An aerial photograph of a large, modern building with a prominent central dome. The dome is covered in a complex, white and blue geometric pattern of interlocking lines. The building's roof is a mix of dark grey and light grey sections. The surrounding area includes parking lots with several cars, green lawns, and a road with a white dashed line. The overall scene is captured from a high angle, looking down at the building.

CENTER FOR  
**SOUTHEAST**  
**ASIAN**  
STUDIES

F A L L 2 0 1 8      M      N E W S L E T T E R



## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



### Dear CSEAS Community,

2018 has been quite a year so far for the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. We spent the spring and part of the summer preparing our proposal for the US Department of Education Title VI grant competition. When the dust cleared, U-M CSEAS once again received designation as a National Resource Center. With the four-year grant, we will strengthen our wide-ranging campus programming, support the teaching of Southeast Asian languages, provide research and curricular funds, and embark on new and continuing outreach to K–12 schools and community colleges.

This admissions cycle, the International Institute (II) is initiating a new Masters in International and Regional Studies (MIRS) program. All current II MA programs will fall under the MIRS umbrella as regional tracks, so students will still be able to concentrate on Southeast Asian studies while obtaining a MIRS degree. More information is available at [ii.umich.edu/ii/graduates/masters-in-international-and-regional-studies.html](http://ii.umich.edu/ii/graduates/masters-in-international-and-regional-studies.html). CSEAS students will continue to take our required seminar and fulfill similar language and course requirements, but they will also have access to centralized courses and professional development that did not exist before. Most importantly, they will have an improved cohort experience with students focusing on other world regions.

This year, CSEAS has a new Associate Director, Laura Rozek (School of Public Health). Stay tuned for the winter newsletter for a featured story. We also have a visiting master gamelan teacher from Indonesia (page 10), and three Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants (page 1). Our visiting Fulbright scholar, Mae Caralde, is being hosted in Asian Languages and Cultures (page 5), and we have library fellows from Southeast Asia doing research on our collections arriving again in January and March.

Please check our website for the most current listings for our lecture series and the note that the annual gamelan concert will be at 4pm on December 9, at the Walgreen Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium. I hope to see you at our events!

Regards,

### Christi-Anne Castro

Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies  
Associate Professor, Ethnomusicology

## NEW AFFILIATED PHD STUDENTS SPOTLIGHT

*If you are a PhD student whose research includes Southeast Asia, we want to feature your work in our upcoming newsletters.*



### Gerald Sutton

*PhD, Asian Languages and Cultures*

Gerald Sutton is a first-year PhD student in Asian Languages and Cultures, with an interest in Korean and Vietnamese studies. After completing an undergraduate degree at U-M, Gerald spent a year in Korea on a Fulbright award researching Korean Vietnam War veterans' oral histories and war memories. After traveling to Vietnam, Gerald's research interests now include regional war memory in Vietnam and sub-imperialist legacies in Vietnam.



### Lai Yuan Wo

*PhD, Anthropology*

Lai is a first year PhD student in sociocultural anthropology interested in retirement migration to Southeast Asia. After receiving her BA at Rutgers University, she pursued an MPhil at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, where she examined the intimate transactional relationships between Southeast Asian domestic workers and western "expatriates" in Hong Kong's entertainment district. After another two years working with African asylum-seekers as a research assistant, Lai returned to the US to pursue her PhD. Her current project explores western migration, aging masculinity, and vulnerability/intimacy in Indonesia in the face of global restructuring.

## FULBRIGHT FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

This fall, the Southeast Asian language program welcome three 2018–2019 FLTAs. Selected through a rigorous application process in their home countries, FLTAs are an integral part of our Southeast Asian language programs. Students have a chance to connect with native speakers and gain perspective on the language region's culture through related activities.



### Kampeephorn Santipojchana

*Thai*  
Kampeephorn Santipojchana is from Bangkok, Thailand, and graduated with a BA in English from Mahidol University and an MA in

language and communication from the National Institute of Development Administration. She taught English at Rajamangala University of Technology Phra Nakhon before applying for the FLTA Program. Kampeephorn is enthusiastic to enhance her linguistic and cultural skills, as well as to develop professional skills while taking courses that align with her interests. After completing the program, she will apply her skills and experience to develop her English classes in Thailand.



### Lex Michael Guiritan

*Filipino*

Lex Michael is a doctoral candidate in applied linguistics education at the University of the Immaculate Conception in Davao City, Philippines. He holds BA and MA degrees in English language education. Prior to his education degrees, he earned a BA in music.

He is connected to the Department of Education at Agusan National High School. Additionally, Lex is affiliated with Agusan National Senior High School and writes scripts for events in his hometown, such as the Mutya Hong Butuan and the Balik-Butuanon. He has also worked as a theater arts facilitator and has presented a paper on language studies and the performing arts at a linguistics conference in Thailand.



### Ni Made Ariani

*Indonesian*

Ni Made Ariani hails from Ubud, Bali, Indonesia. For five years she taught in the English department at Sekolah Tinggi Bahasa

Asing (STIBA) Saraswati Denpasar. Ariani holds a BA in English and an MA in applied linguistics and translation studies. Since coming to Ann Arbor she has enjoyed exploring the town and making friends with many wonderful people. In addition to sharing Indonesia's culture and language, Ariani is excited to improve her English skills. Upon the completion of the program, she will continue to pursue English language education, incorporating her understanding of American and international cultures.

## GRADUATING STUDENT

### Samuel Farris, MA, Southeast Asia Studies

Samuel Farris is completing his final semester after returning from a 2017–2018 Boren Fellowship in Bangkok, Thailand. During the program, Sam studied Thai at Chulalongkorn University, and later interned at Indorama Ventures, a global petrochemical company, in Investor Relations. Sam's research focuses on the relationship between provincial minimum wages and national expectations, and the impact of Burmese regularization of low-skilled workers to drive up wages. He hopes to move back to Thailand to work as an investor relations officer in the private sector after fulfilling his obligation to government service under the fellowship.



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Editor: Alison Rivett

Managing Editorial Assistants: Rebecca Selin, Richard Smith, and Natalie Tantisirirat

## NEW FILIPINO LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR

**Irene Gonzaga** has been teaching Filipino Language for more than twenty years. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in secondary education Filipino in 1995 and Master's degree in Filipino in 2006 from De La Salle University Dasmariñas in the Philippines. For most of her



career as an educator, she served as faculty at DLSU-D, teaching Filipino language and literature courses. From 2005 to 2010, Irene served as host to Fulbright scholars who came to the Philippines

for cultural immersion in the Advanced Filipinos Abroad Program of the University of Hawaii Manoa. Although she did not teach in the program, Irene's close involvement as host to the scholars sparked her passion for teaching Filipino as a heritage language. Soon after, she began teaching Filipino as a foreign language to the university's international students, eventually becoming the course coordinator. She moved to California with her family in 2017.

Irene's passion for teaching extends beyond the university. As a young teacher in late 90s, she taught classes in both grade school and high school. In 2015, shortly before moving to the US, she co-founded Little Wonders, an inclusive play-based learning center for toddlers. The learning center presently thrives and continues to grow. In California, Irene worked in The School of Imagination and Happy Talkers as a preschool teacher. Irene considers the Filipino language lecturer position at the University of Michigan to be an exciting new adventure and an opportunity to expand her advocacy in cultivating heritage language and culture in the Filipino-American community.

## CSEAS VISITING SCHOLAR

**Ericson Borre** is an Augustinian priest who visited U-M from the Philippines via his current doctoral work in Spain. Originally aiming to complete an ecclesiastical degree, he decided to pursue European history and Southeast Asia relations when there were no appropriate programs in his area. His dissertation is on the Colonial period of America in the Philippines. Ericson is chiefly interested in detailing and evaluating U.S. campaigns in the Philippines between 1898 and 1941. What were America's militaristic, cultural, architectural, or even religious plans? What happened to the pre-existing Spanish culture and policies? U-M libraries were ideal for Ericson's research due to the vast collection of English-, Spanish-, and Filipino-language newspapers, journals, and magazines.



Ericson hopes to return to Ann Arbor one day, saying the people are incredibly nice and the university's resources, especially the late library hours, are ideal. However, he was grateful for Filipino friends who were able to help as he adjusted to the local food. He is currently in his second year of his doctoral degree and hopes to complete it by 2020 when he may return to the Philippines to teach European history.



## CSEAS K-12 TEACHER TRAVEL GRANT

Clinton High School social studies teacher **Jeff Delezenne** (above left) and Cedar Springs Middle School history teacher **Shayne Dove** (above right) were awarded CSEAS K-12 educator grants, funding their travel to Southeast Asia. Both educators participated in a Global Exploration for Educators Organization (GEEO) trip to Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos from June 29 to July 12. This travel opportunity expanded horizons and led to professional growth. "I'm grateful for the... firsthand experience of countries that I teach about in my World History classes," writes Delezenne. "These experiences enrich my teaching."

In each place, the GEEO group learned about local religion, material culture, and history, visiting sites such as Buddhist temples and an education center focusing on the dangers of undetonated landmines left over from the Vietnam War. Dove was inspired by his experience: "The largest impact... will be on my teaching about the spread and role of Buddhism in Asia." Since returning, he "has enjoyed sharing [his] experience with fellow social studies educators, and [looks] forward to incorporating these new understandings into future professional development sessions on teaching with a global mindset."



## CSEAS ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

# KRISTIAN SENDON CORDERO

**W**hen I don't write, I don't breathe" mused poet, author, and filmmaker Kristian Sendon Cordero in an interview with CSEAS staff. Writing has been central to Cordero's identity since his childhood, when he used writing as a way to communicate with his mother who had moved abroad for work. With threads of local vs. national, national vs. universal, and the personal vs. the imperial running throughout the Filipino poet's work, he was an excellent candidate for CSEAS' first ever Artist Residency this past summer, when he wrote a new screenplay. Prior to his term as Artist-in-Residence, he had visited U-M in the Fall of 2017 to present a screening of his film, *Hinulid* (The Sorrows of Sita). One of his largest screenings in the United States, this event drew in crowds from the local Filipino community as well as faculty, students, and staff from U-M.

Cordero hails from the far Southeast region of Luzon, where the local language is Bikol, a language distinct from the Philippines' national tongue. His strong ties to local Bicolano language and geography surface in his art, much of which is produced in the Bikol language. From the landscape of southern Luzon and vivid recollections of a childhood spent there, to the spectre of American and internal Filipino imperialism, the themes of Cordero's writing and films evoke a sense of peripheral identity. Having now spent time in America, he retains a feeling that "America haunts you...it's a thing that follows you. It's a part of your geography [for Filipinos]." CSEAS was happy to host Artist-in-Residence Cordero, whose presence has the power to simultaneously incite raucous laughter and deep reverie of self-reflection in his listeners.



## NEWLY RETIRED FACULTY AFFILIATE

# BERIT INGERSOLL-DAYTON

*Professor Emerita of Social Work*

After graduating from U-M with her Ph.D. in 1982, Professor Ingersoll-Dayton returned as a faculty member ten years later and has helped develop vibrant relationships between U-M and Southeast Asia; in particular, Thailand.

Professor Ingersoll-Dayton moved to Thailand when she was only six months old and she spent much of her childhood and adolescence travelling between the US and Thailand as her father was a professor. Growing up with Thai children, speaking Thai (and a bit of Lao), and listening to Thai folk music, Thailand has been a natural interest in her research. Her main projects involving Thailand, as well as her work as a thesis supervisor for Thai students, predominantly have involved adapting and developing models of psychological research that are more culturally appropriate for those who grow up in Thailand.

From working as an Au Pair in Norway during her undergrad years, to serving on the dissertation committees of two visiting Thai students, Berit has had the opportunity to establish connections like these that have lasted a lifetime. Moving forward, Berit hopes to aid her Thai colleagues in publishing more widely in Thai and English. She wishes to visit and connect with sites around the world for their beauty and spiritual affect—La Plaine des Jarres in Laos nearing the top of the list. We wish Berit Ingersoll-Dayton continued happiness and success in her ventures!

## NEW AFFILIATED FACULTY

SEAS welcomes our recent faculty affiliates. Faculty interested in becoming affiliates are not required to devote all of their research or teaching to Southeast Asia—we welcome all with interest in the region.



### NACHIKET CHANCHANI

Associate Professor, History of Art  
Associate Professor, Asian Languages and Cultures  
Adjunct Professor, School of Law

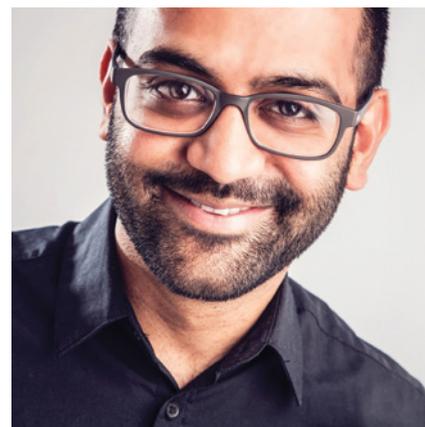
Nachiket Chanchani has wide-ranging interests, from the formulation of cultural policy to the development of strategies to protect landscapes of archaeological, historical, and ecological significance. He also researches and writes on the interplay of cosmopolitan and vernacular languages; on the social, symbolic, and formal origins of temple architecture, and on the art of yoga. Nachiket's first monograph, *Temple Mountains and Mountain Temples: Architecture, Religion, and Nature in the Central Himalayas*, published by the University of Washington Press in early 2019, explicates how a remote mountainous landscape around the glacial sources of the Ganga River in the Central Himalayas was transformed into a region encoded with deep meaning and one approached by millions of Hindus as a primary locus of pilgrimage. His current book project, "Scrolling Forward," theorizes strategies to account for the production, dissemination, and performance of the linguistically hybrid and profusely painted scrolls and manuscripts of western India. He is Consulting Curator of South and Southeast

Asian Art at the Detroit Institute of Arts, and has been awarded fellowships from the Asian Cultural Council, New York; Akshara Foundation, Ahmedabad; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC; Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Amsterdam; Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin; and other organizations.

### MUZAMMIL M. HUSSAIN

Assistant Professor of Communication Studies  
Faculty Associate, Institute for Social Research

Muzammil M. Hussain's interdisciplinary research is at the intersection of global communication, comparative politics, and complexity studies. At Michigan, he teaches courses on research methods, digital politics, and global innovation. His published books include *Democracy's Fourth Wave? Digital Media and the Arab Spring* (Oxford University Press, 2013), a cross-national comparative study of how digital media and information technologies have supported the opening-up of closed societies in the Middle East and North Africa, and *State Power 2.0:*



*Authoritarian Entrenchment and Political Engagement Worldwide* (Ashgate Publishing, 2013), an international collection detailing how governments, both democracies and dictatorships, are working to close down digital systems and environments around the world. He has authored numerous research articles, book chapters, and industry reports examining global ICT politics, innovation, and policy, including pieces in *The Journal of Democracy*, *The Journal of International Affairs*, The Brookings Institution's *Issues in Technology and Innovation*, The InterMedia Institute's *Development Research Series*, *International Studies Review*, *International Journal of Middle East Affairs*, *The Communication Review*, *Policy and Internet*, and *Journalism: Theory, Practice, and Criticism*. His website is mmhussain.net, and he tweets from @m\_m\_hussain.



### RICK NEITZEL

Associate Professor and Associate Chair,  
Environmental Health Sciences  
Associate Professor, Global Public Health

Dr. Rick Neitzel is an exposure scientist whose research focuses on the characterization of exposures to noise, heavy metals, and injury risk factors, as well as on a range of health outcomes associated with these exposures. His work, and the work of his team in the U-M Exposure Research lab, takes place in occupational and community settings both domestically and abroad. For the past three years he has been evaluating exposures and health impacts associated with informal electronic waste recycling in Thailand and Chile. He has a strong interest in translating his research findings into occupational and public health practice. He is vice chair of the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists Threshold

Limit Values-Physical Agents Committee, a fellow of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and has been a Certified Industrial Hygienist since 2003.



### CYRUS PEÑARROYO

Assistant Professor, Architecture and Urban Planning

Cyrus Peñarroyo is a Filipino-American designer and educator whose work explores the effects of contemporary media and digital culture on architecture, in particular on how the circulation of images and the means behind their construction are reshaping the built environment. He is an assistant professor at the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture + Urban Planning, where he was the William Muschenheim Fellow in 2015–16. Previously, he taught at Princeton University and Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. He worked for LTL Architects and Office for Metropolitan Architecture in New York, and Bureau Spectacular in Chicago. He was Project Lead on *Manual of Section*, published by Princeton Architectural Press and *Cities Without Ground: A Hong Kong Guidebook*, published by ORO. His work has been exhibited in New York, Boston, São Paulo, Rotterdam, and Venice, as well as in publications including CLOG and Pidgin. Cyrus received his M Arch from Princeton University and his BS in Architectural Studies Summa Cum Laude from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is a partner in the Ann Arbor-based design practice EXTENTS with McLain Clutter.



### GEORGE WHITE

Associate Professor of Strategic Management  
Department of Management & Marketing  
School of Management  
University of Michigan-Flint

Dr. White's expertise lies in global strategy. His research studies the interaction between legal institutions and multinational enterprise (MNE) strategic behavior and performance outcomes, primarily in Southeast Asia. Dr. White is currently conducting a multi-year research study investigating the influence of the legal environment on MNE strategic behavior and performance outcomes in the Philippines and Thailand. He has performed extensive fieldwork in Southeast Asia surveying senior executives of MNE foreign subsidiaries as well as managers of local electric cooperatives regarding their strategic behavior and performance. His research has been published in a wide array of business and international law journals. He also serves as a Core Faculty member in the International and Global Studies Program at the University of Michigan-Flint and as a Non-Resident Research Fellow with the Asian Institute of Management in the Philippines.

### U-M FULBRIGHT FELLOW FROM THE PHILIPPINES MAE CARALDE

Fulbright Fellow, Media Studies



Mae Urtal Caralde is a lecturer in the communication department at De La Salle University, Manila. She is a PhD candidate in Media Studies in the College of Mass Communication, University of the Philippines, where she obtained her MA in Media Studies (Film) and BA Fine Arts Major in visual communication. She is an independent filmmaker, and her creative works and research interests are focused on women and gender representations, bodies, and martyrdom. Her documentary film entitled "YANAN," won the 2015 Lourdes Lontok Cruz Award for Best Thesis and Dissertation in Women's and Gender Studies and was screened in several film festivals and communities. Under a Fulbright-CHED research grant, she is currently working on her dissertation about necropolitics and the mediation of political narratives of the nation. Ms. Caralde is also affiliated with the Cultural Center of the Philippines as head of the center's Film, Broadcast, and New Media Division.

# FACULTY RESEARCH TRAVEL



Professor Deirdre de la Cruz encounters *sili* (chili pepper) ice cream for the first time in Naga City

## DEIRDRE DE LA CRUZ

Deirdre de la Cruz, associate professor of Philippine Studies in the Asian Languages and Cultures Department, traveled to both the Philippines and Montana as part of the Integrating SEA into the Curriculum grant. In February, Deirdre traveled to the Philippines to consult with colleagues on the possible preservation of the private collection of William Henry Scott, an ethnohistorian who published extensively on the pre-colonial Philippines. She then traveled to Baguio where she did both archival and ethnographic research. This research in the Philippines led her to travel to Montana over the summer to conduct further archival research at a private collection.

Professor de la Cruz traveled to the Philippines to consult with colleagues on the possible preservation of the private collection of William Henry Scott, an ethnohistorian who published extensively on the pre-colonial Philippines.

Her current project and forthcoming book focuses on Baguio during the 1970s–1980s as the faith healing center of the Philippines. It will trace the genealogy of Filipino new age spiritual practices and the conceptualization of “spirits” as they manifest in different forms of communications and uses. Through archival research, library research, and interviews in Baguio, she intends to establish exactly when and why Baguio became a real touristic center for psychic surgeons. Deirdre hopes to travel to Baguio again next summer to collect more information and conduct follow-up interviews with healers.

In addition to conducting research, Deirdre also gave a lecture on apparitions of Mary in the Philippines at the Ateneo de Naga, in Naga City, at the invitation of former CSEAS artist-in-residence Kristian Sendon Cordero. It was the first time she had traveled to the Bicol region.

## NACHIKET CHANCHANI

Grant Recipient, CSEAS First-Time Faculty Travel to Southeast Asia

In the ninth century, Indravarman I, the ruler of the ascendant Khmer Empire, sponsored the construction of a sacred compound at Bakong village in the Siem Reap floodplains of northwestern Cambodia. More sprawling and higher than any other in the empire, the compound was dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva. Modern historians who have written about the compound have been primarily concerned with its inscriptions, using them to trace the vicissitudes of the emergent Khmer Empire’s power struggles and to set Bakong within the vast aesthetic and political sphere of the Sanskrit cosmopolis. However, the sacred compound’s design, construction, and legacies remain largely unexplored. Diverse natural and anthropogenic pressures have also destroyed much of Cambodia’s historical fabric. This loss of crucial evidence and the contact between civilizations that flourished in and beyond Cambodia took me this summer to India, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Singapore to search for clues.

Bas reliefs and architectural fragments at the National Museum in Phnom Penh hint that the technology of temple construction in the Siem Reap floodplains commenced around the sixth century CE, long after Hinduism permeated the region. The earliest temples, these reliefs indicate, were built of impermanent materials such as bamboo, palm-matting, and thatch, just as temples around Pematang and Danau Bratan are built today. They were often sited, like Hindu temples in Sanur and elsewhere in the Gianyar Regency, near confluences of rivers, lake-shores, or escarpments overlooking the ocean.

The technology of brick temple construction was imported to the Siem Reap plains in the eighth century, perhaps from M̄j Sơn in neighboring Vietnam. As the well-preserved examples at Preah Ko and Lolei in Bakong’s immediate environs attest, brick temples consisted of square plan sanctums with central projections. I found that the eight unevenly preserved shrines at the cardinal and sub-cardinal points of the island at Bakong were built in the tradition of projections, multiple-metaphors, stucco, and stone. Enormous



“[A] loss of crucial evidence and the contact between civilizations that flourished in and beyond Cambodia took me this summer to India, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Singapore to search for clues.”

differences in scale and sophistication make it difficult to accept that a vernacular tradition alone informed the conception and construction of the temple complex. Sizable brick terraces crowned by the remains of Shiva linga shrines at Ahichhatra, Lakhmandal, and Pawaya in northern India are fifth- and sixth-century CE precursors for the complex at Bakong. This technological knowledge was likely transmitted to Cambodia by wandering Pashupata ascetics and texts such as the Vishnudharmottarapurana. My search continued to the Buddhist monument Borobodur, near Yogyakarta in central Java, where I preliminarily concluded that the aspects common to Bakong and Borobodur were the result of collaboration of central Javanese architects, masons, and stone carvers with Cambodian builders. These émigrés brought techniques and instruments, and, using tools as simple as rulers and ropes, laid out plans and carved fine pieces from unfamiliar hard stone.

My summer field research has also concluded that the complex at Bakong aimed to introduce a “new” Hinduism into the crowded religious marketplace of the Siem Reap floodplains, where Buddhism was gaining popular support and royal patronage, exemplified by the temple complexes in Angkor Thom and at Ta Prom Monastery. The promoters of this new Hinduism gave definitive formal characteristics to Bakong Temple and a succession of edifices built in its vicinity, today known as East Mebon, Ta Som, Beng Melea, Banteay Sri, and Angkor Vat.

Yet, despite the number and diversity of medieval Hindu temples in the Siem Reap floodplains and in the shadow of central Java’s great volcanos, classical temple Hinduism has faded from both regions. Buddhism and Islam have predominated in Cambodia and Indonesia respectively. I postulate that the very grandeur of Bakong and the succession of mountain temples across Southeast Asia ultimately contributed to Hinduism’s unmaking in the region. For, by building monumental edifices, new Hinduism seemed to have created deep rifts between elite patrons and the many and varied subaltern communities in the vicinity. Waves of Buddhist and Muslim missionaries to mainland and island archipelagoes may have pledged to rectify these societal imbalances. If a belief system inflected with classical Hinduism lives on in Bali, it is because the island’s temple builders have never aspired to distance worshippers from their cherished deities. Instead, by adapting vernacular building traditions into microarchitectural ensembles, they have made the transcendent immanent.

—Nachiket Chanchani

## THAI STUDIES STUDENT AWARDS

The 2018 Thai Studies Student Awards funded UM students to pursue original research, participate in career-building internships, and present at conferences around the world. With these awards, UM students are able to deepen ties with institutions and individuals in Thailand. The awards are funded by the Amnuay-Samonsri Viravan Endowment for Thai Studies.



### ALEXANDER ATKINSON

*BS, Civil Engineering*

This past May, I continued working with BLUElab and Chiang Mai University to source the causes and mitigate the effects of flash flooding in Mae Chan, Chiang Rai. My student organization, BLUElab, comprises a socially-engaged design project team that seeks to reframe the way engineers have historically attempted to solve environmental and societal problems. We've dismissed more "top-down," intrusive, and often harmful approaches and, instead, what we have done in Mae Chan is build relationships with community members and learn about local cultures and context through observation. This approach ensures that the determined needs of community (in my case, a need for flood

mitigation) are validated and substantiated, and that whatever engineering solution is devised exists in harmony with local structures. This summer, I made enormous strides towards my project goals while travelling to Mae Chan. Continuation of this work would not have been possible without the Thai Studies Award.



### CASSIDY LUKAART

*BS, Mechanical Engineering*

I received a Thai Studies Grant on behalf of my BLUElab research team. We revisited engineering needs, gathered information, and built and tested a prototype water jetting device used to clear sediment from stormwater sewers. Additionally, we facilitated the launch of a similar student project team at Chiang Mai University (CMU) called PURPLElab. In addition to the BLUElab goals, my teammates, CMU partners, and I achieved personal growth. My collaborators and I started the team during our first trip to Thailand in 2016. Seeing our progress makes this the most valuable part of my undergraduate career. It's exciting to have started a new team abroad, a first for any BLUElab team. I'm excited to support the team in any way I can as a graduate.

### CHANON KENJI PRAEPIATMONGKOL

*PhD, Art History*

This grant made possible my attendance and participation at the 2018 College Art Association Annual Conference (February 21-24, 2018) in Los Angeles. I participated on the panel "New Approaches to Contemporary Asian Art," serving as chair and speaker. Topics on the panel ranged from abstract painting in Thailand and socialist realist painting in South Korea to conceptual and performance art in the Philippines and Vietnam. The panel was a success, with quality scholarship and a large audience (50+ people).

I would like to thank the Center for Southeast Asian Studies and the Thai Studies Committee for making this panel possible.



### CHANTAL CROTEAU

*PhD, Anthropology*

The Thai Studies Grant program both funded my participation at the American Comparative Literature Association's annual meeting at UCLA in April and allowed me to return to the southern province of Phang Nga for preliminary fieldwork in May. My paper, "Remembering through ghosts in Takuapa, Thailand," explored the genre of the tsunami ghost story and the affective and sensory memories intertwined within these stories.

With the help of the Thai Studies Grant, I conducted ethnographic fieldwork in Phang Nga throughout the spring and summer 2018 terms. The majority of my time in Phang Nga was spent maintaining existing connections and building new relationships. In particular, I developed ties at several Buddhist temples in the region in order to gain a better sense of how ideas about karma and the inevitability of loss are being taught and explained to different groups of people in the community. I additionally strengthened the comparative nature of my long-term project by fostering relations in a Muslim town in the province. These interactions have significantly altered and advanced my research, allowing my topic to broaden in meaningful ways that I strive to address and work through this academic year.

### ELIZABETH GUTHRIE

*MPH, Industrial Hygiene*

My grant supported my participation in a three-week research-based internship in Chiang Rai, Thailand. As part of a partnership between the School of Public Health and Mae Fah Luang University (MFLU), I worked with Assistant



Professor Dr. Kowit Nambunmee and his students on a research project that focused on understanding the pesticide exposure of farmers outside of Chiang Rai, Thailand. In addition to assisting with this research project, I also made a visit to a tea factory with another MFLU professor in order to monitor air quality. I was able to learn the strategies used to quantify and understand workplace exposures in Thailand and how these differ from those of nations with more workplace regulations.



### MAI ZE VANG

*MA, Southeast Asian Studies*

*MPP, Public Policy*

My award gave me the opportunity to intern with the Ministry of Education in Bangkok, Thailand. It not only provided financial support but gave me the opportunity to learn about the challenges underrepresented groups encounter when accessing higher education. I worked with Ms. Dockiao, Director of the Bureau of International Cooperation Strategy, analyzing the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF) and

National Qualifications Framework (NQF). I also participated in forums with international organizations on establishing strategic approaches to improve higher education. My time in Thailand taught me the importance of collaborating with communities and including their perspectives when writing and implementing policy. However, I still have much to learn about the structural, political, and administrative issues behind the problems facing marginalized populations. I look forward to returning to Thailand again next summer to better understand these challenges. I am thankful for this award as I look towards the future and strive to bring more compassion and kindness to the world.

### NATALIE TANTISIRIRAT

*MA, Southeast Asian Studies*

The Thai Studies Award gave me the opportunity to complete an internship and conduct fieldwork in Bangkok, Thailand, this past summer. My internship was at Wedu, a social enterprise that focuses on women's leadership development. The experiences I gained working with the management team and the marketing and communications team were invaluable. Additionally, I was able to conduct field research for my master's thesis, which looks at advertisements in relation to performative motherhood in the Thai cultural context. I talked to fellow Thai academics about possible sources, developed relationships for potential contacts and interviews, and collected information and data for my thesis. I am grateful to the Center



for Southeast Asian Studies in awarding me the opportunity to work and research in Thailand this summer.

### ROSS BAIERS

*MPH, Public Health*

With my summer Thai Studies Award, I served as Visiting Scholar at the Thai Red Cross AIDS Research Centre in Bangkok, Thailand. My project's purpose was twofold: understanding how demographic factors impact HIV service and antiretroviral therapy uptake, and examining how Thai practices can be used in the United States. I gained a wealth of experience from these three months spent living and working in Thailand. Before my internship, I had never been to Thailand; in fact, I had never been to Asia. While integrating into a new culture was a difficult process, I was able to learn many skills necessary for a career in global public health in which I will work in many countries. This opportunity was crucial for my personal and professional development.



# GAMELAN GUEST DIRECTOR

Visiting artist, **Raharja**, joins the U-M gamelan as guest director for the Fall 2018 semester. Raharja is professor of karawitan (Javanese musical arts) at the Indonesian Institute of the Arts in Yogyakarta (ISI Yogyakarta). He comes to the University of Michigan through the sponsorship of the Indonesian Department of Research and Higher Education's Scheme for Academic Mobility and Exchange (SAME) program. While humble when asked, Raharja has a formidable list of career achievements.



From a long line of musicians, Raharja began studying karawitan as a four-year-old with his father, who worked as a musician in the Sultan's court and with the national radio (RRI) in Yogyakarta. Raharja followed in his father's footsteps, working as a studio musician for RRI after graduating from performing arts high school in 1989. Only two years after graduating high school, he received an invitation to teach at the University of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. His appointment there was the first in a series of European and American universities, where he

enjoys sharing his expertise with foreign students.

After graduating from ISI in 1995, Raharja returned to the Netherlands to teach before joining the ISI faculty. Since then, he has taught at the University of Illinois (1997-2002) and Cornell University (2002-2003). Raharja was pleased when he got his current appointment at U-M, as he has fond memories of performing with the U-M gamelan in 2000.

Enthusiastic about teaching gamelan to American students, Raharja holds that "to begin studying a country [in greater depth], the initial motivation can come from many things, not the least of which its culture [and music]".

CSEAS and the members of the gamelan are lucky to benefit from Raharja's instruction this semester. His teaching is meticulously structured and above all carried out with a sense of humor and enthusiasm.



## TRANSLATE-A-THON

CSEAS students, faculty, and Fulbright Language Teaching Assistants present and past participated in the Language Resource Center's annual Translate-a-Thon, making Southeast Asia a major language region represented at the event. Unfortunately, the supply of translators was greater than the demand for translated texts from local government and non-profit organizations. However, Indonesian language translators Kusumawati (former FLTA, participating by video conference from Palangkaraya, Indonesia), Ni Made Ariani (current FLTA), and Rebecca Selin (CSEAS MA student) made use of the opportunity to translate a classic Indonesian

short story into English. Vietnamese and Thai language lecturers, Thuy Anh Nguyen and Aimkamon Bunnee also participated in the two-day, 16-hour translation marathon.



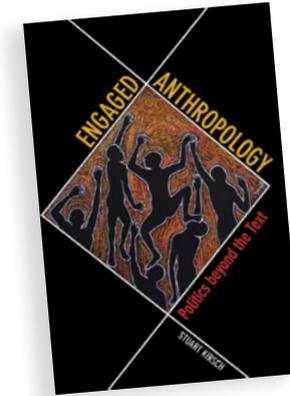
# INDONESIA FORUM

CSEAS Affiliate and Professor of Political Science **Allen Hicken** presented at ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute/University of Michigan Indonesia Forum in Singapore in September. He provided welcoming remarks and moderated a politics panel featuring such high-profile figures as Yenny Wahid, former Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid's daughter and Director of the Wahid Foundation. This forum brought together scholars and businesspeople from many universities and corporations interested in the important Southeast Asian political and economic power that is Indonesia.

Also in attendance at this international and interdisciplinary forum were several U-M alumni now working in the nonprofit and business consulting sectors. 2018 Ross MBA Graduate Belinda Ong remarked, "I was really glad I went to the forum; it's a very good primer for any upcoming projects in Indonesia." Discussions revolved around topics of political and economic importance regarding Indonesia, especially the rise of identity politics in the highly polarized 2019 presidential race and levels of Chinese involvement in Indonesian venture capitalism.

## TRANSLATION SPOTLIGHT

U-M professor of Anthropology **Stuart Kirsch**, along with Mike Cookson and Jason Macleod, penned the obituary of West Papuan artist Donatus Moiwend, entitled "Angels in Papua" in August 2018. Moiwend, an advocate for the promotion of Papuan identity through culture, gave Kirsch permission to use one of his paintings for the cover image of his recent book, *Engaged Anthropology: Politics Beyond the Text*. To extend the reach of the article to members of Moiwend's own community, Kirsch sought support from CSEAS for a translation into Indonesian. The center, with help from U-M professor of Asian Studies Nancy Florida, put him in contact with the former Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant, Nisa Azam, who was able to do the translation. The result was published in Kosapa Komunitas Sastra Papua, and it became one of their most popular posts,



successfully reaching a much wider audience. A link to the archived article and translation is available on the CSEAS website.

### Malaikat-malaikat di Papua: Mengenang Donatus Moiwend.

by Venika Kusumawati



Tulisan ini merupakan terjemahan dari obituaris seniman Papua, Bapa Donatus Moiwend yang ditulis oleh Mike Cookson, Stuart Kirsch, dan Jason Macleod dari wawancara dengan Bapa Moiwend pada tahun 2006, 2014, dan 2016. Redaksi Kosapa mengucapkan terimakasih yang sebesar-besarnya kepada Rosa Moiwend and Professor Stuart Kirsch. Foto-foto dalam artikel ini merupakan milik keluarga Moiwend. Tulisan ini diterjemahkan dari versi Inggris oleh Nisa Azam.

Dengan rasa duka yang mendalam kami memberitakan bahwa Donatus Moiwend, seorang seniman visioner Papua Barat, belum lama ini meninggal dunia. Donatus Stefanus Mulo Moyuwend lahir di Merauke pada sekitar akhir Perang Dunia II. Dia merupakan warga suku Maklex, sebuah sub-suku dari Mardid Anim (sebelumnya ditulis Mardid Anim). Moiwend adalah seorang seniman otodidak yang melukis dengan beragam gaya. Dia juga membuat patung, menghiasi gereja dengan karyanya, dan bahkan mengokupresikan visi keseniannya dalam lanskap. Dia senang merendai karyanya dengan "Donat", mengingat sebelumnya telah ada Monet, Manet, dan Bonnet.

Moiwend adalah seorang anggota aktif dari gerakan kebangkitan kebudayaan Papua Barat pada akhir 1970an dan awal 1980an, yang dipimpin oleh seorang antropolog, kurator museum, dan etnomusikolog Arnold Ap. Kegiatannya meliputi revitalisasi musik rakyat, tari, budaya material, dan desain Papua Barat. Gerakan ini berakhir dengan riba-riba setelah penangkapan Ap dan kematiannya di tangan pemerintah pada April 1984, setelah protes menentang pendudukan Indonesia di Papua Barat. Pada waktu itu Moiwend juga ditahan oleh tentara Indonesia, namun kemudian dibebaskan. Dia terus membuat lukisan dan patung dengan pesan politik sepanjang hidupnya, tapi dia tidak pernah membicarakan politik secara langsung, melainkan melalui karya seninya.

# ZENAIDA FULGENCIO

With heavy hearts, the U-M community bids farewell to beloved Filipino language lecturer, Zenaida Fulgencio, who was a cornerstone of the university and Ann Arbor Filipina/o and Philippine Studies communities.



Ms. Fulgencio, affectionately known by her many students, colleagues, and friends as Tita Zeny, or Aunt Zeny, passed away on August 11 in Los Angeles. A figure of near legendary status among those who knew her, Tita Zeny moved to Ann Arbor at short notice to fill an unexpected vacancy as Filipino lecturer six years ago. After her arrival, Filipino language enrollment numbers began to climb. Students remember her engaging and interactive lessons, no doubt influenced by her previous career as a primary school teacher in the Philippines. She is also remembered for her caring personality; in the words of Irish Mae G. Fernandez, her 2014 Fulbright Teaching Assistant, Tita Zeny “always made sure those around her are comfortable and happy”.

CSEAS held a simple memorial for Tita Zeny on September 7 in Weiser Hall. The room was filled past capacity with students, staff, and faculty whose lives Tita Zeny had touched. Her Southeast Asian Language lecturer colleagues Thuy-Anh Nguyen, Agustini, and Aimkamnon Bunmee shared poignant memories with Tita Zeny, and many former Filipino Fulbright teaching assistants sent statements and even poetry to be read at the event. Here are some of these recollections:

“Your smile always lighten up the day  
you always tell me to pray  
you made me love teaching  
and encouraged me to have a purpose & passion-  
driven living

Your hugs would make Michigan snow  
warmer and low  
I found a home with you  
I found a Nanay, a mother  
I found you, Tita.”

**From Adelle with love**

“She has not only been my mentor; but also, my second mom....Meeting Tita Zeny and Tito Gerry, it seems that I found my home away from home. Tita taught me a lot, professionally and personally...She said, don't show everyone what you are capable of; but instead, let other people appreciate your capabilities. It still pains me so much that I can no longer see her smile. To Tita Zeny, I know you're in our Creator's hands, and I miss you so much.”

**William Paglinawan**

**Goodbye, Tita Zeny.  
You will be remembered and missed.**

# AKIKO NOZAWA

Affiliated CSEAS scholar in musical anthropology, Dr. Akiko Nozawa came to Michigan from her home in Nagoya, Japan, serendipitously. Her husband's company asked him to transfer to Michigan, and they assumed that he would go alone while she remained in Japan, where she taught at a local university. However, after discovering that Judith Becker, whose work she had read as part of her research on Indonesian performing arts, was at U-M, Dr. Nozawa decided to contact her. “I still remember how happy I was when I met Professor Becker and saw the amazing collection at Hatcher Library for the first time...I am convinced that my decision was right, and U-M is the richest environment for Southeast Asian Studies,” writes Nozawa.

Originally from a family of Shinto priests, Dr. Nozawa studied western aesthetics and philosophy as an undergraduate, but “could not help feeling a huge gap between what I was learning and my cultural background.” After discovering anthropology in an elective class, she traveled to Bali in 1994 and “fell in love with Balinese culture...I deeply felt [its] ritual culture and performing arts are somewhat similar to my background.” Since then, Dr. Nozawa wrote her doctoral dissertation and a book entitled *An Ethnography of the*



**“I still remember how happy I was when I met Professor Becker and saw the amazing collection at Hatcher Library for the first time.”**

*Sacred Iron Metallophone Ensemble of Selonding: Life, Ritual, and Music in Tanganan Pegeringsingan Village, Bali* (both published in Japanese). The book is about the oldest Balinese gamelan, selonding, which has been performed since the 11th century. Currently, she is working with Indonesian colleagues on an interdisciplinary project between anthropology, archaeology, and the performing arts funded by the Toyota Foundation. This project highlights connections between reliefs at a Hindu monument in East Java and the “living heritage” of wayang kulit (shadow puppetry).

When asked about the importance of supporting the studies of gamelan and Southeast Asia, Dr. Nozawa, who has made regular gifts to CSEAS during her time here, reflects, “If you are a musician, gamelan will teach you something new to apply to your music. For those engaged in other fields, you will improve yourself by learning from others. Indonesia has a long history of multiculturalism, so people know that *saling belajar* (learning from each other) and *saling memaafkan* (forgiving each other) are the keys to happiness.” She hopes that current and future students of Southeast Asian Studies can “love the whole process of their research (eating, chatting, and struggling), because the rich and deep culture of Southeast Asia deserves it!”

CSEAS is grateful to Dr. Akiko Nozawa for her generous contributions to the Strategic and Gamelan funds.

# DONATE TO CSEAS

CSEAS not only serves the UM community through funding research, from engineering (see pg. 8) to the humanities (see pg. 6–7), but a wider Southeast Michigan community. This can be seen in programs such as the K–12 teacher travel grant (pg. 2). While CSEAS is among a small number of centers of this kind to receive the status of Title VI National Resource Center, we still rely on the generosity of donors to sustain our programming. Currently, the center especially needs your support in order to assure that we can continue to invite high-caliber musicians, such as Pak Raharja, to lead the Javanese gamelan (see pg. 10).

Dr. Akiko Nozawa's story (at left) shows our center's global reach and underlines the impact that a gamelan program can have in a student's future trajectory. Donations from this year's fund drive will be directed to the CSEAS Strategic Fund (365095), the Javanese Gamelan Endowment (731164), and the Indonesian Alumni Student Support Fund (700174).

## HOW TO GIVE

[ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate](https://ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate)

Or mail a check made out to the University of Michigan to:

**Center for Southeast Asian Studies**

Weiser Hall, 500 Church St., Ste. 400  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1106

*Please specify the fund to which you would like to make your donation.*

*If you have no preference, consider giving to the CSEAS Strategic Fund 365095.*

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