Sarah Emily Lekberg (MM music, 2013) with some of her students at An Giang University in Vietnam as a 2013–14 Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. Lekberg will talk about her ETA experience and her current job at VietAID in Boston at this semester’s first Alumni Connect on Wednesday. Details below.

Ask an alum: Life after Southeast Asian Studies

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Burnish your resumé
Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to an undergraduate degree or a graduate certificate to an advanced degree and pull your resumé to the top of the pile. To learn more, visit the CSEAS website or stop by CSEAS at 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julien Ehrenkönig at ehrenkonig@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Eric Jones at iloveroti@gmail.com.
1. This week’s lecture: Graduate student Francesca Pase NEW

Graduate student Francesca Pase (MSEd candidate, educational psychology) will present “‘I’m Sorry for the Mistakes I’m about to Make’: Interaction, Social Status and Emotion in the Indonesian EFL Classroom,” at noon Friday, March 6, in Room 110 (Honors), Campus Life Building. Pase’s presentation will explore the relationship between language, culture, and emotion, focusing on the Indonesian concept of *malu*, an emotional response that determines appropriate behavior in a meaningful interaction, in a classroom she observed in Java. To order an Indonesian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at CSEAS Brown Bag Lunch Order. Orders must be cancelled online by 10 a.m. Friday. Cost is $5 for students and $6 for faculty, staff and others. Payments may be made in cash or by check (cash preferred). For lunch details or questions, e-mail seabrownbag@gmail.com. For a complete spring lecture schedule, see the Center website.

2. NIU in SEA: An MOU in Burma, alumni in Cambodia NEW

An NIU delegation including Vice President for Research Lesley Rigg, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Dean Chris McCord, CSEAS Director Judy Ledgerwood and Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond traveled to Myanmar/Burma in February to sign a memorandum of understanding with Mandalay University. NIU is the first US institution to sign such an MOU with the public liberal arts university in Mandalay, the second oldest university in the country and the largest university in Upper Myanmar. It is the second MOU in Myanmar for NIU, which signed an accord with Yatanabon University, also located in Mandalay, in April 2014. “We are delighted with the signing of this MOU with Mandalay University,” Ledgerwood said. “We look forward to future exchanges of faculty and students and collaboration on research and teaching.” While in Southeast Asia, Ledgerwood and Rigg also traveled to Phnom Penh where they met with NIU alumni.
3. Spring Alumni Connects start this week

The Center resumes its Alumni Connect series this week at 10 a.m. March 4 in Room 337 Founders Library. Alumni Connect is an informal opportunity for current students to chat with CSEAS alumni about how they translated their NIU experience into a meaningful career. This week’s guest via Skype will be SarahEmily Lekberg, who graduated with a music degree and graduate concentration in Southeast Asian studies in 2013 and currently works for Vietnamese American Initiative for Development, or VietAID, a nonprofit community development organization in Boston. As a community business developer, Lekberg responsible for creating an affordable Vietnamese translation service. Undergraduate and graduate students alike are encouraged to come and ‘connect’ with Lekberg and the three other alumni this semester. The next Alumni Connect dates:

- **March 18**: Via Skype with Lyndy Worsham (MA political science, 2005) with USAID project, Washington, DC, Washington.
  - Noon, Room 337, Founders Memorial Library
- **April 1**: Via Skype with Colette Morgan (BA political science, 2011) of US-ASEAN Business Council, Washington, DC.
  - Noon, Room 337, Founders Library
- **April 3**: On-campus chat with Punchada “Art” Sirivunnabood (PhD political science, 2010) of Mahidol University and consultant for the Thai ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs.
  - 1 to 2 p.m., Pottenger House

4. Center associates update: Russell, Molnar

Anthropology professors Susan Russell and Andrea Molnar will make presentations March 6 at Harper College’s fifth Develop Your World: International Education Summit in Palatine. Russell will present “Global Peace and Conflict Studies: Making Non-Violence Relevant for American College Students” and Molnar will present “The Role of Peace Education in Conflict transformation and Peace Building.” The conference, sponsored by the college’s International Studies and Programs and the International Student Office, brings together scholars, faculty and administrators from Illinois and Wisconsin to share ideas and best practices in international education. This conference is part of a new Title VI-funded CSEAS project designed to increase collaboration with area community colleges.

5. Deadline this week for Spring Student Conference

Friday, March 6, is the last day to submit abstracts for the Southeast Asia Club’s 2015 spring student conference, which will be held Saturday, April 25, in Room 315 Altgeld. Papers may be submitted on any topic pertaining to Southeast Asia; email niuseaclub@gmail.com. The conference theme is “Identity Narratives” and the keynote speaker will be University of California-Berkeley historian and Cambodian specialist Penny Edwards, author of Cambodge: The Cultivation of a Nation (1860–1945) (University of Hawai’i Press, 2007). Awards will be given for best undergraduate and graduate papers.

6. Help wanted: Seeking graduate assistant for SEAS 225

CSEAS is accepting graduate student applications for the SEAS 225 for the 2014–15 academic year. The assistantship is a full-time (20 hours per week) position coordinating the Center’s Southeast
Asia survey course, which is taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Most lectures will be given by Southeast Asia faculty in a variety of disciplines. Specific duties include: Develop course syllabus and assessment modules; grade all exams, papers and assignments; keep office hours for student tutoring and guidance on lecture materials; post course material on Blackboard; teach some classes, including overview lectures and presentations relevant to his/her discipline and research interests. Applicants should be advanced in their studies (minimum two years) in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and must have knowledge of or experience in Southeast Asia, in addition to strong organizational, written and communication skills. Previous TA experience preferable but not essential. Preference will be given to those in the process of completing the graduate certificate in Southeast Asian studies. Position pays $1,180 per month plus full tuition waiver. All materials, including a graduate assistantship application, cover letter, resume, and two reference contacts, must be received by Office Manager Rita Miller by 4:30 p.m. April 15. Send to CSEAS, Northern Illinois University, 520 College View Court, DeKalb, IL 60115, email to ram@niu.edu, or FAX to 815-753-1776.

7. Vietnamese to be offered again in fall 2015
After successfully piloting distance-taught Vietnamese this year, NIU will be offering Vietnamese via distance learning with the University of Wisconsin-Madison next year. The course, FLST 103-104, will be taught by a UW-Madison instructor, but NIU students will receive credit from NIU. Interested students should contact CSEAS Director Judy Ledgerwood at 815-753-1771 or by email at cseas@niu.edu (please put Vietnamese in the subject line).

8. Get thee to Southeast Asia: Summer study abroad!
Interested in learning more about Southeast Asia, immersing yourself in a language or getting study-abroad college credit? CSEAS associates Andrea Molnar (Anthropology) and Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music) are actively recruiting for their study abroad programs in Thailand and Bali, with application deadlines in March and April. NIU also sponsors Summer Study Abroad in Laos with the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies. Apply online or through NIU’s Study Abroad Office in 417 Williston (email niuabroad@niu.edu or phone 815-753-0700). Some partial travel funding is available; contact the Study Abroad office. Deadline to apply for the Study Abroad Travel Grant is April 1. Program information is also available at CSEAS.

Explore cultural diversity in Thailand
Anthropology professor Andrea Molnar will reprise her 2011 program, Cultural Diversity in Thailand, June 8–July 3. Molnar’s program will introduce students to Thailand’s diverse cultural groups and explore the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. The course uses a political anthropology perspective while focusing on cultural issues and their historical background. Deadline to apply: March 16. The Anthropology Club is holding an info session on all of the department’s summer study abroad programs, including this one, at 5:30 p.m. March 2 in DuSable 228. Also, see the program’s Facebook page. Scholarships available from NIU Thai Studies Committee (see item 6 below).
Experience Balinese music, dance and culture in Indonesia
For the second year, music professor Jui-Ching Wang will take students to a village location in Bali, Indonesia to learn about Balinese music, dance, theater, architecture, art and crafts in her program Experiencing the Arts in Bali, July 4–25. Students will live in a traditional village compound and participate in festivals to celebrate the anniversary of the local temples. “The ceremonial nature of the arts reflects the multiple layers of religious practices and philosophies embedded in Balinese society,” Wang says. For details, see the program’s Facebook page. Deadline to apply: April 15.

Learn Lao language and culture in Laos
NIU also sponsors Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL), a five-week Lao language and culture program June 27–July 31 in cooperation with the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies. Based in Vientiane, Laos, the program offers students language and cultural lessons as well as exposure to Lao history and culture. Deadline to apply: April 1.

9. Thai Studies Committee offers grants for Thailand study abroad program
The NIU Thai Studies Committee invites undergraduate and graduate students to apply for two $1,500 scholarships to be applied to CSEAS associate Andrea Molnar’s June 8–July 3 study abroad program to Thailand. Submit one-page statement addressing academic interest in Thai studies, letter of support from Molnar, letter of recommendation, and either a transcript (for undergraduates) or an explanation of graduate work progress from program advisor (for graduate students). Funding is through the Thai Teaching and Research Fund administered by the NIU Foundation. Email to CSEAS associate Chalermsee Olson at eteolson@niu.edu by March 16.

10. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

Note: Students taking language or area studies abroad through non-NIU programs are advised to work through NIU’s Study Abroad office, 417 Williston Hall. By doing so, students can receive NIU credit and possibly have NIU financial aid apply, in addition to receiving liability and insurance protection.

11. Save the dates: Alumni, fundraiser, bowling, conference, concert
- March 4: Alumni Connect via Skype with SarahEmily Lekberg (MM music, 2013) of VietAID, Boston, 10 a.m., Room 337, Founders Memorial Library.
- March 4: Fundraiser for Vietnam Friendship Village Project USA, 4 to 5 p.m., Cole Hall 100. See the award-winning 2001 documentary The Friendship Village, a film about an international group of veterans who built a village in Vietnam for children with Agent Orange-related disabilities. Receive a soda and popcorn for any donation. Sponsored by the Southeast Asia Club.
- March 7: Join the fun with Southeast Asia Club fielding a team for Bowl for Kids Sake, Youth Service Bureau fundraiser for Big Brother/Big Sister. Join the fun. Email Krista Albers at kalbers@niu.edu.
- **March 18:** **Alumni Connect** via Skype with Lyndy Worsham (MA political science, 2005) with USAID project, Washington, DC, Washington, Noon, Room 337, Founders Memorial Library.
- **April 1:** **Alumni Connect** via Skype with Colette Morgan (BA political science, 2011) of US-ASEAN Business Council, Washington, DC, Noon, Room 337, Founders Library.
- **April 3:** **Alumni Connect** with Punchada “Art” Sirivunnabood (PhD political science, 2010) of Mahidol University, Consultant for Thai ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs, 1–2 p.m., Pottenger House. NEW
- **April 9–11:** Teaching World Music Symposium, NIU School of Music.
- **April 11:** Teaching Southeast Asia Performing Arts Forum, 8:30 a.m. to noon, followed by World Music Concert, 3 p.m., Boutell Hall.
- **Through May:** “Curated by DeKalb: 50 Years of the Anthropology Museum,” 50th anniversary exhibition including SEA artifacts. Admission free.

12. **April World Music Symposium includes SEA forum, music concert**

   The NIU Music Building will be resonating with the sounds of world music **April 9–11** when the 2015 World Music Symposium: From the Exotic to the Global takes place. Music educators, ethnomusicologists, composers, performers and interdisciplinary scholars are invited to attend. The third day of the conference will feature a Teaching Southeast Asia Performing Arts Forum (with funding provided for community college educators to attend). The symposium, organized by CSEAS associate Jui-Ching Wang (School of Music), honors Kuo-Huang Han, music professor emeritus and founder of the NIU Gamelan Ensemble, and marks the 40th anniversary of the world music program at NIU. The program concludes with the annual World Music concert, which will include Balinese gamelan, marching gamelan, Thai folk music and the NIU Chamber Choir performing an Indonesian folk song, at 3 p.m. in Boutell Hall. For information, email jcwang@niu.edu or see the symposium website.

13. **Money for study NEW**

    **NIU**

    - **Undergraduate Student Engagement Fund:** Need travel money for a conference, a stipend to work on a faculty-mentored research project, or funding to help pay for a study abroad program? The Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences is now providing funding for undergraduates for just such activities. Students in good academic standing may apply on their own behalf or faculty may apply on behalf of a student. Awards range from $250 to $2,500. The deadline for spring 2016 funds is **Oct. 1.** For details, see program website. NEW

    **McGill University**

    - **Dissertation workshop:** Institute for the Study of International Development invites applications from advanced PhD students. All areas of development studies welcome including political science, economics, anthropology, sociology, geography and history. Full
funding for accepted students. For details, email Institute Director Philip Oxhorn at Philip.oxhorn@mcgill.ca.

Harvard Kennedy School Ash Center

- **Transparency for Development Project**: Ethnographic pre-doctoral researchers wanted to live in three rural Indonesian communities for six months to contribute to case studies of health information and social action interventions. Sponsored by Ash Center and Results for Development Institute. Travel, $13,000 stipend, and language training as needed. **Deadline to apply: March 6.** See website.

University of Leeds (U.K.)

- **Thai Studies research scholarships**: Three scholarships (approximately $18,000 each) offered by the university’s School of Languages, Cultures and Societies for graduate students to undertake field research in Thailand. **Deadline to apply: June 26.** See website.

Center for Khmer Studies

- **Khmer Language and Culture Study Program**: Six-week study abroad, June 16–July 24, at Royal University of Phnom Penh for undergraduates, post-graduates, and faculty. Funding for tuition and some program costs available for up to eight participants. Administered by the University of Hawai‘i. **Deadline to apply: Feb. 27.** See website.

Harvard Kennedy School

- **Indonesia Research Fellowships**: For Indonesian PhD students, post-docs, and practitioners, appointments run Aug. 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016. **Deadline to apply: March 13.** See website.

Smithsonian Institution

- **Summer Institute Fellowships**: Intensive program for graduate students in cultural anthropology. June 22–July 17. Funding covers room, board, and tuition. Housing and small stipend also provided. **Deadline to apply: March 1.** See website.

Rotary International

- **Rotary Peace Fellowships**: Fully paid fellowships for master’s degree study offered at six universities worldwide. **Deadline to apply for 2016 fellowships: July 2015.** See website.

14. Job/internship opportunities **NEW**

VietAID

- **Executive Director**: Vietnamese American Initiative for Development in Boston. Deadline to apply: March 31. For details, see VietAID website. **NEW**

US Department of State

- **Fall 2015 Student Internship Program**: 10-week unpaid internships for undergraduate and graduate students at Washington headquarters and US embassies, consulates and missions worldwide. See program website. **NEW**

USINDO

- **Program Associate/Editor/Executive Assistant**: Full-time position with US-Indonesia Society in Washington DC. For information, email dmerrill@usindo.org or call 202-232-1400. Position posted on USINDO website.

Room to Read

- **Positions open**: San Francisco-based organization that helps develop literacy skills among primary and secondary school students. Asia Regional Director (based in Asia) and Country Operations for Southeast Asia (based in Cambodia, Laos or Vietnam). See website.

Asia Society

- **Career opportunities**: Internships and jobs posted regularly on website.
Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- Jobs listed under Opportunities tab of ASEAN website.

Devex: Do Good. Do It Well
- International aid and development jobs in 1,000 agencies, companies and NGOs in 100 countries. See website.

DevMetJOBS.org
- International development jobs and consulting opportunities. See website.

Hess International Educational Group
- Teach English across Asia: Taiwan-based organization offers free training, benefits, and flex scheduling. Email NIU alum Derek Wright at derek.wright@hess.com.tw or see website.

Idealist.org
- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. See the Idealist website.

ReliefWeb
- Specialized digital service of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs that posts jobs regularly. See website.

World Health Organization
- Global health agency in the United Nations System encourages online applications for potential employment. See WHO website.

15. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- Trans-Asia Graduate Student Conference, March 13–15, University of Wisconsin-Madison. “Lives and Afterlives: the Future of Asian Studies.” For details, email tagsconference@rso.wisc.edu. NEW


- Mon Society and Culture Program, March 18–24, Yangon, Myanmar. Sponsored by SEAMEO Regional Centre for History and Tradition. Includes five-day field trip to Mon State. For details, email seameo_chat@mptmail.net.mm.


- Association for Asian Studies 2015, March 26–29, Chicago. See conference website.

- Artistic Inventions: Histories, Cartographies and Politics in Asia, March 30–31, Hong Kong Baptist University. See conference website.


- Hmong National Development Conference, April 17–19, Crowne Plaza Intercontinental, St. Paul, MN. See conference website. NEW

- **AAS-in-Asia**, June 22–24, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. Theme: Asia in Motion: ideas, Institutions, Identities. See [conference website](#).

- **The Emergence of Theravada Buddhism in Cambodia: Southeast Asian Perspectives**, July 3, SOAS University of London. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts: March 15.** See [symposium website](#). NEW

- **International Convention of Asia Scholars 9**, July 5–9, Adelaide, Australia. See [conference website](#).

- **5th International Conference on Lao Studies**, July 8–10, Thammasat University, Bangkok. See [conference website](#).

- **4th International Conference on International Relations and Development (ICIRD)**, July 9–10, Mahidol University, Salaya, Thailand. Call for abstracts and panel proposals. **Deadline: March 30.** See [conference website](#).

- **International Conference on Burma/Myanmar Studies**, July 24–25, Chiang Mai University, Thailand. Call for abstracts and panel proposals. **Deadline: April 15.** See [conference website](#).

- **EuroSEAS 2015**, Aug. 11–14, University of Vienna, Austria. See [conference website](#).

- **NUS/ARI Workshop: International Medical Travel and the Politics of Transnational Mobility in Asia**, Aug. 26–27, National University of Singapore Asia Research Institute. Call for papers. Partial or full travel funding available. **Deadline: March 31.** See [website](#).

- **5th International Conference on Lao Studies: Lao PDR in the ASEAN Context**, July 8–10, 2016, Thammasat University, Bangkok. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts: Oct. 31.** See [conference website](#).

16. Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute of Chicago offers classes in Thai language, dance and music among other programs. See [website](#) for details or phone 312-725-0640.

- “Curated by DeKalb: 50 Years of the Anthropology Museum,” on display at the NIU Anthropology Museum through the 2014–15 academic year. The exhibit features items from the museum’s collection of ethnographic and archeological objects, many from SEA, chosen by members of the NIU and local communities. Museum hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Admission free.

- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit on display at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) also holds free Cambodian music and dance lessons.

- The Indonesian Consulate in Chicago offers free Javanese gamelan and dance is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays; gamelan music and Indonesian dance 3 to 6 p.m. Sundays. Free Indonesian language lessons also offered. See consulate [website](#).

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Persons with a disability who need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact Office Manager Rita Miller at 815-753-1771 or ram@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, reply to this e-mail with request to remove your name. Please specify your name or organization with which this mailing is linked. Thank you.