Building collaborations in Myanmar

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Burnish your resumé

Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to a bachelor’s 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. **This week’s lecture: Environmental studies in Myanmar/Burma**

The Center’s weekly Friday lecture series returns Friday, **Jan. 29**, with professors Jim Wilson (Geography) and Melissa Lenczewski (Geology and Environmental Geosciences), who will present “Environmental Studies in Burma” at noon in Room 100 Campus Life. Their lecture will summarize a two-week trip to Burma they took in August 2015 along with professors Wesley Swingley (Biology) and Tomoyuki Shibata (Public Health) to lay the groundwork for a number of collaborative research projects with Yadanabon University and Mandalay University in Mandalay. Approximately 40 faculty members from Yadanabon participated in workshops and on-site fieldwork with the NIU team focusing on the environmental sciences with special emphasis on water, public health, and geography (see story in NIU Today). There will be no Indonesian lunch at this lecture; lunches will resume on **Feb. 19**. See complete spring lecture schedule [here](#).

2. **Center associates update: High notes here and abroad**

* Congratulations to Chalermsee (Ete) Olson (University Libraries), who has been appointed interim Dean of University Libraries while NIU conducts a national search for a new dean to replace Dean Patrick Dawson, who is leaving NIU **Feb. 1** to direct the Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery at the University of Maryland. Olson joined NIU Libraries in 1991 and has served as associate dean of the Collections and Technical Services Division since 2009.

* Trude Jacobsen (History) is just returned from Cambodia where she presented “Diet, Discipline, and Diligent Occupation: Comparing Treatments for Mental Illness in British Burma and French Cambodia” at the Jan. 13–15 History of Medicine in Southeast Asia biennial conference at the Center for Khmer Studies in Siem Reap.

* Tomoyuki Shibata (Public Health), executive director of the [Global Environmental Health Lab](#), is making plans to take students this summer to Myanmar (mid-June to mid-July) and Indonesia (mid-July to mid-August) to participate in field research projects involving water quality and public health. For details on costs, college credits and other information about the projects, email Shibata at [tshibata@niu.edu](mailto:tshibata@niu.edu).

* Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music) will welcome Pak Made Lasmawan, artistic director of the gamelan ensemble at Colorado College, to NIU in early April when the gamelan master presents a CSEAS lecture and a workshops with NIU gamelan students and Cortland Elementary School Choir students **April 8**, practice sessions with the NIU Gamelan Ensemble and Indonesian Dance Illinois **April 9**, and a performance at the World Music Concert **April 10**.
3. Apply for 2016–17 FLAS fellowships by Feb. 1
There are two weeks left to apply for a 2016–17 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship. Undergraduates and graduate students are eligible to apply. The application and all information on both summer and academic-year FLAS awards are posted on the Student Funding page at the CSEAS website and are due to the Center by Feb. 1. FLAS fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI Program of Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships. Applications and all materials are due to CSEAS Office Manager Rita Miller at ram@niu.edu by Feb. 1. In accordance with NIU policy, students awarded a FLAS fellowship will have any financial aid they receive reduced by the dollar amount equal to the fellowship award.

4. Apply by Feb. 1 for 2016–17 Neher graduate study fellowship
U.S. and international graduate students are invited to apply for the Center’s 2016–17 Clark and Arlene Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia. The fellowship includes a tuition waiver and a $4,000 annual stipend. To apply, students must be in good standing with NIU and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian studies. Students should be at an advanced stage in their program, either master’s or doctoral, and be planning field or archival research in SEA studies. The application is posted on the Student Funding page of the Center website. Applications are due to CSEAS Office Manager Rita Miller at ram@niu.edu by Feb. 1.

5. Notes from all over: A new SEAYLP Scholar on campus
NEW
Mar Louie Mayubay from the Philippines, who participated in spring 2012 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program, has started a master’s degree program in accountancy this semester, the first graduate student to be chosen for NIU’s SEAYLP tuition scholarship program. Louie joins four undergraduate SEAYLP Scholars currently studying at NIU, I Younan An and Thimoro Cheng from Cambodia and Hnin Eaindray Lin and Ye Pyae Thu from Myanmar. . . . Thomas Rhoden (PhD candidate, political science) has been busy publishing in the past few weeks. His review of Unequal Thailand: Aspects of Income, Wealth and Power by Pasuk Phongpaichit and Chris Baker (Singapore: NUS Press, 2016) appeared online Jan. 12 in New Mandala. Rhoden, who just completed a year in Thailand as a Boren scholar studying the Karen language, has also just published Karen Language PhraseBook: Basics of Sgaw Dialect (Bangkok: White Lotus press, 2016). Rhoden, who hails from Texas and whose collection of eight short stories, Texaners, was recently published by Étoile Solitaire Press, was featured in a Jan. 11 article in NIU Today. Rhoden is currently living in Thailand, teaching at Chiang Mai University and completing his dissertation. “I wanted to continue to write fiction while studying for my PhD at NIU over the last few years, so I found doing shorter stories as a perfect way of doing this without falling behind with academic writing,” said Rhoden, who will be
back at NIU April 15 to give the Center’s weekly Friday lecture. . . . Fellow PhD political science candidate Iqra Anugrah, in Indonesia for the past year doing field research, has published “Recent Studies on Indonesian Islam: A Sign of Intellectual Exhaustion” in the October 2015 (Vol. 100) edition of Cornell University Press’s Indonesia journal. His review of Patrick Ziegenhain’s “Institutional Engineering and Political Accountability in Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines” appears in the January issue of newbooks.asia.

6. Get your paper on: Student conference call for papers
The Southeast Asia Club invites papers for its 2016 spring Southeast Asia Student conference, which is set for Saturday, March 26, in Room 100 Campus Life. The conference theme is “From City to Village: Urbanization & Southeast Asia.” Papers may be submitted on related topics or any relevant to the region. Abstracts for all papers are due Feb. 25 (Jan. 31 for graduate and undergraduate students competing for best paper). The keynote speaker will be University of Leeds political scientist Duncan McCargo.

7. The match game: Apply for CSEAS match to Graduate School travel funding
CSEAS will match up to $250 in Graduate School travel grants for students traveling to out-of-town (or out-of-country) conferences to present. If you will be receiving Graduate School travel funding, contact CSEAS Office Manager Rita Miller about the CSEAS match. If you are considering applying (next 2015–16 deadline is March 21), you must have completed one year of school with 3.5 GPA or above. See Graduate School website for details on its travel funding; submit applications to Dean, Graduate School, 223 Adams Hall.

8. Getting it all on paper NEW
Graduate students, here are two new places to send your stellar scholarship to be prized and published.

AAS Southeast Asia Council
- **2017 Pattana Kitiarsa Prize for Best Graduate Student Paper:** Recognizes emerging scholarship in SEA studies. Papers invited of length and scope to be presented on AAS panel. **Deadline to submit: April 3.** Submit papers and proof of student status, or questions, to David Biggs at biggsbiggs@gmail.com. $500 prize and certificated to be presented at 2017 AAS in Toronto.

Explorations: A Graduate Journal of Southeast Asian Studies
- Call for papers for this peer-reviewed forum for graduate students to present disciplinary and interdisciplinary research on any topic related to Southeast Asia. **Deadline to submit: Feb. 12.** For details, see journal website.

9. Save the dates: FLAS deadlines, spring events
- **Jan. 26:** “Unveiling Beauty,” singer/songwriter Hana Kim performs on behalf of the fight against human trafficking at 5 p.m., Duke Ellington Ballroom. Free. NEW
- **Feb. 1:** Applications for 2016–17 FLAS and Neher fellowships due to CSEAS
- **Feb. 8:** Southeast Asia Club Lunar New Year celebration, 6 to 8 p.m., Cole Hall lobby.
- **Feb. 8:** Opening of “Storytelling: Hmong American Voices” exhibit, Pick Museum of Anthropology, Cole Hall. NEW
- **Feb. 25:** Abstracts due for spring student conference
March 26: Southeast Asia Club spring student conference, From City to Village: Urbanization and SEA. Keynote speaker: University of Leeds political scientist Duncan McCargo

10. Hmong exhibit to open Feb. 8 at Pick Museum of Anthropology

“Storytelling: Hmong American Voices,” a major exhibit celebrating 40 years of Hmong American history, will open Feb. 8 at the Pick Museum of Anthropology in Cole Hall. The exhibit will focus on the history of life in Laos continuing through the 1953–75 Laotian Civil War (known by Hmong veterans as the Secret War) and prominently feature the oral histories and material culture of Hmong Americans. The exhibit will also spotlight the museum’s permanent collection of Hmong textiles.

11. Center for Khmer Studies offers six-week fellowship for undergrads

The Center for Khmer Studies and the American Research Center in Cambodia is offering six-week Junior Resident Fellowships to five US, five Cambodian, and five French undergraduate students July 1-Aug. 10 in Siem Reap. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** For details, see [website](#).

12. Money for study

NIU

- **USOAR grants:** Undergraduate Special Opportunities in Artistry and Research program funds student-generated research or artistry projects on campus, elsewhere in the US or abroad. Open to all colleges, majors and backgrounds. Proposal guidelines are available [online](#). Students have up to **Dec. 31, 2016** to complete their projects. **Deadline for spring 2016:** Feb. 12.
- **Student Engagement Fund grants:** Grants available to undergraduate students for specific student engagement activities, including summer study abroad, conference travel and mentored research or service learning projects. Guidelines are available [online](#). **Deadline for summer 2016:** Feb. 15; **deadline for fall 2017:** March 15.
- **Graduate School Travel Grants:** Students invited to submit proposals for 2015–16. **Next deadline to apply: March 21:** One year of school completed with 3.5 GPA or above. See [website](#) for details. Submit applications to Dean, Graduate School, 223 Adams Hall. Matching funds available through CSEAS.
- **Graduate School Travel to Conduct Research Grants:** Students in good standing invited to submit proposals for research travel planned for May 15 to Sept. 1, 2016. Grants up to $500 will be awarded. Must have approved thesis or dissertation committee on file (PhD students must have passed their comprehensive examinations). **Applications due to the Graduate School:** April 1 (departments earlier; contact for deadline.) For questions, email Dana Hughes at dhughes@niu.edu. **NEW**

US Department of Education

- **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad:** Six- to 12-month month fellowships for PhD students in foreign languages and area studies, FY 2016. Apply by late spring (check [website](#) for application availability and other info). **NEW**

American Council of Learned Societies

- **Fellowships for advanced graduate students:** Digital Extension Grant program supports digitally based humanities and humanistic social science research. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 2, 2015–16 program open to apply.** See [program website](#). **NEW**

Rotary International
• **Rotary Peace Fellowships:** Fully paid fellowships for master’s degree study offered at six universities worldwide, including Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the US. Applications for 2017–18 fellowships now available. **Deadline to submit through local Rotary district: May 31.** See [website](#).

13. **Job/internship opportunities** NEW

**Duke University**

- **Program Coordinator:** Provides support for Southeast Asia Research Group and Asian/Pacific Studies Institute. Bachelor’s degree required; master’s degree desirable. Proficiency in East or Southeast Asian language preferred. Apply immediately. See job details here. NEW

**Globaljobs.org**

- **Job/internship opportunities:** Turn area studies into an internship or a career. See job listings at NGOs, think tanks, government, and private-sector employers. See [website](#). NEW

**Chinese Mutual Aid Association**

- **Interns:** Pan-Asian social service organization accepting candidates for interns for business development, grant writing and workforce development and outreach liaison duties. Contact Michelle White at michellew@chinesemutualaid.org or 773-784-2900. See [website](#).

**US Department of State**

- **Student internship program:** Internship opportunities 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 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](#).
14. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **International Graduate Student Conference on the Asia Pacific Region**, Feb. 11–13, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI. See [conference website](#).
- **Cornell University Southeast Asia Program Graduate Student Conference**, March 11–13, Ithaca, NY. Conference theme: (Re)creating Currents in Southeast Asia. See [conference website](#).
- **6th International Conference on Hmong Studies**, March 18–19, Concordia University, St. Paul. Contact Lee Pao Xiong at Center for Hmong Studies at xiong@csp.edu.
- **Southeast Asia Club Spring Southeast Asia Student Conference**, March 26, DeKalb, IL. Call for papers. Conference theme: From City to Village: Urbanization & Southeast Asia. **Deadline for abstracts: Feb. 25 (Jan. 31 for undergraduate and graduate students entering best paper competition).** See conference info.
- **Association for Asian Studies**, March 31–April 3, Seattle. See [conference website](#).
- **5th Southeast Asian Studies Symposium**, April 14–16, Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford. Theme: Human and Environmental Welfare in Southeast Asia. See [conference website](#).
- **American Anthropological Association Central States Anthropological Society Meeting**, April 21–23, Kansas City, MO. Call for papers. Student-friendly with competition for both undergraduate and graduate students. Registration required to submit abstract. **Deadline for abstracts: Jan. 29.** See [conference website](#).
- **UC Berkeley-UCLA Southeast Asian Studies Conference**, April 22–23, Berkeley, CA. Theme: Making Southeast Asian Cultures: From Region to World. See [conference website](#).
- **Heritage as Aid and Diplomacy in Asia**, May 26–28, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, the Netherlands. See [conference website](#).
- **AAS-in-Asia**, June 24–27, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan. See [conference website](#).
- **5th International Conference on Lao Studies: Lao PDR in the ASEAN Context**, July 8–10, Thammasat University, Bangkok. See [conference website](#).
- **Graduate Colloquium on Malaysian Studies**, Sept. 15-17, Ohio University, Athens, OH.

15. Area cultural opportunities

- Go behind the scenes of the Philippine Collections at the Field Museum. Contact the museum’s co-curation team to make arrangements at cocuration.philippines@fieldmuseum.org. To learn more about the museum’s Philippines work, see the co-curation team’s newsletter.
- 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.
- “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. Call 312-920-1880, ext. 104/105, or email icc@indonesiachicago.org. Also see the consulate’s Facebook page.

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You can help keep Southeast Asian studies program at NIU vibrant with your contribution through the NIU Foundation. To contribute online, go to the Donate Now tab at the NIU Foundation website. Under Designations, select “college or universitywide program,” then write in “Center for Southeast Asian Studies.” If your employer matches your charitable donations, please take a moment to fill out that form. We appreciate every gift. Thank you!

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.