

# CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Feb. 14, 2011



An ondel-ondel, a giant Betawai (Jakarta) puppet used in parades in Indonesia, rallies support for the Prosperous Justice Party at a mass political event in 2009 in Jakarta. Learn more about how Indonesia's main Islamist party has forged a role in moderate Indonesian politics at this week's CSEAS lecture.

## This week's lecture: Indonesia's PKS party and the future

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### 1. This week's CSEAS lecture: Michael Buehler on Indonesian politics



Michael Buehler

NIU assistant political science professor and center associate Michael Buehler will present "Indonesia's Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) in National and Local Politics" at this week's center lecture from noon to 12:50 p.m. Friday, **Feb. 18**, in Room 110 in the Campus Life Building. Based on his analysis of the political trajectory of the Prosperous Justice Party, Indonesia's main Islamist party, Buehler will argue that party formation, not institutional incentives, plays a key role in the process of moderation. *Bring your lunch and feed your mind.*

### Postcard from the Philippines



**2. Peace sign:** NIU anthropologist and center associate Susan Russell, center in purple scarf, was made an honorary member of the indigenous Manobo tribe in the Philippines in January, the first non-Filipino to receive the honor. For the past eight years, Russell and Lina Davide-Ong of the NIU International Training Office have directed a U.S. State Department-sponsored program to help bring peace to the conflict-torn region, working with teenagers and young adults on conflict resolution and leadership skills. See complete story in [NIU Today](#). (photo / Kate Wiegele)

### 3. CSEAS faculty associates prepare panels for upcoming AAS conference

What could be better than presenting one's research before an audience of one's peers?

Doing so in Hawaii after slogging through a frozen winter in DeKalb. Five CSEAS faculty associates—from the political science, anthropology, and foreign languages and literatures departments—along with center outreach coordinator Julie Lamb will be leading or presenting on panels at the upcoming meeting of the Association of Asian Studies and the International Convention of Asia Scholars **March 31–April 3** in Honolulu. Assistant political science professor and CSEAS assistant director Kheang Un will lead the April 1 Cambodia panel "Historical Narratives



*Hawaii calls Southeast Asian scholars this spring.*

and Societal Change in Cambodia since 1979” while colleagues Kikue Hamayotsu and Michael Buehler discuss contemporary Indonesia politics in two other sessions. Hamayotsu is both the discussant and a participant on “Various Faces of Political Islam in Democratic Indonesia: Origins, Processes, and Consequences” on April 1. Buehler is presenting “The Politics of Executive Elections in Indonesia” April 2 on the panel “Democracy, Decentralization, and Islam: The Politics of Contemporary Indonesia.” Anthropology professors Judy Ledgerwood and Susan Russell will be presenting on Cambodia and the Philippines respectively. Ledgerwood will discuss “Community and Religious Ceremony in Cambodia: Pchum Ben and Social Change” April 1 on the “New Forms of Social Organization in Cambodia” panel. Russell is directing a two-part discussion on April 1 and 2, “The Challenges of Peace and Development in the Southern Philippines,” which she organized with Patricio Abinales of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Russell will be the discussant for the April 1 session. Foreign languages and literatures professor John Hartmann will present “Translating Aspects of Thai Humor” April 1 on a roundtable about translating old Thai literature. The center’s Julie Lamb will discuss online language learning resources developed through CSEAS and NIU April 1 at a workshop on using media and language acquisition sponsored by the AAS Committee on Teaching about Asia.



**Constance Wilson**

The AAS/ICAS conference’s more than 600 panels will also include a session dedicated to the memory of late NIU history professor and CSEAS associate Constance Wilson, who died in February 2010 and whose private collection of books and manuscripts was bequeathed by her family to the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection of NIU’s Founders Library. A panel entitled “The Intellectual Legacy of Southeast Asian Historian Constance Wilson,” sponsored by the AAS Thailand, Laos, Cambodia Studies Group, was organized with the help of John Hartmann. The panel will include presentations by Ian G. Baird (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Nicola Tannenbaum (Lehigh University), Richard A. O’Connor (University of the South), and Ratanaporn Sethakul (Payap University), whose dissertation Wilson directed while Sethakul was a student at NIU. Sethakul also contributed a chapter to Wilson’s last book, *The Middle Mekong River Basin: Studies in Tai History and Culture*, which was published by CSEAS in 2009 shortly before Wilson’s death.

#### **4. Get your paper on: Abstracts accepted until Feb. 28 for SEA Club student conference**

Students who want to share the results of their Southeast Asia research will have the chance to do so Saturday, **April 23**, at the Southeast Asia Club’s annual spring student conference. The conference theme is “Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia.” University of Chicago historian Mark Bradley, a specialist in postcolonial Southeast Asia and twentieth-century U.S. international history, will give the keynote address. A cash prize will be awarded to the best undergraduate and graduate papers. Abstracts should be 400 words and will be accepted until **Feb. 28** with final papers due **March 23**. Send abstracts



to conference organizer Robert Kollas at [rkollas@niu.edu](mailto:rkollas@niu.edu). More details are available on the [conference website](#).

### 5. Not too early to apply for a summer FLAS grant

Thinking about spending the summer learning Thai, Vietnamese or another Southeast Asian language? Then think about applying for a summer [Foreign Language and Area Studies \(FLAS\) grant](#), which provides for language study at approved institutions in the U.S. (see item 12 below) or in Southeast Asia. The program is open to both undergraduate and graduate students; deadline to apply is **March 1**. For FLAS information and applications as well as a list of approved overseas programs, see [Student Funding](#) on the center website.

### 6. Summer study abroad in SEA through NIU: Malaysia/Brunei, Thailand

NIU is offering two opportunities to study abroad in Southeast Asia this summer with NIU faculty members and center associates.

Andrea Molnar, associate professor (anthropology), is leading a group to Thailand to explore cultural diversity while associate professor Eric Jones



*On the waterfront in Thailand (photo by Andrea Molnar)*

(history) will take students to Malaysia and Brunei. Both are NIU study abroad programs offering course credit for graduate and undergraduate students. For information about programs, financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; or e-mail [niuabroad@niu.edu](mailto:niuabroad@niu.edu). **Deadline to apply for summer study abroad travel grants: May 6.**

- **Study Abroad Malaysia/Brunei: History and Culture of Southeast Asia, May 15–June 3:** Three-week program led by associate history professor Eric Jones incorporates a home-stay experience with significant time spent in Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Penang, the jungles of Sarawak and Borneo, and the Islamic center of Brunei. Financial aid available to qualified applicants. For more details, see Jones's video on [YouTube](#). **Deadline to apply: March 15.**
- **[Cultural Diversity in Thailand](#), May 30–June 25:** Three-week program led by associate anthropology professor Andrea Molnar focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The course introduces students to the culture and diversity of cultural groups in Thailand, the existing power relations between dominant and minority groups, and the practical implications of these relations in everyday Thai life. Program includes lectures, briefings, field trips, and visits to Thai sites including temples, museums, the Royal Palace, markets, and beaches. On field visits, NIU

students will be paired with Thai students. Financial aid available to qualified applicants. **Deadline to apply: April 15.**

### 7. Genocide lecture series addresses prospects for governmental change in Burma



Shahin  
Aftabizadeh

Anthropology graduate student Shahin Aftabizadeh will present “Reforming State Abuse in Burma: Governmental Change and Grassroots Projects” from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, **Feb. 16**, in Room 100, Campus Life Building. Aftabizadeh will analyze the use of documentation projects focusing on issues of human rights abuse as a means of resisting state dominance in Burma/Myanmar. His talk is part of the NIU Genocide and Human Rights Lecture Series sponsored by the NIU Genocide and Human Rights Institute. Aftabizadeh is a CSEAS graduate assistant for the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP).

### 8. There are a lot of good reasons to be a SEAYLP host family

NIU and the center are actively looking for local households to act as hosts **April 10–22** for twenty-two high school students and four adult leaders from Burma, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand participating in the spring session of the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). Students are placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Host families provide a bed for each participant, breakfast each day and most dinners, all meals during one free weekend (**April 16–17**), and transportation to and from class sessions at NIU. For details, contact NIU host family coordinator (and past host) Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail [lshive@niu.edu](mailto:lshive@niu.edu). For details about the SEAYLP program, see the [center website](#).

#### 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 Khmer or Malay or Vietnamese
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 corn cob as the international symbol of DeKalb County
1. Your family will make friendships of a lifetime

### 9. Lifetime Learning Institute to hold Burma study group this spring



NIU’s [Lifelong Learning Institute](#) is offering a Wednesday study group beginning **March 16** to learn about the history, culture, geography, politics, international relations, and everyday life in Burma/Myanmar from faculty associates of NIU’s centers for Burma Studies and Southeast Asian Studies. “This promises to be a visually rich study group as NIU’s Southeast Asian studies faculty share their photographs, from slides taken in the 1970s to digital pictures taken as recently as December 2010,” said former CSEAS associate Arlene Neher, who is convening the group with Catherine Raymond, director of the Center for Burma Studies, professor Kenton Clymer (history), and emeritus faculty Richard Cooler, Clark Neher, and George Spencer plus several international students from Burma. The study

group will meet 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays **March 16** to **May 4**. For details, contact the institute at 815-753-5200 or [LASEP@niu.edu](mailto:LASEP@niu.edu).

#### 10. International Training Office seeking host families for PYLP program



NIU's International Training Office (ITO) is looking for area families to act as hosts in May for twenty-two Muslim and non-Muslim youth and four adult leaders from the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao who are coming to NIU in April to participate in the eighth Philippine Youth Leadership Program ([PYLP](#)), directed by center associates Susan Russell (anthropology) and Lina Davide-Ong (ITO). The six-week program 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).

#### 11. **Save the dates:** Club meetings, lectures, award deadlines, spring student conference

- **Feb. 14:** Next meeting of the [Southeast Asia Club](#), 6 to 7 p.m., Room 480, DuSable Hall. Subsequent meetings at same time and location **Feb. 28**, **March 21**, **April 4**, and **April 18**. For info, e-mail [niuseaclub@gmail.com](mailto:niuseaclub@gmail.com).
- **Feb. 15:** Proposals for faculty Summer Research and Artistry Awards due for summer 2011 research activities. For submission details, see Division of Research and Graduate Studies [website](#).
- **Feb. 23:** Joseph Nye, former dean of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, will give a lecture at 1 p.m. in the Altgeld Hall Auditorium with a reception to follow. Nye's appearance is co-sponsored by the political science department, the Zeta Gamma chapter of Phi Beta Delta, and NIU's offices of International Programs and the President, and the Zeta Gamma chapter of Phi Beta Delta. For details, call 815-753-1011.
- **March 3:** Center associate John Hartmann will co-present "Folk Epidemiology Recorded in Palm Leaf Manuscripts of Laos" with Bethany Elkington (University of Illinois-Chicago) at the NIU Division of International Programs [Brown Bag Series](#) at noon in 300 Faraday West.
- **April 15:** Southeast Asia Club spring culture night at Wirtz Hall, time and location to be announced.
- **April 23:** [Southeast Asia Club](#)'s annual spring [student conference](#) on Southeast Asia at NIU. This year's topic: "Resistance Movements and Democratization in Southeast Asia." Abstracts accepted until **Feb. 28**; final papers due **March 23**.

#### 12. SEASSI applications available online

Applicants for this summer's Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute ([SEASSI](#)), set for June 13–Aug. 5, can do the paperwork online to apply. The eight-week intensive Southeast Asia language course held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is open to undergraduates, graduate students, and professionals. Languages taught are Burmese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Javanese, Khmer, Lao, Thai, and Vietnamese. NIU students who wish to apply for a summer FLAS fellowship for SEASSI must submit applications to CSEAS by [March 1](#). Tuition scholarship applications from SEASSI are due **April 15**. For details on SEASSI, e-mail [seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu](mailto:seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu).

### 13. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

- **Advanced Filipino Abroad Program, June 11–Aug. 6**  
The University of Hawaii’s Advanced Filipino Abroad Program is seeking intermediate students for intensive eight-week training in advanced Tagalog at Ateneo de Manila University and Bulacan State University. **Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 14.** The U.S. State Department-funded project is supported by the SEA Consortium Centers (including CSEAS) and the Consortium for the Advancement of Filipino. Program funded through 2011; this may be last year it is offered. Selected participants get free transportation, board and lodging, instructional materials, field trips, and some stipend. Contact program director Teresita Ramos at [teresita@hawaii.edu](mailto:teresita@hawaii.edu) or see [program website](#). **NEW**
- **Advanced Indonesian Abroad Program, June 13–Aug. 13**  
Applications for priority consideration for the 2011 Advanced Indonesian Abroad (COTIM) program at the Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana in Salatiga, Indonesia, are due **Feb. 16**. Letters of recommendation are due **Feb. 25**. Nine-week intensive Indonesian language program is Fulbright-funded and coordinated through the Southeast Asian Studies Program at Ohio University. NIU is a participating COTIM institution. For details and application materials, see [COTIM website](#).
- **Advanced Study of Khmer (ASK) Summer Abroad Program, June 13–Aug. 5**  
The Advanced Study of Khmer (ASK) Summer Abroad Program offers intensive eight-week training in Khmer language and culture for third-year students in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Applications due: **Feb. 28**. Administered by University of Hawaii Khmer language program; funded by U.S. Department of Education, Fulbright-Hays, and Group Projects. For details, see [program website](#).

NOTE: Students interested in taking language or area studies abroad through non-NIU programs are advised to work through NIU’s Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall. By doing so, students can receive NIU credit and possibly have NIU financial aid apply, in addition to liability and insurance protections.

### 14. Conferences and call for papers

- **AAS-ICAS Joint Conference**, March 31–April 3, Honolulu, Hawaii. Association of Asian Studies and International Convention of Asia Scholars annual meeting. See list of [Southeast Asia panels](#), the [entire conference program](#) and other details on the [conference website](#).
- **Borders and Frontiers: Connections between Power, Ideology, and Identity in Southeast Asia**, Nov. 11, Columbia University, New York. Hosted by Weatherhead East Asian Institute. **Deadline for abstracts: Feb. 23**. Contact [cb2462@columbia.edu](mailto:cb2462@columbia.edu). For details, see [institute website](#). **NEW**
- **Transforming Cambodia Studies: Social Change and Cultural Transitions Since 1979**, July 7–9, Siem Reap, Cambodia. **Deadline for abstracts: Feb. 28**; scholars will be informed of acceptance by early April. For details, see the [conference website](#) or e-mail [conference@khmerstudies.org](mailto:conference@khmerstudies.org).
- **ASEASUK Conference**, Sept. 9–11, Magdalene College, Cambridge. Papers being sought By Malay/Indonesian manuscript studies panel on all aspects of the study of

the writing traditions of maritime Southeast Asia. **Deadline for abstracts: March 30.** Contact [Annabel.Gallop@bl.uk](mailto:Annabel.Gallop@bl.uk). **NEW**

- **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. **Deadline for abstracts: March 31.** Send to Frank Dhont, Yale University, at [frank.dhont@yale.edu](mailto:frank.dhont@yale.edu). See [conference website](#). **NEW**
- **Visions of the Future, 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Thai Studies**, July 26–28, Bangkok. Abstracts are still being requested for papers for this conference hosted by Mahidol University and the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia. For details, e-mail [thaistudies2011@gmail.com](mailto:thaistudies2011@gmail.com).

### 15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities



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. Sunday, **May 1**, at Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. The group also offers beginning gamelan lessons and a performance ensemble. Contact [info@chicagogamelan.org](mailto:info@chicagogamelan.org).

- 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](#)

[Conferences and calls for papers](#)

[Money for study: Fellowships, scholarships, and more](#)

*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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