CSEAS Weekly Bulletin
Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Week of February 16, 2015

Lunar New Year shines this week

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**Burnish your resumé**
Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to an undergraduate degree or a graduate certificate to an advanced degree and pull your resumé to the top of the pile. To learn more, visit the [CSEAS website](http://www.cseas.niu.edu) or stop by CSEAS at 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig at [ehrenkonig@niu.edu](mailto:ehrenkonig@niu.edu); graduate students should contact Assistant Director Eric Jones at [iloveroti@gmail.com](mailto:iloveroti@gmail.com).
1. This week’s lecture: University of Wisconsin-Madison historian Anne Hansen will present “Religion-making and Religious Others in Colonial Cambodia” at noon Friday, **Feb. 20**, in Room 110 (Honors), Campus Life Building. Hansen received her PhD from Harvard University and is the author of *How to Behave: Buddhism and Modernity in Colonial Cambodia, 1860–1930* (University of Hawai‘i Press, 2007). To order an Indonesian lunch, 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 (cash preferred). For lunch details or questions, e-mail **seabrownbag@gmail.com**. For a complete spring lecture schedule, see the **Center website**.

2. Precious cargo: Burma Art Collection pieces travel to Asia Society exhibition

![Asia Society personnel uncrate a piece (an ogre or bilu) from the Burma Art Collection upon its arrival in New York.](Photo / Catherine Raymond)

Earlier this month, CSEAS associate Catherine Raymond, director of the Center for Burma Studies, had the rare privilege of accompanying 10 pieces from the NIU Burma Art Collection to New York City to be part of a groundbreaking exhibition by the Asia Society. The exhibit, “Buddhist Art of Myanmar,” opened on **Feb. 10**. In the works since 2012 after Burma began reopening to the world in 2009, the exhibit is the first in the West featuring art on loan from collections in Myanmar. Some of the 70 pieces on display, including sculptures, textiles, paintings, and lacquer ritual implements, date back more than 1,600 years and have never left Myanmar before now, according to Raymond. NIU’s contributions include four sculptures, three textiles, one box, one food cover and one manuscript. Taken together the exhibit’s pieces open a window into how Buddhist narratives have been visualized through the centuries across Myanmar’s different regions. The exhibit, which was favorably reviewed in the **Feb. 13 New York Times**, will be on display at the Asia Society, 725 Park Ave., in New York through **May 10**. For more behind-the-scenes details about the exhibit, see the **Asia Society** website.

3. Earn while you learn: New undergrad funding opportunities

- **Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP)**: The Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning is accepting applications for this new eight-week full-time program, which offers the opportunity to complete paid faculty-mentored research. The program runs...
June 15–Aug. 7, provides room and board on campus, and a $3,500 stipend. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors. For details, see program website.

- **Undergraduate Student Engagement Fund**: Need travel money for a conference, a stipend to work on a faculty-mentored research project, or funding to help pay for a study abroad program? A new fund has been established by the Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to provide funding for undergraduates for just such activities. Students in good academic standing may apply on their own behalf or faculty may apply on behalf of a student. Awards range from $250 to $2,500. The deadline to apply for summer and fall 2015 funds has been extended to **Feb. 23**. The deadline for spring 2016 funds is **Oct. 1**. For details, see program website.

### 4. Deadlines approach for summer study in SEA

Interested in learning more about Southeast Asia, immersing yourself in a language or getting study-abroad college credit? **Get thee to Southeast Asia.** CSEAS associates Andrea Molnar (Anthropology) and Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music) are actively recruiting for their study abroad programs in Thailand and Bali, with application deadlines in March and April. NIU also sponsors Summer Study Abroad in Laos with the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies. Apply through NIU’s Study Abroad Office in 417 Williston (email niuabroad@niu.edu or phone 815-753-0700). Some partial travel funding is available; contact the Study Abroad office for details. **Deadline to apply for the Study Abroad Travel Grant** is **April 1**. Program information is also available at CSEAS.

- Molnar’s program, **Cultural Diversity in Thailand**, is set for **June 8–July 3**. It will introduce students to Thailand’s diverse cultural groups and explore the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. **Deadline to apply: March 16**. For more information, see the program’s Facebook page. Scholarships available from NIU Thai Studies Committee (see item 6 below).

- Wang’s program, **Experiencing the Arts in Bali**, will take students to a village location in Bali, Indonesia **July 4–25** to learn about Balinese music, dance, theater, architecture, art and crafts. For more information see the program’s Facebook page. **Deadline to apply: April 15**.

- NIU also sponsors **Summer Study Abroad in Laos** (SAIL), a five-week Lao language and culture program **June 27–July 31**, in cooperation with the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies. Learn Lao language, history and culture. **Deadline to apply: April 1**.

### 5. Thai Studies Committee offers grants for Thailand study abroad program

The NIU Thai Studies Committee invites undergraduate and graduate students to apply for two $1,500 scholarships to be applied to CSEAS associate Andrea Molnar’s **June 8–July 3** study abroad program to Thailand. Submit one-page statement addressing academic interest in Thai studies, letter of support from Molnar, letter of recommendation, and either a transcript (for undergraduates) or an explanation of graduate work progress from program advisor (for graduate
students). Funding is through the Thai Teaching and Research Fund administered by the NIU Foundation. Email to CSEAS associate Chalermsee Olson at eteolson@niu.edu by March 16.

6. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

- **Advanced Study of Khmer, June 15–July 24.** Ten Fulbright-Hays fellowships available to qualified applicants for six-week intensive language program at the Royal University of Phnom Penh. Administered by the University of Hawaii-Manoa. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 27.** See [program website](#) or email Chhany Sak-humphry at sak@hawaii.edu.

- **US-Indonesia Society Summer Language Study, June 2–July 25.** Ten-week intensive program at Gadjah Mada University in Yogyyakarta. Admissions based on availability of program funding. **Deadline to apply: March 31.** For details, see [website](#).

Note: Students 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.

7. Call for papers: SEA Club Spring Student Conference

There’s still time to submit abstracts for the Southeast Asia Club’s 2015 spring student conference, which will be held Saturday, **April 25,** in Room 315 Altgeld. Papers may be submitted on any topic pertaining to Southeast Asia; email [niuseaclub@gmail.com](mailto:niuseaclub@gmail.com). Abstracts will be accepted through March 6. The conference theme is “Identity Narratives” and the keynote speaker will be University of California-Berkeley historian and Cambodian specialist **Penny Edwards,** author of *Cambodge: The Cultivation of a Nation* (1860–1945) (University of Hawai’i Press, 2007). Awards will be given for best undergraduate and graduate papers.

8. April World Music Symposium includes SEA forum, music concert

The NIU Music Building will be resonating with the sounds of world music **April 9–11** when the 2015 World Music Symposium: *From the Exotic to the Global* takes place. Music educators, ethnomusicologists, composers, performers and interdisciplinary scholars are invited to attend. The third day of the conference will feature a Teaching Southeast Asia Performing Arts Forum (with funding provided for community college educators to attend). The symposium, organized by CSEAS associate Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music), honors Kuo-Huang Han, music professor emeritus and founder of the NIU Gamelan Ensemble, and marks the 40th anniversary of the world music program at NIU. The program concludes with the annual World Music concert, which will include Balinese gamelan, marching gamelan, Thai folk music, and ancient Chinese music. The symposium and performance are generously funded by the CSW Foundation, and the **NIU Gamelan Ensemble, which will perform April 11 at the World Music Concert, gives a workshop to 80 participants Jan. 30 at the Illinois Music Education Association Conference in Peoria.**
music and the NIU Chamber Choir performing an Indonesian folk song, at 3 p.m. in Boutell Hall. For information, email jcwang@niu.edu or see the [symposium website](#).

9. **Save the dates**: Study Abroad Fair, Lunar New Year, student conference NEW

- **Feb. 19**: Southeast Asia Club Lunar New Year Celebration, 6 to 8 p.m., Cole Hall lobby.
- **Feb. 19**: Author and humanitarian Carl Wilkins shares his experience in Rwanda during the genocide there, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Skyroom, Holmes Student Center. Sponsored by NIU Student-Led Anti-Genocide Coalition and others. NEW
- **Feb. 20**: “Telling Your Story with a Purpose,” workshop with humanitarian Carl Wilkens, 9 to 11 a.m., Room 100, Campus Life. NEW
- **April 9–11**: Teaching World Music Symposium, NIU School of Music.
- **April 11**: World Music Concert, 3 p.m., Boutell Hall.
- **Through May**: “Curated by DeKalb: 50 Years of the Anthropology Museum,” 50th anniversary exhibition including SEA artifacts. Admission free.

10. **Money for study**

*Weatherhead East Asia Institute*

- **Postdoc fellowship in Southeast Asian Studies**: Applications being accepted for 2015-16 fellowship through the Dorothy Borg Research Program, “The United States and Southeast Asia: Past Legacies, Present Issues and Future Prospects,” at the Columbia University-based institute in New York City. **Deadline to apply**: Feb. 25. Contact Laura Lechner, Student Affairs Coordinator at weaipostdocs@gmail.com.

*University of Leeds (U.K.)*

- **Thai Studies research scholarships**: Three scholarships (approximately $18,000 each) offered by the university’s School of Languages, Cultures and Societies for graduate students to undertake field research in Thailand. **Deadline to apply**: June 26. See [website](#).

*Center for Khmer Studies*

- **Khmer Language and Culture Study Program**: Six-week study abroad, June 16–July 24, at Royal University of Phnom Penh for undergraduates, post-graduates, and faculty. Funding for tuition and some program costs available for up to eight participants. Administered by the University of Hawai’i. **Deadline to apply**: Feb. 27. See [website](#).

*Harvard Kennedy School*

- **Indonesia Research Fellowships**: For Indonesian PhD students, post-docs, and practitioners, appointments run Aug. 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016. **Deadline to apply**: March 13. See [website](#).

*Smithsonian Institution*

- **Summer Institute Fellowships**: Intensive program for graduate students in cultural anthropology. June 22–July 17. Funding covers room, board, and tuition. Housing and small stipend also provided. **Deadline to apply**: March 1. See [website](#).

*Rotary International*

- **Rotary Peace Fellowships**: Fully paid fellowships for master’s degree study offered at six universities worldwide. **Deadline to apply for 2016 fellowships**: July 2015. See [website](#).
11. Job/internship opportunities

USINDO
- **Program Associate/Editor/Executive Assistant**: Full-time position with US-Indonesia Society in Washington DC. For information, email dmerrill@usindo.org or call 202-232-1400. Position posted on USINDO website.

Room to Read
- **Positions open**: San Francisco-based organization that helps develop literacy skills among primary and secondary school students. Asia Regional Director (based in Asia) and Country Operations for Southeast Asia (based in Cambodia, Laos or Vietnam). See website.

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

Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- Jobs listed under Opportunities tab of ASEAN website.

Devex: Do Good. Do It Well
- International aid and development jobs in 1,000 agencies, companies and NGOs in 100 countries. See website.

DevMetJOBS.org
- International development jobs and consulting opportunities. See website.

Hess International Educational Group
- **Teach English across Asia**: Taiwan-based organization offers free training, benefits, and flex scheduling. Email NIU alum Derek Wright at derek.wright@hess.com.tw or see website.

Idealist.org
- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. See the Idealist website.

ReliefWeb
- Specialized digital service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs that posts jobs regularly. See website.

World Health Organization
- Global health agency in the United Nations System encourages online applications for potential employment. See WHO website.

12. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **Mon Society and Culture Program**, March 18–24, Yangon, Myanmar. Sponsored by SEAMEO Regional Centre for History and Tradition. Includes five-day field trip to Mon State. For details, email seameo_chat@mptmail.net.mm.
- **Artistic Inventions: Histories, Cartographies and Politics in Asia**, March 30–31, Hong Kong Baptist University. See conference website.
- Hmong National Development Conference, April 17–19, Crowne Plaza Intercontinental, St. Paul, MN. See conference website. NEW
- AAS-in-Asia, June 22–24, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. Theme: Asia in Motion: ideas, Institutions, Identities. See conference website.
- International Convention of Asia Scholars 9, July 5–9, Adelaide, Australia. See conference website.
- 5th International Conference on Lao Studies, July 8–10, Thammasat University, Bangkok. See conference website.
- 4th International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD), July 9–10, Mahidol University, Salaya, Thailand. Call for abstracts and panel proposals. Deadline: March 30. See conference website.
- EuroSEAS 2015, Aug. 11–14, University of Vienna, Austria. See conference website.
- NUS/ARI Workshop: International Medical Travel and the Politics of Transnational Mobility in Asia, Aug. 26–27, National University of Singapore Asia Research Institute. Call for papers. Partial or full travel funding available. Deadline: March 31. See website.

13. Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- Battle of the Bamboo 2015, 12th annual Filipino Cultural Dance Competition sponsored by the Filipinos in Alliance at the University of Illinois-Chicago, 4:30 p.m. Feb. 21, UIC Forum, 725 W. Roosevelt Road. NIU’s Kilusan group of 20 dancers from the Philippine Student Association is among the nine college and high school groups competing. Admission $8. For details, see Filipinos in Alliance UIC website. NEW
- Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute of Chicago offers classes in Thai language, dance and music among other programs. See website for details or phone 312-725-0640. NEW
- “Curated by DeKalb: 50 Years of the Anthropology Museum,” on display at the NIU Anthropology Museum through the 2014–15 academic year. The exhibit features items from the museum’s collection of ethnographic and archeological objects, many from SEA, chosen by members of the NIU and local communities. Museum hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Admission free.
- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit 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 Javanese gamelan and dance is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays; gamelan music and Indonesian dance 3 to 6 p.m. Sundays. Free Indonesian language lessons also offered. See consulate website.
Persons with a disability who need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact Office Manager Rita Miller at 815-753-1771 or ram@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, reply to this e-mail with request to remove your name. Please specify your name or organization with which this mailing is linked. Thank you.

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