

CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Jan. 25, 2010



Spreading the word: *NIU anthropology graduate student Sean Dolan is at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn., through January co-teaching a month-long cultural course on Indonesian culture and music. See page 3.*

NIU takes Southeast Asia expertise north to Minnesota

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1. Weekly lecture series: Rosalie Arcala-Hall, Fulbright scholar, Loyola University



Rosalie Arcala-Hall, Fulbright scholar from Loyola University, will present “From Rebels to Soldiers: The Integration of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and Falintil Combatants into the Philippine and East Timorese Armed Forces” at this week’s center lecture series at noon Friday, **Jan. 29**. In the Philippines, several thousand Moro National Liberation Front fighters were integrated into the army as part of the 1996 peace agreement and subsequently deployed in conflict areas in Mindanao. In East Timor, several hundred ex-Falintil combatants formed the core of the new

army, the Falintil-Forças de Defesa de Timor Leste under a UN-supervised demobilization and disarmament scheme. Hall will compare the political contexts, nature, scope, and processes of the rebel integration projects, and explore the implication of the integration policy to the future prospects for peace in both countries. To order a Thai lunch, call 815-753-1771 or e-mail cseas@niu.edu by noon Thursday. Lunches are \$4 for students, \$5 for all others, payable in cash at the door.

2. Grant-writing workshop to be held Wednesday for graduate students



Assistant history professor and center associate Eric Jones will conduct a grant/fellowship writing workshop for graduate students from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, **Jan. 27**, in the Illinois Room of the Holmes Student Center. Students who attend should come having read the Social Science Research Council document “On the Art of Writing Proposals,” available on the [SSRC website](#), and bring three copies of their statement of purpose. For details, e-mail cseas@niu.edu.

Eric Jones

3. Susan Russell to discuss Mindanao, violence, and the media Thursday



Susan Russell

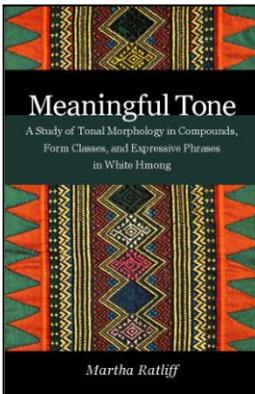
Deciphering the media’s coverage of violence, war, and peace in the southern Philippines will be the subject of a special lecture by NIU anthropologist and center associate Susan Russell from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, **Jan. 28**, in Room 305 of the Holmes Student Center. Russell and International Training Office director and center associate Lina Ong have spent the past six years working with the Philippine Youth Leadership Program to promote conflict resolution and peace building among young people in the region. The lecture is co-sponsored by CSEAS, NIU, and the DeKalb Interfaith Network for Peace and Justice.



Shiny gongs: Gamelan musician and artistic director Joko Sutrisno, left, sets the pace for the gamelan portion of the Hamline University class, “Indonesian Music and Cultures,” which is being taught during January by Sutrisno and NIU anthropology graduate student Sean Dolan. (Photo by Megan Vincent)

4. Northern goes north: Taking NIU’s Southeast Asia expertise on the road

Since Jan. 4, NIU anthropology graduate student Sean Dolan has been at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minn., co-teaching an intensive course, “Indonesian Music and Cultures,” with Joko Sutrisno, artistic and music director of the Sumunar Dance Ensemble, during Hamline’s January term, a month-long session between semesters that runs through Friday, Jan. 28. The course, which drew 40 undergraduate students, combines instruction in Indonesian gamelan music, including a recital at the end of the term, with an introduction to the history, literature, and societies of Indonesia. In his lectures, Dolan has been covering such topics such as religion and ethnicity, gender and



sexuality, and introductions to the history and topography of Indonesia. CSEAS Director Jim Collins visited the class on Jan. 15 to discuss languages and language use in Indonesia. While in Minnesota, Collins also visited Hmong-American NGOs, community centers, and bookstores to spread the news of Wayne State University linguist Martha Ratliff’s book on the Hmong language, *Meaningful Tone*, which will be published in April as part of NIU Press’s new Southeast Asian Studies series. In Minneapolis, Collins also met with Carleton University’s Indonesian specialist, Liz Coville, to discuss further cooperation within the framework of MAXIS (The Mid-America Consortium for Southeast Asian

Studies). Collins and Coville later joined Dolan and Joko and Tri Sutrisno at a Malaysian restaurant in Minneapolis to enjoy *roti canai* and *kueh tiau goreng*. Joko will perform a gamelan concert April 25 at the Hyde Park Union Church in Chicago; see Area Cultural Events below for details.

5. Judy Ledgerwood receives grant for Cambodian village study



Judy Ledgerwood

Anthropology chair and center associate Judy Ledgerwood has received a grant from the Center for Khmer Studies in Siem Reap, Cambodia, to continue a unique ethnographic study spanning fifty years in the life of a single Cambodian village. In the 1990s, Ledgerwood was the research assistant for the late anthropologist May Ebihara, who began studying the social organization, economy, religion, kinship structures, and politics of the village of “Sabaay” (a pseudonym) in 1959. She was the only American anthropologist to have worked in Cambodia before the civil war and genocide that engulfed the country in the 1970s. When Ebihara died in 2005, she willed all of her research materials to Ledgerwood, who has continued to study the village since then. “[Ebihara’s] research notes are the only existing data on a single community across the period of war and revolution, communism, UN peacekeeping, democratization, ‘nation building,’ and economic transformation via regional and global integration,” Ledgerwood noted in her grant proposal. As she has done in her own interviews in Sabaay in 2003 and 2007, Ledgerwood plans to carry on Ebihara’s work when she returns to Cambodia in June to complete fifty years of study of the village and to write a book about the project. She has also made plans to donate Ebihara’s priceless field notes, photographs, and files to the NIU Library. The photographs have been scanned and placed online as part of the NIU [Southeast Asia Digital Library](#).

6. Dictionary team members begin training

After a full day of interviews on Jan. 19, three undergraduate students—Ben Dummer, JoAnn LoSavio, and Dave Stouffer—were selected to work as student helpers on the center’s Multimedia Online Learner’s Dictionary of Malay project. The three joined other team members for training on Jan. 23 at NIU’s Computer Science Department, where the main office of the project is located. As the U.S. Department of Education-funded project proceeds, the Malay-English dictionary will be available online through NIU’s SEAsite.

7. SEAYLP on YouTube

Word about NIU’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program is going global via the Voice of America Khmer News Service and YouTube. VOA reporter Reasey Poch, who interviewed the Cambodian participants in the group while they were in Washington, D.C., in December, produced an eight-minute news feature about their SEAYLP experience for broadcast in Cambodia. After airing on TV Khampuchea, the country’s main television channel, the film is now up on [YouTube](#). “The students said they really got to know everyone in the group. They came in as strangers and left as friends,” Poch said. Also interviewed for the documentary were NIU anthropology professor and SEAYLP leader Kate Wiegele, center outreach director Julie Lamb, and Carolyn Lantz of the U.S. State Department, which is funding the SEAYLP exchange program along with two NIU Philippines exchange programs. The next group of SEAYLP students arrives at NIU in April.

8. Seeking host families for April and May youth leadership programs

NIU is looking for area families to act as hosts in April and May for participants in two programs bringing in high school students and adult leaders from Burma, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, and Thailand. Home stays for the Southeast Asia Youth Fellowship Program (SEAYLP) are scheduled for April 11–22; home stays for the Philippine Youth Leadership Program (PYLP) are set for May 2–15. Students will be placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. For details, contact coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail lshive@niu.edu.

9. Grad student contributes Karen items to 'Tourist Art' exhibit

Wood carvings from Bali, temple rubbings from Thailand, and other Southeast Asia artifacts are among items from around the world on display in the NIU Anthropology Museum's current exhibit, "Tourist Art: Exploring Authenticity in a Museum Collection." All of the items were either donated by faculty members, students, or area residents, according to museum director Ann Wright-Parsons. Rounding out the Southeast Asia artifacts are items gathered by anthropology graduate student Rebecca Chellappa, who is researching the Karen people living in the Andaman Islands south of Burma in the Bay of Bengal. "Tourist Art" is on display through May at the museum in the Stevens Building from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For details, call 815-753-0230.

10. FLAS fellowships now open to undergraduates

Undergraduates are now welcome to join graduate students in applying for the 2010–11 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships. **Application deadline: Feb. 1.** Pending federal funding, the grants will be awarded for the fall 2010 and spring 2011 semesters. Applications are also due **Feb. 1** for the 2010–11 Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia. Applicants must be a graduate student in good standing who demonstrates a commitment to a career involving Southeast Asian studies. Application and fellowship guidelines for both FLAS and Neher fellowships are available at the [center website](#) under Student Funding.

11. International Ramayana Conference proposal deadline extended to Feb. 15

Presentation proposals are due **Feb. 15** for the Third International Ramayana Conference set for Sept. 17–19, 2010 at NIU's Naperville campus. The two-day event, co-sponsored by the center and the University of Illinois Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and the International Ramayana Institute of North America, will include a Ramayana-based teacher workshop. For details, see the [center website](#) under Conferences.

12. Faculty, student Thai travel grant applications due March 5

Center faculty associates and NIU students are invited to apply for travel grants for research in Thailand through the Thai Teaching and Research Endowment Fund.

Individual faculty travel awards are \$1,000 and must be applied to research-related travel incurred by June 15, 2011. Applications should be submitted to center office manager Nancy Schuneman by **March 5**. Travel awards for individual students are \$1,500 for graduate students and \$1,000 for undergraduates. Applications should be submitted to Chalermsee Olson at the NIU Library by **March 5**. For details, see the [center website](#) under News & Events.

13. Apply this spring to study abroad in Southeast Asia this year through NIU

- **History and Culture of Malaysia, May 9–28, Kuala Lumpur:** Three-week program beginning in Kuala Lumpur led by assistant history professor Eric Jones. Students will visit nature reserves (orangutans and proboscis monkeys), historical sites, religious centers, and rural areas throughout Malaysia and Brunei, where they will interact with the region's ethnically and religiously diverse populations. Three credit hours. Open to graduate and undergraduate students. **Application deadline: March 1.** Contact the NIU Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.
- **Cambodia Field School, July 15–Aug. 15, Phnom Penh:** Four-week [ethnographic field school](#) led by anthropology professor Judy Ledgerwood. Students will study Cambodian culture, religion, and various field-study methods, including surveys, interviews, and participant observation. A collaborative project with the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh. Three or six credit hours. Open to graduate or advanced undergraduate students. **Application deadline: April 1.** Contact the Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; call 815-753-0304; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu.

14. SEASSI offers scholarships for summer Southeast Asia language program

Summertime and the language learning is easy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison at the June 14–Aug. 6 Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI). Graduate and undergraduate students are invited to apply for full and partial scholarships to attend this intensive eight-week Southeast Asia language program offering Burmese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Javanese, Khmer, Lao, Thai, and Vietnamese. (NIU language professor Saw Tun will be teaching the Burmese section). **Deadline for full scholarships (tuition and stipend) offered by SEASSI: Feb. 19. Deadline for partial tuition scholarships: April 16.** Students may apply online at the [program website](#). For details, e-mail seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu or call 608-263-1755. SEASSI is also on [YouTube](#). SEASSI is a cooperative program of Southeast Asian studies programs at 12 U.S. universities, including NIU.

15. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

Students interested in taking language or area studies abroad through non-NIU programs should work through NIU's Study Abroad Office, says Associate Provost for International Programs Deborah Pierce. By doing so, students can receive NIU credit and possibly have NIU financial aid apply. The Study Abroad Office also protects

student interests with regard to liability and insurance, she added. The Study Abroad Office is located in 417 Williston Hall.

- **Advanced Filipino Abroad, June 11–Aug. 7:** Open to intermediate Tagalog students (juniors, seniors, or graduate students) for eight weeks of intensive language training at De La Salle University at Dasmaringas and Manila. Funded by U.S. Department of Education and supported by the SEA Consortium Centers (including CSEAS) and the Consortium for the Advancement of Filipino. Grants covering transportation and partial program costs are available. **Application deadline: Feb. 8.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, see the [program website](#) or contact director Teresita Ramos at teresita@hawaii.edu. **Note: Because the U.S. State Department has issued a warning on travel to the Philippines, undergraduate NIU students may not travel there for NIU credit or use NIU facilities or funds to go there. Graduate students may travel to the Philippines through NIU only if they are approved by the Study Abroad office.**
- **Advanced Indonesian Abroad, June 14–Aug. 14:** Open to advanced Indonesian students for nine weeks of intensive language training at Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana in Salatiga, Indonesia. Fulbright-funded program coordinated through the Southeast Asian Studies Program at Ohio University under the auspices of Consortium for the Teaching of Indonesian and Malay. **Application deadline: Feb. 11.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For details, see [COTIM website](#) or contact Anthony Medrano at 740-593-1841 or medrano@ohio.edu.
- **Freeman Indonesia Nonprofit Internship Program (FINIP), June 15–Aug. 17:** New nine-week exchange program sponsored by Institute of International Education in three cities: Jakarta, Bandung and Yogyakarta. Program pairs ten Indonesian students pursuing U.S. degrees with ten U.S. undergraduates and arrange internships for them to work together in an Indonesian nonprofit organization. **Application deadline: Feb. 15.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, e-mail finip@iie.org or call 212- 984-5542.
- **Advanced Study of Khmer, June 14–Aug. 6:** Open to third-year Khmer students for eight weeks of intensive language training, cultural education, and one-week home stays in rural Cambodia. Administered by the Khmer Language Program at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. **Application deadline: Feb. 26.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, e-mail sak@hawaii.edu or call 808-956-8070.
- **USINDO Summer Language Program in Indonesia, June 4–Aug. 13:** Ten-week intensive language study of Bahasa Indonesian. Students live with host families and participate in cultural workshops, such as cooking, martial arts, and gamelan. **Application deadline: March 31.** To apply, call the NIU Study Abroad Office at 815-753-0304 or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. For program details, see the U.S.-Indonesia Society [website](#).

16. International Programs weekly lecture series: Soveacha Ros

Bring your lunch and listen to education graduate student Soveacha Ros present “Quality assurance implementation at the Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia: Stakeholders’ perceptions, practices, and programs” at the first spring lecture in the Division of International Programs lunchtime lecture series from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, **Feb. 11**, in Room 300, Faraday West. For a complete list of spring speakers, see the [division website](#).

17. Calls for papers

- **Third International Conference on Lao Studies, July 14–16, Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, Thailand.** Presented by the Center for Research on Plurality in the Mekong Region, Khon Kaen University, and the Center for Lao Studies, San Francisco. **Abstracts due: Jan. 31.** For details, see the [Center for Lao Studies website](#). Optional Lao study tour program is also planned.
- **U.S. State Department Office of Historian Conference on American Policy and War in Southeast Asia: 1946–75, Sept. 29–30, Washington, D.C.** Conference to be held at department’s George C. Marshall Conference Center. **Proposals due: March 1. Send to** Dr. John M. Carland, Program Committee Chair. E-mail vietnamconference@state.gov or fax to 202-663-1289. For details, see [conference website](#).

18. Area Southeast Asia cultural events

- Year of the Tiger: Chicago’s annual Lunar New Year parade will take the streets in the city’s Chinatown neighborhood at 1 p.m., Sunday, **Feb. 14**, with marching bands, floats, lion teams, and a 100-foot dragon. All will wind down Wentworth between 24th Street and Cermak Road. Other activities start at 11:30 a.m. For details, see the Chinatown Chamber of Commerce [website](#).
- The Chicago-based Friends of the Gamelan will present a spring concert of traditional and contemporary Javanese gamelan music, led by Joko Sutrisno, artistic director of the Sumunar Gamelan Ensemble of Minneapolis, at 6 p.m. Sunday, **April 25**, at the Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn, Chicago. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. For details, e-mail info@chicagogamelan.org or see the group’s [website](#).
- The Indonesian Consulate 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 History Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The music program runs from 10 a.m. to noon; the dance program from 1 to 3 p.m. For information, call Anneth Houy at 773-878-7090. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on weekends by appointment.

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. 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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