

# CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • April 25, 2011



**Part of the family:** Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) Indonesia participants Fajar, left in red shirt, and Dhita, far right, explore the life and leadership of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Presidential Museum and Library during their field trip to Springfield April 19. Learn more about the group's second full week at NIU below.

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## 1. Planting ideas and trees before heading to D.C.

Ending their second full week with a farewell reception the day before their departure to

Washington, D.C., on Easter Sunday, **April 24**, participants in the [spring session](#) of the center's Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) focused on leadership in myriad ways during their remaining time at NIU. On Monday, **April 18**, Dino Martinez of NIU's Student Involvement and Leadership office discussed what it means to be a good leader and how to lead others through group work and by recognizing individual strengths. "The SEAYLP students curiously explored questions surrounding how to be an effective leader while maintaining student status," said SEAYLP graduate assistant Shay Galto (sociology). "They learned the



*Taking a break from their workshops, SEAYLP participants bundle up to cheer on the Kane County Cougars with Illinois Math and Science Academy students.*

importance of balancing goals and the unique quality of perseverance." The group also learned about the leadership of Abraham Lincoln in preparation for their Tuesday field trip to Springfield. SEAYLP graduate assistant Laura Iandola (history) discussed the facts of Lincoln's life—how he taught himself to read in order to better educate himself, for example—and how his perseverance in running for office and holding the country together during the Civil War demonstrated qualities of exceptional leadership. "SEAYLPers were able to link the connections between great leadership and a great leader, while exploring ideas on how they can also be great leaders within the community and country," Galto said.

Later in the week, the group was introduced to NIU's Center for Non-Governmental



*The SEAYLP group and Sycamore High School students troop out to plant trees April 21 at the Afton Prairie reserve south of DeKalb.*

Leadership and Development, visited Sycamore High School, planted trees with Sycamore students at Afton Prairie, and worked on their individual country action project plans. During their last week in Washington, D.C., the group is scheduled to visit the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Capitol, various non-governmental organizations, and the U.S. State Department, which funds the program administered by the center with the assistance of NIU's Division of International Programs. The participants will depart for their home countries of Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand on **April 30**. Learn more online by following the [SEAYLP blog](#).

## 2. April 23 conference to address democratization in Southeast Asia, other regional topics

"Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia" will be the topic of discussion

and 15-minute presentations of papers by students at the Southeast Asia Club's annual spring student conference starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, **April 23**, in Altgeld Hall. Among student research topics are border confrontations between Cambodia and South Vietnam; lobbying strategies of Indonesia and Thailand; and the role of the Malay language in Malaysian politics. University of Chicago historian Mark Bradley, a specialist in postcolonial Southeast Asia and twentieth-century U.S. international history, will give the keynote address. The conference begins in Room 315 Altgeld Hall with Bradley's address leading off the afternoon session at 1:30 p.m. A cash prize will be awarded to the best undergraduate and graduate papers. The conference is free and open to all NIU faculty, staff, and students, and interested community members. For a complete list of papers to be presented, see the program posted on the [conference website](#).

### 3. Call for nominations this week: Assistant CSEAS director

Nominations are now being accepted for the position of assistant CSEAS director, a three-year, nine-month-per-year appointment beginning **Aug. 16**. Current CSEAS Council members are eligible to nominate other candidates for this position. Individuals also may nominate themselves. Nominees must be a current tenured or tenure-track NIU faculty member. Nominees who wish to be considered for the position may submit a statement of purpose, their curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation via e-mail or in a written letter to CSEAS Office Manager Nancy Schuneman at [nschunem@niu.edu](mailto:nschunem@niu.edu) or at the center, 520 College View Court, DeKalb, IL 60115. The deadline for nominations is 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, **April 27**. The assistant director receives one additional summer month salary and a reduction of one course per year. The center is exploring ways to make the position an interdisciplinary appointment if possible. See a more detailed job description on the [center website](#).

### 4. Kudos: Deborah Pierce and Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day presenters

\* Associate Provost for the Division of International Programs and center associate Deborah Pierce received a certificate of recognition **April 19** at the 2011 Supportive Professional Staff awards ceremony at the Holmes Student Center. The center warmly congratulates her.

\* Undergraduate students Emily Kruse, a Southeast Asian Studies contract major, and Eleanor



*Emily Kruse and Eleanor Fritz with their poster describing their research on religion and Cambodia at the Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day presentations.*

Fritz, a Southeast Asia minor, made a joint presentation on religion in Cambodia at NIU's second annual [Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day April 20](#) in the Duke Ellington Ballroom at the Holmes Student Center. Emily's research focused on the effects of globalization and the Khmer Rouge on Buddhist practices by young Cambodian adults; Eleanor researched the influences of animism in Buddhism.

Anthropology professor and center associate Judy Ledgerwood served as the students' faculty mentor. Both students participated in Ledgerwood's summer 2010 ethnographic field school in Cambodia, and later conducted further research in rural villages and temples, funded

by a USOAR grant. This year's research and artistry day showcased more than 170 students presenting 110 research projects from 26 academic departments. Also participating in the event was Michael Deinzer, a Southeast Asian Studies minor and communications director for SEA Club. He was a member of a team presenting on bullying behavior in schools. Accolades to all.

### 5. Bring SEA alive at NIU: Be a Southeast Asia Club leader

Interested in helping raise the profile of Southeast Asia and Southeast Asian studies at NIU? The Southeast Asia Club is looking for executive board members for the 2011–12 school year. [Positions open](#) include secretary, treasurer, culture coordinator, conference coordinator, marketing, and outreach. Elections will be held this week on Thursday, **April 28**, location to be determined. For more details, contact the club at [niuseaclub@gmail.com](mailto:niuseaclub@gmail.com).

### 6. See the fall 2010/winter 2011 issue of *Mandala* online



Students go face to face with the ethnographic interview in Cambodia, the center forges new connections, anthropologist and center faculty associate Susan Russell becomes an honorary member of the Manobo tribe in the Philippines, and we look at some of the community projects initiated by past Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) participants. You'll find these stories, faculty news, and more in the latest issue of the center's newsletter, *The Mandala*, online on the [center](#) website.

### 7. Art historian Catherine Raymond, library's Sandar Wynn lead Burma group Wednesday

Art historian and Center for Burma Studies director Catherine Raymond and Sandar Wynn from Founders Memorial Library will discuss customs and traditions in modern Burma at this week's Wednesday Burma study group offered by NIU's Lifelong Learning Institute. The study group will meet 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, **April 27**, in Room 505 Holmes Student Center. The group runs through **May 4**. For details, see the LLI website or e-mail [LASEP@niu.edu](mailto:LASEP@niu.edu).

### 8. Down to one: International Training Office needs YOU to be a host family

Participants in the eighth Philippine Youth Leadership Program ([PYLP](#)) arrived on campus **April 16**, but there is still time to sign up to be a host family for just two weeks in May. The International Training Office is looking for one home to host a male adult leader participating in this program directed by center associates Susan Russell (anthropology) and Lina Davide-Ong (ITO). The six-week program that focuses on peace building in the conflict-torn Mindanao region of the Philippines runs **April 16–May 21**; the home-stay segment is **May 1–14**. Contact host family coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail [lshive@niu.edu](mailto:lshive@niu.edu).

#### Top 10 reasons to be a host family

10. You can experience a different country without getting on a plane
9. It beats watching "Law and Order" reruns
8. You'll be able to pick out Southeast Asia on a map
7. Your kids may start answering you in another language
6. You could become an expert at making sticky rice
5. It's something different to write about on Facebook
4. You'll be the envy of family and friends
3. Your house will be all ready for company
2. Your family portrait could replace the flying cornucob as the international symbol of DeKalb County
1. Your entire family will make friendships of a lifetime

## 10. Save the date: Chicago gamelan concert

- **May 1:** The Chicago-based [Friends of the Gamelan](#) will present an evening of traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan music, led by artistic director Joko Sutrisno of Minneapolis, at 6 p.m. at Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. For details, contact [info@chicagogamelan.org](mailto:info@chicagogamelan.org).

## 11. Job opportunities and money for study

*East-West Center / Hawaii*

- **Graduate Degree Fellowship.** Master's and doctoral funding for graduate students to participate in center's educational and research programs while pursuing advanced degree at University of Hawaii.

*Griffith University / Brisbane, Australia*

- **Postdoctoral/research fellows:** Three positions in international relations and comparative politics open at [Griffith Asia Institute and the Centre for Governance and Public Policy](#). Three-year positions. For details, contact Prof. Jason Sharman at [j.sharman@griffith.edu.au](mailto:j.sharman@griffith.edu.au).

*University of British Columbia / Vancouver*

- **Lecturer in Indonesian Language and Culture.** 12-month position teaching language and culture courses beginning July 1. **Applications reviewed starting March 31.**

## 12. Conferences and calls for papers

- **3rd Annual Khmer Studies Forum**, April 29–30, Athens, Ohio. Sponsored by Ohio University Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Free. For details, see [conference website](#). For transportation and accommodation information, e-mail [cseas@ohio.edu](mailto:cseas@ohio.edu) or Sinoun Kim at [sinounkim@gmail.com](mailto:sinounkim@gmail.com).
- **Visions of the Future, 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Thai Studies**, July 26–28, Bangkok. Hosted by Mahidol University and the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **Enriching Future Generations: Education Promoting Indonesian Self-Development**, June 28–29, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Fourth international Indonesia forum co-sponsored by Yale and Yogyakarta State universities. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **PACSA-PRIO Joint Conference**, Sept. 1–2, Nicosia. Joint conference of the Peace and Conflict Studies in Anthropology and the Prio Cyprus Centre will address the “local” in global understandings of war and peace-making. **Deadline for abstracts: April 30.** Limited number of travel grants available. For details, e-mail [pacsaprio2011conference@gmail.com](mailto:pacsaprio2011conference@gmail.com).
- **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Oct. 28–30, St. Paul, MN. Annual conference at Macalester College invites submissions pertaining to Asia and its subregions from all academic disciplines. **Deadline for abstracts: June 1.** For details, see [conference website](#).
- **Ninth International Conference on the Philippines**, May 22–25, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. Proposals for panels and papers being sought for ICOPHIL-9. Disciplinary and cross-disciplinary sessions. **Deadline for proposals and abstracts: Nov.**

11. Send to ICOPHIL Committee, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI 48824-1035, For details, contact [asiansc@msu.edu](mailto:asiansc@msu.edu).

### 13. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- The [Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute](#) is a non-profit group dedicated to the education, preservation, and promotion of Thai culture and fine arts in the Chicago area through classes and performances. The group is located in the Boys and Girls Club, 3400 S. Emerald St., Chicago. For details, call 312-725-0640 or write Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute, 1960 Oak Knoll Drive, Lake Forest, IL 60045.
- The Indonesian Consulate General in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see the consulate [website](#).
- The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) holds **free traditional Cambodian music and dance lessons** Sundays at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on weekends by appointment.



### CSEAS Quick Links

[CSEAS Calendar](#)

[Southeast Asia Club](#)

*If you are a person with a disability who may need assistance at any center-sponsored event, contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or [nschunem@niu.edu](mailto:nschunem@niu.edu). If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.*

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