Update on Burma today and NIU initiative

1. This week’s lecture: Myanmar/Burma roundtable
2. Center associates update: Luo, Olson, Hartmann
3. Kudos: Molnar, Lamb
4. Outreach update: Infusing SEA into Georgia colleges
5. Student/alumni news
6. Eighteen papers presented at spring student conference
7. Philippine Madrigal Singers to perform April 28 at Boutell
8. Summer Vietnam War course tops SEA course offerings
9. Burnish your resume with minor, grad concentration
10. Books for Indonesia at Chicago
11. Save the dates: Lectures, film, Asian American month
12. Job/internships opportunities
13. Money for study
14. Conferences and calls for papers
15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

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The next half-century for Southeast Asian Studies at NIU will offer exciting opportunities for teaching and learning about this rising region of the world. To keep NIU’s program strong, consider making a donation to CSEAS through the NIU Foundation. To contribute 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.” Within the pop-up box, designate your gift by selecting “a specific area,” then “university wide programs,” then “Center for Southeast Asian Studies.” All gifts, large and small, are greatly appreciated.
1. This week’s lecture: Myanmar/Burma roundtable

CSEAS’s spring Friday lecture series will end this week with a roundtable discussion of the current situation in Myanmar/Burma and an update on NIU’s involvement in rebuilding the higher education infrastructure there. The roundtable discussion will be led by Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond. The lecture will be at noon Friday, April 26, in Room 110 (Honors office), Campus Life Building. To order an Indonesian lunch, please submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at CSEAS Brown Bag Lunch Order. Orders must be cancelled online by 10 a.m. Friday. Cost is $5 for students and $6 for faculty, staff and others. Payments may be made in cash or by check. For info, e-mail seabrownbag@gmail.com.

2. Center associates update: Wei Luo, John Hartmann, Grant Olson

* Congratulations to Wei Luo (Geography), who was named a 2013 Presidential Research Professor last week and will receive the prestigious award during the annual Faculty Awards Ceremony and Reception beginning at 3 p.m. April 22 in the Altgeld Hall Auditorium. Luo’s research using geographic information systems, remote sensing, computer modeling, statistics has extended as far as Mars and as near as mainland Southeast Asia, where he has worked with associate John Hartmann (foreign languages and literatures) on analyzing how language spreads and evolves across time, space and cultures.

* John Hartmann (Foreign Languages and Literatures), just back from the International Lao Studies Conference in Madison, Wis., last weekend, will be presenting “The Expansiveness of SEASITE: A Tale of TAI (Technology Assisted Instruction) Solution to Learning Multiple Languages of Southeast Asia” at the annual National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOlCTL) conference this weekend, April 25–28, in Chicago. He also recently received an unexpected honor from the NIU Student Association, which awarded him the 2012–13 Student Choice President’s Award.

* An essay by Grant Olson (Foreign Languages and Literatures) on Southeast Asian literature appears in the 44th edition of *The Lincoln Library of Essential Information*, which devoted more than 175 of the book’s 2,000-plus pages to world literature. Olson’s nearly four pages contain an overview of SEA literature and subsections covering the spirit of Buddhist mainland literature and literatures of Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia. “With the word limitation they gave me, it was a bit like writing a haiku,” Olson says. “I am, however, quite pleased with the final outcome.” Olson’s contribution also includes his list of five essential SEA literary works: *The Ramayana* (in any of its Southeast Asian versions), *The
Tale Of Khun Chang Khun Phaen (translated and edited by Chris Baker and Pasuk Phongpaichit, published by Silkworm in 2010), The Malay Annals by Sejarah Melayu (c. 15th to 16th centuries), The Tale of Lady Kieu by Nguyen Du (early 19th century) and This Earth of Mankind (1980) by Pramoedya Ananta Toer.

3. Kudos: Molnar named Presidential Engagement Professor, Lamb receives SPS award

Anthropology professor and Southeast Asia specialist Andrea Molnar has been named a Presidential Engagement Professor, a prestigious honor that will be bestowed in the Faculty Awards ceremony April 22 in Altgeld Hall. A cultural anthropologist, Molnar’s research areas include East Timor, Indonesia, and Thailand. Six such professorships have been awarded since the honor’s inception in 2011. Congratulations, Andrea. . . . Kudos also to CSEAS Outreach Coordinator Julia Lamb, who received a 2013 Supportive Professional Staff (SPS) Certificate of Recognition at an April 16 SPS honors award ceremony. Lamb received the award in recognition of her work on the CSEAS 50th anniversary celebration this year.

4. Outreach update: Infusing SEA into Georgia college curricula

Assistant CSEAS Director Trude Jacobsen (History) and Outreach Coordinator Julia Lamb were off to Marietta, Georgia last week for a daylong faculty development and curriculum enrichment conference at Southern Polytechnic State University on April 13. Jacobsen co-directed the program with Raj Sashti, director of international program development at SPSU, while Lamb facilitated the program. The conference drew fifty faculty and staff from 11 community colleges and universities throughout Georgia, including SPSU, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Bainbridge College, Clayton State University, Dalton State College, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Highlands College, Georgia Perimeter College, Georgia Southwestern State University, Middle Georgia State College, and the University of North Georgia-Gainesville. In her presentations Jacobsen discussed putting Southeast Asia into context and globalizing for the future, and also outlined approaches to integrating Southeast Asia into social science, humanities, education and business curricula. Lamb gave an overview of SEA teaching and learning resources. Sashti discussed cultural aspects of doing business in the region. The conference program was one of an SPSU series aimed at introducing new ways of internationalizing course offerings and programs. “They really appreciated us being there!” Lamb said.
6. Eighteen papers presented at spring student conference

The papers were judged, the podium was prepped and the presenters had polished their Power Points for the Southeast Asia Club’s Spring Student Conference Saturday morning, April 13, in Room 315 Altgeld Hall. CSEAS graduate assistant Nicole Loring, who had spent months coordinating abstracts, paper reviews and conference logistics, took up her position near the podium to serve as time judge. The daylong annual conference drew approximately thirty people, including eighteen presenters whose topics ranged from water scarcity in the Mekong River subregion and foreign policy in Indonesia to pirates in maritime Malaysia and music identity in Vietnam. The presentations were divided into five panels: Domestic and Foreign Policy;

Growth and Development; Identity, Kinship and Conflict; Power, Nations and Institutions; and Arts and Music. Faculty present included Kenton Clymer, Eric Jones, Judy Ledgerwood, Andrea Molnar and Trude Jacobsen.

University of Michigan political scientist Allen Hicken gave the keynote address: “The Weakest Link? A Necessary Evil? Political Parties, Growth and Development in Southeast Asia.” Glynnis White (undergraduate, Music Education) and Scott Abel (PhD student, History) won the awards for best undergraduate and graduate papers respectively. CSEAS thanks Allen Hicken for graciously staying the entire day and extends its congratulations to all of the presenters. For more pictures, see the Center’s Facebook page.

5. Student/alumni news: Dissertation defended, honor awarded, research pursued

Congratulations to CSEAS teaching assistant Coral Carlson who has passed her dissertation and will receive her PhD in History at May graduation ceremonies. The title of her dissertation is “Tin Dreams: Place, People, and Product in Colonial Pahang.” . . . Malay graduate assistant Jocelyn Sim (MA candidate, English) received a 2013 Outstanding Women Award from the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women in ceremonies April 21 in the Holmes Student Center’s Regency Room. . . . Undergraduate Ron Leonhardt (History and Political Science) presented a paper, “Of the Superpowers’ Making: How the Tripolarity of the International System Primed Cambodia for Genocide, 1953–1979,” at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, held April 11–13 at the University of Wisconsin-La Cross. He was among ten students from NIU participating in the program. . . . Undergraduate Guide Sobecki, who will
receive his BA in Communications and Sociology with a double minor in Chinese/Japanese and Southeast Asian studies in May, is going on for a master’s degree in public administration focusing on nonprofit and nongovernmental organizational management. Sobecki is pursuing a dual-degree MPA with Khon Kaen University in Thailand, a new option in the Division of Public Administration. . . . Alumnus Ryan Keller (MA anthropology, 2012) reports that he is enjoying his three-year research scholarship at the University of Auckland in New Zealand, where he is pursuing PhD studies and research focusing on food security and the Goroka fresh food market in Papua New Guinea. He will be traveling to his research site in August and will be there for nine months, the first of two nine-month stints there. . . . Correction: CSEAS grad assistant Nicole Loring has been named Outstanding Political Science Graduate Student by the Graduate School, not the Political Science Department as reported in the last bulletin.

7. Philippine Madrigal Singers to perform April 28 at Boutell
The Philippine Madrigal Singers from the University of the Philippines will perform from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday, April 28, in Boutell Memorial Concert Hall. The award-winning 22-voice choir performs a wide repertoire: renaissance music, classical music, Filipino and international folk songs, contemporary and avant-garde pieces, opera, and popular music. As madrigal singers, they perform while seated in a semi-circle without a conductor. The concert is sponsored by the Asian American Center as part of its Asian American Heritage Month activities throughout the month of April. CSEAS is a co-sponsor. For details, call 815-752-1177.

8. Summer Vietnam War and Women in Asian History courses top SEA course offerings
Two summer courses—one on the Vietnam War, HIST 469, taught by Center associate Eric Jones (History) and the other on women in Asian history, HIST 346, taught by History PhD candidate Coral Carlson—top the list of summer/fall Southeast Asian Studies course offerings now posted on the Center website. In fall, Southeast Asia language and literature classes on the list include Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Tagalog and Thai, in addition to Chinese. Fall anthropology classes include ANTH 422/522, Gender in Southeast Asia (Judy Ledgerwood); ANTH 304/790, Muslim Cultures in Anthropological Perspectives (Andrea Molnar); and ANTH 491/628, Current Topics in Anthropology: Religion and Cosmology in Southeast Asia (Andrea Molnar). The Geography department will offer GEOG 408/508, Tropical Environmental Hazards (Mace Bentley) and History will offer HIST 448, History of Indonesia (Eric Jones). Political Science classes include POLS 362, Politics of Developing Areas (Kheang Un) and POLS 665, Origins of Political Order (Michael Buehler). CSEAS will offer its Southeast Asia survey course, ILAS 225, Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World (instructor of record, Judy Ledgerwood), in addition to an online course, ILAS 490, Southeast Asia through Film and Literature (Rhodalyne Gallo-
Students interested in learning to play gamelan may sign up for MUSE 370/670, Gamelan I, an ensemble class open to music majors and to non-music majors with School of Music consent. All of these courses can be applied toward SEA Studies minors/contract majors or graduate concentrations.

9. Burnish your resumé: Sign up for SEA Studies minor or grad concentration
Adding a minor to an undergraduate degree or a graduate concentration to an advanced degree can pull a resumé up to the top of the pile. To learn about NIU’s Southeast Asian Studies programs, visit the CSEAS website or stop by Pottenger House, 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julie Lamb at jlamb@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Trude Jacobsen at tjacobsen1@niu.edu.

10. Books for Indonesia at Chicago: Student collecting volumes for charitable project
Rahmi Hartati (EdD student) is conducting a book drive for a Chicago-based nonprofit organization, Books for Indonesia, which collects books from schools, libraries, and individuals to be redistributed in remote areas of Indonesia. The group is looking for fiction and non-fiction books for readers young and old, Hartati said. Books may be sent directly to the group at: Books for Indonesia, in care of Ira Raichandani, 1930 Gunderson, Berwyn, IL 60402. Hartati is also willing to pick up local donations; email her at rhartati1@niu.edu. For more details about the group, see Books for Indonesia on Facebook or email BooksForIndonesia@gmail.com.

11. Save the dates: Lectures, film, concerts, Asian American month
- **Through May 5**: Asian American Month. See activities schedule online.
- **May 1**: Last day to see “Our Unraveled Tapestry: A Celebration of Commonalities in Material Culture Amongst Insular Southeast Asia, Madagascar and Oceania” by anthropology graduate student Anthonie Tumpag, Stevens Building lobby.
- **May 15**: Last day to see 50th Anniversary exhibit, “Rarely Seen Southeast Asia: Art, Artifact, Ephemera,” curated by Richard Cooler, NIU Anthropology Museum.

12. Job/internships opportunities
**Asia Society**
- **Career opportunities**: Internships and jobs posted regularly on website.

**Cascade Asia Advisors**
- **Part-time senior analyst**: Seattle-based research and consulting firm seeking analyst to contribute to firm’s Southeast Asia Report. PhD candidate or MA degree holder with experience living in Southeast Asia preferred. Job location negotiable. Send resume and cover letter to info@cascadeasia.com. See company website for details.

**Chadron State College**
- **History faculty**: Tenure-track position at this Nebraska college. **Deadline to apply**: April 25. See job listing on H-Net.

**Freedom House**
- **Southeast Asia intern**: Four- to six-month position open to BA in political science, international relations or Southeast Asian Studies. See website for details.

**Indoteach**
K-12 teaching positions: Singapore-based organization seeks native English speakers to teach wide range of subjects from math to sociology in English. Teaching credentials preferred but not required. **Apply by April 30.** See [website](#).

KITLV (Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies)

- **Junior postdoctoral researcher:** One-year position starting in August or September. Affinity with new digital tools and research methods preferred. **Apply by May 1.** For details, email Professor Henk Schulte Nordholt at schultenordholt@kitlv.nl.

Kroll Advisory Solutions

- **Full-time and part-time internships:** Immediate openings in the company’s Washington, D.C., Research Center for candidates with Indonesia language and travel experience. See company [job board](#) for details.

World Health Organization

- Global public health nonprofit based in Geneva, Switzerland, encourages online applications for potential employment. See [WHO website](#).

Idealist.org

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

13. Money for study

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](#).

East-West Center, Hawaii

- **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.

University of Leeds

- **Post-graduate Thai Studies research scholarships:** Funded by Royal Thai Embassy, London, for three 2013–14 scholarships at Leeds School of Modern Languages and Cultures with six months of field work in Thailand. Begins October 2013. **Deadline to apply:** July 1. For details, see [Leeds website](#).

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 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. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **1st International Conference on Southeast Asian Archaeology,** May 7–10, Burapha University, Thailand. For details, email spafa@seameo-spafa.org or see [conference website](#).

- **5th South and Southeast Asian Association for the Study of Culture and Religion Conference,** May 16–19, Manila. Theme: Healing, Belief Systems, Cultures and Religions of South and Southeast Asia. See [conference website](#).
8th International Convention for Asia Scholars (ICAS), June 24–27, Macao. See conference website.

Dynamics of Religion in Southeast Asia, June 26–29, University of Goettingen, Germany. For information, see conference website.

7th European Association of European Southeast Asian Studies (EuroSEAS) Conference, July 2–5, School of Social and Political Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal. See EuroSEAS website.

Indonesia Council Open Conference 2013, July 11–12, Hobart, Tasmania. Call for papers for multi-disciplinary conference at University of Tasmania. See conference website.

The Study of Southeast Asia Today: Dialogue at NUS, Aug. 14–16, Singapore. Call for papers for this inaugural conference organized by the National University of Singapore’s Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. For details, email Marcel Bandur at marcel@nus.edu.sg.

International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD), Aug. 22–23, Bangkok. See conference website or email info@icird.org.


6th International Indonesia Forum, Sept. 21–22, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Call for papers for this conference at Sunan Kalijaga University. See conference website.

Framing the Global, Sept. 26–28, Bloomington, Ind. Sponsored by the Indiana University Center for the Study of Global Change and Indiana University Press. For details, see conference website.

Inter-Asian Connections IV, Oct. 2–5, Istanbul. See conference website or email interasia@ssr.org.


Council on Thai Studies, Oct. 18–19, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. Call for papers posted at www.thaistudies.org. Send brief abstracts including contact information and institutional affiliation to golson@niu.edu. Deadline for abstracts: July 1; deadline to register: Sept. 20.

Framing ‘Asian Studies’: Geopolitics, Institutions and Networks, Nov. 18–19, Leiden, the Netherlands. Junior scholars encouraged to submit to this conference at the International Institute for Asian Studies. Deadline to submit: April 30. See conference website or email Dr. Albert Tzeng at a.tzeng.lias@gmail.com.

Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. Deadline for abstracts: Sept. 1. For details, see conference website or email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au.

15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

Chicago Friends of the Gamelan spring concert, featuring traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan pieces directed by guest artistic director Midiyanto, will be held at 4 p.m. May 4, Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago. For the second year, an original composition by Alex Yoffe will debut. Suggested donation is $15 for adults, $5 for students. For details, see Friends website or find the group on Facebook.
- “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.
- The Indonesian Consulate 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.

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