

CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Jan. 21, 2013



Students conduct interviews with village temple leaders during the 2007 Cambodia Field School conducted by CSEAS Director and anthropology professor Judy Ledgerwood. Details on this summer's upcoming field school study abroad below.

Weekly lectures, film series, study abroad

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Help CSEAS grow for the next 50

The next 50 years 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." Enter an amount and complete the process. **All gifts, large and small, are greatly appreciated.**

1. This week's lecture: Delving into the mystery of a Burmese sword

Political science PhD candidates Thomas Rhoden and Nicole Loring will present "The Blade and the Brahman: Deciphering a *dha* Sword from Burma," at noon Friday, **Jan. 25**, in Room 110 (Honors office), Campus Life Building. This collaborative interdisciplinary project explores the history of Southeast Asian *dha* swords and analyzes one particular sword from Burma using historical accounts, linguistics, and metallurgy in order to discern its origin and intended use. To order an Indonesian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at [CSEAS Brown Bag Lunch Order](#).



Graduate students Nicole Loring, left, and Thomas Rhoden, right, discuss the subject of their study, a Burmese *dha* sword, with art historian and professor emeritus Richard Cooler and their seminar instructor history professor Trude Jacobsen. (CSEAS photo)

Orders must be cancelled online by 10 a.m. Friday. Lunches that are not picked up and have not been cancelled must still be paid for. Cost is \$5 for students and \$6 for faculty, staff and others. Payments may be made in cash or by check. For details, e-mail seabrownbag@gmail.com. CSEAS is not responsible for taking or cancelling lunch orders.

2. Study cultural anthropology field methods in Cambodia this summer



Professor **Judy Ledgerwood** (anthropology) will lead a four-week ethnographic field school this summer in Cambodia from **June 15 to July 13**. Focusing on the rebirth of Cambodian Buddhism, participants will study Cambodian culture, religion, and various field-study methods, including surveys, interviews and observation. A collaborative project with the Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA) in Phnom Penh, the field school is open to both RUFA and American students from NIU and other U.S. institutions.

"The 2013 field school is very similar to previous field schools in Cambodia in that it is in collaboration the Royal University of Fine Arts and it is an anthropology field methods class," Ledgerwood said. "But it is new in that we hope to conduct the field work in a new area and to possibly include Muslim communities as well as Buddhist communities. The range is thus wider, looking at the re-establishment of religion over the last 20 years. We will conclude as usual with a visit to Angkor Wat and the other temples in the Angkor region." Advanced undergraduate students or graduate students from all majors and colleges are welcome to apply. More details and online link to apply are available through [NIU Study Abroad](#). **Deadline**

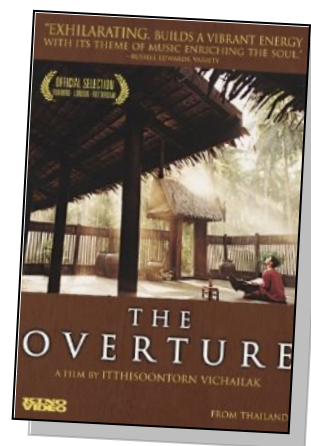
to apply: April 1. Three to six hours of undergraduate or graduate credit will be awarded for satisfactory participation in the program. For details, email Ledgerwood at jledgerw@niu.edu. For information on financial aid, travel grants, scholarships or applications, contact the Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. Learn more about studying abroad at Study Abroad 101, a one-time session that meets at 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays in 417 Williston.

3. The NIU Gamelan Ensemble wants you!

CSEAS Associate Jui-Ching Wang (music) is recruiting members for the NIU Gamelan Ensemble for spring semester. “We'll have a lot of performance opportunities and will study a traditional dance *Tari Janger* (and the gamelan accompaniment part),” Wang says. The group meets from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays in Room 102 in the Music Building. If interested in joining the group (as a musician or dancer), email Wang at jcwang@niu.edu.

4. Film kicks off 2013 50th Anniversary Calendar activities

- **Jan. 23:** Anniversary Film Series starts its spring screenings with the musical-drama, *The Overture* (Thailand, 2004), 6 p.m. Room 110, Jack Arends Art Building. Other films are slated for **Feb. 13:** *Here Comes the Bride* (Philippines, 2010), 6 p.m. Room 100, Campus Life; **March 6:** *The Lady* (Burma, 2011), 6 p.m. Room 110, Art Building; **April 17:** *Yes or No* (Thailand, 2011), 6 p.m. Room 100, Campus Life.
- **March 1:** University of London political scientist John Sidel presents 50th Anniversary Spring Lecture, “Republicanism, Communism, Islam: Cosmopolitan Origins of Revolution in Southeast Asia,” 4 p.m., Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center.
- **March 1:** CSEAS faculty-student-alumni anniversary gathering, 5:30 p.m., Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center.
- **March 2:** Exhibit talk by professor emeritus Richard Cooler, curator of “Rarely Seen Southeast Asia: Art, Artifact, Ephemera,” 10 a.m., Anthropology Museum, Cole Hall. Morning refreshments provided. On display through **May 15**.
- **March 2:** *A Celebration of Southeast Asian Performing Arts*, 8 p.m., Boutell Memorial Concert Hall, followed by dessert.
- **March 4:** Opening of “50 Years of CSEAS and the Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection” exhibit, Founders Memorial Library, 4 p.m. Light refreshments. On display through **March 31**.
- **March 4:** Concert by Malaysian recording artist Amirah Ameer Ali, 8 p.m., School of Music Recital Hall.
- **March 5:** CSEAS Anniversary Open House, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Pottenger House, 520 College View Court. Refreshments and remembrances.



See [CSEAS website](#) for a calendar of 2012–13 anniversary events and click through 50 years of CSEAS history on an interactive timeline posted on the home page.

5. Center associate update: On the podium at UCLA



Buehler

✧ Michael Buehler (political science) escapes the Illinois winter for Southern California **Feb. 20** to present a colloquium at the University of California-Los Angeles. The subject of the colloquium is “Subnational Islamization through Secular Parties: Comparing *Shari’a* Politics in Two Indonesian Provinces.” Buehler will address the mediating influence of the state on Islamist groups in *shari’a* policymaking.

6. Apply by Feb. 1 for 2013–14 FLAS, Neher fellowships

All applications for the 2013–14 academic year Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships and Clark and Arlene Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia are due to CSEAS Office Manager Nancy Schuneman at nschunem@niu.edu by **Feb. 1** (applications for both are posted on the [CSEAS website](#)). FLAS fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI Program of Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships. The Neher fellowship is funded through an NIU Foundation endowment from Clark and Arlene Neher. Students who have applied for summer FLAS fellowships should not submit an academic-year application until they have been informed of the outcome of their summer applications (applicants will be notified in time to meet the **Feb. 1** academic-year deadline).



Some of the summer 2012 FLAS fellows share their experiences at the weekly CSEAS lecture series last fall.

- **Academic-year FLAS:** These awards provide for graduate and undergraduate students to study Southeast Asian language at NIU during the 2013–14 academic year. Pending federal funding, FLAS grants will be awarded for fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters. Students must be in good standing with the university and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian Studies. FLAS fellowships cover tuition, fees, health insurance and a monthly stipend (\$500 for undergraduates, \$1,500 for graduate students).
- **Neher fellowship:** This award covers tuition and a \$5,200 stipend. To apply, graduate students must be in good standing with NIU and demonstrate a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian studies. U.S. and international students are eligible to apply.

7. Get your paper on: SEA Club spring student conference call for abstracts



The Southeast Asia Club invites papers for its 2013 student conference, set for 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, **April 13**, in Room 315 Altgeld Hall. Papers may be submitted on any topic pertaining to Southeast Asia; email niuseaclub@gmail.com. **Deadline for abstracts: Feb. 13.** The conference theme is “Growth and Development.” The keynote speaker will be University of Michigan political scientist and Michigan Center for

Southeast Asian Studies Director Allen Hicken. Best paper monetary awards will be given for undergraduate and graduate papers. The Thai Studies Committee will also present a monetary award for best Thai Studies paper.

8. Burnish your resumé: Sign up for a SEA Studies minor or graduate 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. In a global marketplace, an internationally focused area of study can open even more doors. To learn about NIU's Southeast Asian Studies programs, check out the [CSEAS website](#) or stop by Pottenger House, 520 College View Court. Undergraduates should contact Outreach Coordinator Julie Lamb at jlamb@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Trude Jacobsen at tjacobsen1@niu.edu.

9. NIU Thai Studies Committee offers awards for students, faculty

- **Original paper:** The Thai Studies Committee at NIU is offering a \$300 prize for an original research paper by an NIU student dealing with any aspect of Thai Studies. The prize will be awarded at the Southeast Asia Club's spring student conference **April 13** at which the winning paper must be presented. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 28.** Submissions should be sent as a PDF or Word document to CSEAS associate Grant Olson (foreign languages and literatures) at golson@niu.edu.
- **Advanced Thai language study:** The Thai Studies Committee will award two undergraduate 2013–14 academic-year scholarships of \$500 per semester, funded by the Royal Thai government's Thai Teaching and Research Endowment Fund at NIU. Eligible undergraduates must be successfully pursuing studies in Thai language, culture, history or politics. Advanced Thai language study is required. Applicants should submit a one-page statement of interest, recommendations from the Thai language instructor and another faculty member, and a transcript. **Deadline to apply: April 5.** Email Chalermsee Olson at eteolson@niu.edu.
- **Faculty and student research travel:** Faculty and students are invited to apply for grants supporting projects and initiatives involving research and training in Thai Studies. Applications should include a concise description of the project's purpose, a budget, and ways in which the funds would be used to advance Thai Studies. Applications will be accepted **Feb. 28** and **Sept. 30**. Email Chalermsee Olson at eteolson@niu.edu

10. Museum lecture: Sin from the Buddhist perspective

Stephen T. Asma, professor and distinguished scholar at Columbia College in Chicago, will present "Karma and Craving: Buddhist Perspectives on Sin" at 6 p.m. **Jan. 24** in Room 315 Altgeld Hall immediately following a public reception for the NIU Art Museum's new exhibit "Vice + Virtue." [Asma](#) is the author of, among other books, *The Gods Drink Whiskey: Stumbling Toward Enlightenment in the Land of the Tattered Buddha* (HarperCollins, 2005), the story of Asma's exploration of modern Buddhism in Cambodia and Southeast Asia.

11. Area CSEAS conferences coming up in spring

- **Ohio University, Athens, OH:** Ohio University's Center for Southeast Asian Studies will host its 5th annual Khmer Studies Forum **March 15–17**. The forum's theme is "Identity." See [conference](#) web page for details.

- **University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI:** UW-Madison's Center for Southeast Asian Studies will co-host the 4th International Conference on Lao Studies **April 19–21** with the Center for Lao Studies, San Francisco. See [conference website](#) or call 608-263-1755.

12. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

- **Khmer Summer Abroad Programs, June 24–Aug. 2**
Deadlines to apply for two summer study abroad programs offered by the Khmer Language Program at the University of Hawaii-Manoa are coming up. The [Advanced Study of Khmer](#) (ASK) program offers six weeks of intensive language training designed for third-year Khmer students. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 1.** The [Khmer Language and Culture](#) Summer Abroad Program offers six weeks of intensive training for beginning and intermediate students. **Deadline to apply: April 6.** Both programs are run by UH in collaboration with the Royal University of Phnom-Penh and the Center for Khmer Studies. Both programs include one-week home stays in rural Cambodia. For details, see program websites or email Chhany Sak-humphry at sak@hawaii.edu. No direct funding available, but students may apply for [Gilman](#) and [Blakemore](#) scholarships.
- **Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL), June 21–July 31**
The San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies administers five-week study abroad program based at the Lao-American College with private instruction from the national University of Laos. Some scholarship support is available. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** For details, see [program website](#).
- **Summer Advanced Indonesian Abroad Program, June 17–Aug. 8**
Immersion program at Universitas Kristan Satya Wacana in Salatiga, Indonesia, is offered for non-native speakers who have completed at least intermediate level by June 2013. Fulbright-Hays fellowships available for U.S. citizens and permanent residents (cannot be used in conjunction with FLAS fellowships). For details, see [program website](#).

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 receiving liability and insurance protection.

13. Money for study

American 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](#); for info, email arkahin@yahoo.com or email CSEAS associate Michael Buehler at mbuehler1@niu.edu.

David L. Boren awards

- **Fellowships and scholarships:** Opportunity for graduates and undergraduates to study language abroad for one year. Grants range from up to \$20,000 for undergraduates to \$30,000 for graduate students. To apply for the 2013–14 programs, see the [Boren website](#). **Fellowship deadline to apply: Jan. 31. Scholarship deadline: Feb. 13.**

Center for Khmer Studies

- **Undergraduate fellowships:** Six-week summer junior resident fellowships in Siem Reap, Cambodia, June 24–Aug. 2. Partial stipend (\$800) offered. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** See [CKS](#) website for details.

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.

East-West Center, Washington, D.C.

- **Policy research fellowships:** Three-month fellowship for scholars and analysts undertaking research and writing in international relations, political and economic change, U.S.-Asia relations or economic integration in the Asia-Pacific. Applicants may or may not have PhD. Fellowship begins as early as May 2013 with period ending January 2014. **Apply by Feb. 1.** For details, see [East-West website](#). **NEW**

Harvard University

- **Indonesia Research Fellows 2013–14:** Harvard Kennedy School Indonesia Program offering fellowships to Indonesia researchers, academics, and practitioners to pursue independent research. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 15.** See [program website](#) for details.

Joseph Harry Endowed Scholarship

- **Tuition scholarship:** Available to undergraduate NIU students who have participated in LGBT organizations or activities. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 8.** For details, see LGBT Resource Center [website](#). **NEW**

Queen Mary University

- **PhD scholarships:** Funding for students beginning doctoral studies September 2013 at QMU School of Politics and International Relations in suggested subject areas of civil society/social movements; political transition in Asia, critical approaches to theory of international relations; and practice of foreign policy and political theory and the history of ideas. **Deadline to apply: Jan. 31.** For details, email politics-pgresearch@qmul.ac.uk.

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](#). **NEW**

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 on any topic relevant to Southeast Asian Studies. Offered by University of Michigan CSEAS and Library. **Deadline to apply: May 31.** For details, see [UM-CSEAS website](#).

14. Job opportunities*Mahidol University, Thailand*

- **Specialist (foreign):** Open to those with bachelor's degree or above in fields of anthropology, psychology, linguistics, education, technology or disability studies with experience in working with persons with disabilities. Teaching and research position in disability studies at Ratchasuda College. For details, see Job Opportunities at [Mahidol website](#). **NEW**

National University of Singapore

- **Associate Professor Southeast Asian Studies:** Specialist on state formation, with emphasis on minority groups, ethnicity and nationalism, borderlands studies, post-

socialism and the politics of memory and expertise on Laos, Vietnam and/or Cambodia.
Deadline to apply: Jan. 31. For details, see [NUS website](#).

USAID

- **International Programs Fellowship:** Two-year appointment at USAID's Population Reference Bureau beginning in summer 2013. Intended for bachelor's degree graduate (by June 2013). **Deadline to apply: Feb. 25.** For details, see [USAID website](#). **NEW**

Idealist.org

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

15. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **12th International Graduate Student Conference on the Asia Pacific Region**, Feb. 14–16, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI. Limited travel grants available. See [conference website](#).
- **15th Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference**, March 1–3, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **2nd Southeast Asian Studies Symposium**, March 9–10, University of Oxford, U.K. See [conference website](#) for details.
- **5th Khmer Studies Forum**, March 15–17, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. For details, see [center website](#).
- **Association for Asian Studies**, March 21–24, San Diego, CA. See [conference website](#).
- **UCLA Indonesian Studies Conference**, April 13–14, Los Angeles, CA. Theme: Critical Histories of Activism: Indonesia's New Order and its Legacies. Participants with accepted papers will receive funding for transport and hotel accommodations. For details, email cseas@international.ucla.edu.
- **4th International Conference on Lao Studies**, April 19–21, University of Wisconsin-Madison. See [conference website](#) or call 608-263-1755.
- **(Re)Constructions: Researching and Rethinking Asia**, April 26–27, York University, Toronto Canada. York Centre for Asian Research Graduate Student Conference. Call for papers. See [conference website](#).
- **5th South and Southeast Asian Association for the Study of Culture and Religion Conference**, May 16–19, Manila, the Philippines. Theme: Healing, Belief Systems, Cultures and Religions of South and Southeast Asia. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **8th International Convention for Asia Scholars (ICAS)**, June 24–27, Macao. See [conference website](#).
- **7th European Association of European Southeast Asian Studies (EuroSEAS) Conference**, July 2–5, School of Social and Political Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal. For details, see [EuroSEAS website](#).
- **International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD)**, Aug. 22–23, Bangkok. Two-day conference at Chulalongkorn University. Theme: Beyond Borders: Building a Regional Commons in Southeast Asia. Call for papers on development, international relations and human rights in SEA. **Abstracts due: March 1.** Details forthcoming on [conference website](#) or email info@icird.org.
- **Inter-Asian Connections IV**, Oct. 2–5, Istanbul. For details, see [conference website](#) or email interasia@ssr.org.
- **Council on Thai Studies**, Oct. 18–19, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. Save the date; call for papers forthcoming in 2013.

- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. To request being added to the conference email list or for other information, email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au.

16. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- “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 General in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see consulate [website](#).
- Chicago Friends of the Gamelan spring concert, featuring traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan pieces, will be held **May 4**, Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago. Time TBA. For details, see Friends [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.

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1963–2013: Celebrating 50 years of language, learning and engagement