Wreathed in traffic, Saigon Notre-Dame Basilica in downtown Ho Chi Minh City is illuminated for the holidays. Though Christmas is not an official holiday in Vietnam, it is still celebrated by Christians there, who constitute about 8 percent of the population. (Photo / MyVietnamGuide.com)

Happy holidays to all from CSEAS

CSEAS will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 1. Best wishes to all for the holidays!

1. 'Tis the season to be applying for FLAS, Neher fellowships
2. Catch new SEA film/lit class on spring SEAS course list
3. Class act: SEAYLP summit in Jakarta
4. Indonesian Sandwich Scholars wrap up NIU studies Dec. 11
5. News, notes and tidbits from all over
6. Disaster relief efforts mount in typhoon-devastated Philippines
7. Get your paper on: SEA Club spring student conference call for abstracts
8. NIU experts to present upcoming panel on Burma/Myanmar
9. Coming up on 50th Anniversary Calendar in 2013
10. NIU Thai Studies Committee offers awards for students, faculty
11. Area CSEAS conferences coming up in spring
12. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs
13. Money for study
14. Job opportunities
15. Conferences and calls for papers

Help us grow for the next 50
See page 2 for information on making a gift to CSEAS.
Support Southeast Asian Studies at NIU

With the countries of Southeast Asia positioning themselves as key regional and global players, the next 50 years for Southeast Asian Studies at NIU will offer exciting opportunities. To keep the program at NIU strong, please consider making a donation to CSEAS through the NIU Foundation. Contributions will be used for existing programs and new initiatives in Southeast Asian Studies at NIU. You may also designate a specific purpose or project. To make a donation by phone or by mail, go to the How to Make a Gift section of the NIU Foundation website. To make a gift online, go to the Make a Gift Now section.

- Click on Make a Gift Now (red button in top-right corner)
- Within the pop-up box, designate your gift by selecting “a specific area,” then “university wide programs,” then “Center for Southeast Asian Studies.”
- Enter an amount and complete the process.
- Thank you for your support!

1. ’Tis the season to be applying for FLAS, Neher fellowships

Winter break is the perfect time to complete the paperwork for next year’s Center fellowships. Applications for summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships are due Jan. 1; email to CSEAS Office Manager Nancy Schuneman at nschunem@niu.edu.

Applications for the 2013–14 academic year FLAS grants and for the 2013–14 Clark and Arlene Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia are due to Nancy Schuneman by Feb. 1.

Information and applications for all fellowships are posted on the CSEAS website. FLAS fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI Program of Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships. The Neher Fellowship is funded through an NIU Foundation endowment from Clark and Arlene Neher. Students intending to apply for both summer and academic-year FLAS grants should inform their two referees they only need to write a single letter of recommendation for both. Summer applicants should not submit an academic-year application until they have been informed of the outcome of their summer applications (applicants will be notified in time to meet the Feb. 1 academic-year deadline).

Summer FLAS: These fellowships provide for the summer study of Southeast Asian languages at any U.S. Department of Education-approved educational institution, especially those in Southeast Asia but also including the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute at the University of Wisconsin. Priority will be given to students planning to study in a Southeast Asian country. A list of currently approved programs is posted on the CSEAS website; you can also contact the Center for details on other possible study locations in Southeast Asia. Summer FLAS awards are expected to provide a stipend of $2,500. In addition, a FLAS fellow’s tuition at a Southeast Asia language program is covered up to $4,000. Any qualified undergraduate or graduate student is welcome to apply.

Academic-year FLAS: These fellowships provide for graduate and undergraduate students to study Southeast Asian language at NIU during the 2013–14 academic year. Pending funding,
FLAS grants will be awarded for fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters. Students must be in good standing with the university and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian Studies. FLAS fellowships cover tuition, fees, health insurance and a monthly stipend ($500 for undergraduates, $1,500 for graduate students).

**Neher Fellowship:** Applications are being accepted for the 2013–14 fellowship, which includes a tuition and a $5,200 stipend. To apply, students must be in good standing with the university and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian studies. Both U.S. and international students are eligible to apply.

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.

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2. Catch new SEA film/lit class on spring SEAS course list

Eleven courses, including a new course on Southeast Asia through film and literature, are on the spring Southeast Asian Studies course list now posted on the [center website](#). CSEAS Foreign Languages and Literatures associates John Hartmann and Rhodalyne Gallo-Crail are introducing ILAS 490/590, Seeing Southeast Asia through Film and Media, which will be offered from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday in 106 Cole Hall. Through a sampling of Southeast Asia films, including the 2001 Filipino film *Bagong Buwan* (New Moon) and the 2010 Thai film *Uncle Boonmee*, the three-credit course will explore cultural, historical, political and sociolinguistic issues in the region. Also on tap for spring is FLIN 421, Introduction to Indonesian Literature, which will be taught by Patricia Henry, time and location to be announced.

Other spring courses include HIST 469/569, The Vietnam War, taught by Assistant CSEAS Director Trude Jacobsen, which will examine U.S. involvement in Vietnam from 1940 to 1975, from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Monday/Wednesday. Three anthropology courses are on the list: Anthropology of Religion (ANTH 328/790, from 11 to 12:15 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday) and Ritual and Myth (ANTH 428/528, from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday), both taught by Andrea Molnar, and Peoples and Cultures of Insular Southeast Asia (ANTH 407/507, from 2 to 3:15 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday) taught by Susan Russell.

Students interested in the art and architecture of Southeast Asia can sign up for ARTH 457/657 from 11 a.m. to 1:40 p.m. Thursday, taught by art historian and Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond. CSEAS associate Michael Buehler (political science) will teach POLS 365, Origins of Political Order, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday and associate Jui-Ching Wang (music education) once again will offer Gamelan, her ensemble performance course, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday. Asian American families will be the topic of FCNS 384, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday, taught by Kelly Champion (family, consumer and nutrition sciences).
ILAS 225, the center’s survey course on Southeast Asia, will be offered from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Tuesday/Thursday. Classes in Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Malay, Tagalog and Thai are also on the spring course list. Note that the list includes only those classes that can be used to fulfill the Southeast Asian Studies graduate concentration or undergraduate minor/contract major. Any questions, contact the Center at 815-753-1771.

FLST 382/482, Censorship and Literature: State and Society in Authoritarian Countries, is not on the SEAS spring course list, but is being offered by CSEAS associate Tharaphi Than (foreign languages and literatures) for three credit hours. This class will examine relations between state and society in a number of nations including two SEA countries, Burma/Myanmar and Vietnam. Meeting time and location are TBA.

3. Class act: The U.S. embassy in Jakarta hosted 130 of the 180 students and adult leaders who participated in the 2009-2011 Southeast Asia Youth Youth Leadership program at NIU at the first U.S.-ASEAN Young Leaders Summit Dec. 5-9. Maria “Rai” Hancock Nihei, who as a graduate student then later as on-site program manager worked with all six SEAYLP groups from fall 2009 to spring 2011, was invited to give a surprise talk to the group via Skype. She got up at 3 a.m. early Dec. 7, left, to address the group, which was able to see and speak with her on a huge television screen in the embassy’s new At America multimedia center in the Indonesian capital city. After an enthusiastic reception, Nihei was thanked by several participants speaking for the group and by Jen Bookbinder, program manager for the U.S. State Department, which funds the program. Ten of the eleven Association of Southeast Asian Nation countries (except East Timor) participate in SEAYLP.

4. Indonesian Sandwich Scholars wrap up NIU studies Dec. 11
NIU bids farewell this week to the thirteen Indonesian graduate students who have been on campus since October researching their dissertation proposals and working with NIU faculty mentors as part of the “Sandwich Program,” an initiative funded by the Indonesian government. Before they leave, the Sandwich scholars, who come from three different institutions in Indonesia, will make brief presentations on their topics and their work at NIU beginning at 1 p.m. Dec. 11 in the Holmes Student Center University Suite. Their fields include American Studies, education science, English literature, English education, cultural sciences, sociology and economics. Eleven NIU faculty members mentored the students while at NIU: Melissa Adams-Campbell, Gulsat Aygen, J.D. Bowers, Carl Campbell, James Cohan, Mayra
Daniel, Deborah de Rosa, Kirk Miller, Richard Orem, Scot Schraufnagel and Robert Self. Participating Indonesian institutions were Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), Universitas Hasanuddin (UNHAS) and Universitas Negeri Makassar (UNM). CSEAS congratulates this year’s Sandwich Scholars and wishes them well in their future endeavors: Yohanna Meray (UGM), Nur Aeni Kasim (UNM), Didik Murwantono (UGM), Isnawati Lydia Wantasen (UGM), Eny Syatriana (UNM), Ceisy Wuntu (UGM), Istanti Hermagustiana (UNM), Abdul Malik Iskandar (UNM), Irwanti Said (UNM), Misnawaty Usman (UNM), Muhammad Hidayat (UNM), Hamrullah (UNHAS) and Muriadi (UGM).

5. News, notes and tidbits from all over
The date for the Council on Thai Studies (COTS) 2013 conference has been set for Oct. 18–19 at the Holmes Student Center. Conference coordinators are CSEAS associates Chalermsee Olson (Founders Library) and Grant Olson (foreign languages and literatures). . . .Political science associate Michael Buehler is once again in print with “Revisiting the Inclusion-Moderation Thesis in the Context of Decentralized Institutions: The Behavior of Indonesia’s Prosperous Justice Party in National and Local Politics” in the 2012 edition of Party Politics: The International Journal for the Study of Political Parties and Political Organizations . . . .The DeKalb Public Library’s children’s section will have 68 Southeast Asia children’s books from the Center’s outreach collection available for library loan during the month of January. Titles include Brother Rabbit (Cambodia), Rice is Life (Indonesia), and Peek (Thailand).

6. Disaster relief efforts mount in typhoon-devastated Philippines
Typhoon Bopha (also known as Pablo), which hit the southern Philippines Dec. 5, has claimed the lives of more than 640 people in eastern Mindanao, with hundreds of thousands displaced in the wake of the storm’s damaging winds and floods. More than 10,000 homes have been reported destroyed in more than a dozen provinces, according to Reuters. For those interested in contributing to relief efforts, here are links to organizations providing assistance: Philippine Red Cross, UNICEF Philippines, AmeriCares, the ABS-CBN Foundation and Higa-Onon Ha Migsabuwa Ta Lanao, an indigenous NGO based in Iligan in northern Mindanao (thanks to CSEAS associate Susan Russell for information).

7. Get your paper on: SEA Club spring student conference call for abstracts
The Southeast Asia Club invites papers for its 2013 spring student conference, which will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 13, in Room 315 Altgeld Hall. The conference theme is “Growth and Development” and the keynote speaker will be University of Michigan political scientist Allen Hicken. Papers may be submitted on any topic pertaining to Southeast Asia. Abstracts will be accepted through Feb. 13.
Best paper awards will be given for undergraduate and graduate papers. For details and to submit abstracts and papers, email niuseaclub@gmail.com.

8. NIU experts to present upcoming panel on Burma/Myanmar at Lewis University
In a panel entitled “Burma Today: The Challenges of Democracy,” Lewis University in Romeoville will host two CSEAS associates and two graduate students on Friday, Feb. 8. The panel will focus on issues with refugees, political prisoners, ethnic conflict and the country’s ongoing transition from closed military rule to democratization. CSEAS associate and Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond (art history) will give an overview of Burmese history and culture, as well as an introduction to Burmese refugees living in the U.S. Associate Tharaphi Than (foreign languages and literatures) will give a history of elections and previous democratization processes in the country. Political science graduate students Thomas Rhoden (PhD candidate) and Nicole Loring (MA/PhD candidate) also will participate. Rhoden will discuss conflicts surrounding Karen refugees on the Thai-Burmese border and displaced Muslim Rohingya refugees on the Bangladesh-Burma border and Loring will describe Burma’s recent elections in 2010 and 2012.

9. Coming up on 50th Anniversary Calendar in 2013
- Jan. 23: Anniversary Film Series resumes with the musical-drama, The Overture (Thailand, 2004), 6 p.m. Room 110, Jack Arends Art Building. Other films are slated for
  - Feb. 13: Here Comes the Bride (Philippines, 2010), 6 p.m. Room 100, Campus Life Building;
  - March 6: The Lady (Burma, 2011), 6 p.m. Room 110, Art Building; April 17: Yes or No (Thailand, 2011), 6 p.m. Room 100, Campus Life.
- March 1: Asia scholar John Sidel presents 50th Anniversary Spring Lecture, “Republicanism, Communism, Islam: Cosmopolitan Origins of Revolution in Southeast Asia,” 3 p.m. Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center. To be followed immediately by CSEAS Alumni Anniversary Gathering, 5 p.m., also at Barsema.
- March 2: Exhibit talk by professor emeritus Richard Cooler, curator of “Rarely Seen Southeast Asia: Art, Artifact, Ephemera,” 10 a.m., Anthropology Museum. Morning refreshments provided. Later, A Celebration of Southeast Asian Performing Arts, 8 p.m., Boutell Memorial Concert Hall, followed by dessert and coffee.
- March 4: Opening of “50 Years of CSEAS and the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection” exhibit, Founders Memorial Library, 4 p.m. Light refreshments.
- March 5: CSEAS Anniversary Open House, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pottenger House, 520 College View Court. Refreshments and remembrances.

See CSEAS website for a calendar of 2012–13 anniversary events and click through 50 years of CSEAS history on our timeline on the home page.

10. NIU Thai Studies Committee offers awards for students, faculty
- Original paper: The Thai Studies Committee at NIU is announcing a $300 prize for an original research paper dealing with any aspect of Thai Studies and written by an NIU
student. The prize will be awarded at the Southeast Asia Club’s spring student conference **April 13** at which the winning paper must be presented. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 28.** Submissions should be sent as a PDF or Word document to CSEAS associate Grant Olson (foreign languages and literatures) at golson@niu.edu.

- **Advanced Thai language study:** Through the Royal Thai government’s Thai Teaching and Research Endowment Fund at NIU, the Thai Studies Committee will award two undergraduate academic-year scholarships. Each recipient is eligible to receive $500 per semester ($1,000 for the full year). Eligible undergraduates must be pursuing studies in Thai language, culture, history or politics. The study of advanced Thai language is a requirement, regardless of discipline. Applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and sufficient language standing to take advanced Thai. Applicants should submit a one-page statement of interest, letters of recommendation from the Thai language instructor and another faculty member, and a transcript. Award recipients are expected to participate in Thai Studies-focused events at NIU. **Deadline to apply: April 5.** Email to Chalermsee Olson at eteolson@niu.edu.

- **Faculty and student research travel:** Faculty and students are invited to apply for grants supporting projects and initiatives involving research and training in Thai Studies. Applications should include a concise description of the project’s purpose, a budget, and ways in which the funds would be used to advance Thai Studies. Applications will be accepted on **Feb. 28 and Sept. 30.** Send to Chalermsee Olson at eteolson@niu.edu.

11. **Area CSEAS conferences coming up in spring**

- **Ohio University, Athens, OH:** Ohio University’s Center for Southeast Asian Studies will host its 5th annual Khmer Studies Forum **March 15–17.** The forum’s theme is “Identity.” Email abstracts of one or two pages by **Jan. 15** to cseas@ohio.edu. A conference web page will soon be available on center website.

- **University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI:** UW-Madison’s Center for Southeast Asian Studies will co-host the 4th International Conference on Lao Studies **April 19–21** with the Center for Lao Studies, San Francisco. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts: Nov. 30. Early registration: Jan. 15.** For details, see conference website or call 608-263-1755.

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

- **Khmer Summer Abroad Programs, June 24–Aug. 2**
  The Khmer Language Program at the University of Hawaii-Manoa administers two summer abroad programs for Khmer language study in Phnom Penh. The **Advanced Study of Khmer** (ASK) program offers six weeks of intensive language training designed for third-year Khmer students. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 1.** The **Khmer Language and Culture** Summer Abroad Program offers six weeks of intensive training for beginning and intermediate students. **Deadline to apply: April 6.** Both programs are run by UH in collaboration with the Royal University of Phnom-Penh and the Center for Khmer Studies. Both programs include one-week home stays in rural Cambodia. For details, see program websites or email Chhany Sak-humphry at sak@hawaii.edu. No direct funding available, but students may apply for Gilman and Blakemore scholarships.

- **Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL), June 21–July 31**
  The San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies administers five-week study abroad program based at the Lao-American College with private instruction from the national
University of Laos. Some scholarship support is available. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** For details, see [program 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 receiving liability and insurance protection.

### 13. Money for study

**American Institute for Indonesian Studies**

- **Research grants:** $5,750 grants available for graduate and postdoctoral students pursuing research in Indonesia. Program funded by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Forms are available at [AIFIS website](#); for info, email [arkahin@yahoo.com](mailto:arkahin@yahoo.com) or contact CSEAS associate Michael Buehler (political science) at [mbuehler1@niu.edu](mailto:mbuehler1@niu.edu).

**Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships**

- **Undergraduate awards:** Applications are now being accepted for summer 2013 Gilman Scholarship Program for study abroad programs. Scholarships sponsored by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. **Deadline to apply: Jan. 15.** For details, see [program website](#).

**Blakemore Foundation**

- **Blakemore fellowships:** Applications now being accepted for 2013 Blakemore-Freeman fellowships and Blakemore refresher grants for advanced study of languages including Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 31.** For details, see [Blakemore Foundation](#) website.

**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 2013–14 programs, see the [Boren website](#). Boren awards are administered by the Institute of International Education. **Fellowship deadline to apply: Jan. 31. Scholarship deadline: Feb. 13.**

**Center for Khmer Studies**

- **Undergraduate fellowships:** Six-week summer junior resident fellowships in Siem Reap, Cambodia, available for five U.S., five Cambodian, and five French undergraduate students, June 24–Aug. 2. Partial stipend ($800) offered. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** See [CKS](#) website for details.

**Chulalongkorn University**

- **ENITS Scholarships:** Offered by Chulalongkorn University’s Institute of Thai Studies’ Project of Empowering Network for International Thai Studies in Bangkok for graduate students and young scholars working on Thai Studies or related disciplines. **Deadline to apply: Jan. 15.** For details see [program website](#).

**East-West Center**

- **Graduate degree fellowships:** Funding for graduate students to participate in residential, educational and research programs for 2013 at [East-West Center](#) while pursuing degree at University of Hawaii.

**Harvard University**

- **Indonesia Research Fellows 2013–14:** Harvard Kennedy School Indonesia Program offering fellowships to Indonesia researchers, academics, and practitioners to pursue
independent research at the Ash Center Aug. 2013 to June 2014. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 15.** See [program website](#) for details.

**Queen Mary University**

- **PhD scholarships:** Funding for students beginning doctoral studies September 2013 at QMU School of Politics and International Relations in suggested subject areas of civil society/social movements; political transition in Asia, critical approaches to theory of international relations; and practice of foreign policy and political theory and the history of ideas. **Deadline to apply: Jan. 31.** For details, email politics-pgresearch@qmul.ac.uk.

**University of Michigan**

- **Four-week library fellowship for Southeast Asian scholars:** Provides reimbursement for international airfare, research funds, stipends and housing for students affiliated with an education institution in Southeast Asia and pursuing research on any topic relevant to Southeast Asian Studies. Offered by University of Michigan CSEAS and Library. **Deadline to apply: May 31.** For details, see [UM-CSEAS website](#).

### 14. Job opportunities

**National University of Singapore**

- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Studies:** Candidates should have degree in anthropology with specialization in Southeast Asia, particularly the Philippines or insular SEA. Appointment to begin July 31, 2013. **Apply by Dec. 31.** For details, see the [NUS website](#).

**Weatherhead East Asian Institute**

- **2013–14 Postdoctoral Fellowship in Modern Southeast Asian Studies:** Ten-month appointment beginning Aug. 1 at Weatherhead Institute, Columbia University, New York. **Apply by Jan. 22.** For details, email Kim Palumbarit, Program Officer, at 212-854-9206 or kp2449@columbia.edu. For details, see program website.

**Yale University**

- **Postdoctoral Fellow, Inter-Asia Program:** Twelve-month appointment with possibility of six-month extension beginning no earlier than April 1 and no later than Sept. 1. Application review begins **Jan. 10.** See program website for details and submission information.

**Idealist.org**

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

### 15. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **12th International Graduate Student Conference on the Asia Pacific Region,** Feb. 14–16, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI. Limited number of travel grants available. For details, see conference website.

- **15th Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference,** March 1–3, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Call for papers based on original research related to Southeast Asia. **Abstracts due Jan. 10; final papers due Feb. 15.** All papers will be reviewed for submission to *Sojourn: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia*. For details, see conference website.
- **5th Khmer Studies Forum**, March 15–17, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts: Jan. 15.** Details to be posted soon on [center website](#).
- **Association for Asian Studies**, March 21–24, San Diego, CA. See the [conference website](#).
- **UCLA Indonesian Studies Conference**, April 13–14, Los Angeles, CA. Theme: Critical Histories of Activism: Indonesia’s New Order and its Legacies.” Call for papers. **Deadline: Jan. 7.** Participants with accepted papers will receive funding for transport and hotel accommodations. For details, email cseas@international.ucla.edu.
- **4th International Conference on Lao Studies**, April 19–21, University of Wisconsin-Madison. **Early registration deadline: Jan. 15.** For details on article submission and registration, see the [conference website](#) or call 608-263-1755.
- **(Re)Constructions: Researching and Rethinking Asia**, April 26–27, York University, Toronto Canada. York Centre for Asian Research Graduate Student Conference. Call for papers. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **5th South and Southeast Asian Association for the Study of Culture and Religion Conference**, May 16–19, Manila, the Philippines. Theme: Healing, Belief Systems, Cultures and Religions of South and Southeast Asia. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **8th International Convention for Asia Scholars (ICAS)**, June 24–27, Macao. See [conference website](#).
- **7th European Association of European Southeast Asian Studies (EuroSEAS) Conference**, July 2–5, School of Social and Political Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal. For details, see [EuroSEAS website](#).
- **Inter-Asian Connections IV**, Oct. 2–5, Istanbul. Four-day conference focused on reconceptualization of Asia as interconnected historical, geographical, and cultural formation stretching from the Middle East through Eurasia to South Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia. For details, see [conference website](#) or email interasia@ssr.org.
- **Council on Thai Studies**, Oct. 18–19, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. Save the date; call for papers forthcoming in 2013. **NEW**
- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. To request being added to the conference email list or for other information, email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au.

**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.**