Dachaoshan Dam in the Yunnan province of China is the kind of hydropower project many believe are threatening migratory fish populations on the Mekong River, the subject of this week’s center lecture. (Photo / AP, National Geographic)

Lectures resume, Thai lunches return

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1. This week’s lecture: Alan Potkin on hydropower and Mekong River fisheries

Independent scholar and CSEAS adjunct Alan Potkin will present “Mekong-Serengeti: Hydropower Endgame for the Great Migratory Fisheries?” at noon Friday, March 23, in Room 110 (Honors), Campus Life Building. Potkin will discuss the potential threat to the migratory fish populations of the Mekong River and its tributaries flowing through China, Burma, Laos, Thailand and Cambodia by planned hydropower projects. While there are no dams yet below China, where six hydropower projects are online or under construction in the Yunnan headwaters, Thailand has started building a 1,500-megawatt mainstream dam project over the objections of Vietnam and Cambodia. See entire lecture series schedule on the CSEAS website.

2. Thai lunches back on the menu of weekly CSEAS lecture

Friday’s weekly seminar heralds the return of Thai lunches! For those who’d like order one to eat during the lecture, the lunches will be provided by Rosarin Adulseranee and Piyathida Sereebenjapol. They MUST be ordered online through the website, Brown Bag Thai Lunch Reservations, by 10 a.m. Friday. Orders must be cancelled by the same time online. Lunches that are not picked up and have not been cancelled must still be paid for. Cost is $6 for faculty, $5 for students. Payment may be paid by cash or check. For all inquiries, please email seabrownbag@gmail.com. The center is providing plates and cutlery, but otherwise is not responsible for taking or cancelling lunch orders. Thank you and enjoy a taste of Thai while feeding your mind at the weekly lecture!

3. Outreach: CSEAS and FLTAs at GlobalFest

About 900 middle and high school students and teachers from around Illinois got the opportunity March 9-10 courtesy of CSEAS to learn a little Thai, Tagalog, Malay and Indonesian at this year’s GlobalFest. Outreach coordinator Julie Lamb and Foreign Language Teaching Assistants (FLTA) Nurul Azis (Indonesian), Syarifah Farah Nabilah (Malay), Michael Melo (Tagalog) and Chanida Phongnapharak (Thai) packed up the center’s language and cultural materials, along with kits to make Thai krathongs (lotus-shaped receptacle), and headed to Normal West Community High School in Bloomington-Normal for the two-day event. The FLTAs taught language-immersion classes and also with Lamb hosted country discovery rooms and the center’s craft table. Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages sponsors the annual event to “celebrate and promote the study of world languages and international studies through educational activities connected to the Illinois Learning Standards for students in grades 6 through 12.” It is co-
sponsored by CSEAS, Rotary International, the Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the National Resource Centers at the University of Illinois.

4. Get your paper on: Student conference best-paper candidates due March 19

Keynote speaker University of Wisconsin-Madison historian Michael Cullinane will present “Anti-Colonial Rebels: Arenas of Conspiracy and Revolution in the Philippines at the Turn of the 20th Century” at the Southeast Asia Club’s spring student conference to be held April 7 in Altgeld Hall. The conference theme is “Western Influence in Southeast Asia,” though papers may be submitted on any topic pertaining to SEA. Papers will be accepted in undergraduate and graduate categories. For those wishing to compete in the best-paper competition, papers will be due March 19. For those wishing to present only, papers will be due March 30. Best paper awards will be given for both undergraduate and graduate papers. Send abstracts to conference organizer Robert Kollas at rkollas@niu.edu.

5. Abstracts deadline extended to April 1 for 2012 Cambodia Studies Conference at NIU

The deadline for abstracts has been extended to April 1 for the 2012 Cambodia Studies Conference set for Sept. 13–16 at NIU. NIU’s Cambodia Studies Working Group and CSEAS, in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ohio University, University of Massachusetts-Lowell, and the Center for Khmer Studies in Cambodia, are inviting submissions for presentations and panels for the conference. Papers are due June 15. The conference theme is “Imagining Cambodia;” papers or panels are encouraged in the arts as well as social sciences and humanities. Papers on Cambodian diaspora communities are also welcome. In addition to regular academic panels, the conference will feature themed panels for which papers will be circulated in advance to all registered participants for in-depth discussions on particular topics. The conference will also include a musical performance of works by renowned Cambodian-American composer Dr. Chinary Ung and a field trip to the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial in Chicago.

6. SEAYLP and PYLP want you: Hosting is unforgettable experience for local families

The center is still seeking seven DeKalb or Sycamore households to act as hosts April 12–25 for high school students and adult leaders from Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar (Burma), the Philippines and Thailand participating in the spring session of the center’s Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). Students are placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Host families provide a bed for each participant, breakfast each day and most dinners, all meals during any weekend days at home, and transportation to and from class sessions at NIU. An orientation for host families is set for 7 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 11.
There will be a farewell reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, **April 25**. For details and a host family application, contact NIU host family coordinator Leslie Shive at 815-753-9546 or email lshive@niu.edu.

Host families are also being sought for the **April 14–May 17** Philippine Youth Leadership Program (PYLP), another State Department-sponsored youth exchange program, this one bringing young people and adult leaders from the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao and surrounding provinces in the Philippines to NIU for five weeks under the auspices of the International Training Office and direction of CSEAS associates Susan Russell (anthropology) and Lina Ong (ITO). The home stay dates for PYLP are **April 28–May 10** (orientation for families is 7 to 8:30 p.m. **April 23**). As with SEAYLP, contact Leslie Shive for details.

*Want to read more about SEAYLP?* The SEAYLP staff has posted *Voices of SEAYLP*, a newsletter of articles written by the fall 2011 batch of participants, on the center website.

**7. Award-winning professor to keynote April Teaching SEA to Undergraduates conference**

CSEAS is hosting a one-day conference for college-level instructors, *Building Our Global Future: Teaching Southeast Asia to Undergraduates*, at NIU this spring on Saturday, **April 28**, and is accepting proposals for presentations on teaching Southeast Asian history and politics, current events, religions and cultures, human rights, arts and music or geography. Modest travel stipends may be available. Conference keynote speaker will be NIU alumnus and The College of Idaho professor **Robert Dayley** (PhD political science, 1997), who teaches about Southeast Asia to undergraduates and was named Idaho Professor of the Year in 2011.

**8. Save the dates: Study Abroad deadlines, SEA culture night, teachers conference all in April**

- **April 1:** Deadline to apply for NIU Indonesia Study Abroad program.
- **April 7:** Southeast Asia Club Spring Student Conference, Altgeld Hall, NIU.
- **April 14:** Southeast Asia Culture Night, sponsored by Southeast Asia Club, 6 p.m. Wirtz Hall Auditorium. Free food and cultural performances.
- **April 28:** Building Our Global Future: Teaching Southeast Asian Studies to Undergraduates conference at NIU, sponsored by CSEAS.

**9. Deadlines approaching to study abroad in SEA this summer with NIU**

It’s getting to be time to lock in an NIU summer study abroad in Southeast Asia. CSEAS adjunct Tomoyuki Shibata (nursing and health studies/public health), who is conducting his first study abroad program to Indonesia, recently received a grant that will shave $600 off the cost for each participant. Andrea Katalin Molnar (anthropology) is reprising her 2011 Culture and Diversity in Thailand program. All offer undergraduate and graduate course credit. For details on programs, financial aid, travel grants, scholarships, and applications, contact the Study Abroad Office, 417 Williston Hall; or e-mail niuabroad@niu.edu. Study Abroad 101 workshop meets at 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in 417 Williston.

- **Public Health and Health Education in Indonesia, June 4–22:** Three-week program of interest to students of public health, nursing, pre-med, nutrition, geography, environmental studies, and Southeast Asian studies. Program builds on summer 2011 research project in Makassar, Indonesia conducted by Tomoyuki Shibata in cooperation with Hasanuddin University. Mandatory pre- and post-program meetings: **April 2, May**
14. and Aug. 27. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** For details, email Shibata at tshibata@niu.edu.

- **Cultural Diversity in Thailand, June 15–July 14:** Four-week program focuses on cultural diversity in Thailand and the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country. **Deadline has been extended.**

## 10. Conferences on Burma, Thai Studies, Lao Studies call for papers

- **10th International Burma Studies Conference, Oct. 5–7, NIU**
  The board of trustees of the Burma Studies Foundation, the Burma Studies Group, and the Center for Burma Studies at NIU invite papers on all aspects of Burma studies for presentation at the 10th [International Burma Studies Conference](#). Submissions are welcome in the fields of anthropology, art history, environment, health, history, literature, linguistics, music, political science, popular culture, religions, and area studies. Panels and papers should be devoted primarily to new research, including recent events in Burma. **Proposals for papers or panels are due April 15.** Send the title, abstract and all queries to: bsc2012@niu.edu. The conference will feature academic presentations and cultural events. For details, call 815-753-0512.

- **Council on Thai Studies Conference, Oct. 26–27, Ohio University, Athens, OH**
  The Council on Thai Studies (COTS) welcomes students and scholars of Thailand and the broader Tai world to submit paper abstracts for the 2012 COTS conference. The gathering will mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Council on Thai Studies, which was founded at NIU in 1972 to bring Thai specialists in the Midwest together once a year. The keynote speech will be given by Charnvit Kasetsiri, Thai historian and former rector of Thammasat University. **Abstracts are due Aug. 3.** This year’s conference, which previously has been held at NIU and at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is being sponsored this year by Ohio University Libraries, the OU Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Contemporary History Institute, the Southeast Asian Student Association, and the Thai Student Association. For details, email conference organizer Jeffrey Shane at shane@ohio.edu.

- **4th International Lao Studies Conference, April 19–21, 2013, Madison, WI**
  The Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies are inviting papers for the 4th International Conference on Lao Studies. The interdisciplinary conference is organized around the twin themes of Lao studies and the diverse ethnic groups of Laos. **Abstracts are due Oct. 31.** Registration must be made online. For details on article submission and registration, see the [conference website](#) or call UW-M at 608-263-1755.

## 11. Ohio CSEAS hosts upcoming Khmer Studies Forum

A performance by Cambodian-American artist and musician PraCh Ly and a presentation by *New York Times* foreign correspondent Joel Brinkley, author of *Cambodia’s Curse: A Troubled History of a Modern Land*, will be two of the events featured at the fourth annual Khmer Studies Forum set for **April 27–29** at Ohio University in Athens, OH. For information on the three-day event, which will also feature panels, roundtable discussions, workshops, film screenings, and cultural performances, go to the [forum website](#). The forum is sponsored by Ohio’s Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Center for International Studies, the E.W. Scripps School of
Journalism, the Contemporary History Institute, the College of Health Sciences and Professions, and the Ohio Humanities Council.

12. Overseas language, exchange, and area studies programs

- **Advanced Study of Khmer (ASK) Summer Abroad Program, June 11–Aug. 3**
  Intensive eight-week training in Khmer language-culture for third-year students in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. **Applications due: April 6.** Administered by the Khmer Language Program at the University of Hawaii in collaboration with the Royal University of Phnom-Penh, Cambodia. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Fulbright-Hays, and Group Projects. For details, see the [program website](#).

- **Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL), July 1–31**
  Study Lao, language, history and culture this summer in the Land of a Million Elephants during four-week program sponsored by the San Francisco-based Center for Lao Studies. Program based at the Lao-American College in Vientiane, Laos. **Applications due: April 16.** For details and application, see the [program website](#).

**NOTE:** Students interested in 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 protections.

13. Money for study

**Center for Khmer Studies**

- **Summer junior resident fellowships:** Five undergraduate openings for six-week fellowship (June 18–Aug. 3) based at center in Siem Reap. Fellowship covers tuition, accommodation, local transport, study materials and some field trip expenses. Some grants available for international air fares, visas and medical insurance. **Deadline to apply: April 11.** See [program website](#).

**Center for Citizenship, Civil Society and Rule of Law**

- **Three-year doctoral fellowships:** Interdisciplinary center at University of Aberdeen welcomes students from anthropology, cultural and literary studies, history, legal theory and socio-legal studies, philosophy, politics, religious studies, sociology and theology for 2012–13 fellowships. Fellowship covers full fees and partial maintenance. **Deadline to apply: March 30.** See [center website](#).

**East-West Center**

- **Graduate degree fellowships:** Funding for graduate students to participate in residential, educational and research programs at [East-West Center](#) while pursuing degree at University of Hawaii.

**International Institute for Asian Studies**

- **Postdoctoral fellowships:** Seeking researchers focusing on Asian cities, Asian heritages, and global Asia to apply for fellowships based at institute in Leiden, the Netherlands. **Deadline to apply: April 1.** For details, see [institute website](#). Email inquiries to iiasfellowships@iias.nl. **NEW**

**International Institute for Asian Studies-Institute of Southeast Asian Studies**

- **Postdoctoral fellowship:** Seeking researchers for one year. Project should relate to ways in which Asian politics and societies have interacted over time through religious, cultural, and economic exchanges and diasporic networks. Six months at IIAS in Leiden,
six months at ISEAS in Singapore. **Deadline to apply: June 1.** For details, see **program website.**

**National University of Singapore**

- **Postdoctoral fellowships:** Seeking two scholars with teaching and research interests in SEA, and regional expertise in the following areas in any combination: gender, literature, history, politics, economics, international relations, ecology and environment, Buddhism or Islam. Appointment to begin July 1. **Deadline to apply: March 31.** See **NUS website.** Email inquiries to seasec@nus.edu.sg. **NEW**

**14. Job opportunities**

**Asia Society**

- **Bernard Schwartz Fellows Program:** Applications for one-year (summer 2012 to summer 2013) senior-level fellowships at Asia Society headquarters in New York or Washington, D.C., office are being accepted. Minimum 10 years experience required. Send CV, cover letter, and project proposal to **globalpolicy@asiasociety.org.** **NEW**

**Center for Khmer Studies**

- **Summer Junior Resident Fellowship Program instructor:** Qualified person sought to lead and to develop a syllabus for intensive six-week study program, **June 18–Aug. 3,** for Cambodian, French and U.S. undergraduates. Ph.D. required, along with teaching and research experience in Cambodia and Southeast Asian Studies. **Deadline to apply:** April 30. Send CV and cover letter **msullivan@khmerstudies.org.**

- **Southeast Asian Studies Curricula Design Program instructor:** Qualified person to organize 13-week program of lectures, seminars and interactive group sessions, **July 2–Sept. 29.** PhD and experience teaching Southeast Asian studies at university level required. For details, contact **vong.sotheara@khmerstudies.org** by **May 17.**

**Cornell University**

- **Assistant professor:** Humanities specialist in literature and/or religion and/or culture of one or more SEA countries wanted for Department of Asian Studies to begin July 2012. Ph.D. required. Submit cover letter, statement of research and teaching, CV, a writing sample and three letters of recommendation **online.**

**Idealist.org**

- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. For details, see the **Idealist website.**

**15. Conferences and calls for papers**

- **4th International Conference on Hmong Studies,** March 30–31, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN. For details, see **conference website.**

- **4th International Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences,** April 21, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand. Theme: “Humanities and Social Science Research Trends in the ASEAN Community and Beyond.” For details, see **conference website.**

- **Methodology in Southeast Asian Studies: Grounding Research-Mixing Methods,** May 29-31, Freiburg, Germany. Sponsored by the University of Freiburg. For details, see **conference website.** **NEW**

- **New Research in Cham Studies,** June 18–19, École française d’Extrême-Orient, Paris. Co-sponsored by the Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre of the Institute of Southeast Asian

- **Between the Mountain and the Sea: Positioning Indonesia**, July 9–10, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Fifth International Indonesia Forum, co-sponsored by Yale University and Gadjah Mada University. Call for papers. **Deadline for submission: March 31.** For details, see conference website.

- **Bali in Global Asia: Between Modernization and Heritage Formation**, July 16–18, Universitas Udayana, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia. Co-sponsored by Universitas Udayana, the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), and the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV). For details, see conference website.


- **International Conference on Language Proficiency Testing in the Less Commonly Taught Languages**, Aug. 17–18, Imperial Queen’s Park Hotel, Bangkok. Hosted by the Sirindhorn Thai Language Center, Chulalongkorn University. Call for abstracts. Deadline for submission: April 30. For details, see conference website.

- **9th International Conference on the Philippines**, Oct. 28–30, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI. For details, contact asiansc@msu.edu.

- **International Cambodia Studies Conference 2012: Imagining Cambodia**, Sept. 14–16, Northern Illinois University. Individual papers and suggestions for panel speakers and themes are invited. **Deadline for abstracts April 1; deadline for papers June 15.** Details posted on CSEAS website.

- **61st Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Sept. 21–23, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI. Theme: Global Education. Regional conference for Association of Asian Studies. Call for papers. **Deadline for proposals: May 18.** For details, see conference website.

- **International Burma Studies Conference 2012**, Oct. 5–7, Northern Illinois University. **Proposals for papers or panels due: April 15.** Email title, abstract and all queries to bsc2012@niu.edu. For details, see conference website.


- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies**, April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. Call for papers scheduled for August 2012. To request being added to the conference email list or for other information, email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au. The conference website will be launched in mid-2012.

16. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit is on display at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](http://www.cambodianassociationofillinois.org) also holds free Cambodian music and dance lessons Sundays.
The Indonesian Consulate General in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. For details, see consulate website.

Persons with a disability who may need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or nschunem@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.