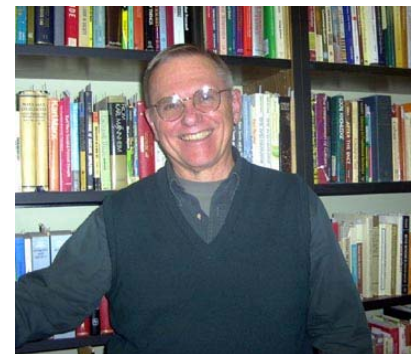


*SouthEast Asia Center
Jackson School of International Studies
University of Washington*

Professor Charles Keyes (Anthropology) Receives UW's 2003 Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award

The University of Washington has honored Professor Charles Keyes with UW's 2003 Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award. Professor Charles Keyes has served on 145 graduate student committees while at the University of Washington. He has chaired the committees of 33 students in Anthropology who have completed their PhDs (and is currently chairing nine more for students who are still working towards completion) -- a higher number than any other faculty member in the Department of Anthropology since it was founded. Biff is well known for giving particular attention to mentoring students from Thailand and Vietnam, having trained more professional anthropologists in Thailand (8) than anyone else in the world, and more Vietnamese (7) than anyone outside of Vietnam or the former Soviet Union.

Keyes, known to his friends and colleagues as "Biff" is a leading scholar in Southeast Asian studies. Author of six books, editor of eight volumes and more than 80 articles, Keyes joined the UW faculty in 1965 and, over the years, has played a pivotal role in creating



Biff Keyes in his office, 2001.

one of the top Southeast Asian studies programs in the world. He was the Southeast Asia Center director from its inception in 1987 until 1996, co-founded the Northwest Regional Consortium for SE Asian Studies, and has held many other distinguished positions at U.S. and foreign universities throughout his career. He was the president of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) in 2001.

Darryl N. Johnson U. S. Ambassador to Thailand and UW Distinguished Alumnus Awardee 2003

The Southeast Asia Center and the Jackson School of International Studies is proud to host Darryl N. Johnson, the U.S. Ambassador to Thailand, for a presentation on May 9, 2003. Ambassador Johnson received his BA (cum laude) from the University of Washington. He trained at UW for his Peace Corps Volunteer assignment in Thailand in 1962 and taught English in Lamphun province

of Thailand from 1962-1963.

After completing his assignment, Johnson entered the U.S. Foreign Service. His first assignment was to the U.S. Consulate General in Mumbai, India, and subsequently served in Hong Kong, Moscow, Beijing, and Taipei. Johnson was the first U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania, and he was sworn

(Continued on page 3)

Indonesian Shadow Puppet Theater/Wayang 2003!

Saturday, May 3
8:00 - 10:00 pm

Roethke Auditorium
Kane Hall

Free! All Welcome!

Inside this issue:

Tran Van Nam	2
Wayang 2003	2
Didik Nini Thowok	3
Hoang Hung	3
Rajana Society	4
First Annual SEAC Retreat	6
Summer Seminar	7

GIVING AMERICAN THE WORLD OF DIVERSITY: FULBRIGHT VISITING SCHOLAR'S PERSPECTIVES

Tran Van Nam¹

(Presented at the American Association Colleges and University (AACU) Conference on January 25th at Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Washington)

1. What am I doing in Seattle?

I am fortunate to be the first Vietnamese scholar at the University of Washington School of Law. At home, I teach law at the National Economics University so I am given an opportunity to deliver a series of seminars on Law reform in Vietnam as a part of the course *Law Reform in Transition Economies*, offered by the University of Washington School of Law here.

I also carried out research on US trade barriers and their impact on the imported Vietnamese goods to the US market. I have many fascinating debates with friends and colleagues about the reasons why the frozen catfish imported from Vietnam cannot be called "catfish" here and whether Vietnamese catfish is really being dumped the US market. One of my research papers has been focusing on Vietnam's compliance to National Treatment Principle to enter the WTO.

I have been invited to attend and present this paper at the Northwest Pacific Conference on Legal Studies in Portland, Oregon in this coming April. Also, the University of Valparaiso School of Law (Indiana) has extended me an invitation to give a lecture "*The*

impacts of Doimoi (Renovation) to Vietnam's Law Reform" in the first week of April.

2. How do I interact with people here?

During my seminars at the UW Law School, I have chances to meet and discuss with a number of faculty members and students who have interests about certain emerging matters in Asian countries and Vietnam. It is interesting that I got a lot of questions, such as: *What and why is economic reform in Vietnam? Who plays the most important roles in the course of legal reform in Vietnam? How the Vietnamese Government accommodates its law reform process? What is "socialist legality" in Vietnam? And do investors eventually made a fortune in the country after experiencing a big loss in mid 1990s?*

I also have chances to discuss with some graduate students in their research papers on Southeast Asian region and in Vietnam. In addition, as a scholar at the Asian Law Center, headed by Professor Veronica Taylor, I have many opportunities to make many friends, American and international as well.

This is my second time being in the United States and it is also very special for me because Kim Chi, my wife and Nhat Ha, our

(Continued on page 5)



Tran Van Nam (sitting, far right) with fellow participants at AACU.

Wayang

*Saturday
May 3, 2003*

*Kane Hall
Roethke
Auditorium*

8-10pm

Wayang: Spring 2003

With UW Art History Professor Jan Mrazek and special guests Gamelan Pacifica

The Origin of Shadow Play

An Ancient Javanese myth about the God Wisnu, who descended to the world of mortals and created the arts in order to save the world from destruction by the war-loving, power-hungry Great Ogre. In Java, this play functions as a ritual in which aggressive harmful demons are made visible and pacified.

Featuring Javanese dancer *Nunuk Sri Rahayu*

(Mangkunegaran Palace, Java), Sundanese dancer *Hani Schnaith* (Bandung) Czech puppeteer *Jan Mrázek* (School of Art, UW, Prague), *Gamelan Pacifica* under the direction of *Jarrad Powell* (Cornish College of the Arts).

Saturday, May 3, 2003

**Kane Hall
Roethke Auditorium**

8:00pm—10:00pm

Town Hall-Seattle Presents: The Music and Dance of Java With special guest: Didik Nini Thowok, Acclaimed Javanese Dancer

Southeast Asian cultural performance enthusiasts will have the opportunity to enjoy an evening of Javanese music and dance with special guest Didik Nini Thowok. Didik Nini Thowok specializes in comic dances, incorporating various Javanese dance traditions such as topeng (masked dance), Balinese, Sundanese, and central Javanese in his self choreographed performances. He often plays female characters, one of the few artists continuing this tradition of cross gender impersonation.

The artist has performed for the Indonesian National Palace and appeared on Indonesian national television, and he has performed internationally such as in Japan, Singapore, Thailand, France, Germany, and the

Netherlands. For more information about Didik Nini Thowok, visit his webpage at: <http://www.didikninihowok.com>

In collaboration with Cornish College of the Arts, Town Hall presents Didik Nini Thowok and Gamelan Pacifica in a program of music and dance from the Indonesian island of Java. The noted 15 member Seattle ensemble will be joined for this program by guest dancers Astrid Vinje and Nunuk Sri Rahayu. The performance will be held on Friday, March 28, 8:00pm at Town Hall, Eighth Ave, Seattle, WA (on the corner of Eighth and Seneca Ave.). For more information, please call 206/652-4255. Tickets are \$12 - \$15.

Hoang Hung (Award-winning Vietnamese poet) The Modernization of Vietnamese Poetry Thursday, May 8

Hoang Hung, an award-winning poet from Vietnam, will be giving a presentation on modern Vietnamese poetry for the Southeast Asia Center. Huang's writing career has spanned over 40 years and has been published internationally. He has also worked for several leading Vietnamese publications for 30 years. Hoang Hung graduated from Hanoi Teacher's University with a B.A. from the Department of Linguistics and Literature in 1965. Hoang Hung became a professional journalist in 1973 after teaching literature in a secondary school. His first poems were published in 1961, and he became known as a member of the "Anti-American generation" in North Vietnam. **Dat Nang** (Sunlit Land), his first book of poems, was published in 1970.

He was imprisoned for 39 months of prison without trial (1982-1985) for "writing and distributing reactionary poems." During his imprisonment, he taught himself

English through translating literary works. After he was released, his poems were published in two books: (Sea Horse) in 1988 and **Nguoi Di Tim Mat** (The Man Who is Looking For His Face) in 1994.

Hoang Hung is presently working as a senior writer of **Lao Dong** (Labour) newspaper, specializing in cultural affairs and translating poems and novels from French and English. He now lives in Ho Chi Minh City with his wife and two children.

Darryl N. Johnson cont.

(Continued from page 1)

in as U.S. Ambassador to Thailand on December 7, 2002.

While serving in Thailand, Ambassador Johnson has revitalized the UW Thailand Alumni Club. In 2002, he hosted the largest gathering of UW alumni at his residence of over 200 attendees for UW President McCormick's visit to Thailand. Johnson was also active in organizing a UW-Chulalongkorn University seminar on socioeconomic development in a sustainable environment. At the seminar, Ambassador Johnson gave the keynote address on sustainable development addressing leaders in Bangkok and highlighting the university's training of many leading Thai scholars

and researchers. Johnson is a highly regarded expert and policy maker in international relations.

He is presently working to promote the development of Thailand's infrastructure but not at the expense of neighboring countries through U.S. involvement with ASEAN, APEC, and the World Bank. Johnson has expressed interest in expanding international education and service learning opportunities for UW students. He also advocates stronger ties between US students and scholars and their colleagues in other countries.

Rajana Society



TOP ROW (L to R): Sreymom Serey, Rattanack Ath, Bunthoeun Real, Sorin Say
 BOTTON ROW (L to R): Lang Say, Lianna Ly, Socheath Var, Phatry Pan

At the beginning of the New Year, the Rajana Society was created by a group of University of Washington Khmer students because they felt a need to organize their artistic ideas under a organized setting. Rajana, eaning artistically creative in Khmer, aims to promote and advance Khmer arts and entertainment through the support of Khmer and non-Khmer artists.

Rajana Society's has eight officers and a club advisor. Phatry Pan, Sreymom Serey, Socheath Var, and Lianna Ly who are all seniors in the Southeast Asian Studies department in the Jackson School of International Studies. UW freshmans Bunthoeun Real and Lang Say serve as Public Relations officers. The Treasurer is an accounting senior, Sorin Say, and Rattanack Ath, a pre-engineering and art student, is the webmaster. Lastly, Visal Chin, a graduate student and the Khmer language instructor, is the club advisor. Rajana currently hosts two projects: Koun Khmer

Amatak Productions serves as a platform for aspiring actors and filmmakers to bring stories and other works on stage. Its first theatrical performance about love and war, *Solar Eclipse of Soriya*, debuts in May 2003.

Rajana's second project is the Khmer Conversational Group. As co-facilitator Sophy Rim explains, KCG was established because of a rising interest among Khmer-speaking students to develop a program where one can engage and interact in Khmer. The program currently runs bi-weekly at Ginkgo Tea Shop on University Ave.

Rajana hopes that the organization expands its membership and its ideas and welcomes new members.

For more information on the Rajana Society and its projects, please visit: <http://students.washington.edu/rajana> or e-mail: rajana@u.washington.edu

EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEKONG DELTA

Tuesday, April 8

3:30-5:00pm

Parrington Commons

Reception to follow

In his talk, Prof. Duong will provide us with an overview of the Vietnamese higher education system

Professor Tran Phuoc Duong is the former Rector of Can Tho University, and currently heads their Biotechnology Research and Development Institute. Professor Duong is a highly respected leader in Vietnamese education, as well as in science and technology policy. He is a member of the National Council on Education and the National Council on Biotechnology. For many years, Prof. Duong also chaired the Consortium of Eleven Universities, a body coordinating activities of the major universities in Vietnam.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Prof. Duong was awarded the National Distinguished Educator Award in 1990, and the People's Educator Award in 1997. Under Professor Duong's leadership, Can Tho University has developed into one of the most active of Vietnamese higher education institutions, and has been particularly imaginative in targeting research and education towards the solution of practical problems facing the people of the Mekong Delta.

In his talk, Prof. Duong will provide us with an overview of the Vietnamese higher education system, an introduction to Can Tho University and its projects related to local economic development, and his vision for the future of Vietnamese education.

For more information, contact Gretchen Kalonji
 Kyocera Professor of Materials Science:
 Email: kalonji@u.washington.edu
 Telephone: 206- 543-1115

2003 Course Development Faculty Awards

Mary Callahan (Assistant Professor, JSIS), "Political Violence in Southeast Asia" The course will examine the sources, evolution and outcomes of political violence in SE A in the post-World War II period. It will explore the reasons for violence, its manifestations, and the various instruments that might be used to hasten its end. Readings will include classic works on violence and war in the region, along with important contemporary analyses of on-going conflicts.

Patrick Christie (Assistant Prof, JSIS and School of Marine Affairs), "The Root Causes of Environmental Degradation in the Tropics." Environmental conditions in the Philippines will be explored from a political ecology perspective that will expose students to biological and social theories and analytic tools. Students will gain an understanding of the climatic conditions that determine the geographic limits of coral reefs and tropical rain forests.

GIVING AMERICAN *continues*

(Continued from page 2)

daughter came along with me. It is not necessary to say how excited I feel about excellent education and research facilities in the US, because these have been written elsewhere. But I would like to share our good feelings about American culture and hospitality. Someone said that American people are very practical and they are always hurrying with their busy life. More than that, we saw many American people who are voluntarily devoting their time and efforts to help new comers become comfortable in a new community. While I try hard to be improved at works at the Law School, my wife is attending ESL, parenting & talk-time classes at different places. We both really enjoy our time with good friends here.

Most people like to visit big & famous cities in United States like New York, San Francisco and Las Vegas to see sky buildings and modern life. But in our case, we preferred to visit the countryside and we really enjoyed our Thanksgiving trip to Idaho. I was once invited by my buddy, Mr. Rob Spofford to Idaho. We enjoyed riding in a motor home with one of his brothers to Boise. Thanksgiving holiday in the United States is so meaningful for family reunions. We had a big party with many traditional foods with twenty-five members of the three-generation Spofford family who are very friendly and made us feel at home. We talked a lot about culture and other things that good friends love to share with each other.

From Boise, we extended our trip to Buhl, Idaho to visit another old friend, Mr. Armand Eckert² and his family. It was so amazing to see a farm there. Armand was kind to show us around his family's farm

Veronica Taylor (Professor of Law, Director, Asian Law Center), "Law and Transition in SE Asia." The course will allow students to examine the social, political, colonial and legal histories of a number of SE Asian states and to link this to current problems of political transition, law reform and compliance with a complex set of transnational regulatory regimes.

Kim Nguyen (Senior Lecturer, Asian Languages and Literature), completion and publication of a first-year Vietnamese textbook entitled "Conversational Vietnamese--A Beginning Text." The text will be paired with "Conversational Vietnamese--an Intermediate Text" and will incorporate features of the communicative/interactive approach to language learning. A special emphasis on the production of tones through interactive drills will reflect the important role they play in determining the meaning of the spoken word.

with 5,000 acres equipped with many modern facilities and a big irrigation system. For such a large farm, he hires only ten Mexican workers during the crop's harvest season. It seemed to us that while we stood near the huge sugar beet pile, we came to realize how efficient the American farmer is.

Thank you so much, our dear friends, for your kindness and hospitality. Deep inside, you are more than that. Deep inside, we call you family and hope to see you again in Vietnam, our small country but with great hospitality also. For us, our time in Idaho was unforgettable.

3. What do I see on the Campus of the University of Washington?

I go to the UW Law School almost every day and I am often surprised that, there are so few minority students here. That means the Law School must not be very diversified. I met Lael, a Native American in her third year law studies and it's good to know that she plans to focus on working with Native American once she graduates. However, I saw only a few minority students here. Statistically, The UW is not very diversified in terms of ethnic enrolment³.

In the United States, "diversity" is in a fundamental way understood to refer to the percentage of African Americans in an institution like the University of Washington⁴. Because Seattle and Washington state have such a small number of African Americans, the number of African American on campus is not very visible although still significant politically. As a result of the "racial" interpretation of diversity, other groups who are Caucasians also figure in American understandings of diversity⁵.

At the University of Washington Hispanics are few despite the fact that Hispanic people are quite numerous in parts of the state. On the other hand, Asian Americans notably, those

(Continued on page 8)

First Annual SEAC Retreat



SEAC graduate students relaxing on the beach.

The first annual Southeast Asia Center retreat took place on the weekend of February 21-23 up at the beautiful UW Friday Harbor facilities on San Juan Island. Eleven faculty and staff joined twelve graduate students together with spouses and kids to enjoy some unusually beautiful winter weather.

Most of the weekend was spent enjoying the scenery, eating fresh mussels and oysters and learning more about fellow UW Southeast Asianists from across a variety of disciplines. On Saturday afternoon, non UW participants headed to the beach while UW people gathered to discuss the Southeast Asia Center's mission and future.

A good time was had by all and demand for a second annual retreat was high on the priority list. Stay tuned for news of next year's retreat!

Women's Rights Activists Visit UW

Current Developments concerning women's rights in Burma

Khin Omar and Paw Hset Hser (Burmese and Karen women's rights activists) visited the UW campus on Monday, March 10 to talk about current developments concerning women's rights in Burma. Khin Ohmar was the first pro-democracy activist from Burma granted political asylum in the U.S. in the early 90s.

Over the last decade, she has testified at the US Congress, the UN Human Rights Commission, and numerous other UN and governmental bodies. She is now Women's Affairs Coordinator of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) based in Thailand.

Paw Hset Hser is a member of the Karen Women's Organization (KWO) and a member of Advocacy Team of the Women's League of Burma (WLB). She has compiled a

report on the widespread use of rape by Burma Army soldiers against Karen women and girls, in support of other recent investigations by the US State Department and the Shan Women's Action Network.

Seattle Times journalist Lynn Varner attended the March 10 presentation and wrote an excellent editorial piece about the current state of human rights in Burma which was published on March 19. You can access the editorial online at: <http://archives.seattletimes.nwsourc.com/cgi-bin/taxis.cgi/web/vortex/display?slug=lynne19&date=20030319>

Ford Small Research Grant Recipients

David Biggs (History) PhD student dissertation write-up
 Bradley Davis (History) PhD student pre-dissertation research
 Chin-Yung Chao (Anthropology) PhD student pre-dissertation research
 Jennifer Edwards (Sociology) PhD student dissertation research
 Diane Fox (Anthropology) PhD student dissertation write-up
 Joseph Hannah (Geography) PhD student dissertation research
 Cam Hoang (Anthropology) PhD student pre-dissertation research
 Bussarawan Teerawichitchainan (Sociology) PhD student dissertation research

2003 Summer Seminar for Educators Grades 6 and Up

Conflicts and Challenges of the 21st Century

June 23-25, 2003

Kane Hall, Walker Ames Room
University of Washington Seattle campus

2003 SUMMER SEMINAR: CONFLICTS & CHALLENGES

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Daytime phone _____ Email _____

School _____ Grade level _____

Do you wish to receive clock hours? _____ Travel stipend? _____ Seattle bus fare? _____

Vegetarian? _____

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies Outreach Centers, University of Washington

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies invites you to attend the annual Summer Seminar for Educators, June 23-25, 2003. This year's seminar, "Conflicts and Challenges of the 21st Century," will bring scholars and master teachers together to address the political and economic challenges we face in today's world. The preliminary program includes sessions on:

☞ *Kurdish Resistance, Kurdish Rights, and Kurdish Rivalries: Facing the 21st Century*

☞ *Twenty-First-Century Iran: The Challenge of Modernity versus Tradition*

☞ *Military Power and the Future of Democracy in Southeast Asia*

☞ *India-Pakistan Relations*

☞ *Chechnya: History, Interests, and Identity*

☞ *Sessions on Korea, Africa, Canada, and Latin America, and Europe*

☞ *International Debt and Non-Proliferation Efforts in Russia*

Take this opportunity to learn about important world areas and develop practical teaching skills related to contemporary world societies.

Registration fee: \$95 includes parking vouchers, coffee/tea, morning pastries, lunch and 22 Washington state clock hours (you must attend the entire seminar to receive clock hours). Please make checks payable to the "University of Washington." Special travel stipends of up to \$150 are available for teachers coming from 75 miles or more.

Registration validation: Registration can only be accepted by mail and must include payment in full.

Mail forms to: The Southeast Asia Center, Box 353650, University of Washington, Seattle WA 98195. Questions or inquiries, please call: 206-543-9606 or contact <seac@u.washington.edu>. You will receive a confirmation packet with a receipt, map, driving and parking directions and program details.

Registration deadline: June 16, 2003.

This form is downloadable at: <http://jsis.artsci.washington.edu/03ssreg.pdf>

Box 353650
Seattle, WA 98195 USA

WE'RE ON THE WEB! VISIT US AT
[HTTP://DEPTS.WASHINGTON.EDU/SEAC/](http://depts.washington.edu/seac/)

Giving American cont.

of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Filipino roots, are well represented relative to the population. Because they make up a large proportion, they are not eligible for "affirmative action" programs. Nonetheless, they obviously contribute to the 'diversity' of the campus⁶.

I don't have facts and figures about diversified faculty members at the UW, but I am glad to see here the appearance of the University's Vice President, Dr. Rusty Barceló who is a Hispanic and the Law School Dean, Prof. Knight, the first-ever African American Dean at the UW. They both should be commended for their efforts in making the Campus more diversified and maintaining the campus ethnic identity in the future.

In Vietnam, although 90 percent of the population is Vietnamese, there are several significant ethnic minorities. The largest of these is the Chinese, who constitute about seven percent of the total population. In the past, Government policy appeared to be directed toward the assimilation of minorities into the mainstream culture. However, since the 1980s, there is a further emphasis on the encouragement of minority communities. Ethnic students

are often welcomed in educational opportunities and official employment. Diversity can be said to exist on campuses in Vietnam.

[1] Lecturer of Law and International Business (LL.B, Hanoi, Vietnam 1988; MBA, Boise, Idaho 1995; PhD, Hanoi 2000). 2002-2003 Fulbright Grantee to do lecturing and research in the USA. Dr. Tran is a native of Vietnam and visiting the University of Washington School of Law for one academic year starting from September 1, 2002. Prior to coming to Seattle he has been teaching as a faculty member at the National Economics University, Department of Law in Hanoi for over ten years.

[2] Mr. Eckert served 15 years as a board member in a K-12 school district, and served as President and as an officer for five years for the Idaho School Boards Association.

[3] At the University of Washington, in the 2002 Autumn Quarter there are totally 37412 students, in which Caucasian is 21240 counted for 56 % while Asian American are 7136 (19 %). African American are 882 (2.3 %), Hispanic 1226 (3.2 %) and Native American 396 (1 %). Source: Mr. Bill Baker, Associate Vice President of Minority Affairs, UW on January 17th 2003.

[4, 5, 6] Discussed with Professor Charles F. Keynes, University of Washington on Jan 17, 2002.