

CENTER FOR
SOUTHEAST
ASIAN
STUDIES



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N E W S L E T T E R

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear CSEAS Community,

Welcome to the Fall 2015 edition of the CSEAS newsletter, where we present a sampling of the exciting programming with which we are involved and updates from our faculty and students.

CSEAS is currently in the second year of a four-year US Department of Education Title VI grant, through which we maintain our status as a National Resource Center. Related to this, we distributed FLAS grants for the academic year and the past summer to undergraduates, MA students, and doctoral students in a variety of UM departments whose interests in Southeast Asia promise exciting work ahead.

This fall semester we welcome Santosa Soewarlan, a master teacher of Javanese gamelan. The concert will take place Saturday, December 12 in Hill Auditorium, and we will send out more information on the program when the details are finalized.

As many of you are aware, a number of changes have occurred at the International Institute and more are on the way. We will do our best to let you know whether any of these will significantly impact the workings of the center. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy the contents of this newsletter, and, as always, you are welcome to contact us with any news that you would like to share with the community.

Regards,

Christi-Anne Castro

CSEAS Director

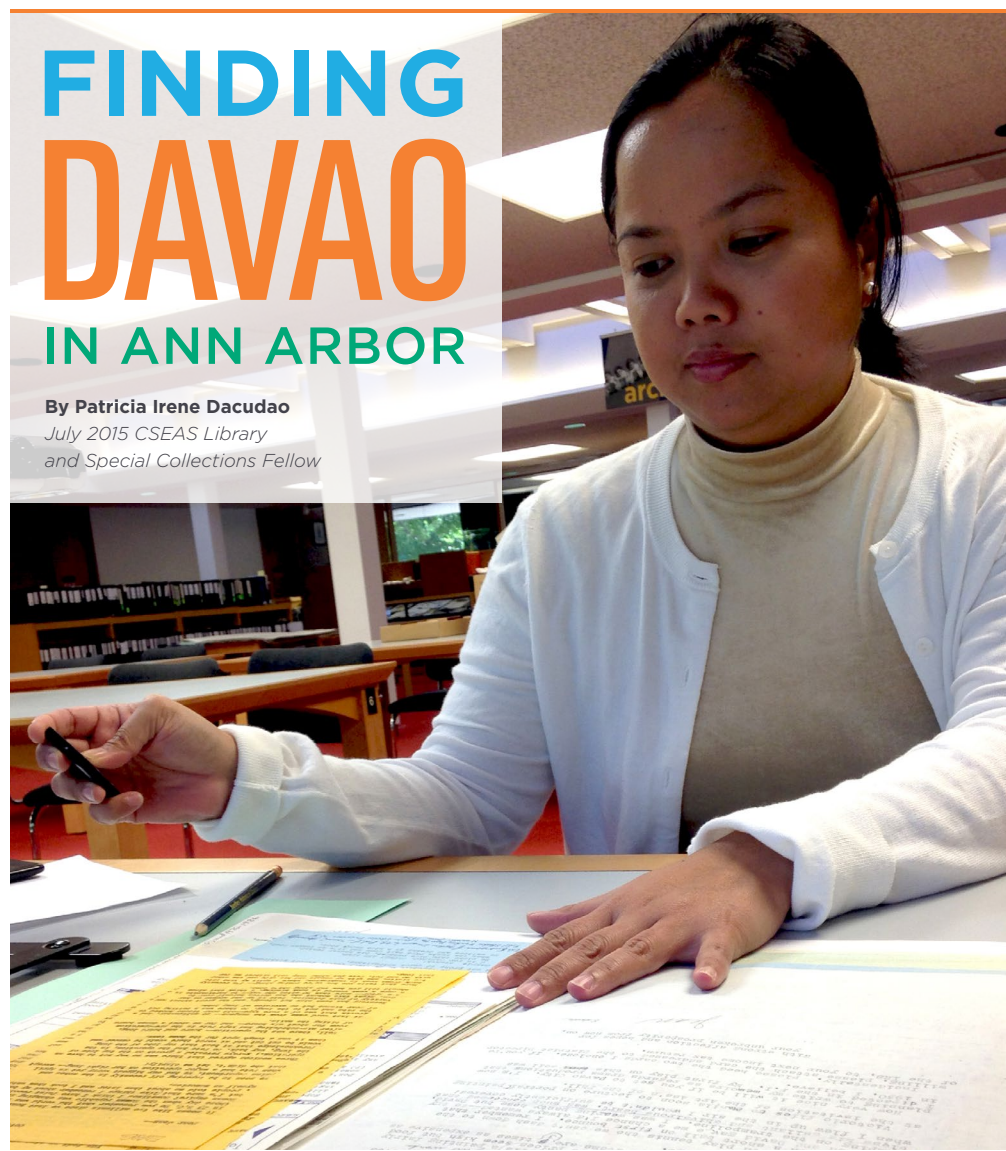
Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology

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July is a lovely time to visit Ann Arbor. I arrived from the Philippines a few days before the Fourth of July Weekend and got my experience of Americana by listening to an open air concert of the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldier's Chorus on July 5 at the Hill Auditorium Plaza. It was a fortuitous start for my month-long research on Davao, a city in the Philippines located at the southeastern part of the great island of Mindanao, during the Philippines' American colonial period. The army chorus entertained the Ann Arbor crowd that Sunday afternoon with Broadway and jazz tunes that a visitor from the Philippines is familiar with. The fact that music was produced by a U.S. Army band was more than coincidence for me and my research, which includes studying retired U.S. Army personnel who established abaca and coconut plantations in Davao at the turn of the last century.

I undertook this CSEAS research fellowship as a faculty member on study-leave from the Ateneo de Manila University who is pursuing a PhD at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia under the supervision of Professor Emeritus James Francis Warren. My PhD thesis (as we call a dissertation in Australia) is on the Filipino experience in a multicultural frontier rapidly being transformed into a city during the first half of the twentieth century, between 1898 and 1941. This turn-of-the-century Davao frontier transitioned into a bustling town by the 1920s, then into a chartered city by 1937, populated by an influx of settlers from other provinces in the Philippines, as well as by Japanese, Americans, Syrians, Europeans, and even Australians. These multi-national settlers were drawn to Davao as a source of abaca and coconuts, export crops in demand by the world market at that time. On the eve of the Second World War, Davao was the largest producer of abaca in the Philippines. On one hand, Davao's growth happened during the period when 'progress and development' was a mantra often repeated by American administrators during their over-lordship of *the Islands*, as they called the Philippines. On the other hand, Mindanao, during this period, was often called America's 'last western frontier.' To a certain extent, Davao was indeed that frontier of old, yet it was also so much more. Researching at Ann Arbor helped me uncover more of Davao's past through the papers of mostly Michigan men lodged at the various U-M repositories.



FINDING DAVAO IN ANN ARBOR

By Patricia Irene Dacudao
*July 2015 CSEAS Library
and Special Collections Fellow*

I spent most of my time at the Bentley Historical Library, with occasional visits to the Hatcher Graduate Library and Special Collections for publications on Davao, and at the Clark Library for old maps. Quite a number of Davao materials, especially on the Japanese in Davao, can be found at the Bentley collections of the American administrators who were also from the University of Michigan before being seconded to government service. The papers of Dean C. Worcester contain some letters on Davao during the first decade of American rule. Aspects of Davao through the succeeding decades reveals itself in the papers of the administrative tandem of Joseph Ralston Hayden and Frank Murphy during the mid-1930s, which at some parts also covers the 1920s.

Hayden's paper is important for Davao scholars, because he was Acting Governor-General when the issue on the large Japanese presence in Davao became a source of concern and controversy among Filipino politicians in Manila due to the Japanese Imperial Army's activities in Manchuria in the mid- 1930s. This issue on the Japanese in Davao reached all the way to the White House.

While the collection of these colonial officials has a lot of political flavor, there is also a good complement of anthropological material on Davao in the Carl E. Guthe Collection and the Walter W. Marquardt photographs taken during expeditions and a visit to Davao. Guthe's Davao expedition was part of a broader Philippine expedition >>



>> conducted for the University of Michigan's Department of Anthropology. Marquardt was an official of the Bureau of Education who collected various Filipiniana materials which included

photographs taken in Davao during a visit of Vice-Governor Yeater. The photos and their accompanying notes from the two collections could be mined for their cultural significance.

The documents I perused at the University of Michigan libraries, indeed supported the general notion of 'progress and development' as carried out by the American administrators, while at the same time, I consciously searched through the various correspondences and reports for the Filipino experience in Davao. A gem at the Bentley, as I consider it, precisely because it was from a Filipino, is the Santiago Artiaga papers, which though a small collection, is nonetheless a valuable source of Davao-related information. Artiaga, a graduate of the University of Michigan Engineering Class of 1904, was the first appointed mayor of Davao, serving from 1937 to 1939. Although a political appointee, he is considered as a career official, having served as Manila City Engineer between 1920 and 1936, and was Acting Manila Mayor at various points during the years 1923, 1924 and 1929. Artiaga maintained a correspondence and friendship with U of M Engineering dean Mortimer E. Cooley through the years. In his letters, Artiaga wrote fondly of his years as an undergraduate at U-M, which help explains why Artiaga eventually donated his papers to his alma matter.

My own experience living at Ann Arbor, especially in the summer, makes it easy to understand why Artiaga had such fondness for his old school. The trees, wild field flowers, and even the occasional deer and doe could not have changed much during Artiaga's time. But Ann Arbor is also more than a place frozen in time. Its modern research facilities provide present-day researchers with amenities and assistance of every kind, while its bustling downtown scene offer the needed balance to complement the solitary nature of research. Walking through the various booths during the Ann Arbor Art Fair, and enjoying meals at the various cafes and restaurants near Central Campus were good ways of unwinding after a day spent at the archives. It was a delight then to find out that the famous Zingerman's Deli at Detroit Street carries a chocolate bar that used cacao originating from Davao. The present-day cacao industry of Davao is a diversified offshoot of the agricultural plantations that had its foundations in the abaca and coconuts crops grown during my period of study. Who would have thought that Ann Arbor had Davao connections in more ways than one?

Special thanks and appreciation go to these individuals for making my stay at Ann Arbor such a pleasant experience: Nayiri Mullinix, Christi-Anne Castro, Fe Susan Go and Jean Charles Robin, and all the wonderful staff at the Bentley Historical Library, Diana Bachman and colleagues. Daghang salamat! ■

VISITING MASTER GAMELAN TEACHER

The Javanese Gamelan Ensemble of UM is excited to welcome **Santosa Soewarlan** (ISI Surakarta) as the Fall semester master teacher from Indonesia. Sponsored by the Scheme of Academic and Mobility Exchange (SAME) program of the Indonesian Directorate General of Higher Education as well as by CSEAS, Prof. Santosa brings a wealth of performance experience and years of scholarly study to the ensemble. The UM Gamelan concert under his direction will take place Saturday, December 12, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. in Hill Auditorium.



CSEAS MA STUDENT



Nate Samuelson is a dual MPP/MA SEAS student with the Ford School and CSEAS respectively. He is interested in foreign and security policy issues in the Southeast Asian region in the context of the United States "pivot to Asia" strategy, especially the Philippines. Over the past summer, he interned at the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines

working on various political issues. He also serves actively as a U.S. Army Officer in the Michigan National Guard.

CSEAS LECTURER

Scott MacLochlainn received his Ph.D in sociocultural anthropology this past August from the University of Michigan. His research interests are situated in the study of religion, language, semiotics, and legal anthropology.

His dissertation, *The Boundary Indefinite: Schism and the Ethics of Christian Strategy in the Philippines*, examines the strategies of distinction that Christian churches engage in amidst a growing denominational pluralism in the Philippines. Scott is teaching SEAS 455/501 this semester.



Eight students enrolled in the Thai language program had the opportunity to travel to Thailand for three weeks this past summer. Thanks to the help of generous donors and the Center for Southeast Asian Studies the students were able to embark on this culture enrichment trip. Throughout the trip we covered the majority of the country, visiting five out of six of Thailand's regions.

In central Thailand we visited the capital, Bangkok, where we were able to experience a city that is ever expanding during modern times while still preserving older cultural roots. Throughout the city there are many old and well-preserved temples that are completely surrounded by modern day skyscrapers made of steel and glass. This seamless immersion is apparent throughout the country and truly separates Thailand from many other countries around the world. Outside of the capital we travelled west to Ayuttaya. This city is well-known for being the old capital of Thailand, back when it was known as the Kingdom of Siam. Here we were able to experience something truly amazing. Today's city is built around the old ruins of the ancient capital, allowing us to step back in time and walk within the walls of the old capital in its exact layout and size.

Aside from this ever-present theme of new and old, students also were able to experience the food of Thailand throughout the different regions. Ranging from the popular Americanized dish *pad thai* to local delicacies of deep fried flowers and insects, students enjoyed solely Thai dishes for the entire duration of the trip. Not only did the cuisine change frequently, but also the venue of dining. One such meal was a very simple meal of sticky rice and chicken eaten high atop the mountains of the Nan region after the students participated in a water conservation project. A local energy company worked with university students and mountain villagers to build various small dams deep within the mountain's forests in an attempt to store water, preventing potentially disastrous floods and droughts during the rainy and dry seasons, respectively. This project was one of many that allowed students to interact with and give back to their host cities.

Another such project was in the northern city of Chiang Mai where students spent the day with older villages helping to teach English while also practicing their understanding of Thai. As with many smaller regions of Thailand, many businesses interact with tourists quite frequently making the ability to speak English very valuable. However, many older people were not afforded the opportunity to learn the language, whether it be due to location or financial reasons. This results in



many villages having free English tutoring on the weekends and nights, as well as a constantly high demand of international English teachers. The time university students were able to spend speaking with the villagers was very valuable to all, with many describing the experience as "frustrating, yet very rewarding" for both groups.

Throughout the entire trip many students constantly described various experiences as "different, but not in a bad way". This theme served to show students that although Thailand may be considered a third world country it is not necessarily a poor quality to have. Many roots have been preserved within a country trying to evolve along today's economy and societal norms, making it a unique hybrid, or transitioning, country that has a lot to offer in terms of experience and values. ■

Left: U-M students with Jay Yoshioka, whose donations help to fund the summer trip to Thailand, and Richard Bernhard. Both Jay and Richard are U-M alums and former Thai Language students who studied with Montatip Krishnamra. **Right:** Thai language students in Thailand with language lecturer Montatip Krishnamra. **Below:** Thai language students (l to r) Jason Woolery, Megan Younker, Peter Sajjakulnukit, Ryan Waddell, and Hurley Riley in Nan, Thailand.



Thai language student Hurley Riley in Chiang Mai, Thailand



Thai language students at the Grand Palace in Bangkok

By U-M Thai language students Peter Sajjakulnukit, Hurley Riley, Megan Younker

SUMMER ABROAD IN THAILAND

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN EVENTS IN SINGAPORE

MAY 2015

By Linda Lim

The weekend of May 15-16, 2015 saw the Center for Southeast Asian Studies sponsor and participate in two unprecedented events on Southeast Asia, in Singapore.

ISEAS-UM Indonesia Forum

On Friday May 15, CSEAS partnered with Singapore's Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) to offer an Indonesia Forum at the Mandarin Orchard Hotel. The Forum, which received co-sponsorship from Prof. Emeritus Gunter Dufey, alumnus Wu Zhimin (BBA, MAcc), Ross Executive Education, and Singapore-based sponsors, attracted 150 local and international participants from government, business and academia.

The keynote address and four panels featured three U-M faculty moderators and ten alumni speakers, including the keynote speaker, Dr. Indroyono Soesilo (MS 1981), Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs (overseeing the four Ministries of Marine Affairs, Transportation, Energy and Tourism). Minister Indroyono's speech articulated President Joko Widodo's administration's maritime vision focused on (1) sovereignty, security and shipping, (2) natural resources and fisheries, (3) port and coastal infrastructure, and (4) maritime science, technology and culture.

Speakers on the panel on the Cultural Environment, moderated by Dr. Hui Yew-Foong, ISEAS Senior Fellow and Coordinator of its Indonesia Studies Program, were alumni Svida Alisjahbana (BA), President-Director and CEO of Femina Group; John Lin (BBA), Managing Partner of NDE Capital; and Prof. James Hoesterey of Emory University, who was a postdoctoral fellow at U-M's department of anthropology and CSEAS in 2011-12.

The panel on the Political Environment (below), moderated by U-M political science Prof. Allen Hicken, featured (L-R in photo): Herianto Pribadi (MBA), President of Skha Consulting; ISEAS Fellow Ulla Fionna; Mayor of Bandung Ridwan Kamil; and James Castle (BA), President of CastleAsia.



Speakers on the panel on Indonesia in the International Community (top), moderated by Ford School Prof. John Ciorciari, were (L-R in photo): Dr. Chatib Basri, former Minister of Finance; Michael Dunne (BA, MBA/MA), former President of General Motors Indonesia; Manggi Habir (MBA), Commissioner of Bank Danamon; and ISEAS Visiting Fellow Siwage Dharma Negara.

The panel on Business Strategies for Indonesia (above), moderated by Ross Prof. Linda Lim (PhD), featured (L-R in photo) Simon Kahn (MBA/MA), Chief Marketing Office of Google Asia-Pacific; Eddy Tamboto (MBA), Senior Partner and Managing Director, Boston Consulting Group, Indonesia; and Sandiaga Salahuudin Uno, President-Director of Saratoga Investama Sedaya.

U-M Pan-Asia Alumni Reunion

The annual reunion began with a welcome reception at the Hyatt hotel on May 15, hosted by Michael Evanoff (JD). Saturday, May 16 saw a full day of activities at the Conference Center of Marina Bay Sands, whose CEO is George Tanasijevich (BA). Some 300 people attended all or some of the reunion events, including a large delegation of deans, faculty and staff from Ann Arbor, and alumni from 12 countries and 13 U-M schools and colleges. They included CSEAS faculty associates Gunalan Nadarajan (Stamps), Gunter Dufey (Ross), Linda Lim (Ross), Allen Hicken (LS&A) and John Ciorciari (Ford), and CSEAS MA/MBA alumni Richard Smith who is with Tractus Asia based in Bangkok, Steven Dean who is with Thomson-Reuters in Singapore, and Michael Dunne.





Photographed here at lunch with Minister Indroyono are (L-R) seated: David Yaory (MBA), Minister Indroyono, Guna Nadarajan (Dean of the Stamps School of Art and Design) and standing: Stephen Ng (MBA), Herianto Pribadi (MBA), Sze-Yunn Pang (MBA), Svida Alisjahbana (BA), Wachirachai Koonawattana (MBA), Linda Lim (PhD), Sharifah Yuhani (MBA), Steve Grafton (President of the U-M Alumni Association) and Dr. Andri Hadi (Indonesia's Ambassador to Singapore).

Minister Indroyono opened the reunion conference with a stirring presentation referring to President Sukarno's 1956 U-M honorary degree, Indroyono's own studies in remote sensing, and his fondness for the U-M gamelan, which he revisited on his return to give a lecture at the School of Natural Resources and Environment as a Fulbright distinguished scholar in 2012. He ended his talk by leading the assembled crowd in singing "Hail to the Victors".



The Reunion conference featured four panels. The panel on ASEAN was moderated by (R-L) LS&A Dean Andrew Martin, with speakers Edmund Sim (LLM), Wachirachai Koonawattana (MBA), M. Rajarethnam (CSEAS MA) and Linda Lim (PhD Econ). This ran concurrently with the panel on innovation and entrepreneurship, moderated by Prof. Steven Cecchio (Engineering).



Amir Sidharta (BS Architecture) is pictured here speaking at the panel on regional arts, moderated by Stamps Dean Guna Nadarajan, with (L-R) other speakers Prof. Anis Nor (PhD SMTD/CSEAS), Dr. Pei-Ming Lee (B Mus, M Mus, PhD), and Yee-Wei Chai (BBA). This ran concurrently with the panel on Finance, moderated by Prof. Emeritus Gunter Dufey, resident faculty advisor to the U-M Alumni of Singapore (UMAS) and chair of the Reunion Advisory Board.

Below, guest of honor at the gala dinner was Lawrence Wong (MA Econ), Singapore's Minister for Community, Culture and Youth, seen here with (L-R) seated: Gunter Dufey, Steve Grafton, (Lawrence Wong), Guna Nadarajan, Linda Lim; standing: Sze-Yunn Pang (MBA), Law School Dean Mark West, LS&A Dean Andrew Martin, Sandeep Lal (MBA), Michael Evanoff (JD), George Tanasijevich (BA), Richard Rogel (BBA), Stephen Ng (MBA), Choon-Peng Ng (MBA) and Shilpak Mahadkar (MBA). Sze-Yunn, Choon-Peng, Shilpak and Dana Yu led the alumni organizing committee for the Reunion, in collaboration with Brodie Remington and Eun-Ja Yu of the Office of University Development.



During the dinner, Minister Wong shared reminiscences of his time at Michigan. There were speeches by Steve Grafton, Mark West and Rich Rogel, and a piano performance by Pei-Ming Lee. The evening ended with the announcement of the location for the 2016 Reunion (Tokyo) and another rousing rendition of "Hail to the Victors!".



THE UNITED STATES-INDONESIA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2015

CRITICAL INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

By Daniel Birchok

In United States higher education, we often laud the virtues of international exchanges. What we envision as an international exchange, however, can vary. Often it entails sending U.S.-based students abroad, either for a semester of study or, following graduation, via programs such as Fulbright or Peace Corps. In other instances, it means bringing foreign students, scholars, or performers to the U.S.

This past summer, I had the privilege of participating in a slightly different model of international exchange while serving as the faculty trip leader for the United States-Indonesia Partnership Program (USIPP). In its fifth year, USIPP holds great promise for rethinking the potentials and possibilities of campus-based international programing. The program was

U.S. universities—in 2015, these included the University of Michigan, Lehigh University, and Towson University—and two each from three Indonesian universities—Universitas Indonesia, Universitas Gajah Mada, and Universitas Air Langga.

In its 2015 iteration, USIPP did not shy away from difficult topics. We began our journey in Baltimore, where we visited the New Shilo Baptist Church just a month after it was the site of the funeral of Freddie Gray, a Baltimore man who died of a severe spinal cord injury while in police custody in April. This visit, in which we met with Black Church leaders involved in movements against police violence, set the tone for much of the rest of our study tour. By the time we finished, high atop Mount Bromo (East Java) watching Balinese pilgrims bring offerings to a nearby Hindu temple, we had engaged in myriad conversations related to the complex relationship of religion to networks of social and political privilege and exclusion.

As the faculty trip leader, my job was to facilitate these conversations. While at times they could be tense, my task was eased by the way in which the structure of the program depends upon students bringing their personal knowledge bases to bear on the group's collective efforts. One U.S. student, Randi Williams of Towson University, had experience as an activist with the Black Lives Matter movement, and helped both the U.S. and Indonesian participants better understand histories of police violence against African American communities. While in Jakarta, Rosyid Anwar, a participant from Universitas Air Langga in Surabaya, challenged a high-ranking clerk of Indonesia's Constitutional Court. Rosyid drew on his education in a traditional Islamic boarding school to criticize the Court's recent ruling affirming the impermissibility of interreligious marriage in Islam. As students got to know each other, they came to learn each other's areas of expertise. Conversations about difficult topics such as American Islamophobia and recent violence against religious minorities in Indonesia began to arise spontaneously throughout our travels to houses of worship, religious NGOs, and government agencies.

These exchanges were undeniably the most rewarding part of the program for students.

founded through an initiative of the U.S. and Indonesian governments, funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, and has been jointly administered for the past five years by Lehigh University's Office of International Students and Scholars and the University of Michigan's Center for Southeast Asian Studies. One of its essential features is that it is a multidirectional exchange, bringing students from the U.S. and Indonesia together for three weeks in each country to jointly study the theme of "democracy and religious pluralism." In total, USIPP involves twelve undergraduates, two each from three



USIPP 2015 on the tarmac in Yogyakarta



Amy Krings, formally a PhD student in Social Work and Political Science at the University of Michigan and currently Assistant Professor of Social Work at Loyola University Chicago, with Muhammad Al Fatih, participant in USIPP 2015 from Universitas Indonesia, during a tour of Detroit. Dr. Krings designed and led the tour, which focused on questions of economic and environmental justice in the aftermath of Detroit's 'grand bargain.'

They would not have been possible without the opportunity to travel together in both countries over a six week period. This provided both the chance to compare specific aspects of the two nations, and to establish on-going conversations through which students learned from each other.

The trip also allowed for new experiences in students' home countries. None of the U.S.-based students, for example, had been to Dearborn. They found the Arabic-language storefronts along Warren Avenue a thought-provoking parallel to Yiddish newspapers and advertisements we had seen during our visit to the Tenement Museum in New York City. Together with a presentation by University of Michigan Lecturer Matthew Stiffer, this visit caused several students to question narratives identifying Arab immigrants and Arab Americans as somehow qualitatively different from previous generations of immigrants to the U.S. Similarly, after our visit to Al-Fatah, an Islamic boarding school run and attended by transgender Muslim women in Yogyakarta, several of the Indonesian participants engaged in a prolonged discussion about the position of transgender people within the Islamic tradition. These students struggled to understand the Islamic legal and ethical arguments forwarded by the teachers and students at Al-Fatah. Thus, rather than simply providing a space for learning about what and who lies on the other side of the international exchange, the program provided a forum for intellectual experimentation and

growth that helped students see their own nation and its history differently.

Our journey took us to Baltimore, Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Lancaster, Dearborn, and Detroit in the U.S.; and Jakarta, Bandung, Yogyakarta, and Surabaya in Indonesia. Yet the extent of what we learned was not simply the result of the expanse that we traveled, however impressive the latter may have been. As a scholar of religion in public life in Indonesia, I must admit that at times I grow cynical about the future of both my own nation and the nation that I have adopted as my research home. Serving as faculty trip leader for USIPP 2015 gave me new hope for the future, as I watched twelve remarkable students struggle to understand each other, themselves, and their respective homelands.

A ten-minute video of the Yogyakarta portion of USIPP 2015 can be seen at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALY2md0w3no>.

Daniel Andrew Birchok ('04 and '13) is the William S. Vaughn Visiting Fellow at the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities and Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Vanderbilt University. At the time he served as the Faculty Trip Leader for USIPP 2015, he was a Lecturer and Affiliated Scholar with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

THAI STUDIES GRANT RECIPIENTS

CSEAS granted Thai Studies Grants to ten students in 2015. We asked these students to update us on the work they completed using these funds.

Gregory Foakes

MPH Candidate, Global Health Epidemiology

While in Thailand, I was engaged in several public health related projects. This journey provided me with the opportunity to tackle emerging health issues that plague the local communities. We trapped rats, captured mosquitos and sandflies, and provided anti-lice shampoo to elementary school children in an effort to study disease vectors and promote healthy practices to children and families. This research will support targeted interventions and future hypotheses for neglected tropical diseases as well

as build upon on the multiple established ties between the University of Michigan School of Public Health and the Prince of Songkla University. I am grateful for the opportunity to make contributions abroad and to play a role in a vital epidemiological survey that will improve the standard of health for Thai people throughout the southern region.

Kartik Bhatt

MPH Candidate, Global Health Epidemiology
Spatiotemporal Analysis of Dengue Fever in Southern Thailand

This summer I had the opportunity to spend 11 weeks working on a research project analyzing the prevalence and distribution of dengue fever cases compared to the distribution of the dengue virus vector, the *Aedes* mosquito, throughout five provinces in southern Thailand. I spent five weeks working in the field capturing and

documenting GPS locations of *Aedes* mosquito and conducting larval surveys (looking for mosquito larvae) of water sources in low income communities. The field work was a great opportunity for me to see public health in action in a developing country like Thailand. I was deeply impressed by the level of importance given to data collection and analysis. I spent the rest of my time in Hat Yai, Thailand at Prince of Songkla University analyzing historical data of human dengue cases in the past five years. I was again impressed by the level of detail included in the datasets I was working with. Overall, I had an absolutely wonderful experience living and working in Thailand this summer.

Kohlee Kennedy

MA Student, Center for Southeast Asian Studies

Thanks to this grant, I was able to spend my summer doing linguistic research at the Ban Pong Noi School in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The Thai government has introduced sweeping and stringent reforms to the primary school curriculum in its current campaign toward literacy. I am interested in how these proposed



changes are realized in areas where the majority of residents are non-native speakers of Standard Thai. Such was the case in Pong Noi; of the 40 first graders in my classroom, six were speakers of Kam Muang (northern vernacular language), two of Chinese, one of Malay, one of Japanese, and the rest of Shan (Tai Yai). My

research details the ways in which students' and teachers' linguistic choices illuminate their negotiation of the curriculum and their language differences. I am excited to see how my findings fit in with my coursework on Thai history and culture, as well as what linguists and anthropologists have said of literacy practices in multilingual communities.

Matan Kaminer

Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology

I spent May and June in and around the city of Khon Kaen in Issan (Northeast Thailand). With the kind assistance of my hosts at CIEE, led by Dr. David Streckfuss, I explored the cultural and economic contexts for labor migration from Issan to Israel. Many land-poor villagers from



Issan spend much of their lives migrating for work in Bangkok, in other parts of Southeast and East Asia, and

farther afield—including Israel. I met several villagers who had been to work in Israel and learned about the ways migration had impacted their lives. The results of my research appeared in a piece in the local *Issan Record*, as well as contributing to my doctoral dissertation.

Mavamarie Cooper

MPH Candidate, Health Behavior & Health Education

Analysis of Preterm Birth and Low Birth Weight in Songkhla, Thailand

This summer I interned at the Prince of Songkla University, Epidemiology Unit in southern Thailand conducting analysis on the risk factors, prevalence, and health system response of preterm birth and low birth weight in Songkhla Province. During my internship I became proficient in using R analytical software to analyze large data sets and excelled at applying



statistics to data in order to analyze outcomes. I was also provided many opportunities to become familiar with antenatal care and obstetrics in rural Thailand. Through a research project on behavioral risk factors of brucellosis on pregnant women, which I assisted in setting up, I visited many rural primary care health centers and learned about public health programs designed for mothers and children. In addition to assisting with the brucellosis project I spent a week in a community hospital in Na Thawi, Thailand observing antenatal care visits, deliveries, and postpartum practices. As I move forward with my career in global public health these experiences will help me to understand health systems for mothers and children in developing countries in order to better develop impactful programs. Through this internship I better understand applying health behavior and health education work in a developing country and the challenges and rewards that come with this focus.

Nandakishor Kapa

MPH, Health Management and Policy

I had the opportunity this summer to travel to Bangkok, Thailand for 6 weeks to complete a public health policy internship with Action on Smoking and Health Foundation (ASH) Thailand. Throughout my time in Thailand I learned a great deal about policy advocacy, public health policy research, historical and current international



tobacco control efforts, and Thai culture. Through the persistent efforts of many individuals, Thailand has become a leader in tobacco control in Southeast Asia and the world and has benefited from drastically reduced tobacco use prevalence over the last two decades. ASH and other organizations have fostered achievements such as tobacco taxes, public places smoking bans, and implementation of the largest graphic health warning labels on cigarette packs in the world.

During my internship, I was able to be involved in another pivotal and exciting time in tobacco control advocacy in Thailand, as ASH Thailand and other Thai public health organizations have proposed a new tobacco control bill that would increase the minimum age of cigarette buyers from 18 to 20 years, ban the sale of packet-less cigarettes, and prohibit the display of cigarettes at shops and stores. My primary contribution to ASH's efforts was developing material for the ASH Thailand English-language website to advocate for the new bill. The second major project that I worked on during my internship

was with the Tobacco Control Research and Knowledge Management Center (TRC) at Mahidol University in Bangkok on a literature review about youth smoking in Thailand. This research involved analyzing studies from the past decade to formulate an overview of uptake, prevalence, prevention, and cessation in relation to youth smoking in Thailand over the past decade, along with comparisons to neighboring Southeast Asian countries. Along with the literature search and analysis, I contributed written summaries of the youth smoking in Thailand literature that utilized the Global Youth Tobacco Survey or International Tobacco Control Survey and the literature related to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

I gained invaluable experience through my internship at ASH Thailand and I believe that it has significantly impacted my career and life goals. While I know that as a future physician I will work with many patients individually to help them quit smoking and live healthier and longer lives, I have seen the greater impact that I could have by working to change policy. The policy advocacy, analysis, and research skills that I have gained through my

internship will allow me to work towards a future where I can make a larger impact in international health through tobacco control efforts.

Nicole Smolinske

MA Student, Center for Southeast Asian Studies

With generous funding support from the CSEAS Thai Studies Grant and the Boren Fellowship, I will spend the next ten months in Chiang Mai conducting research for my Masters thesis and pursuing further language study. I arrived in Thailand at the end of August and have enrolled in language classes and solidified a partnership with a local Foundation to conduct my research. While still in the beginning stages of data collection, my research is focused on Burmese migrants in northern Thailand. More specifically, I am focusing on how gender affects the process in which the Burmese women migrants navigate and understand the visa obtainment process. I will be partnering with a local foundation in Chiang Mai that focuses on migrant labor rights. In the following months, I will be conducting interviews with Burmese migrants and plan to



travel to the Thai/Myanmar border during my ten-month stay in Thailand.

A few days after arriving in Chiang Mai I began language classes to further my knowledge of the Thai language. I will be continuing language classes for the duration of my stay in Thailand, and I am excited to pair classroom learning with in-country practice. I have enjoyed daily expanding my vocabulary and appreciate the immediate feedback that in-country language study allows.

I am grateful for the academic and financial support that I have received from the University of Michigan and am excited to see what this academic year will bring in terms of language acquisition and data collection!

Pianpian Cao

MPH candidate, Epidemiology (EMA)

I was very fortunate to be funded by the UM-SPH Global Health Office and the Center for Southeast Asian Studies to do my summer internship in Thailand on *O. viverrini* infection and cholangiocarcinoma. During my 12-week stay in Thailand, I traveled to Hat Yai, Chiang



Mai and Lampang for research, study and to attend a conference. This summer internship was incredible and fruitful.

In Hat Yai, Thailand I worked at the Epidemiology Unit, Prince of Songkhla University with assistance from my supervisor, Dr. Hutcha Sriplung (an associate professor at PSU). I spent the first few weeks doing literature review on cholangiocarcinoma (CCA) and its current situation in Thailand, risk factors of CCA and the infection cycle of the human parasite, *O. viverrini* (liver fluke). I also had an opportunity to travel to Chiang Mai for an annual cancer registry conference. The conference was a gathering of experts from different cancer registries in Thailand who exchanged ideas and discussed their progress. At the conference I was able to meet people from Lampang Cancer Hospital, Khon Kaen University and other institutes.

After the conference I traveled with Dr. Hutcha Seesai (Dr. Hutchá's PhD student) and Dr. Donsuk, a physician at Lampang Cancer Hospital and director of the Lampang cancer registry, to Lampang. During our day in Lampang we travelled to villages to investigate

the potential to conduct the human liver fluke infection prevalence study there.

After a meeting with staff from Lampang Cancer Hospital we decided to analyze the liver cancer incidence rates from 1993 to 2012 using the Lampang cancer registry data. I spent almost three weeks doing the analysis using descriptive analysis, Jointpoint analysis and APC modeling. As promised, I prepared an analysis report, and workshop materials for Jointpoint analysis, APC modeling and imputation. The workshop, which lasted two days, was well received.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work in Thailand and would like to thank Dr. Hutchá and Dr. Rafael Meza, as well as all the staff and PhD students from PSU and Lampang Cancer Hospital.

Pooja Middha

MPH Candidate, Global Health Epidemiology

For my summer internship I traveled to Hat Yai, Thailand for 11 weeks to work on breast cancer research. It was a great experience and I learned a lot about doing cancer research in an international environment. My internship supervisor in Thailand was Dr. Hutchá Sriplung, associate professor in the Epidemiology Unit at Prince of Songkla University (PSU). He works with the national Cancer Institute of Thailand and is actively running the cancer registries in Thailand.

My main project at PSU in Thailand was to evaluate the incidence rates and trends of breast cancer in Chiang Mai province and then project the future trends. For this, I had to learn R programming since I had no previous experience with R. Also I learned various other modeling techniques that I was supposed to use for trend building and projection like APC modeling,



norpred analysis and jointpoint analysis. Cancer modeling and R programming is Dr. Hutcha's forte so it was my great pleasure to learn all these techniques from him and his team. It was an invaluable internship and was not only tough but also very exciting for me.

During my internship I learned about the health care infrastructure in Thailand. I also learned how data is collected and primary health is provided to the citizens of Thailand, which was very impressive.

I was also very fortunate to be a part of the University of Michigan team, who set up a case-control study of breast cancer at Prince of Songkla University. I gained the knowledge regarding protocol writing and questionnaire formation for a study. Collaboration of two universities for global research is a very fascinating process but at the same time I also acquired the skills needed to facilitate the procedure.

Overall, this internship was truly an amazing, once in a lifetime experience for me. The skills that I have acquired have added to my resume in the best possible way. I will cherish this summer internship with fond memories and the exemplary learning from some of the best teachers.

I would especially like to thank Dr. Rozek for giving me this opportunity and believing that I will do it justice, and Dr. Hutcha for this incredible experience. I would also like to acknowledge the University of Michigan Office of Global Public Health, Center for Southeast Asian Studies and Center for the Education of Women for providing the travel funds for this internship.

Stephanie Sayler

MS Industrial Hygiene Candidate

Evaluation of Noise and Silica Exposures at a Stone Processing Facility in Chiang Rai, Thailand

With the help of a generous Thai Studies grant from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, I was able to spend the month of May 2015, in Chiang Rai, Thailand, collecting exposure data for my thesis on noise and silica exposures. Dr. Kowit Nambunmee, along with his staff and students from Mae Fah Luang University, arranged daily visits to a local stone processing facility that prides itself in continuously improving worker

health and safety. We were able to collect three noise and silica measurements, three daily surveys, and a baseline survey on all 45 workers. On our downtime, our hosts also provided Thai language, history, and cultural lessons while taking us on garden and museum tours throughout northern Thailand.

Since Thailand is a recently-industrialized nation with the capacity to adapt advanced worker health and safety practices, industries can benefit greatly from the receipt of exposure data. For our collaborative project, Dr. Kowit Nambunmee provided oversight and guidance on particulate collection and cultural sensitivities, while we were able to provide equipment, protocols, and personnel for silica measurements that will compliment his toxicological research on silica biomarkers. The project also enhanced the relationship between Dr. Nambunmee and the facility, and the health and safety staff was pleased to receive prompt noise results by job category for their facility in order to provide immediate corrective actions for high-noise job categories.

Through this experience, I was able to obtain extensive skills in grant writing, health survey construction, personal air pump maintenance and calibration, and silica data interpretation. While the data analysis portion of my thesis is not complete, I look forward to working with Drs. Nambunmee and Neitzel to enhance my analytical skills in SPSS using a repeated-measures linear regression model. I also look forward to using these new skills in the future through continued research, and I am excited to return to Mae Fah Luang University to aid in additional occupational health projects. I am immensely grateful for the funding we received that allowed for this experience and the hospitality of our gracious Thai hosts. ■



FACULTY RESEARCH ABROAD



A BRIEF INTERVIEW WITH U-M PROFESSOR ALLEN HICKEN, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Q: I understand you spent much of last year in Thailand. What were you doing there, and how did the coup affect your work?

AH: I was actually there to study the elections, which were supposed to happen in mid 2014. We arrived in Bangkok the evening of the coup, and my project on the elections had to be put off. As a result, many of the talks and events I had been planning to participate in were either cancelled or modified given the junta's ban on political meetings—which they interpreted very broadly to mean basically any meeting that might touch on a sensitive topic. So talks, workshops or conferences on Thai politics were either cancelled outright, or I was asked to speak on something other than Thai politics. Fortunately I have a number of other projects not directly related to elections that I could work on. I also did quite a bit of work on the issue of constitutional reform, which was, and continues to be, an important issue in Thailand.

Q: What kind of work were you doing on constitutional reform?

AH: A variety of things. Institutional design is one of my areas of research and so I am really interested in what Thailand is trying to do. I blogged quite a bit about the various reform proposals—running simulations to show how various proposals for electoral reform would, or would not, change election outcomes. I tried to highlight what I thought were ill-advised, uninformed, or dubious proposals. I also wrote a few short academic papers on the topic and spoke to a variety of groups about constitutional reform.

Q: What kinds of groups did you speak to?

AH: The government and related organizations organized several meetings and forums to discuss political reform and I was invited to participate in a few of those meetings as an “outside expert.”

Q: Did you have any qualms about participating in meetings organized by a military-backed government?

AH: Some. It was clear that the junta and its supporters had an agenda. The organizations drafting the constitution did not have representation from one side of the political conflict, and that reflects the general approach of the military government—national reconciliation to them means the other side needs to change its mind and change its ways. But I saw an opportunity in those meetings to be a small voice for a better reform process, and to shine the light on the apparent motivations and consequences of proposed reforms. To give one example, there is a lot of discussion about the need to clean up corruption so I would take the opportunity to note that there is overwhelming evidence that: 1) a free media is crucial to curtailing corruption, and 2) non-elected governments are generally no-cleaner than elected governments. Or, to give another example, I pointed out that you cannot impose consensus, and that the evidence is clear that viable reform requires all of the major groups to be represented around the table. I also worked hard to push actors towards a discussion of the diagnosis of the problem reformers thought they were trying to fix. So much of the talk is of the “system is broken” or “democracy doesn't work” variety, with very little discussion about what, specifically, people think the problems are. When pushed to actually offer their specific diagnosis I found the answers illuminating and often disquieting.

Q: So what is that diagnosis?

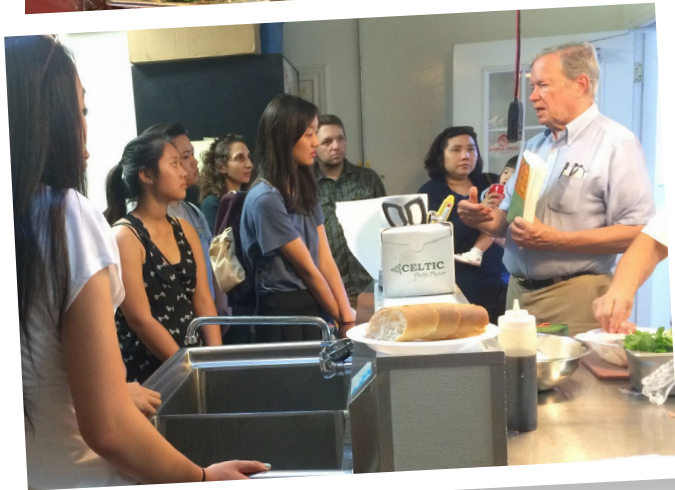
AH: I have to be careful here, because there is a variety of opinions even among Thailand's conservative forces, but I'd say the general diagnosis by the military and its supporters is this: The problem with Thai democracy is that poor/ignorant voters keep electing the wrong people. Their reform proposals flow pretty naturally from that diagnosis: 1) try and re-educate voters (e.g. Prayuth's 12 values, and the reconciliation and re-education programs being concentrated in the North and Northeast), and 2) severely circumscribe the power of elected politicians while allowing “good people” (khon dii) to rule. I dubbed first draft of the constitution (which went down to defeat in September) the “containment constitution” because of the restrictions it placed on elected politicians and I expect the next draft to look very similar.

Q: It sounds like you don't share that diagnosis. What would your diagnosis be?

AH: Ah, to answer that question would take more time than we have here but it has to do with the changing distribution of political power in Thailand. In brief, let me just say that two of the foundations of stable democracy, have been missing in recent years: loser's consent, and winner's restraint. ■

VIETNAMESE DISCUSSION GROUP

The first session this year of the Vietnamese Discussion Group (VDG), led by Nguyen Thuy Anh and John Whitmore, took place at Ginger Deli. The staff demonstrated the making of banh mi (together with a delicious ginger desert) and taught the group the origins and present form of the sandwich. The VDG meets monthly to chat about elements of interest to the local community, including students, staff, faculty, and those from Ann Arbor and southeast Michigan. All with an interest in Vietnam are invited to join and also to raise topics to be discussed. While each session will have a theme and discussion leader, the group is free to diverge from the theme. If you are interested in joining VDG at any time, please contact cseas@umich.edu, so that you can be added to the mailing list. ■



PHILIPPINE KULINTANG DONATION

By Leah Habana Yengoyan Trulik

As the beneficiary of the Shirley Habana Yengoyan Philippine Musical Instruments Collection, I feel honored to donate these indigenous musical instruments from Northern Cordillera and Southern Mindanao to CSEAS at the University of Michigan in the hope that they will continue to promote the richness and diversity of Filipino music and culture in our community and beyond.

Many of these musical instruments were given to my mother by Dr. Fe Prudente and Dr. Kristina Benitez when they were then doctoral students of Ethnomusicology at the University of Michigan and my father, Prof. Aram Yengoyan, was one of their faculty advisers. They also made the beautiful stand for the *kulintang* gongs as well as the wooden frames for the hanging gongs. Also in the collection are bamboo instruments collected in Cordillera. During their years at the University of Michigan, they have become very close friends with my mother and the whole family. My mother who was born in the southern part of the Philippines, although her parents were from Roxas City, was attracted to the beautiful gongs of Mindanao but was never introduced to play them as musical instruments until she met Fe and Tina. Under their tutelage and support, she joined their performances in Ann Arbor and vicinity including the Ann Arbor Art Fair.



As a young girl, I was also blessed to be able to participate in the various performances with my mother, Fe and Tina. I vividly remember tapping the gongs and clicking bamboo sticks and poles with precise beats to the favorite "Tinikling" bamboo dance. Even though I played a minor role in these performances, I experienced that sense of belonging and community with the group. I was also reminded of my trips to the Philippines where my father who is of Armenian descent, raised in California, and a cultural anthropologist, conducted research in Mindanao and Visayas. With this background as a child and exposure to Filipino culture, I feel enriched by my parent's keen interest in culture. I feel privileged to donate these musical instruments to share the richness and beauty of the Philippine Culture.

With this donation, we hope that many people can feel the grandeur, majesty, and beauty of a Philippine native dance "Singkil" accompanied by the *kulintang* ensemble and the rhythmic beats of the Cordillera bamboos! ■

CSEAS PARTNERSHIP WITH

THE MIDWEST INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL/INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION (MIIE)

By Theo Sypris, Director of MIIE



Participants of the 2015 MIIE workshops

The U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies has been a strong partner since 2008 in providing support to community college faculty in the Midwest Institute for International/Intercultural Education (MIIE) consortium.

In particular, it has co-sponsored several week-long curriculum workshops for community college faculty to develop curriculum on Southeast Asia. These workshops are designed to provide exposure to curriculum resources and ideas on how to infuse curriculum packets (modules) on various global themes and regions of the world. Examples of global themes co-sponsored

by CSEAS include human rights, conflict and cooperation, language and culture, food, water and energy issues, global interactions and exchanges, environmental stewardship, norms, and values.

All workshops are interdisciplinary, interactive, and tailored to the curriculum needs of community college faculty. Typically, the workshop participants are limited to 15 faculty in order to provide personal attention, quality service and strong focus on their professional interests and curriculum development that reflects the types of courses that these faculty teach on their campuses.

A main objective of the MIIE workshops is to provide strategies and examples of past curriculum modules to enhance their teaching by infusing their curriculum with a global theme, either focused on a geographic region, like SE Asia, or comparisons across two or more regions. A second objective is to encourage interdisciplinary instructional strategies and critical pedagogy.

The five day workshops offer short-presentations (45 minutes) from expert faculty, followed by extensive discussions, working groups, informal networking, extensive opportunities for interdisciplinary learning, and the development of curriculum plans for the coming academic year.

For eight months following the week-long workshops, as these faculty are developing curriculum modules, they are provided feedback and support with assigned mentors. The faculty are expected to finalize their curriculum packets and implement them in the classroom (for pre-determined courses) the following academic year. All faculty are expected to assess the curriculum work with their students and to report on the implementation in the following two years. The faculty developing the curriculum modules and their mentors receive modest stipends upon completion of their work.

Since 1997, the MIIE workshops have been partially funded by U.S. Department of Education Title VI grants. ■

FACULTY UPDATES

Victor Lieberman

In December Victor will attend an international workshop on global history being held at Osaka University in Japan to celebrate his 70th birthday. The workshop, entitled “Creating Global History from Southeast Asian Perspectives for Celebrating Professor Victor Lieberman’s Age of 70,” will focus on the impact on Asian studies of Professor Lieberman’s *Strange Parallels: Southeast Asia in Global Context, c 800–1830*.

Yuen Yuen Ang

Yuen Yuen Ang won the GDN Essay Competition on “The Future of Development Assistance” in 2014, sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She is one among 13 winners from 1,470 submissions worldwide. Ang’s essay is entitled “Making Details Matter: How to Reform Aid Agencies to Generate Contextual Knowledge.” A summary of her essay appeared in *Ideas for Development* (a blog hosted by the French Development Agency) in June 2015, titled “Crafting Institutions for Localized Aid.”

Kathleen Ford

I spent the winter 2015 term in residence at the Institute for Population and Social Research at Mahidol University in Bangkok. I taught part of a training program in statistical methods for faculty from the School of Public Health in Yangon, Myanmar. I continued my research on the welfare

of the Muslim Population in Thailand and the welfare of cross border migrant workers.

John Knodel

The University Council of Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok awarded John Knodel an honorary doctorate degree on October 8, 2015 that was personally presented by Her Royal Highness Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. The announcement by the University states that the degree is in recognition to his major contributions both to the field of historical demography and the demography of developing countries, particularly Thailand and neighboring Southeast Asian countries. Mention is made of his pioneering efforts to combine qualitative methods, particularly focus groups discussions, with the exclusively quantitative approach traditional to demography and thus altering how demographic research is now carried out. The award is also to show gratitude for his more than four decades of collaborative research with colleagues at the Chulalongkorn University College of Population Studies and other population organizations in Thailand and the region, which resulted in substantial capacity building and significantly contributed to the development of demography in Thailand and in the region.

Linda Y.C. Lim

Linda Y.C. Lim, Professor of Strategy at the U-M Stephen M. Ross School of Business, guest-edited a Special Issue of the *Singapore Economic Review* Vol. 60 No. 3 (2015) that included an introductory review, and an article on “Labor, Productivity and Singapore’s Development

Model”, co-authored with Pang Eng Fong. The Special Issue is also appearing as a book, Linda Y.C. Lim (ed.) *Singapore’s Economic Development: Retrospection and Reflections*, Singapore: World Scientific Publishers, 2015. “Beyond Gender: The Impact of Age, Ethnicity, Nationality and Economic Growth on Women in the Singapore Economy” appeared in *Singapore Economic Review* Vol. 60, No. 2 (2015); “Beyond the ‘Global City’ Paradigm” appeared as Ch. 4 in Su-fern Hoe and Carol Soon (eds.) *Singapore Perspectives 2015: Choices*, Singapore: World Scientific Publishers, 2015; and “Singapore in the International Economy” appeared as Ch. 20 in Euston Quah (ed.), *Singapore 2065: Leading Insights on the Economy and Environment from 50 Singapore Icons and Beyond*, Singapore: World Scientific Publications, 2015. Linda also participated in the following conferences in Singapore: Institute for Policy Studies, National University of Singapore (January), Indonesia Forum with the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (May) and the U-M Pan-Asia Alumni Reunion Conference (May), and published and was cited in many media articles on China, Indonesia and Singapore.

Zenaida V. Fulgencio

Zenaida V. Fulgencio, Filipino Lecturer, attended a four-week summer Filipino Language and Culture Curriculum Development (FLCCD) Project that is designed for K–12 teachers, community college instructors, college professors or Ph.D. candidates at the University of the Philippines Diliman campus in Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines from July 11 to August 8, 2015. This was geared towards educators who were interested in the improvement of teaching Filipino and Philippine culture. The project is managed through the Center for Southeast Asia Studies (CSEAS) at the University of California-Berkeley and funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad.

The FLCCD project provided refresher lectures on Filipino language, culture, and history by leading experts based in the Philippines, steered curriculum development workshop and extended help with the attainment of resource materials. The participants worked on revising curriculum for Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced Filipino, updating syllabi in Philippine literature and culture, and developing new courses. ■



DONOR PROFILE

TOM HUDAK



As a University of Michigan alum, Tom Hudak remembers attending programs and participating in events at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Tom, who graduated from the University of Michigan in 1981 with a PhD in Linguistics, viewed CSEAS as a well-run center that provided important resources for students interested in studying Southeast Asia, and he has maintained this belief ever since. Tom thinks fondly of CSEAS for a variety of reasons but, as someone who holds a special interest in language acquisition, he especially appreciates CSEAS' commitment to the teaching of Southeast Asian languages.

After obtaining his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Tom, originally from South Bend, Indiana, joined the Peace Corps in Thailand where he spent two years teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) to junior high students. The completely different culture and language that Tom encountered in Thailand made a lasting impression on him. His work in the region, which included teaching ESL in Indonesia and Vietnam, spanned eight years and set the course for his entire career.

It was after his years spent in Southeast Asia that Tom came to the University of Michigan to pursue his PhD. While here he studied with William Gedney (1915-1999), a linguist and Southeast Asian language specialist who was the leader in his field. Tom also worked with Gedney to edit Gedney's eight-volume series on languages and dialects spoken in Southeast Asia and Thailand in particular.

After Tom completed his PhD, his work and research interests remained around Thai language and literature, as well as the language and literature of Indonesia and Vietnam. Tom's first position was at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, where he was a linguistics professor and helped establish the English Language

Institute. In 1988, Tom became a professor at Arizona State University and taught there until his retirement in 2011. At ASU, Tom's teaching focused on Southeast Asia and included culture, literature, and translation. Tom also helped to organize the Thai, Indonesian, and Vietnamese language programs through the ASU National Resource Center.

Over the years Tom has consistently supported CSEAS and, in particular, the Thai language program. He hopes to encourage students to learn more than just the basics of their chosen language. Tom believes that there are many benefits to speaking a language fluently since, through language, people are better able to deal with others in everyday issues and thus work toward achieving their goals. Tom also feels that people who aren't proficient in the languages of the regions where they work run the risk of appearing as uninterested in the country and its culture which, in turn, can make it challenging to foster collaborations. Simply put, Tom maintains that having language skills makes working in Southeast Asia much easier while also increasing the likelihood of building connections and partnerships.

We thank Tom for his consistent and generous contributions to CSEAS. ■

THE CSEAS-on FOR GIVING!

In this year's fund drive, we have a simple and attainable goal. We need \$10,000. This amount will go to language support in the form of fellowships and promotional events initiated by our language faculty, undergraduate and graduate student events, and faculty projects related to SEA.

Many of you have given to specific endowments at CSEAS in the past, and for that we are truly grateful. We ask this year that you consider giving to our strategic fund, so that we can use the funds now while allowing the expendable accounts of our endowments to grow. If you prefer to continue giving to an endowment of your choice, you are more than welcome to, and we would appreciate that as well.

HOW TO GIVE

To donate online, please visit: <https://leadersandbest.umich.edu/find/#!/give/basket/fund/365095>. To donate by mail, please send a check made out to "The University of Michigan" with a note on the memo line that says "For CSEAS Strategic Fund 365095" to:

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