

SOUTHEAST ASIA CENTER

NEWSLETTER / FALL 2012



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Notes from the Director, Laurie J. Sears



The highlight of the 2011-2012 year at SEAC was the book launch of the late and beloved Professor Emeritus Daniel S. Lev's new book *No Concessions: The Life of Yap Thiam Hien, Indonesian Human Rights Lawyer*. In the photo below, Professor Emeritus Benedict O' G. Anderson and Yap Thiam Hien's grandson Sigfried Loohe offer a toast to the work of Arlene Lev. Arlene worked with Ben Anderson and Audrey Kahin to bring her late husband Dan Lev's biography of Yap to completion. Ibu Ertie N. Oei, who formerly taught Indonesian at UW in the 1980s and early 1990s, holds a copy of the new book in the background (and see above).

As part of this moving event, Dan's close friend Ben Anderson came to celebrate the new book and to present a lecture for the University of Washington's prestigious Jessie and John Danz Lectures Series. The title of Ben Anderson's wonderful lecture was: "Long Live Shame! The Good Side of Nations and Nationalism." The Danz Lecture Series now asks faculty to choose a graduate student to introduce the distinguished visiting faculty. We chose Allan Lumba of the History department. Lumba is writing a dissertation on "Monetary Authorities: Market Knowledge and Imperial Government in the Colonial Philippines, 1892-1942."

Comments by Allan Lumba, PhC, History, UW, on the introduction of Emeritus Professor Benedict Anderson, recent recipient of the Albert O. Hirschman Award.

For almost three decades Professor Benedict Anderson was banned from Indonesia. He was banned because he helped research and write a confidential preliminary analysis critiquing the government narrative of the failed October first, 1965 Indonesian coup. The analysis turns the official military stories upside down, asserting that the Communist Party might not have been behind the coup, but instead, possibly the scapegoat of discontented army officers. Although he was a young scholar and his academic career was at risk, he refused to comply with the Indonesian government's wishes.

Professor Anderson's consistent critique of power remains one of the most inspirational aspects of his transdisciplinary and transnational scholarship. His most

famous works, such as *Imagined Communities*, *Language and Power*, *The Spectre of Comparisons*, and *Under Three Flags*, to name but a few, emphasize the types of social relations and political identities only imaginable through confronting imperial, colonial, and authoritarian power. He is best known, however, for transforming our understanding of nationalism.

According to *Imagined Communities*, the popular creation of a political community, such as the nation, could only come about through a reconceptualization of time, language, and writing, within a capitalist world system. Indeed, the circulation of anti-colonial and anti-imperial ideas within a public sphere and the feeling of belonging to a nation would remain impossible if not for the emergence of a new technological era that brought into focus a system of newspaper and novel production he ingeniously termed "print capitalism."

In Professor Anderson's later writings, such as *The Spectre of Comparisons* and *Under Three Flags*, he provocatively asserts that within the very nature of nationalism lies a cosmopolitan world-view. He illustrates this worldliness by tracing the political practices and historical effects of those who saw themselves as belonging not only to a specific nation, but a world of nations, made up of universally recognized identities, such as patriot, revolutionary, or anti-colonialist. In other words, revolutionary nationalism entailed drawing from universal political struggles in order to transform local conditions.

In this urgent moment when newer articulations of the public sphere and "print capitalism"—such as social networking sites—are utilized as a critique of official narratives; when the direct action of "occupying" is a modular form of national organizing; and when the identification with the "99%" reinvigorates the popular imagining of a cosmopolitan community: it is without any doubt just how fundamental and powerful the thoughts and writings of Professor Anderson remain. I am thus immensely honored, to introduce to all of you, Aaron L. Binenkorb Professor Emeritus of International Studies, Benedict Anderson.



2011-2012 Academic Year Kicks Off With Visit of Indonesian Ambassador



The Ambassador (center) with local Indonesian community members, UW Interim Provost Doug Wadden, and Director of the Southeast Asia Center,

The Southeast Asia Center began its 2011-2012 year by hosting the Honorable Dino Patti Djalal, Indonesian Ambassador to the United States, on October 17. The University of Washington, as one of the strongest Indonesia-focused programs in the U.S, not only in the Arts & Sciences, but also in the humanities, Asian Law Center, Global Health programs, human rights work, the Primate Center and Health Science programs, was a natural first stop for the Ambassador's U.S. trip. Upon arrival, Ambassador Djalal met with SEAC faculty and students, as well as with members of the UW Indonesian Student Association, to discuss Indonesian studies at UW. After a warm welcome and introduction by UW Interim Provost Doug Wadden, Ambassador Djalal gave a lively presentation entitled "Islam and Democracy: Evolving Compatibility in the 21st Century" to over 150 students, faculty, staff and community members. The presentation was followed by our annual fall reception.

Welcome to Khmer Language Instructor Luoth Yin and the Beginning Khmer Class at UW



The Southeast Asia Center welcomed Mr. Luoth Yin to our faculty to teach Beginning Khmer language classes in 2011. Mr. Yin, a poet, author and journalism student, has held positions in the Cambodian Ministry of Religion, the Cambodian National Assembly and has worked in a variety of social service agencies in addition to teaching. He taught advanced Khmer at Cornell for a brief period and has

been described by one of his close colleagues as a "natural teacher." He will be teaching both Beginning and Intermediate Khmer in the 2012-2013 academic year.

The following are thoughts about the Beginning Khmer class by Mr. Yin:

I never thought of coming back to teach language after I taught a summer session at Cornell University over twenty years ago, but the leadership of the Southeast Asian Center allowed me to teach again with their supportive plan and procedure, inviting Frank Smith, a prominent Khmer language instructor, from the University of Berkeley, to provide me with an orientation based on his textbook and teaching approach. This gave me solid ground for proceeding with my teaching, along with warm support by Dr. Sara Van Fleet, who encouraged me to continue improving my teaching ability through staying flexible in my teaching approach. I have also benefitted from additional assistance from Professor Rick Bonus who has provided me with suggestions on how to create a pleasant classroom environment. I have incorporated some of his ideas, such as going to a Cambodian restaurant and showing them short Cambodian movies on YouTube.

The students in my class naturally have different motivations. My class is composed of both heritage students and more traditional American students. Besides just fulfilling their course requirements, the heritage students (those with Cambodian parents) wish to preserve their native language. My students tell me that their parents are proud and happy to hear them speak Khmer to them. For the American students, they are gaining additional language skills and appreciation for Cambodian culture. One of my students plans to go to Cambodia for her internship, and the others plan to visit the country at some point. One of my American students is a law school graduate, specializing in immigration law. He may reach out to Cambodian clients in the future, and his language skill will certainly be a good tool.

The beginning Khmer class reminds me of Machiavelli's words, in his book, *The Prince*, where he states that "one change invariably lays ground for another." The drastic change in the recent history of Cambodia undertaken by the communist regime led to the wholesale destruction of Cambodian culture, but the change also laid the groundwork for the introduction of new opportunities which is in some ways proven by this Khmer class. Fifty years ago, there were not many people who spoke Khmer in America, and not many American students would have made an effort to learn Khmer. Today, there is increasing interest in Cambodia, a vibrant Khmer community in Seattle and a growing number of students interested in learning Khmer language at the UW. ■

Effective Collaboration Enables UW Students to Learn About Southeast Asian Culture through the Performing Arts

Christina Sunardi (Ethnomusicology)



Heri Purwanto in the School of Music at the University of Washington with Seattle-Surabaya Sister City Association gamelan instruments. (Photo by Joanne De Pue.)

Indonesian performing arts at the University of Washington have flourished over the past two years through the collaborative efforts of the UW School of Music, the UW Southeast Asia Center, Seattle Pacific University (SPU), the Seattle-Surabaya Sister City Association, and the Seattle-based ensemble Gamelan Pacifica. Thanks to the energy and work of these institutions and organizations, UW students have had many opportunities to learn about Southeast Asian culture and people by interacting with Southeast Asian artists—listening, laughing, exchanging stories—and by participating in Southeast Asian culture—playing music, dancing, and performing.

With the changing winds and leaves, fall 2010 brought a number of opportunities for students to learn about and participate in Indonesian arts, and more specifically, Javanese performing arts. The use of a beautiful gamelan ensemble (comprised of gongs, metallophones, and other instruments) enriched my Autumn Quarter music courses. Dr. Ramona Holmes at SPU and the Seattle-Surabaya Sister City Association graciously permitted the UW School of Music to borrow these instruments. The UW Southeast Asia Center supported Indonesian arts-related projects as well, including a dance performance at SPU featuring the Center's own Tikka Sears, UW undergraduate Emma Lux, and myself. The Center also supported the visit of the Javanese master

puppeteer and gamelan musician Ki Midiyanto. Ever generous with his time and energy, Ki Midiyanto gave lecture-demonstrations in two music classes and led a gamelan workshop.

Hard work on other fronts during the fall months paid off in the spring of 2011. The School of Music had the pleasure of hosting Heri Purwanto, a highly respected teacher, performer, and master musician of central Javanese gamelan, as a visiting artist. During his residency spanning the months of March to May, Heri gave workshops in my gamelan course and worked individually with students, helping to prepare them to accompany a dance that he and I developed for the School of Music Visiting Artist Concert at Meany Theater as well as teaching them other pieces.

Spring 2011 also saw the visit of one of Indonesia's finest artists, the master Javanese dancer, choreographer and make-up artist Didik Nini Thowok, who performed as a special guest dancer at the Visiting Artist Concert to gamelan music played by Gamelan Pacifica and Heri Purwanto. The Seattle-based artist Jessika Kenney was featured as a vocalist. Didik's visit to Seattle was made possible through the support of Gamelan Pacifica, directed by composer and Cornish College of the Arts professor Jarrad Powell, the UW Southeast Asia Center, and the UW School of Music.

I continue to use the Seattle-Surabaya Sister City Association gamelan in my courses, and the School of Music invited the West Javanese master musician Ade Suparman for a two-week residency in April of 2012. I am optimistic about future collaboration between institutions and organizations in Seattle, future work with Indonesian artists, and future cultural experiences for UW students. I encourage readers to keep their eyes and ears open for news of more Indonesian performing arts at the UW.



Professor Sunardi is an ethnomusicologist specializing in the performing arts of Java, Indonesia. Her other interests include the American musics, as well as dance, gender, and interaction. Sunardi has spent several years in Central and East Java studying and performing gamelan music and dance.

UW Part of the US-Indonesia Partnership Program

Randall Kyes (Psychology)

The University of Washington is one of six U.S. universities to receive funding from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs to help promote US-Indonesian collaboration and increase the number of American students studying in Indonesia.

The program, known as the "U.S.-Indonesia Partnership Program for Study Abroad Capacity," is administered by the Institute of International Education and reflects the Obama administration's interest in cultivating relationships with Indonesia as a way to improve opportunities for business, education, science and technology partnerships between the two countries.

The State Department funding to UW will be used as stipends to support 10 students who will participate in Prof. Randy Kyes' study abroad program, the International Field Study Program-Indonesia (<http://depts.washington.edu/cgfs/ifsp>). The stipends will help defray the costs of travel to Indonesia for this summer's program from June 28 to July 24, 2012. Since its beginning in 1995, more than 60 UW students have participated in this annual, month-long program conducted on the remote Tinjil Island (West Java). The program is offered in collaboration with the Primate Research Center at Bogor Agricultural University and also involves Indonesian students. The program focuses on conservation biology and global health—at the human-environment interface, and allows students to experience living in a tropical jungle setting while conducting field research. The 10 students participating in this summer's program include six from UW, two from the University of Texas, and one from Central Oregon Community College.



Professor Kyes is a Research Professor in the Department of Psychology and Adjunct Research Professor in Global Health at the UW. He is Director of the University's Center for Global Field Study and Head of the Division of Global Programs at the Washington National Primate Research Center.

NOT POSSIBLE ... A YEAR AGO

Mary Callahan (Jackson School of Int'l Studies)

For more than 20 years I have been traveling to Burma for research on military politics and the civil wars that have plagued that country since independence in 1948. Never during that time did I imagine it possible that I would stand before a room of senior active-duty and retired military officers and debate with them the costs and benefits of "democratic civilian control of the military." But I just did exactly that this summer, in a government-sponsored workshop entitled "Good Governance in Political Transition Countries" in Nay Pyi Taw. The workshop was comprised of some 50 senior government servants, including four active duty military officers. And a couple days later, back in Rangoon, I facilitated a classroom discussion of the very same topic among 25 recently released political prisoners. A year ago – and perhaps even just a few months ago – these discussions were out of the question. The prisoners of conscience were still in jail and the colonels thought they had a monopoly over lectures on "good governance."



Callahan teaching civil-military relations in Nay Pyi Taw, 7/5/12

Hundreds and possibly thousands of similar kinds of previously unthinkable, impossible conversations now occur openly, publicly and critically every week in the post-junta political landscape of urban Myanmar. How did this happen? "The Previous Government," as Burmese call it, was run by a small group of (mostly army) generals, who exercised de facto martial law from 1988-2011. Power was exercised by this junta, but was largely concentrated in the hands of its chair, Senior General Than Shwe.

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NOT POSSIBLE ... A YEAR AGO

The army's institutional command structure mapped isomorphically to administrative and policymaking structures. Anything that happened outside one's home (and often inside) constituted "politics" and therefore a threat to national security.

Research opportunities were scarce and fraught with anxiety. During my dissertation field work from 1991-1993, an MI (military intelligence) agent sat across the table from me daily at the university library; a senior colonel lectured me weekly about "true facts," and martial law meant my dormitory warden locked us in at about 7 pm nightly. I worried around the clock that what I read, asked and wrote might land an acquaintance, taxi driver, or interviewee in jail. A dear friend was sentenced to 15 years in jail for "currency violations," and it was more than seven years into his sentence that he finally found a way to get word to me that his arrest was not really because of his assistance to me in my dissertation research. For most of his imprisonment and indeed for most of the last 20 years, I worked to stay as far off the radar of the military and its henchmen as possible.

Year after year, I would visit my friends in Rangoon, Mandalay, Lashio, Taunggyi, Pegu and elsewhere, and each time they would say, "Things here can not possibly get any worse;" the next year they would report that social, political and economic conditions were significantly worse. In late 2009, I published the one piece of writing of which I was the most proud. It ran in *The New Left Review* and was called, "Perpetual Junta: Solving the Riddle of the Tatmadaw's Long Reign." ("Tatmadaw" is Burmese for "armed forces.") The title was the editor's idea, but it seemed wholly appropriate for the Burma that I had been studying since 1988. For 21 years, activists and academics alike had been predicting the inevitable end of history for one of the most reviled regimes in the world. Just one more well-targeted sanction, one more international prize for opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi or one more round of street protests was supposed to do the trick. Much like the Arabists, who had spent decades explaining the anomalous durability of unpopular, undemocratic regimes in the Middle East (only to be surprised by last year's so-called "Arab Spring"), for nearly two decades I had also sensed

there was something wrong with the assumptions of those who expected the longest running dictatorship in the last fifty years to collapse, implode or surrender in the face of economic sanctions, isolation, and a non-stop cascade of UN General Assembly resolutions against it. My frequent research trips to Burma had suggested the military was far from the brink of demise. Although there were obvious signs of "cracks in the edifice" of Tatmadaw rule, there existed vibrant political, literary, artistic and civil societies that were anything but crushed by the political oppression. I found it hard to ignore the particular, long-term historical roots for the kind of coercion-intensive state-society relations that had come to dominate post-colonial Burma.



Newspaper coverage of ongoing war in Kachin State, July 2012

However, there exists a new political fluidity that potentially may change how they rule. Direct rule by the military-as-an-institution is over, for now. Since their inauguration nine months ago, former general, now President, Thein Sein and his administration have acted like a government, not a high command; in the "previous government," there was no such distinction. With this shift, the military-as-an-institution has seen a diminution in its scope of prerogatives. In 2011, the post-junta, constitutional government has fenced out a non-military terrain of non-threatening, business-as-usual "politics" in both formal legal fora and informal iterative decision-making processes.

The progression of change thus far has been largely defined and controlled by leaders of the Tatmadaw from a position of strength,

"The New Government," again as most Burmese refer to it, is in some ways anything but new. No major shift has occurred in the characteristics of who rules (male, Burman retired or active-duty military officers) in elite level positions of authority.

not in reaction to destabilizing popular mobilizations or as a result of institution-threatening factionalism among leaders. The new constitution of 2008, and the domination of senior positions of authority by (mostly) retired senior military, serve to protect the interests of military officers and their families as well as the military as an institution. That said, however, the first fifteen months of President Thein Sein's government have ended the domination of the political system by the military-as-an-institution and witnessed the emergence of a realm of public, political life that is no longer subject to draconian "national security" mandates. Given how early Myanmar is in this process, the causes, implications, and the potential for reversal of these changes remain unclear.

For now, however, much that was not possible is now possible. Expansive but long underestimated organizations in domestic civil society in major cities have seized an apparent political opening by President Thein Sein, as has opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (now an elected member of the Pyithu Hluttaw, or Lower House of Parliament). Local groups and democratic political parties first gingerly and now more stridently have made previously unthinkable demands under the more liberal clauses of the 2008 constitution. The Burmese-language media reports on these demands without censorship, cabinet ministers (mostly ex-military) respond sensibly to at least some of the criticisms, and a degree of responsible governance seems possible for the first time in more than half a century.

As it turned out, there was nothing perpetual about Burma's junta. Although it is too soon to label the wholly unexpected political developments as anything remotely approaching "democracy," it cannot be insignificant that with each passing week, a previously unthinkable range of actions, conversations and policies materialize on the political scene. Much is still not possible – e.g., the President has failed to stop the army from fighting in northern Shan State and Kachin State (despite his issuance of two ceasefire orders), the economy remains dominated by wealthy cronies, and little of the elite-level political reform has trickled down to the everyday lives of ordinary Burmese.

This is nonetheless a historical moment of possibility, one long overdue. ■

THE RAMAYANA in Seattle this Fall

Adapted and created by ACT's Affiliate Artist Working Group. Co-Directed by Kurt Beattie and Sheila Daniels



October 12 - November 11, 2012 | WORLD PREMIERE at ACT Theatre

Romance – Action - Suspense! Come along for the adventure as ACT brings one of South and Southeast Asia's greatest and most beloved epics to life on stage. The Ramayana tells the engrossing story of Rama, a young hero on a quest to rescue his beautiful wife from an evil king. Like all great stories, it delivers spellbinding entertainment while posing essential questions about the human condition. Perfect for the whole family, sumptuously staged with vivid costumes, fantastic sets, and re-imagined environments, The Ramayana is an eye-popping roller coaster of mythical proportions—and unlike anything you've ever seen in Seattle.

What is the Ramayana? It is an ancient Sanskrit epic, one of the two great epics of South and Southeast Asia, the other being the Mahabharata. It depicts the duties of relationships, portraying ideal characters like the ideal king, ideal servant, the ideal brother, and the ideal wife. In South Asia, the Ramayana consists of 24,000 Sanskrit verses in seven books and tells the story of Rama (an Avatar of the Hindu preserver-God Vishnu), whose wife Sita is abducted by the demon king of Langka, Ravana. Thematically, the Ramayana explores human values and the concept of dharma or duty.

In conjunction with ACT'S new adaptation of the Ramayana, the Southeast Asia Center and the South Asia Center at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies are co-sponsoring a four part lecture series on the Ramayana in Southeast and South Asia. Additionally the Southeast Asia Center has been involved with the Ramayana Ambassador's program at ACT and will be giving workshops to over 20 young people that are part of the Ramayana Youth Ensemble.

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THE RAMAYANA in Seattle this Fall

Southeast Asia Center Outreach Coordinator Tikka Sears has been serving as a consultant to the project, introducing members of the design team to Indonesian Mask Dance and Puppetry traditions. Sears has been attending rehearsals and workshops of the play and will even play a small role in the upcoming production. We are excited that over 10,000 Seattle community members will be attending this production and join the millions of people throughout the world that know and love this story.

The Lecture Series Details:

All lectures take place at ACT Theatre / 700 Union Street, Seattle, WA 98101

- **Ramayana Across Time and Space**
Professor Emeritus V. Narayana Rao
Saturday, September 29th
- **Shadows of Islam, Politics, and Contemporary Film in Indonesian Ramayana Traditions**
Professor Laurie Sears, University of Washington
Sunday, October 7th
- **The Ramayana and the Sacred Temples of Angkor: Cambodia and Beyond**
Professor Boreth Ly, UC Santa Cruz
Sunday, October 14th
- **Many Sitas**
Professor Heidi Pauwels, University of Washington
Film Screening of *Sita Sings the Blues*
Saturday, November 3rd

TICKETS are on sale now. Group Discounts are available.

Commissioned by Vijay Vashee in honor of Sita Vashee as part of ACT's New Works for the American Stage Program.

More information and tickets for the lecture series and show:
<http://www.acttheatre.org/Tickets/OnStage/Ramayana>
ACT Theatre / 700 Union Street, Seattle, WA 98101 /
[www.acttheatre.org / 206.292.7676](http://www.acttheatre.org/206.292.7676) ■

Save the Date: Indonesian Cultural Night, Saturday October 20, 2012; 7-9pm



SEAC and Gamelan Pacifica are supporting the CERDAS Foundation's Indonesian Cultural Night, an event to celebrate the wealth of

Indonesian culture. The event will engage the audience with Javanese Wayang Kulit, a traditional shadow puppet play, and performances of Javanese/Sundanese classical dances. Ki Dalang Midiyanto (above), a renowned dalang (puppet master) from Java will perform the Tale of Dewa Ruci, a story describing the heroic quest of Bima for the secret knowledge of life. Gamelan Pacifica, one of the best contemporary gamelan troupes in the U.S., will accompany the show under the direction of Professor Jarrad Powell (Cornish College of the Arts). All proceeds from the Indonesian Cultural Night will be used by the CERDAS Foundation to provide scholarships for underprivileged students in Indonesia.

Location: Kane Hall, UW, Seattle campus.

Tickets: Public \$20 | Students & Seniors \$10

Purchase tickets through:

Brown Paper Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com

Mustika Ningrum - CERDAS Foundation at (425) 770-0037

Get more info at: <http://wayang.cerdasfoundation.org>

Tibet to Bosnia: Summer Seminar Promotes Global Storytelling

by Jessica Carter, A&S Staff. Reprinted with permission from *Perspectives*, the UW College of Arts and Sciences newsletter (September 2011 issue). Carter, Jessica and A&S Staff. "Tibet to Bosnia: Summer Seminar Promotes Global Storytelling." *Perspectives*, the UW College of Arts and Sciences newsletter, September 2011. <http://www.artsci.washington.edu/newsletter/Sept11/JSISSummerSeminar.asp>

For two days, teachers attending the 2011 Summer Seminar for Educators listened with rapt attention as guest speakers shared their personal stories of survival and escape from Nazi Germany, war-torn Cambodia, and other turbulent regions of the world. Then, working in groups, the educators created digital materials that captured those dramatic stories, providing a powerful teaching tool for their own classrooms.

Helping teachers bring global issues to the classroom is at the heart of the Summer Seminar, aimed at middle school, high school, and community college educators. The annual offering is hosted by the Jackson School of International Studies and organized by the School's eight area resource centers.

Tikka Sears, outreach coordinator for the Southeast Asia Center, led the seminar. A theater artist who is passionate about storytelling, Sears proposed a program



that would help educators gain skills in using oral histories by creating and editing digital stories and brainstorming ways to implement them in the classroom. "This model works well," says Sears. "It is unique and provides the opportunity to combine different models of learning."

The educators worked in groups, each group focusing on one of the regions covered by the guest speakers. The participants listened to presenters, sorted through archived images, read a short article, built and edited a presentation using Photo Story software, and presented the finished product to the group.

"I loved the hands-on experience," says participant Elizabeth Norville, co-founder and project director for the Seattle Refugee Youth Project. "It really showed me the learning benefits of a digital media assignment and active learning." Norville's work includes digital storytelling to promote the social inclusion of local refugee youth into their new Seattle homeland.

Recruiting seminar presenters with compelling stories was crucial to the project. Invited speakers included Dr. Noor Aaf, a physician who lived in Afghanistan at the time of the Soviet invasion; Stephen Adler, a Holocaust survivor who escaped by Kindertransport to Hamburg;



Moly Sam, a Cambodian court dancer who escaped the Khmer Rouge, told her story and performed a traditional Cambodian dance during the Summer Seminar for Educators.

Abdullah Polovina, a Seattle Imam who lived through revolution in Bosnia; Moly Sam, a Cambodian court dancer who escaped the Khmer Rouge; and Tsering Chamatsang Yuthok, an international program advocate who fled Tibet.

"It was an intense two days with five incredible stories," says Sears. "Teachers walked away with photo stories and digital archives for all the regions, which they can bring back to the classroom."

Sears and her team are now preparing DVDs of the presentations for participants to use as a resource. The software selected for training purposes is also easily accessible and available as a free download online, so the teachers can continue honing their digital storytelling skills.



Scott Macklin (far right) was the seminar's keynote speaker, as well as digital media facilitator and instructor.

"Increasingly we are coming to a better understanding that learners today are not just mere consumers of content but are becoming co-creators of content and thus co-creators of meanings," says Scott Macklin, filmmaker and associate director in the UW Master of Communication in Digital Media program, who delivered the seminar's keynote lecture and served as the digital media facilitator and instructor. "Learning sessions such as this summer's session help teachers gain access to the concepts, skills, acumen, and abilities to develop relevant and rigorous learning activities that are based in relationships and generating results."

Macklin's wife, Angelica Macklin, award-winning documentary film maker and Multimedia Producer for the National Center for Quality Teaching and Learning, served as co-instructor and facilitator for the Summer Seminar. Wesley Henry, a PhD student in the College of Education, served as teacher liaison.

"It will be nice to have an alternative to Power Point presentations," says seminar participant and Roosevelt High School librarian Patricia Pawelak-Kort. "I think students will be very excited about these digital materials, which seem to allow for more creativity. I look forward to using them." ■

Southeast Asian Studies Faculty's Contribution to First Social Work Program in Cambodia



Dr. Tracy Harachi (*left*), Associate Professor (School of Social Work) has played the role of partnership director in the successful establishment of Cambodia's first social work program. The article below details the first graduating cohort.

Cambodia's first social work grads ready to take the reins

Calvin Yang. *Reprinted with permission from The Phnom Penh Post. Yang, Calvin. "Cambodia's first social work grads ready to take the reins," Phnom Penh Post, 25 Jun., 2012. <http://www.phnompenhpost.com/index.php/2012062556984/Lifestyle/cambodias-social-work-grads.html>.*

After witnessing his fellow Cambodians endure poverty, child exploitation, domestic violence and discrimination for years, 24-year-old Hour Chhaileng wasn't going to let each day pass without doing something about it.

"It's not easy for Cambodians to live under these difficult circumstances," he says. "I wanted to do something to help them find solutions to their problems."

Chhaileng graduated from high school four years ago and chose to pursue a university education in social work—completely uncharted territory for local undergraduates and one dominated by foreign aid workers and volunteers. Next month, Chhaileng will be among the pioneer batch of students who graduate from the Social Work Baccalaureate degree program at the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RuPP), the first college-level social work course in Cambodia. "This is the first time such a program has been offered in Cambodia," says Dalin Meng, head of the department of social work.

"There is a lot of need here in Cambodia, and this course plays a crucial role in answering that need." To commemorate the completion of their course, the students have been invited to a formal ceremony early next year at which the top students of the program will receive their official certificates from Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Cambodia, a country ravaged by decades of civil conflict and mistrust, is slowly moving out of the shadows of its disturbing past with the assistance of about 2,000 local and international non-government organisations.

"After Pol Pot's reign, there were issues of poverty, street children, domestic violence and more, but we didn't have the knowledge or skill to help our own people," Meng says.

"Even now, there are a lot of people here who face such problems."

For two decades, myriad NGOs have come to Cambodia to work on everything from child rights and protection, HIV/AIDS and mental health issues to disabilities and youth rehabilitation.

Some experts, however, feel that the help offered by international organisations and agencies is only short-term when it comes to the future of Cambodia. Today, the country is populated by young people who have not experienced war but are still living with its consequences. "Some NGOs are handing out help to the needy rather than teaching them skills, which is more long-term," says Meng, who has a graduate degree in social work from the University of Washington in the United States, a close partner that has helped to establish the program.

"We are trying to put in place a more sustainable approach to social work in Cambodia, and this program is a good way to let young Khmers take charge of their own country."

As Cambodia transits from reliance on foreign aid to locals working on the ground, advocates and aid workers hope the local angle will change its ability to address the issues that have plagued the Kingdom for decades.



Cambodia's first social work program, cohort # 1.

"It's a very exciting time for social services in Cambodia with this first round of graduates entering the workplace," says Rebekah Kofoed, a social work technical adviser at Friends International.

"Having Khmer social work graduates on the ground will balance well-developed field practice with theory that will provide strengthened services to beneficiaries."

"This is an important step in the overall positive development of Cambodia."

The four-year course, which began in September, 2008, was specially designed as a practical, hands-on program to prepare its students for work at local and international organisations as well as in public agencies.

"This program provides our students with a more participatory learning environment instead of just sitting in lectures or reading their text books," says Meng, a lecturer specialising in psychological trauma and counseling. "We hope this will help students to learn more, explore more and experience more."

The professional degree, which emphasizes field learning as a key component, allows students to be directly exposed to the situation on the ground through practicums during their second and third year, as well as a semester-long internship in their final year.

With close to 40 partnering organisations including UNICEF, Maryknoll, Transcultural Psycho-social Organisation and First Step, the undergraduates, who come from 10 provinces, are offered a broad range of opportunities in every facet of community living, from community-based organisations and hospitals to government agencies and NGOs.

"The placements allow us to apply what we have learned in class through the different areas of social work," says student Hun Sinoun.

"With all the experiences I have gained through different placements, I am confident of finding a good job."

According to the department, five of the 22 graduating social-work students have already received permanent job offers from various NGOs and government agencies in Phnom Penh.

"In a few years, I think many NGOs here will be localized, so they can become more sustainable for the long term," Meng says.

The social-work course, which has gained popularity with high-school students keen to enroll at university, is being adapted into a part-time program in addition to short-course Certifications to cope with the demand for long-term aid workers.

"If we take a look at the situation in Cambodia today, we can see that even though it's not perfect, some things have changed," Sinoun, a former intern with the Advocacy and Policy Institute, says.

"I strongly believe that one day, Cambodia will be a great society in which everyone can help both themselves and their country." ■

Center Staff News



The Southeast Asia Center welcomed program coordinator **Molly Wilskie-Kala** in July, 2011. Molly assists both the South and Southeast Asia Centers with everything from federal grant reporting, course lists, student queries to office management. Molly

received her B.A. in South Asian studies and comparative religion from the UW in '04 and came to us from Seattle-based Prosthetics Outreach Foundation where she co-managed prosthetic, orthopedic and micro lending programs in Viet Nam, Sierra Leone and Bangladesh.



Welcome to UW alumnus **Macklin Nguyen**, who is working as an intern for the Center this Fall. He will be assisting us with outreach projects. Macklin received his B.S. in Biology and Microbiology from UW in June 2011. He also currently works for the

UW Department of Radiology.

Visiting Scholars



Dr. Suraya Afiff is a faculty member in Anthropology at the University of Indonesia, and also affiliate faculty in the Jackson School at UW. Last winter she co-taught with Dr. Celia Lowe a Jackson School Task Force on Climate Change in Jakarta, and this

summer she taught Literature and Society in Southeast Asia at UW. She has also been conducting library research in the UW collections to develop a new course on the anthropological study of the state that she will teach at the University of Indonesia in the Fall.



The Southeast Asia Center welcomes Professor **Amy Singer** as a visiting scholar for the 2012-2013 academic year. Professor Singer received her PhD in Sociology from UW in 2005 and has been teaching at Knox College in Illinois since 2006. She is

here on sabbatical to work on a book based on her current research regarding the relationship between culture and power in globalized food networks based in Southeast Asia.

2011-2012 FLAS Awardees



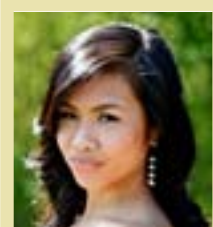
Huyn JungAhn. (Thai). Also a '12-'13 FLAS recipient, Hyun Jun's research focuses on how fixed word-order and scrambling occur in the languages. Her research also extends to how structural cases such as nominative and accusative or topic/focus is realized in different Asian languages.

Aubrey Black. (Tagalog). Also a summer '12 FLAS recipient, Aubrey is researching environmental governance in insular Southeast Asia. He focuses on decentralization and collaborative governance models for resource management and conservation, especially of marine and coastal resources. He is interested in how both local and global conservation groups interact with governments and resource users to address complex and dynamic environmental challenges.



Micaela Campbell. (Indonesian; '12-'13 FLAS offered). Micaela's research interests include the public sphere, politics of culture, intellectual history, religion and democracy, and counter discourses of nation and modernity. Her dissertation work focuses on arts communities working at the intersection of culture and politics in Indonesia.

Veronica Hoy. (Tagalog). Veronica is interested in the relationship between poverty and access to healthcare, particularly in minority communities such as the local Southeast Asian community. Specifically she would like to look at the link between the lack of access to healthcare and the development of healthcare that is culturally appropriate.



Hunter Marston. (Vietnamese) Hunter, also a '12-'13 FLAS Burmese language recipient, studies civil society and state policy in Southeast Asia, focusing on US foreign policy toward Vietnam and Burma. He hopes to use his Vietnamese and Burmese language continue working in the non-profit sector of international development in the region.



Rawi Nanakul. (Thai) Also a summer '12 FLAS recipient, Rawi's main area of research is Muay Thai or Thai Kickboxing as practiced in Thailand. His interest lies in cultural preservation of the art and culture through photography, film, and ethnography. His goal is to present the story of Muay Thai through visual media.

Gai-Hoai Nguyen. (Vietnamese). Hoai's research revolves around the theme of war legacies. She has been studying the re-education camps in Viet Nam using trauma theory. During the past two years she interviewed camp survivors and their children to learn about the effects of re-telling stories about their camps experiences. Hoai received her MA this past June.



Ralph Riccio. (Vietnamese). Ralph's thesis research is on managing social and ecological resilience to the impacts of climate change in shrimp growing areas of the Mekong Delta. Ralph graduated in June and will be a consultant for the Ecosystem Based Adaptation to Climate Change project with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature in Viet Nam.

Caleb Stewart. (Khmer). Caleb is pursuing concurrent degrees in public administration (MPA) and law (JD) where he focuses on immigration law and international human rights. Caleb plans to tailor his immigration and human rights law practice to non-profits working in and on the behalf of residents and descendants of Southeast Asia.



Linda Uyeda. (Indonesian). Linda aims to take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of wildlife conservation, and will use both natural sciences and social sciences research methods to complete her dissertation research on the role of the water monitor lizard, *Varanus salvator*, in Indonesia. She is currently completing her third year of Indonesian study at the UW and preparing for her next season of field research in Banten, West Java, Indonesia.

2012-2013 FLAS Awardees



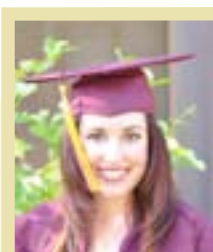
Mary Barnes. (Indonesian). Mary is primarily interested in museums and their potential to strengthen communities and increase cross-cultural understanding. She looks forward to gaining the skills necessary to collaborate with Indonesian cultural institutions to refocus the purpose of museums as spaces for community-building, in addition to preservation.

Barbara Clabots. (Tagalog). Barbara is interested in people's relationships with the ocean and how conservation can become more effective, more efficient, and more inclusive. She will be working with the Coastal Conservation and Education Foundation in the Philippines this summer to better understand the role of women in marine resource management.



Aaron Lillie. (Vietnamese). Aaron is interested in conducting research relating to the impact of American foreign policy in Vietnam in the period of 1954-75. More specifically, he is interested in collecting and analyzing first-hand accounts of Vietnamese veterans and their families living south of 17th parallel.

Kaitlin O'Neil. (Indonesian). Kaitlin is interested in gender issues in Southeast Asia, specifically prostitution, HIV/AIDS, and the accessibility of birth control and other women's health resources. She would like to research the dynamic between the influence of the government and organized religion and how they affect policies directed at women.



Rinna Rem. (Khmer). Rinna, who is also a summer '12 FLAS recipient, will be studying Khmer to support her goals of rebuilding libraries and information systems in Cambodia. Her research interests include civic engagement in Cambodia, open source movements, transnational communities of the post-Khmer Rouge diaspora, and Cambodian American identity formation.



Joseph Rubin. (Thai). Joseph's research interests concern Thailand and the role the people of the Northeastern Provinces have in the changing equation of political and economic power in the country. The past 50 years has been a dynamic period of change with a number of facets worth considering.

Vorada Savengseuksa. (Thai). Vorada has been very involved in carrying out studies in public health, cultural competency, and social policy in gender and education. She would like to expand her research to studying culturally competent leadership and programming in Southeast Asian non-governmental organizations to improve human development outcomes, particularly in Northeastern Thailand.



Joss Whittaker. (Indonesian). Joss is interested in using archaeology to study the exchange of ideas across cultural boundaries and borders: technologies, religions, artistic styles, and languages, in Indonesia and elsewhere in Southeast Asia. He is also interested in what happens more broadly on a culture's frontiers such as how frontier communities negotiate cultural differences.

Peter Morris. (Summer '12 FLAS, Vietnamese). Peter began working with Burmese refugees in 2007 and is interested in using his foreign language skills to facilitate development in Burma. If Burma's political reform is successful Peter is also planning to conduct linguistic fieldwork in the country and assist Burma's parliament in the creation of new legislation.



Nancy Trinh. (Summer '12 FLAS, Tagalog). Nancy is currently conducting research on cultural and external factors that affect the college experiences of Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander students in the US. She hopes to utilize her research in a professional capacity to increase enrollment and retention of these underrepresented Asian communities in higher education.

Congratulations to the 2011-2012 Tom and Mary Kay Gething Awardees

Hunter Marston (JSIS/Evans School) Presented his paper "Bauxite Mining in Vietnam's Central Highlands: An Arena for Emerging Civil Society" at the Cornell Graduate Student Conference.

Chris Patterson (English) Attended the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS) Conference in San Jose to present part of his dissertation project on post-colonial literature in English from Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Kim Sparks (School of Marine Affairs) Attended the Danajon Bank Stakeholder Summit in the Philippines to present her thesis findings regarding a comprehensive management plan for a rare double barrier reef in the Philippines.

Update on the Charles and Janes Keyes Travel Award for Graduate Student Research



Evi Sutrisno (Anthropology) received a Keyes award in 2010. Evi's research explores transformations in the Confucian tradition in Indonesia, a center of the large Chinese diaspora since the 19th

century. She is concerned with how the religious sphere has developed as a site of resistance for Chinese Indonesians in their struggles as an oppressed minority under colonial and post-colonial Indonesian rule. Evi conducted research in two Confucian communities in Surabaya from July 2010 to August 2011. She also travelled to parts of Java, Jakarta, Bangka Island and Medan. She observed gatherings and religious rituals in temples or houses, such as the celebrations of the Chinese New Year or Imlek, the tribute to the dead spirit or King Hoo Ping, the birth and the death anniversary of Confucius. She also interviewed lay people, priests and activists or organizers of the Indonesian High Council of Confucian Religion (Majelis Tinggi Agama Konghucu Indonesia-MATAKIN) about their religious values and thoughts.

Alumni News

Congratulations to **Hunter Marston** and **Gai-Hoai Nguyen** who have successfully completed their MA in Southeast Asian Studies. Hunter will serve as an intern for the Department of State in Burma this summer before returning to finish his Master's in Public Administration. Hoai recently took on the position of Assistant Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies program here at the UW and continues to assist the Southeast Asia Center in the office and with special projects.



Congratulations to UW alum **Jayde Lin Roberts**, who now holds a tenure-track faculty position in the School of Asian Languages and Studies at University of Tasmania, Australia. In 2011, Jayde completed her PhD in the Built Environment Program where she

considered the reemergence of Chinese-ness in the public spaces of Yangon/Rangoon, the former capital city of Burma/Myanmar.



Congratulations to SEAC alum **Bradley Davis**, (far left, MAIS 2002 and PhD History 2008 (Viet Nam) who recently accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in East Asian History at

Eastern Connecticut State University, as of Fall 2012. After his PhD, Brad was an instructor at Eastern Washington University from 2009-2011 and is currently a Visiting Faculty at Gonzaga University. Brad also co-founded the Yao Script Project (below).

In 2006, the Ford Foundation, through their former Hanoi Office, began funding a project that combined the establishment of an educational network with an effort to account for texts conserved by members of the Yao (Dao) ethnic group in Vietnam. An act of cross-institutional co-operation took place that, over the next two years, resulted in a project that combined textual collection with education in the northern Vietnamese province of Lao Cai. A Yao script project was ... an attempt to forge a new context for a traditional form of literacy.

Read full article at: http://ias.nl/sites/default/files/IIAS_NL56_0405.pdf

Welcome Southeast Asian Studies MA Students

2011-2012 Cohort: Welcome to Rawi Nanakul who entered the MA in Southeast Asian Studies program in the Fall of 2011. Rawi majored in Music and Psychology from the University of California, Davis. In 2008-2009, Rawi was a Fulbright Research Fellow and that brought him to Thailand where he conducted a study on Thai Kickboxing in addition to carrying out conservation work recording performances of Pii-Muay, the music that is performed along with the fights.

2012-2013 Cohort: We also welcome our third cohort of graduate students in the Southeast Asia Studies M.A. Program who will begin in Fall of 2012. Welcome to Joseph Rubin, Aaron Lillie, Mary Barnes and James Pangilinan.

Joseph studied International Studies with a Southeast Asia track at the University of Washington. This past summer and spring he has been teaching English in Northeastern Thailand. Joseph is interested in the social dynamics between Bangkok, the Northeast, and macro global trends that are influencing both of these spheres.

Aaron received his BA from the University of Washington where he majored in History and minored in International Studies with a Southeast Asia track. He lived in Viet Nam last year teaching English, studying Vietnamese, and travelling. His research interests include American foreign policy in Viet Nam between 1954 and 1975. Specifically, he is interested in collecting and analyzing firsthand accounts of Vietnamese veterans and their families living south of the 17th parallel.

Mary earned her B.A. in Anthropology at New College of Florida and taught English in Makassar, Indonesia. Mary will focus on Indonesian language and culture. Also, she is interested in museums and their potential to strengthen communities and increase cross-cultural understanding. She aims to collaborate with Indonesian cultural institutions to rethink the purpose of museums as spaces for community-building, in addition to preservation.

James studied socio-cultural anthropology at Wesleyan University. His areas of interest include media and gender studies as well as the political anthropology of transitional states and human rights. He would like to further explore the tentative intersections among these interests as they relate to the politics and social processes of the region.

Also a Warm Welcome to These Southeast Asia Graduate Students

Kaitlin O'Neil (History)
Jonathan Muir (Sociology)
Arthit Jiamrattanyoo (History)
Roneva Keel (History)
Alfitri (Comparative Law)
Linda Yanti Sulistiawati (Comparative Law)

Dissertations Defended

Dr. Woonkyung Yeo, of the Department of History, successfully defended his dissertation on August 8, 2012. The title of the dissertation is "Palembang in the 1950s: The Making and Unmaking of A Region." Dr. Yeo's dissertation examines the complex socioeconomic issues surrounding the postcolonial transition in Indonesia by focusing on the history of Palembang, its international affiliations, and the discourse of "regionalism" in 1950s' Indonesia. The dissertation shows that histories of the regions outside Java cannot be confined within state boundaries or the logics of regionalism. Dr. Yeo returned to South Korea to begin a job as a researcher at Sogang University.

Dr. Mia Siscawati successfully defended her dissertation in Anthropology, "Social Movements and Scientific Forestry: Examining the Community Forestry Movement in Indonesia" on June 7, 2012. Her dissertation addresses the histories and present circumstances of forest management in Indonesia. Her work emphasizes the particular role of progressive Indonesian activists and forestry scholars who seek to preserve the rights of forest dependent peoples to access their forests. Dr. Siscawati will teach at the University of Indonesia when she returns there in September.

On May 13, 2011, **Dr. Asep S. Suntana**, successfully defended his dissertation, "Non-Traditional Utilization of Forest Biomass for Sustainable Energy Development," in the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences. His dissertation examines the availability of wood biomass for bioenergy production in Indonesia and its benefits to urban areas and rural communities near forests. His research provides alternative solutions to the dilemmas of sustainable forestry practices and sustainable energy development. Dr. Suntana recently returned to Indonesia to continue his engagement with these issues. He also continues with UW as an Affiliate Assistant Professor of Environmental and Forest Sciences.

The Influence of Research Abroad: Letting the country teach you

Sandi Halimuddin (JSIS/Journalism)



Task Force collaborative research team, 2012.

For the first two weeks of winter quarter, my academic studies occurred in government buildings and NGO offices, my homework involved trekking through rice paddies and mountainous forests, and my teacher was the beautiful country of Indonesia. As part of the Jackson School of International Studies' task force program on climate change in Indonesia, I traveled with professor Celia Lowe and seven undergraduates to Indonesia with the goal of researching carbon emissions from deforestation and land-use changes. Yet the scholarly endeavors were only a piece of the full learning experience I had in broadening my understanding of the history, politics, and culture of my father's home country, Indonesia.

We traveled 8,386 miles to Indonesia, where we researched and created policy recommendations for the United Nations' program on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) in developing countries. REDD+ is a global attempt to create financial incentives for forest conservation in Indonesia.

Equipped with nothing but a few weeks worth of knowledge about forestry rights in Indonesia and elementary Bahasa Indonesian skills, I felt underqualified to produce non-trivial recommendations to a United Nations representative about how REDD+ can be implemented in an efficient, effective, and equitable manner. We worked in collaboration with a University of Indonesia research team led by Dr. Suraya Affif, a professor of political ecology in the university's Anthropology graduate program. Our Indonesian counterparts were invaluable as academic partners, translators, cultural brokers, and friends.

Together, our task force conducted interviews with major REDD+ stakeholders, such as representatives from relevant government ministries, international embassies,

and NGOs, as well as local community farmers. In learning more about the complexities of REDD+ in the context of Indonesia's culture and history, I became aware of my inability to provide development advice as a 20-year-old undergraduate and an outsider. Yet through collaboration with our Indonesian counterparts, we were challenged and empowered to think outside of a constricted, American mindset.

Professor Lowe described collaboration and rewriting the script of the Western paradigm of development as key components of our research. Instead of Western countries and people imposing ideas on development strategies, she explained, "[This task force] was to be a process of rewriting script and how rich and developing countries can engage together in an environmentally transformative experience."

This trip to Indonesia illuminated the importance of humility during engagement with foreign cultures in the face of daunting global challenges. This was plainly revealed to me in Nyuncung, the remote forest village we stayed at in order to learn about land-tenure conflicts between the central government, district government and local communities. On one occasion our hosts, local community farmers, led an expedition through the mountainous landscape and rice paddies. The supposedly light hike turned out to be a frightening and almost farcical experience of repeatedly slipping on muddy ground and feebly crawling up steep terrain, in part due to my ignorance in wearing Converse shoes and my complete lack of athletic inclination. Without any traction, sense of direction or control of the thorns prickling my exposed ankles, I felt incapacitated.

As an outsider, I had no choice but to let our hosts take the lead. Every step of the way through dense forests and along the sheer drop of the cliffs, the knowledgeable guides held my hand, literally. As they led us, they told us which paths were safe to walk in and which plants were poisonous. There is no doubt that my experience in Nyuncung would be incomplete without the community farmers' local knowledge and sense of stewardship for the land.

In the same vein, during the task force research, I was reminded of the significance of learning by following. Without collaboration and consultation with Indonesians, we cannot even begin to comprehend the scope and nuances of REDD+ in their country, a place we are so removed from. It took a trip across the globe for me to better understand where I came from and who I am. I left for Indonesia with the intention of developing meaningful solutions for Indonesia's REDD+ program. Yet the more time I spent in Indonesia, the more I realized that it was Indonesia that would be teaching me.

Opportunities the Jackson School's Culture of Critical Thinking Has Created for Me

Hunter Marston (JSIS/Evans School)

I am among the first cohort graduating from the Southeast Asia Program at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies (JSIS). There are three of us in the cohort, and each of us has had a unique and formative experience at the University of Washington. This summer I will be interning for the Department of State at the American embassy in Myanmar, where I will combine my language and area studies skills with hands-on policy analysis.

While at UW, I have also undertaken a concurrent MPA degree at the Evans School of Public Affairs. The two degrees complement each other, each teaching a different skill set which I will use in my professional career. JSIS has contributed immensely to my understanding of the history, culture, and politics, of Southeast Asia, as well as my language abilities in both Vietnamese and Burmese. I have relished the two years of instruction here and will continue to delve into Southeast Asia scholarship as I travel and explore these societies further.

The critical thinking skills I gained as an undergraduate student at Skidmore College held a direct affinity with my coursework at JSIS. It is these skills – above those gained in policy analysis or quantitative science courses at the Evans School, in fact, that I will be taking with me in the field of foreign policy.

Last summer I interned at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, DC. Since then, I have participated in a conference at Cornell and published an article about Burma in the *Journal of Int'l Affairs* at Penn State. The Southeast Asia Program has provided me with incredible opportunities, and it has taught me the intrinsic value of critical thinking, writing and communication skills. Most importantly, it has re-energized my passion for academic excellence and honed my professional ambitions.



Hunter with other JSIS students. Left to right: Matthew Ho, Hunter Marston, Madgi Jiang and Weiyu Wang. (Photo by Brian Chu, JSIS)

Welcome Fulbright-DIKTI Indonesian Senior Scholars



The Fulbright-DIKTI Indonesian Senior Scholar Recharging Program is an experimental international program that allows selected Indonesian senior scholars to spend 10 weeks in the U.S. at a research university. The University of Washington was chosen as the first site for the program because of the excellence and quantity of scholars who specialize on Indonesia in the areas of Anthropology, Archaeology, Ethnomusicology, Environmental Science and Conservation, Global Health, History, Literature and Film, Marine Affairs, Political Science, the Asian Law Center, and Primatology. The Indonesian scholars will be matched with UW faculty mentors for an intensive program of academic collaboration. The program will include weekly seminar series both for and by the scholars, exposure to university research facilities, and opportunities to visit other institutions around Washington. The Scholars will arrive in mid-September and leave at the end of November. The program is sponsored by CIES Fulbright, AMINEF Indonesia and DIKTI, and hosted by the UW Center for Global Field Study (CGFS), the Jackson School and the Southeast Asia Center, in collaboration with the Seattle-Surabaya Sister City Organization. Special acknowledgement to Professor Randy Kyes, Research Professor of Psychology and Director of the Center for Global Field Study, who is heading up the program.

Prof. Dr. Ir. Ardi, M.Sc, Andalas University
 Dr. Irawati Chaniago, Ph.D, Andalas University
 Dr. Ir. Maria Endo Mahata, MS, Andalas University
 Dr. Muhammad Niswar ST, M. InfoTech, Hasanuddin University
 Prof. Dr. Ir Asmudin Natsir, M.Sc., Hasanuddin University
 Djoni Prawira Rahardja, Ph.D, Hasanuddin University
 Dr. Ir. Bakri, M. Sc, Hasanuddin University
 Dr. Ir Andoyo Supriyanto, Papua State University
 Ir. Sintje Lumatauw, M. Sc, Ph.D, Papua State University
 Prof. Dr. Ir. Marsetyo, M. Sc.Agr, Padulako University
 Ir. Andi Arham Adam, M. Sc, Ph.D, Tadulako University
 Ir. Stephanus Mandagi, M. App. Sc, Ph.D, Sam Ratulangi University
 Dr. Anom Bowolaksono, M. Sc, Ph.D, University of Indonesia
 Ir Abdul Hadi, M. Agr, Ph.D, Lambung Mangkurat University
 Dr. Mohammad G. Rindarjono, M. Si., Sebelas Maret University

For more information about the program and scholars, visit:
<http://depts.washington.edu/cgfs/UW-Fulbright-DIKTI/index.htm>

Review of AAS/ANTH 314: the Difficult Dialogues class on ethnography in SE Asia and SE Asian American communities.

Chi Saeteurn (American Ethnic Studies)

During Winter 2012, I enrolled in AAS/ANTH 314: Ethnography, Transnationalism, and Community in Island Southeast Asia/ Asian America, a course co-taught by Professors Rick Bonus (American Ethnic Studies) and Celia Lowe (Anthropology). Three themes were clear from the beginning: Ethnography, Transnationalism, and Community with an emphasis on Southeast Asian countries, people, and cultures. This class was unlike any class that I had ever taken, and not only because there were two professors. While the lectures and course materials gave a basic foundation and understanding of the themes, it was up to the students to provide the content of the final paper through ethnographic research on any topic of our choosing. I was particularly interested in the language gap in the Mien community and chose this as my topic. I have always wanted to research my own community, and the openness of this class allowed me to select a topic that truly resonated with my interests.

With guidance from the professors and independent fieldwork, I was able to see the three themes of the class come together. The professors laid out guidelines on the role of the ethnographer, which, as student researchers, we kept in mind as we conducted interviews in the community. In class, we also explored the histories of the Southeast Asian countries and people in order to understand what may have led to the migration of these groups of people. By looking at migration of Southeast Asian groups, the element of transnationalism arose as a major issue because these people, uprooted from their homeland, would face this phenomenon as their cultures crossed physical and invisible boundaries. As the lectures laid the groundwork for the themes, the real understanding of how these themes arose in the communities came to life through the independent fieldwork and ethnographic research.

The ethnographic research was the most rewarding part of the class because the student stepped into the role of the ethnographer and conducted interviews within the community. AAS/ANTH 314 allowed the student to gather information from the primary sources themselves. This was amazing—the

students going out into the community to learn about their topic from the people themselves, describing their experiences. I was allowed to go out into the Mien community and ask questions and gather responses, gaining an understanding of the Mien language gap from the people who are currently experiencing the issues of transnationalism and migration. After gathering this information, I was able to string together ethnography, transnationalism, and community even more, because of the depth and breadth of research that I was allowed to undertake on my own.

AAS/ANTH 314 maintained the right balance of structuring a basis for the student to understand the themes of ethnography, transnationalism, and community, and then by allowing the student to witness these themes. The course not only allowed me to better understand the language aspect of my community, but also piqued other interests as well. My research in the Mien community has inspired me to continue conducting interviews on other topics, such as Shamanism and religion. This class taught me an important aspect of research: to value the voices of the community. These voices would otherwise be unheard, and I am thankful that I had the opportunity to take a class that prepared me to listen to these voices. ■

SEAC Faculty, Peter Lape, Receives Spellman Awards for Achievement in Historic Preservation



Peter Lape, associate professor of Anthropology and curator of Archaeology at the Burke Museum, was a recipient, with colleagues, of two Spellman Awards presented at the King County Executive's Award Ceremony for Achievement in Historic Preservation. The

Identification and Education Spellman Award was given for Lape's work with the Center for Wooden Boats to enhance public understanding of Lake Union's underwater archaeological resources. A Migration and Interpretation Spellman Award was given for Peter's new exhibit, Milepost 31, an historic and archaeological resource center that celebrates the people and projects that shaped Pioneer Square.

Farewell and Good Luck to Tom Gething

Tom Gething came to Seattle in 1995 after taking early retirement from the University of Hawaii where he was Dean of Students and Associate Dean of the Graduate Division. Over his long and distinguished career, Tom has taught Southeast Asian languages at Michigan, the University of Hawaii, Ohio University, and the University of Washington. He also worked at the National Foreign Language Center in Washington, D.C. and has directed language institutes at Hawaii and the University of Oregon.

Retirement did not slow Tom down at all. In fact, before he knew it, he was busy being a positive force for the development of UW Southeast Asian studies as well as a strong advocate for students at the University of Washington. Tom's contributions to the UW and the UW Southeast Asian studies program are too many to list here, but among them are: assisting the Southeast Asia Center to successfully compete for three rounds of Title VI funding, stepping in as SEAC director, coordinating the Southeast Asian studies language program, taking the lead as project director for the Advanced Study of Thai abroad program, and stepping in as Assistant Vice Provost and Assistant Dean of UW academic affairs and Director of postdoctoral affairs. A further reflection of his commitment to improving Southeast Asian Studies and the quality of student life at the UW came when Tom, together with his wife Mary Kay, established an endowment for Southeast Asian studies graduate student travel. The endowment assists graduate students in traveling to present papers at professional conferences.

On top of all this, Tom has been a friend and a trusted colleague to many of us here in the SE Asia Center, as well as in the Jackson School and the graduate school. He will be missed. Tom moves to the East Coast to settle near his family and enjoy time with his young grandsons. Thank you and good luck, Tom!



Photo taken at Tom's farewell gathering. From left to right: Laurie Sears, Tom Gething, Sara Van Fleet, and Tikka Sears.

A Gift Legacy

Special thanks go to Tom and Mary Kay Gething and Charles (Biff) and Jane Keyes for their generous gifts that allowed the Southeast Asia Center to establish two important endowments benefiting our students. The Tom and Mary Kay Gething endowment for graduate student travel provides much-needed travel funds for graduate students to present papers at professional conferences. The Charles and Jane Keyes endowment provides travel funding for graduate student research in Southeast Asia. Thanks to the Gethings and the Keyes for supporting these essential graduate student professional development opportunities.

The Southeast Asia Center would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions over the past five years to the SEAC discretionary fund. Your gifts are a vital source of funding for programming and activities. Thank you!

\$1 - \$99
Lam Thai Bui
Sara Curran
Charles Hirschman
Lilianna Ly
Constance Wilson

\$100 - \$299
Francisco (Kiko) Benitez
Enrique Bonus
Betty Broman
Christoph Giebel

\$300 - \$500
Thomas Gething
Mark Gibson
Stephen Slone
Sara Van Fleet

\$1000+
Community Foundation of
Santa Cruz
Laurie J. Sears

Calendar OF EVENTS

Fall 2012 Southeast Asia Center Calendar of Events (see <http://jsis.washington.edu/seac/events.shtml> for complete calendar listing).

Oct 06. Lecture: People of Myanmar in the Pacific Northwest: Strength, Struggle and Spirit. (Members of Northwest refugee community)

Oct 07. Lecture: Shadows of Islam, Politics, and Contemporary Film in Indonesian Ramayana Traditions. (Laurie Sears)

Oct 13. Lecture: Buddhist Art and Architecture of Myanmar. (Boreth Ly)

Oct 14. Lecture: The Ramayana and the Sacred Temples of Angkor: Cambodia and Beyond. (Boreth Ly)

Oct 15. Southeast Asia Center Annual Fall Reception.

Oct 22. Lecture: The New Politics of Thailand's Middle-Income Peasantry. (Andrew Walker)



SOUTHEAST ASIA CENTER

The Henry M. Jackson School of
International Studies
University of Washington
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