



The University of Michigan

Winter 2008

Center for Southeast Asian Studies

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Student Transportation at Khon Kaen University, 2006
Photo by Ryan Hoover

From CSEAS Director Professor Linda Lim



Our Focus in this Newsletter is on our alumni in Southeast Asian Linguistics and Literature, who have made major contributions to the field in their research, teaching, and above all, their academic and professional leadership and entrepreneurship.

It has been most rewarding for me to interact with those who generously provided their time, their bios, photos and news of each other, especially as many of them were my own graduate student contemporaries at Michigan. The exercise also gave us the opportunity to review the signal contributions of our own faculty to the scholarly field, and more importantly, to the professional and personal lives of their graduate students.

As space permits, we will focus in future issues on faculty and alumni in other fields, but our absolute and relative numbers and collective contributions must be greatest in Southeast Asian language and literature. Given that academic jobs in this field are few and far between, I'm particularly impressed at the diverse ways that our alumni have managed to turn their training and scholarship into other fields of endeavor, both within and outside of higher education—showing us all that there is indeed life, success and happiness for Ph.D.s outside the ivory tower! Equally impressive are those who managed to continue with their Southeast Asian literary and linguistic passions outside of their professional employment.

And we note with pride the ongoing contributions of our alumni from Southeast Asia who returned to help develop the academic capacities of their home nations, as researchers, teachers and artists, both in academia and in the public lives of their countries.

The semester just past has been notable not just for our usual slew of lectures and other events (which can be viewed on our new website www.ii.umich.edu/cseas), but also for the memorable visits

The Center also just underwent an external review, the results of which were very positive. Looking ahead, I will be taking a hiatus from the Director's position for my sabbatical, leaving the Center in the capable hands of Allen Hicken, who will serve as Interim Director. In the meantime, both Allen and I will be participating in a major all-University of Michigan alumni event in Bangkok in June, the first of what we hope will be other such events elsewhere in the region in future. Also a first this summer are undergraduate study-tours

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of the Indonesian and Thai Ambassadors, and for the many cultural and culinary activities of our Southeast Asian-national student groups, which are ever-expanding in number, scope and ambition. Our Spring gamelan concert and end-of-year party celebrated the long and impressive career in ethnomusicology of former Center Director Judith Becker. We wish Judith a well-earned retirement and look forward to her continued involvement in the Center, following in the footsteps of our other retired faculty who remain incredibly active in research, teaching and traveling.

for students from throughout the university to all four countries whose languages we teach—Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. More on these exciting opportunities in our Fall newsletter.

Thank you as always for your interest and support. We are particularly grateful to the Thai Embassy for its continued generous support for our faculty research on, and administrative and student travel to, Thailand.

With best wishes,
Linda Lim, Director



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Program News

Indonesian Ambassador Visits U-M



Indonesian Ambassador Sudjadnan at the Asia Business Conference

Indonesian Ambassador to the United States Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat visited Ann Arbor in February, occasioning a weekend of Indonesia-centered activities on campus. The Ambassador gave the keynote address at the Ross School's 18th Annual Asia Business Conference which explored the theme of "Challenges to Asia's Growth."

Ambassador Sudjadnan's talk on "Growth and Interdependence in Asia," discussed the increase of trade and investment within the region, and his comments on ASEAN economic

cooperation and US-ASEAN economic relations were widely appreciated.

The visit was Pak Sudjadnan's first visit to the university, and he was accompanied by staff from both the Embassy in Washington and the Consulate General in Chicago. The Ambassador met with faculty and students specializing in Indonesian studies to discuss the University's academic program and ongoing research initiatives, and to brainstorm about ways to help increase American knowledge of and engagement with Indonesia.

As part of that effort, the Ambassador held a closed-door session with the twenty Knight-Wallace journalism fellows in residence at the University. CSEAS Director Linda Lim, also in attendance, characterized the discussion as "frank, insightful, and useful" for the professional

journalists who, with one exception, had little experience and knowledge of Indonesia. Pak Sudjadnan and his officers also met with members of PERMIAS, the Indonesian Students organization, and with Indonesian citizens from across Michigan and Northern Ohio.

The staff from the Consulate General remained in town for one night after the Ambassador's departure. They attended the PERMIAS Indonesian Cultural Night, of which the Consulate was a principal sponsor. The evening featured a delicious Indonesian dinner and a cultural tour of the archipelago, with dance performances by visiting artists Bambang Irawan and Noor Farida Ramahlina. Mas Bambang and Mbak Lina, who were visiting professors at Michigan in 2001-2002, are currently artists in residence at Cal Arts in Los Angeles.

Sompop Jantraka Awarded Wallenberg Medal

Prominent Thai anti-trafficking activist Sompop Jantraka received the University's Wallenberg Medal on March 13, 2008, in a ceremony at Rackham Auditorium attended by both U-M Provost Theresa Sullivan and Thai Ambassador to the United States Krit Garnjana-Goonchorn. Although Ambassador Krit had just visited Ann Arbor in October 2007, when he and his staff met with faculty, students and business leaders, he gladly returned to town to thank Sompop for his work and the University for what he called "this internationally prestigious honor accorded Khun Sompop."

The Wallenberg Medal is one of the University of Michigan's highest awards, bestowed annually on an outstanding humanitarian. Recipients are selected because their contributions, in the form of actions and/or writing, honor and perpetuate Raoul Wallenberg's own extraordinary accomplishments and human values. The concept of humanitarianism, demonstrated by Wallenberg on behalf of Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe, is intended to encompass the defense and rescue of all groups of human beings who are subject to exploitation and persecution.

For over fifteen years, Sompop has worked tirelessly to save children in Asia's Mekong sub-region from being sold into prostitution. In 1989, he founded the Development and Education Programme for Daughters and Communities (DEPDC). DEPDC works with impoverished children by providing shelter, education and various outreach activities (including a well-developed swimming program). Since its inception, DEPDC helped prevent thousands of children from succumbing to the sex industry or other exploitative child labor situations. Sompop's efforts earned him two Nobel Peace Prize nominations and a profile as an Asia Hero in *Time Magazine*. With few resources and many enemies, Sompop remains a strong force in the fight against human trafficking, and an excellent example of Thai activists and NGOs helping to engage and find solutions to problems affecting the whole region.

The medal ceremony was the climax of Sompop's six-day-long visit in Ann Arbor, but it was hardly the only highlight. Sompop met with students at the University, lectured in CSEAS' undergraduate course on Contemporary Social

Issues in Southeast Asia, and held discussions with graduate students at the Social Work and Law Schools. He spent a day in Tecumseh, Michigan, talking with seniors at Tecumseh Senior High School about leadership and community-based organizations for social and humanitarian change. Sompop was also interviewed for a documentary on the lasting effects of Peace Corps programs along with Rebecca Perham, the Peace Corps volunteer who first noticed Sompop when he was an indigent teenager on the streets of his hometown in Surat Thani province, brought him to school and taught him English.

For his own college-age son Sitha (who accompanied Sompop to Ann Arbor, as did his wife, Dusadee and his daughter, Kae-sai), the most fun part of the trip was being able to meet and swim alongside U-M student and Olympic champion Michael Phelps. To support his swimming program, which Sitha helps coach, Sompop has built the only regulation 50-meter pool in Northern Thailand at DEPDC, so the chance for Sitha to meet one of the world's best swimmers and to work with the Michigan coaches was a particular treat.



Sompop Jantraka with the Wallenberg Medal, flanked by Thai Ambassador Krit Garnjana-Goonchorn and Mrs. Ravewan Garnjana-Goonchorn

Faculty News



Having retired, Judith Becker will now have time to cultivate her garden.

After over forty years of inspired scholarship, dedicated teaching, devoted mentoring of her students and building a nationally and internationally prominent program in Javanese gamelan and performing arts, **Judith Becker** has retired from her position as Glenn McGeoch Collegiate Professor of Music. She was feted by colleagues and friends at a reception in her honor at the International Institute on April 16, where tributes from her former students around the world were read. Our Fall 2008 newsletter will feature a profile of Judith, her scholarship and legacy, including excerpts from the testimonials read at the reception. We are still glad to accept your appreciations of Judith, so please feel free to send them to Cindy Middleton at csmiddle@umich.edu. You can reach Judith directly at beckerj@umich.edu.

Ashu Varshney recently received two prestigious national awards in one week, both to support his research on ethno-communal violence. He received a 2008 Guggenheim Fellowship to support his work on "Cities and Ethnic Conflict: a Multi-country Study," which will analyze ethnic conflict in 15 cities from four countries: Indonesia, Nigeria, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Ashu has also been named as one of twenty new Carnegie Scholars by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, as part of a program of grants to enrich public discourse on Islam. Ashu's project for the Carnegie Corporation is entitled "Ethno-communal conflict, civil society and the state." The program is designed, according to Carnegie Corporation President Vartan Gregorian, to cultivate "a diverse scholarly community spanning a range of disciplines with the expectation that their voices will help Americans develop a more complex understanding of Muslim societies here and throughout the world—revealing Islam's rich diversity." Ashu's project gathering data from regional and local sources in Indonesia enters a new phase this summer under the sponsorship of the World Bank. His co-investigator, Prof. Rizal Panggabean of Gajah Mada University in Yogyakarta, will join Ashu and his team in Ann Arbor this May. varshney@umich.edu

In addition to welcoming **Allen Hicken** as the interim CSEAS Director, we congratulate him on his slew of recent publications. First and foremost are his new book *Building Party Systems in Developing Democracies*, Cambridge University Press (2008), and a chapter, "Developing Democracies in Southeast Asia: Theorizing the Role of Parties and Elections," in Erik Kuhonta, Daniel Slater, and Tuong Vu, eds., *Southeast Asia and Political Science: Theory, Region, and Method*, Stanford University Press (2008). Beyond that he has at least eight articles on subjects such as voting and education, electoral corruption, political engineering and party regulation, the politics of economic upgrading, and the politics of economic recovery, either recently in print or at press in journals that include *American Journal of Political Science*, *Asian Survey*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Journal of Politics* and *Crossroads*. ahicken@umich.edu

John Knodel along with Jiraporn Kespichayawattana, Suvinee Wiwatwanich and Chanpen Saengtienchai have recently published "Migration and Intergenerational Solidarity: Evidence from Rural Thailand." The publication examines the impact of out-migration from rural areas in Thailand on intergenerational solidarity. With increasing migration of young adults from rural areas to the towns and cities, Thailand offers an interesting case to examine the implications of migration for maintenance of relationships among family members of different generations. John gave a Friday-at-Noon lecture on the subject in November. jknodel@umich.edu

Henry Wright reports that he was part of a team which just published a lengthy monograph on a region culturally rooted in Southeast Asia: *Early State Formation in Central Madagascar: An Archaeological Survey of Western Avaradrano*, Museum of Anthropology Memoir No. 43. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology. hwright@umich.edu

CSEAS Center Associate **Catherine Hindman Reischl**, Clinical Assistant Professor of Educational Practice and Faculty Leader of Elementary Teacher Education, received the 2008 Rackham Master's Mentoring Award. creischl@umich.edu

With graduate students Lee Ann Wang, Jason Gavilan, Brian Chung, and Navaneetha Mokkil-Maruthur, **Sarita See** received funding from the Office of the Vice President for Research and Rackham for a Distinguished Faculty and Graduate Student Seminar "Global/Local Contradictions: Movements and Identifications in Asian and Asian American Studies," which sponsored a series of lectures and colloquia in 2007-2008. Sarita has also been jet-setting to various universities around the U.S. giving lectures on such subjects as cultures of the Philippine diaspora and Filipino-American postcoloniality. She presented "Racial Trembling and the Object of Possession: Video Works by Angel Shaw, Paul Pfeiffer, and Patty Chang" at the Association of Asian American Studies (AAAS) annual meeting, in Chicago in April 2008, and will present a paper on "'Five dollars per letter...two dollars fifty cents a day': Carlos Bulosan, Seasonal Labor, and the Wages of Romance" at the Eighth International Conference on Philippine Studies (ICOPHIL), in Quezon City, Philippines, in July 2008. ssee@umich.edu

Southeast Asian Language, Linguistics and Literature at Michigan

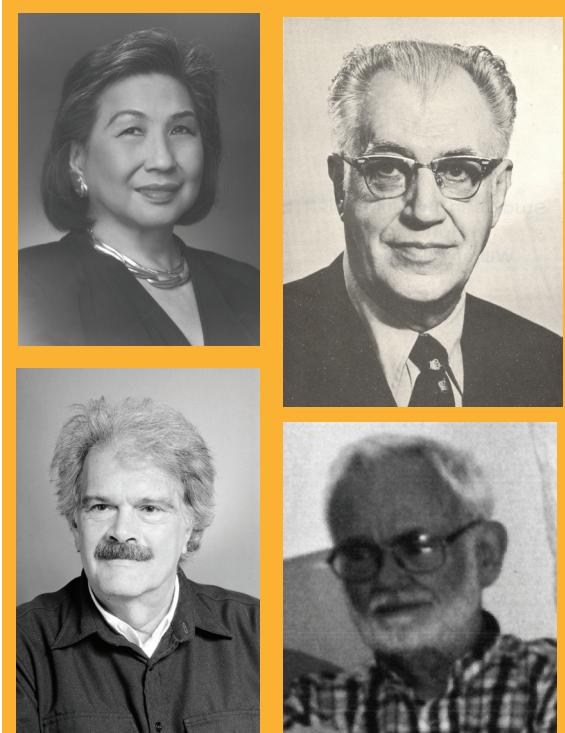
As the Center for Southeast Asian Studies approaches the upcoming 50th anniversary of our founding in 1961, we hope to take the time in our newsletters to reflect back. When alumni more than ten years out of Ann Arbor return to find us in our new suite of offices in the very modern International Institute, many invariably become nostalgic about the “good old days in Lane Hall,” where faculty and students packed into the crowded basement room for Friday lectures and visitors seeing people sitting on the tatami in the front lobby could be rightfully excused for being surprised that the language they heard being spoken was not Japanese, but rather Indonesian or Thai.

Language is at the core of all area studies, and with language acquisition, there is always a need for good teaching. Nostalgia for Lane Hall aside, when CSEAS alumni speak of their experiences here, much of what they talk about is their strong relationships with their teachers and mentors. Southeast Asian Studies at Michigan has been very fortunate to have been an early source of instruction on the major Southeast Asian languages, provided by a committed and talented faculty who has inspired generations of students. Bill Gedney started the teaching of Thai in 1960, while Netherlands Visiting Professor Hans Teeuw inaugurated Indonesian in 1963, and was followed by Alan Stevens, and then Alton (Pete) Becker. Becker's first Ph.D. student, Paz Buenaventura Naylor, inaugurated the teaching of Tagalog (Filipino) in 1977, and Vietnamese was introduced in 1992 by Nguyen Thi Nga.

Beyond the teaching of languages, the Michigan scholars we profile on the following pages —Pete Becker, Rob Burling, Bill Gedney and Paz Naylor — conducted pioneering research, including intensive fieldwork, on Southeast Asian languages, linguistics and literature, and related historical, cultural and social subjects. Their many dedicated Ph.D. students have continued this work and disseminated it, not only through their own individual teaching and research, but also through their academic entrepreneurship at other institutions.

John Hartmann and Patricia Henry have contributed much to the development of Northern Illinois University's Center for Southeast Asian Studies as a major location for publications on Southeast Asian linguistics. Together with colleagues in computer science and languages, and growing from a pioneering computer-aided instruction project at U-M, headed by Rob Burling and Pete Becker, they have developed SEAsite, an online resource for seven major Southeast Asian languages and cultures, www.seasite.niu.edu, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Tom Hudak and Karen Adams also developed a linguistics publications series at Arizona State University's Program in Southeast Asian Studies.

Tom Gething was instrumental in establishing the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI), a summer-intensive language consortium inaugurated at Michigan in 1983, which rotated through several other universities and is now at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where Bob Bickner serves as its Language Director. Bob and Patcharin Peyasantiwong started the Consortium for the Advanced Study of Thai (CAST) which runs in-country summer language training at Chiang Mai University. Tom Gething later took over administration of CAST, now headquartered at the University of Washington-Seattle, while Bob and Patcharin established the University of Wisconsin's College Year in Thailand program, now in its 25th year.



Clockwise t: Paz Naylor, Bill Gedney, Rob Burling, Pete Becker

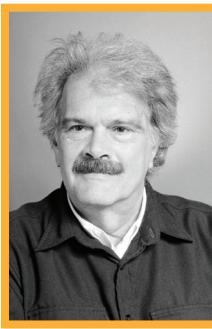
Michigan has long been an interdisciplinary place, so it is not unusual perhaps that even as linguistics and the study of languages and the histories and cultures that surround them increasingly diverge, scholars at Michigan have often been interested in both, reflecting long-time hybrid interests of their teachers. This interest continues with our current students. Linguistics doctoral student Eric Brown is interested in questions of language contact and change, particularly in Tai-Kadai languages and in studying language attrition among Lao immigrants and their children in California, while Anthropology doctoral student Hillary Brass is interested in language shift markers and the colloquial use of English as it is interspersed with modern Indonesian. Quite a few recent CSEAS Masters theses have focused on language and literature. Rebekah Linh Collins wrote about the “Viet Nam/American War in Vietnamese Poetry” in 2003, Shawn Callanan’s 2006 exploration of the language of Indonesian nationalism in the writings of Mas Marco is entitled

“Mata Gelap, Crossing Language,” and Jack Merchant explored the historical context of Nguyen Du’s *Tale of Kieu* in 2007. All three have continued on to doctoral programs, where their research continues.

With this Newsletter Focus, we are pleased and proud to celebrate the achievements, both in and outside of academia, of our past faculty and alumni in Southeast Asian languages, linguistics and literature. We begin with profiles of four former faculty – Becker, Burling, Gedney, and Naylor – and continue with brief and surely incomplete listings of their doctoral students, of where they have gone on to work, and of some of the research they have published. Taken together, this corpus forms the bedrock of Michigan’s enduring contribution to the field of Southeast Asian Studies in the United States, to which the dedication of these individuals has been, and remains, exemplary.

Help on our former faculty bios was gratefully received from Karen Adams (for Pete Becker), Mary Bresnahan (for Paz Naylor), John Hartmann and Tom Hudak (for Bill Gedney), and Patricia Henry (for Rob Burling).

Four Who Paved the Way: Profiles of Pete Beck



Alton L. (Pete) Becker graduated with a B.A. in English from the University of Michigan (1954), then went to the University of Connecticut for his M.A. (1956), returning to U-M for his Ph.D. (1967) which included field work

in Burma from 1958-1961 under a Fulbright. He taught writing in the School of Engineering as a Department of English Instructor, later becoming a faculty member in the Department of Linguistics. He served as Director of the Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies from 1972-73 and 1974-75.

Pete's dissertation, "A generative description of the English subject tagmemes," showed the influence of his internationally known mentor, Kenneth L. Pike, as well as Pete's lifelong interest in discourse analysis and text. Along with Pike and colleague Richard Young, Pete co-authored *Rhetoric: Discovery and Change* (1970), which has remained an influential book in the field; he and Young then inaugurated

a new Ph.D. concentration in Rhetoric, Composition, & Linguistics at Arizona State University.

Pete's frequent fieldwork in Burma, Indonesia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka, led to a rare understanding of the particularity of different languages and of languaging, taking old texts and reshaping them into present contexts. Among his publications are "Repetition and Otherness: An Essay" in Johnstone, ed., *Repetition in Discourse: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (1994) and "Culture Troping: A Dialogue Between A. L. Becker and Bruce Mannheim" in Tedlock and Mannheim, eds., *The Dialogic Emergence of Culture* (1995). His *Beyond Translation: Toward Modern Philology* (1995), a collection of many of his seminal essays, received the University of Michigan Press Book Award. Pete was also an accomplished gamelan puppeteer, and he co-authored articles on Javanese gamelan with his wife Judith Becker, together inspiring a generation of ethnomusicologists and musicians deeply steeped in the Javanese performing arts.

Pete's contributions to the field of linguistics and Southeast Asian Studies included hosting events such as the International

Conference on Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics, and participating in a Linguistic Society of America Summer Institute and SEASSI programs. He taught Old Javanese, other language and linguistics courses, mentored Ph.D. students with wide-ranging interests in text, language and context, and hosted numerous scholars from Southeast Asia and from Buddhist institutions, including Vidyadhara Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche.

Believing strongly in the importance of dialogue, Pete was a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton in 1982, and participated in the Michigan Society of Fellows. A conference organized by colleagues and students, "The Notion of Person: A Conference to Honor the Work of Alton L. Becker" was held in May 1996, and published in *Language Sciences* 21 (1999), the wide variety of topics discussed reflecting the breadth of his intellectual impact in many fields. Pete and Judith live in Ann Arbor, and Pete has been sighted chuckling at the *wayang sandosa* performances held in Hill Auditorium in recent years, enjoying both the interplay of languages and cultures, and the exposure of a new generation of U-M students to things that have enriched his life.

William J. Gedney graduated from Whitman College, Washington, in 1935. He was a high school English teacher in Oregon and Washington, studying linguistics at various summer institutes until he was drafted during World War II and assigned to the Army Language Unit in New York City, where he worked on Thai language. He obtained his Ph.D., entitled "Indic Loanwords in Spoken Thai", from Yale in 1947, then went to Thailand to continue his Thai language and literary studies. There, he started his collection of (eventually 14,000) Thai books and materials which he donated to the University of Michigan in 1975.

In 1960 Bill began teaching linguistics and Thai at Michigan, where he also developed language programs for the earliest Peace Corps training programs. For the next two decades, he conducted intensive research on more than 22 languages and dialects of the Tai language family. Published in eight lengthy volumes by the Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Michigan, many were edited by Tom Hudak and Bob Bickner, two of his legions of devoted Ph.D. students. Bill continued his research after retiring in 1980 from the Michigan Department of Linguistics, where he had served as Chair from 1972-75. He served as President of the American Oriental Society in 1982, and was also active in the Linguistic Society of America, the Siam Society, the Association for Asian Studies, the Southeast Asian Linguistic Society, and the International Conference on

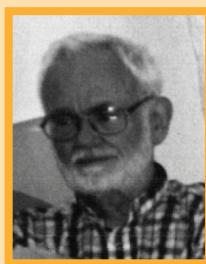


Sino-Tibetan Languages and Linguistics. Bill died in Ann Arbor in November 1999, but his work lives on including in that of his students, only some of which is represented here.

The following published works are selected to represent the breadth, depth, versatility and longevity of Bill's scholarship: *Life and Ritual in Old Siam* (1961); "A Comparative Sketch of White, Black, and Red Tai," *Social Science Review* (1964); "Thailand and Laos" in Sebeok, ed., *Current Trends in Linguistics: Linguistics in East Asia and Southeast Asia* (1967); "The Saek Language of Nakhon Phanom Province," *Journal of the Siam Society* (1970); "Notes on Tai Neua" in Gething, Harris and Kullavanijaya, eds., *Tai Linguistics in Honor of Fang-kuei Li* (1976); "On the Thai Evidence for Austro-Tai," *Computational Analyses of Asian and African Languages* (1976); "Linguistic Diversity in Indochina" in Whitmore, ed., *Introduction to Indochinese History, Culture, Language and Life* (1979); "Confronting the Unknown: Tonal Splits and the Genealogy of Tai-Kadai" in Thurgood, Matisoff and Bradley, eds., *Linguistics of the Sino-Tibetan Area* (1985); "A Gallery of Picturesque Personalities" in Bickner et al, eds., *Papers From A Conference on Thai Studies in Honor of William J. Gedney* (1986); "A Possible Early Thai Route to the Sea," *Journal of the Siam Society* (1988); "Tai Names for the Ox" in Davidson, ed., *Southeast Asian Linguistics: Essays in Honour of Eugenie J.A. Henderson* (1989); "Comments on the Linguistic Arguments Relating to Inscription One" in Chamberlain, ed., *The Ramkhamhaeng Controversy: Collected Papers* (1991). A full listing is provided in Compton and Hartmann, eds., *Papers on Tai Languages, Linguistics and Literature: In Honor of William J. Gedney on his 77th Birthday* (1992).

er, Robbins Burling, Bill Gedney and Paz Naylor

Robbins Burling graduated with a B.A. from Yale in 1950 and Ph.D. in Anthropology from Harvard in 1958. He taught at the University of Pennsylvania from 1957 to 1963, taking a leave of absence from 1959-60 when he was a Fulbright Visiting Lecturer at the University of Rangoon in Burma. Rob came to the University of Michigan in 1963 as Associate Professor of Anthropology, and was Professor of Anthropology (serving as Chair from 1980-83) and Linguistics from 1966 to 1995, when he retired as Professor Emeritus, though this has certainly not marked the end of his scholarship.



As reflects his dual appointment in Linguistics and Anthropology, Rob's work concerns the structures of both language and culture. This is well seen in his scholarship on the Garo of Northeastern India and Burma, and on Tibeto-Burman linguistics, with work on subjects ranging from family structures and the language of kinship [*"Garo Avuncular Authority and Matrilateral Cross-Cousin Marriage,"* (1958); *"Garo Kinship Terms and the Analysis of Meaning,"* (1968)], to the structures of Garo language [*"Garo Spelling and Garo Phonology"* (1981) and *"Noun-Compounding in Garo"* (1985) and *"Garo as a Minimal Tone Language"* (1992).]

His other Southeast Asia work includes the classic *Hill Farms and Padi Fields, Life in Mainland Southeast Asia* (1965, 2nd edition 1992); and work on Burman, again looking both at family structures [*"Burmese Kinship Terminology,"* (1965)] and languages [Proto-Lolo Burmese (1967); *"Proto-Karen: A Reanalysis"* (1969) and *"The Historical Place of Jingphaw in Tibeto-Burman"* (1971).]



Barbour Scholar. She obtained her Ph.D. in Linguistics, from Michigan in 1973. Her dissertation on "Topic, Focus and Emphasis in the Tagalog Verb Clause" was published in *Oceanic Linguistics* (1975).

Paz's extensive scholarly contributions resulted in many invitations to present her work at international conferences. She was also a visiting scholar at several institutions, including the London School of Oriental and African Studies (1988-89). In 1977 she set up at Michigan the first, and for eleven years, only Tagalog language program on the U.S. mainland. She taught all levels of Tagalog in the

Rob's interests were always wide-ranging, including writings on religion and politics [*"Cognition and Componential Analysis: God's Truth or Hocus-Pocus"* (1964); *The Passage of Power: Studies in Political Succession* (1974)]. His interest in the teaching of language resulted in many publications, such as "Talking to Teachers about Social Dialects," (1971); "Machine-Aided Instruction in Bahasa Indonesia" (with A.L. Becker, Patricia Henry and Joyce Tomasowa, 1981) and *Learning a Field Language* (1984).

Rob continues to be very active in research and publication. He is engaged in fieldwork in India as this newsletter goes to press, and his requests to have his membership on CSEAS email lists turned on and off as he leaves for the field and then returns home are as regular as the changing of the seasons. His most recent work continues to explore questions that have animated his interest for decades as he has published "Where did the Garos come from?" (2003); "Prosody is not Language," (2003); and "Language, Ethnicity and Migration in North-Eastern India" (2007).

A 1993 article "Primate Calls, Human Language and Nonverbal Communication", in *Current Anthropology* foreshadowed his recent critically acclaimed book from Oxford Press, *The Talking Ape: How Language Evolved* (2005). Described by Oxbow as "one of the most approachable books on the development of human language available," the book traces language back to its origins among apes just pre-dating the establishment of human societies, examining the links between signs, sounds and meanings and exploring the "prehistories" of vocabulary and grammar, thereby helping us understand better the very nature of language and how it affects our thoughts and actions and our relationships with each other.

Paz Buenaventura Naylor graduated with a B.A. in English (*cum laude*) from the University of the Philippines in 1950, and completed an M.A. in Linguistics in 1955 from the University of Michigan, where she was a

Department of Asian Languages and Cultures from 1986 until her retirement from teaching in 1994, when she was Adjunct Associate Professor. Paz has also been extremely active in University and community circles, serving on many committees over the years, and receiving the "Outstanding Filipino Woman of the Year Scholastic Advancement" award from the Filipino American Association and the International Women's Forum in 1985.

In 1979, Paz edited *Austronesian Studies: Papers From The Second Eastern Conference On Austronesian Languages* for the Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies' Michigan Papers on South and Southeast Asia series, also contributing a paper to the volume on "Linking, Relation-Marking and Tagalog Syntax". Her numerous other publications include "Expressions of Irrealis in Some Philippine Languages," University of Michigan Publications in Linguistics (1978); "Toward Focus in Austronesian" in Wurm and Carrington, eds., *Second International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics: Proceedings* (1979); "The Pragmatics of Focus" and "On the Semantics of Reduplication" in Geraghty, Carrington,

and Wurm, eds., *FOCAL I: Papers From The Fourth International Conference On Austronesian Linguistics* (1986); "Focus, Discourse Pragmatics, and Language Typology" in Bahner, Werner, Schildt and Viehweger, eds., *Proceedings of the International Congress Of Linguists* (1991); "Subject, Topic, and Tagalog Syntax" in Bennett, Bynon, and Hewitt, eds., *Subject, Voice And Ergativity* (1995); and "On the Stative Predicate: Tagalog Existentials Revisited" in Liao and Rubino, eds., *Current Issues In Philippine Linguistics And Anthropology: Parangal Kay Lawrence A. Reid* (2006). Her book on Tagalog in the London Oriental and African Language Series is forthcoming from the John Benjamins Publishing Co., Amsterdam.

Paz lives in Ann Arbor with her husband Barney, and continues to be actively involved in the life of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. She has been a strong supporter of the Philippine Studies Endowment, and can often be found at the CSEAS Friday-at-Noon lecture series, always with a comment and an incisive question for the speaker at the talk's conclusion.

Linguistics, Language and Literature Alumni

Southeast Asian Linguistics, Language and Literature: A Partial Listing of University of Michigan Ph.D.s

Thai/Lao

Karen Lee Adams, Ph.D. Linguistics 1982, wrote her dissertation on "Systems of Numeral Classification in the Mon-Khmer, Nicobarese and Aslian Subfamilies of Austroasiatic Southeast Asia" (*Pacific Linguistics* 1989). She is Professor of Linguistics in the Department of English at Arizona State University, where she served as Director of the Program in Southeast Asian Studies. Publications include "The Influence of Non-Austroasiatic Languages on Numeral Classification in Austroasiatic," *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. With Thomas Hudak, she edited 3 volumes of *Papers from the Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS)* 1992, 1996, and 1997, and is currently co-editing a volume on Lao Studies.

KLAdams@asu.edu

Leslie Beebe, Ph.D. Linguistics 1974, wrote her dissertation on "Socially Conditioned Variation in Bangkok Thai", after studying happily with Bill Gedney for seven years. She is Professor of Linguistics and Education at Columbia University, where she has spent her entire career, and is now Director of the Applied Linguistics Program and a member of the TESOL program. A former President of the American Association for Applied Linguistics, she is Editor of *Issues in Second Language Acquisition: Multiple Perspectives*, co-author of *English in the Cross-Cultural Era*, and former Editor of the Forum for the *Journal of Intercultural Pragmatics*. She has published in the areas of Thai linguistics, sociolinguistics, second language acquisition and discourse analysis (especially cross-cultural and acquisitional pragmatics). imb33@columbia.edu

Robert J. Bickner, Ph.D. Linguistics 1981, wrote his dissertation on "A Linguistic Introduction to a Thai Literary Classic." He is Professor and Chair of the

University of Wisconsin's Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia, teaching Thai language, literature and linguistics. He founded and directs the College Year in Thailand program, and has served for eight years as Language Director for the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute. His publications include An Introduction to the Thai Poem "Lilit Phra Law" (The Story of King Law); "Directional Modification in Thai Fiction: The Use of

'Come' and 'Go' in Text Building"; "Cultural Variation in Reflective Writing" (with Patcharin Peyasantiwong) and "Reflections on a Literary Dispute Between Jit Phumisak and Phra Worawetphisit." He is currently working on an annotated translation of "Lilit Phra Law" from Thai to English, an Authoritative Text of "Lilit Phra Law" (Thai), and Oral Proficiency Assessment Guidelines

for Thai Language, and is developing a reading text book for Thai based on authentic materials, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. rbickner@wisc.edu

Theodora Bofman, Ph.D. Linguistics 1978, wrote her dissertation on "The Poetics of the Ramakian", published in 1984. She is now Professor of Linguistics at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, where she teaches courses in linguistics, and occasionally, Structure of Thai or Languages and Cultures of Southeast Asia. Recently she has been using the techniques of corpus linguistics to study Thai texts, specifically Thai popular music and the Ramakian. t-bofman@neiu.edu

Trisilpa Boonkachorn, Ph.D. Comparative Literature 1990, wrote her dissertation on "Intertextuality in Thai literary and social contexts: A study of contemporary poets." She is Associate Professor and Chair of Women's Studies at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, and has written or edited several books in Thai. Her research is on women in Thai literature.
Trisilpa.b@chula.ac.th

James R. Chamberlain, Ph.D. Linguistics 1977, wrote his dissertation on "An Introduction to Proto-Tai Zoology". He has spent more than 33 years in Laos and Thailand, and is currently living in Laos, where he is involved in projects with the WWF, ADB, UNICEF, World Bank and AED/ECO (University of Lund). His research interests include Historical Tai, Lao/Tai Literature, Ethnobiology, Biocultural Diversity Conservation, and Social Research. He published "Tai-Kadai arthropods: a preliminary biolinguistic investigation" (1997).

Carol J. Compton, Ph.D. Linguistics 1977, wrote her dissertation on "Linguistic and Cultural Aspects of Lam: The Song of the Lao Mohlam." She taught the Lao language at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Northern Illinois University. With John Hartmann, she edited *Papers on Tai Languages, Linguistics and Literatures in Honor of William J. Gedney on his 77th Birthday* (1992). "Four-Word Phrases in Lao Discourse" and "Use of Pronoun and Kinship Terms in Lao Performance Texts" in *Papers from the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society 2002* (2007), are recent publications of her research on Lao language and literature.
parishcompton@charter.net

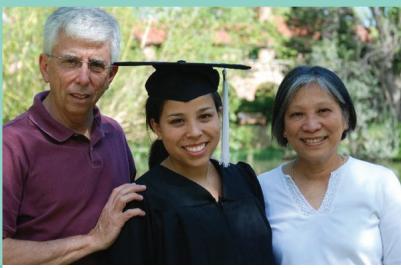
Thomas W. Gething, Ph.D. Linguistics 1966, wrote his dissertation on "Some Aspects of Semantic Structure in Standard Thai". He is an Affiliate Professor of Asian Languages and Literature at the University of Washington-Seattle, where he is an Associate Dean of The Graduate School and Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs. Tom has taught at Michigan, Hawaii and Ohio University, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Consortium for the Advanced Study of Thai. With funding from the US Department of Education and the Title VI language and area centers, he directs the Advanced Study of Thai program annually in Chiang Mai. He chairs the board of the Southeast Asian Stud-



The Bickner family (son Devin, Bob, daughter Angeline, and Patcharin) at Angeline's graduation from high school in May 2007

ies Summer Institute, which offers intensive language training each summer in Southeast Asian languages. He has also served as Director of the Southeast Asia Studies Center at the University of Washington. His research is focused on the study of the Lao and Thai languages, and includes work on the Kham Muang dialect of the Lanna region of Thailand. His *Thai Basic Reader* (1978) remains a staple of the field for Thai language instruction. gething@u.washington.edu

John Grima, Ph.D. Linguistics 1978, wrote his dissertation on "Categories of Zero Nominal Reference and Clausal Structure in Thai". He has worked since 1981 as a hospital manager in Ogden, Utah, and teaches a health administration course on economics and health policy at Weber State University, where his wife Sunee (U-M MILS) is a librarian. John published "Ave- lar for alveolar substitution in Thai child language," (1982),



John Grima and family.

souththailand.org. Sunee and Rotsukhon Muangmaen (U-M History) published a Thai translation of Bart Ehrman's *Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code*, in 2006. j.grima@comcast.net

John F. Hartmann, Ph.D. Linguistics 1976, wrote his dissertation on "The Linguistic and Memory Structure of Tai-Lue Oral Narrative," published in 1985. With Carol Compton, he edited *Papers on Tai Languages, Linguistics, and Literatures* (1992), and with Patricia Henry and her husband Jim Henry, he has created web sites for Thai and minority Tai languages, Lao, Vietnamese, and Islam in Thailand as part of www.seasite.niu.edu. A 2000-03 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation took him to Guangxi, Guichou and Yunnan for fieldwork on "The Origins of Thai Irrigated Rice Technology and Culture", and a book chapter "Tai Participation in the Spread of Rice Agriculture in Asia" is forthcoming. John received a 2007-2009 NSF grant for "A Regional Approach to Spatial Analysis of Tai Toponyms in Southern China and Southeast Asia Using GIS" and "The Power to Name Places: Ban, Muang, Chiang, Viang, Nakon, Krung," was published in 2007. In 2005, he co-organized the First International Conference on Lao Studies held at NIU, and in 2006, co-founded the Center for Lao Studies n 2006 as an outcome of that conference. (www.laostudies.org). In 2006, John received a Presidential Teaching Professor medal and a four-year monetary award from NIU. He married Peter Gosling's student, Vilawan Chusuei, (deceased), while both were at Michigan. A son, John William, earned a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering (UIUC), and a daughter, Wanda Kay, has a Ph.D. in chemistry (MSU). A first grandchild is "forthcoming" in September 2008.
jhartman@niu.edu

and contributed to the Festschrift for Bill Gedney (1992). He gave a paper at the Thai Studies conference at Northern Illinois University in Dekalb, in 2005, on the way Southern Thai Muslims talk about Thai history on the internet, and maintains a blog on the Southern Thai insurgency www.souththailand.org.

Sunee and Rotsukhon Muangmaen (U-M History) published a Thai translation of Bart Ehrman's *Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code*, in 2006. j.grima@comcast.net

Thomas J. Hudak, Ph.D. Linguistics 1981, wrote his dissertation on "The Indigenization of Pali Meters in Thai," which he published in 1990. Tom is Professor, School of Human Evolution and Social Change, Arizona State University, where he has been since 1988. His publications include

several articles in the *Journal of the American Oriental Society*. Tom edited several volumes of William J. Gedney's work, including glossaries, texts and translations, on the Tai dialects of Lungming (1991), Yay (1991), Southwestern Tai (1994), central Tai (1995), Lue (1996) and Tai dialect studies (1997). He also edited phonetic versions of *Cushing's Shan-English Dictionary* (2000) and *Minot's White Tai Dictionary* (2001). With Robert Bickner and Patcharin Peyasantiwong, he contributed to and edited *Papers from a Conference on Thai Studies in honor of William J. Gedney* (1986), and with Karen Adams, he contributed to and edited *Papers from the Second Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society* (1994). He also published an annotated translation of *The Tale of Prince Samuttakote: A Buddhist Epic* (1993), and is currently completing an NSF-funded project on the Documentation and Archival-Digitization of Tai Linguistic Data. Thomas.Hudak@asu.edu



Tom Hudak and Karen Adams both teach in the Program in Southeast Asian Studies at Arizona State University.

Adrian S. Palmer, Ph.D. Linguistics 1971, published books on teaching Thai for the American University Alumni (AUA) in Thailand. He is now Associate Professor of Linguistics at the University of Utah. His book with Lyle F. Bachman on *Language Testing in Practice: Designing and Developing Useful Language Tests*, published by Oxford University Press in 1997, won the Modern Language Association's Kenneth W. Mildenberger Prize, and a companion volume on *Language Assessment in Practice*, will appear in 2008. *Seeking the Heart of Teaching*, with Mary-Ann Christison, was published in 2007. apalmer@linguistics.utah.edu

Patcharin Peyasantiwong, Ph.D. Linguistics 1981, wrote her dissertation on "A Study of Final Particles in Conversational Thai." She teaches ESL for the Madison Metropolitan School District and is a senior lecturer and coordinator for the University of Wisconsin's summer Thai language program. She has served as field director of the Advanced Study of Thai program, and serves as a pedagogy expert for Thai materials development with the University of Maryland's LangNet. Her publications include "Phonological Reduction of Some Final Particles in Modern Thai," "A Note on the 'Missing' Part in the Thai Poem Mahaachaat Khamluang," and "Evaluation and Exit Criteria for ESL Students: A Classroom Action Research Project." She is part of a U.S. Department of Education project to create a reading textbook for Thai based on authentic materials.
ppeyasan@wisc.edu

Linguistics, Language and Literature Alumni

Thai/Lao continued from page 7

Mary Sautter Sarawit, Ph.D. Linguistics 1973, wrote her dissertation on "The Proto-Tai Vowel System", after which she taught linguistics at Naresuan University in Phitsanulok. She is now Deputy Director and runs the language center of Naresuan University International College, and is a member of the Curriculum Committee for Setting Standards for Teaching Thai as a Foreign Language, headed by Tom Gething and Bob Bickner.
msarawit@hotmail.com

Thomas Scovel, Ph.D. Linguistics 1970, wrote his dissertation on "A Grammar of Time in Thai", after helping Bill Gedney collate data on Thai languages. Tom then spent seven years in Thailand, teaching at Chiangmai University and pursuing research on Thai aphasics sponsored by the Ford Foundation. For the past 25 years, Tom has been teaching at San Francisco State University and has also been active lecturing and consulting in Asia. His research and publications have focused mainly on the areas of second language acquisition, foreign language pedagogy, neurolinguistics and psycholinguistics, and in Fall 2007 he gave a lecture to the English Language Institute in Ann Arbor. Both of his children were born in Thailand, and he and his wife are raising two half-Thai grandchildren.
tscovel@sfsu.edu

Kingkarn Thepkajana, Ph.D. Linguistics 1986, wrote her dissertation on "Serial Verb Constructions in Thai". She is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Linguistics in the Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University. Her many scholarly publications include: "Lexical Causatives in Thai" in *Constructions in Cognitive Linguistics* (2000); "A Cognitive Account to the Causative/Inchoative Alternation in Thai" in *Cognitive and Non-Indo-European Languages* (2003); and "Pragmatic inferencing in grammaticalization: a case study of directional verbs in Thai" in *Cognitive and Discourse Perspectives on Language and Language Learning* (2005). Forthcoming first-author publications include: "Directional verbs as success markers in Thai: another grammaticalization path" in *The Tai-Kadai Languages*; "The verb of giving in Thai and Mandarin Chinese as a case of polysemy: a comparative study," *Language Sciences*; "Resultative constructions with "implied-result" and "entailed result" verbs in Thai and English: a contrastive study," *Linguistics: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Langauge Sciences*.
Kingkarn.T@chula.ac.th

Indonesian

Gail Dreyfuss, Ph.D. Linguistics 1977, wrote her dissertation on the search for language universals through the study of relativization in creole languages, while serving as Pete Becker's Teaching Assistant. She taught English at IKIP Malang in Indonesia from 1977 to 1979 (where her younger son Andy was born), linguistics at U-M Flint, Dearborn and Detroit in 1979-80, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1980-81. She and her husband Jeff then opened an ESL school in Madison, before selling it in 1998 to move to Seattle, where Gail worked with a human-rights immigration law firm. In 2003 they moved to Chicago where Jeff and their older son Tony opened Metropolis Coffee. Gail is now a full-time lecturer in linguistics at Northeastern Illinois University, helps care for her granddaughters, and volunteers at Barack Obama's national campaign headquarters. zysele@gmail.com



Gail and Jeff Dreyfuss

Jeffrey Dreyfuss, Ph.D. Linguistics 1981, wrote his dissertation on "Modes of Text-Building in the Indonesian Story 'Surabaya' by Idrus", and taught at University of Wisconsin-Madison for three years. Jeff and his wife Gail opened an English as a Second Language and Argumentation Institute in Madison which grew to be the largest single-location ESL school in the country. In 1998 they sold WESLI (Wisconsin English Second Language Institute) and moved to Seattle, where Jeff taught Indonesian language at the University of Washington through 2003. Jeff and his older son Tony then started a coffee house and roasteria in Chicago which was selected as Micro-roaster of the year by Roastmagazine.com for 2007 and as one of America's top cafes by *Food and Wine*, and has been featured on TV, Chicago newspapers, *New York Post* and London's *Evening Standard*. Jeff says, "I've learned Brazilian Portuguese and am about to try to learn Amharic; Ethiopia is home to coffee originally and has some of the world's finest coffees. I want to be able to speak to people in their own language and form relationships that will help improve the quality of life in coffee-growing communities through micro-loans etc. So I hope to begin Direct Trade with growers by forming buying groups of independent roasters who are passionate about their products, so we can leverage pricing and shipping and to be able to buy container-loads at a time (250-300 bags of green coffee each bag weighing 70 kilos)." jeff@metropoliscoffee.com

Catherine Fortin, Ph.D. Linguistics 2007, wrote her dissertation on "Indonesian Sluicing and Verb Phrase Ellipsis: Description and Minimalist Explanation," which received a Distinguished Dissertation Award from the U-M Rackham School of Graduate Studies. Catherine developed her interest in the syntax and morphology of Austronesian languages while an M.A. student at the University of Pittsburgh, and pursued her research working with native Indonesian-speaking undergrads at Michigan, where she studied Indonesian with Margaretha (Menuk) Sudarsih. She is now Visiting Assistant Professor of Linguistics at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and plans to delve into other areas of Indonesian syntax, including the ways in which focus is represented.
cfortin@carleton.edu

Patricia Henry, Ph.D. Linguistics 1981, wrote and published her dissertation on "The Arjuna Wiwaha, Sargas I-XIII, Text and Annotated Translation". Since 1979 she has been teaching Indonesian language and literature, and Southeast Asian literature in translation, at Northern Illinois University. With John Hartmann and other colleagues, she has received many federal grants for developing web-based instruction and resources in Southeast Asian languages: www.seasite.niu.edu. Pat's publications include: "The Writer's Responsibility: A Preliminary Look at the Depiction and Construction of Indonesia in the Works of Pramoedya Ananta Toer" in *Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* (1991); "FLIS: Audible computer-aided language learning for Southeast Asian Languages: observations after a year of use" in *Papers from the First Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society* 1991 (1992); Translations of "Interview with Ravana" by Yudhistira ANM Massardi and "The Mysterious Shooter Trilogy" by Seno Gumira Ajidarma, in *Virtual Lotus: Modern Fiction of Southeast Asia* (2002); and "The Poetics of the Old Javanese Ramayana: a comparison with the Sanskrit Bhaktikavya," in an *Anthology of Critical Essays on Southeast Asia* (forthcoming).
phenry@niu.edu

Thomas M. Hunter, Ph.D. Linguistics 1988, wrote his dissertation on "Balinese Language: Historical Background and Contemporary State". He has served as Academic Director/Faculty Advisor for the Brattleboro, Vermont-based SIT's Study Abroad Program in Bali, currently sharing the position with his wife, Dra. Ni Wayan Aryati, and as Director of the Indonesian Study Program of the Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies, in Yogyakarta. His published translations of Old Javanese literature include *The Weaverbirds*, a translation of the historical novel by the late Y.B. Mangunwijaya (1991), *Springs of Tears, Springs of Rage: Collected Poems of Frans Nadjira* (1997) and *Blossoms of Longing: Poems of longing and regret translated from the ancient Javanese* (1998). His published theoretical articles include: "Indo as Other: Identity, Anxiety and Ambiguity in *Salah Asuhan*" (2002); "The Poetics of Grammar in the Javano-Balinese Tradition" (2007); "The Body of the King, Reappraising Singhasari Period Syncretism" (2007); "New Tools for Exploring the Role of Language in Early State Formation of South and Southeast Asia" (2008); and "Sanskrit in the Archipelago: Translation, Vernacularization and Translocal Identity" (2008). His current research is on the application of sociolinguistics methodology to diachronic studies of Southeast Asian history and literary cultures. He continues to work on a reader in Old Javanese literature, and on a monograph on the interaction of irrealis and the perfective verbal aspect in Old Javanese.

csabali@indo.net.id or tomaryati@hotmail.com.

Roger Mills, Ph.D. Linguistics 1975, wrote his dissertation on "Proto South Sulawesi and Proto Austronesian Phonology". He moved from Ann Arbor to Saugatuck, Michigan in 1990, where he enjoys retirement and continues to plug away at book-research on the languages of Eastern Indonesia (Leti and the Tanimbar area). rfmilly@msn.com

Ronit Ricci, Ph.D. Comparative Literature 2006, wrote her dissertation on "Translating Convergence in South and Southeast Asia: The Islamic "Book of One Thousand Questions" in Javanese, Tamil and Malay". She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society at Columbia University in Fall 2007, and currently holds a postdoctoral fellowship at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. arirr@nus.edu.sg

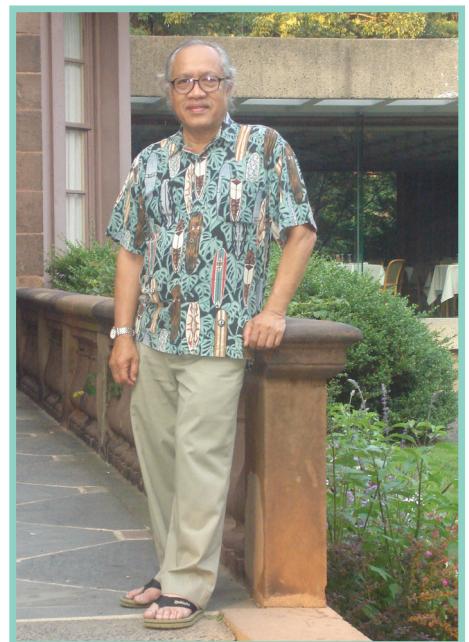
Nancy Smith-Hefner, PhD Linguistics 1983, wrote her dissertation on "Language and Social Identity: Speaking Javanese in Tengger (Indonesia)". Since 2001 she has been Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of Undergraduate Studies at Boston University, after serving as Assistant and then Associate Professor of Linguistics and Anthropology at the University of Massachusetts in Boston from 1987 to 2001. She wrote *Khmer American: Identity and Moral Education in a Diasporic Community*, Berkeley: University of California Press (1999) and is now finishing a book manuscript, tentatively entitled *Muslim Youth: Gender and Sexuality in Indonesia's New Middle Class*, funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship. Her many journal articles include: "Women and Politeness: The Javanese Example," *Language in Society* (1988); "A Social History of Language Change in Highland East Java," *Journal of Asian Studies* (1989); "Language and Identity in the Education of Boston-Area Khmer," *Anthropology and Education Quarterly* (1990); "Ethnicity and the Force of Faith: Christian Conversion Among Khmer Refugees," *Anthropological Quarterly* (1994); "Reproducing Respectability: Sex and Sexuality among Muslim Javanese Youth," *Review of Indonesian and Malay Affairs* (2006); "Muslim Women and the Veil in Post-Soeharto Java," *Journal of Asian Studies* (2007); "Youth Language, Gaul Sociability, and the New Indonesian Middle Class," *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology* (2007). smhefner@bu.edu

Mary Zurbuchen, Ph.D. Linguistics 1981, wrote her dissertation on "The Shadow Theater of Bali: Explorations in Language and Text", and published *The Language of Balinese Shadow Theater* (1987). She worked for the Ford Foundation as education and cultural affairs officer based in Jakarta (1982-87) and New Delhi (1988-92), and as Southeast Asia Representative based in Jakarta (1992-2000). She was then Visiting Professor at UCLA from 2000, and Acting Director of UCLA's Center for Southeast Asian Studies in 2002-03, before joining the Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program office in New York, where she is Director of Asia and Russia Programs. She edited *Beginning to Remember: The Past in the Indonesia Present* (2005). mzurbuchen@yahoo.com

Malay

Muhammad Haji Salleh, Ph.D. Literature 1973, wrote his dissertation on "Tradition and Change in Malay-Indonesian Poetry". He was Lecturer at the Institute of Malay Language, Literature and Culture at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, where in 1995 he became Professor in the Department of Malay Letters and Director of the Institute of Malay World and Civilization. From 2000 to 2005, he was Professor of Literature at Universiti Sains Malaysia. Muhammad is Malaysia's National Laureate (Sasterawan Negara Malaysia), and has published poems, criticisms and literary theory in both Malay and English. His anthology of poems *Perjalanan Si Tenggang II* won the ASEAN Literary Award in 1977, and he also received the SEA Write Award in 1997 and the Southeast Asia Literary Award in 2001, among others. His more important works include "Tradition and Change in Contemporary Malay-Indonesian Poetry"; *Pengalaman Puisi; Cermin Diri; Yang Empunya Ceritera: the Mind of the Malay Author; Beyond the Archipelago; Rowing Down Two Rivers;* and *Laughter and Romance in the Archipelago*. He was Founder President of the Translators' Association of Malaysia (1978-1981) and has served for thirty years as Chief Editor of *Tenggara, Journal of Southeast Asian Literature*.

www.muhammadhajisalleh.com
mhs0042@gmail.com



Linguistics, Language and Literature Alumni

Filipino

Mary Bresnahan, Ph.D. Linguistics 1985, wrote her dissertation on "Finding our Feet: Elements of Culture in Amado Hernandez' *Luha ng Buwaya*". She is Professor of Communication at Michigan State University, where since 1985 she has taught courses in intercultural, interethnic and interpersonal communication. Her many publications include: "Placeholdering as a discourse property in Tagalog texts;" *LACUS Forum* (1991); "When a response is not an answer," *Multilingua* (1991); Finding our feet: Understanding cross-cultural discourse (1991); "The construction of gender in Tagalog discourse," *LACUS Forum* (1993); "Centering in Tagalog," in *Festschrift for Andrew Gonzalez* (2000); and the first-authored articles, "Attitudinal and affective response toward accented English," *Language and Communication* (2001); "Multi-trait-multi-method self-construal validity assessment in Korea, Japan, and the U.S.," *Human Communication Research* (2005); "Players and whiners: Responses to the depiction of gender in Japanese anime," *Asian Journal of Communication* (2006); and "Reservations of the Spirit: The Development of a Spiritual Beliefs Scale and its Relationship to Willingness to become an Organ Donor in Japan, Korea, and the U.S.," *Health Communication* (2007). Mary received a new MSU award for teaching – the "Crystal Apple" – in 2008.

Bresnah1@msu.edu



Ajarn Saeng of Chiang Mai

In addition to Ph.D.s, many Southeast Asianists have graduated with M.A.'s focusing on language and literature. We are grateful to alumna Bonnie Brereton for bringing Ajarn Saeng to our attention. **Saeng Chandngam**, a native of Khon Kaen, Thailand, earned his U-M MA in English language and literature in 1961 on a grant from the Asia Foundation. Among his courses was one with Prof. William J. Gedney on the analysis of Thai language.

After he completed his M.A. in three semesters, the Foundation supported his stay for six more months during which he traveled in the U.S. studying religious systems and philosophies. Upon his return to Thailand he taught at Mahamakut Buddhist University in Bangkok and Chiang Mai University. Now in his 80s, **Ajarn Saeng**, as he is known, teaches courses in Buddhism and English part-time at the Chiang Mai branch of Mahamakut University, is often consulted by researchers, and gives special lectures on Buddhism at Payap University.

Vietnamese

John C. Schafer, Ph.D. English and Education, 1978, wrote his dissertation on "Text-Building in English and Vietnamese: A Comparative Rhetorical Analysis," and taught English at Humboldt State University in northern California for 23 years. He has published extensively on Vietnamese literature and culture, including "The Trịnh Công Sơn Phenomenon," *Journal of Asian Studies* (2007); *Võ Phiến and the Sadness of Exile* (2006); *Vietnamese Perspectives on the War in Vietnam: An Annotated Bibliography of Works in English* (1997); "From Verse Narrative to Novel: The Development of Prose Fiction in Vietnam," (with Cao Thị Như-Quỳnh) *Journal of Asian Studies* (1988). He has also translated several Vietnamese language works, mostly with his wife Cao Thị Như-Quỳnh. johnschafer@suddenlink.net.

Other University of Michigan Alumni

We would appreciate information about any of the following graduates, as well as names of any additional students we have undoubtedly missed. Please send any information to Cindy Middleton at csmiddle@umich.edu.

Thai/Lao

Ruth Kelley Goetz 2001

Narumon Karnchanathat 1977, Prince of Songkhla University
Wilaiwan Khanittanan 1973

Pongsri Lekawatana 1970, Chulalongkorn (retired)
Chutamanee Onsuwan 2005, Thammasat
Beatrice T. Oshika 1973, Portland State (retired)
Rita Simpson 1997
Salee Sriphen 1982
Philip Clare Stine 1968

Indonesian

Abdul Gani Asyik 1987

Stephanus Djawanal 1980 Universitas Gadjah Mada
Amran Halim 1969 Palembang (retired)
James Rose 1970
Joan Rosen 1971
Liberty Sihombing 1976
Kathleen Tilden 1985
Wayland B. Van Syoc 1959

Malay

Danielo Ajamiseba 1978

Azhar Mohd Simin, 1983, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (retired)
Nangsari Ahmad, 1983, Universitas Seriwijaya, Palembang (retired)
Ummul Khair Ahmad, 1997, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

Filipino

Francisco G. Flores 1963

Eliza Uy Grino 1969, Central Philippines University (retired)
Barry William Miller 1988, York University
Emy Mariano Pascasio 1960, Ateneo de Manila University (deceased)

Student News

Alex Cannon (PhD Ethnomusicology) recently received a Rackham International Research Award to conduct dissertation research in Vietnam. He will be based in Ho Chi Minh City, but will also make trips to Hue and Ha Noi in order to investigate differing constructions/interpretations of "traditional" Vietnamese music, with a specific focus upon a style of Southern Vietnamese music called 'nhac tai tu' (or 'music of talented amateurs'). Alex was musical director of the U-M Gamelan this year, leading the ensemble to a highly successful spring concert in honor of Judith Becker. amcannon@umich.edu

Bretton Dimick, (PhD Ethnomusicology) will spend his second summer in Vietnam on a Center for World Performance Studies Residency. He will continue language study and research and performance study in ca tru, a genre of sung poetry in Hanoi. He presented a paper, the result of last summer's research, at the Society for Ethnomusicology Midwest division conference this spring. This summer, he will also head to the southern region of Vietnam to broaden his understanding of Vietnamese music. Next fall, Bretton will continue pursuing the Vietnamese language on campus with funding from a FLAS Fellowship. bfdimick@umich.edu

Bria Morgan (MS Natural Resources) is taking a two-year leave from her program at Michigan to work with the Rainforest Action Network as a campaigner on their Rainforest Agribusiness campaign (www.ran.org/campaigns/rainforest_agribusiness). The campaign aims to hold US agribusiness companies responsible for the severe environmental impact of their palm oil plantations in Indonesia and Malaysia. Bria's thesis was on kelapa sawit (oil palm), and she writes this "was a chance I couldn't give up to get to work on it full time (and, you know, get paid)." Bria is based in San Francisco, but takes frequent trips to Malaysia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. brihannala@gmail.com

Sandeep Ray (CSEAS MA) was selected to participate in the US – Indonesia Society (USINDO) Summer Studies Program, for U.S. students chosen through a competitive application process. The program will take him to Yogyakarta, Central Java, where he will study intermediate Indonesian for the summer. A professional filmmaker, Sandeep will also assist the U-M

undergraduates in our Indonesia Summer Seminar with multimedia projects exploring the opportunities and pressures created by development and disaster recovery in two Indonesian cities, Ubud (Bali) and Jogyakarta.

sandeep@umich.edu

Joel Selway (PhD Political Science) was awarded the Albert D. Moscotti Prize for best published graduate paper in Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Michigan. Joel's paper, on the politics of Thai healthcare and Thaksin Shinawatra's 30-Baht Health Scheme, is the basis for part of his dissertation on Thai politics. Joel also received a 2008 Rackham International Research Award to allow him to carry out research in Mauritius, whose government has a similar political structure to that in Thailand. He will leave for Mauritius after he finishes teaching a undergraduate course in the Spring Term on The Comparative Politics of Islamic Societies, which will focus significantly on Southeast Asia. selway@umich.edu

Kate Skillman (Ph.D. Asian Languages and Cultures) received a US – Indonesia Society Travel grant for preliminary research on her dissertation this summer. Kate's research centers on mysticism in Java, and she is particularly interested in how ideas of Sufism, Islam and religion have changed over time, and in contemporary views of Sufism from both Javanese Muslims practicing Sufism and those that oppose Sufi practices. During her time in Java, she will explore three important loci of Sufi teaching: the Islamic boarding school, or pesantren; informal groups led by mystics; and pilgrimage sites of local saints. kmskill@umich.edu

The following students have recently been awarded ***International Institute Individual Fellowships***: **Josh Monthei** (Urban Planning/CSEAS MA, monthei@umich.edu) will intern with the Urban Development Institute Foundation, an NGO in Chiang Mai, Thailand, assisting

with citizen education and participation programs around urban development issues, specifically road widening projects, and air quality issues. **Dina Ufberg** (Public Policy BA, dufberg@umich.edu) will also have an internship in Thailand, but with the country's largest NGO, The Population and Development Agency, working on a micro financing and corporate social responsibility project in the northern city of Lamplaimat in Buriram Province, where she will also help teach English at the community school, Lamplaimat Pattana School. **Marc Weatherill** (SNRE MS/MBA, mweath@umich.edu) has an internship with PT Starling Resources, an Indonesian firm that advises non-profit organizations on carbon forestry project development and implementation. He will participate in the development of carbon forestry project design documents and will travel to Sunur, Bali, to study the challenges faced in natural resource management practices (biodiversity, community, land tenure issues, etc.) in Indonesia.



Joel Selway, recipient of the 2007-2008 Moscotti Prize

Congratulations are in order to the following students who have received Summer FLAS Awards from SEASSI to attend their program in Madison, Wisconsin this summer: **Jonathan Yip**, (PhD Linguistics, jonyip@umich.edu) will study Khmer; **Eric Brown** (PhD Linguistics, ericeric@umich.edu) will study Lao; **Hilary Brass** (PhD Anthropology, hibrass@umich.edu) and **Amy Kimura** (PhD Musicology, akimura@umich.edu) will both study Indonesian.

Michigan undergraduates continue to take semesters abroad in Southeast Asia. Four students studied with the CIEE program at Khon Kaen University in Thailand this year: **Whitney Morgan** (whelmo@umich.edu), **Kelly Simmons** (kellyrox@umich.edu), and **Laura Theiler** (theiller@umich.edu) in Fall 2007, and **Leslie Garrison** (garriles@umich.edu) in Winter 2008. Two students also attended the National University of Singapore under the auspices of our new exchange program between NUS and U-M. **Lauren Bernstein** (laurbern@umich.edu) and **Andrew Seiden** (aseiden@umich.edu) both studied in Singapore in Winter 2008.

Undergraduate Alumni

Beckah Gluckstein (BA 2007) is in Tuban, East Java teaching English under the auspices of the Fulbright program, but in August she will be moving to Yogyakarta where she will teach at a pesantren and hopefully study Javanese dance, both under the sponsorship of the Indonesian government's Dharmasiswa scholarship program in arts and culture, to which she's already been accepted. Beckah has also spent some time in Bali at a project known Taman 65, which she describes as " an awesome place filled with creative, intelligent, warm people who really care that their history is not simply buried under a banana tree and educating the community that remembering 1965 could help prevent reoccurrences of similar events." beckgluc@gmail.com

Sudarmono Koe (BA 2002), long-time work-study student at CSEAS, has left Colorado to return home to Makassar, where he has established his own business in the wireless communications sector. He is engaged, and will be getting married in October. Sudarmono's younger brother, Tri (formally Sutrisno Kurniawan), is the immediate past president of the U-M Indonesian Student Group, PERMIAS. Tri's email: tri@umich.edu

Diana Parker (BA 2007) has been working as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant at the Hong Kong Institute of Education. She's also been trying to pursue her interests in labor rights and keep up her Indonesian language skills by volunteering at Helpers for Domestic Helpers, a non-profit organization providing legal aid to foreign domestic workers in Hong Kong, and KOTKIHO (the Hong Kong Coalition of Indonesian Migrant Workers Organizations), an umbrella group of Indonesian migrant workers organizations advocating for migrant rights. This summer she will be traveling to Thailand for 6 weeks with several other Fulbright ETA's, as well as undergraduates from Hong Kong and the UK, to help launch a summer English language program for Burmese refugees in Thailand. parker.diana@gmail.com

Graduate Alumni

Richard Bernhard (CSEAS MA 1994) has been living for the past 12 years in Bangkok, where he is Associate Executive Director of the Kenan Institute Asia, a non-profit organization engaged in economic and social development work in Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Most recently, Richard has been working on developing sustainable tourism after the tsunami in southern Thailand, delivering corporate social responsibility services and overseeing entrepreneurship development programs. Richard's wife Rie Atagi (U-M Ed.D. 1995) has been working as a consultant on education projects for international organizations. Their children Kira (8) and Kaden (6) are in school in Bangkok. You can contact Richard at richardb@kiasia.org

Farouk Ophaso (MPP 2006) has moved from Los Angeles to Washington DC to work in the Office of the President, where he is Program Examiner in the National Security Division of the Executive Office of the President. He retains his interest in Laos although his current position involves advising the President and his staff on Navy investment programs including their ships, weapons, and research and development. After graduating from Michigan, Farouk spent a year as an Air Force analyst, predicting costs for their space defense programs. ophaso@gmail.com

Pat Pranke (Buddhist Studies PhD 2004) writes with news from the University of Louisville, where the Center for Asian Democracy recently established the "Aung San Suu Kyi Endowed Chair in Asian Democracy" and has begun the search to fill that position. Beginning this spring term they have launched a minor in Asian Studies with plans to expand that to a major in the future. He writes that the faculty from various departments are principally East Asianists and South Asianists, while Pat overlaps Southeast and South Asia. The Center already organizes undergraduate study abroad programs in China and India and it's Pat's hope to create one for Southeast Asia as well. Pat recently gave a talk at the Center for Asian Democracy on the monk-led demonstration in Burma of September 2007. patrick.pranke@louisville.edu

Richard Sussman (CSEAS MA 1972) is currently working as the Chief of the Planning and Compliance Division of the U.S. National Park System and has been invited to augment the work of an international team of experts who are assisting the Cambodian government in nominating the 11th Century Preah Vihear temple ruins (about 30 km from the Thai border) to the World Heritage Site list. The plan has needed technical assistance in developing a management plan and establishing site boundaries. Rich writes that this is "quite an opportunity that mirrors the work I do for the units of the National Park System in the Southeast Region."

In January, he briefed Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Suk An and the Ambassadors of the U.S., France and Thailand on the project. He includes this photo at the foot of the historic stairs leading from the plain (in Cambodia) to Preah Vihear, noting "I'm the one in the Michigan shirt!!" Rich_Sussman@nps.gov



Development News and Thank yous

Donation Profile: Undergraduate Language Awards

A gift from Essel and Menakka Bailey has been used to establish undergraduate awards for excellence in each of our four Southeast Asian languages. Selected by their teachers, a student each of Filipino, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese received a modest cash prize at the CSEAS End of Year Program. But the prizes didn't come free. Each of the students had to sing (or, more accurately, speak) for their supper. Claire Vergara (Filipino, taught by Joi Barrios) read a poem she had written in both Filipino and English about the headache of being an Overseas Domestic Worker from the Philippines, called "Tylenol." Timothy Long (Thai, taught by Montatip Krishnamra) also performed some of his own poetry, a strong appreciation of Thai food and the right times to eat it (which is, of course, anytime). Takamichi Kono (Indonesian, taught by Agustini) spoke extemporaneously of the reasons he thought it was important for him as a young Japanese man to understand Indonesia's troubled history with Japan through studying Indonesian language. Trang Ly Nguyen (Vietnamese, taught by Thuy-Anh Nguyen) was unable to attend, but is praised by her teacher for her hard work and ability with the language.

The presentations were well received, and as those in the audience who spoke each language listened, smiles of enjoyment and nodding heads of appreciation were the order of the day.

The Baileys' gift having been expended, we hope to interest other potential donors who are interested in supporting undergraduates who study Southeast Asian languages at Michigan.



Winners of the Undergraduate Language Awards. (l-r: Timothy Long, Thai; Claire Vergara, Filipino; Takamichi Kono, Indonesian; Absent: Trang Ly Nguyen, Vietnamese.)

Thank you to our 2007-08 donors!

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Disbursed to Center MA students

Please contact Charley Sullivan at rowcoach@umich.edu or 734.764.4568 if you are interested in making a gift.

Sisters Laughing



Jane and Kim Chongsatitwatana, U-M alumnae and junior executives in their family's publishing and footwear production businesses, are two of "Fifteen Thai Women" profiled in an exhibition of images and text put together by U-M students enrolled in last year's Summer Seminar in Thailand. After hanging in the International Institute Gallery in February, the exhibit traveled to Hartland High School in Hartland, Michigan, and served as a center piece of the school's World Languages Week. Over 800 Hartland students viewed the exhibit. Organizing teacher Cathleen Hagnlund writes, "The various photos and histories of the women brought our students' minds thousands of miles away from Michigan to life in Thailand . . . and lent itself to our ongoing class discussions about 'Trading Spaces,' which was the theme of World Languages Week." This exhibition and others are available for showing in other locations. Please contact us at cseas@umich.edu if you are interested in learning more.



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