



The University of Michigan

Fall 2006

Center for Southeast Asian Studies

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Photo by Ryan Hoover

From CSEAS Director Professor Linda Lim



Welcome to the new school year! I have both good news and bad news to report.

First on the good news side is that the ranks of our tenure-track faculty continue to increase. After welcoming two new Philippine specialists, Christi-Anne Castro (Music) and Dean Yang (Economics/Ford School of Public Policy) two years ago, we are pleased that Frederick Wherry, who works on

Thailand, is joining the Department of Sociology.

Second, a record number of ten visiting faculty will enrich our teaching program this year (see p. 5). We particularly welcome Deirdre de la Cruz, Michigan Society of Fellows, who will be with us for three years, and Bernard Arps, distinguished Netherlands Visiting Professor.

Third, we are pleased to have received seven academic year and three summer FLAS graduate fellowship awards for 2006–10 from the U.S. Department of Education. Recipients of our 2006-07 awards are noted in Student News on pp. 9–11.

On the downside, we did not receive a National Resource Center grant, although our language enrollments, course offerings and faculty and student numbers compare very well with those of the funded Centers, even before this Fall's 15% increase in language enrollments. NRC reviewers also complimented us on our excellent faculty and strong graduate program. We are grateful to the International Institute and the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures for contributing to maintaining all our four languages for this academic year 2006–07, except for Advanced Filipino. On the staff side, we eliminated our Publications position, shared with CSAS (which also lost NRC funding) and are reducing Charley Sullivan's time spent on SEA programming and

outreach so he can help with South Asia program coordination, and run our new undergraduate course in the Winter.

A key initiative of our proposal was a new multidisciplinary course on SEA for undergraduates, which we will continue with support from President Coleman's Multi-Disciplinary Team Teaching Initiative. But we unfortunately have to temporarily suspend our summer undergraduate research abroad program, which has won many kudos and which we will feature in our Winter Newsletter "Focus on Undergraduate Education." But we hope to pick it up with help from a private donor next year. We can no longer contribute financially to language consortia, but our students will still be able to attend programs like SEASSI and COTIM (where this past summer U-M students accounted for one-third of those admitted).

Center programming will be reduced from last year's record 68 lectures, 20 community and 12 outreach events, 3 conferences and 3 major arts performances. But we are pleased to be able to present a Pan-Asian Ramayana series of performance events with support from various University sources, including the Arts on Earth, as well as host international visiting speakers with funding from LS&A's Citizenship At Risk theme year, both in Winter 2007.

The NRC funding setback makes it all the more necessary to raise a Center endowment that will provide funds for staff and program support. We also need to continue raising funds for graduate student fellowships. I hope that those of you able to help in this effort will do so. Thank you for your support and I look forward to your continued participation in our activities.

With best wishes,
Linda Lim, Director



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Program Developments

Ann Arbor Responds to Yogyakarta Earthquake

The June 2006 earthquake in Yogyakarta brought a quick response from Ann Arbor. U-M Indonesian instructor Margaretha (Menuk) Sudarsih, a native of neighboring Solo, was home at the time visiting her family. Like many Indonesians in unaffected areas, she moved quickly to begin to see what she could do to help, and how she could get word out to other people further away on how they could assist, first in the process of giving immediate aid, and then of rebuilding.

Hooking into a network of friends, particularly neighborhood activist Anggi Minarni, Menuk and her family began bringing necessary items to the affected areas. Initially, with roads clogged by both traffic and debris, trips from Solo to the epi-center in Bantul, normally an hour's drive, took many times that, and what they brought with them were prepared food, tarps, and cooking supplies, the essentials for keeping body and soul together.

In response to email reports Menuk sent to Ann Arbor, the Indonesian community and their friends, including many people connected to CSEAS, began sending monetary donations to Anggi and her colleagues to use in their work. After the initial cleanup, this expanded to include providing school books and uniforms, book bags, cooking utensils, children's toys and supplies for building temporary housing. In all, \$6,400 was raised in this effort, all of which went directly to help over 600 families, particularly poor people with few or no remaining resources.

The effects were significant for local families. A young man named Galih, for instance, lost all his textbooks in the ruin of his house. After receiving replacement textbooks, school supplies, a backpack, a wallet and shoes, Galih sent Menuk a text message on her phone to thank her, saying "It was the most memorable day of my life."



Photo by Ryan Hoover

New Interdisciplinary Course to Introduce SEA to Undergraduates

In Winter Term 2007, a new course, "Contemporary Social Issues in Southeast Asia," will introduce undergraduates to the region and to the faculty at Michigan who teach about it in various disciplines and schools. The interdisciplinary course will feature lectures by ten Michigan faculty from the Law, Business, Natural Resources, Public Health and Urban Planning schools, and from the LSA departments of Anthropology, Sociology and Political Science.

Beginning from a base in History and Geography, the course will then address issues from HIV/AIDS and avian influenza to labor standards, democracy and the law, and on to MTV, the growth of cities and the emergence of new youth cultures. By examining these issues, the course hopes to give students a broad context for understanding the region as it exists today, and to pique their interest in taking other courses about Southeast Asia.

Sponsored partly by President Coleman's Multidisciplinary Team Teaching Initiative, the course in fact aims to show undergraduates that they can study anything they're interested in through the lens of Southeast Asia, and to introduce them to faculty who can help.

One of the innovative aspects of the course is that undergraduates from universities in five Southeast Asian nations have signed up to be a "sounding board." They will offer their thoughts on the issues covered to their Michigan counterparts through email, bulletin boards and videoconferencing, allowing Southeast Asian voices to be an integral part of the experience. The students will be introduced to their Michigan counterparts through photographs on a "Day in the Life" of each of them taken during summer 2006 visits by course coordinator Charley Sullivan and photographer Ryan Hoover, many of which are gracing this newsletter.

Focus: Thai Studies at Michigan

Thai Ambassador Virasakdi Visits Michigan

The University was honored to be visited in July 2006 by Thai Ambassador to the United States, Virasakdi Futrakul, who met with some of our Thai Studies faculty and students and leaders of the Thai Students Association. Recently arrived in Washington DC, the ambassador made Ann Arbor one of his first visits to America's "heartland" because of the Thai government's strong desire to promote and support Thai Studies in the United States. In his words, "Michigan is clearly among the best in Thai Studies."

Thai Studies at Michigan was established by the late Prof. William Gedney, in 1960. Bill had spent an extended period in Thailand as a scholar of Thai languages and literature. He assembled a unique collection of Thai publications, which became the core of the extensive Thai materials in the Hatcher Graduate Library. Through Bill's accomplished PhD students, Thai Studies spread to many other U.S. universities, helping establish the field.

The language and linguistics program Bill established provided the foundation for Thai Studies in other disciplines, which to date has produced about 60 PhDs and 70 MA graduates specialized on Thailand, in a dozen departments. For example, in Art History, Hiram Woodward trained a number of impressive doctoral students, while Pete Gosling in Geography, and John Knodel and Gayl Ness in Sociology and Population, each conducted extensive field research in Thailand and supervised many PhDs. With the arrival on campus in recent years of outstanding junior faculty who conduct field research in Thai language, an excellent Thai language program, and a multi-faceted collaboration with Khon Kaen University, Thai Studies at Michigan remains vibrant and strong.



Left to right: Mya Gosling, Brendan Kavaney, Ambassador Virasakdi, Charley Sullivan and Gavin Shatkin.

Our Director Linda Lim and Program Coordinator Charley Sullivan returned the visit to the Thai Embassy in September, and we look forward to many future collaborations to help promote and develop Thai Studies at the University of Michigan and in the United States.

Faculty Panel Discusses Coup in Thailand

On September 22, the Center convened a special briefing on the September 19 military coup in Thailand which was attended by over 80 faculty, staff, students and community members.

Prof. Allen Hicken (Political Science) gave a timeline of the coup, noting that polls in Bangkok and the countryside showed over 80% of the population approved of it, following its endorsement by the King. Reasons for the coup included: Prime Minister Thaksin's centralization of power which opponents thought undermined democracy and covered up corruption; the tax-free sale of his telecommunications company to Singapore, which undermined his nationalist credentials; his mismanagement of tensions in the Muslim South; his policy disagreements with the King and his Privy Council, and attempts to empower his own supporters within the military and bureaucracy.

Prof. Linda Lim (Business) noted that Thailand's stable macroeconomic fundamentals make an economic downturn unlikely. The coup might even enhance economic growth if it: reduces the political uncertainty that has discouraged investment in the year-to-date; enables the government to make budget expenditures previously on hold due

to political stalemate; increases export competitiveness and foreign portfolio investment due to a weakening of the baht. On the downside, privatization and bilateral free trade agreements favored by Thaksin have probably suffered a setback.

Prof. Gavin Shatkin (Urban Planning) noted that Thaksin's concentration of political power had made it easier to implement public policies such as infrastructure projects which might transform Bangkok and, ironically, benefit the urban middle-class opposed to him. Thaksin had proposed spending \$37 billion between 2005 and 2009 on urban mega-projects such as mass rapid transit, a high-speed rail system, and new roads.

MBA/MA student Brendan Kavaney noted that there had been rumors of suspicious movements of money after the sale of Thaksin's company, which fuelled charges of corruption.

In the ensuing discussion, some audience members voiced their dismay at the anti-democratic action taken by the military against a popularly-elected and apparently economically successful leader. But a Thai student argued that "we cannot have good government under a corrupt leader" and that "most people support the coup," with which other Thai students present agreed.

Prof. Ashutosh Varshney (Political Science) noted that Thaksin may have been a visionary and popular leader but his confrontational politics led to elite opposition and de-legitimization of the very democratic institutions that might otherwise have protected him. Prof. Hicken espoused optimism that some of the investment and anti-poverty policies introduced by Thaksin will likely be continued in some form under future governments and expressed hope that a new constitution would strengthen the institutions Thaksin was accused of undermining.



Allen Hicken, Linda Lim, Gavin Shatkin and Brendan Kavaney.

Focus: Thai Studies at Michigan

Faculty Spotlight: Allen Hicken

For many students, Allen Hicken is the face of Thai Studies at the University of Michigan. Now in his fifth year at U-M, Allen teaches a popular undergraduate course on Southeast Asian Politics, works with undergraduate students on Thailand-based projects, and advises masters and doctoral students with interests in Southeast Asia. He can also often be found chatting with Thai students – in Thai – following his public lectures.

Allen's research is on electoral politics in Southeast Asia, mostly comparing Thailand and the Philippines, an approach he thinks brings interesting lenses to help refine, and sometimes challenge, existing political theory on democracy, electoral parties and political participation. His book manuscript, "Building Party Systems," is under review with publishers.

Allen was drawn to the study of Southeast Asia first through working with Cambodian refugees in San Diego during his mission work for the Mormon church following high school. He learned Khmer at that time, and remembers that "aha" moment of standing in someone's doorway where he began a conversation in Khmer, understood the gist of what was said back to him and was able to reply in turn. Suddenly, this was a real language used by real people.

Returning to Utah to college, Allen continued to study Southeast Asia, including Thai language, and to work on refugee issues. He followed that with a Masters program at Columbia. Fieldwork in Cambodia, particularly helping explain the new Cambodian constitution to soldiers involved in the "re-education" of Khmer Rouge defectors, animated his study of the region.

Convinced that there were broader questions he wanted to explore, Allen shifted his focus to comparing Thailand and the Philippines. After finishing his doctoral work at the University of California-San Diego in 2002, Allen, his wife and their increasing brood (now six!) moved to Ann Arbor, where he began teaching and continuing his

research, including a year in Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines in 2004-2005.

Living with six children in Southeast Asia for a year certainly helped open new vistas. "Logistically, it was a nightmare," says Allen. "Six kids with only one carry-on each, limited to three pounds so they could carry the bags themselves, because I'd end up carrying the kids." But it also created strong connections with local residents, including interesting discussions with cab drivers who would count children getting into their taxis with awe, and, especially in Singapore, note approvingly that at least one was a son.

Allen's work with students includes eight undergraduates from UROP (the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program) in the past two years, who have helped him gather and analyze data on the "changing face of 'pork' in national budgets" in relation to election cycles. These students now have an in depth understanding of part of the political process in Thailand and the Philippines.

Allen very much likes teaching at the University of Michigan. "There are great students here," he says, referring to both undergraduates and graduates. "They ask great questions, they get involved in the region, and they do outstanding written work." Each year, the number of undergraduates who take his large Southeast Asian Politics class because of prior interest in the region is small, but by the end of the course, they are clearly hooked, often continuing to email him news about items he has covered in the course.

For Allen's own research and growth as a scholar, the University offers resources with both breadth and depth. "There are lots of audiences I can talk to," he says, "whether on the technical side of political science theory, or on the specifics of Thai politics. I can feed all sides of my psyche here, and I really doubt there's another place in the United States I could do this as well as at Michigan."

Michigan's Thai Studies Faculty

In addition to **Allen Hicken**, we are pleased to have a healthy cohort of faculty specialists on modern Thai studies, including a number of young tenure-track professors.

Jim Diana, Professor and Associate Dean of the School of Natural Resources and Environment, specializes in water resource management and has spent many years researching commercial aquaculture in Thailand. jimd@umich.edu

Peter Gosling, Professor Emeritus of Geography and Anthropology, continues to supervise graduate students working on rural economic development in Thailand. pgosling@umich.edu.

John Knodel, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, is a social demographer who has been conducting research in Thailand since 1971, currently in collaboration with Chulalongkorn University. jknodel@umich.edu.

Montatip Krishnamra, Lecturer in Thai, specializes in Thai language, literature and linguistics. montatip@umich.edu.

Linda Lim, Professor of Strategy, studies economic development and business in Southeast Asia. Her current research relevant to Thailand is on the adjustment of garments exporters to global market competition from China. lylim@umich.edu.

Gayl Ness, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, has been working with Khon Kaen University, the City of Kobe, and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities to strengthen urban planning in Asia. gaylness@umich.edu.

Gavin Shatkin, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, studies the social, spatial and political changes that accompany the globalization of Southeast Asian cities, and the implications for low-income people. shatkin@umich.edu.

Frederick Wherry, Assistant Professor of Sociology, studies culture, consumption, global markets and local production processes, focusing his fieldwork to date on handicrafts production in rural Thailand. ffwherry@umich.edu.

Faculty News

Judith Becker (School of Music) gave recent presentations on music and trance at the Stanford Symposium on Brainwave Entrainment, and at the University of California-Berkeley. beckerj@umich.edu.

Christi-Anne Castro (School of Music) participated in the Thirtieth Anniversary Music and Dance Performance of the Iskwelahang Pilipino (Filipino School) of Boston in June, playing the banduria, a fourteen-stringed instrument that was brought to the Philippines during the Spanish colonial years. ccastro@umich.edu.

Allen Hicken (Political Science) published: "Party fabrication: Constitutional reform and the rise of Thai Rak Thai", in *Journal of East Asian Studies* 6 (2006); "Political institutions and economic performance: the effects of accountability and dispersal of power" in *American Journal of Political Science* (2005) (with Shanker Satyanath and Ernest Sergenti); and "Thailand: Combating corruption through electoral reform" in *Electoral Design: the New International IDEA Handbook*, IDEA (Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance), 2005. Allen also presented papers recently at the annual meetings of the Midwest Political Science Association, the International Studies Association and the American Political Science Association, at Australia National University, United Nations University and IDEA in the Hague, and the University of California-Berkeley. He has just received a National Science Foundation grant to study (with Ken Kollman) "The consequences of party system inflation." ahicken@umich.edu.

Webb Keane (Anthropology) was promoted to Full Professor in 2006. His book, *Christian Moderns: Freedom and Fetish in the Mission Encounter*, is forthcoming from University of California Press this fall. During his Guggenheim Fellowship year (2005–06), Webb started a new project on journalism, religion, and the concept of freedom in Indonesia. wkeane@umich.edu.

Stuart Kirsch (Anthropology) visited Papua New Guinea for research on "Melanesian sociality as a green critique of capital?" and presented a paper on this topic at the University of Melbourne. He brought copies of his book *Reverse Anthropology: Indigenous Analysis of Social and Environmental Relations* (Stanford University Press, 2006) to the people he works with in PNG. In October Stuart presents a paper at a workshop in Oxford University on conflict, violence and displacement in Indonesia, sponsored by the Refugee Studies Center. skirsch@umich.edu.

John Knodel (Sociology Emeritus) has published: "Rural Parents with Urban Children: Social and Economic Implications of Migration on the Rural Elderly in Thailand" in *Population, Space and Place* (forthcoming, 2006) and "Older Aged Parents: The Final Safety Net for Adults Sons and Daughters with AIDS in Thailand" in *Journal of Family Issues* (2005) (both with Chanpen Saengtianchai), following several other publications on aging and HIV/AIDS in Thailand. jknodel@umich.edu.

Montatip Krishnamra (Asian Languages and Cultures) visited the Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE) Study Abroad Program at Khon Kaen University (KKU), Thailand, to review their program and Thai language instruction for the U-M Office of International Programs, which sends U-M undergraduates to KKU each year, and sponsored the trip. montatip@umich.edu.

Linda Lim (Ross School of Business) gave talks in Singapore this summer at the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, the Institute for Policy Studies, and the Institute for Defence and Strategic Studies at Nanyang Technological University, while continuing her research on the transformation of Singapore's developmental state. lylim@umich.edu.

Sharon Maccini (Ford School of Public Policy) is Visiting Assistant Professor and Visiting Research Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, for academic year 2006–07. smaccini@umich.edu.

Rudolf Mrázek (History) published "Literature of Revolution: Writing Robust in a Postcolonial Metropolis" in *Social Text* (Spring 2006), and launched the Indonesian edition of his book *Engineers of Happy Land: Nationalism and Technology in a Colony* at the Jakarta Book Fair in July. He also visited Bangkok for research and consultations, and delivered two lectures to students, and to members of the Institute of Oriental Studies, at Tokyo University. Rudolf spent May in London and Vienna looking for sources for his next project, "Exoticism in a Small Place: Central Europe and Asia, Avant-garde and Mainstream." rdlf@umich.edu.

Paz Naylor (Linguistics/Asian Languages and Cultures, retired) published "On The Stative Predicate: Tagalog Existentials Revisited," in Liao and Rubino, eds., *Current Issues in Philippine Linguistics and Anthropology: Parangal Kay*. Her book Tagalog is forthcoming from the London (University) Oriental and African Language Library.

Gavin Shatkin (Taubman School of Architecture and Urban Planning) has published "Colonial Capital, Modernist Capital, Global Capital: The Changing Political Symbolism of Urban Space in Manila, the Philippines," in *Pacific Affairs* (Winter 2005–06); "Fourth World' Cities in the Global Economy: The Case of Phnom Penh, Cambodia," in R. Keil and N. Brenner, eds., *The Global Cities Reader* (London: Routledge, 2006); and "The City and the Bottom Line: Urban Megaprojects and the Privatization of Planning in Southeast Asia," in *Environment and Planning* (forthcoming). He visited Bangkok for his NSF-funded research project, "Growth and Inequality in Global City-Regions: A Comparison of Bangkok and Metro Manila." shatkin@umich.edu.

Walter Spink (Art History Emeritus) continues to hold Site Seminars at Ajanta, India, and to have his work and views of the site published in a six-volume collection by Brill, (in electronic form at www.vanamala.de), and represented in two films by Laurence Castle Productions of Pune, India. Walter lectured in October 2006 at the Los Angeles County Museum, and will be honored by a panel at the 2007 College Art Association Conference in New York. wspink@umich.edu.

John Whitmore (History) hosted a meeting in June in Ann Arbor of the editorial board for a new Columbia University Press work, *Sources of Vietnamese Traditions*, part of an existing series that has already published volumes on sources of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Indian traditions. The editorial board hopes that the completed volumes will serve as a basic resource for teaching about Vietnamese history and society in the classroom johnkw@umich.edu.



Montatip Krishnamra and Frederick Wherry

Faculty News

Ashutosh Varshney (Political Science) has written a chapter on “Civil Society, Islam, and Ethnocommunal Conflict” for a volume edited by Alfred Stepan, currently under review at the Johns Hopkins University Press. He organized and chaired a panel on group violence in Indonesia for the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association in September 2006, at which he presented a co-authored paper on “Patterns of Collective Violence in Indonesia (1990–2003).” Ashu also visited Malaysia and Indonesia in May-June 2006 for work on his multi-country project on ethnic conflict, which includes six cities in Indonesia and three in Malaysia. varshney@umich.edu.

Deling Weller undertook an oral history project among the Sakadas at Maui, which involves the personal history of Filipinos who went to Hawaii before July 4, 1946, the date Philippine Independence was restored by the United States. alagawel@umich.edu.

Frederick Wherry (Sociology) has published “The Social Sources of Authenticity in Global Handicraft Markets: Evidence from Northern Thailand” in *Journal of Consumer Culture*; and “The Play of Authenticity in Thai Handicraft Markets,” Chapter 1 in *The Lived Experiences of Public Consumption* (Palgrave-MacMillan, forthcoming). He presented recent papers on various aspects of the Thai cultural industry at the APEC Meetings on Local Cultural Industries (Taipei); the Social Transformations and Sociology of Development conference (Durban, South Africa); the World Congress of Sociology; and the American Sociological Association conference. ffwherry@umich.edu.

Dean Yang (Ford School of Public Policy) is Visiting Assistant Professor and Visiting Research Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, for academic year 2006–07. While there his email is dcyang@princeton.edu.

Visiting Faculty News

Bernard Arps is this year’s Netherlands Visiting Professorship at the Center for European Studies. Ben is professor of Javanese linguistics and literature at the University of Leiden, specializing in Javanese and Indonesian anthropological and linguistic discourse and religious life. He is teaching two courses in Asian Languages and Cultures and is a welcome addition to our gamelan ensemble. barps@umich.edu.

Pornrat Damrhung, Associate Professor of Dramatic Arts from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, will be teaching a performance course on “Lives of Seeda” from the Thai Ramakien, in Winter 2007. Pornrat specializes in the revival and reinvention of Southeast Asia’s traditional performing arts, and youth theater. Her visit is sponsored by the Center for World Performance Studies, Women’s Studies, the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, the Institute for the Humanities, and the School of Music, Theater and Dance. dpornrat@hotmail.com

Deirdre de la Cruz joins the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures as a Michigan Society of Fellows Postdoctoral Scholar. Deirdre received her PhD in cultural anthropology from Columbia University in 2006, with a dissertation entitled “All His Instruments: Mary, Miracles, and the Media in the Catholic Philippines.” Her research interests include: history and anthropology, U.S. cultural imperialism, the Japanese occupation of the Philippines, language and translation, and the “power” of prayer.



Jennifer Gaynor, U-M PhD Anthropology and History 2005, continues in her second year with us as Visiting Assistant Professor of History, on a Public Goods Council postdoctoral fellowship. Jenny is teaching two seminars, on Indonesia and the Philippines, and will become Assistant Professor of History at the State University of New York at Buffalo in Fall 2007. jgaynor@umich.edu.

Paul Kramer is Visiting Assistant Professor in History and American Culture, after teaching for CSEAS, Asian Languages and Cultures, and American Culture in Winter 2006. His book *The Blood of Government: Race, Empire, the United States and the Philippines* was published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2006. pakramer@umich.edu.

Yulisa Mastati and **Sigit Adji Sabdoprijono** returned this year as Artists in Residence. Together Sigit and Yulisa teach courses on Javanese *wayang*, gamelan, puppetry and dance. Their appointment at U-M is supported by ALC, LS&A, and the School of Music, Theater, and Dance. They are joined in Ann Arbor this year by their daughters Tata, (7 years) and Aya, (18 months). mastati@umich.edu, and soegitos@umich.edu.

Pat Pranke, U-M PhD Buddhist Studies, 2004, returns as Visiting Lecturer in Asian Languages and Cultures, teaching two courses on South and Southeast Asian Buddhism. Pat spent the past two years as Freeman Fellow of Asian Religions and Visiting Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Department of Religion at Hofstra University, New York. ppranke@umich.edu.

Eric Stein is a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Historical Studies (IHS) this academic year. Eric completed his U-M PhD degree in Anthropology and History in December 2005 with a dissertation entitled “Vital Times: Power, Public Health, and Memory in Rural Java.” He is beginning work on a new project that examines the history of typhoid fever from the late Dutch colonial period to the present in Indonesia, while teaching two History courses. eastein@umich.edu.

Theresia (Rorik) Wahyudhanti is Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant in Javanese in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. Rorik earned her Bachelor’s in language acquisition at Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, and her Masters in Education at Boston University, and is auditing courses in educational psychology at U-M’s School of Education. She will contribute her Javanese classical and traditional dancing skills to our gamelan, wayang and dance performance in Winter 2007. thronik@umich.edu.

Photo by Ryan Hoover

Support Southeast Asian Studies

The University of Michigan Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), established in 1960, is a recognized world leader in the scholarly study of Southeast Asia (Brunei, Burma/Myanmar, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and

Vietnam). U-M faculty involvement in the region since the 1870s spurred development of leading University library and museum collections, and a parade of distinguished faculty such as Bill Gedney, Pete Becker and Russ Fifield trained generations of leading scholars on the area. Today U-M continues a tradition of distinguished faculty associates throughout the University, in the humanities, social sciences, and professional schools, and offers introductory to advanced language instruction in four major regional languages. **Building on these established strengths, extending them to new areas, and expanding both faculty and student ranks on what is still a relatively under-studied though dynamic part of the world, requires constant investment.** We invite you to help us in this mission by participating in the targeted opportunities described below.



Named Center Directorship

Income from an endowed Center directorship will help assure the future of Southeast Asian Studies at the University, enabling us to maintain our national and international leadership in producing high-quality research, training academic and professional specialists, and contributing to much-needed public education on the region.

Goal: Named Center Directorship: \$2 million

Center Discretionary Fund

Unrestricted gifts to this fund permit the Center to respond to new needs and opportunities as they arise, allowing a flexibility in offerings and initiatives that keeps Center programming current.

Goal: \$15,000 / year

Advanced Language Fund

Offering advanced language courses with small enrollments, typically for graduate students preparing for field research, is a challenge. This fund will support the teaching of advanced levels of our four languages: Filipino, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese, and support offering other Southeast Asian languages such as Burmese, Javanese, Khmer and Ilokano upon request.

Goal: \$20,000 / year.

You may name the fund with a multi-year commitment.

Javanese Performing Arts Fund

The performing arts of Central Java have long served as one of the campus' primary connections to Southeast Asia and act as an excellent entry point for exposing the Ann Arbor community to the region. Year-long visits by premier Javanese artists and teachers are key to the success of these efforts.

- Javanese Performing Artist-in-Residence Fund allows us to appoint an artist or artist-couple to a two-year residency.

Goal: \$75,000/year for a couple, \$50,000/year for a single artist, as a Named Visiting Professorship.

Endowed Named Visiting Artist: \$1.5 million.

- Concert Principal Sponsorship assures professional support in concert production and in marketing, publicity and outreach, including funding for pre-concert programs in local schools.

Goal: \$5,000-7,500 annual donation, or a \$12,000 corporate partnership to underwrite a two-year artist residency.



Graduate Student Support

Our graduates over the past 50 years have taught and founded programs of study in major universities across the United States and around the world. We continue to attract the very best young students interested in the region, and finding ways to adequately support their education is more critical now than ever before. We seek to fund:

- Named Scholarships for CSEAS MA and departmental PhD students allow us to offer reliable support for students in a broad range of country and disciplinary fields, and to attract the very best students to Michigan.

Goal: up to five \$20,000 named scholarships per year.

Endowed Named Scholarships: \$400,000 each

- An endowed fund for graduate student research supports field study and internships in Southeast Asia and participation in professional conferences.

Goal: \$10,000 / year; or \$30,000 for a multi-year named pledge.

Endowed Named Fund: \$200,000



Undergraduate Initiatives

Michigan's superb undergraduates have few opportunities to "discover" Southeast Asia on their own. These funds provide them incentives to avail themselves fully of our excellent faculty and library and language resources, setting undergraduates on course for a life-long interest in the region. We seek to fund:

- Undergraduate Field Fellowships in Southeast Asia, building on our successful summer 2005 and 2006 programs, will allow competitively-selected students to propose and carry out their own diverse field projects in Southeast Asia.

Goal: \$20,000 / year, or \$60,000 for a 3-year named Undergraduate Fellowship Fund.

Endowed Named Undergraduate Fellowship Fund: \$400,000.

- Undergraduate Language Scholarships encourage undergraduates to choose one of our four language offerings from the nearly 70 languages taught at Michigan, provide incentives to continue beyond a second year, and support summer language study.

Goal: Twelve \$1000 scholarships annually, three for each language, or \$4000 each for named four-year scholarships.

Endowed Named Scholarships: \$20,000 each.

Undergraduate Programs

Images and Histories from Post-Khmer Rouge Cambodia



Seng Sary

Photo by Emma Nolan-Abrahamian

Our Winter newsletter will highlight undergraduate programs on Southeast Asia at the University. In advance of that, we bring you a brief report on just one of our efforts.

Two of CSEAS' undergraduate summer fellows, **Lara Finkbeiner** and **Emma Nolan-Abrahamian**, spent two months in Cambodia as interns with the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DCC), working on developing ways to educate their peers, undergraduates at American colleges and universities, about the Khmer Rouge genocide. Before leaving for Cambodia, they studied Khmer with a tutor supported by CSEAS, while the DCC provided them translators to carry out interviews with both former Khmer Rouge and Khmer Rouge survivors.

Their resultant exhibition of text and photographs is truly superb, and hung in the U-M International Institute Gallery in September and October, 2006. It has been designed to be available to travel to other institutions, and to date, there is interest in bookings from at least four other universities.

Lara and Emma have also put together a short film of archival photos and text on the Khmer Rouge years that is an excellent resource for undergraduate or even secondary school classes doing a unit on the genocide. It includes an English-language interview with a Khmer Rouge survivor, and is a very effective piece.

The personal statement from the exhibition reads:

“Year Zero to 2006: Images and Histories from Post-Khmer Rouge Cambodia” represents the culmination of a year-long project that

has taken us from Michigan to Cambodia and back again. Our exhibit is, in its most basic form, a study of the effects of the Cambodian genocide on society, as well as a look at the way the country has been able to heal and rebuild itself in the past thirty years. Our project is not only about educating ourselves, but about educating our peers, many of whom have little to no knowledge about the Khmer Rouge. In order to achieve this goal, we are using both words and photographs in this exhibit to document the aftermath of the Khmer Rouge regime.

During our two-month stay in Cambodia, we traveled across the country with the support of the Documentation Center of Cambodia, interviewing survivors and capturing photographs and information on this complex and beautiful country. The effects of the genocide are still visible in many aspects of society, including the lack of health care and schools, the numerous mines still littered across the fields of rural Cambodia, and the millions of people still grieving the loss of their loved ones.

However, it became increasingly clear to us during our trip that Cambodia is much more than its history: it is also a diverse, vibrant, and resilient country that has come a long way in its healing process. With investigations for the upcoming Khmer Rouge Tribunal already underway, Cambodia will finally have its much deserved chance at attaining justice.

If you are interested in bringing the exhibition to a university or college, please contact Charley Sullivan at rowcoach@umich.edu.

Student News

Recent Graduates

Aaron Stern, PhD Political Science 2006, who is working at the Government Accountability Office in Washington DC, gave a presentation on Thai politics at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore in May. He co-authored a book chapter with Chaiwat Khamchoo on "Thailand: Democracy and the Power of a Popular Leader," in *Human Beliefs and Values in Striding Asia* (Japan: Akashi Shoten, 2006). sterna@umich.edu.

Angkana Chairatananon completed her PhD in Urban and Regional Planning with a dissertation titled: "Local Street Design and Transit Accessibility: Access to Mainline Public Transportation in Bangkok Neighborhoods."

Nick Jorgensen, PhD Political Science 2005, is now Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. nickjorg@gmail.com.

Shad Kidd, MA in SEAS 2006, passed the bar and has been commissioned as a First Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps of the US Air Force. His first assignment is in Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he lives with his wife, Heather and their children. shad@umich.edu.

Ronit Ricci completed her PhD in Comparative Literature in August 2006, with a dissertation entitled "Translating Conversion in South and Southeast Asia: The Islamic 'Book of One Thousand Questions' in Javanese, Tamil and Malay." ricci@umich.edu.

Marina Welker completed her PhD in Anthropology in 2006 with a dissertation entitled "Global Capitalism and the 'Caring Corporation'; Mining and the Corporate Social Responsibility Movement in Indonesia and Denver" with Webb Keane as her chair. She is now Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Cornell University. maw82@cornell.edu.

Esther Whang graduated with her Masters in Social Work in April 2006. She is currently in Phnom Penh, Cambodia working with two Christian NGOs focusing on the aftercare of girls who have been trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.

New Graduate Students

Antonette Adiova is a first-year doctoral student in Musicology. A native of San Diego, California, she recently graduated from the University of California-San Deigo with a BA in Music Humanities and a BSc in Animal Physiology and Neuroscience. Her research interests include Filipino/ Filipino-American music and Asian-American music-making. radiova@umich.edu.

Jessica Craft is an incoming MA in SEAS student from California who obtained her BA in history from the University of California-Berkeley. Jessica is interested in how modern history has shaped intra- and inter-ethnic relations in multicultural Malaysia, with a focus on the South Asian community. She has visited Malaysia three times and is now studying beginning Indonesian. craftj@umich.edu.

Bretton Dimick is a first-year doctoral student in Musicology. He received his B.A. from New York University's Gallatin School of Individualized Study, where he designed

player. His research interests include music in Southeast Asia, particularly Vietnam; music and language; and power relations, culture and music in nationalist identities. bfdimick@umich.edu.

Jumin Kim is a first-year doctoral student in the joint Social Work/Sociology PhD program with a special interest in Thailand, where she grew up and is fluent in the language. She is interested in learning more about community development and community organizing, especially among low-income populations in Bangkok and other urban areas. jumin@umich.edu.

Kevin Ko is an incoming MA in SEAS student who grew up in northern New Jersey and majored in history at Wheaton College in Illinois. He will study Southeast Asian history with a focus on the significance of wilderness and wildlife in Indonesian cultural and intellectual history. Kevin began his study of Indonesian language this past summer at the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and has an academic year FLAS at U-M where he is in second-year Indonesian. kevinko@umich.edu.

Timothy Leahy is an incoming MA in SEAS student who grew up in Chicago and northern Michigan. Tim obtained his BA degree in sociology from Hobart and William Smith College, where he did independent research exploring Vietnam's development since 1990 through the eyes of foreign writers' experiences. Tim taught English for a year at a private school in Ho Chi Minh City, where he also volunteered at a private orphanage. He is studying beginning Vietnamese and is interested in the social and economic issues facing rapidly-developing Vietnam. timleahy@umich.edu.

Ricardo Punzalan is a first-year doctoral student in the School of Information. He is also an Assistant Professor of Archival Studies at the University of the Philippines Institute of Library and Information Science, where he obtained his Masters degree,

concentrating in archival and museum studies. His research explores the role of hospital records in the compulsory isolation and segregation of leprosy patients in Culion Island, a former "leper" colony in the Philippines. ricpunz@umich.edu.

Photo by Ryan Hoover



a major in ethnomusicology. Bretton spent the next two years working as an editor and contributor at Vietnam's only English daily newspaper, and also found time to study with a Vietnamese luthier, a violinist, and a *dan bau*



Bria Morgan is an incoming Masters student in the School of Natural Resources and Environment, where she has a National Science Foundation fellowship and will focus on participatory environmental planning in developing countries, particularly in marginalized communities. Bria speaks Indonesian fluently, having lived in West Kalimantan for nearly seven years during her school years while her anthropologist mother was doing her research. Bria obtained her BA in Political Science and Southeast Asian Studies from Cornell University, after which she did tsunami relief work with Save the Children in Banda Aceh, and then did research in participatory forest management for the Center for International Forestry Research, mostly in small Indonesian villages. karawing@umich.edu.

Jeremy Saul is a first-year doctoral student in Asian Languages and Cultures focusing on Indonesia. Jeremy is interested in the intersection of oral and written literature, and hopes to examine the literature of *badrah*, Islamic oral performance from Madura that narrates a spiritual journey reaching back to the arrival of Islam in the archipelago. He lived in Indonesia and Thailand for seven years, developing fluency in both national languages. Jeremy is also interested in



comparisons between and among South and Southeast Asian languages and literatures, particularly in what Asian literatures have to say about Asian cultures other than their own. Jeremy has an MA in Art History from UC-Berkeley and a BA from Columbia University. rjsaul@umich.edu.

Continuing Graduate Students

Saul Allen is completing his MA in SEAS and has entered the PhD program in Asian Languages and Cultures, where he will work on modern Indonesian literature, and continue studying advanced Indonesian with his FLAS award. This past summer, besides getting married and traveling to Singapore and Burma, Saul continued to develop online Indonesian grammar exercises for U-M's Language Resource Center. saulwall@umich.edu.

Shawn Callanan is completing his MA in SEAS thesis while working as a research assistant for the Center and playing in the gamelan. He plans to apply for PhD programs in Indonesian literature. scallana@umich.edu.

Alex Cannon, PhD student in Musicology, received a FLAS award for second-year Vietnamese at SEASSI at U-W Madison. He presented a paper at the SEASSI Student Conference, entitled "Memory and Modernity: Applications of the Past and Present in the Music of Lam Truong", and participated in SEASSI's Poetry Night by accompanying a performance of a Vietnamese *dân ca* on the flute. Alex spent the rest of the summer doing research at the National Library in Singapore, and also traveled to Vietnam. amcannon@umich.edu.

Marco Garrido is a third year doctoral student in Sociology. His research is on the Left in the Philippines. Marco spent the summer delighting in his newborn daughter, Isabella, and distractedly preparing for his

preliminary exams (which, thankfully, he passed!). garrido@umich.edu.

Mya Gosling, MA in SEAS graduate 2005, had a summer internship at the Asian Civilizations Museum in Singapore. She is now enrolled in U-M's one-year Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies program, while studying advanced Thai and beginning Indonesian language, and playing in the gamelan. mogsling@umich.edu.

Brendan Kavaney, MBA/MA in SEAS student, spent the summer with U-M's Ross School of Business' Marcel Gani internship program for students interested in entrepreneurial studies, working with a Detroit-based software company. He spent August in Bangkok and Singapore meeting with Michigan alumni to discuss future career opportunities. Brendan, who is fluent in Thai, received a FLAS award for introductory Indonesian this year. bkavaney@umich.edu.

Amy Kimura, PhD student in Musicology, received a summer FLAS award for beginning Indonesian at SEASSI in UW-Madison, and is now Graduate Student Instructor for the Javanese gamelan. She is also continuing her Indonesian language study in the second-year class. akimura@umich.edu.



Cynthia Marasigan is on a Fulbright Scholarship in the Philippines conducting field research for her History PhD dissertation, "Ambivalent Belligerents: African American soldiers, Filipino Revolutionaries, and the Philippine-American War" through archival research, local histories, and interviews. She is returning to Ann Arbor in November to begin writing. cmarasig@umich.edu

Justin May, PhD candidate in Economics, received a FLAS for advanced Thai language this year. Justin is studying the effects on household finance of the Asian currency crisis and whether Thai households had any way of hedging against currency losses or converting baht to hard currency in advance of the crisis. jbmay@umich.edu.

Student News

Adam Mele, MA in SEAS student, participated this past summer in the COTIM Indonesian language immersion program in Manado, Sulawesi Utara. He traveled in the area and also spent a week each on Java and on Flores. Adam is continuing his studies in advanced Indonesian and focusing on religious anthropology, social identity and pop culture in Nusa Tenggara Timur. adrome@umich.edu.

Jack Merchant, MA in SEAS student, studied Vietnamese language and literature at the Institute of Linguistics in Hanoi in the summer, and is continuing with advanced Vietnamese this academic year, for which he has a FLAS award. Jack continues his work on pre-modern Vietnamese history and plans to apply for a PhD in History. merchand@umich.edu.

Carrie Morris, Masters in Fine Arts student, spent several years as a director of experimental theater and video in New York before coming to U-M where she has been working with puppetry and performing objects. In summer 2006 she studied first-year Indonesian on a FLAS at SEASSI, then went to Indonesia on a grant from U-M's Center for World Performance Studies. She interviewed traditional and contemporary *wayang kulit dalangs* in Solo, Yogyakarta, and Purwokerto, and continued her research on *wayang sandosa*, or multimedia shadow puppetry, a contemporary iteration of *wayang kulit*. Carrie is a GSI in the School of Art and Design, and is continuing her Indonesian language studies. emorr@umich.edu.

Joel Selway, PhD Candidate in Political Science, is in Thailand on a Fulbright-Hayes award, conducting his doctoral field research on ethnicity, poverty and public policy. Joel won the Center's Moscotti Best Paper competition for 2006. jselway@umich.edu.

Andrew Shepard, JD student, spent the summer interning in a law firm in Tokyo and traveling in the Philippines. Andrew is now GSI in the Screen Arts and Cultures Department, and Associate Editor for the Michigan Journal of International Law. sheparda@umich.edu.

Kate (Kathryn) Skillman, MA in SEAS student, used her summer FLAS to study Javanese in Solo, Central Java, with professors from Universitas Negeri Surakarta. Kate also has an academic year FLAS and is continuing her studies in advanced Indonesian and intermediate Javanese. She plans to apply for PhD programs that will enable her to study the way language is used, especially in terms of discourses on religiosity within the Indonesian state. kmskill@umich.edu.

Witchuda Srang-iam is a PhD student in the School of Natural Resources and Environment, with a special interest in environmental policy. She plans to do her dissertation research on the role of both material and cultural aspects of knowledge in Thai agrobiodiversity policies. witchuda@umich.edu

Jennifer Tatomir completed her MA in SEAS and is now pursuing an M. Sc. in the U-M School of Information while continuing her study of advanced Thai language. tatomirj@umich.edu.

Sup (Supaporn) Thanasombat, MPP student in the Ford School of Public Policy, is studying advanced Thai with a FLAS this year. Last year Sup co-chaired the Southeast Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, and last summer she was an Emerging Scholar at the Urban Institute, a social policy research center in Washington, DC, where she co-authored a policy brief on the U.S. international nonprofit sector. sthanaso@umich.edu.

Gabriel Thoumi, MBA student, interned last summer with the Malaysian Nature Society (Pencinta Alam Malaysia) in Kuala Lumpur, creating a debt-for-nature Islamic bond concept memo. He also interned with American Express in New York as a portfolio strategist in their Risk, Information, and Banking group, and spent three weeks in August studying Mandarin in Beijing. thoumi@umich.edu.



Gabriel Thoumi with Dato Seri Dr. Salleh Mohd Nor, President of Malaysian Nature Society, and his wife.

Mira Yusef, Masters in Social Work/MA in SEAS dual degree student, received a David L. Boren Fellowship which will bring her to Sabah, Malaysia from January-August 2007 to study Malay language and conduct research on Filipina migrant workers. In the spring Mira presented papers on Filipina domestic workers at events of the U-M Muslim Graduate Students Association, and at Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. myusef@umich.edu.

Cambodia Program

The following graduate students participated in the Law School's Cambodia Program during the summer:

Andrew Adams (Law),
Khmer Institute for Democracy acadams@umich.edu

Priya Baskaran (Law),
Mu Sochua (gender justice) bpriya@umich.edu

Tony DeLisi (Urban Planning),
Ministry of Land Management delisi@umich.edu

Sarah Donaldson (Law),
Community Legal Education Center (litigation) sarahdon@umich.edu

Samantha Ford (Law),
Center for Social Development smcquaid@umich.edu

Karin Kringen (Law),
Community Legal Education Center (labor) kkringen@umich.edu

Anjali Patel (Law),
World Bank agpatel@umich.edu

Allison Schwartz (Public Policy),
GTZ Gender Justice Project aschwar@umich.edu

Robyn Sneeringer (Public Health),
Family Health International rsneerin@umich.edu

Esther Whang (Social Work),
International Justice Mission whange@umich.edu

Major Elizabeth Cisne, MA in SEAS 2000, was posted with her New Orleans Army unit to Egypt, then after 9/11 moved to Kuwait with the 377th TSC at Camp Doha. In January 2002 she went to Afghanistan as an administrative officer. Her task force in Kabul coordinated community restoration projects such as repairing health clinics and schools and digging village wells, and Beth secured a USAID grant to build a Women's Center for the new Ministry of Women's Affairs. In May 2003 she assumed command of the New Orleans Military Entrance Processing Station, which evacuated to Atlanta during Hurricane Katrina. Beth is now Professor of Military Science and Department Chair at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, heading the Army ROTC program there. She recertifies annually on the Defense Language Proficiency Test for Mandarin Chinese and Indonesian in hopes of eventually being posted as a Foreign Area Officer. ecisne2@unl.edu.

Matthew Cobbett, MBA 2002, has left Synovate Business Consulting in Singapore to establish his own boutique management consulting firm Woodward Consulting Partners, focusing on innovation, marketing and strategy in Singapore and Asia. mcobbett1@hotmail.com.

Steven Dean, MBA/MA in SEAS 1987, has left Standard Chartered Bank in Singapore and accepted a position with Reuters Asia in Singapore. sdean@singnet.com.sg.

Michael Dunne MBA/MA 1990 reports that Automotive Resources Asia, the consulting company he founded in 1993 with fellow U-M alumni Timothy Dunne and John Bonnell, has been acquired by JD Power. ARA will continue to operate as a wholly-owned subsidiary in its Bangkok, Shanghai and Beijing locations, with Mike continuing as ARA President and Vice-President of JD Power Asia-Pacific. michael.dunne@auto-resources-asia.com.

Kham M. (Tom) Doan, MBA/MPP in International Relations 1998, worked after graduation as an investment banker on Wall Street, as Vice President of Bank of America Securities,

specializing in debt and equity capital-raising, M&A, and leveraged buyouts. In 2001 Kham returned to Vietnam, spending four years with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector investment arm of The World Bank, based in Ho Chi Minh City, developing and structuring investments in Vietnam, including advising state-owned enterprises on their privatization process. In 2005, he founded Horizon Capital Advisers LLC, a full service merchant bank, and Horizon Capital Partners, a \$100m closed-end fund for which he serves as Managing Partner. Kham spoke on the Finance panel for the Ross School's 16th annual Asia Business Conference in February 2006. kdoan@horizoncapitalvietnam.com.

Dana R.H. Doan (MPP 1999), Kham Doan's wife, works for the U.S.-Vietnam Trade Council, an affiliate of the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council, to improve bilateral relations between the two countries.

Council activities and technical assistance programs support implementation of the U.S.-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement and facilitate negotiations and preparations for Vietnam's pending accession to the WTO. dana.doan@usvtc.org.

Patrick Griffin MBA/MA in SEAS 1998 sends news that his wife Jill Griffin MBA/MA in Engineering 1998 obtained her PhD in Marketing from the University of Texas at Austin in May 2006. Jill presented a paper based on her dissertation on consumer decision-making at the Association of Consumer Research conference, and has accepted a half-time tenure track position with the University of Evansville. Son Graham is four and daughter Greta is now 8 months old. pggriffin@escaladesports.com.

James A. Hafner, MA, PhD 1970 in Geography, is Professor in the Geoscience Department at the University of Massachusetts. His research on the political ecology of development, resource management and migration, and Southeast Asia in global context

has garnered frequent research funding, and past positions with the UN Mekong Committee and Ford Foundation. Jim is currently finishing collaborative work with the Philippine Eagle Foundation and University of the Philippines, Mindanao, on assessing biodiversity and modeling threats to endangered species and habitats in the Eastern Mindanao Corridor. hafner@geo.umass.edu.

Bradley C. LaLonde, BA Political Science 1975, earned an MA in international affairs/development economics from Columbia University in 1977 and completed the executive management program at Chemical Bank in New York before moving to Citibank in 1981 and working as a corporate banker in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan, Jordan, Turkey and Tunisia. He then started Citibank in Vietnam, heading it from 1994 to



Griffin Family, September 2006

1999. In 2003 Brad established Vietnam Partners LLC to raise, invest and manage investment capital, and facilitate trade between Vietnam and the U.S. He serves as its Chief Investment Officer, dividing his time between Vietnam and his lifelong residence in northern Michigan. Brad gave a guest lecture in Linda Lim's Business in Asia MBA class in September 2006. blalonde@vietnampartnersllc.com.

Michael G. Peletz, PhD Anthropology 1983, spent the 2005–06 academic year as a Visiting Member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. For many years he was Professor of Anthropology and W. S. Schupf Professor of Far Eastern Studies at Colgate University, before joining Emory University in July 2006 as Professor of Anthropology. Michael has published about two dozen articles and is currently working on his sixth book. His most recent publication is "Transgenderism and Gender Pluralism in Southeast Asia Since Early Modern Times," *Current Anthropology* 2006. mpeletz@emory.edu.

Dirk Price, MBA 1992 with a concentration in finance and international business, worked from 1992 to 2005 in corporate banking for Japanese and American banks in the Los Angeles area.



Kham Doan at Asia Business Conference, February 2006

Alumni News

In 2005 Dirk resigned from his position as a vice president at Citibank's Commercial Banking Group to take a career break and travel around the world, visiting India, Thailand, and Singapore. He volunteered at the Malaysia Nature Society in Kuala Lumpur on a project in conservation finance and hopes to return to Southeast Asia to work in banking or for an NGO. hermosadp@aol.com.

M. Rajaretnam, MA SEAS 1971, was a Research Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore until 1981, when he entered the private sector. In 1985 Raja established the Information and Resource Center (IRC), a private think-tank and consultancy which has worked on capacity-building in Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar and other countries, with the private sector, government leaders, politicians, scholars, media, non-governmental organizations, and international donor agencies. Raja served as Executive Director of the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (1993-95), Coordinator of the Singapore Institute of Pacific Economic Cooperation (SINPEC, 1993-95), Secretary of Singapore-CSCAP (Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific, 1994-96), and advisor to the Institute for Policy Research in Malaysia. He has published many articles and monographs on the region, serving as publisher and editor of

ASEAN Forecast, *Indochina Report*, *Vietnam Commentary* and the *Manila Report*, and on the editorial board of several periodicals including the Manila-based literary journal, SOLIDARITY. In 2003 Raja founded the Asian Dialogue Society (www.asiandialogue.com), an informal group of "friends and citizens of Southeast



Linda Lim with Mike Wachtel, Steve Dean, and Matt Cobbett in Singapore, June 2006

Asia" interested in community-building at a pan-Asian level. Raja is also Director and Chief Executive of the International Centre of Goa, India. ircenter@singnet.com.sg.

Michael Wachtel, MA in SEAS 1996 and MBA 1998, Director at Citigroup, accepted a position in Foreign Exchange Leverage Sales in Citigroup in Singapore in June 2006. Michael, his wife Lynn, and daughter Sophie (3 years old) recently welcomed Julianne Leigh to the family, born May 23, 2006, in New York City. lmichael.wachtel@umich.edu.



Mako Yoshimura with partner Go, and their son Tomoki.

Mako Yoshimura, MA in SEAS 1990, is Professor of Asian Studies at Hosei University in Japan. Her research is on the Malaysian economy, migrant workers, labor, social policy and gender, and she visited Michigan in 2000 to speak on "Indonesian migrant workers in Malaysia". Mako's publications include: *Economic Development and Labour Structure: Ethnicity, Gender and Nationality* (Hosei University Press, 1998, in Japanese), and *British Malaya and Singapore during the Japanese Occupation* (co-edited, National University of Singapore Press, forthcoming). mako@hosei.ac.jp.

Where Are They Now? Former Faculty, Staff & Visitors

Dr. Edilberto DeJesus was a Fulbright visiting scholar at CSEAS and the Business School in 1986/87 when his wife, Melinda Quintos was a Michigan Journalism Fellow. DJ was a faculty member at the Asian Institute of Management in Manila before serving the administration of President Corazon Aquino as deputy peace commissioner and advisor on rural development, from 1987-1992. He returned to AIM before becoming President of Far Eastern University from 1995 to 2002, and then served as President Gloria Arroyo's Secretary of Education from 2002-2005.



Edilberto DeJesus and Melinda Quintos in Singapore, June 2006.

Since then DJ has been Director of the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organization Secretariat, based in Bangkok. Melinda continues to serve as Executive Director of the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility, which she founded, and has won many awards, including as the Benigno Aquino Fellow for the year 2000. edejesu@yahoo.com.

Prof. Pang Eng Fong was a visiting scholar at CSEAS and the Business School in 1980/81 and 1987/88, when he was professor of business policy at the National University of Singapore Business School. Eng Fong later served as Singapore's Ambassador/High Commissioner to Korea, the European Union (Brussels) and the United Kingdom (London). He is currently Vice-Provost for Academic Strategic Planning and Dean of the Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University. He was previously director of SMU's Wee Kim Wee Center and the Lee Kong Chian Scholars Program, during which he visited Michigan in 2005 to learn about our BBA and LS&A Honors programs. His latest book (edited with Christiane Kuptsch), *Competing for Global Talent*, was published in 2006. cfpang@smu.edu.sg.

Our recent and current Javanese Artists in Residence gathered for an evening of food and music at the house of Indonesian Language Lecturer **Margaretha Sudarsih** in Solo, Indonesia in June 2006. **Bambang Irawan** and **Noor (Lina) Farida Ramalina** continue to teach in Solo, where Bambang is on the Economics faculty of Universitas Sebelas Maret, and both teach dance and music privately. **Wasi Bantolo** continues to teach dance at Sekolah Tinggi Seni Indonesia (STSI), and has been preparing students for televised performances of *wayang wong*. He and his wife **Olivia Retno Widayastuti** have recently built a new house, and welcomed the birth of their first child, a daughter, **Makiranatya Lenore (Natya) Bantolo**, on September 13, 2006. **Pamardi Tjiptopradonngo** also continues with his teaching duties at STSI, and has been working with professionally trained dancers to restage Panji Sepuh, a seminal modern dance work from the 1990s (with text in Javanese by former visiting professor Goenawan Mohamad). The work will be performed in Singapore in December, with hopes that it can be brought to North America in 2007. Pamardi and his wife have adopted a baby boy to join their other two children, including daughter **Putri**, who is finishing her studies at STSI. Joining this group were current Artists in Residence **Sigit Sabdopriyono** and **Yulisa Mastati**, Musicology alumnus and Earlham College professor **Marc Benamou**, current students **Kate Skillman** and **Will Redfern** and CSEAS Program Coordinator **Charley Sullivan**.

Fall Highlights at CSEAS

The Center sponsored over forty events this fall, of which the following are highlights of our Fridays-at-Noon public lecture series. For a full list, please see our website: www.i.umich.edu/cseas.

September 15

Christian Truth in a Javanese Classic

Professor **Bernard Arps**, Chair, Dept. of Languages and Cultures of Southeast Asia and Oceania Leiden University, Netherlands Visiting Professor, The University of Michigan
In the early 1950's, in the period of early Indonesian independence, Sudarmadi, a Javanese Protestant minister was part of a flurry of Christian activity that sought to recast the repertoire of Javanese shadow theater, the wayang, to bring its themes to serve as a tool of Christian evangelism. Within years, however, his effort was severely criticized by a Dutch missionary, Anne Wind, primarily for not treating the Bible as the guiding text on the path towards truth and salvation. It was not without risk for a Javanese Christian to use such an association-laden story for purposes of evangelization.

September 22, 2006

Frontier Monks and the Royal Center: the Role of Buddhist Literati and Regionalism in the Reshaping of Pre-colonial Burma

Michael Charney, Department of History, University of London

The transformation of a relatively small monastic sect on the Burmese frontier into the definers and enforcers of religious orthodoxy in the Burmese kingdom over the course of the eighteenth century led to profound changes in the ways that Burmese would view their society, culture, and history. The introduction of these changes and their continuity, however, would not have been possible without the simultaneous infiltration of their non-monastic kinsmen and patrons into key areas of the Konbaung state, including the man on the throne. Both of these developments reflect the important, but previously understudied, role of regionalism in pre-colonial Burmese history.

October 27, 2006

Both Symptom and Salve: Apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Lipa, the Philippines (1948-present)

Deirdre de la Cruz, Michigan Society of Fellows

In 1948, the Virgin Mary was claimed to have appeared to a young novitiate in a Carmelite convent in the town of Lipa, Batangas. Soon after, reports of public miracles began to proliferate. These drew national attention to the town that only a few years before had been the provincial headquarters for the Japanese Military Administration and the site of numerous alleged atrocities. Though members of the local Catholic hierarchy investigated the miraculous events, the devotional community's hope for ecclesiastical recognition of the miracles was short-lived, for in 1951 the commission of clergymen declared that the apparitions were not of supernatural origin. A decades-long period of silence about the events ensued.



Manuscript with scenes of combat from the Rammakian, approx. 1800–1825, Central Thailand, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, Gift from Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's Southeast Asian Art Collection, 2006.27.9

November 3, 2006

Who Was Rama in Siam?

Forrest McGill, Chief Curator and Watis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco
“Rama-” elements have been included in the names of Thai

kings for 700 years, and the legend of Rama seems likely to have been well-known. From the end of the eighteenth century onwards many artworks survive depicting scenes from the Rama legend, including murals, manuscript paintings, sculptures, and painted lacquers. But earlier artistic representations of Rama are rare and ambiguous. What do we really know about the image and significance of Rama in Siam?



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