



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

F A L L 2 0 1 7



N E W S L E T T E R

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



### Dear CSEAS Community,

Since the last newsletter, things at the center have been a bit more eventful than usual. The biggest change, of course, is that we have moved from the School of Social Work Building to the newly designated Weiser Hall. Please come visit us on the fourth floor when you have a chance.

Last semester we congratulated long time faculty member and CSEAS supporter Linda Lim on her retirement, and this semester we welcome Erick White to Asian Languages and Cultures (see page 1). As usual, we have an exciting class of new MA students, a couple of visiting lecturers, and a batch of Southeast Asian scholars coming here as library fellows (see page 9).

This year we continue our record of excellent programming with a full slate of lectures, a film showing and discussion with the filmmaker, classroom visits by special guests, and several performances. We also support study groups and events planned by our SEA language lecturers and actively work to fund and assist faculty and students doing research and language study in Southeast Asia.

New initiatives this year include financing a long distance course on Burmese language along with a reading group on Burma/Myanmar for graduate students, contributing to an II-wide series and symposium on contemporary arts and Islam, and organizing a graduate student conference on Southeast Asian Studies. We are also pushing creativity in the arts by commissioning a new musical piece for the Javanese gamelan to be performed at Hill Auditorium in the winter semester and inviting a Southeast Asian artist to create a work based on materials in our library/museum special collections.

See you at one of our many events!

### Christi-Anne Castro

Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies  
Associate Professor, Ethnomusicology

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Editor: Alison Rivett

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## NEW MA STUDENTS



**Mai Ze Vang** is Hmong-American and is a first year dual-degree student—MA in Southeast Asian Studies Masters of Public Policy. Mai Ze is pursuing her interest in Thailand, ethnic minorities both highland and lowland, refugee and immigration policy and student access and success in education.



**Natalie Tantisirirat** is a first year student in the Southeast Asian Studies MA program and a Thai language FLAS recipient. Her interests include Thai security, gender policies, and diplomatic relationships. After graduation, Natalie hopes to either work for an NGO or other international aid agency.



**Rebecca Selin** is a new MA student in CSEAS and an Indonesian language FLAS recipient. She is interested in relationships between national and ethnic identity in Indonesia and its diaspora. Rebecca performs with the U-M gamelan and hopes to work in the Foreign Service or NGO sector post-graduation.

## NEW PHD STUDENT WITH SEA FOCUS

**Chantal Croteau** is a first year anthropology PhD student with an interest in Thai studies. After completing her undergraduate education at Bowdoin College, Chantal was awarded a Princeton in Asia fellowship to teach English in Takuapa, Thailand for two years. Her time in there has shaped her current research interests—dynamics of memory, affect, and care in the context of traumatic loss in Takuapa.



## NEW SEA PROFESSOR

### IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

**Erick White** joined the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC) as a new assistant professor this semester. After completing his B.A. in Religious Studies at Amherst College, Erick eventually chose to study anthropology and Theravada Buddhism, with an emphasis on Thailand, and earned his Ph.D from Cornell University. After completing his degree work, Erick worked there as a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Asian Studies, and was later appointed as a visiting fellow from 2015-2017 in the Southeast East Asian Program at Cornell.

During his time at Amherst, Erick became interested contemporary Buddhism, especially after he participated in a study abroad program which involved independent research in India. As part of his research, Erick traveled with Burmese pilgrims to specific pilgrimage sites spread out across Northern India. After his study abroad program, he traveled throughout different regions of India, Myanmar, and Thailand. When visiting Myanmar, his Burmese pilgrim friends kidnapped him and ordained him as a Buddhist monk for five days. These travels eventually impacted his choice to specialize in researching Thai Buddhism.

Erick's current research interests include religious prestige, status, and legitimacy in Thai Buddhism. In his book manuscript, *Spirit Possession as Buddhist Vocation: Piety, Devotion and Charisma in Modern Thai Buddhism*, Erick analyzes how spirit mediums interpret and partake in Thai Buddhism and culture. The book will explore how professional spirit mediums in modern Thailand in fact enact mainstream forms of Theravada Buddhism in their everyday discourse and practices, despite their marginalization by society at large.

His teaching interests center around Thai Buddhism, Theravada Buddhism, and Thai Society and Culture. In the future, Erick hopes to teach courses about Theravada and/or Thai Buddhism in relation to contemporary and popular culture. Next semester, he will be teaching two classes: Introduction to Theravada Buddhism, and Thai

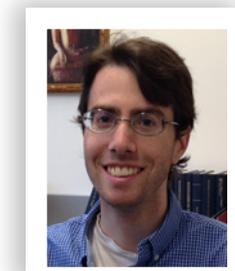


Buddhism and Film. His class on Thai Buddhism and Film will be the first of its kind in the United States, exploring the complex relationship between varying visions of Thai Buddhism and how it relates to Thai society through film as a medium.

When he's not working, Erick enjoys watching films, new television series, and exploring Ann Arbor's food scene. Please join us in welcoming Erick to campus!

## NEW SOUTHEAST ASIA LECTURER

New CSEAS lecturer, **Scott Abel**, is originally from the Jersey Shore where early interest in maritime history led to his long-term engagement with the discipline. He received his undergraduate degree at Washington College in 2009, Master's Degree from Rutgers University-



Newark in 2011, and completed his doctorate in history in 2016 from Northern Illinois University. He is currently a lecturer for the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, teaching SEAS

501, "Introduction to Southeast Asia," along with a special topics class SEAS 455, "History of Political Economies in Southeast Asia." Abel will be moving to Singapore for a fellowship with the National Library Board of Singapore in 2018.

## NEW HOME

After being based in the School of Social Work Building since November 1997, The Center for Southeast Asian Studies, along with the other Centers of the International Institute, has relocated to the fourth floor of the newly renovated Weiser Hall (formerly Dennison Building). The refreshed space, named after U-M alumni and donors Ronald and Eileen Weiser, is centrally located on Central Campus and features an open floor plan with office spaces as well as an events room with full-wall windows on the tenth floor, and a green wall comprised of living plants on each floor.



## CURRENT STUDENTS

Second-Year MA student, **Sam Farris**, is currently in Bangkok studying Thai language at Chulalongkorn University for the first part of his Boren Fellowship. His program focuses on language courses for three hours per day through Thai culture and history. He learns alongside other non-Thai students, mostly from nearby countries and



East Asia, who want to learn Thai for military service or business purposes. Sam's research has focused on the Thai fishing industry, which led him to the adjacent issue of the relationship between provincial minimum wages and national expectations, and the impact of Burmese regularization rates of low-skilled workers to drive up wages. He has enjoyed connecting with old friends and socializing in Bangkok, and hopes to move back to Thailand after he has completed his obligation to government service under the fellowship.

This past summer, second year SEAS MA student **Ellen Myers** was selected to participate in the COTI (Consortium for the Teaching of Indonesian) advanced language program in Salatiga, Indonesia. This semester Ellen is continuing her advanced study of Indonesian on campus and looking forward to completing a graduate certificate program for the Center for World Performance Studies. She is currently working on her Master's thesis, which examines social media use among Indonesian youths, and applying for PhD programs in Anthropology.



## GRADUATING STUDENTS

**Puma (Klairoong) Pattumma** is a native of Thailand, and moved to Shiloh, Illinois. She is currently a commissioned officer in the United States Army and part of the Foreign Area Officer branch, which specializes in regional security studies of Southeast Asia. Her master thesis, "Environmental Challenges and Territorial Disputes in the South China Sea: How the ASEAN Way of Governance Tackles the Issues", focused on ASEAN policies directed towards South China Sea environmental issues. Upon completion of her degree, she will be attending Joint Forces Staff College phase II at Norfolk, VA. Her next military assignment will most likely be in Southeast Asia.

**Nate Samuelson** will be graduating with dual Master of Public Policy and Master of Southeast Asian studies degrees. His academic concentrations include foreign policy and national security policy focused on Southeast Asia, particularly the Philippines. As a student, Nate completed a summer internship



at the Political Section of the U.S. Embassy - Manila. He also spent an additional year in the Philippines on a National Security Education Program Boren Fellowship to bolster his Filipino language competencies and to conduct research on US-Philippine security cooperation as the topic of his MA Essay. After graduation, he will pursue a career in Federal service and continue his military obligations as an Army Officer in a reserve capacity.

## LANGUAGE LECTURERS

All of the SEA Language faculty attended the Southeast Asian Language Workshop at the Cornell University, September 8–10, 2017 to showcase the reading material development project that they have been working on with their colleagues in peer institutions in the US over the past three years (2015-2017). The Southeast Asian language lecturers all took part in the annual Translate-a-Thon Workshop October 20–22, 2017 held by LSA's Language Resource Center, where volunteers translate for local agencies, such as Food Gatherers, the Humane Society, and the YMCA.



This past year, **Agustini**, Indonesian Lecturer and Director of the Southeast Asian Language Program, received a Mellon Collaborative Partnerships-Summer Project funding through the University of Chicago to develop Advanced Indonesian reading materials with Dr. Erlin Barnard, her colleague from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The project ran from July

to September 2017. Agustini also attended the CARLA Summer Language Institute on the Content-Based Language Instruction from July 24–28, 2017 at the University of Minnesota.

**Aimkamon Bunmee**, Thai Lecturer, participated in the CARLA Summer Language Institute on Content-Based Language Instruction July 24–28, 2017 at the University of Minnesota. She also collected new teaching materials on a trip to Thailand over the summer.

**ThúyAnh Nguyen**, Vietnamese Lecturer, attended the Pathways to Project-Based Language Learning intensive summer institute, at the National Foreign Language Resource Center, University of Hawaii, Manoa this past summer. She is working with her advanced students this Fall semester on a project called "Health Insurance for Vietnamese Americans in America." The students are working in groups to create a project with information on health insurance that will be used as a resource on health insurance in Vietnamese for Vietnamese communities in Michigan.

**Zenaida V. Fulgencio**, Filipino Lecturer, took part in the Pedagogy Training for Materials Development using Content-Based Instruction Approach, where she teamed-up with a lecturer from the University of Hawaii-Manoa this past summer. The team engaged in a collaborative project to develop CBI lessons and pilot these in their respective language classes. The project was sponsored by the Henry Luce Foundation and co-sponsored by the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages (COTSEAL). This is a 3-year project which was started in 2015 and concluded last September 2017 at Cornell University, and attended by all Southeast Asian lecturers of the University of Michigan. She is also attending the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, November 17–19, 2017.

## FULBRIGHT FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING ASSISTANTS

**Kusumawati** is originally from Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. She is the 2017-2018 Fulbright FLTA for Bahasa Indonesia. She is excited to give her best contribution in enriching the Southeast Asian Studies programs at University of Michigan. After completing the program, she hopes to become a teacher in her country. By inspiring and motivating the young generation of her country, Kusumawati believes she can help them be well prepared for the future of the nation.

**William Mel Paglinawan**, the Filipino Teaching Assistant, is an Assistant Professor at Notre Dame of Dadiangas University (NDDU) in General Santos City, Philippines and a Graduate School Instructor at Notre Dame of Kidapawan College (NDKC) in Cotabato Province, Mindanao, Philippines. His ultimate goal is to contribute meaningfully to the field of Education by continuously learning from others, being open-minded, and applying the knowledge and experiences he will gain from his academic experience at the University of Michigan.

**Thanh Tam** is from Saigon and currently works as an FLTA for Vietnamese language courses. She is an avid reader on a wide range of subjects, especially history and education. She hopes that during her short stay in the US, she can bring a breath of Vietnamese culture into every activity and event that she joins.

**Warangkana Pongsatornpipat**, Thai teaching assistant, is from Lamphun, Thailand, and graduated from Chiang Mai University with a degree in English Language Education. She taught English at Thammasat University in Lampang before applying for the FLTA Program. Warangkana is excited to share and further develop her teaching experience, all while taking academic classes that align with her interests. After completing the program, she will share her exchange experiences with her students in Thailand and further develop her research on psycholinguistics.



All of the Southeast Asian Language faculty attended the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages (COTSEAL) conference at Cornell in September, with their colleagues from universities throughout the country.

# FIRST TIME TO SOUTHEAST ASIA FACULTY TRAVEL AWARD

In May, Drs. Patricia Abbott and Dana Tschannen spent 12 days in Bangkok, Thailand, collaborating with nursing faculty and students at Mahidol University and meeting with nurse leaders at Siriraj and Golden Jubilee Hospitals.

During this time, they conducted an environmental assessment in an effort to meet the project goal, which was to identify opportunities for collaborative faculty and graduate health professional student engagement in projects that explore systems-level interventions to improve quality in healthcare in Thailand. In addition to the building of relationships with counterparts at Mahidol University, they were also able to enjoy the culture of Thailand. Abbott and Tschannen visited World Heritage sites, experienced two major holidays (Royal Ploughing Ceremony and Visakha Bucha Day), and were privileged to witness the incredible one-year mourning period devoted to the recently deceased King. Their project was made possible by a CSEAS grant for first-time U-M faculty travel to Southeast Asia. Drs. Abbott and Tschannen are enthusiastic about future interactions and collaborations with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and are currently exploring various funding opportunities to support students interested in the pilot exchange associated with potential projects identified earlier.

## FACULTY UPDATES

**Nancy Florida** was awarded a lifetime achievement award for her groundbreaking work on Javanese history by the First International Awards Summit on Javanese Culture at the Institute for Javanology at Universitas Sebelas Maret (UNS) in Surakarta, Indonesia. Professor Florida was chosen not only for her decades of dedication to Javanese studies and documentation of historic texts at the Sultan's palace in Surakarta, but for her unwavering enthusiasm in promoting Javanese studies abroad.

**John Ciorciari** presented on human rights challenges in Southeast Asia in September at a conference on ASEAN's 50th anniversary at Northern Illinois University. He also published an article on "ASEAN and the Great Powers" in an August issue of *Contemporary Southeast Asia*.

**Deirdre de la Cruz** is working on her second book, *Spirits in a New Age: The Occult in Modern Philippine History*, and recently published an article in *Material Religion* "To Which Earthly Categories Do Not Apply: Spirit Photography, Filipino Ghosts, and the Global Occult at the Turn of the Twentieth Century."

**Webb Keane** made two trips to West Java in 2017 for research. On leave 2017–18, he is dividing the academic year between Harvard, where he is a visiting scholar, and Trinity College, Cambridge University, where he is a fellow.

**John Knodel** spent January through April and mid-July through late September in Thailand and Myanmar. His collaborative research with colleagues in the region examines the care older persons receive, and the types of care they provide to other household members, especially grandchildren left behind by migrants from Myanmar to Thailand. He also published several articles about geriatric care in family households in Southeast Asian countries, such as "Family Support for Older Persons in Thailand: Challenges and Opportunities" published in the University of Michigan's Population Studies Center Research Report.

## TEACHER TRAVEL

**Victor McDermott**, music teacher at Ann Arbor Academy, was awarded a scholarship toward a teacher travel trip to Hanoi and Bangkok.



Drs. Abbott and Tschannen visit cultural sites in Thailand and colleagues from Mahidol University.



## THAI STUDIES AWARD RECIPIENTS: FACULTY

**Kathleen Ford** spent the month of July in Thailand, continuing work on her project that initiates analysis of the two waves of study interviews and augmenting the data set with information on violent incidents from the Deep South Watch database. She also helped orchestrate a six day writing workshop in Ampawat, Thailand with the Southern provinces team (Aree Jampaklay, Aphichat Chamrathithirong and Kathleen Ford). Workshop attendees discussed further analysis of the data, the use of the Deep South Watch data, plans for manuscripts and conference participation. They continued their work back at the Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR) at Mahidol University in Thailand, and held a symposium at IPSR on July 24 for interested persons in the Bangkok area. Assistant Professor Jaruwat Songmoung from Fateni University,

Kanchana Tangchonlatip, and Laura Yakas) have recently published an article about their research in *Ageing and Society*, entitled, "Pathways to grandparents' provision of care in skipped-generation households in Thailand." Based on interviews with grandparents from rural Thailand, the researchers have identified several different reasons why grandparents decide to raise their grandchildren, including: feelings of obligation to their family, inadequate childcare, need for financial resources, problematic relationships within the family, and desire for companionship.

**Mike McGovern** is conducting to conduct research with Tai (Shan)-speaking people living in Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai Provinces, Thailand under his project "Culture and Contestation: Non-violent Challenges to the State by Ethnic Minorities in Myanmar and Thailand." This research is part of his larger project on the relations between ethnic minorities and the state in Myanmar, Thailand's neighbor to the West.

**April Bigelow** worked with students from the University of Michigan School of Nursing (UMSN) primary care nurse practitioner (NP) programs and students from Suranaree University of Technology community health course, faculty from both schools, and local health workers to carry out her research project titled, "Improving Equity to Preventive Care for People with Stroke Risk in Rural Thai Communities." The teams conducted a comprehensive community assessment and individualized home visits to identify specific risk factors for stroke within the community. Then they offered educational sessions on modifiable risk factors and prevention of stroke via community forums. The data and statistics gathered from this project will be disseminated locally in Thailand in the specific community and will be used to develop preventative education.

**Richard Neitzel** is working to develop a University of Michigan-Thai Faculty Collaboration around the health impacts of electronic waste. This past summer, he expanded his existing research on e-waste recycling with Professor Kowit Nambunmee from Mae Fah Luang University to include additional faculty members

from two Thai Universities: Dr. Nirawan Sanphoti from Kasetsart University and Dr. Phayong Thepaksorn from Siringhorn College of Public Health. Neither professor has previously engaged in research with a US university. The project has enhanced local capacity for, and interest in, collaborative global research in Thailand. Neitzel will also create websites (in English and Thai) to disseminate these recommendations in lay language.

**Jiyhoun Jeon** traveled to Thailand to conduct research to identify anatomic site-specific colorectal cancer incidence trends by age, gender, and region in Thailand. Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the third most common cancer in the world, with nearly 1.4 million new cases diagnosed in 2012. CRC incidence has been increasing in Thailand and other low and middle-income countries (LMICs), however, little is known about the differences in CRC by site in Thailand and other LMICs, and how these compare to the patterns in the US and other Western countries. Jeon's long-term goal is to develop CRC natural history models to project the impact of CRC screening strategies in Thailand. She hopes her work will help the Thai authorities determine the most optimal programs for the country.

**Matthew Davis** conducted a project that examined geographic variation in the prevalence of Thais with multiple chronic conditions, defined as patients with two or more chronic non-communicable diseases, and how the cost of medications differs by national healthcare plan. He is investigating his hypothesis that there exists unrecognized variation in the cost of prescription medications for the population of adult Thais with multiple chronic conditions. The project is the first to use Thailand's national health data—a unique and powerful data source that integrates administrative, clinical, and health survey information for approximately 60 million Thais.



Yala, Thailand, attended as a discussant upon invitation. Qualitative data collection for the study was ongoing in July and Aree Jampaklay and Ford made a field visit of several days to Pattani to observe focus groups.

**Berit Ingersoll-Dayton** has been working on a project on migration, aging, and family functioning in Thailand. Funded by a Thai Studies Award, University of Michigan and Mahidol University researchers have been examining Skipped-Generation Households in Thailand. These are households in which grandparents raise their grandchildren while the parent generation migrates to find employment. Members of the research team (Berit Ingersoll-Dayton, Sureeporn Punpuing,

## THAI STUDIES AWARD RECIPIENTS: STUDENTS

**Christian Alvarez**, a doctoral student in Epidemiology in the School of Public Health, conducted research in collaboration with Prince of Songkla University in Songkhla, Thailand. The purpose of Christian's work is to describe and compare differences in prostate tumor characteristics and survival after diagnosis between the two major religious groups in Thailand: Buddhists and Muslims. His study utilizes data from the Songkla cancer registry 1990-2013. The results show that Muslim men have a higher risk of death after diagnosis compared to Buddhists. Christian aims to further investigate this population in order to understand what risk factors may underlie the poorer survival for prostate cancer among the Muslim population in southern Thailand.



**Ilona Argirion** worked alongside Dr. Patravoot Vatanasapt in the otorhinolaryngology department at Khon Kaen University with the primary goal of studying the burden of head and neck (H&N) cancer in Thailand and establishing an H&N cohort study in the region. Ilona, a doctoral student in public health, learned about the Thai healthcare system, treatment prevalence, and the devastating effects of this cancer group on patients' lives. She also participated in the "3gether: Run and Ride for Life" and gave several presentations on H&N cancer for doctors, profes-



sors, and medical residents. In addition to learning more about head and neck cancer in Thailand, Ilona gained a great appreciation for Thai history and culture. Outside of working at the hospital, she was able to take classes in Isan music.

**Chanese Forte**, a PhD candidate in Environmental Toxicology, Epidemiology, and Occupational Health, participated in a project assessing the use of pesticides among northern Thai farmers, and the potential adverse health effects related to these pesticides. This project is a collaboration between the University



of Michigan and Mae Fah Luang University in Chiang Rai. While in Thailand, Chanese conducted field work, collecting data with a research team from the Thai partner university. She recently presented information from this research in a talk at the Michigan Chapter Society of Toxicology meeting at Wayne State University, and will also present at upcoming conferences in her field.

**Andrea Guytingco** combined research and practicum experience over the summer while assessing the occupational exposures, risks, and hazards related to pesticide exposure among fruit farmers and agricultural workers in Bangkok, Chiang Rai Province, and Trang Province in southern Thailand. An MPH candidate in the Industrial Hygiene sub-plan, Andrea also participated in a two week research project related to e-waste recycling with other U-M affiliates in Kalasin Province in northeastern Thailand. Her practicum and internship allowed her to empower others to take control of their own health education through a grassroots approach. As a result of the internship's focus on research, Andrea is currently co-authoring or assisting with several publications related to her work over the summer.

**Kaitlyn Kuder**, a undergraduate neuroscience major, participated in a medical internship in which she shadowed doctors in the surgery department of Thammasat Hospital in Bangkok. She was able to observe up to four surgeries each day, and the doctors were open, engaging and helpful. In her free time, Kaitlyn visited various temples around Bangkok, Ayutthaya, multiple shopping malls and markets, and other landmarks around the city. She immersed herself in Thai culture, eating authentic Thai food and dressing to the more conservative norms. Kaitlyn plans on returning to Thailand one day to see even more of the country after this life-changing experience made possible by the Thai Studies Grant.

**Zoë McLaughlin**, an MS candidate in the School of Information, traveled to Thailand to participate in events related to librarianship (page 9). She attended a meeting at the Bangkok office of the Library of Congress, assisted in a U-M library acquisitions trip in Chiang Mai, and participated in a meeting of librarians, scholars, and publishers co-sponsored by the Library of Congress and the Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient. The discussions at this meeting centered on the current state of Southeast Asia subject libraries, current shifts in publication format and accessibility, and the creation of shared digital libraries of special collections materials. These discussions will be continued at the Association for Asian Studies Conference, which Zoë will attend. She also plans to present on open access publishing in Southeast Asia at upcoming conferences.

**Colleen Towler**, a Master's student in Community Organization in the School of Social Work, completed a photovoice project in Thailand. The aim of this project was to better understand the circumstances of youth navigating non-traditional sexuality and gender expression in rural Northern Thailand. Colleen's interest in this project began when she was living and working as a teacher in Thailand. Upon returning



to the U.S., she found that most of research on sexuality in Thailand focused on health issues related to sexual behavior in urban areas. Participants were given cameras and asked to take photos representing their gender identity or sexuality, with the goal of creating a supportive community and working toward a desired social or political change decided on by the participants. Colleen plans on creating an exhibit out of the photographs produced in this project.



**Kyra Wicklund** completed a summer internship in Hat Yai, at Prince of Songkhla University, where her work centered on liver cancer registration. Her interest in this topic stems from the unique history of cancer registry in Thailand, which is far ahead of many other registry systems in Southeast Asia because Thailand's King emphasized the role of public health in society. Kyra is interested in liver cancer because of Thailand's unique liver cancer profile with high incidence rates. She worked on reviewing and verifying the previous work of Dr. Hutch Sripilung on analysis of liver cancer trends and incidence rates in Songkhla, Thailand; she also aided in preparing the papers of Prince of Songkla University cancer researchers for publication in journals. While in Songkhla, Kyra also explored the epidemiology community in Thailand through university presentations and study meetings with local collaborators.



## PROGRAMMER TRIP

**Alison Byrnes Rivett**, CSEAS Programmer, traveled to Thailand and Indonesia in August 2017 in order to assess possibilities for student programs and linkages for researchers from U-M. She visited King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi in Bangkok to discuss student opportunities in engineering. She then travelled to Chiang Mai to meet with program coordinators for student study abroad, U-M alum Bonnie Brereton, and Chayan Vaddhanaphuti, Director of the Regional Center for Social Science and Sustainable Development at Chiang Mai University. Then, in Bali, she met teachers and the director of a study program in the arts before heading to Jakarta to join faculty of the U-M School of Public Health, who were conducting a workshop on biostatistics at Dharmas Cancer Center (see below). There, she also met with Henry Rahardja, President of the U-M Alumni Association of Indonesia (shown above), to discuss strategies to facilitate exchange of students between the USA and Indonesia (see Gamelan Gift, page 11). Rahardja also introduced Rivett to ministers of the Indonesian government, who are interested in promoting Indonesian culture in the USA in order to encourage Americans to visit Indonesia.



## CANCER BIOSTATISTICS WORKSHOP IN JAKARTA

In a cross-departmental and international initiative from the U-M Global Cancer Initiative, Office of Global Public Health, University of Michigan Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and University of Michigan Center for South Asian Studies, the "Workshop on Biostatistics Methods in Cancer Research" was held from August 21-24, 2017 at the Dharmas Cancer Hospital in Jakarta, Indonesia. This workshop combined didactic lectures, presentations on research in South and Southeast Asia, and group consultation sessions with the Global StatCore faculty to support ongoing research in the region. Through collaboration with the Indonesian Oncology Society and Indonesian Pathology Society, the workshop was accredited by the Indonesian Medical Association. Participants and presenters, who hailed from the University of Michigan as well as institutions throughout South and Southeast Asia, exchanged ideas and best practices to address the cancer burden in the region.



UM faculty shared their expertise on utilizing cancer data and building cancer research projects. Instructors included Dr. Bhramar Mukherjee (Professor of Epidemiology at Biostatistics at the University of Michigan School of Public Health and Associate Director for Population Sciences at the UM Comprehensive Cancer Center), Dr. Mousumi Banerjee (Director of Biostatistics of the Center for Healthcare Outcomes & Policy and Research Professor at University of Michigan School of Public Health), and Dr. Philip Boonstra (Research Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, University of Michigan School of Public Health). Additional lectures were given by Dr. Laura Rozek (Associate Professor of Environmental Health Science, University Of Michigan School of Public Health), Dr. Hutch Sripilung (Associate Professor, Epidemiology Unit, Prince of Songkla University), and Dr. Catherine Peterson (Assistant Professor of Psychology, Eastern Michigan University).

# U-M SEA LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

## ACQUISITIONS FOR THE SOUTHEAST ASIA LIBRARY

by Fe Susan Go

The Center for Southeast Asian Studies and the Graduate Library enables me to travel for a six-week acquisitions trips to the region. This year the countries visited included: Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines. These journeys are spent making purchases from bookstores, universities, and government offices as well as consulting with our vendors to update what we need and hear from them concerning difficulties they have encountered obtaining the publications our students and professors require.

In Bangkok, with the help of Sunantha Muangli the LC representative in Bangkok, I explored the availability of Buddhist-themed movies. The exploration was successful which will aid Erick White, the new professor of Thai Buddhism (see page 1) who plans to show how movies portray the practice of Buddhism—titles our established vendors tend not to pursue. I also traveled to Chiang Mai to attend a workshop sponsored by the Library of Congress office in Jakarta and the Ecole d'Francaise office. Attending were important Southeast Asian publishers (Silkworm from Thailand and National University of Singapore as well as the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies in Bergen, Norway). Several Thai self-publishers, who do not use reviewers nor editors, were present. The US was well represented by four librarians from CORMOSEA (including myself) as well as Zoë McLaughlin (see page 9), student of the School of Information and the Center. Carol Mitchell, Jakarta LC Representative, noted the decrease of print materials publications



in Southeast Asia without being complemented by an increase in serious electronic publications, and the difficulty in repatriating rights to capture and retain newspapers and journals. The afternoon session focused on rare collections with particular focus on the Southeast Asia Digital database based at NIU and the British Endangered Archives. The workshop will continue at the Association for Asian Studies conference in Washington, DC, March 2018. After the conference I continued to Khon Kaen, Thailand to visit the university where UM's Public Health Department and the Center has a joint project, to acquire publications produced by KKU and gather materials on the Mekong Project, a UN Project in damming the Mekong River for U of M ecologists.

In Myanmar, I visited Yangon and with the assistance of the resident LC Representative. We visited different bookstores and the government outlet for official publications. I met with our vendor and explored having a catalog record of the titles we place on order. Many technical issues remain to be resolved. In Mandalay, I was met by Aung U Soe, one of our Luce/Burma grantees who teaches at the University of Mandalay Teacher's College. U Soe escorted me to visit the Ludu Library, an independent library whose collection of Burmese newspapers and other publications is being digitized thanks to a generous grant from the Open Society. In addition, thanks to U Soe's knowledge, we visited different museums, temples and the Library of Mandalay University. I was able purchase appropriate titles to add to the Burmese collection of the Library.

In Southeast Asia, collecting the best materials relies on independent self-financed entrepreneurs. One of the difficulties of this fact centers on being able to keep their focus

solely on academic materials. This is especially challenging in Vietnam. I had to travel to Hanoi in-person—a must in Southeast Asia—to reinforce the Library's requirement to eliminate completely general titles and to look for more Vietnam War posters.

In Manila, I meet with our long-term and highly productive vendor, the owner of Solidaridad Bookshop. As elsewhere, a major part of my trip concentrated on acquiring new materials on the major regions in the Philippines besides Manila, mainly Cebu Province and Pampanga Province. Both Cebu and Pampanga represent a major theme of the past fifty years to highlight important population centers aside from the capital and have distinct histories with a strong intellectual tradition supporting specialized institutions that produced works garnering international recognition. Pampanga and its capital, Angeles, has an active, well-funded institution—the Holy Angel University owned by the Nepomuceno family—a common occurrence in the Philippines. Its Center for Kapampangan Studies, along with the Cebuano Studies Center (CSC) at the University of San Carlos (USC) in the Visayan region of the Central Philippines, is equal in quality if not in quantity to the publications from institutions of higher learning in Manila. Its well-stocked bookstore offered our collection so many worthy titles to complement our holdings of other non-Manila regions. The scholarly active local Catholic Church afforded additional worthy titles. In Cebu City at the CSC, I had a conversation with its head, Hope Yu, the Director of the Center concerning digitization of newspapers and personal documents. At the close she opened a cabinet full of their publications and I selected a considerable number of recent titles missing from

our collection. Ms. Yu also accompanied me to the publication office and just as we entered a delivery cart arrived with a load of new USC titles, including the elusive and massive *Encyclopedia of Cebu*, a title prepared by scholars from USC. It stands as the most serious effort ever to produce a history of each town and city and funded entirely by the province. Nothing marks more clearly the vagaries and frequent vicissitudes of the acquisition of even well-known and well-funded publications in Southeast Asia. It had been almost impossible to obtain due to initially being distributed only to towns and cities—I even met with the vice-governor. She expressed embarrassment for not being able to offer U-M a copy but promised to provide one as soon as a second printing became available. Only being at USC at the right time permitted a victory for perseverance!

## CSEAS LIBRARY SCHOLAR, JUNE 2017

**JPaul Manzanilla** came to U-M June 2017 to conduct research for his dissertation on the history of photography in the Philippines in the 20th century. He researches how photography as a universal medium has been influenced by "ways of seeing," after John Berger's book. Photography is understudied in many parts of the world and only now gaining a foothold in Asian academia. JPaul sees himself working in the disciplines of art and science history. He will explore advances in the related fields of optics, vision, optometry, film, television in his study, in order to consider art historical styles in relation to contemporaneous technology. Many of the photographers he researches were self-taught, therefore not products of institutions traditionally studied by art historians.

JPaul's research begins in the Philippines, but relates to international artistic practices. Going forward, he plans to work on Indonesian, Indian, and Latin American photography, which have many commonalities with the Philippines. He reflected that Ann Arbor is pleasant to visit in the summer, even though collection access is limited. Special collections at the Bentley furthered his research—he made use of the extensively-studied Worcester collection. JPaul also viewed the Stern collection and accessed Masters theses on radical tradition in Filipino art, written in the late 80s, at the Fine Arts Library.



## Michigan Publication Access

The University of Michigan's Center for Southeast Asian Studies, in cooperation with Michigan Publishing, has published important research by scholars around the world, since its first book in 1971. The Center's publications have reflected its commitment to Southeast Asia scholars and students, both at Michigan and globally. Its list ranges from deeply engaging monographs across the disciplines to foundational texts for languages and dialects. The Center also offers access an Open Access journals program, including the *Trans-Asia Photography Review* and *Ars Orientalis*, both of which regularly feature work from other Southeast Asian scholars.

## THREE GENERATIONS OF MICHIGAN LIBRARIANS

During the summer 2017 joint Library of Congress-Ecole Française d'Extrême-Orient workshop in Chiang Mai, Thailand, a remarkable gathering of three generations of Michigan-educated Southeast Asia librarians took place. **Carol Mitchell** (Library of Congress Field Director, Jakarta), **Susan Go** (University of Michigan

Librarian for Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands), and **Zoë McLaughlin** (School of Information MSI student), met at this workshop in Chiang Mai, highlighting the University of Michigan's prominence in the field of Southeast Asian studies and making for an incredible photo opportunity. Zoë McLaughlin, who is currently studying to become a Southeast Asia subject librarian, traveled to the workshop with funding from the Thai Studies Grant [see page 6] and was excited to meet with these two fellow Michigan-affiliates.

This workshop brought together librarians, scholars, and publishers with an interest in Southeast Asia to discuss current issues regarding publication in the region, including production, dissemination, and conservation of content from the region. The workshop is part of an on-going effort to discuss possibilities for collaboration on an international level; further meetings and projects are expected to take place over the coming years. She plans to continue working with the group in the after graduation as she begins work as a librarian focused on Southeast Asia. She was especially excited to meet up with two University of Michigan alumni at the workshop.

## MATERIALS ACQUIRED

DURING THE SUMMER OF 2017

Below are selected titles that the library acquired during this summer's acquisitions trip.

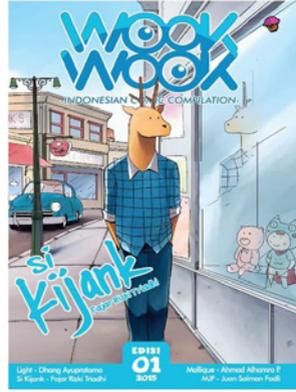


อาบัติ/KARMA  
Kanittha Kwanyu

Selected as the Thai entry for Best Foreign Language Film in the 89th Academy Awards, this film tells the story of a young man whose father forces him to become a monk. He later develops a relationship with a village girl. The film faced controversy and was banned in Thailand but later released after edits.

หลวงพี่แจ๊ส 4G  
Poj Arnon

In this comedy, a hipster with a checkered past becomes ordained as a monk in an isolated, mountain temple. The film centers around this monk and his friends from the temple as they are sent on a mission to Bangkok during Songkran.

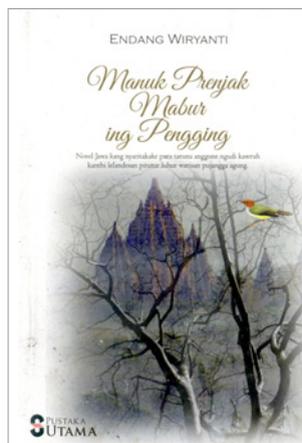


WOOK WOOK: INDONESIAN COMIC COMPILATION  
Lesehan Studio

Each edition of this comic magazine consists of work from several different artists that had previously only been published online. The stories run the gamut from realistic to fantastical.

MANUK PRENJAK MABUR ING PENGGING  
Endang Waryanti

This novel, written in Javanese and published in 2016, tells the story of Manuk Prenjak. Along the way, readers can learn from Manuk Prenjak's example lessons on how to live a good and noble life and to learn from those who have come before.

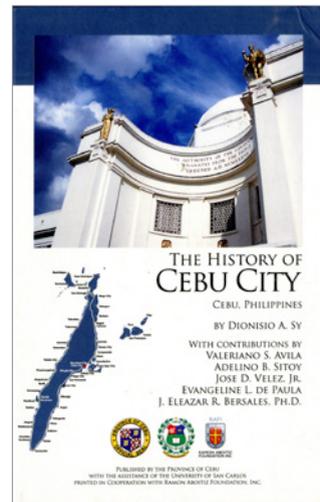


CHWETALAY CARTOONS

This large book contains selected cartoons by U Ba Gale (Shwe-talay) that were originally published in the 1920s and 1930s. U Ba Gale was the first to publish a cartoon in Burmese. His caricature-like cartoons often held scathing critiques of the British colonizers and of other current social and political issues.

CEBU PROVINCIAL HISTORY SERIES  
Provincial Government of Cebu with the assistance of the University of San Carlos

This 55-volume series extensively covers the history of Cebu province in the Philippines, including 44 towns and 9 cities. It was produced in collaboration with the Cebuano Studies Center at the University of San Carlos.



ATLAS NG MGA WIKA NG FILIPINAS  
Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino

This full-color atlas illustrates the distribution of languages throughout the Philippines. It includes rare languages and information on language variants throughout the country.



CAPAMPANGAN ROOTS: PRIMITIVE WORDS AND SYLLABLES FROM POLYNESIAN-AUSTRONESIAN, SANSKRIT, CHINESE AND BAHASA LANGUAGES AS ROOTS OF THE CAPAMPANGAN LANGUAGE  
Papa Osmubal, Center for Kapampangan Studies, Holy Angel University, Philippines

This book serves as a dictionary for the roots of Kapampangan words. These roots are not necessarily suffixes and affixes but are often embedded within the word. An examination of these roots not only reveals the origin of the word, but can also lead to the uncovering of new meanings within the word.

## GAMELAN GIFT

The U-M Alumni Association of Indonesia announced a \$400,000 pledge to the Javanese Gamelan Endowment and \$100,000 for a new Student Support Fund to encourage students to travel to Indonesia. With additional funds from U-M through the Third Century Matching Initiative, the total amount will be \$550,000, if the pledge is fulfilled in five years. The announcement coincided with the Bicentennial of the University, and the celebration of 50 years of gamelan at Michigan. The gamelan ensemble first performed at Hill Auditorium in 1967.

Henry Rahardja, president of the U-M Alumni Association of Indonesia, is leading the initiative to raise funds for the gamelan endowment over the next five years. He came to U-M in the 1990s to study computer engineering, and has become active in seeking out fellow alumni in Indonesia and encouraging them to get involved with the Alumni Association. The Indonesian Alumni want to promote more exchange between U-M and Indonesia, both encouraging college-bound Indonesians to apply to U-M, and getting U-M students to consider studying, interning, or doing projects in Indonesia. Arts and culture are an effective way to introduce Indonesia to Americans, so the continued health of gamelan ensembles are a vital gateway to link the two countries.

On the U-M side, gamelan director Susan Walton is excited about the future of the gamelan, which is now ensured to continue providing unique and unforgettable experiences for U-M students into the coming decades thanks to the Alumni Association of Indonesia's generous support. According to Walton, playing in the gamelan often opens doors to career and academic opportunities for students, who "go to Indonesia to study not only gamelan music, but also theater, dance, Indonesian languages and even public policy and batik-making. Some students have opted to work there, teaching in schools or working for NGOs". Hosting guest artists and teachers from Java and other US institutions broadens the horizons of U-M students, increases understanding of globalization and cultural diversity, and sparks crucial interest in the study of Islam, the majority religion of Indonesia.

## GAMELAN AWARD

Congratulations to **Susan Walton** and to the University of Michigan Javanese Gamelan, which she directs, on winning an award from the Consulate of Indonesia in Chicago. The plaque reads, "Consulate General of Indonesia, Chicago, Prima Budaya Award 2017 presented to University of Michigan Gamelan Ensemble, In recognition of your commitment and outstanding performance in promoting Indonesian Arts and Culture." The photo pictures Susan Walton with the Consul General of Indonesia, Chicago, Rosmalawati Chalid." *Prima Budaya* means "Foremost in Culture."



## GAMELAN COMPOSER IN RESIDENCE

The Javanese Gamelan Composer-in-Residence program, new this year and funded by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, supports University of Michigan student composers interested in writing pieces involving the instruments of the gamelan. This unique experience not only adds unique experience to the Composer-in-Residence's portfolio, but provides new and innovative material for the U-M Javanese Gamelan to perform.

**Conner VanderBeek** is the 2017–2018 Composer-in-Residence, the first for the U-M Javanese Gamelan. Conner Singh VanderBeek is a Punjabi-American ethnomusicologist and composer from Salida, California. His research is on cultural memory and religious politics in the Sikh diaspora, and on how South Asian artists in North America negotiate race, language, class, and gender through social media and technology. His art explores narratives of trauma, belonging, cultural identity, and mundanity through styles ranging from jazz and classical to performance art and noise. VanderBeek holds degrees from Northwestern University (BA/BM '15) and is currently in his second year in the PhD program in ethnomusicology at Michigan. More of his work is available at [www.csvanderbeek.com](http://www.csvanderbeek.com).



# DONOR PROFILE GUNTER DUFHEY



After serving over 30 years on the faculty of Ross, Professor Emeritus Gunter Dufey relocated to Singapore

in 2000 to be closer to his favorite area of research: International Financial Markets, with focus on Asia (and to escape Michigan winters). After joining McKinsey Singapore for a few years, he returned to academe, teaching at NTU and NUS on a part-time basis. He has also been very active in U-M alumni affairs in the region and assists in

recruiting students via his not-for-profit company Education Exchange Limited (educationexchangeltd.org) in Singapore. "GD," as he is known among friends and colleagues, also maintains a close connection with Michigan, returning every summer to Ann Arbor.

Professor Dufey became familiar with gamelan long ago while travelling in Indonesia. When he learned of the fundraising effort of the Indonesian alumni in 2016, he decided to contribute to the project. He is looking forward to upcoming gamelan performances during his stay in Ann Arbor.

## UPCOMING CSEAS SYMPOSIUM

In the Winter 2018 semester, CSEAS will co-host a symposium on March 12 entitled "Being Muslim: Arts and Expressions" as part of the "Arts of Islam" theme semester. This cross-disciplinary symposium highlights contemporary expressive performance and visual work that engage with Islam in everyday life. The event is a collaborative effort bringing together regional centers at the International Institute and partners across campus and the community. It will address the question of how contemporary expressions of self and community relate to the context of Islam.

## INNOVATIVE STUDENT CSEAS CONFERENCE

A multidisciplinary coalition of U-M graduate students is currently planning a Southeast Asian-themed conference on February 16, uniting a wide range of disciplines. The planning committee includes students in area studies, public health, education, and anthropology. The conference will be an opportunity for students from a variety of academic disciplines to present and workshop their research. Students from other institutions will join students at U-M to both share research and get to know their future colleagues.

## DONATE TO CSEAS

By now, most of you have heard of the generous pledge made by the University of Michigan Alumni of Indonesia. When it reaches its total, the gift made to the existing Javanese Gamelan Endowment will be an enormous boon to the ensemble and to the community. However, the total will not be reached for five years. In the meantime, **we continue to struggle to put an instructor in place during the Winter semester and must direct what funding we do have toward that imperative.** We ask that you consider giving to the Gamelan Endowment to support the pledge and to help tide us over during these challenging times.

This academic year is the last of the Title VI 4-year cycle, after which our funding situation is highly precarious. Please consider supporting the center by giving to our strategic fund. We will use this money to support the study groups on Burma and Vietnam (that fill a void on campus at present due to a need for faculty), to pay for language scholarships (Filipino, Indonesian, and Vietnamese, since Thai scholarships come from the Thai Endowment), and for a host of other programming initiated by faculty, the librarian, and students from all over the university.

Please consider making a donation to CSEAS this year. Donations of any amount help us maintain and advance our programs. Gifts can be directed to your favorite program, be that the Javanese gamelan, one of our language or area studies funds, or student support. A complete list of specific funds within CSEAS can be found at [ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate](http://ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate).

### HOW TO GIVE

[ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate](http://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.*

Weiser Hall  
500 Church Street, Ste. 400  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1106  
734 764 0352  
[ii.umich.edu/cseas](http://ii.umich.edu/cseas)

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**

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