

CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Week of November 16, 2015



A voter places her vote in the ballot box in Myanmar's recent national elections. University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee anthropologist Ingrid Jordt discusses aspirational state politics and Buddhist theories of social order in Myanmar in this week's Friday lecture.

Aspirational state politics in Myanmar

1. **This week's lecture:** Aspirational state politics in 'democratic' Myanmar **NEW**
2. Winning words: Statement of purpose workshop this week **NEW**
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Burnish your resumé

Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to a bachelor's degree or a graduate certificate to an advanced degree and pull your resumé to the top of the pile. To learn more, visit the [CSEAS website](#) or stop by CSEAS at 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig at ehrenkonig@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Eric Jones at loveroti@gmail.com.

1. This week's lecture: Aspirational state politics in 'democratic' Myanmar **NEW**



Jordt

Anthropologist Ingrid Jordt of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee will cap International Education Week activities on campus with her lecture "Aspirational State Politics and Buddhist Collective Imaginaries in Newly 'Democratic' Myanmar: Salvation and Burmese Buddhist Theories of Social Order" at noon Friday, **Nov. 20**, in Room 100 Campus Life. Jordt's lecture is co-sponsored by the Graduate Colloquium Committee and CSEAS. To order an Indonesian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at [CSEAS Brown Bag Order](#). Orders must be cancelled online by 10 a.m. Friday. Cost is \$5 for students and \$6 for faculty, staff and others. Payments may be made in cash or by check. For lunch details, e-mail cseasbrownbag@gmail.com.

2. Winning words: Statement of purpose workshop this week **NEW**

Applying for graduate school or going for a top scholarship? Learn to put a compelling statement of purpose together from Assistant CSEAS Director Eric Jones this week at 5 p.m. **Nov. 18** in Room 297 Founders Memorial Library. This one-hour workshop will give you the tools to put together a winning package. For more details, contact Jones at iloveroti@gmail.com.

3. Taking SEA to area high schools at GlobalFest 2015 **NEW**

About 300 high school students and teachers from around Illinois got the opportunity **Nov. 7** courtesy of CSEAS to learn a little Burmese, Indonesian, Tagalog and Thai at this year's GlobalFest at Oswego East High School. Outreach coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig, CSEAS graduate assistant Basori and Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA) Thandar Swe (Burmese), Wina Tirtapradja (Indonesian), Marie Gianina Concepcion Decano (Tagalog) and Piansin Pinchai (Thai) packed up the center's language and cultural



Students color transparent prayer flags at the CSEAS craft table at GlobalFest 2015.

materials, along with kits to make prayer flags, early in the morning and headed to Oswego for the day. The FLTAs taught language-immersion classes, Basori (a former FLTA for Indonesian) presented dance, music and culture in an Indonesia discovery room, and Ehrenkönig presided over the center's craft table where students could color and personalize individual prayer flags. "GlobalFest is a great opportunity for high school students to experience different cultures and languages from around the world, including Southeast Asia," Ehrenkönig said. "It's also a chance for our FLTAs to work with younger students." The event, sponsored by the Illinois GlobalFest Committee, promotes the study of world languages and international studies through educational activities connected to the Illinois Learning Standards for students in grades 6 through 12. It is co-sponsored by CSEAS, Rotary International, the Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the National Resource Centers at the University of Illinois.

4. Think globally: International Education Week Nov. 16–20

The Division of International Affairs' kicks off its International Education Week [activities](#) with an international cookie giveaway **Nov. 16** in the MLK Commons, Holmes Student Center, DuSable Hall and Barsema Hall (College of Business). There also will be international foods served all week long in the Blackhawk Food Court and in the residence halls. Other activities include:

- **Nov. 17:** International Recognition Reception, 3 to 4 p.m. Sky Room, Holmes Student Center. International films screening, 4 to 6 p.m. Rooms 405 and 406, Holmes Student Center.
- **Nov. 18:** International Career Panel, 4 to 6 p.m., University Suite.
- **Nov. 19:** Study abroad social, 7:30 p.m., Fireside, Neptune Central.
- **Nov. 20:** Anthropologist Ingrid Jordt, "Aspirational State Politics and Buddhist Collective Imaginaries in Newly 'Democratic' Myanmar: Salvation and Burmese Buddhist Theories of Social Order" noon, Room 100, Campus Life. Also, immigration lawyer Bob White presents "OPT, H1B, and Beyond" at noon in the Holmes Student Center Sky Room.

5. Mapping symposium explores new ways to map research **NEW**

Maps just aren't for geographers anymore. Today, historians, social scientists, linguist, even cultural anthropologists are adding sophisticated mapping techniques to their research toolkits. Learn more this week at Explore the Power of Maps, a two-hour symposium put together by CSEAS associate Jim Wilson (Geography). The symposium will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, **Nov. 19**, in Cole Hall auditorium and will feature 10 different speakers, including Wilson, who will present "Disease and Death in Space and Time," and CSEAS associate Wei Luo, who will discuss his work mapping Mars. For more information, see [NIU Today](#).

6. Register now for spring SEAS courses

CSEAS associates are offering a full range of courses to choose from for spring 2016. In anthropology, CSEAS Director Judy Ledgerwood is teaching ANTH 302/790, Asian American Cultures, and Andrea Molnar is offering ANTH 426/526, Political Anthropology. In history, Assistant Director Eric Jones is teaching SEAS 225, Crossroads of Southeast Asia and HIST 343/SEAS 690 (for graduate students), History of Southeast Asia Since Ca. 1800; and Stanley Arnold is teaching HIST 469/569, The Vietnam War. In political science, Kikue Hamayotsu is teaching POLS 376, Political Violence. In art history, Catherine Raymond is teaching ARTH 701, Material Culture, Sacred Architecture and World Heritage Sites in Southeast Asia (with an undergraduate section for SEA minors, SEAS 490). Jui-Ching Wang and Ngurah Kertayuda will teach gamelan in MUSE 370/670. All second-semester classes in Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Tagalog, and Thai will be offered. For dates and times of all classes, see the full [spring](#) schedule on the Center website.

7. Summer study abroad 2016: Cambodia field school



Ledgerwood

CSEAS Director and anthropology professor Judy Ledgerwood is leading a summer 2016 field school in Cambodia. The program, "Buddhism and Service Learning," is set for **May 27–June 23** in Siem Reap, Cambodia, the home of Angkor Wat. Students will explore Cambodian Buddhism and cultural reconstruction in the post-Khmer Rouge era, learn ethnographic field methods, and be placed with a Buddhist or non-governmental organization group for the service component of the program. The cost is \$3,600. For information, contact Ledgerwood by phone at 815-753-1771 or email her at jledgerw@niu.edu.

8. **Save the date:** Maps and Clymer book reception

- **Nov. 19:** “Explore the Power of Maps” symposium, 7 to 9 p.m., Cole Hall auditorium. Sponsored by the Department of Geography. **NEW**
- **Dec. 4:** Reception for CSEAS associate Kenton Clymer’s new book, *A Delicate Relationship: The United States and Burma/Myanmar Since 1945* (Cornell University Press), 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Thurgood Marshall Gallery, Swen Parson Hall.

9. Prestigious language programs offer fully funded chance to study abroad

- Studying a Southeast Asian language in-country: Highly desirable.
- Studying a Southeast Asian language fully funded: Priceless.

Interested in pursuing your language study abroad? There are three programs that offer fully funded opportunities to do just that.

Critical Language Scholarship program

- The U.S. Department of State’s Critical Language Scholars program aims to “broaden the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages,” including the study of Indonesian and Chinese, both of which are offered at NIU. In the past four years, CSEAS has had three students accepted into this highly competitive summer intensive language program, including alumna Maria “Rai” Nihei (MA history, 2011), administrative director of the Center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program, who studied Indonesia in Malang in 2011. While in Indonesia, she says, she developed not only language proficiency but also learned to adapt and gained confidence in talking to others. “Malang was a wonderful and friendly city to study in, and the tutors and teachers at Universitas Negeri Malang helped us to learn the language skills we needed while we explored really interesting cultural topics,” she says. The deadline to apply for the summer 2015 program is **Nov. 23**. All expenses, including international air travel, are paid. For more info, contact Nihei at mhancock3@niu.edu or learn more about the program at the CLS [website](#).



Nihei

David L. Boren program

- The David L. Boren fellowships and scholarships, an initiative of the national Security Education program, is open to U.S. undergraduate and graduate students to hone their language skills abroad. Grants range from \$20,000 for undergraduates to \$30,000 for graduate students. The deadline to apply for Boren fellowships for undergraduates is **Jan. 28** for graduate students and **Feb. 9** for undergraduates. The Boren advisor at NIU is Study Abroad Director Anne Seitzinger; contact her at aseitz@niu.edu. For more information, see the [Boren website](#).

Blakemore Freeman fellowships

- The Blakemore Foundation makes grants for the advanced study of selected Southeast Asian languages—Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Thai, and Vietnamese—by scholars and mid-career professionals. Applications for the 2015 Blakemore Freeman fellowships and Blakemore refresher grants are now being accepted. The grants cover tuition and stipend, educational expenses, living costs and transportation. Candidates must be U.S. citizens with an undergraduate degree pursuing a career that involves the regular use of a Southeast Asian language. See the [Blakemore Foundation website](#). Deadline to apply is **Dec. 30**.

10. Anthropology Museum gets new name; Hmong exhibit opens in January

The NIU Anthropology Museum, which was officially renamed the James B. & Rosalyn L. Pick Museum of Anthropology **Oct. 9**, will open a major exhibit celebrating 40 years of Hmong American history in January. The exhibit will focus on the history of life in Laos continuing through the 1953–75 Laotian Civil War (known by Hmong veterans as the Secret War) and prominently feature the oral histories and material culture of Hmong Americans. The exhibit will also spotlight the museum's permanent collection of Hmong textiles. Details on the opening to be announced.

11. Money for study **NEW**

NIU

- **USOAR Grants:** Undergraduate Special Opportunities in Artistry and Research program funds student-generated research or artistry projects on campus, elsewhere in the US or abroad. Open to all colleges, majors and backgrounds. Proposal guidelines are available [online](#). Students have between **Jan. 1** and **Dec. 31, 2016** to complete their projects. **Deadline for spring 2016: Feb. 12.**
- **Graduate School Travel Grants:** Students invited to submit proposals for 2015–16. Rolling deadlines are **Nov. 16**, **Jan. 15**, and **March 21**. One year of school completed with 3.5 GPA or above. See [website](#) for details. Submit applications to Dean, Graduate School, 223 Adams Hall. **NEW**

American Council of Learned Societies

- **Fellowships for advanced graduate students:** Fellowship program supports humanities and humanistic social science research. 2015–16 program open for to apply. See [program website](#).

Rotary International

- **Rotary Peace Fellowships:** Fully paid fellowships for master's degree study offered at six universities worldwide, including Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the US. **Applications for 2017–18 fellowships available Dec. 1.** See [website](#).

12. Job/internship opportunities

Lawrence University

- **Assistant professor of art history (East and/or Southeast Asian art):** Tenure-track position in art history and studio art program, with interdisciplinary connection to East Asian Studies program at Appleton, Wis., campus. Doctorate and teaching experience preferred. For details, see [job posting](#).
- **Assistant professor of religious studies:** Full-time tenure-track position to teach Asian religious traditions. For details, see [job posting](#).

University of Wisconsin-Madison

- **Tenure-track position:** TransAsia/transdisciplinary scholar in language, culture and societies of Asia sought for newly forming Department of Asian Studies to begin August 2016. Expertise in one Southeast Asian or South Asian language required. Competitive salary. Send complete dossier and three reference letters to Chair, Search Committee, Department of East Asian Languages and Literature, 1208 Van Hise Hall, 1220 Linden Drive, UW-Madison, Madison, WI 53706.

University of Pennsylvania

- **Assistant professor in Asian religions:** Tenure-track position in Department of Religious Studies. Applicants welcome with SEA and gender specialization. Recent PhDs encouraged to apply. For details, see [job posting](#).

Chinese Mutual Aid Association

- **Interns:** Pan-Asian social service organization accepting candidates for interns for business development, grant writing and workforce development and outreach liaison duties. Contact Michelle White at michellew@chinesemutualaid.org or 773-784-2900. See [website](#).

US Department of State

- **Student Internship Program:** 10-week unpaid internships for undergraduate and graduate students at Washington headquarters and US embassies, consulates and missions worldwide. See [program website](#).

Room to Read

- **Positions open:** San Francisco-based organization that helps develop literacy skills among primary and secondary school students. See [website](#).

Asia Society

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

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

- Jobs listed under [Opportunities](#) tab of ASEAN website.

Devex: Do Good. Do It Well

- International aid and development jobs in 1,000 agencies, companies and NGOs in 100 countries. See [website](#).

DevMetJOBS.org

- International development jobs and consulting opportunities. See [website](#).

Hess International Educational Group

- **Teach English across Asia:** Taiwan-based organization offers free training, benefits, and flex scheduling. Email NIU alum Derek Wright at derek.wright@hess.com.tw or see [website](#).

Idealist.org

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

ReliefWeb

- Specialized digital service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs that posts jobs regularly. See [website](#).

World Health Organization

- Global health agency in the United Nations System encourages online applications for potential employment. See [WHO website](#).

13. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **Southeast Asian Studies in Asia 2015**, Dec. 12–13, Kyoto, Japan. Sponsored by the Consortium for Southeast Asian Studies in Asia. See [conference website](#).
- **SPUP International Research Conference**, Jan. 14–16, St. Paul University Philippines, Tuguegarao City. Theme: Towards an Integrated ASEAN Community. See [conference website](#).
- **International Graduate Student Conference on the Asia Pacific Region**, Feb. 11–13, East-West Center, Honolulu, HI. See [conference website](#).
- **6th International Conference on Hmong Studies**, March 18-19, Concordia University, St. Paul. Contact Lee Pao Xiong at Center for Hmong Studies at xiong@csp.edu.
- **Association for Asian Studies**, March 31–April 3, Seattle. See [conference website](#).
- **Language, Power and Identity in Asia: Creating and Crossing Language Boundaries**, March 14–16, National Museum of Antiquities, Leiden, Netherlands. Organized by

International Institute for Asian Studies in collaboration with [LeidenGlobal](#) and the Language Museum (Leiden). See [conference website](#).

- **5th Southeast Asian Studies Symposium**, April 14–16, Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford. Theme: Human and Environmental Welfare in Southeast Asia. Call for papers, panels. See [conference website](#).
- **UC Berkeley-UCLA Southeast Asian studies Conference**, April 22–23, Berkeley, CA. Theme: Making Southeast Asian Cultures: From Region to World. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts: Jan. 8.** Email cseas@berkeley.edu. See [website](#).
- **Heritage as Aid and Diplomacy in Asia**, May 26–28, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, the Netherlands. Call for papers. See [conference website](#).
- **AAS-in-Asia**, June 24–27, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan. Call for papers. See [conference website](#).
- **5th International Conference on Lao Studies: Lao PDR in the ASEAN Context**, July 8–10, Thammasat University, Bangkok. Call for papers. See [conference website](#).

14. Area cultural opportunities

- Go behind the scenes of the Philippine Collections at the Field Museum. Contact the museum’s co-curation team to make arrangements at cocuration.philippines@fieldmuseum.org. To learn more about the museum’s Philippines work, see the co-curation team’s [newsletter](#).
- Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute of Chicago offers classes in Thai language, dance and music among other programs. See [website](#) for details or phone 312-725-0640.
- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit 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 Saturday classes: Indonesian language classes at 10:30 a.m. (intermediate) and 1 p.m. (children’s class); Indonesian traditional dance, 2 to 4 p.m.; and Javanese gamelan, 4 to 6 p.m. All classes held at the Indonesian Cultural Center, 711 W. Grand Avenue. Call 312-920-1880, ext. 104/105, or email icc@indonesiachicago.org. Also see the consulate’s [Facebook](#) page.

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Persons with a disability who need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact Office Manager Rita Miller at 815-753-1771 or ram@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, reply to this e-mail with request to remove your name. Please specify your name or organization with which this mailing is linked. Thank you.

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