You never know who you’re going to run into in the nation’s capital. Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP) participants got an unexpected bonus April 23 meeting French President Emmanuel Macron and Brigitte Macron while they were visiting the Lincoln Memorial. After three weeks of leadership training at NIU, SEAYLPers depart for their home countries April 26.

So long, SEAYLP

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1. This week’s Friday lecture: ‘Borneo mud’ and antibiotic resistance NEW

The spring CSEAS Friday brownbag series ends this Friday, April 27, with biologist Sheela Vemu of Waubonsee Community College, who will present “Microbes, ‘Borneo Mud’ and Antibiotic Resistance” at noon in Room 100 Campus Life. Southeast Asia is one of the most biodiverse places on the planet with thousands of medicinal and scientific discoveries yet to come. Vemu details the discovery 50 years ago of a compound derived from an organism found in Borneo that is now one of the most often used antibiotics for chronic infections—and the implications for ethno-pharmacology today. To order a Southeast Asian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m. Thursday at CSEAS Brown Bag Order. To cancel an order, you must do so online by 10 a.m. Friday. Cost is $5 for students and $7 for faculty, staff and others. Pay in cash or by check. It’s been a great semester of feeding the mind and body. Special thanks to Chef Kenneth Fleming and History doctoral student JoAnn LoSavio for their delicious Southeast Asian meals.

2. Thursday lecture: ‘The Rohingya Question’ NEW

While the international community views the exodus of the largely Muslim Rohingya people from Myanmar’s Rakhine State as a humanitarian crisis, many observers have described the reaction inside the country as one of denial. Eaint Thiri Thu of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota will discuss the public narratives that have been shaping the framing of the Rohingya issue in a morning lecture from 9 to 10 a.m. April 26 in Room 110 Watson. Born and raised in Myanmar, Thu is a film producer, researcher and Fulbright Scholar pursuing a master’s degree in human rights at UM. Her lecture will address three main narratives of the crisis that focus on sovereignty/citizenship, transition and Islamaphobia. Breakfast will be provided. The lecture is free and open to the public. The Graduate Colloquium Committee and the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures are co-sponsoring the talk.

3. Notes from all over: Alumni making their mark NEW

Thomas Rhoden (PhD political science, 2017), now working for CARE in Atlanta, is in print with “Liberalism Lite,” a review of Liberalism Disavowed: Communitarianism and State Capitalism in Singapore by Chua Beng Huat (NUS Press, 2017) in the March 2018 issue of Mekong Review. . . . Aboud Agha (MM music, 2013), now a PhD candidate in ethnomusicology at UCLA, was a guest lecturer for MUHL431/531 and SEAS 225
Aboud’s topic was Islam’s role in modern music practices in Indonesia, drawn from his research on an extracurricular music group at Islam State University in Yogyakarta. While at NIU, Agha studied world music performance and ethnomusicology, and founded the Middle Eastern Ensemble. Shaun Levine (MA political science, 2006), Kuala Lumpur-based head of government relations Southeast Asia for Met Life and on campus March 26 to talk to CSEAS students about careers, offers these job-hunting tips: “Take risks early and learn to fail. Failing should be seen as a learning opportunity; just make sure you are taking educated risks and not just being risky. Constantly learn and accept your shortcomings in any endeavor as an opportunity to grow and exceed your own expectations. Stand out. For anyone pursuing a career in Southeast Asia (or anywhere for that matter) on-the-ground experience is a key differentiator. Take the language program, get into the region and network. All three are critical in today’s job market.”

4. Get your fall SEAS courses here

A new geography course, GEOG 498E, The Geography of Disease and Health, will be offered this fall, taught by CSEAS associate Jim Wilson (Geography). The course will explore the geographic dimensions of health in local and regional populations across the globe, mostly focusing on Southeast and South Asia and including Africa and the Americas. Topics include disease ecology, infectious and chronic diseases, geographic mobility, geographic disparities in health and healthcare resources among others.

All five SEA language and literature classes are on offer for fall: Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Tagalog and Thai. The Center will also offer its undergraduate and graduate Southeast Asia survey courses. The undergraduate class, SEAS 225, Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World (instructor of record CSEAS Assistant Director Jui-Ching Wang), is offered from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. The graduate class, SEAS 625 (also cross-listed as HIST 660), Southeast Asia: A Multidisciplinary Perspective, will be taught by CSEAS Director Eric Jones from 6 to 8:40 p.m. Thursdays.

Other fall courses include:

New online course for fall 2018
Distinguished Research Professor Kenton Clymer is teaching HIST 470/570, America and Asia, as an online course this fall. The course examines America’s relations with Asia beginning with its first permanent involvement—the acquisition and governance of the Philippine Islands from Spain in 1899—continuing through to the dramatic changes in its relationship to China beginning in 1971, the aftermath of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia and the response to Burma’s 1988 revolution.
- ANTH 424/525, Anthropology of Peace and Conflict Resolution (Andrea Molnar)
- ARTH 370/570, Art of South and Southeast Asia (Catherine Raymond)
- HDFS 384 Asian American Families (Kelly Champion)
- HIST 442/542, History of Buddhist Southeast Asia (Trude Jacobsen)
- HIST 470/570, America and Asia (Kenton Clymer)
- HIST 660, Reading Seminar in Asian History (Eric Jones)
- MUHL 326, Survey of World Music (Jui-Ching Wang)
- MUHL 421, Topic Studies in Ethnomusicology, Jui-Ching Wang
- MUSE 370/670, Gamelan I (Ngurah Kertayuda)
- POLS 371, Politics in Southeast Asia (Kheang Un)
- POLS 378, Political Islam (Kikue Hamayotsu)
- POLS 672, Topics in Comparative Politics (Kheang Un)

All courses may be applied toward SEA Studies minors/contract majors or graduate certificates. For details, see course list online.

5. Guest professor to teach summer POLS class
CSEAS and the Department of Political Science will welcome Professor Xu Ke from China’s Xiamen University in June to teach POLS 395, Contemporary Topics in Political Science—Selected Issues on China. The summer course will cover current security issues facing China and Southeast Asia in the areas of cybersecurity, health, the environment, energy, transnational crime, terrorism and society. It will run from 1 to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, June 18–28, in Room 422 DuSable. The class is cross-listed under HIST 391/591 and SEAS 490/690.

6. Get your conference travel on
The Graduate School is inviting degree-seeking graduate students in good academic standing to submit travel grant proposals for the 2018–19 academic year. Students invited to present results of their original research or creative activity at a professional may submit a proposal for matching funding through their department to the Graduate School; students must secure $200 to $500 in department or college funding in order to secure the matching funds from the Graduate School. Apply online by any of five rolling deadlines. Students may now apply online.

7. Latest podcast: Pornography, blasphemy and an Indonesian preacher
In our newest Southeast Asia Crossroads podcast, Emory University anthropologist James Hoesterey discusses enigmatic Indonesian preacher Aa Gym with host Eric Jones and CSEAS graduate assistant Sinta Febrina. Check out our other podcasts as well. Our listenership keeps growing. Crossroads podcasts have been downloaded more than 6,000 times by listeners in 70 countries since the series inception in September 2016.

8. Burnish your resumé with Southeast Asian Studies
Add a Southeast Asian Studies minor to a bachelor’s degree or a graduate certificate to an advanced degree and pull your resumé to the top of the pile. Visit the CSEAS website or stop by CSEAS at 520 College View Court. Undergraduates should contact adviser Maria Nihei at mhancock3@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Jui-Ching Wang at jcwang@niu.edu.
9. Looking for a few good SEA manuscripts
The Northern Illinois University Press is seeking quality scholarly but accessible book-length manuscripts in Southeast Asian Studies to consider for publication. Address inquiries to Kenton Clymer, editor, Southeast Asian Series, NIU Press, at kclymer@niu.edu.

10. Money for study NEW
ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute
▪ Visiting Fellowships in Thai Studies: Open to PhDs in humanities or social studies. Start date is Sept. 30. Deadline to apply: June 15. See website.

Institute of International Education
▪ Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program: 2019–20 competition for awards open. For details of available awards, see catalog. Deadline to apply: Aug. 1. For details, contact NIU Campus Program Advisor Taylor Atkins at etatkins@niu.edu.

Rotary International
▪ Rotary Peace Fellowships: Fully paid fellowships for master’s degree (up to two years) or professional development certificate studies (three months) offered through six universities worldwide. Deadline to apply: May 31. See website.

Institute of Thai Studies, Chulalongkorn University
▪ ENITAS, ENITS Scholarships: Funding for graduate students and young scholars working on Thai-Tai and ASEAN studies. Deadline to apply: April 30. See website.

East-West Center
▪ Affiliate Scholar Program: Short-term affiliation with the East-West Center for graduate students from around the world to pursue thesis or dissertation research in 2018. Revolving deadlines to submit. See website.

ProFellow
▪ Dissertation Research Fellowships: Check the ProFellow website for 30 different opportunities for dissertation research funding.

11. Conferences, symposia, calls for papers NEW
▪ Asian Extremes: Climate, Meteorology and Disaster in History, May 17–18, National University of Singapore. See website.
▪ International Conference on Business and Human Rights: Holding Governments Accountable in Asia, July 12–14, Bangkok. See website.
▪ 13th Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies, July 23–27, National University of Singapore. See website.
▪ The Rohingya Crisis: A Multidimensional Tragedy, Aug 24, Asia Centre, Bangkok. See website.

• **Framing the Global**, Sept. 27–29, Indiana University. Call for papers soon. Organized by IU Center for Study of Global Change and Indiana University Press, funded by the Mellon Foundation. Call for papers forthcoming. See [website](#).

• **Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs**, Oct. 19–20, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN. See [website](#).


• **InterAsian Connections VI: Hanoi**, Dec. 4–7, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences. See [website](#).


### 12. Careers

**Institute of Southeast Asian Affairs (ISEAA)**

- **Summer instructor**: Teach three-week intensive course on international relations and politics in Southeast Asia to small group of undergraduate students in Chiang Mai, Thailand, **May 28–June 15**. Salary, housing and travel costs provided if instructor not based in Chiang Mai. Send CV and statement of interest to Adam Dedman, ISEAA Director, at adam@iseaa.org.

**Center for Khmer Studies**

- **Summer instructor**: Lead and develop syllabus focused on Cambodian history and contemporary society for six-week undergraduate Junior Resident Fellowship Program **July 1–Aug. 10**, in Siem Reap. PhD in relevant social science and humanities required. Send CV and statement of interest to Suong Samedy at samedy.suong@khmerstudies.org. **Deadline to apply**: April 30.

**Bridge to Success**

- **English Teachers in China**: Ten-month- internships and jobs for English speakers with bachelor’s degree minimum. See [website](#).

**Asian Research Center for International Development**

- **Research Associate, Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai, Thailand**: Candidate will work on Southeast Asia-China relations. Must have master’s degree or higher; facility in English and one Southeast Asian language. See [website](#) or [Facebook](#).

**Center for Strategic and International Studies**

- **Internships**: Full- and part-time internships for undergraduates, advanced students and recent graduates who are interested in gaining practical experience in public policy. Based in Washington, DC. Rolling deadlines to apply. See [website](#).

**Eurasia Group**

- **Researcher, Political Risk Training Program**: One-year training assignment in political risk assessment with possibility of returning for second year. BA in political science, regional studies or economics with deep knowledge, some in-country experience and foreign
13. Area cultural opportunities
Thai New Year Water Festival, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., **May 19 and 20**, 4753 N. Broadway St., Chicago. Chicago Songkran event will feature Thai food vendors from around Chicago, live music, traditional Thai dances, Buddhist prayer and water activities.

Lantern Parade and Vesakha Day Celebration, 4 to 7 p.m., **May 19**, Blue Lotus Buddhist Temple & Meditation Center, 221 Dean St., Woodstock, IL 60098.

Go behind the scenes of the Philippine Collections at the Field Museum. Contact the museum’s co-curation team at cocuration.philippines@fieldmuseum.org. To learn more about the museum’s Philippines work, see the co-curation team’s newsletter.

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.

“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 Saturday classes: Indonesian language classes at 10:30 a.m. (intermediate) and 1 p.m. (children’s class); Indonesian traditional dance, 2 to 4 p.m.; and Javanese gamelan, 4 to 6 p.m. All classes held at the Indonesian Cultural Center, 711 W. Grand Avenue. Call 312-920-1880, ext. 104/105, or email icc@indonesiachicago.org. See the consulate’s Facebook page.

Indonesian Dance of Illinois offers traditional dance and gamelan music lessons Saturdays in Evanston, Il. See website.

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You can help keep Southeast Asian studies program at NIU vibrant with your contribution through the NIU Foundation. To contribute online, see How to Give and where indicated, specify the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. If your employer matches your charitable donations, please take a moment to fill out that form and double your contribution. We appreciate every gift. Thank you!

Persons with a disability who need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact Office Manager Lisa Heal at 815-753-1771 or lheal@niu.edu. If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, reply to this e-mail with request to remove your name. Thank you.