Teaching insights, SEAYLP update, and more

The CSEAS weekly bulletin will resume in August. Best wishes to all for successful final exams, happy graduations, excellent job prospects, and fruitful research. Have a great summer!

1. SEAYLP update
2. Shawn McCafferty named 2012–13 Neher Fellow
3. Last week to apply for the Malaysia summer study abroad program
4. Teaching SEA folo
5. Southeast Asia Club officers for 2012–13 elected
6. Campus/alumni notes: J.D. and Shay to the Peace Prize summit and more
7. Michael and Maiitri Aung-Thwin publish new book on Myanmar/Burma history
8. CSEAS co-sponsors NIU global leadership and philanthropy camp for high-schoolers
9. Cambodian-American composer to be honored at 2012 Cambodia Studies Conference
10. Sign up for fall SEA courses now; see course list posted on CSEAS website
11. Area conferences on Burma, Thai Studies, Lao Studies
12. Money for study
13. Job opportunities and internships
14. Conferences and calls for papers
15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities
1. Spring 2012 SEAYLP says goodbye to NIU and hello to DC

After two weeks at NIU and two days exploring Chicago, participants in the Spring 2012 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) are in the last leg of their three-week leadership-training odyssey. In Washington, D.C., since April 28, the group of 25 high school students and five adult leaders from Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar/Burma, the Philippines and Thailand this week is visiting national monuments, the Smithsonian, the U.S. Capitol (where they had passes to sit in the visitor gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives) and several NGOs in between preparing for the final presentation of their diplomatic simulation at the U.S. State Department on May 2. “We had a great time in Annapolis,” said SEAYLP program manager Maria “Rai” Nihei. “But we’ve been twice delayed by the President moving around DC.” Nihei said that the Voice of America would be conducting video interviews of the SEAYLP participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand on May 1 for broadcast in those countries while the Burmese contingent visits the Asia Foundation. After a farewell dinner on May 3, the group will begin their long journeys home on Friday, May 4. SEAYLP Spring 2012 is the sixth such session hosted at NIU. SEAYLP is funded by the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by CSEAS in cooperation with the Division of International Programs.

2. Shawn McCafferty named 2012–13 Neher Fellow

Shawn McCafferty, a PhD candidate in political science, is the 2012–13 recipient of the center’s Clark and Arlene Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia, which provides a $5,200 grant for graduate research. McCafferty, originally from Richmond, Ohio, came to NIU in fall 2008 after completing a master’s degree in Southeast Asian studies at Ohio University. Originally focused on Thailand in his previous academic work, McCafferty said his PhD research is headed toward a comparative study of environmental non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in three countries: Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand. “I’m looking to compare how they collaborate with local partners. These partners could be a Buddhist temple, a school, a local grassroots organization,” he said. “I want to observe their interactions and see if there are any commonalities against the different political backdrops of each country.” In political science terms, Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, Cambodia a one-party hegemonic state, and Laos a socialist republic, three very different political environments for NGOs to operate in, McCafferty noted. “The political environment could be an external variable that constrains partnerships or the willingness of local partner
organizations to go all in [with an NGO],” he said. McCafferty is working on his final proposal, which will determine when he returns to Southeast Asia to do his doctoral research, he said. “The Neher will really help me frame my proposal,” he said.

3. Last week to apply for the Malaysia summer study abroad program
Applications will be accepted until May 1 for CSEAS associate Eric Jones’ July 22–Aug. 10 Study Abroad Malaysia: History and Culture of Southeast Asia program. The historian’s three-week program will be of interest to students interested in the 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. For program details, financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, email the Study Abroad Office at niubroad@niu.edu.

4. Teaching SEA requires personal and practical approaches, conference participants learn
Instructors from area community college and liberal arts colleges got the same compelling message from presenters at the center’s Building Our Global Future: Teaching Southeast Asia to Undergraduates conference on April 28: Find ways to connect students emotionally to the region while also, from one student presenter’s point of view, giving Southeast Asian studies students practical knowledge about student funding and career options. About 25 people attended the conference, including a number of NIU graduate students headed toward possible college teaching careers themselves. Keynote speaker and NIU alum Robert Dayley (PhD, political science, 1997), now teaching at The College of Idaho, emphasized that the process of engaging students’ interest in Southeast Asia begins not with one’s knowledge as a professor, but with one’s ability to establish in students an emotional connection with the region. Pulling books out of a backpack he’d been carrying, he described how he has successfully used non-fictional narratives and memoirs, often written by authors not much older than his students, to “awaken” their curiosity in Southeast Asia so that they want
to learn more. Fellow keynote speaker Jennifer Goodlander, who incorporates Southeast Asia into her theatre teaching at the University of Kentucky, described how using the arts, in her case Balinese music, dancing and puppetry, allows her students to discover on their own the beauty and complexity of Balinese culture. NIU presenters at the conference included art historian Catherine Raymond, director of the Center for Burma Studies, who discussed art as a way of drawing students into more study of Southeast Asia; Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music), who described her work with students on the NIU gamelan ensemble; the International Training Office’s Rey Ty, who offered free online resources for teaching about human rights and genocide in SEA; and center outreach coordinator Julie Lamb, who introduced the center’s myriad resources for teachers available through the center’s website and SEAsite. After three NIU students, E. Peter Colina (business), JoAnn LoSavio (anthropology/history) and Glynnis White (music education), offered their insights on how Southeast Asian studies played into their education and career aspirations, the conference concluded with a presentation by CSEAS Interim Director Trude Jacobsen on how to infuse Southeast Asia into courses ranging from history to environmental studies.

5. Southeast Asia Club officers for 2012–13 elected
The Southeast Asia Club has elected new officers for the 2012–13 academic year. They are: Robert Kollas, president; Matt Ropp, vice president; Philip Cerepak, secretary; Derek Koegel, treasurer; Charles Eleosida, marketing director; Elise Waite, outreach director; Glynnis White, culture night coordinator; and Nicole Loring, conference coordinator. The first board meeting (and transitional meeting) is set for 9:15 p.m. April 30 in the Holmes Student Center hotel lobby (by the piano). Previous officers are asked to bring any materials required for their successors. The center thanks this year’s officers and club members for their hard work and a successful year of cultural events, noodle nights, the spring student conference, and service activities.

6. Campus notes: NIU at the Peace Prize summit and more
   - CSEAS affiliate J. D. Bowers, director of NIU’s teacher certification program and associate professor of history, and graduate student Shay Galto (MA candidate, sociology) were honored to be invited to the April 23–25 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates in Chicago. They were among twelve NIU students and faculty selected to participate in the event, which drew nearly a dozen Nobel Peace Prize recipients including Mikhail Gorbachev, Lech Walesa, Frederik Willem de Klerk, President Jimmy Carter, and the Dalai Lama. The NIU contingent was sponsored by NIU PeaceJam. Details in NIU Today.
   - CSEAS graduate assistant Shahin Aftabizadeh (MA candidate, anthropology) has been named the 2012 Outstanding Graduate Student in the Department of Anthropology. One of a number of graduate students so honored by their departments, he received the award from NIU President John Peters April 24 in an Altgeld Hall ceremony.
   - 2012–13 FLAS fellow Thomas F. Rhoden (PhD candidate, political science) has been invited by Missouri Southern State University to give three lectures Oct. 11 at the school’s annual fall lecture series to be focused this year on Thailand. Rhoden will present “Thai Piracy on the High Seas and High Tech Market,” “Volunteering in Thailand: You Can Get Involved,” and “Thai Language and Greetings.”
7. Michael and Maitrii Aung-Thwin publish new book on Myanmar/Burma history
Kudos to former CSEAS Director Michael Aung-Thwin (1987–95), professor of Asian studies and chair of the Asian Studies Program at University of Hawai‘i-Manoa, and his son, NIU alum Maitrii Aung-Thwin (BA, history, 1994), assistant professor of Southeast Asian and Burmese history at the National University of Singapore. The two are co-authors of a new history of Myanmar, *A History of Myanmar since Ancient Times: Traditions and Transformations*, just published by Reaktion Books/University of Chicago Press. The book traces three millennia of Myanmar/Burma history from ancient times to the present, including an examination of the 2010 elections. Center for Burma Studies Director and CSEAS associate Catherine Raymond is included in the authors’ acknowledgements.

8. CSEAS co-sponsors NIU global leadership and philanthropy camp for high-schoolers
The center is joining the University Honors Program, the Division of International Programs, the Center for NGO Leadership and Development, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences External Programming in co-sponsoring NIU’s second high school summer camp for global leadership and philanthropy, set for **July 15–20** at NIU. Through funding provided by International Programs and the University Honors program, the registration fee has been cut from $515 to $150 for students registering before June 1 (after June 1, the fee is $175). To register see the camp website.

9. Cambodian-American composer to be honored at 2012 Cambodia Studies Conference
A musical performance of works by renowned Cambodian-American composer Dr. Chinary Ung will highlight the 2012 *Cambodia Studies Conference* set for **Sept. 13–16** at NIU. The conference is being sponsored by NIU’s Cambodia Studies Working Group and CSEAS, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ohio University, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, and the Center for Khmer Studies in Cambodia. In addition to regular academic panels, the conference will feature themed panels for which papers will be circulated in advance to all registered participants for in-depth discussions on particular topics. The conference will also include a field trip to the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial in Chicago in addition to other special activities on campus.

10. Sign up for fall SEA courses now; see course list posted on CSEAS website
The center reminds students that the fall semester course list for Southeast Asian Studies, posted on the [center website](#), includes only those courses that can be used to fulfill the Southeast Asian Studies graduate concentration or undergraduate minor/contract major. The list includes “Music of Southeast Asia” (MUHL 431/531) taught by CSEAS associate Jui-Ching Wang; an independent study course, “Specialized Readings in Burmese History” (HIST736J), taught by CSEAS Interim Director Trude Jacobsen; and a new anthropology course, “Current Topics: Religion and Civil Society in Southeast Asia” (ANTH 491/591), taught by CSEAS
associate Kate Wiegele (anthropology). CSEAS associate Eric Jones is teaching an online course, “History of Burma” (HIST447), which will include three face-to-face meetings during fall semester at Waubonsee Community College in Sugar Grove. Please note that ARTH 378/698C “Indian and Southeast Asian Art,” is now ARTH 370/570. Any questions about these or other courses on the list, contact CSEAS at 815-753-1771.

11. Area conferences on Burma, Thai Studies, Lao Studies

- **10th International Burma Studies Conference, Oct. 5–7, NIU**
  Mark your calendar for the 10th International Burma Studies Conference at NIU. Papers have been submitted in a wide variety of fields, including anthropology, art history, environment, health, history, literature, linguistics, music, political science, popular culture, religions, and area studies. Panels and papers will be devoted primarily to new research, including recent events in Burma. The conference will also feature cultural events. For details, see the conference website, email bsc2012@niu.edu or call the NIU Center for Burma Studies at 815-753-0512.

- **Council on Thai Studies Conference, Oct. 26–27, Ohio University, Athens, OH**
  The Council on Thai Studies (COTS) welcomes students and scholars of Thailand and the broader Tai world to submit paper abstracts for the 2012 COTS conference. The gathering will mark the 40th anniversary of COTS, which was founded at NIU in 1972 to bring Thai specialists in the Midwest together once a year. The keynote speech will be given by Charnvit Kasetsiri, Thai historian and former rector of Thammasat University. **Abstracts due: Aug. 3.** This year’s conference, which previously has been held at NIU and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will be sponsored this year by Ohio University Libraries, the OU Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Contemporary History Institute, the Southeast Asian Student Association, and the Thai Student Association. For details, email Jeffrey Shane at shane@ohio.edu.

- **4th International Lao Studies Conference, April 19–21, 2013, Madison, WI**
  The Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies are inviting papers for the 4th International Conference on Lao Studies. **Abstracts due: Oct. 31.** For details on article submission and registration, see the conference website or call 608-263-1755.

12. Money for study

*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.

*International Institute for Asian Studies-Institute of Southeast Asian Studies*
- **Postdoctoral fellowship:** Seeking researchers for one year. Project should relate to ways in which Asian politics and societies have interacted over time through religious, cultural, and economic exchanges and diasporic networks. Six months at IIAS in Leiden, six months at ISEAS in Singapore. **Deadline to apply: June 1.** See program website.
13. Job opportunities

Amnesty International

- **Indonesian Researcher**: Applicants desired to join Southeast Asia team as Indonesia and East Timor researcher. Fluency in Bahasa Indonesia essential. **Applications due: May 3**. For details, see Amnesty website. NEW

Asia Society

- **Bernard Schwartz Fellows Program**: Applications for one-year (summer 2012 to summer 2013) senior-level fellowships at Asia Society headquarters in New York or Washington, D.C., office are being accepted. Minimum 10 years experience required. Email detailed CV, cover letter, and project proposal to globalpolicy@asiasociety.org with 2012 Bernard Schwartz Fellow Application in the subject line.

Center for Khmer Studies

- **Southeast Asian Studies Curricula Design Program instructor**: Qualified person to organize 13-week program of lectures, seminars and interactive group sessions, **July 2–Sept. 29**. PhD and experience teaching Southeast Asian studies at university level required. For details, contact vong.sotheara@khmerstudies.org by **May 17**.

Idealist.org

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

University of the Philippines

- **Visiting professor**: Seeking foreign-based Filipinos and professors or researchers with PhD degrees to spend one to two months at UP to teach team courses, mentor graduate students, and collaborate in research and creative work with faculty and researchers. Download application at UP website. NEW

14. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **Between the Mountain and the Sea: Positioning Indonesia**, July 9–10, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Fifth International Indonesia Forum, co-sponsored by Yale University and Gadjah Mada University. For details, see conference website.
- **East and South East Asian Studies Conference**, July 14, Oxford College of International Studies, Oxford, UK. Call for papers. For details, email Dr. Jill Barton at jbarton@ocois.org.uk. NEW
- **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). For details, see conference website.
sponsored by Chiang Mai, Chulalongkorn, Mahidol and Thammasat universities. For details, see conference website.

- **International Conference on Language Proficiency Testing in the Less Commonly Taught Languages**, Aug. 17–18, Imperial Queen’s Park Hotel, Bangkok. Hosted by the Sirindhorn Thai Language Center, Chulalongkorn University. Call for abstracts. **Deadline for submission: May 31.** For details, see conference website.

- **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 April 1; deadline for papers June 15.** Details posted on CSEAS website.


- **61st Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Sept. 21–23, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI. Theme: Global Education. Regional conference for Association of Asian Studies. Call for papers. **Deadline for proposals: May 18.** For details, see conference website.

- **International Burma Studies Conference 2012**, Oct. 5–7, Northern Illinois University. Email title, abstract and all queries to bsc2012@niu.edu. For details, see conference website.


- **Council on Thai Studies Conference**, Oct. 26–27, Ohio University, Athens, OH. Conference will mark the 40th anniversary of COTS. **Abstracts due: Aug. 3.** For details, email Jeffrey Shane at shane@ohio.edu. NEW

- **9th International Conference on the Philippines**, Oct. 28–30, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. For details, contact asiansc@msu.edu. NEW


- **Salvage and Salvation: Religion, Disaster Relief, and Reconstruction in Asia**, Nov. 22–23, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. What does it mean to offer salvation in the midst of catastrophe? What dynamics are in play at the intersection of religion and disaster relief in Asia? Call for papers. **Abstracts due: May 15.** For details, see conference website. NEW

- **10th ASEAN Inter-University Conference on Social Development**, Dec. 10–12, Universiti Brunei Darussalam. Theme: Southeast Asia and Human Insecurities: Causes, Costs and Challenges. Call for papers. **Abstracts due: Oct. 30.** For details, see conference website. NEW


- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. Call for papers scheduled for August 2012. To
request being added to the conference email list or for other information, email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au. The conference website will be launched in mid-2012.

15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- “Visions of Asia: Through the Lens of An American Traveler,” an exhibit of images from ten Asian countries by American photographer Laura McGone, will be on display through **May 18** at the Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago. NEW
- The Filipino opera, “Noli Me Tangere,” adapted by Felipe de Leon from the Jose Rizal novel by the same name, will be performed by the Da Corneto Opera at the Harris Theatre for Dance and Music at 7 p.m. Saturday, **May 26**, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, **May 27**, at the Harris Theatre, 205 E. Randolph St., Chicago. The opera will be conducted by Lucia Matos, director of the NIU Philharmonic Orchestra and music director of the NIU Opera Workshop. For details, call 312-334-7777. Student discounts with ID. Box office hours are noon to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- “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 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.