

CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • September 23, 2013



Undergraduate student Andrew Duangdara attended the Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL) program this past summer. Details about this and other Southeast Asia summer study abroad programs below.

New offerings for SEA summer study abroad

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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." Your support is greatly appreciated.

1. This week's lecture: Rethinking revolution in Vietnam



Vu

[Tuong Vu](#), associate professor of political science at the University of Oregon, will present “Rethinking Revolution in Vietnam: Triumphs or Tragedies on the Road to Socialism” at noon Friday, **Sept. 27**, in Room 110 (Honors office), Campus Life Building. Vu will discuss the emerging perspective on the Vietnamese revolution that challenges both the conventional portrayal of the revolution and the communist account of their revolutionary success. To order a Cambodian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at [CSEAS Brown Bag Lunch 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 details, e-mail seabrownbag@gmail.com. The entire [fall lecture series schedule](#) is posted on the Center website.

2. A warm reception for a royal visitor

More than 300 people came to NIU's Altgeld Hall Auditorium on **Sept. 18** to see Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters, with some area Thai visitors arriving as early as 5 a.m. just to be sure they got a seat. When the Princess and her entourage arrived, she was greeted at the entrance to Altgeld Hall by NIU President Douglas Baker and his wife, Dana, who presented her with a bouquet of flowers. The hour-long program, accompanied by the music of Mozart, Handel, and Haydn performed by NIU's Kaia String Quartet,



HRH Princess Sirindhorn receives flowers from President and Mrs. Baker upon arriving at Altgeld. (Photo / Media Services)



Faculty line up on the ground floor of Altgeld before heading up the stairs to the Auditorium for the ceremony (Photo / Maria Hancock Nihei)

began with a procession of regalia-robed faculty, followed by the Princess and members of the platform party. Remarks were made by NIU President Douglas Baker, Provost Raymond Alden, and Thai scholar and political science professor emeritus Clark Neher. After receiving her degree, the Princess also spoke, beginning with a nod to Neher, whose latest book she described as a useful reference for her own teaching of Southeast Asian history. “It helped me understand more of my own region,” the Princess said with a broad smile. In the rest of her speech, the Princess described her efforts to foster the improvement of educational opportunities for children and adults in Thailand, beginning with projects in primary schools in remote areas, and her lifelong interest in science education, technology advancements, and heritage preservation in Thailand. Immediately after the ceremony, the Princess and the platform party toured the “Tai Studies at Northern

Illinois University” exhibit in Room 203 across the hall from the Auditorium. At a small reception later in the Board of Trustees room, the Princess visited freely with those in attendance before being escorted to a private luncheon. The Princess’s visit to NIU was covered by local media and appeared in newspapers nationwide via the Associated Press. It was also covered in Thai media. To see the ceremony in its entirety, see NIU Media Services’ [video](#) on YouTube; an [article](#) about the day’s events appears in NIU Today.

3. Too early to be thinking about next summer in SEA? Not at all!



Graduate student Emily Dow at a temple in Cambodia during an anthropology field school there in 2010.

Examine NGOs in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam. Explore cultural diversity in Thailand. Experience Balinese music, dance and culture in Indonesia. Learn Lao language and culture in Laos. Conduct clinical research on hearing loss in Cambodia or environmental research on public health in Indonesia. There are more choices than ever to study abroad in Southeast Asia next summer. NIU faculty will lead five of six study abroad programs to SEA offered through NIU’s Study Abroad Office.

- [Trude Jacobsen](#) (History) will take a group **May 28–June 13** to Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam to study the growth of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in those countries. A new program, the course will look at how “development policy is imagined, produced, and received (or resisted) across multiple cultural contexts,” Jacobsen says.
- [Jui-Ching Wang](#) (School of Music) will introduce Balinese music, dance, theatre, architecture and crafts **July 1–30** in her new program to Bali, Indonesia. “Students will experience these arts by interacting with the local people and gaining knowledge about the inseparable relationship of the arts, religion, and culture on Bali,” Wang says.
- [Andrea Molnar](#) (Anthropology) will reprise her 2012 program, “Cultural Diversity in Thailand,” **May 16–June 14** in Thailand. Molnar’s program will introduce students to Thai culture and diversity, and examine the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country.
- [Tomoyuki Shibata](#) (College of Health & Human Sciences) returns to Indonesia **June 1–21** to continue research activities on environmental factors and public health. Past program projects have examined the effect of indoor air quality or mothers’ behaviors on children’s health.
- [King Chung](#) (School of Allied Health & Communicative Disorders) is conducting a group **June 1–14** to Cambodia for “Heart of Hearing Program in Cambodia,” a program to help students develop their clinical skills by working with hearing-impaired individuals and helping facilitate locally based programs.
- [Study Abroad in Laos](#) (SAIL), a program offered through the Center for Lao Studies in San Francisco and with credit from NIU, will run **June 27–July 31**. Based in Vientiane,

Laos, the program offers students language and cultural lessons as well as exposure to Lao history and culture.

For more information about studying abroad, the [Study Abroad](#) office holds Study Abroad 101 at 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays in 417 Williston. There also so will be a workshop at 5:30 p.m. **Oct. 10** in 300 DuSable on different avenues for finding money to study abroad.

4. Register by Sept. 30 for October COTS conference

The deadline to register for the **Oct. 18–19** Council on Thai Studies (COTS) conference at NIU is coming up **Sept. 30**. Thai scholars will be meeting and greeting at the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center during the weekend. The conference will lead off with a lecture **Oct. 18** by NIU alumnus **Srisompob Jitpiomsri**, director of the Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity at Prince of Songkla University in Pattani, Thailand. His talk will be “The Formation of Peace Discourse and the Politics of Recognition in the Patani Peace Process.” (While at NIU for the conference, Jitpiomsri is also accepting a Distinguished Alumni award from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.) The keynote speaker **Oct. 19** will be



Duncan McCargo

University of Leeds professor of Southeast Asian politics Duncan McCargo. His talk will be “Dispensing Justice? The Work of Thai Police Investigators.” Conference registration is free; **register now on the COTS [website](#) and help the organizers get a count**. Reservations for rooms at the Holmes Student Center must be made by **Sept. 27**. Conference organizers include CSEAS associates John Hartmann (Foreign Languages and Literatures), Julia Lamb (CSEAS), Chalermsee Olson (Founders Library), Grant Olson (Foreign Languages and Literatures, COTS 2013 chair), and Danny Unger (Political Science). COTS, which was founded at NIU in 1972, is an informal organization of scholars interested in all aspects of Thai studies.

5. Registration open for upcoming Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs

Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich., is hosting the 62nd Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs **Oct. 25–27**. The conference, the Midwestern affiliate of the Association for Asian Studies, is the largest such regional AAS meeting. Associate Trude Jacobsen (History), the conference’s Southeast Asia representative, will lead and present on the panel “The Past in Burma’s (Gendered) Present: Historicizing Intersectionality in Myanmar.” The Center is organizing group transport. Conference registration, which includes Saturday evening banquet and one-year MCAA membership, is \$65 for students; \$85 for faculty, professionals and independent scholars. For details, see the [conference website](#).

6. **Save the dates:** Exploring Majors Fair this week

- **Sept. 24:** Exploring Majors Fair, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Duke Ellington Ballroom, Holmes Student Center.
- **Oct. 3 and 10:** Screening of *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, 7 p.m., Cole Hall Auditorium. Free. Sponsored by the Anthropology Museum and Women’s Studies Program
- **Oct. 7:** Central Intelligence Agency career workshop for students, noon to 1:30 p.m. Regency Room, Holmes Student Service. Faculty-staff workshop, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Room 100, Campus Life Building. Sponsored by NIU Career Services.

- **Nov. 11–15:** International Education Week sponsored by the Division of International Programs. Plans related to Southeast Asia include a lecture by an Islamic banking expert from Malaysia and an international careers event on **Nov. 12**, and a keynote lecture on colonial Burma by Rutgers University historian Chie Ikeya on **Nov. 15**.

7. Alumni news: Acclimating quickly

Piyathida “Pooh” Sereebenjapol (PhD instructional technology, 2013) is jumping right into her new job as Thai instructor at the University of Leeds in England. In addition to language teaching, she has been asked to coordinate Leeds’ year-abroad in Thailand program, which will be based at Chiang Mai University. . . .Patrick McCormick (MA political science, 2000) begins working for the Ecole française d’Extreme-Orient in Yangon month. He [reviewed](#) Michael and Mairii Aung-Thwin’s new book, *A History of Myanmar since Ancient Times: Traditions and Transformations* (Reaktion Books, 2012) for *The New Mandala* online journal in July.

8. 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 Eric Jones at ejones@niu.edu.

9. Boren, Blakemore Freeman programs offer funding for advanced SEA language study



David L. Boren awards provide unique and substantial funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate and graduate students to study Southeast Asian languages among other less commonly taught languages (see [list](#)). Applications for the 2014–15 Boren scholarships (for undergraduates) and fellowships (for graduate students) are now available on the [Boren website](#). Undergraduate students can receive up to \$20,000 for an academic year’s study abroad and graduate students up to \$30,000 for language study and international research. In exchange for funding, recipients commit to working in the federal government for a minimum of one year. For application help, see Anne Seitzinger at the Study Abroad office, 417 Williston Hall (email her at aseitz@niu.edu). **Graduate fellowship applications are due to the Boren office by Jan. 28; undergraduate scholarship applications are due Feb. 5.**



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 2014 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 professional, business, technical or academic career that involves the regular use of a Southeast Asian language. For more information, see the [Blakemore Foundation website](#). **The deadline to apply is Dec. 30.**

10. Journal seeks papers for 'Imagining Indonesia' issue

The *Austrian Journal of South-East Asian Studies* is calling for papers for an upcoming issue focusing on ideas of political utopia in Indonesia. Topics of interest include gender and class dynamics of utopias, transnational dimensions of separatist conflicts and political utopias, cultural representations and folkloristic production of Indonesian artists abroad, and others. Deadline for submissions is **Jan. 15**. For details, see [journal website](#).

11. Job/internships opportunities

University of Ohio

- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian History:** Tenure-track position. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 1.** For details, see [job posting](#).

University of Utah

- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian History:** Tenure-track position. **Deadline to apply: Nov. 8.** For details, see [job posting](#).

Singapore Management University

- **Associate Professor, International and Asian Studies:** For details, see [job posting](#).

Asia Society

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

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](#).

12. Money for study

East-West Center

- **Graduate fellowships:** Applications for 2014 fellowships now being accepted. Fellowships run up to 24 months. **Application due: Nov. 1.** For details, see [East-West website](#). **NEW**

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

- **Visiting fellowship:** ISEAS invites applications for postdoctoral fellowship in Indonesia studies, starting January 2014. **Application due: Oct. 15.** See [ISEAS website](#). **NEW**

Center for History and Economics

- **Postdoctoral research fellowship:** Center at Magdalene College in Cambridge invites applications for one-year fellowship funded by the European Union starting January 1, 2014. **Application due: Sept. 30.** For details, see [program website](#). **NEW**

Council of American Overseas Research Centers

- **Research fellowship:** Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program offers support in humanities, social sciences or allied natural sciences for doctoral candidates and post-doc scholars. Research must be carried out in two more countries outside of U.S. Funding provided by U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. **Deadline to apply: Jan. 13.** For details, see [CAORC website](#).

National University of Singapore/Stanford University

- **Fellowship:** Applications are open for 2014 Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford Distinguished Fellowship on Southeast Asia. Open to all nationalities with backgrounds

or positions in the social sciences or humanities. Fellowship provides travel and stipend for one month at NUS and one to three months at Stanford writing or researching contemporary Southeast Asia. For details, see [fellowship website](#).

American Institute for Indonesian Studies

- **Research grants for scholars:** \$5,000 Henry Luce Foundation grants available for American and Indonesian scholars in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. Program funded by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 15.** Forms available at [AIFIS website](#).
- **Research grants for graduate students, postdocs:** \$5,750 Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) grants available for research in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 15.** Forms available at [AIFIS website](#).

Center for Khmer Studies

- **Fellowships:** Applications open for PhD students and senior scholars to conduct research in Cambodia. PhD fellowships are for a maximum of 11 months; senior scholar fellowships are for 4 to 6 months. Open to U.S. citizens only. For details, see [CKS website](#).

13. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **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. See [conference website](#).
- **New Research in Southeast Asian History**, Oct. 18–19, Yale University, New Haven, CT. Inaugural graduate student conference. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **Constructing Southeast Asia**, Oct. 23–24, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. Organized by the Center for Southeast Asian Social Studies at Gadjah Mada. For details, see [conference website](#) or email coconsea@gmail.com.
- **5th International Graduate Student Conference on Indonesia**, Oct. 30–31, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **Framing 'Asian Studies': Geopolitics, Institutions and Networks**, Nov. 18–19, Leiden, the Netherlands. For details, see [conference website](#).
- **1st International Conference on Jambi Studies**, Nov. 21–24, Jambi, Sumatra, Indonesia. For information, see [conference website](#).
- **Alay at Laya: International Conference on Bonifacio and Mabini**, April 17–19, Manila. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: Oct. 15.** For details, see [conference website](#).
- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. For details, see [conference website](#) or email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au.
- **Society for Economic Anthropology Conference**, April 24–26, Austin, Texas. Call for papers. Theme: Energy and Economy. **Abstracts due: Nov. 1.** Details to be posted [online](#) by Oct. 1.

14. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- [Adobofest 2013](#), an adobo dish cook-off and tasting contest sponsored by the [Filipino American Network](#), will be going on from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Sept. 29** at the St. Paul Woods in Morton Grove. Entries still being accepted. Tastings start at 11 a.m.; chef judging at 2 p.m. Music and exhibits, too. **NEW**
- “Siam: The Queen and the White City” is on display in the Costume and Textile gallery at the Chicago History Museum. The exhibition features textiles, photographs and other items from Thailand that were collected by Queen Savang Vadanafor for display in the exposition’s Women’s Building. For details, see the [museum website](#).
- Learn about the history of Laotian immigration to Elgin, which began in the 1970s at the Vietnam War, in a long-running exhibit at the [Elgin Area Historical Society and Museum](#), 360 Park St., in Elgin.
- “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. Javanese gamelan and dance is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays; gamelan music and Indonesian dance is offered 3 to 6 p.m. Sundays. 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.

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