SEAYLP 2015 wraps up in front of the White House during their three-day trip to Washington before returning home April 26.

Winding down SEAYLP, spring semester

The spring lecture series has concluded; join us again in fall for our next round of Friday brownbags

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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 or stop by CSEAS at 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig at ehrenkonig@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Eric Jones at iloveroti@gmail.com.
1. SEAYLP week 3: Goodbye NIU, hello nation’s capital, then home

After a week of visiting local schools among other programs, a warm spring weekend April 17–19 heralded the Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program’s second Global Youth Leaders Camp, which brings SEAYLP and American students together to promote leadership and cultural understanding. This year the camp was held at Camp Kupugani near Oregon, Ill. Twelve area students joined the 61 SEAYLP participants for a weekend of team-building and nature activities before returning to the Holmes Student Center Sunday, April 19, for the program’s all-hands Southeast Asia Cultural Night community event in Sandburg Auditorium. Every country group, most dressed in traditional clothing, took the spotlight to sing or dance on the Sandburg stage. The Philippines group, all of whom hail from typhoon-ravaged Tacloban City, gave a moving spoken-word presentation about overcoming adversity. After the country groups took their turn, the GYLC campers surprised everyone on stage leading participants and audience members in the “Cha-Cha Slide,” a popular elementary school dance. The camp kicked off the program’s last two days at NIU. Participants
presented their country civic action plans April 20 and 21. Plans included the Brunei group’s Kutani Project to raise the awareness of poverty in their country, the Vietnam group’s Hands in Hands program to encourage the use of environmentally friendly trash bags, the Laos group’s Young Elephant initiative to provide a summer primary school program in environmental, sanitation and general education, and the Philippines group’s Project S.H.I.E.L.D. (Safety, Hope, Integrity, Education, Love and Dedication) to promote disaster-preparedness through information campaigns in the Philippines. The NIU portion of the program ended with an afternoon farewell reception in the Blackhawk Cafe April 21 where remarks were made by NIU President Doug Baker, Associate Vice President of International Affairs Deborah Pierce, SEAYLP administrative director Maria Nihei, CSEAS Director Judy Ledgerwood, adult leader Dean Ric Mutya Endriano and student Hao Nguyen from Vietnam. The next day the group boarded buses to head into Chicago for a day and a night before departing for Washington, DC, April 23 accompanied by Nihei, and program assistants Colleen Gray, Cho Aye, Nancy Schuneman, Robert Bulanda, and Peter Gerlach. In Washington, the group met with US Rep. Adam Kinzinger, R-16; toured monuments on the National Mall; visited several non-governmental organizations, including the Asia Foundation, First Book, and the Ocean Conservancy, and the Voice of America; attended meetings at the US Department of State before departing for home April 26. SEAYLP is funded by the State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by CSEAS in cooperation with the Division of International Affairs.

2. Spring student conference draws 40 NEW
Winding down spring semester, the Southeast Asia Club’s Spring Student Conference drew 40 attendees to Swen Parson Hall April 25 to hear UC-Berkeley historian Penny Edwards present the keynote address and 14 student speakers present their papers. The conference theme, “Identity Narratives,” was echoed in a number of the paper topics, such as graduate students Alexxandra Salazar’s “The Embodiment of Moni Mekhala: Gender Symbolism and Ambiguity in Khmer Classical Dance” and Karla Findley’s “The Social Construction of the Karen Household During the Forced Migration Process” Other topics ranged from Balinese gamelan music and trance (Jiaqi Li) and the Thai adaptation of Eve Ensler’s ‘The Vagina Monologues’ (Pruksapan Bantawtook) to defoliation policy in Vietnam (Krista Albers) and American containment in Laos
during the Vietnam War years (James Dewitz). Winning the awards for best undergraduate and graduate paper respectively were undergraduate John Hood for “Nats Cults of Burma and Social Power: Exploring Marginalization within the Context of Gender Identity in Myanmar” and Princeton University PhD student Megan Brankley Abbas for “The First Muhammadiyah Chairman with a PhD: Amien Rais and Muslim Religious Authority in late 20th Century Indonesia.” Other students presenting (all from NIU) were Scott Abel, Scott Hanley, Cecelie Keys, Isabelle Eve Squires, Shannon Thomas and Antonie Tumpag. The conference was coordinated by Alexxandra Salazar and Elise Waite, with assistance from Krista Albers and CSEAS Outreach Coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig. Co-sponsored by the Graduate Colloquium Committee, the Burma Interest Group-NIU, and CSEAS.

3. Rice and shine: Cooking competition a recipe for language success

Indonesian instructor Rahmi Hartati decided to give her Beginning Bahasa class a real appetite for learning Indonesian last week. She organized an in-class Fried Rice Competition as a way for her students to practice their food shopping, chopping and cooking skills, all in Indonesian. “Students had to buy their ingredients based on the recipe given, bargain the price, and follow the instructions in the recipe,” Hartati said. “They were not allowed to speak in English. Sometimes they did, but most of them tried to speak in Indonesian only, which is great.” With four electric woks lined up on a table in Watson 101, the 16 students in FLIN 104 first “shopped” for vegetables and other ingredients at the ingredients station. Then it was off to a wok to make their creations. The winning fried rice was judged (by Hartati, FLTA Riyani and graduate student Scott Abel) on taste, speed of preparation, garnishes and how much “money” in their budget they had left. The winner was Kevin Martial. “It turned out to be a fun and engaged learning process,” said Hartati, who has also introduced her students to batik making in class.

4. Summer/Fall course list live on website

From the Vietnam War to the people and cultures of insular Southeast Asia and studies in Asian art, there’s plenty to choose from on the summer and fall 2015 Southeast Asian studies course schedule. This summer, Florensia Surjadi will offer FCNS 384, Asian American Families, as an online course while Trude Jacobsen will teach HIST 469/569, The Vietnam War, from 2 to 4:40 p.m. Monday-Thursday in DuSable 422.
Six Southeast Asian language and literature classes will be offered in fall: Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Tagalog and Thai with Vietnamese again offered as a distance-learning course through the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The course, FLST 281, will be taught by a UW instructor but NIU students will receive credit from NIU. If interested, contact CSEAS Outreach Coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig at 815-753-1595 or by email at ehrenkonig@niu.edu (please put Vietnamese in the subject line).

The Center’s undergraduate and graduate Southeast Asia survey courses are both being taught in the fall. The undergraduate class, SEAS 225, Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World (instructor of record, Judy Ledgerwood), is offered from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The graduate class, SEAS 625, Southeast Asia: A Multidisciplinary Perspective, will be taught by Trude Jacobsen from 2 to 4:40 p.m. Thursdays.

Other fall courses include: ANTH 407/507, Peoples and Cultures of Insular Southeast Asia (Susan Russell); ANTH 421/521, Social Organization (Andrea Molnar); ARTH 570, Studies in Asian Art (Catherine Raymond); FCNS 384, Asian American Families (Florensia Surjadi); HIST 475/575, The United States and Southeast Asia and the Indian Subcontinent (Kenton Clymer); and HIST 760, Colonialism Research Seminar (Eric Jones). Students interested in learning to play gamelan may sign up for MUSE 370/670, Gamelan I. All of these courses can be applied toward SEA Studies minors/contract majors or graduate certificates. For details, see the CSEAS website or stop by Pottenger House.

5. **Save the dates:** Relax for finals; last weeks for exhibits

   - **NEW** April 28: De-Stress Fest at the Anthropology Museum, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Massage, Japanese reiki, game tables, calming teas, art activities, robotics. FREE. **NEW**
   - **NEW** April 28: Walk with Mission Health Walk, 4 p.m. Meet up with the huskie mascot in front of Wirtz Hall, travel around the East Lagoon and end at the MLK Commons where there will be healthy snacks, stress-reduction activities and free stress balls. **NEW**
   - **NEW** Through April: “Sounds of Austronesia,” anthropology graduate student Anthonie Zumpag’s exhibit of musical instruments from maritime SEA, 4th floor, Southeast Asia Collection, Founders Library.
   - **NEW** Through May: “Curated by DeKalb: 50 Years of the Anthropology Museum,” 50th anniversary exhibition including SEA artifacts. Admission free.

6. **Money for study**

   **Institute of Southeast Asian Studies**

   - **NEW** Visiting Fellowships in Indonesia Studies: One-year positions for visiting scholars and post-docs (PhD to have been received no earlier than Aug. 1, 2010) who have done work or can work on Indonesia projects associated with urbanization and socio-political change, transnational trajectories of Islam, changing social demography and its implications, and political and economic roles of Chinese in contemporary Indonesia. Stipend, housing subsidy. **Deadline to apply: May 15.** Email Ang Swee Loh at sweeloh@iseas.edu.sg for details.

   **NIU**

   - **NEW** 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? The Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences is now providing funding for undergrads. 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. **Deadline for spring 2016 funds is Oct. 1.** See [program website](#).

**McGill University**

- **Dissertation workshop**: Institute for the Study of International Development invites applications from advanced PhD students. All areas of development studies welcome including political science, economics, anthropology, sociology, geography and history. Funding for accepted students. Email Director Philip Oxhorn at [Philip.oxhorn@mcgill.ca](mailto:Philip.oxhorn@mcgill.ca).

**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](#).

**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](#).

7. **Job/internship opportunities**

**America’s Unofficial Ambassadors**

- **Study Abroad Internship in Indonesia**: Spring 2016 semester of service abroad in Indonesia offers internship with school or NGO along with academic program to study language and international relations. Partnership with College of New Jersey and Gadja Mada University. **Deadline to apply: June 15.** Email [stefanc@creativelearning.org](mailto:stefanc@creativelearning.org) or see [website](#).

**US Department of State**

- **Student Internship Program**: 10-week unpaid internships for undergraduate and graduate students at Washington headquarters and US embassies, consulates and missions worldwide. See [program website](#).

**Room to Read**

- **Positions open**: San Francisco-based organization that helps develop literacy skills among primary and secondary school students. 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](mailto: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](https://reliefweb.int/).

World Health Organization

- Global health agency in the United Nations System encourages online applications for potential employment. See [WHO website](https://www.who.int/).

8. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops NEW


- **AAS-in-Asia**, June 22–24, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. Theme: Asia in Motion: ideas, Institutions, Identities. See [conference website](https://aasinasia.org/).

- **The Emergence of Theravada Buddhism in Cambodia: Southeast Asian Perspectives**, July 3, SOAS University of London. See [symposium website](https://www.soas.ac.uk/).

- **International Convention of Asia Scholars 9**, July 5–9, Adelaide, Australia. See [conference website](https://www.acssconferences.org/).

- **4th International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD)**, July 9–10, Mahidol University, Salaya, Thailand. Call for abstracts and panel proposals. See [conference website](https://www.icirdconf.org/).

- **International Conference on Burma/Myanmar Studies**, July 24–25, Chiang Mai University, Thailand. See [conference website](https://www.burmanet.org/).

- **EuroSEAS 2015**, Aug. 11–14, University of Vienna, Austria. See [conference website](https://www.euroseas2015.com/).

- **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. See [website](https://www.nus.edu/ari/).

- **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Oct. 16–18, Washington University, St. Louis. Call for papers. **Deadline for proposals: May 31**. Register by Aug. 31. Awards for graduate and undergraduate papers. See [conference website](https://www.mwusa.org/).

- **Political Participation in Asia: Defining and Deploying Political Space**, Nov. 22–24, Stockholm University Forum for Asian Studies. Some funding available for presenters. **Abstracts due: June 1**. See [conference website](https://www.su.se/en/)


9. Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute of Chicago offers classes in Thai language, dance and music among other programs. See [website](https://www.tcai.org/) for details or phone 312-725-0640.

- “Curated by DeKalb: 50 Years of the Anthropology Museum,” on display at the NIU Anthropology Museum through the 2014–15 academic year. Exhibit features items from the...
museum’s collection of ethnographic and archeological objects, many from SEA. 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 Saturday classes: Indonesian language classes at 10:30 a.m. (intermediate) and 1 p.m. (children’s class); Indonesian traditional dance, 2 to 4 p.m.; and Javanese gamelan, 4 to 6 p.m. All classes held at the Indonesian Cultural Center, 711 W. Grand Avenue. For info, call 312-920-1880, ext. 104/105, or email icc@indonesiachicago.org. Also see the consulate’s Facebook page.

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