may be available. Proposals should be 250 words or less and submitted by Feb. 29 to Julie Lamb at jlamb@niu.edu (or faxed to 815-753-1776).

11. Center associates update: Kenton Clymer with a Burma note
History professor Kenton Clymer can’t get his head out of the headlines at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., where he is a 2012–13 fellow working on a book about U.S.-Burma relations, a project made very timely given recent news. In December, after U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s historic visit to Burma/Myanmar, the first U.S. secretary of state in more than 50 years, Clymer was quick to post a historical footnote on the Wilson Center about the first U.S. secretary of state to visit the country (Who was it? Click here to read Clymer’s post). Earlier this month, Secretary Clinton announced that the U.S. will re-establish full diplomatic relations with the country. Clymer’s upcoming trip to Burma in February, a research trip he planned before these recent developments, couldn’t be timelier—once again.

12. Relief efforts continue to aid flood victims in Cambodia, Thailand and the Philippines
Monsoon and tropical storm flooding in mainland and island Southeast Asia, particularly in Cambodia, on Mindanao in the Philippines and Thailand, have displaced millions of people and put many others at risk of disease, injury and hardship as waters ebb. According to recent (November 2011) figures from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, more than 5.3 million people in Thailand, 2 million in the Philippines, 1.6 million in Cambodia, 430,000 in Laos and 174,000 in Vietnam have been affected by the season’s torrential rains. Rebuilding efforts and disaster relief will be ongoing for months. U.S. embassies in both countries are providing aid and funds, coordinating with humanitarian assistance teams from the U.S. military and routing millions of dollars in U.S. assistance funds. The United Nations, through UNICEF, is distributing insecticide-treated mosquito nets and other assistance. The embassies are working
through the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, which is sending aid and donations to local relief organizations, Save the Children, the World Food Programme and World Vision. The national chapters of the International Red Cross are also distributing aid and accepting funds for relief efforts. To connect with these efforts, CSEAS offers this list of entities offering assistance:

- **International Red Cross:** The Cambodian Red Cross, Philippine Red Cross and Thai Red Cross are accepting donations for relief efforts though their respective websites.

- **Royal Thai Embassy:** Donations to flood victims in Thailand are being accepted through the embassy. Send checks or money orders (payable to Royal Thai Embassy) to Consular Affairs Section, Royal Thai Embassy, 1024 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20007. See the embassy’s Facebook page (Royal Thai Embassy, Washington, D.C.) for donation updates or call the embassy’s First Secretary Nipatsorn Kampa at 202-285-1547.

- **Save the Children:** International aid organization is accepting donations for flood relief in Thailand through its Thailand Floods Children in Emergency Fund. See the Save the Children website.

- **Royal Embassy of Cambodia:** Contact the embassy at 4530 16th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20011; phone 202-726-7742.

- **World Food Programme:** The food aid arm of the United Nations is offering assistance in affected countries. To view a list of current operations, see the WFP website; to donate, see the Fill the Cup section of the website.

- **World Vision Cambodia:** International aid group is distributing rice to affected communities where rice fields and other food sources have been compromised by flooding. See the World Vision website (under Disaster Response Fund).

[Editor’s note: Thanks to CSEAS associate Susan Russell for Philippines information and to the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Ohio University for additional information on these ongoing disaster relief efforts].

13. **Summer in Thailand: Applications due Feb. 1 for Advanced Study of Thai Program**

Students interested in deepening their Thai language skills in Thailand this summer are invited to apply for the June 18–Aug. 10 Advanced Study of Thai Program in Chiang Mai. Applications are due Feb. 1. The AST program is an intensive program conducted by faculty at Chiang Mai University. Twelve students are chosen for the program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program. For details about the program, costs, and fellowship availability, contact the University of Washington’s Southeast Asia Center.

13. **Money for study**

*David L. Boren awards*

- Fellowships and scholarships: Opportunity for graduates and undergraduates to study abroad for one year and hone language skills. Grants range from up to $20,000 for undergraduates to $30,000 for graduate students. To apply for the 2012–13 programs, see the Boren website. Boren awards are administered by the Institute of International Education. **Fellowship deadline to apply: Jan. 31. Scholarship deadline: Feb. 9.**
East-West Center

- **Graduate degree fellowships**: Funding for graduate students to participate in residential, educational and research programs at East-West Center while pursuing degree at University of Hawai‘i.

14. Job opportunities and internships

Kenan Institute Asia

- **Mainland Southeast Asia consultant**: Seeking experienced professional with some experience in the region with understanding or experience of private-sector development. Some language proficiency desired (Vietnamese best, but Thai, Lao, Khmer or Burmese acceptable). Position based in Bangkok with 50 percent travel time to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. For details and contact information, see institute website. [NEW]

Bridges Across Borders Southeast Asia Community Legal Education Initiative

- **2012 legal studies externship**: May 21-Aug. 12 program offers opportunity to work with community-based legal education clinics in local and rural communities alongside Bridges Across Borders team as well as local lawyers, legal educators, and community organizations in Southeast Asia. Some cost waivers available. **Deadline to apply: March 1**. For details, see program website. [NEW]

Cornell University

- **Assistant professor**: Humanities specialist in literature and/or religion and/or culture of one or more SEA countries wanted for Department of Asian Studies to begin July 2012. Ph.D. required. Scholars with strong record in research and publishing, in addition to interdisciplinary and comparative work, encouraged to apply. Submit cover letter, statement of research and teaching, CV, a writing sample and three letters of recommendation online.

Idealist.org

- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. For details, see the Idealist website.

U.S. State Department

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

15. Conferences and calls for papers

- **Cornell Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Conference**, March 2–4, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. See symposium website.

- **Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference**, March 15–18, Toronto, Canada. Registration open. See conference website.

- **Between the Mountain and the Sea: Positioning Indonesia**, July 9–10, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Fifth International Indonesia Forum, co-sponsored by Yale and Gadjah Mada universities. Deadline for abstracts: March 31. Email to frank.dhont@yale.edu.

- **Bali in Global Asia: Between Modernization and Heritage Formation**, July 16–18, Universitas Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia. Co-sponsored by Universitas Udayana, the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), and the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV). Call for papers. **Deadline for submission: Jan. 31.** For details, email Henk Schulte Nordholt at schultenordholt@kitlv.nl or see conference website.

- **Ninth International Conference on the Philippines**, Oct. 28–30, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. **Deadline for proposals and abstracts: March 1.** Send to ICOPHIL Committee, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1035. For details, contact asiansc@msu.edu.

- **International Cambodia Studies Conference 2012: Imagining Cambodia**, Sept. 14–16, Northern Illinois University. Individual papers and suggestions for panel speakers and themes are invited. **Deadline for abstracts March 15; deadline for papers June 15.** Details posted on center website.


- **Fourth Annual Conference on Lao Studies**, April 19–21, 2013, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Details TBA. For information, see conference website. **NEW**

- **Thailand in the World: Twelfth International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. Call for papers scheduled for August 2012. To be added to conference email list or for details, email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au. The conference website will be launched in mid-2012. **NEW**

16. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit is on display at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](http://www.cambodianassociationofillinois.org) also holds free Cambodian music and dance lessons Sundays.

- The Indonesian Consulate General in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see consulate website.

*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.*