



center for southeast asian studies

Fall 2013

Photo Credit: Li Kim Goh  
Butterworth, Malaysia - August 4, 2011: People watch Chinese opera performance during the Hungry Ghost Festival in Malaysia's northern town of Butterworth.



Dear Friends,

I am delighted to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to campus and send greetings to all the members of our U-M CSEAS community, near and far. As the incoming director, I thank everyone who has helped CSEAS to thrive and maintain its position as a vibrant National Resource Center. Indeed, I am notably thankful to outgoing director Allen Hicken and our program manager, Kate Wright for their patience and assistance.

I would like to welcome **Amy Nguyen-Chyung**, Assistant Professor of Strategy at the Ross School of Business, to campus. Amy is our newest faculty affiliate and comes to us from the University of California-Berkeley with interests in Vietnamese and Asian political economy, development, and international relations.

This year U-M will host several visiting faculty members from Southeast Asia. **Terence Gomez** and **Sharmani Gabriel** hail from the University of Malaya, and **OOI Keat Gin** is on sabbatical from the Universiti Sains Malaysia. In addition, **Leah Abayao** of the University of the Philippines Baguio is our fall CSEAS-Library Research Fellow and will be working here during the month of October. Read more about these visitors on the following pages. Please join us in helping them

all to feel at home here, especially during the chilly months to come.

As always, CSEAS has an active schedule for the coming year, including a slate of exciting speakers in our Friday series. Our MA program also continues with returning students **Napapond Fay** and **Sheena Harris** and incoming student **Danna Jo (Dormer) Matsuki**. While we will continue to prioritize language studies, helping enrollment to grow through campus promotion and through scholarships for graduate students and undergraduates, we are also ready to support new initiatives put forth by faculty and students. Feel free to contact us at any time during the year with your ideas and proposals.

All best wishes for a wonderful semester,

**Christi-Anne Castro**  
Director



Joining us for several months during his sabbatical, **OOI Keat Gin** is Professor of History and Coordinator of the Asia Pacific Research Unit (APRU), School of Humanities, Universiti Sains Malaysia. He was Visiting Professor, Academy of Brunei Studies, Universiti Brunei Darussalam in the early part of 2013. His fields of interest are socio-economic and sociocultural history of Southeast Asia with a particular focus on Borneo. Recent works include *The Japanese Occupation of Borneo, 1941-1945* (Routledge, 2011), and *Post-war Borneo, 1945-1950: Nationalism, Empire, and State-building* (Routledge, 2013). He also serves as founder-editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Asia-Pacific Studies (IJAPS) ([www.usm.my/ijaps/](http://www.usm.my/ijaps/)). He will give the first talk in our lecture series this fall on September 6 at 12:00 pm in the International Institute. His talk will be on "War and 'Peace': Borneo, 1941-1950." Please join us!

Visiting Professor **Terence Gomez** will be hosted by the Department of Political Science for the 2013-14 academic year. Teaching courses on political economy and Southeast Asia, as well as conducting his own research and co-organizing a conference on Dominant Party Regimes with Professor of Political Science **Allen Hicken**, Terence will be busy. He will be living at Telluride house with his wife, Sharmani Gabriel, and their son.

**Sharmani Gabriel** is a professor of English at the University of Malaya and will be a Fulbright Fellow in residence at the University of Michigan. After the term of her Fulbright fellowship is completed, she will offer a Winter 2014 mini-course to U-M students on Malaysian Literature in English.

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Regents of the University of Michigan: Julia Donovan Darlow, Laurence B. Deitch, Denise Ilitch, Olivia P. Maynard, Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner, S. Martin Taylor, Katherine E. White, Mary Sue Coleman *ex officio*.

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## SAVE THE DATE!

### ***International Symposium on Dominant Party Regimes*** *March 21-22, 2014*

Dominant party regimes are those in which a single party or coalition rules for an extraordinary period of time by regularly winning contested, multiparty elections. Organized by visiting professor Terence Gomez and political science professor Allen Hicken, this two-day conference will bring together scholars from around the world, both established and junior, who are doing cutting-edge work on the topic. The conference will focus on the formation, evolution and breakdown of this special type of party system.

Organized by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Cosponsored by the University of Malaya. Additional cosponsors include: African Studies Center, the Centers for Chinese Studies, Japanese Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, South Asian Studies, the International Institute, and the Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia.

## Two New Courses

### HISTORY OF ART

**Joan Kee**, Assistant Professor of History of Art, will be teaching U-M's very first course on modern and con-



temporary Southeast Asian art this fall. The course, HA 489/689 Introduction to Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art, will be a mixed undergraduate and graduate seminar that seeks to introduce students to some of the key de-

bates, events, figures, and most importantly, artworks, around which scholars have come to define this field.

Course participants will be asked to conceptualize a hypothetical survey exhibition, including a checklist, "catalogue" essays, an annotated timeline, and artist entries. Joan Kee, as a member of the advisory committee of the National Art Gallery of Singapore, will connect her students to well-known critics and curators at that gallery for feedback and evaluation. Graduate student participants will also be encouraged to present their essays outside the University in appropriate conferences and for potential publication.

CSEAS provided a grant to support this curriculum development. Professor Kee writes: "I'm very excited as one of the intended outcomes is to propose what an initial survey of contemporary Southeast Asian art might look like. In lieu of the traditional research paper, students will be asked to write two extended 'catalogue entries' that closely examine single artworks of their choosing. I'm also happy to note that interest in contemporary Southeast Asian art generally is on the rise -- I have two doctoral students, one who works on postwar art in Vietnam and another looking at contemporary Thai art. I'm also working on a larger study of art education in Singapore in collaboration with colleagues in that area. All of these projects are enabled in part by the support of CSEAS and I'm very grateful."

### SCHOOL OF NURSING

CSEAS has also supported the development of a clinical immersion program for nurse practitioner students in Thailand. **April Bigelow**, Clinical Assistant Professor (School of Nursing), and **Michelle Pardee**, Clinical Assistant Professor (School of Nursing) will lead a group of six nursing students to Thailand in October, 2013. While there, they will work with physicians, nurse practitioners, and Thai faculty at universities who will guide them through the Thai health care system, explaining patients considered to be medically vulnerable in Thailand, as well as Thai culture. This experience will help to integrate Thai culture into a class that has traditionally only focused on US health care.



April Bigelow with her Thai colleagues



Students from the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design made this batik print in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

## CSEAS Library Research Fellowship

The inaugural CSEAS-Library Research Fellow will be on campus in October 2013. In a joint venture funded by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the University Library, and the Bentley Historical Library, three scholars will spend one month each on U-M's campus, accessing our archives for their research. Many thanks to **Graduate Library Area Programs Head Librarian Fe Susan Go**, **Graduate Library Area Programs Librarian Jonathan Rodgers**, **Associate University Librarian for Collections Bryan Skibb**, and **Dean of Libraries Paul Courant** for working with CSEAS to bring this fellowship program to realization.

The three scholars for the 2013-2014 academic year are: **Leah Abayao** (October 2013), **Ruel Pagunsan** (March 2014), and **Do Truong Giang** (July 2014). Leah Abayao is assistant professor at the University of the Philippines Baguio in the department of history and philosophy and will be researching on "Civilizing Northern Philippines Tribes, 1908-1930." Ruel Pagunsan is a candidate for Ph.D. at the National University of Singapore and will do his research here on Filipino participation in the production of ecological knowledge in the colonial Philippines. Do Truong Giang, also a candidate for Ph.D. at the National University of Singapore, will conduct research on the "Economic Integration of Campa into the Regional and Global Economic System."

We look forward to hosting them in Ann Arbor and to the fruitful results of their research!



Students on Thuy Anh Nguyen's GIEU trip to Vietnam throwing pots at Eco Camp.

## Stamping Yogyakarta

By Emilia White, lecturer, School of Art and Design

This summer a group of students from the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design participated in a three and a half week trip to Yogyakarta, Indonesia, led by Lecturers Emilia White-Javanica and Charlie Michaels. The Arts & Culture in Indonesia trip was preceded by a winter preparation course aimed at comparing Indonesian socio-political and cultural trends with traditional and contemporary art practices. In Yogyakarta, the class collaborated with the arts collective Taring Padi, who are known, among other things, for their banner-sized collaborative woodblock prints that respond to social, political, environmental, and economic issues.

The collaboration began with a series of discussions surrounding art and its social context, eventually leading to the creation of a large woodblock print that explored the theme of 'environment' from U.S. and Indonesian perspectives. Smaller individual prints were also created, along with several batik designs. The final exhibition was presented on Saturday, July 13 at Gedung Serba Guna Sembungan, a community space located in a rural village south of Yogyakarta city where the Taring Padi studio resides. The night featured performances by the local children's dance and gamelan troupe Langen Mandra Wanara, and contemporary shadow puppetry troupe Wayang Kampung Sebelah. Over 300 people attended the event, which was a capstone of the collaborative process between the students, Taring Padi, and residents of Sembungan village. A second exhibition will be held in Ann Arbor in October 2013.

Additional visits to artist studios, galleries and historic sites included the Ullen Sentalu Museum, Borobudur, Prambanan, Mt. Merapi, Papermoon Puppet Theater, Fitri Setyanningsih, Sangkring Art Space, Jogja Nasional Museum, Survive Garage, Indonesia Visual Art Archive, Batik Kelik, Indonesia Contemporary Art Network, Langgeng Art Gallery, Cemeti Art Space, ArtJog '13, The House of Natural Fiber, and Kedai Kebun. Images, stories and further information can be found on the course blog: <http://stampingyogyakarta.tumblr.com/>.



## INUNDATION 2 – Report from a Research Studio in Southeast Asia

By Frank Sedlar, M.S.E. Civil Engineering

How can the practice and principles of architecture be applied to the environmental crises brought on by climate change in Southeast Asia? This was the question which University of Michigan students from the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning



and the College of Engineering sought to answer. Led by Taubman College Assistant Professor **Meredith Miller** and CSEAS Research Fellow **Dr. Etienne Turpin**, the nine students in the *Architecture + Adaption—INUNDATION 2* studio traveled to Bangkok, Thailand and Jakarta, Indonesia to conduct intensive site-based research and produce visual documentation and analysis of inundation effects on the social and architectural compositions of the two cities.

The research studio commenced in Bangkok, where we participated in a one week collaborative design-build workshop to prototype an emergency shelter for use in the aftermath of major flood event. Working with David and Im Schafer (StudioMake) and students from Rangsit University, we set out to design and prototype an affordable, smart, ready-for-action emergency shelter for Habitat for Humanity Thailand. Following the workshop, a design review was held at Rangsit University. Critiquing the design were reviewers from the university, Habitat for Humanity Thailand, Viva Board, Design for Disaster, and the Institute for Critical Climate Change. Although the design was greeted with positive reviews, the goal of developing an easy-to-assemble shelter with take-away components also generated valuable criticisms. Moving forward, StudioMake and Habitat for Humanity Thai-

land will continue to analyze the design and make the changes needed to optimize it. They hope production on the shelters can begin in time to have them ready before any future flood. For a video of this process, please see <http://vimeo.com/70814535>.

During the second portion of the research studio, our group traveled south to Jakarta, Indonesia. We were joined by students from Hong Kong University and Universitas Indonesia, and members of the Urban Poor Consortium. Here we analyzed the needs of residents of the Waduk Pluit, an area of urban hyper-complexity pressurized by climate change. Our work continued the *Architecture + Adaption* studio investigation of ways in which architecture can be applied to the myriad of environmental issues facing Southeast Asia. In the coming years, many of these environmental issues are likely to worsen; we believe these investigations may be a productive tool in addressing such problems.



CSEAS provided a grant to Professor Meredith Miller to help make this studio abroad possible.

## United States-Indonesia Partnership Project

In collaboration with Lehigh University, CSEAS received a three-year grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to fund the United States-Indonesia Partnership Project. In this project, we work with Lehigh University and three Indonesian Universities, Gadjah Mada University, Airlangga University, and University of Indonesia on a joint study abroad trip for the month of June. Students from the five universities travel together in both countries on a study tour of democracy and religious pluralism. Next year, Goucher College will join the mix. Three students from U-M, **Alex Leader**, **Roxanne Ilagan**, and **Tom West**, participated this past June, and all of them plan to continue their studies on Indonesia in their remaining time at U-M.



Reza Laksmana Nugraha, from Gadjah Mada University, stands in front of a house in the Heidelberg Project, Detroit. The group spent a week in Michigan, visiting sites in Detroit, Dearborn, and Ann Arbor, and learning about American society and government.



GIEU Indonesia Group at Prambanan



Laying brick in Vietnam

Indonesian lecturer **Agustini** brought students with her to Indonesia and Vietnamese lecturer **Thuy-Anh Nguyen** took students with her to Vietnam, both through the Global Intercultural Experience for Undergraduates program run by the Center for Global and Intercultural Studies. They each spent a month with students in Southeast Asia, introducing them to the language, culture, and contemporary issues of the country.

GIEU trips to Southeast Asia are among the most popular for undergraduate students, and this year Agustini and Thuy-Anh received the top numbers of applicants among all GIEU destinations.



**Dan Birchok** (PhD, Anthropology & History, 2013) successfully defended his dissertation, *Sojourning on Mecca's Verandah: Place, Temporality, and Islam in an Indonesian Province*. The dissertation explores the

spatial-temporal orientations of Islamic practitioners, focusing on the post-colonial period (1945-present) in the Indonesian province of Aceh. Drawing on both ethnographic and archival sources, the dissertation argues that in the post-colonial period Islam has come to mediate the Indonesian nation for Acehnese Muslims. In so doing, the dissertation suggests new ways of approaching the intersection of locality and Islam through drawing attention to a range of narrative, social, and ritual practices through which Muslims link themselves to shifting constellations of local and translocal Islamic pasts.

He writes: "I will be an Oberlin-Michigan Partnership Postdoctoral Fellow and Visiting Professor of Religion at Oberlin College (Oberlin, OH) for the 2013-2014 academic year. I will teach 'Religions of Indonesia' in the Fall and 'Ethnography, Religion, and Gender in Southeast Asia' in the Winter. My family and I (including our new addition, James Roddy Birchok, born April 24th) will continue to reside in Ann Arbor for the duration of my Oberlin appointment."

**Napapond Fay**, continuing MA student, dedicated her summer to advancing the work of her social entrepreneurship venture, Maya GDI, LLC, in Thailand and India, as well as to advocating on behalf of the Southeast Asian community in Michigan. Maya GDI, LLC concluded its first investment in a woman-owned business at the Base of the Economic Pyramid in India, and is in the process of concluding its investment in a supply chain venture in Thailand.

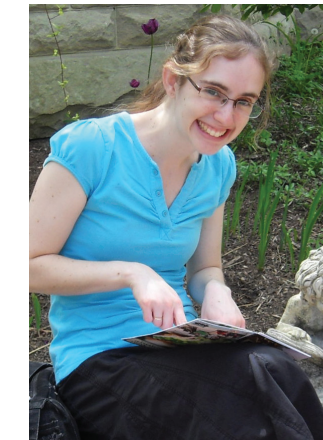
In the pursuit of these and other investments in Asia, Maya GDI, LLC is in the process of launching a crowdfunding campaign to raise additional capital.

Napapond has continued to work on her thesis on risk, insurance markets, and economic development

in Thailand under the guidance of Professor Allen Hicken. She plans to return to Bangkok to visit her family, and to further facilitate the growth of Maya GDI, LLC in Southeast Asia.

## Welcome to our new MA student

**Danna Jo Matsuki** received her BA in History from Taylor University (2011). She writes: "When people ask me where I am from, I still have trouble giving a satisfactory reply, because my family moved so much when I was growing up. I was born in Ontario, Canada, where my family lived until I was almost six years old. We then moved to Indonesia for my parents' work. We lived there for three and a half years, then in Brazil for five years, and then moved back to Indonesia, where I lived until I came to the States for college. This upbringing gave me an interest in world cultures as well as a love for Indonesia and its history."



After a year in the Master's in History program at Ball State University, focusing on Southeast Asian history, she discovered that she was interested in a more interdisciplinary approach to Southeast Asian Studies, and decided to transfer to CSEAS. She is interested in education and the Indonesian school system, especially in comparison of different religious-based schools in their teaching of Indonesian history.

This summer she and her partner Shogo Matsuki were married, and they live in Farmington Hills.

SUE DARLINGTON (PhD, Anthropology, 1990) continues to teach Anthropology and Asian Studies at Hampshire College, where she will also serve as Dean of Advising for one year, 2013-14. Her book, *The Ordination of a Tree: the Thai Buddhist Environmental Movement*, came out in December 2012 with SUNY Press. In a happy coincidence, she also discovered that one of her undergraduate students who just graduated, Adrian Becker, is the grandson of Judith and Peter Becker. She writes: "I was thrilled to see Judith at Adrian's graduation from Hampshire College in May. Nice connection back to the Center."

BRETTON DIMICK (PhD, Ethnomusicology, 2012) defended his dissertation on *ca trù*, a Vietnamese chamber singing genre, this fall concluding his PhD in ethnomusicology at the University of Michigan. He is living in Charleston, South Carolina, with his wife, Alyssa Worsham, a Michigan Law alum who is working as an associate at the new K&L Gates office. This coming year, he plans to teach a special topics course in one of his research areas at the College of Charleston, and will be speaking on his dissertation topic at the Society for Ethnomusicology annual conference in November.

JEFF DREYFUSS (PhD, Linguistics, 1981) continues to run his coffee business. "We are coming on finishing our tenth year in business and have roughly 500 wholesale customers, but only one café, by design. I travel a lot. Recently, I was in Ethiopia visiting co-ops in Yirgacheffe, Sidamo and Harrar (near Somalia)." He has two sons and four grandchildren.

JESSE GRAYMAN (MA, SEAS, 2001) completed his PhD in Social and Medical Anthropology at Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences with the dissertation "Humanitarian Encounters in Post-Conflict Aceh, Indonesia" in December 2012. He writes: "I also got married to my long-time partner Dezent, from Jakarta, on June 27 (the day after the Supreme Court struck down DOMA), in the Town of Islip, NY. On July 11, we arrived in Singapore to immediately start my new job as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Sociology at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences of Nanyang Technological University." Congratulations Jesse!

WARNER MONTGOMERY (PhD, Education, 1970) is owner/president of *The Columbia Star*, a weekly newspaper in Columbia, SC. Since receiving his MA, MPh, and PhD degrees from the University of Michigan, he taught at Ohio University (1969-71), Allen University (1971-72), Brock University (1985-89), Niagara Institute (1985-89), and was principal at the International School of Douala, Cameroon (1981-83). He also served as director of Criminal Justice Research in the Office of the Governor, SC (1971-76).



Images from the Stamping Yogyakarta project



RONIT RICCI'S (PhD, Comparative Literature, 2006) book *Islam Translated: Literature, Conversion and the Arabic Cosmopolis of South and Southeast Asia* (University of Chicago Press, 2011) won the 2013 Association for Asian Studies Harry J. Benda Prize in Southeast Asian Studies. With funding from the British Library's Endangered Archives Programme, Ronit is working on a project titled Digitalizing Malay Writing in Sri Lanka. See website: [http://eap.bl.uk/database/overview\\_project.a4d?projID=EAP609;r=24393](http://eap.bl.uk/database/overview_project.a4d?projID=EAP609;r=24393). She will be taking a two year leave from Australian National University beginning in August 2013 and will spend her time at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

ANDREW SHEPARD (JD, 2002) continues to work for the U.S. State Department and beginning September 2013 will be the Environment Science Technology & Health officer at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi, Vietnam.

JEREMY SHIFFMAN (PhD, Political Science, 1999) is presently Professor of Public Administration and Policy at American University in Washington, DC. He writes: "Prior to holding this position, I was a member of the faculty of the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. My research focuses on global health policy and governance, with particular emphasis on the politics of health policy-making in low-income countries. I have conducted research in many countries, including Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Nigeria, Somalia, Malawi, Honduras and Guatemala. I am presently leading a research initiative funded by the Gates Foundation examining the power and effectiveness of global health networks that have mobilized to address several high-burden conditions, including tuberculosis, pneumonia, newborn mortality and maternal death in childbirth. In 2003 I married Mia Ongkiko (now Mia Shiffman), who grew up in Manila, Philippines, and we have two children, Aedan, 7, and Samantha, 3." ([jshiffma@american.edu](mailto:jshiffma@american.edu))

GEORGE SIASOCO (MA, SEAS, 1992) is currently a Disaster Operations Specialist with USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), based in Washington, DC. He writes: "I used to work under the Southern Africa portfolio since 2009. But after much waiting and negotiations, my current portfolio covers East Asia/Pacific (particularly the "Island Countries" - Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore, Japan, Philippines, Indonesia, East Timor, etc.). Lately I'm working a lot on our Disaster Risk Reduction programs in East Timor, Philippines and Indonesia (specifically NTT/NTB provinces). Recently, the most recent "big" rapid-onset disaster I worked on was the US Government response to the Typhoon Bopha/Pablo affected areas in Southern Philippines."

ANDY SUTTON (PhD, Ethnomusicology, 1982) has recently accepted a position at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, beginning in August 2013, as Dean of the School of Pacific and Asian Studies and Assistant Vice Chancellor for International and Exchange Programs. "The combination of duties will have me deeply involved in international education at the graduate and undergraduate levels, with primary focus on Asia and the Pacific. I will be working closely with a number of Southeast Asianists on the faculty at UHM, including Prof. **Michael Aung-Thwin** (PhD, History, 1976) who is currently chair of the Asian Studies Program."

MARY STEEDLY (PhD, Anthropology, 1989) published two books this year. *Rifle Reports: A Story of Indonesian Independence* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2013) is a monograph devoted to the experience of Indonesian nationalists in the Karo highlands of Sumatra during the struggle for Indonesian independence from Dutch colonial rule. Based on extensive interviews with Karo women and men who participated in the Independence Struggle, it is an interrogation of the meaning of nationalism on the outskirts of the nation, among those - women, peasants, and other marginal actors - who are frequently left out of foundational accounts of national communities. *Images That Move* (Santa Fe: SAR Press, 2013) is a co-edited volume (with Patricia Spyer). Derived from an advanced seminar that they convened at the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe in 2008, this collection of essays explores the travels and transits of images in a range of media, periods and locales. She contributed a chapter on the "new" cinema of horror in post-Reformasi Indonesia.



## Safeguarding the Future of the U-M Gamelan



For decades the Javanese gamelan ensemble has been a prominent cultural focal point of Southeast Asian studies at the University of Michigan. Since 1966, when Professor of Musicology William Malm bought the instruments, the gamelan has attracted students and faculty as performers, international masters as music and dance teachers, and thousands of audience members to campus over the years. The gamelan, named *Kyai Telaga Madu* (Venerable Lake of Honey), promptly became the project of Judith Becker. She set about learning how to play each instrument, and in 1968 the U-M Gamelan Ensemble was formed under her directorship.

In 1990, Susan Pratt Walton took over directing the ensemble, and she regularly brings the music, dance and puppetry of Central Java to the stage in Ann Arbor. Our gamelan program often features performances by eminent Javanese artists-in-residence. Since 1968, the ensemble has also explored new music composed for gamelan, helped in the training of an important generation of scholars of Southeast Asian music, and exposed students from all areas of the University to the vibrant culture of Indonesia.

We have had over 30 visiting artists in residence throughout the years, sharing their traditional and non-traditional dance and music with students and the public. Most recently, Anon Suneko was here for a semester, teaching and performing with students. Anon Suneko is a dancer and kendhang drummer



trained in the Yogyakarta court style. The gamelan ensemble also participates in regional music educator events, most recently at the Michigan Music Teachers Association Conference in 2012. They performed a Sundanese piece which the composer Claude Debussy was inspired by when he heard it played at the 1898 Paris Exhibition.

Hundreds of students have participated in gamelan courses and productions over the years, the majority of these non-music concentrators. For most of these students, gamelan is their only musical experience in college, or even, in life. Playing in a collective that has a role for even the most tone-deaf and rhythmically challenged is a powerful experience for all students and one that we cannot afford to lose.

In recognition of this, in 2010, we established the Javanese Gamelan Endowment, building on a generous bequest from Rosannah Steinhoff, who with her husband Bill, was a loyal member of the gamelan ensemble. This endowment supports programs in the Javanese performing arts at the University of Michigan, including concerts, outreach programs to the local community, and upkeep of the instruments of the gamelan itself. Further, because of its size, devoting practice and storage space for the gamelan incurs costs to the university, and the endowment serves as a strong show of support for the ensemble. At a time when university budgets continue to shrink, threatening many campus programs in different ways, with the help of the CSEAS community we have been able to grow this important endowment, thereby safeguarding the Javanese performing arts at the University of Michigan.

Please consider a gift to the gamelan endowment, and be a part of safeguarding this tradition.

Richard Sussman's lifelong interest in Southeast Asia began in 1967. Originally from New Jersey, he went to the University of Wisconsin for his undergraduate degree and then served in the Peace Corps with his wife in Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia from 1967-1970. Upon returning to the States, he enrolled in CSEAS' MA program. Here, he studied under **Pete Gosling** and **Russ Fifield**, among others. While at the Center, he also pursued an education in planning at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

He enjoyed a long career with the National Park Service based in Atlanta, GA, where he retired in 2009 as the Chief of Planning and Compliance for the Southeast Regional Office. He and his wife, Dorothy, spend much of their time with their son (UM, 1996) and granddaughters, who live nearby, and their daughter and her family, who live in Houston, TX, and volunteering for many local organizations.

His fondest memories of CSEAS are the seminars he took with his professors (**Gosling, Fifield**, and Planning Professor **Allen Felt**), where he benefited from the demanding, small group sessions. "They were a lot of hard work," he remembers. "They challenged me and broadened my perspective." He also remembers the gamelan performances and all the work it took for "[Judith and Pete] Becker to keep those performances going." Watching the gamelan perform at U-M reminded him of times he had spent in Malaysia and Indonesia going to all-night wayang kulit performances.

Richard most recently returned to Southeast Asia in 2009, working on a collaborative project among the National Parks Service, the Cambodian government, and international partners to establish Preah Vihear as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In 1988 he also had the opportunity to work with the Thai government on a training program for its Park Service.

The Sussmans have supported the Center generously over the years, including a recently completed multi-year pledge of \$7,500 for Graduate Student Support. They support the Center because they remember how much the Center supported Richard when he was a graduate student. Donating today is a way to give thanks by giving back, helping to make sure that



students today get the support they need.

The Sussmans have also supported the Thai language endowment. Language learning is so important, Richard believes; "it makes all the difference both professionally and for personal relationships." This is, in fact, his most important piece of advice for students: "Learn the language well enough to do proper research on your own, but also to collaborate effectively with others."

With the kind of change he has seen over the past 40 years in Southeast Asia, his message to students is "If you think you might be interested in Southeast Asia, get there quick, because it won't be the same." Change is inevitable, but it would be a shame to miss things as they are today. It seems that CSEAS students are heeding his advice and jumping at the chance to cross the ocean.

### **Javanese Gamelan Endowment** (731164)

This endowment supports programs in the Javanese performing arts at the University of Michigan, including annual concerts and upkeep of the University of Michigan Gamelan Ensemble and residencies with prominent Javanese musicians, dancers and puppeteers.

### **Southeast Asian Language Endowments**

These language endowments are used to support the teaching of Southeast Asian languages at Michigan. Funds are used to support the hiring and retention of our outstanding language lecturers and for student scholarships.

Indonesian Language Endowment (731412)

Filipino Language Endowment (731413)

Thai Language Endowment (731411)

Miller-Tran Endowment for Vietnamese Language (731613)

### **Indonesian Studies Initiative** (312227)

Indonesian Studies has long been a particular strength at the University of Michigan. We support faculty and student research, teaching and public programs on Indonesia, and we plan to establish an endowment for Indonesian Studies in the near future.

### **Student Initiatives**

Undergraduate (309964) and Graduate (309966) Student Support

Michigan's superb undergraduates have few opportunities to "discover" Southeast Asia on their own. These funds provide incentives for undergraduates to avail themselves fully of our excellent faculty and language resources. We continue to attract the very best young graduate students interested in the region, and do our best to support their education.

### **The Annuay-Samonsri Viravan Endowment for Thai Studies** (572202)

allows us to fund all manners of engagement with Thai Studies. We have used income from the endowment to support student travel to Thailand, both graduate and undergraduate, and faculty and graduate student research in Thailand.

### **Philippine Studies Endowment** (731185)

This endowment supports the continued study of the Philippines and Filipino languages and cultures at the University of Michigan. Income from the endowment supports faculty and student research, teaching and curricular development about the Philippines at the University, and outreach to the local community.

Thank you to our donors. Without you our work would not be possible. **Bold** indicates first time donors; asterisks indicate faculty, emeriti, and staff.

William Anderson

**Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers**

**Paul Belmont**

Richard & Rie Atagi Bernhard

**Jan Berris**

Bonnie Brereton

Robbins Burling\*

Shawn Callanan

Brent & Valerie Carey

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## *SEA at the Capital*



*Students from Indonesia, Michigan, and Lehigh University on the last leg of their two-country, seven-city study tour, the United States-Indonesia Partnership Project funded in part by the Luce Foundation.*

## FALL 2013 LECTURE SERIES

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 6  | Ooi Keat Gin (Universiti Sains Malaysia) on Borneo in the 1940s                                 |
| September 20 | Brantly Womack (University of Virginia) on South China Sea debates                              |
| September 27 | Andrew Mertha (Cornell University) on Chinese involvement in Cambodian politics                 |
| October 10   | Duncan McCargo (University of Leeds) on Thai police investigators                               |
| October 11   | Islamic Studies Program Symposium on Islam and Elections in Southeast Asia                      |
| October 18   | John Knodel (University of Michigan) on Ageing in Myanmar                                       |
| October 24   | Thongchai Winichakul (University of Wisconsin) on Buddhist-Christian controversies              |
| November 15  | En-Chieh Chao (Academia Sinica) on Christian and Islamic movements in Java                      |
| November 22  | Alexander Cannon (Western Michigan University) on Vietnamese music                              |
| December 6   | Megan Thomas (University of California-Santa Cruz) on the British occupation of Manila, 1762-64 |