

SOUTHEAST ASIA CENTER

NEWSLETTER / WINTER 2009

A Note from the Interim Director Enrique “Rick” Bonus, Associate Professor, American Ethnic Studies

Recently, I experienced the honor and pleasure of being invited to participate in a roundtable discussion of the state of Asian American Studies, organized by graduate students from different units on campus. It was a thoughtful discussion, as scholars like Moon-Ho Jung, Leilani Nishime, Chandan Reddy, Stephen Sumida, and I took turns in briefly narrating the contours of the field from the vantage of our specific experiences, training, and trajectories. Even though all of us in the panel locate ourselves as scholars in the field of Asian American Studies, our research, teaching, and service activities have taken us into varied intellectual, curricular, and social locations so much so that it wasn't surprising that all of us, including many of the audience members, also connected with Asian Studies on several levels. Boundaries in our fields of study have a way of sequestering us from each other, but on a growing number of campuses like ours, we're increasingly getting accustomed to multi and cross disciplinary projects and academic relationships, finding support for initiatives that bring together academics from a variety of units lending their expertise on common objects and themes of study. When Laurie Sears and Sara Van Fleet first broached the idea of having me serve as interim director of the Center, there was no question in my mind that this was yet another instance of such positive collaborations that I wanted to participate in. And I'm thrilled to do so, especially now that I am able to personally imagine how my master's training in communication policymaking in Southeast Asia, my guidance by an area studies expert, my doctoral studies in ethnic studies, and my scholarship on transnational communities are all seamlessly intertwined.



(Continued on page 7)

Inside THIS ISSUE

February 20, Indonesian Shadow Puppetry, Music and Dance	2
Thai Cultural Night in the U.S. by Charles “Biff” Keyes	2
Language Study in Burma by Matthew J. Walton.....	3
Student News.....	4
Report on Tagalog Classes by Jiedson Domigpe.....	4
Khmer in Action's Community Showcase, Somlaing Soriya by Ammara Hun.....	5
SEAC Welcomes New Professor, Ben Marwick	6
SEAC Welcomes New Lecturer, Chi Nguyen.....	6
Farewell to SEAC Affiliate Faculty Member Constance Wilson.....	6
Southeast Asia Studies Graduate Student Committee by Allan Lumba.....	7
Re-Writing Difficult Dialogues: Community Collaborations, Oral Histories, Performing Stories.....	8
Thai International Update by Jonathan Thames.....	8
Grant from Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County.....	9
2009 Study Abroad Opportunities.....	10-11
SEAC Calendar Highlights	11
You Can Make a Difference	12



SOUTHEAST ASIA CENTER

February 20, Indonesian Shadow Puppetry, Music and Dance



Artwork created by La Neu, courtesy University of Washington School of Music

The University of Washington School of Music and the Southeast Asia Center are pleased to present a night of Javanese performing arts including, shadow puppetry, gamelan music, and dance. Featured artists include shadow master Ki Midiyanto, Cornish College's Gamelan Pacifica, Jessica Kenney and Sutrisno Hartana. On Friday, February 20, 2009, the evening will begin at 6:45pm with a conversation led by Dr. Christina Sunardi, UW Ethnomusicology, in the Meany Theater West Lobby at the University of Washington. The performance will follow at 7:30pm in the Meany Theater. A ticket to the evening's performance is required for admission.

Tickets are \$10-15 and are available through Meany-through the UW Arts Ticket Office. To purchase tickets and find more information, people can visit www.music.washington.edu or call the UW Arts Ticket Office: (206) 543-4880.

Thai Cultural Night in the U.S., October 24, 2008

Charles "Biff" Keyes, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and International Studies

There was an opportunity in Seattle on Friday night, October 24th, to witness an extraordinary performance of Thai music, dance, and puppetry. The Thai Consulate General in Los Angeles sponsored a "Thai Cultural Night in the U.S." at the University of Washington in Seattle and will repeat this sponsorship at UCLA on November 1st. Those in LA who want to see the performance be warned – the tickets for the Seattle performance were gobbled up as soon as they became available.

The LA Consulate General sponsored "Thai Cultural Night in the U.S." to honor His Majesty, King Bhumipol Adulyadej, on his 81st birthday and to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the establishment of relations between Thailand and the U.S. The event certainly was a success on both scores. It would not be possible to see an equivalent performance in Bangkok unless it was a command one for a member of the royal family.

The performance was directed and introduced by Professor Anucha Thirakanont, the head of the Thai Studies center at Thammasat University. We in Seattle were treated to a number of classical dances, including one – "The Broken Tusk of Ganesh" – using masks (Khon) that was an episode from the Ramakien, the Thai version of the Ramayana. While all dances were exquisitely performed, one especially memorable was one in which the male dancer appeared on stage in only a basic costume. He was accompanied by several men who then proceeded to dress him in full traditional costume consisting of numerous pieces, many of which had to be sewn on to the dancer. After spending about 10-15 minutes being dressed, he then danced the "Kris Dance of Suranakong" from the court dance drama Inao. The total effect of the dressing and his performance was electrifying.

The pipat orchestra which accompanied all the dances was a special treat on its own. Even their collective success was surpassed by the solo performance on the ranad ek, wooden xylophone, by Watcharakorn Boonpeng. His was truly a virtuoso performance such as I have never seen or heard in Thailand except in the film *Hom Rong* ("The Overture"), a film in which Watcharakorn had a leading role.

The night ended with a classical puppet performance of the episode "Hanuman and Benyakai" from the Ramakien. The dancers, who were also puppeteers, entranced the audience with their orchestration of the movements of Sida, Benyakai, Thotsakan, and especially Hanuman, the monkey god. The performers even came down from the stage so that the puppets could engage members of the audience, much to the delight of everyone.

On behalf of the University of Washington and members of the Seattle community I want to thank Consul-General Jukr and his staff at the Consulate in LA who made it possible for this exceptional event to take place in Seattle. It was a true privilege to be at a performance so well directed by Ajarn Anucha and so superbly presented by the troupe that accompanied him. ■



Language Study in Burma

Matthew J. Walton, Graduate Student in Political Science

Anyone going to Burma needs to be prepared for something unexpected to happen. My colleagues who were in Rangoon two years ago experienced the sudden exhilaration and hope of the 2007 Saffron Revolution, only to see the protests brutally crushed by the military regime that continues to rule the country. The first thing I noticed when I arrived in December of 2007 for nine months of language study on a Blakemore-Freeman Fellowship was the barely contained resentment and rage that simmered under the surface of every conversation. People were more cynical but they were also angry and needed to share their frustrations. I got an earful of heated anti-government talk from taxi drivers, neighbors, and local shop-keepers. But I also heard critical, reasoned analysis of Burma's political crises with regard to the global stage. The Burmese people want assistance in their struggle for democracy and, in response to the question of why they aren't really getting it from the West, they want a more fulfilling answer than "Burma doesn't have oil like Iraq."

The higher education system in Burma is in a pitiful state and is closed to foreigners, so I studied privately with several different teachers. But, as with any language immersion, I frequently learned just as much from my Burmese friends and from informal conversations with people on the street. Burma has been ruled by a repressive military dictatorship since 1962, and the climate of fear and paranoia is infectious. As a young academic I'm obviously concerned about maintaining access to the country, but much more important in shaping the way I conducted myself and the guarded way I engaged people in conversation was the very real fear of repercussions for my friends and neighbors. When someone follows you for several blocks as you do your shopping, it's impossible to tell if they're from military intelligence or just someone fascinated by the sight of a white person speaking Burmese (still not a common occurrence in the country). But I was able to develop some close friendships with a wide variety of people: philosophers, fruit vendors, poets, taxi drivers, teachers, and even a few famous rappers.

Without a doubt the most rewarding and enjoyable part of my time in Burma was volunteering at Gitameit, a private music school in Rangoon. I have a bachelor's degree in music and after being told by some friends about the school I initially went there just to sing with their choir. I was immediately drawn in by the enthusiasm of the students and found myself volunteering there on a regular basis. It's not easy to

study music in Burma. The opportunities for learning and performing are scarce and the students at Gitameit (the name means "music friend") come from all over the country. They are all hard workers and they give regular performances at venues around Rangoon. But the most amazing aspect of this school was the student response to Cyclone Nargis, which devastated the southern part of the country on May 2, 2008.

Less than 24 hours after the cyclone hit, Gitameit students were collecting food and supplies to take to victims in the surrounding neighborhoods. The school has educational programs in several local monasteries, and they used their contacts to find out what was needed most and to help deliver emergency supplies. The students collectively decided to suspend classes and focus all of their energy on relief. In the weeks after the cyclone, they had one of the most effective operations and were part of the informal yet critical citizen relief efforts that saved so many lives before the government and international organizations could even begin their work. After about a month music classes started again, but many of the students have remained active in the ongoing relief work.

Interactions with the students and other Burmese friends helped me to realize that I wasn't just there to learn how to ask questions in Burmese, but rather, to learn how to ask questions that are salient to someone who is Burmese. Field research is a crucial part of many dissertations, but often scholars going into the field don't have a lot of experience dealing with cultural differences. We learn how to speak the language but our research questions (and the paradigms that underpin them) frequently impede meaningful communication, and thus, meaningful findings. I learned a lot about the differences in communication style and how to ask questions in a way that makes more sense to Burmese people. Because I spent this year in Burma I feel better prepared as a scholar to return and conduct further research. ■



Student News

FLAS Awardees

Congratulations 2008 Summer and 2008-2009 Academic Year Southeast Asian studies Foreign Language and Area Specialty (FLAS) awardees

Theresa Black (Public Affairs/Tagalog)
 Cherie Calumba (Comparative Literature/Tagalog), Summer
 McKay Caruthers (History/Indonesian)
 Christen Grorud (History/Indonesian)
 Amy Jordan (Anthro/Indonesian)
 Allan Lumba (History/Tagalog)
 Marites Mendoza (English/Tagalog)
 George Radics (Law/Vietnamese)
 Lydia Ruddy (Geography/Indonesian), Summer
 Matt Walton (Pol Sci/Burmese)

2008-2009 Gething Travel Award Recipients

The Gething Travel Award, now in its third year, provides important funding for Southeast Asian studies graduate students to present papers at academic conferences. Congratulations to this year's awardees!

Maureen Hickey (Geography)

"Neoliberalism and the 'New Thai Man': Taxi Drivers, Street Politics and the Rise and Fall of Thailand, Inc." Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, March 22-27, 2009

Allan Lumba (History)

"Colonial Excess: Purging Economies in Postindependence Philippines." The Association for Asian American Studies Annual Meeting in Hawaii, April 22-26, 2009

Jayde Lin Roberts (Studies in Built Environment)

"Performances of Chinese Tradition by the Sino-Burmese in Yangon, Burma/Myanmar." International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments, Oxford, England, Dec 12-15, 2008

Katherine Thornton (Asian Languages & Literature)

"Creating an Etymological Dictionary of Vietnamese Doublets." 19th Annual Meeting of the SE Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS XIX), Ho Chi Minh City, May 28-29, 2009

Report on Tagalog Classes

Jiedson Domigpe, Tagalog Lecturer



The Tagalog or Filipino program offered at the University of Washington continues to see significant growth in student enrollment. With beginning, intermediate and advanced classes offered throughout the year, the program draws its highest enrollments in beginning Tagalog, in which most students

have little to no prior exposure to the language. The intermediate and advanced levels also enroll a handful of students, but unlike the beginning class, there is more emphasis on reading and formal writing.

Many people imagine that students in a Tagalog class are typically Filipino, but Tagalog classes at the UW are made up of Latinos, African Americans, Whites, and other Asians or Asian Americans. They enroll to satisfy a foreign language requirement or simply to learn a second language for pleasure. Students in these classes do not just learn the language; instead, they learn about Philippine culture, traditions, literature, and culinary delicacies. Unlike Spanish or French, Tagalog does not have many textbooks with set rules for word order or structure. In an effort to help pioneer one of the first Tagalog textbooks, I am working on creating chapter worksheets and handouts for my students in an effort to figure out clear and effective ways to teach certain language topics.

Currently nearing the end of the 2008 Autumn quarter, students enrolled in Tagalog classes have already been equipped with a solid foundation in vocabulary so that they may already be able to converse with other Filipinos. By the end of the school year, all levels of Tagalog will be given the chance to showcase the skills they have learned during the year through visual and verbal presentations. Students in the past have performed skits, plays, and produced videos. This year, students will be creating an "Iron Chef" production to incorporate both language skills and Filipino culinary skills. Some will use secret family recipes to cook their entrees, while many will be creating traditional dishes with their own special touch.

As the University of Washington Tagalog classes continue to flourish, they will be of interest to many students, both as American Ethnic Studies majors and for those in other departments. My hope is that Tagalog will be a language that is shared throughout colleges in Seattle and in various communities in the Seattle-metro area.



Khmer in Action's Community Showcase, Somlaing Soriya "Voice of the Sun": Healing Through the Arts Project

Ammara Hun, Khmer in Action Member

The sun does not make noises when it rises. The sunlight that emits from the sunrise awakens nature from its sleep into a brand new day. Khmer in Action is a progressive grassroots group breaking from our silence to make our community's voices heard on social justice issues.

On Saturday, November 15th, Khmer in Action (KIA) organized a free community show intermixed with both Khmer and American art, culture, and spoken word performances at Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center. The performances were done by young adult members and youth leaders within KIA. We had a variety of artistic expressions such as Apsara (a Khmer classical dance), spoken word and poetry in both a women's dialogue section and men's dialogue section, and a slideshow with audio interviews of young men that were incarcerated. In the program we showed a short clip from a documentary about KIA's past work in organizing a protest on Cambodian deportation and other community demonstrations against racism and support for Queer rights at the Pride Parade this past summer. A Khmer-style dance party followed the show, including free Khmer food to the public. There was a full house of about 150 people from the Khmer community, including adults, youths and children. There was also a great turnout from different racial and ethnic groups that came out to support the show including our progressive allies such as Sahngnoksoo, Pinay sa Seattle, Anakbayan-Seattle, Communities Against Rape and Abuse, and our community supporter, Cambodian Cultural Alliance of Washington. Funding support was made possible by the Social Justice Fund and the Massena Foundation.

The subtitle of the show's event points out clearly that the younger generation is healing along with our parents and the older generations that experienced the Khmer Rouge genocide. We are speaking up and speaking out about the challenges and barriers that still impact our community members, especially those that came to the US as refugee children and those that were born in America like myself. People do not yet clearly understand how Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and institutionalized

racism affect the younger generation. Even though I did not experience the Khmer Rouge atrocities or live in the refugee camps in Thailand like some of my peers, I still feel the pain from the genocide that occurred over thirty years ago.

Somlaing Soriya was not simply a showcase of our artistic performances, but a defining moment of how far we have come as a group. Reflecting back before KIA formed, we did not have a place to express our pain and reach out to those that were going through similar experiences. Each KIA member struggled individually to heal from the wounds of genocide, external/internalized oppression from racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, adultism, the generation gap with our parents, being incarcerated, deportation, finding our true identity and the hunger for social change in the Khmer community. Our struggles as individuals feed the fire for our work and we find collective KIA power to actively voice sensitive and taboo issues in the Khmer community.

KIA formed under Many Uch, an activist facing deportation who was featured in the documentary *Sentenced Home* which premiered at the Seattle International Film Festival in 2006. He worked on the Refugee Justice Project with OneAmerica (formerly known as Hate Free Zone) to educate community members about Cambodian deportation as a human rights issue. Under his community leadership, Many took the initiative to form Khmer in Action in Spring of 2007. The intent was to form a collective, progressive, activist group made up of young Khmer Americans. In the year and half since the formation of KIA, the group has worked steadily to provide a political avenue for identifying and addressing contemporary problems within the Khmer community.

KIA's vision is to create a strong and loving community of Khmer people working together toward greater equality and social and political justice. For more information about KIA's projects and to receive updates, please email us at khmerinaction@gmail.com.

Ammara Hun is a 2006 UW alumna of American Ethnic Studies and Education Coordinator and Southeast Asian Outreach Coordinator at the Wing Luke Asian Museum. Her email address is: ahun@wingluke.org

Faculty News

Welcome to Ben Marwick, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

The Southeast Asia Center is pleased to welcome Ben Marwick to the University of Washington. Dr. Marwick is an assistant professor in the department of Anthropology. He is from Perth, Western Australia where he earned his MA in Australian prehistoric archaeology at the University of Western Australia. Last year Ben Marwick completed a PhD at the Australian National University on the palaeolithic of northwest Thailand where he spent three years doing field work.

Dr. Marwick is currently teaching courses in mainland Southeast Asian Archaeology, Geoarchaeology, Archaeology in Film and Archaeological Explanation. He also directs the UW Geoarchaeology lab, which applies Earth Science techniques to the investigation of archaeological problems. The lab is particularly well-equipped for analysing archaeological sediments, but a wide range of archaeological materials from sites all over the world are studied in the lab.

Professor Marwick plans to run a field school in 2009 in the desert interior of Australia, to look at prehistoric Aboriginal stone artifact sites. In 2012 he plans to run another field school in Thailand and Laos to look at the transition from hunter-gatherers to agricultural systems in the middle Mekong region. His presence at the University of Washington is a boon to both the Anthropology Department as well as the Southeast Asia program. Welcome Dr. Marwick!



Welcome to Chi Nguyen, Lecturer of Vietnamese



The Southeast Asia Center welcomes Chi Nguyen, a Lecturer of Vietnamese in the department of Asian Languages and Literature. After an undergraduate degree in Language Teaching, Chi Nguyen quickly began teaching students, many of whom were businessmen, politicians and bureaucrats in Vietnam. A better ability to relate to such students inspired her to return to her studies and earn another degree in Banking and Finance from Hanoi National University of Economics. Chi Nguyen wrote her doctoral dissertation at the Institute of Linguistics, Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences. Her work focuses on identifying patterns of mistakes made by Americans speaking Vietnamese. This is a topic she has much experience with after almost fifteen years of teaching an array of students that includes employees of different embassies and international organizations, individual researchers visiting Vietnam, professors, and university-level students. She has also taught several times for the SEASSI program. The Southeast Asia Center feels very lucky to have Chi Nguyen as part of our core Southeast Asia faculty at the University of Washington.

Farewell to SEAC Affiliate Faculty Member Constance Wilson

Historian and Thai specialist Constance Wilson chose Seattle and the University of Washington as her second home in 2003 after retiring from Northern Illinois University. Professor Wilson was an active member of the Southeast Asian studies community at UW, attending faculty meetings, lectures and public events, and assisting students with special projects. She was recently called back to her native Maine to attend to family matters. We wish her the best of luck.



**(Continued from page 1) A Note From Interim Director,
Rick Bonus**

I gather that the imperative for these collaborations – which my directorship expresses in many ways – is not simply for the benefit of our disciplines. These border crossings are indispensable because our objects of study now refuse to be contained in singular or fixed categories anymore (or at least, we now realize them to be so). Many of our Asian American students live transnational lives and, cliché as it may sound, events in Asia creep up on our daily lives in America and vice versa. These were especially apparent in the previous year's very successful run of the "Difficult Dialogues" project in which students who took our multi-disciplined cross-area courses communicated to us both their academic and personal understandings of the various histories and contemporary realities that connect Southeast Asia and the United States. Faculty, students, staff, family, and community members were thrilled to see their provocative presentations at the end of last school year, thanks to the visionary leadership of Laurie Sears and Kiko Benitez who made such productive faculty collaborations possible through a Ford Foundation grant.

During Thak Chaloemtiarana's visit to our campus as external reviewer from Cornell University, he was also quick to note that the boundaries between international/area studies and local/ethnic studies are getting increasingly problematic. During one of our conversations, I brought up this "creative tension" we have in the Center between adhering to our Department of Education Title VI mandate of promoting international studies and connecting with American Ethnic Studies at the same time, and I was quite relieved and excited to hear him react positively. Indeed, the separation between area studies and ethnic studies is part of a set of institutional and political histories that have made them antithetical to each other. But in agreement with Prof. Chaloemtiarana, I contend that these are the very histories that can also be generative of new and exciting partnerships and alliances which "Difficult Dialogues" have already exemplified. Add to this the initial fortune of having our Center be a part of the glorious cultural night celebration of the 81st birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand and the 175th anniversary of Thailand-U.S. relations, which Charles Keyes writes about in an essay in this issue. We are also excited that our brand-new M.A. program applications

are afoot, and we are looking forward to the 100th anniversary celebration of the Jackson School which, I am sure, will highlight our connections across areas, disciplines, and communities. I venture to say then that Southeast Asia Studies and Asian American Studies ought to be imagined in ways that are as vast as the oceans that both contain and surround us. And it is with this spirit that I move forward as center director this school year. ■

Creation of Southeast Asia Studies Graduate Student Committee

Allan Lumba, Graduate Student in History

Due to the critical mass of graduate students pursuing research in Southeast Asia, a new group has emerged at the University of Washington. Centered on the idea of fostering and strengthening interdisciplinary communication between scholars of Southeast Asia at the UW, this collection of students intend to generate a multitude of activities and events over the next year. The Southeast Asia Studies Graduate Student Committee will continue several older events such as brown bag and social hour meetings yet will also pursue other novel projects. One project is a speaker series or roundtable event in which faculty and scholars of Southeast Asia can express their thoughts on the field, including its historical legacy and its relevance in the current political moment. Another potential project is a weekly film or forum event, in which visiting scholars, artists, or musicians have the chance to present their work.

It is the hope that these recurring events allow students the opportunity to not only dialogue with each other but also enrich ties with the campus community and the broader Seattle community. Finally plans are being laid for an upcoming graduate student conference for the academic year 2009-2010. Clearly this is an exciting time to be a scholar of Southeast Asia at the University of Washington and this group wishes to take advantage of the new available possibilities. Those interested in joining are encouraged to attend one of the recurring social hour events or join the mailing list at <https://mailman1.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/seasgscommittee>. For more information please contact lumbaa@u.washington.edu.

Be a Part of an Exciting Community Based Performance Spring '09

Re-Writing Difficult Dialogues: Community Collaborations, Oral Histories, Performing Stories, SISSE 490D/590C crosslisted with HUM

Offered one quarter only: Spring 2009

M & W 1:30-4:20

Co-instructors: Tikka Sears (JSIS) and Theresa Ronquillo (Social Work)

An extension of the "UW Difficult Dialogues: Engaging Southeast Asian American Pluralism" project, this 3-quarter course in progress is designed as a small seminar class emphasizing learning and "doing" creative research methodologies and nontraditional approaches to knowledge and pedagogy. The class structure is collaborative, student driven, and project based. Because of the course's innovative combination of field research, community engagement at different levels of the process (ethnographic interviews, working with community performers, community feedback on the development of the performance), and theater production, this class appeals to a variety of undergraduate and graduate students and majors, including JSIS, American Ethnic Studies, Anthropology, CHID, Drama, History, and Social Work. Importantly, students will have the opportunity to bring personal, Southeast Asian American family and community narratives alive through the retelling and enacting of these stories in the rehearsal process. In this way, the students play a significant role in knowledge production.

In the Fall quarter of this innovative new team taught course a small group of students composed of graduate students and undergraduate students conducted photovoice projects, oral history interviews and wrote an original theatrical script based on Southeast Asian American stories of migration, identity and exclusion. The students drafted the script based on interviews that they conducted with individuals and community organizations connected with Southeast Asian Americans. During winter quarter of 2009 five students are continuing the work of the project and will continue to hone and research the script and make connections with local Southeast Asian American community members and organizations. All of this in preparation for spring quarter when students enrolled in the class will rehearse, produce and perform the play as well as engaging community members in dialogues at the public performances. Co-instructors Tikka Sears and

Theresa Ronquillo have received a grant from Humanities Washington to assist with the community dialogues portion of the project. This multimedia performance and dialogue will be free and open to the Public. Performances will take place at the Ethnic Cultural Theatre on June 11th & 12th at 7:30PM and tour to community site locations. Undergraduate and Graduate Students are invited to enroll in the class. Students who enroll in the course will have the opportunity to research, produce, create media and perform in this original theatrical production. We especially encourage Southeast Asian American students, students interested in Southeast Asia, and students with interest in video, music, theater, and community engagement. The class will have opportunities for performers and non-performers. We also encourage community members who are interested in the project to let us know. Contact Tikka Sears (tikka@u.washington.edu) or Theresa Ronquillo (tmr51@u.washington.edu) for more information about the class or project. ■

Thai International Update

Jonathan Thames, Co-President

Thai International is a new Registered Student Organization (RSO) at the UW, founded in Fall 2007 thanks to the financial support of the Royal Thai Embassy and the efforts of Darryl Johnson, former US Ambassador to Thailand, and with the help and encouragement of the Southeast Asia Center, Prof. Thomas Gething, and Prof. Emeritus Charles Keyes. The founders were Chayut Peko Setboonsarng and Jonathan Thames, now in their second terms as Co-Presidents of the organization. Thai International's mission statement is "To cultivate and consolidate interest in both traditional and contemporary Thai culture at the University of Washington." It does this through a variety of activities, including close cooperation with the Thai Student Association on campus.

So far, Thai International has hosted one Film Screening (Love of Siam), weekly Thai Dinners, a Hot Pot, and a going away party as one of its members, Celia Chessin-Yudin, who left to work in Thailand for a year. Thai International has also supported and participated in Thai Cultural Night at Meany Hall (hosted by the Thai Consulate-General in LA), the Thai Welcome Party (hosted by ThaiSA), CulturalFest (hosted by FIUTS) and several other events. With generous backing from the Thai Embassy and renewed interest among students, Thai International plans to partner with the Southeast Asia Center to host a speaker on Thailand Spring '09 and has quite a few plans in the works for fun Winter activities.

SEAC Receives Generous Grant from Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County for Collaboration on Education and the Arts in Indonesia

SEAC is pleased to announce the new partnership between the Institute for Education in the Arts of Indonesia (LPSN) and the Southeast Asia Center (SEAC) at UW with support from the Stocker Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County. The Stocker Family Fund advisors include Mrs. Gabrielle Stocker and her son Andy Bouchard. Andy Bouchard and his Sundanese wife Rena (both gamelan musician) have visited and worked with LPSN in Bandung, Indonesia. The new funding will support a collaborative Educational Outreach Project between LPSN, directed by Endo Suanda, in Jakarta, Indonesia and SEAC of the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington.



LPSN director Endo Suanda was a featured presenter at the annual Jackson School Summer Seminar for teachers in 2008 which drew over 40 teachers from across Washington State.

LPSN was launched in Indonesia in 2002 based upon the premise that appreciation of the arts taught with a strong multicultural perspective will increase knowledge, respect, and an enjoyment of diverse values. Appreciation of the richness of Indonesia's many local cultures gives to students the materials for creativity rooted in the continuity of local artistic practice. The Institute has designed a curriculum, teaching materials,

and a teaching methodology for general (i.e. non-vocational) schools, initially at the junior high school and high school levels. LPSN has trained over 2,500 secondary school teachers in the various regions of Indonesia in their methods.

Teacher training lies at the heart of the work and mission of LPSN and UW SEAC. For the collaboration, SEAC will support the efforts of LPSN's present plans to expand their program in Southeast Sulawesi and West Java. The collaboration between the LPSN and SEAC is having an impact on the lives of thousands of students and teachers in both Indonesia and the U.S. In the second year of LPSN's arts training work, 2004-2005, the positive reports of teachers, parents, and students, plus LPSN's work in promoting the program, led to expansion to 250 schools (40,000 students) in the three original pilot regions plus a fourth region, West Sumatra. In the third year, 2005-2006, LPSN received requests from over 1000 new schools. At that point, LPSN took only about 600 new schools (total 850 schools, 100,000 students, 12 provinces), adding the following regions to its reach: West Java, East Java, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), West Irian, South Maluku, South Sulawesi, North Sulawesi, and East Kalimantan. These impressive results show the success of LPSN's work so far and show the benefits to be gained by expanding this work to other areas of Indonesia and to the U.S. If LPSN training of U.S. teachers reaches twenty teachers per year, the net result of the training over a three- year period would affect 1,800 students.

The knowledge of other cultures for Indonesian students has already produced new levels of respect for the vast diversity of Indonesian society. Since Indonesia and the U.S. are both countries that span 3,000 miles and whose populations are around a quarter of a billion people and growing, the potential of LPSN's innovative focus on teaching the arts to increase ethnic and religious tolerance can have a ripple affect in the areas of middle and secondary school education. The measure of success in Indonesia is the constant expansion of the schools affiliated with LPSN, the number of teachers served, and the number of students exposed to these new ideas. Likewise, in the U.S., we will measure the success of the program by the number of teachers served and the willingness of teachers to introduce curriculum about Indonesia in to their classrooms. We envision an on-going collaboration between LPSN and SEAC that will attract further funding from educational institutions in Indonesia and the U.S. SEAC gives special thanks to Mrs. Gabrielle Stocker and Andy Bouchard for their generous contribution and for making this collaboration possible. ■

Study Abroad in Southeast Asia

After the Genocide: Rebuilding a Civil Society (Cambodia)

**Tracy Harachi, School of Social Work
December 11, 2008 - January 1, 2009**

This annual seminar immerses students in the realities of a country rebuilding itself as a civil society after colonization and genocide. The focus is on issues that social welfare workers and policy makers face in addressing past atrocities while adapting to the new challenges of today. Topics include, for example, the genocide tribunal, supporting a traumatized generation that experiences high rates of post traumatic stress disorder, the growing garment industry and Cambodia's participation in the WTO, human trafficking, and growing numbers of orphans with HIV. Many of these themes are not unique to Cambodia, but broadly applicable to other countries developing in a global context. <http://depts.washington.edu/sswwweb/programs/cambodia/>

Children's Rights Law in Post-Genocide Cambodia 2009 Exploration Seminar in Cambodia Sherrie Brown - College of Education June 22 - July 18, 2009, Summer A Term

This Exploration Seminar examines the development of the rule of law in Cambodia. Students are introduced to various aspects of legal advocacy including the United Nations efforts at rebuilding a legal system and given the opportunity to study the recently established Genocide Tribunal. However, the focus of the seminar is on international children's rights law, specifically the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Children's rights law is an aspect of international human rights law that rarely is studied in the United States and this seminar provides students the opportunity to study the CRC and how it is being implemented in Cambodia. <http://depts.washington.edu/explore/programs/2009/cambodia.htm>

Archaeology Field School in Indonesia Peter Lape, UW Anthropology Winter Quarter 2009

Students study Indonesian language and culture for the first three weeks in the cultural capital of Indonesia, Yogyakarta, on the island of Java. Students then travel to the remote Banda Islands to learn archaeological field methods including survey, excavation, mapping, artifact analysis, and film/video documentation, while working at

Neolithic and late pre-colonial sites. On days off, students can explore coral reefs, beaches, mountains and villages of these little-visited islands. <http://courses.washington.edu/bandafs/BandaFieldSchool.html>

International Field Study Program - Indonesia

**Randall C. Kyes, UW Psychology
July 2-25, 2009**

IFSP-Indonesia is an interdisciplinary educational program established in 1995 in collaboration with the Primate Research Center at Bogor Agricultural University, Indonesia. The program is designed to provide field-based educational, training, and research opportunities for students interested in Conservation Biology, Animal Behavior, Primatology, Environmental Science, and Global Health. <http://www.wanprc.org/ifsp/>

CIEE Program in Hanoi International Programs and Exchange Fall or Spring quarters 2009

This program is designed for students interested in developing a solid foundation in the economics, political science, and history of Vietnam and its relationship to its neighboring countries while immersing themselves in the local communities of Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi during the fall semester and Ho Chi Minh City and Siem Reap, Cambodia in the spring semester. <http://www.ciee.org/>

SIT Program in Ho Chi Minh City International Programs and Exchange Fall or Spring quarters 2009

Observe firsthand the dynamic changes shaping Viet Nam, a country that has emerged from decades of war and isolation to become one of the fastest-growing countries in Asia. As the Vietnamese people seek to integrate with the global community, they face tensions between traditional cultural values and economic development as well as serious social and environmental costs. Viet Nam's commercial and cultural center, Ho Chi Minh City, is the program base. Field excursions to the wet rice villages of the Mekong Delta, the Cu Chi wartime tunnels, and Ho Chi Minh City's museums complement coursework at the National University. Excursions also take students north to Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, and the old imperial citadel of Hue to explore the effects of development, war, and tourism on Viet Nam's rich but fragile heritage.

Website: http://www.sit.edu/studyabroad/ssa_vnr.htm

Jackson School and CHID Program in Vietnam
Theron Stevenson, UW Comparative History of Ideas
Christoph Giebel, UW, Int'l. Studies/History
June 17, 2009 - July 22, 2009

The Viet Nam program is composed of three courses: a SPRING QUARTER pre-departure orientation, one history class, and an engaged community learning project. This program is especially well fitted to the needs of Asian History majors but also meets the needs and requirements of several other majors at UW. Students on this program will engage with Viet Nam not simply as scholars collecting knowledge, but as collaborators on a project designed to serve the host community. Participants will visit several areas in Viet Nam over the course of the program. After a few days in and around Ha Noi, the group will travel through northern-central Viet Nam to the historic city of Hue. We will spend several weeks in Hue, focusing on Viet Nam's 20th century history, and taking excursions to Da Nang, beautiful Hoi An, and area beaches. We will then move to nearby Dong Ha for the two-week community engagement portion of the program. While working with local residents on a community project, students will learn about post-war rebuilding issues, Peace Trees' land mine awareness, reforestation, and micro-lending programs, and visit former battle sites in Khe Sanh, the Lao border and the DMZ. A final week of reflective learning will conclude the program. <http://depts.washington.edu/chid/showprogram.php?id=83>

Calendar OF EVENTS

2008-09 Southeast Asia Center Calendar Highlights (see <http://jsis.washington.edu/seac/calendar.shtml> for complete calendar listing)

Feb 11. Newspapers in Education Teacher Workshop "Global Health: Asia in the 21st Century" This event is a collaborative project between the Newspapers in Education program of The Seattle Times; the Asia outreach centers and Center for Global Studies at the University of Washington's Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies; and the U.S. Department of Education.

Feb 20. Ki Midiyanto with Gamelan Pacifica. This special evening of Javanese performing arts showcases shadow puppetry, gamelan music, and dance. Featured artists include shadow master Ki Midiyanto, Cornish College's noted Gamelan Pacifica, Jessika Kenney and Sutrisno Hartana. Arrive early for conversation led by Christina Sunardi, UW Ethnomusicology. Tickets are \$10-15. For more information please visit www.music.washington.edu or call at (206) 543-4880.

March 6. Department of Geography Colloquium Series. Maureen Hickey-Putnum, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Geography Colloquium Series. Neoliberalism and the "New Thai Man": Taxi Drivers, Street Politics, and the Rise and Fall(?) of "Thailand, Inc."

March 7. K-8 Arts Mosaic: Movement and Music Across the Curriculum. Please join the Jackson School Outreach Centers for a day of international themed sessions focused on the performing arts. Participants receive 7 clock hours, lunch and classroom resources.

March 9. "Baroque Economies of Imperial Christendom in the Spanish Indies." Speaker: Jody Blanco (Department of Literature, University of San Diego). Beginning with an analysis of what might arguably be called the "first" novel produced in Latin America (Carlos Sigüenza y Góngora's *Los infortunios de Alonso Ramírez*, pub. 1690), Blanco builds on an understanding of the colonial order (or disorder) in the Philippines in the aftermath of the conquest and pacification of the islands, in order to examine more broadly how that colonial order reflected a larger understanding of both the long decline of the Spanish Empire and the birth and growth of a world economy.

April 15. The Jackson School of International Studies and the Southeast Asia Center "Hot Spots" lecture. "Oceans in Peril: Challenges and Opportunities in Preserving Philippine Ocean Resources" by Patrick Christie, School of Marine Affairs and Jackson School of International Studies.

May 9. Documentary Film Workshop. This one-day workshop will introduce educators to the documentary film genre and to several recent films that depict contemporary events and issues around the world.

May 8. "To Make Live or Let Die?" Speaker: Tania Li (University of British Columbia). Rural Dispossession and the Fate of Surplus Population

May 11. Centennial Gala. The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies celebrates 100 years at the Centennial Gala, featuring a reception and dinner. Please consider participating in the celebration by buying a seat at the Southeast Asia table. For more information, please contact Sara Van Fleet, Associate Director, Southeast Asia Center at 206-543-9606 or saravf@u.washington.edu.

June 11 & 12. Difficult Dialogues Performance. Join UW students, faculty and community artists for this multimedia theater performance at the Ethnic Cultural Theatre.

July 8 - July 22. Integrated Arts & Culture - Two Weeks in Bali, Indonesia. For K-12 Teachers & Teaching Artists. The Center for World Music, San Diego sponsors cultural tours and workshops in several areas of the world. In Bali this year, we will be offering our second Integrated Arts and Culture Workshop specifically for teachers. Curriculum development stipends are available to participants through the co-sponsorship of the Southeast Asia Center.



SOUTHEAST ASIA CENTER

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies
University of Washington
Box 353650 Seattle WA 98195-3650

You Can Make A Difference!

Contributing to the Southeast Asia Center

The Southeast Asia Center is among the top Southeast Asian studies programs in the world, promoting cross-disciplinary, in-depth and innovative approaches to the study and understanding of Southeast Asia. You can help us sustain the excellence of the Southeast Asia Center by making a gift today. Your gift can create vital opportunities by helping to support students or by providing necessary outreach to the community. We appreciate your support.

Yes, I wish to contribute.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ payable to the UW Southeast Asia Center

Please charge my gift to the Southeast Asia Center to
_____ VISA or _____ MasterCard, for the amount of \$ _____.

ACCOUNT # _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

NAME ON CARD (PLEASE PRINT) _____

If your employer has a matching gift program, please provide the name of the corporation
below: _____

Please check which fund you would like to support:

The Southeast Asia Center discretionary fund for developing quality public programming about Southeast Asia.

Graduate Student Travel Endowment (to support student travel to conferences and for research in Southeast Asia)

To give on-line, please visit our website <http://jsis.washington.edu/seac> and link to Giving. Check the Southeast Asia Center box and complete the on-line form.

Thank you for supporting the Southeast Asia Center.
Your contribution is tax-deductible.

Send Donations or Inquiries to:

The Southeast Asia Center
Jackson School of International Studies
University of Washington
303 Thomson, Box 353650
Seattle, WA 98195
seac@u.washington.edu / (206) 543-9606