

CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • April 29, 2013



DeKalb sixth-grader Tony Un, left, gets a lesson in Balinese gamelan drumming from NIU student and NIU Gamelan Ensemble member Manuel Montalvo at the Southeast Asia Club's first Southeast Asia Culture Festival April 20 in Anderson Hall gymnasium. Details below. (CSEAS photo)

Wrapping up an event-full year

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Help CSEAS grow for next 50

The next half-century for Southeast Asian Studies at NIU will offer exciting opportunities for teaching and learning about this rising region of the world. To keep NIU's program strong, consider making a donation to CSEAS through the NIU Foundation. To contribute by phone or by mail, go to the [How to Make a Gift](#) section of the NIU Foundation website. To make a gift online, go to the [Make a Gift Now](#) section. Click on "Make a Gift Now." Within the pop-up box, designate your gift by selecting "a specific area," then "university wide programs," then "Center for Southeast Asian Studies." **All gifts, large and small, are greatly appreciated.**

1. SEA Culture Festival draws 100 to Anderson Hall

The Southeast Asia Club this year changed up its annual spring cultural event from an evening performance night to a two-hour daytime culture festival, and drew approximately 100 people to Anderson Hall gymnasium on Saturday afternoon, **April 20**, to try it out. For the first hour, students, faculty, and community members (many with kids in tow) strolled around interactive stations from Cambodia, China,



Education doctoral student and Thai dancer Piyathada Sereebenjapol teaches audience members some signature moves.

Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. Each station included information about its respective country, a craft activity or game (in some cases both), cultural artifacts, and authentic food to taste. There were



Philippine FLTA Maryelle Macapia explains some of the items at the Philippines activity station.

Thai *loy krathong* (decorative floats), Javanese *wayang kulit* (shadow puppets), and Chinese lanterns to make. At the Vietnam table, participants could play a dice game and learn how to write their name in Vietnamese. At the Cambodia station, Khmer language instructor Kheang Leang made *by treap*, a Cambodian treat made of sticky coconut rice and sesame seeds, for participants to taste and introduced them to *Sey*, a Cambodian shuttlecock game similar to Hacky Sack, and *Treh*, a game with chopsticks and a lime and similar to playing jacks. In the middle of the gymnasium, there was a

performance area for the musicians and dancers who performed during the second hour of the event. The NIU Gamelan Ensemble performed Balinese gamelan and Education doctoral student Piyathida Sereebenjapol and Thai FLTA Attapol Attanak demonstrated traditional Thai dancing. Philippine Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Maryelle Macapia and graduate student Emily Dow (MA candidate, anthropology) set up two bamboo poles to demonstrate tinikling, a well-known traditional Philippine dance. After each performance, audience members were invited to come up and try it themselves. "I was pleased that we got a good turnout considering there were so many other events happening on campus," said event coordinator and undergraduate Glynnis White (Music Education). "The people who came enjoyed their time."



Sample *loy krathong* float on a 'pond' of glass beads at the Thai table.

2. Center associates update: Buehler receives Northwestern fellowship



Buehler

✳️ Congratulations to Michael Buehler (Political Science), who has been named a Rajawali Research Fellow at Northwestern University's Equality Development and Globalization Studies (EDGS) program for the 2013–14 academic year. Buehler will be conducting comparative research on shari'a policymaking in Indonesia and Malaysia, and as part of his fellowship will present one or two lectures at Northwestern in addition to contributing a working paper to EDGS's working paper series. The fellowship is funded by the Rajawali Foundation in Indonesia. EDGS is hosting a symposium Saturday, **May 18**, at the Buffett Center, 1902 Sheridan Road, which will

feature three presentations relevant to Indonesian politics, Buehler notes. The topics are political corruption in new democracies (comparative study of Indonesia, Brazil and South Korea); democratic transition and state-religion relations and institutional change in Indonesia; and the ruling ambition of the military as it plays out during democratic consolidation processes in Indonesia, the Philippines, Brazil and South Korea. For details, see the [EDGS](#) website.

3. Matthew Jagel named Neher Fellow for 2013–14

Matthew Jagel (PhD student, History) didn't start out to be a Southeast Asianist or a historian for that matter, although Asia was in the background during much of his childhood. He grew up with parents who came of age in the 1960s when U.S. engagement in the region and Vietnam defined the times, and his father lived in Japan and traveled widely in Asia as a youth. Still, when it came time for college, Jagel went a different direction.

"My undergraduate career [at the University of Iowa] was spent in business school, if for no other reason than I was unsure what else to do. I always took history courses, but did not yet see it as a long-term field of study," he wrote in his successful application for the 2013–14 Clark and Arlene Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia. Two years after getting his bachelor's at the University of Iowa in 2003, Jagel came to DeKalb to pursue a master's degree in history. "I enrolled at NIU to reacquaint myself with history to see if it still held an interest for me. I knew immediately I had found my life's work," he said. "This was reinforced when I

studied abroad in Malaysia with Eric Jones. My first taste of life in Asia and I was hooked." He earned an MA in History in 2008 and plunged into the doctoral program, taking up Khmer after spending time in Cambodia. Jagel, whose research interests are U.S.-Southeast Asia diplomatic history focusing on Cambodia, is pursuing his doctorate with faculty advisor and CSEAS associate Kenton Clymer (History). Jagel spent the 2011–12 academic year in Cambodia on a Fulbright Research Fellowship. There, he immersed himself in archival materials to further his dissertation research on Cambodian nationalist figure Son Ngoc Thanh, who influenced Cambodia's push for independence before and after World War II. "[My] dissertation will add to both the existing historiography of Cambodian history and American relations with



Jagel in the field in Cambodia during his Fulbright year there.

Cambodia,” said Jagel, now in his fourth year of study. “In analyzing this man, this period in time, one will have a better understanding of the geopolitical considerations that influenced American foreign policy.” The Neher fellowship, he said, will allow him to pursue future in-country archival work and to continue his study of the Khmer language, which is essential to translate documents as well as conduct necessary interviews in Khmer. “Being immersed full-time in Cambodia gave me a newfound appreciation for the country, the people and the culture, and renewed my passion for my work,” Jagel said. He is the twelfth graduate student to receive the endowed Neher fellowship, which was established in 2002 by NIU political scientist emeritus and former CSEAS Director Clark Neher and External Programming Director emeritus and CSEAS associate Arlene Neher. The \$5,200 fellowship plus tuition waiver is awarded in spring to one advanced-level graduate student planning research in Southeast Asia.

4. Student News: SEA Club elections, travel bonanza, new summer FLAS fellow

Get on board with the Southeast Asia Club. Elections for next year's executive board will be held at 9 p.m. Monday in the Holmes Student Center hotel lobby. Open officer positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Culture Night Coordinator, Conference Coordinator, Outreach Chair and Marketing Director. Coming off a successful year of academic, cultural, and service activities, this is a good time to get involved in the club, says Vice President Matt Ropp: “Involvement in the Southeast Asia Club is a great way to get direct



Leonhardt

experience in leadership, planning, programming, and community engagement. It also gives a real-world resumé-building opportunity. There's no reason not to participate!” . . . Undergraduate Ron Leonhardt (History/Southeast Asian Studies), headed to the Khmer School of Language in Phnom Penh this summer on a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship, has won the triple crown of additional travel funding with a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, a Provost's Travel Grant for Study Abroad, and the University Honors Program's Enhance Your Education (EYE) grant. Way to go, Ron! . . . Congratulations also to undergraduate

Taryne Heredia (Anthropology), who has won a summer FLAS award to study Thai at Payap University.

5. Two summer classes top summer/fall SEA course offerings

Two summer courses—one on the Vietnam War, HIST 469, taught by CSEAS associate Eric Jones (History) and the other on women in Asian history, HIST 346, taught by History PhD candidate Coral Carlson—top the list of summer/fall Southeast Asian Studies course offerings now posted on the [Center website](#). In fall, Southeast Asia language and literature classes on the



list include Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Tagalog and Thai, in addition to Chinese. Fall anthropology classes include ANTH 422/522, Gender in Southeast Asia (Judy Ledgerwood); ANTH 304/790, Muslim Cultures in Anthropological Perspectives (Andrea Molnar); and ANTH 491/628, Current Topics in Anthropology: Religion and Cosmology in Southeast Asia (Andrea Molnar). The Geography department will offer GEOG 408/508, Tropical Environmental Hazards (Mace Bentley) and History will offer HIST 448, History of Indonesia (Eric Jones). Political Science

classes include POLS 362, Politics of Developing Areas (Kheang Un) and POLS 665, Origins of Political Order (Michael Buehler). CSEAS will offer its Southeast Asia survey course, ILAS 225, Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World (instructor of record, Judy Ledgerwood), in addition to

an online course, ILAS 490, Southeast Asia through Film and Literature (Rhodalyne Gallo-Crail). Students interested in learning to play gamelan may sign up for MUSE 370/670, Gamelan I, an ensemble class open to music majors and to non-music majors with School of Music consent. Two courses will be offered online: ILAS 490, Southeast Asia through Film and Literature (Rhodalyne Gallo-Crail), and FCNS 384, Asian American Families (Florensia Surjadi). ILAS 490 is a hybrid online class, meeting online and three Saturday afternoons on site at the NIU-Hoffman Estates campus. All of these courses can be applied toward SEA Studies minors/contract majors or graduate concentrations.

6. Burnish your resumé: Sign up for SEA Studies minor or grad concentration

Adding a minor to an undergraduate degree or a graduate concentration to an advanced degree can pull a resumé up to the top of the pile. To learn about NIU's Southeast Asian Studies programs, visit the [CSEAS website](#) or stop by Pottenger House, 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julie Lamb at jlamb@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Trude Jacobsen at tjacobsen1@niu.edu.

7. Summer deadlines for fall regional SEA conferences

It's not too early to be thinking about fall Southeast Asia conferences in the area. The annual Council on Thai Studies (COTS) annual meeting will return to NIU the weekend of **Oct. 18–19**. COTS, which was organized by NIU Thai studies faculty in 1972, is an informal organization of Midwest scholars interested in all aspects of Thai studies. Graduate students are encouraged to submit papers. **Deadline for abstracts: July 1**. The deadline to register is **Sept. 20**. Conference organizers include CSEAS associates John Hartmann (Foreign Languages and Literatures), Julia Lamb (CSEAS), Chalermsee Olson (Founders Library), Danny Unger (Political Science, and Grant Olson (Foreign Languages and Literatures), who is coordinating abstract submissions. Send brief abstracts including contact information and institutional affiliation to him at golson@niu.edu. See COTS [website](#) for additional details.

Following COTS, Michigan State University in East Lansing is hosting the 62nd Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs the weekend of **Oct. 25–27**. The conference, the Midwestern affiliate of the Association for Asian Studies, is the largest such regional AAS meeting. **Deadline for proposals for panels, roundtables and individual papers: June 15**. Assistant CSEAS Director Trude Jacobsen (History) is the Southeast Asia representative on the conference's executive committee. She encourages undergraduate and graduate students to submit papers; the conference offers three [prizes](#) for papers written by students. For information, see the [conference website](#).

8. Books for Indonesia at Chicago: Student collecting volumes for charitable project

Rahmi Hartati (EdD student) is conducting a book drive for a Chicago-based nonprofit organization, Books for Indonesia, which collects books from schools, libraries, and individuals to be redistributed in remote areas of Indonesia. The group is looking for fiction and non-fiction books for readers young and old, Hartati said. Books may be sent directly to the group at: Books for Indonesia, in care of Ira Raichandani, 1930 Gunderson, Berwyn, IL 60402. Hartati is also willing to pick up local donations; email her at rhartati1@niu.edu. For more details about the group, see Books for Indonesia on [Facebook](#) or email BooksForIndonesia@gmail.com.

9. **Save the dates:** Asian American Month winds down; last chance to see SEA exhibits

- **Through May 5:** Asian American Month. See activities [schedule](#) online.
- **May 1:** Last day to see “Our Unraveled Tapestry: A Celebration of Commonalities in Material Culture Amongst Insular Southeast Asia, Madagascar and Oceania” by anthropology graduate student Anthonie Tumpag, Stevens Building lobby.
- **May 15:** Last day to see 50th Anniversary exhibit, “Rarely Seen Southeast Asia: Art, Artifact, Ephemera,” curated by Richard Cooler, NIU Anthropology Museum.

10. Job/internships opportunities

Asia Society

- **Career opportunities:** Internships and jobs posted regularly on [website](#).

Cascade Asia Advisors

- **Part-time senior analyst:** Seattle-based research and consulting firm seeking analyst to contribute to firm’s Southeast Asia Report. PhD candidate or MA degree holder with experience living in Southeast Asia preferred. Job location negotiable. Send resume and cover letter to info@cascadeasia.com. See company [website](#) for details.

Chadron State College

- **History faculty:** Tenure-track position at this Nebraska college. **Deadline to apply: April 25.** See job listing on [H-Net](#).

Freedom House

- **Southeast Asia intern:** Four- to six-month position open to BA in political science, international relations or Southeast Asian Studies. See [website](#) for details.

Indoteach

- **K-12 teaching positions:** Singapore-based organization seeks native English speakers to teach wide range of subjects from math to sociology in English. Teaching credentials preferred but not required. **Apply by April 30.** See [website](#).

KITLV (Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies)

- **Junior postdoctoral researcher:** One-year position starting in August or September. Affinity with new digital tools and research methods preferred. **Apply by May 1.** For details, email Professor Henk Schulte Nordholt at schultenordholt@kitlv.nl.

Kroll Advisory Solutions

- **Full-time and part-time internships:** Immediate openings in the company’s Washington, D.C., Research Center for candidates with Indonesia language and travel experience. See company [job board](#) for details.

World Health Organization

- Global public health nonprofit based in Geneva, Switzerland, encourages online applications for potential employment. See [WHO website](#).

Idealist.org

- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. For details, see the [Idealist website](#).

11. Money for study

Institute for Indonesian Studies

- **Research grants:** \$5,750 grants available for graduate and postdoctoral students pursuing research in Indonesia. Program funded by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Forms are available at [AIFIS website](#).

East-West Center, Hawaii

- **Graduate degree fellowships:** Funding for graduate students to participate in residential, educational and research programs for 2013 at [East-West Center](#) while pursuing degree at University of Hawaii.

University of Leeds

- **Post-graduate Thai Studies research scholarships:** Funded by Royal Thai Embassy, London, for three 2013–14 scholarships at Leeds School of Modern Languages and Cultures with six months of field work in Thailand. Begins October 2013. **Deadline to apply: July 1.** For details, see [Leeds website](#).

University of Michigan

- **Four-week library fellowship for Southeast Asian scholars:** Provides reimbursement for international airfare, research funds, stipends and housing for students affiliated with an education institution in Southeast Asia and pursuing research relevant to Southeast Asian Studies. Offered by University of Michigan CSEAS and Library. **Deadline to apply: May 31.** For details, see [UM-CSEAS website](#).

12. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **1st International Conference on Southeast Asian Archaeology**, May 7–10, Burapha University, Thailand. For details, email spafa@seameo-spafa.org or see [conference website](#).
- **5th South and Southeast Asian Association for the Study of Culture and Religion Conference**, May 16–19, Manila. Theme: Healing, Belief Systems, Cultures and Religions of South and Southeast Asia. See [conference website](#).
- **8th International Convention for Asia Scholars (ICAS)**, June 24–27, Macao. See [conference website](#).
- **Dynamics of Religion in Southeast Asia**, June 26–29, University of Goettingen, Germany. For information, see [conference website](#).
- **7th European Association of European Southeast Asian Studies (EuroSEAS) Conference**, July 2–5, School of Social and Political Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal. See [EuroSEAS website](#).
- **Indonesia Council Open Conference 2013**, July 11–12, Hobart, Tasmania. Call for papers for multi-disciplinary conference at University of Tasmania. See [conference website](#).
- **The Study of Southeast Asia Today: Dialogue at NUS**, Aug. 14–16, Singapore. Call for papers for this inaugural conference organized by the National University of Singapore's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. For details, email Marcel Bandur at marcel@nus.edu.sg.
- **International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD)**, Aug. 22–23, Bangkok. See [conference website](#) or email info@icird.org.
- **International Conference on Indonesian Development**, Sept 12–14, The Hague. Conference at International Institute of Social Studies, sponsored by the Indonesian Student Associations in Netherlands. Call for papers. **Extended deadline to submit: April 30.** See [conference website](#). **NEW**
- **6th International Indonesia Forum**, Sept. 21–22, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Call for papers for this conference at Sunan Kalijaga University. See [conference website](#).

- **Framing the Global**, Sept. 26–28, Bloomington, Ind. Sponsored by the Indiana University Center for the Study of Global Change and Indiana University Press. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **Inter-Asian Connections IV**, Oct. 2–5, Istanbul. See [conference website](#) or email interasia@ssr.org.
- **Canadian Council on Southeast Asian Studies**, Oct. 17–19, Montreal. Call for papers. **Deadline to submit: June 30**. See [conference website](#).
- **Council on Thai Studies**, Oct. 18–19, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. Call for papers posted at www.thaistudies.org. Send brief abstracts including contact information and institutional affiliation to golson@niu.edu. **Deadline for abstracts: July 1; deadline to register: Sept. 20**.
- **62nd Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Oct. 25–27, Michigan State University, East Lansing. Call for papers. **Deadline for proposals and abstracts: June 15**. See [conference website](#) for details. **NEW**
- **5th International Graduate Student Conference on Indonesia**, Oct. 30–31, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. Call for papers. **Deadline to submit: July 12**. For details, see [conference website](#). **NEW**
- **Framing 'Asian Studies': Geopolitics, Institutions and Networks**, Nov. 18–19, Leiden, the Netherlands. Junior scholars encouraged to submit to this conference at the International Institute for Asian Studies. **Deadline to submit: April 30**. See [conference website](#) or email Dr. Albert Tzeng at a.tzeng.ias@gmail.com.
- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. **Deadline for abstracts: Sept. 1**. For details, see [conference website](#) or email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au.

13. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- Chicago Friends of the Gamelan spring concert, featuring traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan pieces directed by guest artistic director Midiyanto, will be held at 4 p.m. **May 4**, Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago. For the second year, an original composition by Alex Yoffe will debut. Suggested donation is \$15 for adults, \$5 for students. For details, see Friends [website](#) or find the group on Facebook.
- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit is 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 Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see consulate [website](#).

Persons with a disability who may need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or nschunem@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.