

# CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Week of April 12, 2021



Congratulations to CSEAS associate Melissa Lenczewski (Geology and Environmental Geosciences) on receiving NIU's 2021 Presidential Engagement and Partnerships Professorship. Details below.

## Sharing the value of SEA studies

CSEAS office is open during regular office hours with visitors by appointment only. To see a staff member, please contact them by email or phone to make arrangements (see [contact info](#) on the CSEAS website). Masks and social distancing apply in the office. Thank you.

### CSEAS Quick Links

- ✓ [CSEAS website](#)
- ✓ [Southeast Asia Crossroads podcast](#)
- ✓ [Mandala 2019](#)
- ✓ [CSEAS Facebook page](#)
- ✓ [CSEAS Twitter feed](#)

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## Catching up with Center associates

✧ Congratulations to Melissa Lenczewski (Geology and Environmental Geosciences), who is the 2021 recipient of the Presidential Engagement and Partnerships Professorship, announced **April 15** in [NIU Today](#). Lenczewski joined the CSEAS community seven years ago as a seasoned researcher in hydrogeology focusing on water quality and contamination. With the opening of Myanmar in 2012, she took the opportunity in 2013 to travel to the country to develop hydrogeology workshops for faculty at Yadanabon University and the University of Mandalay, in addition to recently collaborating with the University of Yangon to create new degrees in water studies. That initiative is the first program of its kind in Myanmar and will lay the groundwork for a new generation of water professionals. Lenczewski, as director of NIU's [Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability and Energy](#), has also identified projects in Myanmar for institute faculty and students, bringing several students with her back to Myanmar to conduct fieldwork.

✧ Eric Jones (History, CSEAS) will be on a panel focusing on undergraduate Southeast Asian studies **April 28** during a [virtual conference April 26–29](#) establishing the New York Southeast Asia Network's new Public Universities Consortium (PUC). Other panels (there's one a day) address issues for faculty, graduate students, and graduate students and faculty combined. The PUC's goal is to enhance interdisciplinary SEA studies throughout the New York public university systems, serving a focal point for scholarly exchange, professional development, and sharing of information on such topics as language training conducting fieldwork, accessing archival and library resources, grant opportunities, and conducting remote or in-person fieldwork in and on Southeast Asia. Non-New York students and faculty are welcome to attend. The initiative is supported by funding from the Henry Luce Foundation. Contact [nyseanpuc@gmail.com](mailto:nyseanpuc@gmail.com) or [mweiss@albany.edu](mailto:mweiss@albany.edu) for details.

✧ Kikue Hamayotsu (Political Science) has been elected chair of the Association of Asian Studies' Indonesia Timor Leste Studies Council and is looking forward to working closely with the new leadership of the American Institute for Indonesian Studies ([AIFIS](#)) to expand Indonesian studies and research.



*Lenczewski, left, in the field in Myanmar with FLAS fellow Michael Gryzbowski (MS geology and environmental geosciences, 2017), right, in 2016.*

## Burmavision 2021: Call for papers for rescheduled conference



*Raymond*

It was a difficult decision to postpone the 2020 International Burma Studies Conference, which was scheduled for last fall at NIU. But with the COVID-19 pandemic shutting down countries and international travel, there was little choice but to postpone the biennial conference that regularly draws 300 scholars from around the world, said Center for Burma Studies (CBS) Director Catherine Raymond. With NIU safety protocols in place, and the academic world fully adjusted to online conferencing, CBS announced last week its [call for papers](#) for the 2021 conference, which will be held **Sept. 16–19**. However, the decision whether to hold the conference on campus or online is still under consideration, Raymond said. The conference theme is “Burmavision 2021: Political Crisis, Social Resilience, and Cultural Vibrance in Myanmar.” CBS and the Burma Studies Foundation Board of Trustees and the Burma Studies Group invite papers or multi-media presentations on all aspects of Burma/Myanmar studies. Stay tuned to the [conference website](#) for future announcements. As noted on the site, CBS's “goal is to provide an interdisciplinary space where students and researchers of the country and region can come together and share their findings, debate ideas, and discuss controversial issues. We fully acknowledge that the political circumstances are changing

quickly, and we strive to be inclusive, and will update any organizational changes on the website as circumstances warrant." **Deadline to submit is April 30.**

## Save the dates: Virtual lectures, concerts and Song Kran

- **April 16:** Noon to 1 p.m., Virtual Spring Lecture Series, Shorna Allred, Cornell University Department of Natural Resources and Environment, "Cultural Resilience in Borneo."
- **April 21:** 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. CDT, *Foreign Affairs* magazine Virtual Graduate School Fair. See [website](#).

## Cultural resilience in Borneo subject of April 16 Friday lecture



Allred

CSEAS presents its last spring Friday lecture at noon [April 16](#) as a virtual event with [Shorna Allred](#), associate professor in Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, who will present "Cultural Resilience in Borneo" via Microsoft Teams. Allred's research blends human factors and natural sciences with the goal of improving resource management and conservation. Her lecture, cohosted by the NIU Department of Geographic and Atmospheric Sciences, will focus on her research into the cultural resilience of the Penan hunter-gather peoples who have lived in the Borneo rainforest for generations but whose culture and way of life are now experiencing environmental and development pressures. CSEAS thanks the NIU Graduate Colloquium for its support of the spring series.

## Recent Indonesian air disaster subject of latest SEA Crossroads podcast

In the most recent [episode](#), host Eric Jones interviews Chicago lawyers Thomas Gardiner and Brittany Hebler (a former FLAS fellow who studied Bahasa Indonesian while a student at NIU) about their firm's litigation representing victims of recent Indonesian airline disasters. (For information about the firm, GKWW, see their [website](#)). Also, [Napalm in the Morning](#), an exploration of films dealing with the Vietnam War, has joined the Center's wide-ranging podcast series, [Southeast Asia Crossroads](#). Southeast Asia Crossroads' following has grown to nearly 49,000 listens since its 2016 debut with listeners in 95 countries; topics range from history and politics to art and culture. Since its June 2020 debut, *Napalm in the Morning*, also hosted by Jones and Jagel, has examined six Vietnam films (*Full Metal Jacket*, *Rambo First Blood*, *Platoon*, *Coming Home*, *Good Morning Vietnam*, *Nixon*, and *We Were Soldiers*).

## Virtual exhibit features women in Southeast Asia

In recognition of Women's History Month, and drawing from the Hart Southeast Asia Collection's vast troves of materials, Southeast Asia Library Assistant Joanna Kulma has put together a digital exhibit about [women in Southeast Asia](#). Kulma, who has worked in the Hart Collection since 2013, spent weeks pulling together images, books, quotes, and profiles of SEA women ranging from royalty to revolutionaries. From participating in nationalist movements and fights for independence in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the exhibit reveals that women have continued to actively shape the future with their leadership efforts in SEA politics, education, the environment, and rights movements among other areas. Among those featured in the exhibit is Her Royal

Highness Princess [Maha Chakri Sirindhorn](#) of Thailand, who received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from NIU in 2013. The exhibit will be a permanent part of the collection's digital archives, Kulma said.

## Two new books in NIU/Cornell Southeast Asia Series

Cornell University Press, where NIU Press has been an imprint since 2019, has released two new books in the NIU Southeast Asia Series. *The Saigon Sisters: Privileged Women in the Resistance*, by Patricia D. Norland, was released in July. The book traces the lives of nine Vietnamese women who grew up in a French lycée and later fought for independence beginning with the French occupation of Vietnam through the Second Vietnamese War's end in 1975. *Semi-Civilized: The Moro Village at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition*, by Creighton University historian and CSEAS alumnus Michael C. Hawkins (PhD history, 2009), was released in March. Hawkins' book examines Moro (Filipino Muslim) contributions to the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair, challenging the manifestations of "empire" at the event and in American discourse at the time

## Conferences, workshops and webinars

### Conferences

- **University of Hong Kong**, May 1. **VIRTUAL** Theme: Northeast Asian Countries' Soft Power in Southeast Asia and South Asia. Call for papers. Honoraria will be awarded to selected papers. Send to Trevor Wan at [trevortw@connect.hku.hk](mailto:trevortw@connect.hku.hk).
- **University of California-Riverside Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference**, May 14. **VIRTUAL** Theme: Making and unmaking Southeast Asian Spaces. See [website](#).
- **InterAsia Water(s) Graduate Conference**, May 28–29, Yale University. **VIRTUAL** See [website](#).
- **AIFIS-MSU Conference on Indonesian Studies**, June 23–26, American Institute for Indonesian Studies and Michigan State University Asian Studies Center. Inaugural conference. **VIRTUAL** See [website](#).
- NEW**
- **Rethinking Southeast Asia in World Politics**, June 24–25, University of Lodz (Poland). **VIRTUAL** or **IN-PERSON**. See [website](#).
- **Chulalongkorn Institute of Thai Studies Asian Heritage Forum**, Aug. 19–20, Bangkok. **IN-PERSON** or **VIRTUAL**. See [website](#).
- **Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies Conference**, Oct. 21–24, Vancouver. See [website](#).
- **2021 National Humanities Conference**, Nov. 11–14, Detroit. Theme: Borders. Call for proposals. See [website](#).

### Webinars and workshops **NEW**

- **Refracting the Vietnam War: Critical Refugee Studies and Southeast Asian American Cultural Production**: Mini Speaker Series, April 22, 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. CDT. **VIRTUAL** Ma Vang (University of California-Merced, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies) presents "Hmong American Literature and Refugee Presence." Co-sponsored by the Committee on the Degrees of History and Literature and the Harvard University Asia Center. Register [here](#).
- **An Archaeology of Religious Change: Community Response in 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Century CE Angkor**, April 22, 7 p.m. CDT. **VIRTUAL** Speaker: Piphal Heng (affiliate, University of Hawaii-Manoa Anthropology Department). Register [here](#).
- **Mekong Dams: Debates and the Politics of Evidence**, April 28, 6 p.m. CDT. [Spring 2021 Webinar Series](#): The Mekong, China and Southeast Asian Transitions. **VIRTUAL** Co-hosted by University of Hawaii-Manoa CSEAS and Chinese Studies, East-West Center, Michigan State University and Chiang Mai University. Register [here](#).

## Money for study

### *Center for Indonesian Policy Studies*

- **Visiting research fellowships:** Opportunities for Indonesian and non-Indonesian students completing their Indonesia-related doctorate and post-graduate theses to conduct field research in Indonesia over 3-6 month period. **No deadline to apply.** See [website](#).

### *Rotary International*

- **Rotary Peace Fellowships:** Fully paid fellowships for master's degree (up to two years) or professional development certificate studies (three months) offered through six universities worldwide. **Deadline to apply for 2022–23: May 15.** See [website](#).

### *Council of American Overseas Research Centers*

- **Fellowships:** For U.S. doctoral candidates and postdocs. See [website](#).

### *Center for Indonesian Policy Studies*

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### *ProFellow*

- **Dissertation Research Fellowships:** Check the ProFellow [website](#) for 30 different opportunities for dissertation research funding.

## Careers

### *U.S.-ASEAN Business Council*

- **Policy and research internships:** Semester [internships](#) based in Washington, D.C. Recent graduates encouraged to apply. **Deadline for fall 2021 placement: June 10.** For details, email [internships@usasean.org](mailto:internships@usasean.org). Singapore internship also available. See [website](#).

### *Council on Foreign Relations*

- **Foreign Affairs Career Center:** Jobs board hosted by council's respected *Foreign Affairs* journal. From internships to full-time positions listed. Seeking taff Editor for *Foreign Affairs* magazine currently (**applications close April 30**). See [website](#).

### *Bridge to Success*

- **English Teachers in China:** Ten-month- internships and jobs for English speakers with bachelor's degree minimum. See [website](#).

### *Center for Strategic and International Studies*

- **Internships:** Full- and part-time internships for undergraduates, advanced students and recent graduates who are interested in gaining practical experience in public policy. Based in Washington, DC. Rolling deadlines to apply. See [website](#).

### *Eurasia Group*

- See [website](#) for job opportunities.

### *Globaljobs.org*

- **Job/internship opportunities:** Turn area studies into an internship or a career. See job listings at NGOs, think tanks, government, and private-sector employers. See [website](#).

### *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. Compensation in college credit. See [website](#).

### *US Department of State*

- **Student internship program:** Internship opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students at Washington headquarters and US embassies, consulates and missions worldwide. Explore postgraduate civil-service career paths as well. See [program website](#). **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. See [website](#).

*Idealist.org*

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

*Learn How to Become*

- Privately funded website offers searchable database of meaningful volunteer and nonprofit career options and resources. See [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 [website](#).

## The future calls

You can help keep Southeast Asian studies program at NIU vibrant with your contribution through the NIU Foundation. To contribute online, see [How to Give](#) and where indicated, specify the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. If your employer matches your charitable donations, please take a moment to fill out that form and **double** your contribution. We appreciate every gift. Thank you!

*Persons with a disability who need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact Office Manager Lisa Heal at 815-753-1771 or [lheal@niu.edu](mailto:lheal@niu.edu). If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, reply to this e-mail with request to remove your name. Thank you.*

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