The brevity of these notes does not in any way reflect the lack of activities at the Center. On the contrary, because so much activity is currently going on, we felt the need to be brief.

**Faculty**

Part of that activity includes faculty traveling to Southeast Asia. Rumor has it that six NIU faculty spent about two weeks during the DeKalb winter in beautiful and warm Southeast Asia, lecturing about SEA on the Cunard Line's Sea Goddess II. It's not often that academe bears such luxurious fruits. To be on the Straits of Malacca lecturing about the historic significance of the Straits is something everyone should experience. Naturally, not all six faculty went at the same time, although most used parts of the winter break for their excursion. (One faculty member is still there, and we hope he will do the right thing and return to DeKalb). Some of the faculty are leaving again shortly, to Yunnan as well as various countries in Southeast Asia. Some of us will be teaching at Mount Meru during SEASSI this summer, while several of us are giving papers at the AAS meetings. We have also invited some professors from nearby universities (Southern Illinois Univ., Univ. of Illinois, and Western Illinois Univ.) to become adjunct faculty at the Center; their expertise range from SEA demography to Vietnamese politics.

**The Donn V. Hart Southeast Asian Collection**

The library is winding down its search for a curator of the Hart Collection, who we hope will be here by summer's end. The Collection is progressing well, particularly in building up Burmese and Burmese language materials. The 114 reels of microfilm from the Toyo Bunko of Burma materials are here and cataloged. Also cataloged are the fifty-plus reels from the Baptist Historical Society that we purchased last term. We are still awaiting the seventy-odd reels from the India Office Library containing the Original Settlement Reports conducted by the British soon after annexation in 1885-1886. The microfilm project in Burma has begun, and a formal exchange between NIU and Rangoon University has been approved by the proper authorities. We are investigating the possibility of the Centre of Southeast Asian Studies at Singapore participating in the NIU-Cornell-Rangoon project. By fall, we expect the Burma collection to contain somewhere around 4000 volumes, largely Burmese language materials.

The Philippines segment of the Luce grant is also on schedule. Harriet Hart has nearly completed organizing Donn Hart's field notes and illustrations, which will eventually be microfilmed. They include ethnographic material on certain aspects of the life and customs in the Visayas that no longer exists.

The Southeast Asia children's books project continues on schedule. The development of Thai materials has been delayed by the integration of the new Library of Congress-Luce initiative, with which most of you should be familiar. The Thai materials committee composed of our Thai waidi (nine) are spearheading the LC-Luce "Mainland NPAC" project. Larry Ashmun, Southeast Asia librarian at Cornell, will be here to evaluate the current status of our Thai holdings and suggest options for the future. The status of the Malay manuscript project should be better known by this summer. It includes the microfilming of extremely important, select Malay materials.

**Southeast Asia Lecture Series**

We had a very exciting semester of speakers at our Southeast Asia Lecture Series. An equally exciting group has been, and will be, appearing this term (see complete listing below). We hope those of you reading this from distant mandala will inform us if you are ever in the shadow of the DeKalb stele and honor us with your august breath (for which there is a modest honorarium).

**The Center for Burma Studies**

A shelf list of approximately ninety pages (1056 distinct items) of Burma holdings in the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asian Collection was produced by the CBS recently. It includes both Burmese and English language materials, and other language materials dealing with Burma, such as Chinese. The most current call numbers are included, and a brief description of the Burmese titles will be added with the next issue of this document. The CBS intends to periodically update this list for the benefit of its subscribing members. The director of the CBS is on sabbatical and should return in summer. He is conducting research on Southeast Asian textiles and completing several articles for publication.
Students

The number of graduate students concentrating in Southeast Asian Studies continues to grow. We have received over thirty applications for FLAS and LUCE fellowships, the former offered in Burmese, Thai, and Indonesian. Many are from out of state, and some from Southeast Asia. This year, the graduate school promised to cover all tuition of FLAS recipients, which allowed us to offer eight academic year FLASs. As most of you know, the U.S. Department of Education has increased the stipends for FLAS recipients to $7000. In addition, we continue to offer four Luce fellowships. We hope the committee will reach a decision on grantees by early April. The Southeast Asia Club, composed largely of graduate and undergraduate students concentrating in Southeast Asian Studies, has grown considerably. They recently hosted a delicious dinner with Javanese and Thai dancing and are planning an outing in the spring.

Publications

The MacIntosh computers we use for our publication series remind me of the Little Shop of Horrors; only in this case, the Mac II is the one with the insatiable appetite, not for blood, but for something equally precious, namely, megabytes. It now has five megabytes just for RAM, but can run incredible new programs and spelling checkers without hesitation. The second special volume of Crossroads devoted to Thailand (5:1) will be available shortly after this reaches you. The next issue will be a general one, but will focus on Malaysia and the Philippines (see below for a list of forthcoming works by famous Southeast Asia wallahs). Several of our publications are now out of print, and we are considering reproducing some of these, as, for example, Penny Van Esterik’s Women of Southeast Asia. The more interest that is generated for these publications, the sooner they may come out. If you are interested in using any of our past publications as texts, please contact our editor.

We would like to announce that as of the first week of April, Cellar Book Shop is no longer the sole distributor of our publications. For financial reasons, we have decided to handle the shipping and advertising of our books ourselves. If you have any questions about publications, please do not hesitate contacting the Center directly.

Conferences

Because the Festival of Indonesia is not coming to Chicago, we have decided to hold our own regional Festival of Indonesia in cooperation with the Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia and Friends of the Gamelan (FROG) centered in Chicago. We hope to host a conference on Indonesia sometime in spring or summer of 1991, which will include classical Javanese dancers and, of course, a gamelan concert. If we can find a wandering dalang, a wayang kulit could be part of the program (more on this in future newsletters). The committee for soliciting papers for the conference consists of Professor Dwight King, Patricia Henry, Ron Provencher, and Han Kuo Huang. Please write them, in care of the Center, if you wish to participate.

Here’s to spring, and all the best with all your endeavors!

Michael Aung-Thwin
Director

Various NIU Faculty Embarked to Lecture with Cunard

From as early as November 1989 to February 1990, several NIU faculty were invited to lecture on Southeast Asian studies aboard the luxurious Cunard yacht the Sea Goddess II. The Sea Goddess II is a smaller ship that can sail into inner waterways with little difficulty. It holds a maximum of 116 passengers, with a ratio of crew to passengers of 1:2. The following faculty served as expert lecturers on separate cruises: Richard Cooler, art history; Ron Provencher, anthropology; Susan Russell, anthropology; Michael Aung-Thwin, history and Center for Southeast Asian Studies; Michael Rhum, anthropology; and Grant Olson, Center for Southeast Asian Studies. The Sea Goddess II invites two lecturers on board for each cruise. Michael Aung-Thwin sailed with Stanley Tambiah, anthropology, Harvard University, and Michael Rhum sailed with independent Southeast Asian scholar, Ruth Enge-Heinrich. Itineraries covered various countries from India to Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore. Most faculty members reported having a first-rate, first-class time, and they are ready to go again at a moment’s notice.
NIU Presentations at AAS


Session 39—"Strength of the State in the ASEAN Region." NIU panel paper: Clark Neher, "How Strong are States in Southeast Asia? The Case of Thailand."

Session 54—"New Female Leaders in South and Southeast Asia: The Gender Dimension," Clark Neher, discussant.

NIU Faculty to Appear at SEASSI

Three of Northern Illinois University's faculty will be at the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) at Cornell University, which will take place between June 4 and August 11, 1990. Michael Aung-Thwin, director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, has been asked to offer a "module" on Burma Studies. His lectures will cover the culture, literature, and history of Burma. U Saw Tun, foreign languages and literatures, will be teaching Burmese with John Okell, SOAS, University of London. Santosa, Luce fellowship recipient, school of music, will be teaching gamelan and coordinating gamelan performances.

Society for Ethnomusicology Midwest to Meet at NIU

At press time, the Society for Ethnomusicology Midwest is scheduled to meet at NIU on March 30-31. Of the fourteen papers to be presented, five are related to Southeast Asia. During the meeting, there will be a display of world music (including Southeast Asian music and wayang kulit) prepared by Sandra Reading, Santosa, and Rebecca Schwan, and a display on recent publications of Chinese minorities music (mainly Southwestern Chinese music related to Southeast Asia). In addition, there will be a recital of Chinese music on the evening of March 30 and a world music concert (including gamelan, an Andean ensemble, and a steel band) on the evening of March 31.

New Books on the Philippines at the Donn V. Hart Collection

Indexes, union catalogs, and bibliographies were part of the ninety-five titles of books on the Philippines purchased for the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asian Collection of Founders Memorial Library when Nanie Cruz, visiting librarian, University of the Philippines, made a trip home in December, 1989. A good number of government publications, including issues of the Official Gazette and the Record of the House of Representatives: Proceedings and Debates (1988), popular periodicals, provincial newspapers, and publications of some non-government organizations were also acquired.

The Donn V. Hart Endowment

In 1983, the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asian Collection was established, and in 1989 it was officially endowed. Each year the investment income will be made available to the Collection to help it carry out its mission of serving students and scholars. The Donn V. Hart Southeast Asian Collection is working to see the endowment grow. It seeks your generous, tax-deductible contributions in order to improve the Collection and its services. Contributions may be sent to the NIU Foundation, Attn: Donn V. Hart Endowment, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115 USA. Please make checks payable to the "NIU Foundation." We thank you for your support.

NIU FLIS Update

Notification of funding for the NIU FLIS (Foreign Language Instruction Station) for 1990-91 has been received from the U.S. Department of Education. Interactive lessons for beginning Thai and Indonesian will be field tested starting in the fall semester. A Burmese font has been developed, and pilot lessons will soon follow. Stay tuned.
# SPRING 1990

**SOUTHEAST ASIA LECTURE SERIES SPEAKERS**

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<td>April 27</td>
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<td>Graduate Student, Political Science, Northern Illinois University</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
<td>Gary HAWES</td>
<td>Political Science, University of Michigan</td>
<td>&quot;Changes in the International Economy and Its Impact on SEA Policy&quot;</td>
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Center Associate’s Activities


Hsin Kuo-Huang, school of music, visited Beijing, Kunming, Jinghong (in Sipsong Panna), and Simao, China, from December 1989 to early January 1990, under a grant from the graduate school. The project involved an investigation of the music of the Tai people in Sipsong Panna as compared to the music of Northern Thailand. He has had the following article published recently: “Tradition and Innovation in Balinese Arts,” The Artist (Taipei) 172 (September 1989), 92-99.

On January 31, 1990, Clark Neher, political science, returned from a five-week trip to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, sponsored by the U.S.-Indochina Reconciliation Project. The trip was highlighted by meetings with leading officials and academics. In July, 1990, the Institute of East Asian Studies at the University of California—Berkeley will publish Thai-U.S. Relations in the New International Era, edited by Neher and Wiwat Mungkandi. This volume stems from the Third Bilateral Thai-US Forum held in San Francisco in April, 1989. Neher has also contributed a chapter on Thailand to David Wurzel’s edited book, The Political Economy of Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia, to be published in the spring, 1990, Macmillan.


Among other things, the prolific Susan Russell, anthropology, had the following article published: “The Grand Cañao: Ethnic and Ritual Dilemmas in an Upland Philippine Tourist Festival,” Asian Folklore 48:2 (1989), 247-263. She is also beginning a new series of research projects with fishermen in Zambales.


Sabbaticals

Richard Cooler, director, Center for Burma Studies, remains on leave at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, completing research on design motifs in SEA art. Ladd Thomas is investigating whether key officials in Thailand perceive inter-agency efforts to coordinate the implementation of activities related to the Eastern Seaboard Regional Development Project to be successful.

Graduate Students’ Activities

David Conner, adult and continuing education, has published the following monograph: Distance Education: Why Not?, ACCESS Monograph no. 2 (1989).

From the fall of 1989 to spring of 1990, Andrew Gallagher, adult and continuing education, has been working with Professors Pat and George Henry developing computer-aided instruction for beginning Indonesian. He will complete his MS Ed in May 1990, with an emphasis in TESOL. In the fall of 1990, he will return to NIU, continue in Southeast Asian studies, and begin a PhD in English/TESOL.

The history department chose Barbara Provencher’s research paper (from History 491) for one of their annual cash prizes. The paper is entitled, “The Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society: The Transformation and Change, 1878-1985.”

Michael Rhodes, Luce grant recipient, political science, reports that while he did nothing in the way of publishing during the last holiday season, he has done a great deal of thinking about going to Vietnam in early 1990. He is attempting to get university and Center support to develop his own program that would allow him to study in Vietnam. Anyone care to chip in?

Two Thai students under the direction of Professor Constance Wilson, Nuttanee Ratanaporn Sethakul, have completed their doctoral dissertations. Nuttanee’s is entitled, “Political, Social, and Economic Changes in the Northern States of Thailand Resulting from the Chiang Mai Treaties of 1874 and 1883”; and Ratanaporn’s is entitled, “King Vajiravudh’s Nationalism and Its Impact on the Political Development in Thailand.”
News From Other Mandala

Position Reported at Cornell’s Olin Library

The John M. Echols Collection, Olin Library at Cornell University, is seeking an assistant to the curator. The Collection, with extensive holdings on Southeast Asia, is looking for a dedicated individual with an MLS from an ALA accredited graduate library school, familiarity with Southeast Asia, as well as a research language in the area. Salary is commensurate with experience. Applications should be filed by May 15, but will be accepted until the position is filled. For a full description of the position, contact Ann Dyckman, Personnel Director, Cornell University Library, 201 Olin Library, Ithaca, NY 14853-5301.

Cornell SEA Program to Transcend 102 West

All graduate students or visitors to ol’ 102 West at Cornell who recall taking valuable research materials and belongings home with them for fear that the building might burn down overnight, might be interested to learn that the program will be leaving the ol’ place behind for new digs—640 Stewart Ave. Cornell reports that the new headquarters is a spacious old building built by the Treman family in 1902, with a beautiful view over Cayuga Lake. This new, and we presume safer, home will be called the “George McT. Kahin Center for Advanced Research on Southeast Asia.”

Northwest Consortium Call for Papers

The Northwest Regional Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies has put out a call for papers for their third annual conference on “Change, Identity, and Social Justice.” The conference, to be held October 19-21, 1990, welcomes papers on any subject dealing with historical and contemporary Southeast Asia. Send paper title, brief abstract, and CV by May 15, 1990, to Daniel S. Lev, Program Chair, Southeast Asian Studies, DR-05, 229 Thomson Hall, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195 USA.

Panel Proposal Deadline for 1991 AAS

Please keep in mind that the panel proposal deadline for papers and panels for the 43rd Annual Meeting in New Orleans from April 11-14, 1991, is August 3, 1990. For proposal forms, please write to The Association for Asian Studies, 1 Lane Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109 USA.

Chicago Workshop on Sacred Biography

The University of Chicago’s Buddhism in Asian Culture Workshop will be sponsoring a seminar on “Buddhist Life Stories: Sacred Biography in South and Southeast Asia.” The seminar will be held at the University of Chicago, Swift Hall Commons Room, 1025 East 58th Street, on April 9 (following the AAS meetings) from 9 am to 4 pm. Working papers will be presented by Michael Carrithers, University of Durham; John Strong, Bates College; Jonathan Walters, University of Chicago; Reginald Ray, University of Colorado; and Grant Olson, Northern Illinois University. First questioners are Frank E. Reynolds, Elizabeth Wilson, and Jacob Kinnard from the University of Chicago, and Juliane Schober and Mark Woodward from Arizona State University.

The WorldTeach Program

WorldTeach, a non-profit development program based at Harvard University, has just begun sending teachers to Thailand. Started as a program to send volunteers to teach in Kenya, WorldTeach has grown into its name and now has programs in six countries on four continents.

Volunteers depart for Thailand in early May and October and make a one-year commitment to teach English in a Thai school. “Volunteer” teachers pay a fee of $3360 to cover placement, round-trip airfare, health insurance, orientation, and field support. Student loans can be deferred, and WorldTeach can suggest fund-raising ideas. College graduates of any major may apply.

In Thailand, WorldTeach is sponsored by the Population and Community Development Association (PDA), Thailand’s largest development organization. WorldTeach works directly with the Ministry of Education for school placements. In the United States, WorldTeach is a program of the Phillips Brooks House, Harvard University’s social service organization. Programs in other countries include China, Costa Rica, Poland, Botswana, and Korea. For more information and an application, contact WorldTeach, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138. Telephone (617) 495-5527 or FAX (617) 495-9120.
Publication Information

The Publications Program
Center for Southeast Asian Studies
Northern Illinois University

...announces that it will be taking direct and standing orders for all its publication series beginning immediately!

For a complete listing of available texts and monographs, write to the editor below.

The Center is constantly in search of high-quality manuscripts for its Crossroads journal, Special Report Series, and Occasional Paper Series. For more information on style and format, write to Grant A. Olson, Editor, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 140 Carroll Ave., Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb, IL 60115 USA.

Subscribe!
Subscriptions to Crossroads, a journal of Southeast Asian studies, are available at $10/volume (2 issues/vol.). Next issue (5:1) focuses on Thailand, general issue to follow. For air mail, add $8. Send checks to the Center written out to “Center for Southeast Asian Studies.”

Recent Publications at NIU

Ritual, Power, and Economy

The Center has published a new monograph edited by Susan D. Russell entitled Ritual, Power, and Economy: Upland-Lowland Contrasts in Mainland Southeast Asia. It includes a substantial introduction by the editor and Mark Woodward, as well as five essays by the following authors: Richard O'Connor, Nicola Tannenbaum, F. K. Lehman, E. Paul Durnenburger, and Mark Woodward. This text is priced at $10.00. For personal orders, textbook orders, and availability, contact the Center Publications Program.

Crossroads 42, Special Thai Issue (Part One)

This issue of Crossroads includes a variety of articles based on original research ranging from prostitution in the North, development of the tourist industry on the eastern coast, rice trade around the turn of the century, “ghosts” in old Thai manuscripts, the use of a computer-generated concordance of Phra Lo (or Phra Law), the new use of an old Buddhist term by Buddhadasa Bhikkhu, and more.

Crossroads 5:1, Special Thai Issue (Part Two)

Crossroads issue 5:1 will constitute part two of a focus on Thailand. It includes a panel from the 1988 AAS meetings on “Tai in Tai Context,” a new section on notes and discoveries, and a large number of book reviews. For those of you who have not renewed your subscriptions, please do so as soon as possible at the current annual rate of $10 per year.

Forthcoming Publications:

Konrad Kingshill — “Ku Daeng—Thirty Years Later”

Robert J. Bickner — “An Introduction to the Thai Poem Lilit Phra Law” (The Story of Phra Law)

Also, Penny Van Esterik (editor), Women of Southeast Asia (1982), is being scanned for possible future republication. Please send inquiries to the Center.

Dissertations at Bielefeld


First Steps in Burmese

John Okell’s First Steps in Burmese (130 pp., illustrated, with five C90 cassettes) is now available from SOAS at £30. Contact SOAS, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG.

The NIU Mandala is published by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 140 Carroll Ave., Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115, when the tide is high. We welcome news from other centers and scholars.

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