CSEAS Weekly Bulletin
Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • October 14, 2013

Distinguished alumnus Srisompob Jitpiromsri (PhD political science, 1997), director of the Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity at Prince of Songkla University in Thailand, will speak at 11:30 a.m. Friday at Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center, leading off this weekend’s Council on Thai Studies conference.

COTS returns to NIU this weekend

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Help CSEAS grow for next 50

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.” Your support is greatly appreciated.
1. NIU prepares to host Thai scholars at COTS conference this week

Nearly 80 Thai scholars from near and far will convene at Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center this weekend for the 41st Council on Thai Studies (COTS) conference. The conference will begin at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 18, with a talk by NIU alumnus Srisompob Jitpiromsri, director of the Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity at Prince of Songkla University in Pattani, Thailand. Jitpiromsri, who received his PhD in political science from NIU in 1997 and was named a 2013 Distinguished Alumni by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, will discuss “The Formation of Peace Discourse and the Politics of Recognition in the Patani Peace Process.” His talk will take the place of the Center’s regular Friday lecture. A buffet lunch will be served beginning at 11:30. After the lecture, conference registration will begin. The first panel, “Protest, Peace, and Integration,” moderated by Center associate Susan Russell (anthropology), is set for 2:15 to 3:45 pm in the Pollock Ballroom.

The conference will then move to the Holmes Student Center Gallery Lounge at 4:30 p.m. for the opening reception of the exhibition “Tai Studies at Northern Illinois University,” which will be on display through Saturday night. Curated by Center associate Catherine Raymond (School of Art), the exhibition contains art, artifacts, maps, and manuscripts from collections held by the Center for Burma Studies, the NIU Anthropology Museum, and the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection at Founders Library.

On Saturday conference activities begin with a welcome by conference chair and Center associate Grant Olson (foreign languages and literatures) at 8:45 a.m. and the first panel, North, Northeast and Local Knowledge, begins at 9 (see box for list of panels and times). Keynote speaker Duncan McCargo, University of Leeds professor of Southeast Asian politics, will present “Dispensing Justice? The Work of Thai Police Investigators” at 11:30 am, followed by lunch, a business meeting, and afternoon panels.

COTS was founded at NIU in 1972 as an informal organization of scholars interested in all aspects of Thai studies. Traditionally it is hosted by Midwest institutions engaged in Thai studies. COTS 2013 was organized by the Thai Studies Group at NIU: chair Grant Olson and Center associates John Hartmann (foreign languages and literatures), Julia Lamb (CSEAS), Andrea Molnar (anthropology), Chalermsee Olson (Founders Library), and Danny Unger (political science). Funding came from the NIU Thai Teaching and Research Fund (established

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**COTS topics**

- All panels at Pollock Ballroom, Barsema Alumni & Visitors Center
- **Friday**
  - Protest, Peace, and Integration
  - 2:15 to 3:45 pm
- **Saturday**
  - North, Northeast, and (Local) Knowledge
  - 9 to 10:30 am
  - Migrants
  - 10:45 to 11:30 am
  - Thai Art
  - 2:30 to 3:30 pm
  - Associations
  - 3:45 to 4:30 pm
  - Economies
  - 4:30 to 5:15 pm

[Full conference program link](#)
by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand) and by the Asia Foundation in Washington, D.C. with NIU support from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and CSEAS.

“COTS has steadily grown, but it has never lost sight of its roots,” said chair Grant Olson. “While the cosmology of COTS has expanded, recently including Athens (Ohio University) in 2012, it has remained a level-headed organization, never becoming too hierarchical or bureaucratic. We do not charge a registration fee, and, so far, due to the generosity of various groups, we have been able to provide excellent venues for interaction as well as sustenance for those attending. Our idea is: get here, relax, and interact. We believe that this ideal represents the ‘mood’ of Thailand.”

2. Student news: Visiting scholar arrives; Rotary student club launches

Zhang Hang, a visiting History doctoral student from Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou, China, will be at NIU for a year under the mentorship of CSEAS associate Kenton Clymer (history). Zhang’s dissertation focuses on the evolution of the relationship between the Philippines and the U.S. from 1961 to 1973 during the Vietnam War. Zhang, who received his master’s degree from the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Xiamen University in 2011, is funded by the China Scholarship Council, a government agency that provides scholarships to doctoral and postdoctoral students in China. Zhang says he is looking forward to using the research materials at Founders Memorial Library while he is at NIU...

NIU now has a Rotaract Club, a community and international service organization affiliated with Rotary International and sponsored by the DeKalb Rotary Club. Club officers are: Ron Leonhardt, president; Robert Bulanda, vice president; Isabelle Squires, treasurer; and Anna Kordek, secretary. Leonhardt says that the club will be working on several projects this year, including a fund-raising drive for Feed My Starving Children and an international project in conjunction with the Phnom Penh Rotary Club. For details, visit the club’s Facebook page. NEW

3. Southeast Asia Club hosts ‘noodles and a movie’ night this week

Forget the popcorn, for a Southeast Asianist nothing beats a good movie and a bowl of noodles. The Southeast Asia Club is hosting a Southeast Asian Noodle and Horror Movie Night from 5 to 7 pm Wednesday, Oct. 16, in 280 DuSable. Banish the midterm blues with noodle deliciousness and the 2008 Thai horror film, Coming Soon. Free.

4. Two days of Malaysian films set for Oct. 24-25

CSEAS is hosting contemporary Malaysian film director Mansor bin Puteh at NIU Oct. 24-25 to screen and discuss four of his film projects. The film screening schedule is as follows:

- Oct. 24, 6 pm: Seman: A Lost Hero (feature, 1990) and The Seventh Child (made-for-television movie)
- **Oct. 25, noon:** *The Residency Years* (documentary, 2009) and *Writing in the Sand . . . on How the Jasmine Revolution of the Arab Spring of 2011 Could Have Been Avoided* (documentary, 2011)

All four films will be shown in the Chandelier Room in Adams Hall. Admission is free.

5. **Campus groups organize fund-raiser for conflict-torn Zamboanga City**

In the wake of recent violence in Zamboanga City in the Philippines, thousands of people have been displaced from their homes. NIU’s Rotaract Club, the Asian American Center and Center associate Rhodalyne Gallo-Crail’s Tagalog language class have organized a fund-raising open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, **Oct. 29**, at the Asian American Center to help support emergency relief efforts in the city. Organizers are asking for a small donation for one bowl of rice and one cup of water to learn more about the situation in the southern Philippines.

6. **Not too early to be thinking about spending next summer in Southeast Asia**

![Study Abroad Thailand 2011 (Photo / Andrea Molnar)](image)

Examine NGOs in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam. Explore cultural diversity in Thailand. Experience Balinese music, dance and culture in Indonesia. Learn Lao language and culture in Laos. Conduct clinical research on hearing loss in Cambodia or environmental research on public health in Indonesia. There are more choices than ever to study abroad in Southeast Asia next summer. NIU faculty will lead five of six study abroad programs to SEA offered through NIU’s Study Abroad Office.

- **Trude Jacobsen** (History) will take a group **May 28–June 13** to Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam. A new program, the course will look at how “development policy is imagined, produced, and received (or resisted) across multiple cultural contexts,” Jacobsen says.

- **Jui-Ching Wang** (School of Music) will introduce Balinese music, dance, theatre, architecture and crafts **July 1–30** in her new program to Bali, Indonesia. “Students will experience these arts by interacting with the local people and gaining knowledge about the inseparable relationship of the arts, religion, and culture on Bali,” Wang says.

- **Andrea Molnar** (Anthropology) will reprise her 2012 program, “Cultural Diversity in Thailand,” **May 16–June 14** in Thailand. Molnar’s program will introduce students to Thai culture and diversity, and examine the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country.

- **Tomoyuki Shibata** (College of Health & Human Sciences) returns to Indonesia **June 1–21** to continue research activities on environmental factors and public health. Past program projects have examined the effect of indoor air quality or mothers’ behaviors on children’s health.
- King Chung (School of Allied Health & Communicative Disorders) is conducting a group **June 1–14** to Cambodia for “Heart of Hearing Program in Cambodia,” a program to help students develop their clinical skills by working with hearing-impaired individuals and helping facilitate local programs. Geared to audiology students.
- Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL), a program offered through the Center for Lao Studies in San Francisco and with credit from NIU, will run **June 27–July 31**. Based in Vientiane, Laos, the program offers students language and cultural lessons as well as exposure to Lao history and culture.

### 7. Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs coming up

Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich., will be the site of the 62nd Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs **Oct. 25–27**. Center associate Trude Jacobsen (NGOLD/history) will lead and present on the panel “The Past in Burma’s (Gendered) Present: Historicizing Intersectionality in Myanmar.” Associate Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music) is presenting “Do I Sound Chinese Now? A Musical and Cultural Analysis of Students’ Learning Experience in the Northern Illinois University Chinese Music Ensemble.” Conference registration, which includes Saturday evening banquet and one-year MCAA membership, is $65 for students; $85 for others. For details, see conference website.

### 8. Call for papers: International Burma Studies Conference 2014

The 2014 International Burma Studies Conference is being convened **Aug. 1–3** in Singapore by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and the National University of Singapore’s Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The conference theme of the conference is “Envisioning Myanmar: Issues, Images, Identities.” Conference organizers are accepting proposals for individual papers or whole panels; deadline for submission is **Dec. 31**. Email to bsc2014@iseas.edu.sg. For preliminary details, see the conference website.

### 9. Save the dates: Graduate and Professional School Fair at Duke Ellington Ballroom

- **Oct. 15**: Graduate and Professional School Fair, 10 am to 2 pm, Duke Ellington Ballroom, Holmes Student Center.
- **Oct. 24–25**: Malaysian film fest sponsored by CSEAS. 6 pm Thursday, noon Friday, Chandelier Room, Adams Hall. See separate item for list of films.
- **Nov. 11–15**: International Education Week sponsored by the Division of International Programs. Plans related to Southeast Asia include a lecture by an Islamic banking expert from Malaysia and an international careers event **Nov. 12**, and a keynote lecture on colonial Burma by Rutgers University historian Chie Ikeya **Nov. 15**.

### 10. Burnish your résumé: 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 résumé 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 Jacobsen Wang.
Outreach Coordinator Julie Lamb at jlamb@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Eric Jones at eajones@niu.edu.

11. Call for undergrad papers at Grinnell peace studies conference
The Grinnell College Peace Studies Program is seeking undergraduate paper submissions for its Feb. 28–March 1 conference. Papers should address peace and conflict studies from the science, social science or humanities perspective. Suggested topics include but are not limited to environmental conflict, the role of social media in effecting change, interfaith dialogue, mediation, economic development and peacebuilding, and international conflicts. Deadline for abstracts is Dec. 20. Final papers will be due Feb. 7. Registration for the conference is free. For details, see the conference website.

12. American Institute for Indonesian Studies fellowships available
The Jakarta-based American Institute for Indonesian Studies is actively seeking applications for its research grants for scholars and graduate and postdoctoral students. $5,000 Henry Luce Foundation grants are available for American and Indonesian scholars in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. Deadline to apply: Oct. 31. $5,750 Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) grants are available to graduate students and postdocs for research in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. Deadline to apply: Dec. 15. Forms for both grant programs are at the AIFIS website.

13. Job/internships opportunities

El Colegio de Mexico
- **Assistant Professor**: Tenure-track position in Southeast Asian social science; fluency in one Southeast Asian language and Spanish required (Indonesian or Malay encouraged). **Apply by Jan. 14.** Contact Dr. Hilda Varela Barraza, director Centro de Estudios de Asia y Africa, El Colegio de Mexico, Camino al Ajusco 20, Mexico D.F. 10740, Mexico.

Eurasia Group
- **Political risk analyst (Southeast Asia)**: In-country experience (priority Thailand-Philippines) desired for position based in New York or Washington. See job posting.

University of Ohio
- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian History**: Tenure-track position. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 1.** For details, see job posting.

University of Utah
- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian History**: Tenure-track position. **Deadline to apply: Nov. 8.** For details, see job posting.

Asia Society
- **Career opportunities**: Internships and jobs posted regularly on website.

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.
14. Money for study

American Institute for Indonesian Studies

- **Research grants for scholars:** $5,000 Henry Luce Foundation grants available for American and Indonesian scholars in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. **Deadline to apply:** Oct. 31. Forms available at [AIFIS website](http://www.aifis.org).
- **Research grants for graduate students, postdocs:** $5,750 Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) grants available for research in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. **Deadline to apply:** Dec. 15. Forms at [AIFIS website](http://www.aifis.org).

Blakemore Foundation

- **Advanced language study:** Grants for study of Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Thai and Vietnamese by scholars and mid-career professionals. Applications for the 2014 Blakemore Freeman fellowships and Blakemore refresher grants are now being accepted. Awards cover cover tuition and stipend, educational expenses, living costs and transportation. For more information, see the [Blakemore Foundation website](http://www.blakemorefoundation.org). **Deadline to apply:** Dec. 30. NEW

Boren Awards

- **Foreign language study grants:** Applications open for 2014–15 Boren scholarships (for undergraduates) and fellowships (for graduate students) are now available on the [Boren website](http://www.borenawards.org). Undergraduate awards up to $20,000 for an academic year’s study abroad; $30,000 awards for graduate students. For application help, see Anne Seitzinger at Study Abroad, 417 Williston Hall (email aseitz@niu.edu). **Graduate fellowship applications due Jan. 28; undergraduate scholarship applications due Feb. 5.** NEW

Center for Khmer Studies

- **Fellowships:** Applications open for PhD students and senior scholars to conduct research in Cambodia. PhD fellowships are for a maximum of 11 months; senior scholar fellowships are for 4 to 6 months. Open to U.S. citizens only. See [CKS website](http://www.ckstudies.org).

Chulalongkorn University Institute of Thai Studies

- **Thai studies scholarships:** Empowering Network for International Thai Studies (ENITS) scholarships for master’s graduates or doctoral students in Thai studies. Both scholarships require submission of original unpublished research by April 30. **Deadline to apply:** Dec. 25. See [ENITS website](http://enits.chula.ac.th).

Council of American Overseas Research Centers

- **Research fellowship:** Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program offers support in humanities, social sciences or allied natural sciences for doctoral candidates and post-doc scholars. Research must be carried out in two more countries outside of U.S. Funding provided by U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. **Deadline to apply:** Jan. 13. See [CAORC website](http://www.caorc.org).

East-West Center

- **Graduate fellowships:** Applications for 2014 fellowships now being accepted. Fellowships run up to 24 months. **Application due:** Nov. 1. See [East-West website](http://www.east-west.org).

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

- **Visiting fellowship:** ISEAS invites applications for postdoctoral fellowship in Indonesia studies, starting January 2014. **Application due:** Oct. 15. See [ISEAS website](http://www.iseas.edu.sg).

National University of Singapore/Stanford University

- **Fellowship:** Applications are open for 2014 Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford Distinguished Fellowship on Southeast Asia. Open to all nationalities with backgrounds
or positions in the social sciences or humanities. Fellowship provides travel and stipend for one month at NUS and one to three months at Stanford writing or researching contemporary Southeast Asia. See fellowship website.

15. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops
- **New Research in Southeast Asian History**, Oct. 18–19, Yale University, New Haven, CT. Inaugural graduate student conference. See conference website.
- **Constructing Southeast Asia**, Oct. 23–24, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. Organized by the Center for Southeast Asian Social Studies at Gadjah Mada. See conference website or email coconsea@gmail.com.
- **East Winds Symposium: East and Southeast Asian Cinema on the Global Stage**, Nov. 2–3, Coventry University, UK. Call for papers. See conference website. NEW
- **Framing ‘Asian Studies’: Geopolitics, Institutions and Networks**, Nov. 18–19, Leiden, the Netherlands. See conference website.
- **Oxford Women’s Leadership Symposium**, Dec. 5–6, Oxford University, UK. Call for papers. Cultural, religious, social, and economic conditions topics. See symposium website. NEW
- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. See conference website.
- **Society for Economic Anthropology Conference**, April 24–26, Austin, Texas. Call for papers. Abstracts due: Nov. 1. See conference website. NEW

16. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities
- “Siam: The Queen and the White City” is on display in the Costume and Textile gallery at the Chicago History Museum. The exhibition features textiles, photographs and other items from Thailand that were collected by Queen Savang Vadhana for display in the exposition’s Women’s Building. Through March 2. For details, see the museum website.
- Learn about the history of Laotian immigration to Elgin, which began in the 1970s at the Vietnam War, in long-running exhibit at the Elgin Area Historical Society and Museum, 360 Park St., Elgin.
- “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. Javanese gamelan and dance is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays; gamelan music and Indonesian dance is offered 3 to 6 p.m. Sundays. 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.