In the middle of the April 5-30 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program, participants from Brunei, Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand introduced students at Southeast School in Sycamore to cultures from their countries on Monday, April 18. Participants from Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Singapore and Vietnam shared their cultures at Founders Elementary School in DeKalb on the same day. SEAYLP will present a Southeast Asia culture night from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, April 24. Free and open to all.

If it’s April, it must be SEAYLP

Last spring Friday brownbag at the Pick Museum of Anthropology this week

1. This week’s lecture: Hmong American experience comes to life
2. Center associates update: Talking Thai, gamelan and religious minorities in Asia
3. Student news: Summer FLAS, a Fulbright and in print online
4. Notes from all over: Fulbright-Hays teachers in action, CSEAS students present
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What next?
Graduation beckons and so does job hunting. What kind of work do you want to do? Southeast Asian studies offers myriad opportunities in every field from business to government to non-profits and non-governmental organizations. Check out Jobs and Internships resources and listings below and look at our Careers page on the CSEAS website.
1. **This week’s lecture: Hmong American experience comes to life**

CSEAS ends its spring lecture series with Pick Museum of Anthropology Museum curator Laura McDowell Hopper, who will discuss and conduct a tour of the ‘Storytelling: Hmong American Voices’ Exhibit” at noon Friday, **April 22**, on site at the museum in Cole Hall. There will be no Indonesian lunch that day. The exhibit, which has been months in the making, explores the memories and experiences of Hmong Americans, many of whom arrived in the US as refugees during the 1970s. On display are Hmong storycloths, traditional Hmong clothing, photographs, jewelry, musical instruments and other objects. The exhibit was co-curated by Hopper and a 20-member Hmong Community Advisory Council. “Working with the Hmong American community to collaboratively develop this exhibit has been a truly eye-opening experience for me,” Hopper said in a March 28 [article](#) in NIU Today. The exhibit runs through December; hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free.

2. **Center associates update: Talking Thai, gamelan and religious minorities in Asia**

* To celebrate the end of the food unit in Thai 103, Kanjana Thepboriruk (Foreign Languages and Literatures) took the class to Tusk Thai Cuisine in Batavia for their speaking exam **Feb. 11**. “The class spent the whole month learning about Thai food, how to make it and how to order it at a restaurant,” Thepboriruk said. “The owners and staff at Tusk kindly worked with me to keep the prices down for students and to speak only in Thai at our table.” A good time was had by all.

* Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music) can move on to planning for her Fulbright year in Indonesia now that this year’s **April 7–10** World Music Festival is over. Congratulations to her on a successful festival, which included a lecture, workshops and performances by gamelan master I Made Lasmawan, artist-in-residence at Colorado College. Miss the two NIU Gamelan Ensemble performances at the concert **April 10**? Here is the [warrior piece](#) (featuring NIU gamelan instructor Ngurah Kertayuda and CSEAS alums Mirah Kertayuda and Peter Colina from Indonesian Dance of Illinois) and the [monkey piece](#) (featuring Lasmawan’s son) on YouTube.

* Congratulations to Kikue Hamayotsu (Political Science) on her successful **April 9** workshop, “Religious Minorities and Pluralism in Asia,” which she co-chaired with Chiari Formichi of Cornell University. Keynote speaker Jacques Bertrand, professor of political science at the University of
Toronto, led off with the morning session in the Heritage Room at the Holmes Student Center with “Deadly Mix? Religion and Nationalism in Southeast Asia.” He was followed by a panel offering comparative country cases: Ardeth Maung (University of Massachusetts-Lowell) presenting “Between Compliance and Resistance: Religious Minorities in Buddhist-Dominant Myanmar;” Chiari Formichi (Cornell University), “Enforcing Categories, Ignoring the Residual: Racial and Religious Identities in Postcolonial Southeast Asia;” D. Mitra Barua (Cornell University), “The Challenges for Religious Minorities and Pluralism in Democratic Bangladesh;” Dian Shah (National University of Singapore School of Law, “The Politics of Constitutionalizing Religion in Indonesia and Malaysia: Paths and Outcomes;” and Hamayotsu, “Democratization and Religious Minorities in Southeast Asia; Indonesia and Malaysia in Comparative Perspective.” The event concluded in the afternoon with a roundtable discussion by the panelists and CSEAS associates Judy Ledgerwood and Susan Russell (Anthropology) and Tharaphi Than (Foreign Languages and Literatures), with closing remarks by workshop coordinators Hamayotsu and Formichi. The workshop was co-sponsored by CSEAS and Cornell, both US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Centers for Southeast Asian Studies.

3. Student news: Summer FLAS, a Fulbright and in print online NEW
CSEAS is delighted to announce that five students will be receiving summer Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships to study Southeast Asian languages this summer. Four students will be travelling to the region: undergraduate students Margaret Miller (psychology and biology) and Rachel Jacob (history and political science) will study Indonesian at Wisma Bahasa in Yogyakarta, Indonesia; linguistics graduate student Cecelie Keys will study Thai at Payap University in Chiang Mai, Thailand; and law student Samuel Bunting will study Tagalog at Christian Language Study Center in Quezon City, the Philippines. Closer to home, history doctoral student JoAnn LoSavio will study Burmese in the eight-week intensive language program at the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. . . . Second-year anthropology graduate student Shannon Thomas, who will work as an intern at the Smithsonian Institution this summer, has received a nine-month Fulbright research fellowship to conduct fieldwork on the island of Palawan in the Philippines during the 2016–17 academic year. Thomas will explore the relationship between culture and the natural environment of the indigenous Filipino Ifugao group, and the ways marginalized peoples and their cultures are negatively impacted by environmental degradation. Congratulations, Shannon! . . .

Political science doctoral candidate Thomas Rhoden is in print online with a review March 29 of Politics in the Moral Universe: Burmese Buddhist Political Thought by Matthew Walton in Dissertation Reviews and a commentary April 13 in New Mandala with “Millennia-long Histories and Burmese Migrations into Thailand.” Rhoden returns to NIU from Thailand and Myanmar in the fall to complete his dissertation and to teach the Center’s SEAS 225 class.
4. Notes from all over: Fulbright-Hays teachers in action, CSEAS students present

Three alumni from Anthropology Professor Susan Russell’s 2015 Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad are applying what they learned last summer in the Philippines to Russell’s 13th session of the U.S. State Department’s Philippine Youth Leadership Program at NIU now. Huntley High School teachers Clayton Henricksen and Anne Sharkey are hosting PYLP participants at Huntley for a day of interaction with American high school students and Sycamore High School teacher Annette Keca is presenting “Combatting Cyberbullying through Education: Linking Human Rights to Cultural Values in the Philippines” April 19 in a session at NIU, followed by a day with students at Sycamore High School. All of the Fulbright-Hays project’s high school and community college educators have completed lesson plans drawn from their experience in the Philippines; see them now on the CSEAS website. . . . Three of the four NIU undergraduate students presenting at this year’s 30th Undergraduate Research Conference, held April 7–10 at the University of North Carolina-Asheville, were familiar faces from CSEAS. Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellow and Southeast Asia Club President Andrew Waite (business administration) presented “The Evolution of the Indonesian Economy and its Effect on Indonesian Society in the Post-Suharto Era,” SEAYLP scholar and Research Rookie Hnin Eaindray Lin (mechanical engineering) presented “Effect of Visual Stimuli on the Believability of Virtual Environments” and 2016 summer FLAS fellow Rachel Jacob (history and political science) presented “The Search for Maternity and Paternity Leave.” Well done, everybody!

5. Registration redux: What’s on the SEA course list for summer, fall

Courses on the Central Intelligence Agency, the Vietnam War, and Asian American Families will be offered this summer as online classes. HIST 480/580, Spies, Lies and Secret Wars: CIA in the World will be taught by CSEAS Assistant Director Eric Jones (History) for undergraduate and graduate students. HIST 469/569, The Vietnam War, will be taught by history professor Stanley Arnold online
and at NIU Rockford, also for undergraduate and graduate students. CSEAS affiliate Florensia Surjadi is teaching FCNS 384, Asian American Families.

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 Vietnamese course, FLST 281, will be taught by a UW instructor but NIU students will receive credit from NIU. If interested, contact CSEAS Director Judy Ledgerwood at 815-753-1771 or jledgerw@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 is Eric Jones with political science PhD candidate Thomas Rhoden), is offered from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The graduate class, SEAS 625 (also cross-listed as HIST 660-3), Southeast Asia: A Multidisciplinary Perspective, will be taught by Eric Jones from 6 to 8:40 p.m. Thursdays.

Other fall courses include: ANTH 304/790, Muslim Cultures in Anthropological Perspective (Andrea Molnar); ANTH 491/628, Religion and Cosmology in Southeast Asia (Andrea Molnar); ARTH 350/570, Studies in Asian Art (Catherine Raymond); FCNS 384, Asian American Families (Florensia Surjadi); HIST 660-1, Readings in the History of American Foreign Relations (Kenton Clymer); POLS 371, Politics in Southeast Asia (Kheang Un), and POLS 378, Political Islam (Kikue Hamayatsu). Students interested in learning to play gamelan may sign up for MUSE 370/670, Gamelan I (Ngurah Kertayuda). All of these courses can be applied toward SEA Studies minors/contract majors or graduate certificates.

6. Calls for papers for Burma Studies, Thai Studies conferences
Scholars from around the world will convene at NIU Oct. 7–9 for the 2016 International Burma Studies Conference and Oct. 28–29 for the Council on Thai Studies (COTS) 2016 meeting.

- The Burma conference invites proposals for individual papers or entire panels. Prospective participants must submit a title and 150- to 250-word abstract via attached Word document or pasted into an email (include name, affiliation, and contact information). Panel organizers should submit abstracts and participant information. Email to burmastudies2016@gmail.com. Accepted participants and panel organizers will be notified on or before May 15. For details, see the conference website.
- COTS invites presentation abstracts from scholars, students and community advocates. Graduate Colloquium keynote speaker: Mark Tanachai Padoongpatt (University of Nevada-Las Vegas). Deadline to submit proposals: July 1. For details, see conference information.

NEW

7. Save the dates: Southeast Asia culture night, Burma short films and spring rolls for all
- April 24: SEAYLP Culture Night show, 5 p.m., Sandburg Auditorium, Holmes Student Center. Free.
- April 26: Film screening, Hmong Memory at the Crossroads, 7 to 9:30 p.m., Marquee Cinema, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Director discussion to follow. NEW
- April 27: Spring Roll Night, 8 to 11 p.m., Room 100 Campus Life. Sponsored by Alpha Phi Gamma.
- **Through May**: New Year’s Festivals in Mainland SEA exhibit at Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection, fourth floor, Founders Memorial Library.
- **Through December**: Storytelling: Hmong American Voices exhibit at Pick Museum of Anthropology at NIU. Opening reception 2 to 5 p.m. **April 9**.

8. **Public health research opportunity in Myanmar**
CSEAS associate 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) to participate in field research projects involving water quality and public health. If interested in joining the group, email Shibata at tshibata@niu.edu for details on costs, college credits and other information about the project.

9. **Burnish your resume with Southeast Asian Studies**
Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to a bachelor’s degree or a graduate certificate to an advanced degree and pull your resume 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.

10. **Money for study** **NEW**

*University of Leeds*
- **Postgraduate Thai Studies**: Up to three scholarships (approximately $17,000 each) will be awarded to full-time or part-time candidates to support graduate study starting fall 2016 at Leeds and up to six months of fieldwork in Thailand. Funded by Royal Thai Embassy. **Deadline to apply: June 24.** See website. **NEW**

*Southeast Asia Research Group*
- **Pre-dissertation fellowship**: Award up to $6,000 funded by the Henry Luce Foundation to social science PhD students who must travel to Southeast Asia to develop research proposal. **Deadline to apply: May 1.** Contact Renata Kwon at r.kwon@duke.edu.

*Singapore National Library*
- **Fellowships**: Applicants sought for Lee Kong Chian Research Fellowship and George Lyndon Hicks Fellowship for Southeast Asia Collections. **Deadline to apply: April 30.**

*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).

*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.

11. **Job/internship opportunities** **NEW**

*UCLA Fowler Museum*
- **Curator of Southeast Asian and Pacific Arts**: Full-time position. **Deadline to apply: May 14.** See website. **NEW**
**Tallinn University**

- **Associate professor of SEA Studies:** School of Humanities seeking scholar to fill position supported by European Structural and Investment Funds. To start Sept.-Nov. 2016. **Deadline to apply: May 5.** See website. NEW

**Center for Lao Studies**

- **Program Director:** One-year temporary half-time position that may be extended or become full-time. For details, email info@laostudies.org. See website. 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.

**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 flexible 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** NEW

- **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](#).
- **4th Southeast Asia Research Group annual meeting**, June 3–4, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Small travel grants available for graduate students to attend. For info, see [website](#).
- **1st International Graduate Symposium on Thai Studies**, June 16–17, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. Organized by Thai Studies Center and Research Section. Call for papers. Email to [thaiстudies.grad.symposium@gmail.com](mailto:thaiстudies.grad.symposium@gmail.com). See [conference website](#).
- **AAS-in-Asia**, June 24–27, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan. See [conference website](#).
- **International Institute for Asian Studies**, June 30–July 1, National University of Singapore. Theme: Lanes and Neighborhoods in Cities of Asia. Call for papers. **Abstracts due: April 30.** See [website](#).
- **5th International Conference on Lao Studies: Lao PDR in the ASEAN Context**, July 8–10, Thammasat University, Bangkok. See [conference website](#).
- **11th Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies**, July 12–14, National University of Singapore. See [website](#).
- **Migration and Marriage in Asia**, July 26–27, Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. See [website](#).
- **Association for Southeast Asian Studies in the UK**, Sept. 16–18, SOAS, University of London. [Early bird registration by June 30](#). See [website](#).
- **Thailand in Comparative Perspective: An International Symposium**, Sept. 26–27, University of Sydney. Call for papers. **Abstracts due: April 29.** Also, one-day workshop for postgrad and early-career researchers **Sept. 28.** See [conference website](#).
- **Asia Pacific Sociological Association Conference**, Sept. 24–25, Royal University of Phnom Penh. Theme: Globalization, Mobility and Borders: Challenges and Opportunities in the Asia Pacific.” Call for papers. **Abstracts due: June 30.** See [conference website](#).
- **International Burma Studies Conference**, Oct. 9–16, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. See conference [website](#).

### 13. Area cultural opportunities
- **Dengue Fever on tour**, 7:30 p.m., **April 24**, Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave., Chicago. See [website](#).
- 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](mailto: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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