The NIU Thai Mandala

November 1987

Director's Notes

Moving from the scenic beauty of the Finger Lakes region to the great plains of America (once more), from a small liberal arts college to a large university, from teaching all of Asia to becoming the Director of a specialized Center for Southeast Asian Studies, is, to say the least, an extremely stimulating experience. And, attempting to fill a post left by chieftains such as Ladd Thomas, the late Donn Hart, and Ron Provencher, can be a real challenge. The NIU Thai Mandala is one of those attempts.

The Center offices are now (and have been since February of this year) located at 140 Carroll Avenue, occupying the entire top floor of what was once an apartment building. Although it faces west ( alas!) the other configurations are auspicious. The Center is located in the central section, wherein lie the offices of the (new) secretary (and lokapala) Nancy Schuneman, and the new myosa of the Center, Michael Aung-Thwin. In the north (cardinal direction) lie the domains of our language faculty, John Hartmann and Pat Henry, along with the phrai luang of the Center, the teaching and graduate assistants, numbering four. To the south (appropriately) lies Jambudipa, the Center for Burma Studies, with its own myosa, Richard Cooler, and ahmudan. Further south—I'm afraid the mandala is not quite pukka—is the Apple Orchard where our computer aided instruction program is located, whose modus operandi only nat, phi, and asuang understand. Beyond the Center are myriad kingdoms, "localized" as departments, whose myosas contribute in diverse ways to the NIU Thai Mandala.

Currently, there are twenty-three Center associates, of whom approximately seventeen conduct primary research in the area of Southeast Asia. Our strength is Thailand, supported by the newly created Center for Burma Studies, with a long established tradition and resources (faculty and library holdings) in the Island world, both surrounding and enhancing that strength. The future of Southeast Asian Studies at NIU is being built upon and around that focus; hence the phrase "Thai Mandala".

There are over 50 courses taught in the various disciplines that deal entirely with Southeast Asia (about 34), or some component of it (16). We're happy to announce that our survey course, "Crossroads" has 75 students officially enrolled in it this term. Currently too, there are approximately 26 graduate students concentrating on Southeast Asia with 5 in history, 19 in political science, and 2 in anthropology. [See below for details on some of these students] What is encouraging is that we also have six undergraduates majoring in Southeast Asian Studies. Our speakers colloquium hosted several important persons this Fall, and will
continue to do so in Spring and Summer. SEASSI has now passed into Hawaii's hands and we wish them success in this worthy cause. The Center for Burma Studies has been officially inaugurated and our collection of indigenous sources and art works is well on its way.

The Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection, located on the fourth floor of NIU's Founders Memorial Library, houses over 35,000 cataloged volumes and includes books, dissertations, manuscripts, maps and government documents. Its particular strengths center on a large body of vernacular titles from Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, and about 350 current periodical subscriptions, with a much larger number of retrospective sets. The Collection also receives about a dozen newspapers from Thailand, Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam. Both LP and cassette recordings from Southeast Asia are housed separately in the Music Library.

The Burmese collection is also expanding rapidly, in both Western language and vernacular materials. The establishment of the new Center for Burma Studies has attracted donations and long term loans of a number of rare early Burmese language imprints, Pali and Burmese language palm leaf manuscripts and parabak. These are located in the Rare Book Collection, which also holds over three hundred early maps of Southeast Asia, a full set of the Chulalongkorn edition of the Thai Tripitaka and the field notes of anthropologists Donn Hart and Ethel Nurge. The Collection as a whole was enhanced by the donation of the personal collections of Professor Hart on the Philippines and Professor Gerald Maryanov on Indonesia.

Other items of special interest to researchers include the unique holdings of Filipino-American newspapers, both current and retrospective, the growing collection of children's books, the Inter Documentation Company microfiche collection on modern Indonesia of over 1400 periodical and 7000 monograph titles, microfilms of the Korn Collection of the Royal Institute of Linguistics and Anthropology in Leiden and selections from the language and literature section of the William Gedney Collection on Thailand.

The Hart Collection welcomes visiting scholars and offers interlibrary loan service to researchers farther afield, with access to specific materials through OCLC and the Illinois State Circulation System (LCS) and the Collection's quarterly accessions list.

We would like to send individual greetings, inscribed on plates of copper, encased in lacquered boxes gilded with gold and silver flowers, and borne by our ambassador accompanied by a troupe of fine musicians, but a xerox copy will have to do for now. We hope to make the Mandala a regular feature of our Center; if you are not on the mailing list and wish to be on it, please fill out the appropriate section and return it to us.
Center Associates

Our associates have been rather busy, trying to wean the new director to the realities of a big university, finishing up reports on SEASSI, hosting guests from Thailand, teaching not only their own courses but contributing to "Crossroads", and keeping up their research and writing. George Spencer, who "indianizes" NIU's Southeast Asian Studies, is Assistant Chair of History and heads the graduate program. He also was editor for the book "Temples, Kings and Peasants: Perceptions of South India's Past" published by New Era Publications. Richard Cooler just left for Burma for 10 weeks, leading a tour as well as establishing contacts with Rangoon University for a variety of reasons, including our program of faculty exchanges that Hawaii had begun with Rangoon Arts and Sciences University (RASU), and invited us to join. Brantly Womack, our China specialist-turned Vietnam specialist, recently received a Luce Foundation grant to support a two-week study mission of senior American China specialists to Vietnam in December. He will spend time in Bangkok, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City exploring Vietnamese foreign relations with China, the Vietnamese perspective on Chinese relations with Southeast Asia, and Southeast Asian attitudes toward Vietnam and China. Clark Neher's book Politics in Southeast Asia, appeared in its revised version this fall, published by Schenkman. Clark also had an article published in the February 1987 issue of Asian Survey, "Thailand: Prem, Politics, and Pragmatism," delivered a paper for AAS on "Political Interaction in Northern Thailand", and has received a USIA Grant on "The Impact of the Eastern Seaboard Project on Rural Thai Voting Behavior" for January - February 1988. He and Susan Russell hosted two Thai scholars for several weeks here in their respective disciplines--Sumitr Pitiphat and Narong Sinsawasdi--who will return the courtesy when the former two leave for Thailand during the dead of the DeKalb winter. Ladd Thomas, who was behind this exchange, has already returned from Thammasat University. He was the co-author of "The Deputy Governor and Rural Development in Thailand" in the February 1987 issue of Asian Profile and the author of "Limited Disengagement of Military from Thai Politics" in Constantine P. Danopoulos, ed., Military Disengagement from Politics (Croom Helm), forthcoming in 1988. Susan Russell will also be delivering a paper on "The Grand Canao: Ritual Reification and State Tourism in Upland Luzon" at the American Anthropological Association meetings in Chicago this month. K.H. Han, ethno-musicologist, in addition to the usual programs given at NIU for the Asia section of our "unity in diversity" week, led several gamelan performances this year, including teaching the indigenous peoples of Indiana the fine points about angklung and gamelan. Han also took a trip to Thailand to videotape classical music performances in the Fine Arts Department (Bangkok) and folk ensembles in Chiang Mai. Lindsey Reber is our new visiting curator for the Donn Hart Collection. Based on her interests in regional planning and 18th century Indonesian history, she presented papers at the AAS in Boston in April and the New York Regional AAS meeting at Brockport in October. Lee Dutton, librarian
in the Hart Southeast Asia Collection, was a consultant for Southeast Asia for The Books for College Libraries, which will have its new edition published in 1988. His current projects include working with the Library Anthropology Research Group. John Hartmann continues to receive grants for his work with Southeast Asian languages, especially projects that link Thai and the computer. John made an important research discovery after the conclusion of the SSRC Indochina Studies Committee Meeting in Paris, when he visited the library of EFEIO (l'Ecole Francaise d'Etreme Orient) and discovered a large number of Black Thai (Tai Dam) manuscripts written on rice paper. Most of the documents dealt with important rituals, customs and social activities of local elites. One, however, bore the interesting title of "The Arrival of the French." Other documents in the same "piles" (wrapped up in brown paper and tied with string) were materials written in Cham and Lanna Thai (northern Thai or Yuan) as well as the original fieldnotes of famous anthropologist Amonyier. Equally important was the presence of George Coedes' collection of Thai (Siamese) books that had been moved from Hanoi to Paris. John has informed William Tuchrello and Professor Gerard Diffloth about these materials. They will assist in arranging for them to be microfilmed and made available to U.S. scholars. John and Jim Henry, a computer scientist, are now applying for a grant to port the computer-aided instruction software written for the Apple IIE to IBM and its compatibles in order to reach a wider audience, including those residing in all the myos near and far. Pat Henry is busy compiling the last SEASSI report, attending COTI, and teaching more than 30 students in first year Indonesian alone. Ron Provencher returned from Malaysia last summer and is back to full-time teaching, advising the new director, and working on his book on Malay Humor. Harriet Hart, after handling the complexities of donating Donn's research library to the Southeast Asia collection, has nearly completed a paper on Filipino bayuts. (We hope to extend this topic to include general conceptions and integration of gays in Southeast Asian society in a panel in the future.) Thecla Cooler was recently appointed Assistant Director of the International Students Organization of NIU. Her M.A. thesis on Pagan glazes, condensed into a paper at the Burma Studies Center inauguration in July, will, with other Burma papers, appear in the next issue of Crossroads. Arlene Neher, Director of Continuing Education who oversees all our SEA conferences here, including the summer SEASSIS and the Center for Burma Studies inauguration, is preparing for the Burma Studies Group biennial conference to be held here in Fall of 1988. We hope to coordinate that with the annual COTS (Committee on Thai Studies) conference which she will also host that same Fall. Dwight King, our Indonesian political scientist, attended the Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies conference in Saskatoon. He recently published "Human Rights Practices and the Indonesian Middle Class" in the Bulletin of Concerned Asian Scholars. Connie Wilson added another Ph.D. student to her record, Toe Hla, who successfully defended his dissertation on the 12th of November. [See Students below] She and Michael Aung-Thwin contributed several articles in the new Encyclopedia of Asian History, whose Southeast Asia Editor
was David Wyatt. Recently, Connie published "The Northeast and Middle Mekong Valley in the Thai Economy: 1830-1870", in Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Thai Studies, Canberra: Australian National University (in press). Aung-Thwin too added three more articles last year, notably "Kingship in Southeast Asia," in Mircea Eliade ed. Encyclopedia of Religion (MacMillan, 1987), "Heaven, Earth, and the Supernatural World: Dimensions of the Exemplary Center in Burmese History," in Bardwell Smith and Holly Baker Reynolds, ed., The City As A Sacred Center: Essays on Six Asian Contexts (Brill, 1987); and "Burma Before Pagan: The Status of Archaeology Today," in Asian Perspectives, Vol. 25, No. 2 (1987). Don Maxfield, our resident geographer, is chair of the geography department. Last July, he travelled to Thailand with a colleague from the NIU Laboratory for Cartography and Spatial Analysis to gather valuable mapping information by using state-of-the-art satellite imaging. Among other things, the data can provide a profile of Thailand's current rate of deforestation in relation to Thai population concentrations. Don will present his work on this aspect of computerized cartography in our new speakers series forum to begin next term. Hsin Yi Ling is somewhere in the Andaman Islands participating in a study to determine the age of two islands off the Indian coast. Ling's work will help resolve whether the islands are part of the "Asian plate" or the "Indian plate" (huge segments of the earth's crust), and will try to determine the age relationship of the islands to each other. Barbara Posadas, our historian on Filipino Americans, is on sabbatical at the Asian American Studies Center, Institute of American Cultures, U.C.L.A., doing research for a book tentatively titled "Between White and Black: Filipino Immigrants and Accommodation to the Urban-Industrial Order in 20th Century Chicago, 1900-1965". This book will focus on the relationships established by this minority group in Chicago and contrast their experience with that of Filipinos in California and Hawaii. Harold Smith, although retired, continues to be an active contributor to our book review section for Crossroads. He was a member of the NIU Alumni group tour to China this fall, hosted by the Ministry of Culture, Peoples Republic of China. In addition, he presented a paper to the Midwest Sociology Society Annual Meeting last spring in Chicago on "Sociology and the Study of NonWestern Societies: The Search for a Conceptual Framework." David Mullikin of the English Department is copy-editor for all our scholarly publications.

Publications

Volume III, no. 2-3 of Crossroads is now published and distributed. The forthcoming is a special issue of articles on Burma, ranging from literature to ceramics. Occasional Papers, no. 12, "Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations in Malaysia" by Raymond Lee, ed., was our last monograph to be published. Our latest Special Report, No. 24, was Robert Wessing's "The Soul of Ambiguity: The Tiger in Southeast Asia." Currently, there are five manuscripts considered for publication, two of which have
been accepted and are being copy-edited. Topics range from Vietnam's recent foreign policy to Central Javanese Gamelans, Northern Thai villages, and translations of Burmese thek kayit (mortgage and other deeds).

Student News

U Toe Hla from Burma has successfully defended his dissertation recently. He examined the daily economic life of 19th century Burmese through the use of thek kayit, in essence deeds, and their significance in the study of Burmese history. Based on deciphering hundreds of these deeds written mainly on palm leaves, he showed why and how ordinary Burmese borrowed money, what happened when they defaulted, and who the major money lenders were. Upon returning to Burma, he will condense the historical chapters into a large introduction, translate a sizeable selection of these documents, and submit it to the Center to be considered for publication. Both Nuttanee Ratanapat and Ratanaporn Sethakul, also Ph.D. students in history are in Thailand doing their research. Another graduate student in History is Siew Lai Tech, who is registered to give her dissertation entitled "The Southern Philippines Under the American Occupation (1899-1920): A Study in the Relationship Between the Colonial Government and the Muslim Community." The teaching assistant for "Crossroads", our survey course on Southeast Asia, is Sukunya Bumroongsook doing her Ph.D. on Thai history with Connie Wilson.

Among the graduate students in Political Science are William R. Ball, who defended his dissertation entitled "Inter-Agency Coordination and Competitive Bureaus in the Implementation of Development Administration Programs in Southern Thailand" on November 13th. Paithoon Boonyawatana will defend his dissertation in the spring on the subject of "Provincial Administration in Thailand". Narayanan Ganesan, a second year Ph.D. candidate, is working on "Singapore's Foreign Policy in ASEAN". He has an article forthcoming in Asian Thought and Society called "Islamic Responses Within ASEAN to Singapore's Foreign Policy". Tanet Charoenmuang is working on his dissertation concerning U.S.-Thai Relations in the 1980's. He presented two papers this fall: "General Prem's Seven-Year Premiership and Its Meaning for Thai Democracy" at the Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies, and "U.S.-Thai Relations: 1983-1987: Defense Cooperation and Trade Competition" at the Council of Thai Studies Conference.

Julie Lamb and Holly Smith are M.A. students in Anthropology studying with Ron Provencher and Susan Russell.

Students from Southeast Asia this term number almost 300, most of them from Malaysia (179), while 36 are from Thailand, 30 from the Philippines, 11 from Indonesia, 10 from Singapore, 3 from Vietnam, and 2 from Burma. There are currently several SEA student organizations including The Malaysian Student
Organization, the Thai Association of NIU, and the Philippine Students Association.

Conferences

In July of this year, the Center for Burma Studies was officially inaugurated, where over 200 people attended. The Bekker collection that was shipped from Switzerland arrived just in time to be displayed in the Swen Parson Gallery where the ceremonies were held. Papers on Burma were given; proper Buddhist ceremonies were conducted by the sayadaw, U Pannadipa of the Burma Buddhist Mangala Rama monastery of Maryland; Burmese dance was performed; and U Nu, the ex-premier of Burma, concluded his summer teaching at NIU by giving a keynote lecture on certain superhuman attributes of the nats.

Burmese, Shan, and Mon manuscripts donated by Jerry Bennett, who will receive much merit, were (and are being) displayed in the Donn Hart Collection, to become part of the permanent Burma collection. Over 300 books in the Burmese language have also been received—the generosity of Mount Meru's guardians—while another 522 books, microfiche sets, and manuscripts; 207 art objects; 5 video tapes; and 348 photographs, negatives, and slides were donated by members of the Burma Studies Group. To this collection can be added the 477 already catalogued works on Burma in the Donn Hart Collection. Recently, Muriel Williamson, one of the long-time members of the Burma Studies Group and player of the Burmese harp, announced her intention to donate to the Center for Burma Studies a collection of over 8,000 color slides on Burma made by Muriel and her late husband Robert. We also anticipate the purchase of 114 reels of microfilm of indigenous Burmese sources from the Toyo Bunko as well as the beginning of a long-term project to build a collection of primary, premodern Burmese source materials including a complete set of donative inscriptions and chronicles. These will be supported by nearly complete as possible a set of ameindaws (royal orders), sittans (registers), thek kayits (deeds), egyins (ballads), pyos (poems), and a wide category of parabaiks (fan-fold books).

SEASSI 1987, was of course, held at NIU, run by Pat Henry, John Hartmann, and Arlene Neher, among others. There were 115 that enrolled in our language courses, with the largest number taking Indonesian, Khmer, and Vietnamese. In addition, many enrolled as well in Area Studies courses, making the grand total 169 students. Close to 50 different universities and colleges, as well as 24 different states and some foreign countries were represented. The usual Southeast Asian dinner featuring Thai food, was followed by a gamelan concert led by Han from NIU, and Andy Sutton from Wisconsin.

In early October, NIU hosted the annual COTS (Committee on Thai Studies) meeting, where papers on Thai studies were given by mature gurus such as William Gedney, and maturing gurus such as
Robert Bickner, Tom Hudack, Constance Wilson, Daruneet Tantiwiramanond, Shaski Ranjan, Clark Neher and Tanet Charoenmuang. Our visiting professors from Thailand, Sumitr Pitiphat and Narong Sinsawasdi also contributed their expertise to the conference.

Speakers Series

The fall term saw several guest speakers at the Thai Mandala. The distinguished professor Chai-Anan Samudavanija from Chulalongkorn University spoke on "The Three Dimensional State". Professor Sumitr Pitiphat presented a lecture on "New Archaeological Discoveries on the Thailand-Burma Border". Robert Hefner, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Boston University presented a lecture on "Economics and Morality in Rural Java: Cultural Dimensions of Agrarian Change" and a seminar on "Re-thinking Religion and Politics in Rural Java". And Dr. Janet Hoskins, University of Southern California, presented an ethnographic movie she made in Sumba, Eastern Indonesia entitled "Feast in Dream Village" and a lecture on a related subject entitled "Dead Bodies as Texts: Augury and Sacrifice in an Eastern Indonesian Ritual Complex". We were also very honored to have as our guest M.R. Tongnoi Tongyai, Visiting Fulbright Scholar and Deputy Principal Private Secretary to His Majesty King Bhumiphol Adulyadej of Thailand and great grandson of Rama IV, better known in the west as King Mongkut. During his two day visit to our campus he gave a lecture on "The Ninth Reign and the Thai Nation," along with an informal seminar. The Thai Student Association prepared a delicious Thai dinner for Tongnoi and his wife and President LaTourette hosted a lunch in his honor. Next term, Professor James Warren from Murdoch University will present a lecture on "Placing Women in Southeast Asian History: The Case of Oichi and the Study of Prostitution in Singapore Society" and a seminar on "Researching and Writing People's History" using case materials from Sulu and Singapore. In early summer, Professor Joyce White, Ban Chiang specialist from the University of Pennsylvania, will speak to us on the state of the art in Southeast Asian and Thai archaeology.

Professor Than Tun, having received a Fulbright grant, joined the staff of NIU this summer to teach a course on Burma given in conjunction with SEASSIST. He will return to the fold, from his exile in a distant kingdom to our east, to conduct a seminar on Burma and continue his work with the Royal Orders of Burma. We also expect in future two visiting faculty from Rangoon University to come to NIU while two NIU faculty will go to Burma, part of a program that the Insular trade entrepot of Hawaii has kindly shared with their Mainland agrarian ally of the great plains.
### Courses Offered This Year

#### Interdisciplinary
225  Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World.  Aung-Thwin and Staff

#### Anthropology

- **401** Peoples and Cultures of Southeast Asia. Provencher or Russell
- **490A-J** Anthropological Research Training. Provencher or Russell
- **491** Current Topics in Anthropology. Provencher or Russell
- **492** Southeast Asia Peasant Society. Russell (NEW)
- **590A-J** Independent Study in Anthropology. Provencher or Russell
- **690A-J** Seminar in Anthropology. Provencher or Russell.

#### Art History

- **378** Indian and Southeast Asian Art. Cooler
- **487** Southeast Asian Art. Cooler
- **598** Studies in Oriental Art. Cooler
- **603** Independent Study in the History of Art. Cooler

#### Economics

- **330** International Economics. Scaperlanda
- **540** Theory of Economic Development. Kim
- **530** International Trade Theory. Dalal
- **443** Economic Development. Laumas

#### Foreign Languages and Literatures

- **103-104** Beginning Indonesian. Henry
- **103-104** Beginning Thai. Hartmann
- **203-204** Intermediate Indonesian. Henry
- **203-204** Intermediate Thai. Hartmann
- **381-382** Special Studies in Language (Advanced Thai). Hartmann
- **381-382** Special Studies in Language (Advanced Indonesian). Henry
- **421** Introduction to Indonesian Literature. Henry
- **481-482** Independent Study in a Foreign Language. Hartmann or Henry
- **481-482** Special Topics in Literature. Hartmann or Henry

#### Geography

- **491** Undergraduate Research in Geography

#### History

- **342** History of Southeast Asia to ca. 1800. Wilson
- **343** History of Southeast Asia since ca. 1800. Wilson
- **447** History of Burma. Than Tun and Aung-Thwin (NEW)
- **448T** History of Thailand. Wilson (NEW)
- **449** History of Malaysia and Indonesia. Wilson
- **470** America and Asia. A. Neher
The Cornell Southeast Asia Program and The John M. Echols Collection on Southeast Asia is offering two Rockefeller Foundation Resident Fellowships in the Humanities for 1988-89, to scholars working on original book-length manuscripts in the fields of Southeast Asian history, art history, anthropology, literature, and music. Preference will be given to applicants writing on the
literature of Burma, Cambodia, Laos or Vietnam. Deadline: December 1, 1987. For further details write to: The Director Southeast Asia Program 120 Uris Hall Cornell University Ithaca, NY 14853-7601

The Cornell University Southeast Asia Program has announced the availability of two fellowships for first-year graduate students from Southeast Asia, including Burma, which will be available for the academic year 1988-89 and summer 1989. The fellowships include round-trip transportation, tuition, and living costs, and will be valid for one year only; it is presumed that holders will qualify for assistantships or other fellowships for the second and third years of graduate study. Applications are due by December 15, 1987, and information can be obtained from the Director, Southeast Asia Program, 120 Uris Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853-7601. Tel. 607-255-2378.

SEASSI

The Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI), to be held at the University of Hawaii in the summer of 1988, will offer the following languages: Burmese, Cebuano, Hmong, Ilokano, Indonesian, Javanese, Khmer, Lao, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese. The program has available the following financial aid: National Resource Fellowships (NRF), which pays for tuition and fees and provides a stipend of $1,150 as well as partial travel allowance. This fellowship is open only to US citizens and permanent residents who are currently enrolled in higher education or are high school teachers.

Students currently enrolled at Cornell, Northern Illinois University, Hawaii, Michigan, Ohio University, and University of Madison-Wisconsin may apply for NRFs at the Southeast Asian Studies Centers in these Universities. The Deadline for these applications is February 15, 1988.

There are also SEASSI fellowships, supported in part by the Henry Luce Foundation and the Christopher Reynolds Foundation. These grants provide a small stipend and may be awarded to SEASSI applicants except those who receive NRFs.

In addition, University of Hawaii has tuition and/or fee waivers for qualified students. Except for NRF awardees, one can apply for both SEASSI and/or tuition waivers.

The Deadline for SEASSI fellowship and tuition waiver applications is April 15, 1988. All applications for SEASSI fellowships and tuition waivers must be sent to the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Hawaii.
Advanced Thai Abroad

Modelled after the Malang program, the ATA—heretofore known as AST—was run on a trial basis for the past two years by the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Northern Illinois University. With the expectation of more funding in the future for this program, with increased interest shown by students and scholars of Thai, the need to centralize the program for better efficiency as well as to include as many institutions interested as possible in the decision making process of such a program, the directors of Northern Illinois University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in consultation with those Thai scholars who have been most intimately involved in this program previously, have concluded that a national group (such as COTI) representing a wide array of individuals and institutions, needs to be formed. We hope to convene a meeting (perhaps at the AAS) to officially designate a CONTTA (?) (Consortium for the Teaching of Thai Abroad), reassess the current system for improvement, plan for the summer of 1989, and iron out some of the myriad details that invariably will appear.

If you as an individual and/or your institution are interested in the formation of, and participating in, such a group, please write to Professor John Hartmann, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 140 Carroll Avenue, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois, 60115. Phone: 815-753-1771. Please include your name, specialty, phone number, and address.

Center Mailing List

We are in the process of updating our center newsletter mailing list. We ask that everyone fill out the form below and return it to the Center's office as soon as possible. Please tell any other persons you feel might be interested in our Center activities to send in their names and addresses as well.

I would like to be on the mailing list for the NIU Thai Mandala.

Name:________________________________________

Address:_____________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please mail this form to: Center for Southeast Asian Studies
140 Carroll Avenue
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
THE NIU THAI MANDALA

Northern Illinois University
CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES
140 Carroll Avenue
DeKalb, IL 60115

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