



About the Center

ear CSEAS Friends. Let me wish each of you a happy new year! For those of you who don't know me, I am a Professor of Political Science. My research focuses on political institutions, parties, and elections in Southeast Asia with a focus on Thailand and the Philippines. I served as CSEAS director many years ago and I have been happily helming CSEAS this year as Interim Director while Professor Mike McGovern enjoys a much-earned sabbatical.

Letter from the Director

Thanks to the tireless work of the Professor McGovern and the CSEAS and II staff, I am pleased to announce that CSEAS had its Title VI funding restored this summer. With that foundation we have been put together an amazing year of lectures, performances, seminars, and cultural events. Reflecting the diversity of our faculty and student research interests we have an impressive line-up of speakers for our Friday noon lecture series covering a variety of countries and disciplines. We also have several other special events we are organizing this year, including film screenings, current events roundtables, and art exhibits. I have enjoyed seeing many at these events in the Fall and look forward to meeting even more in the semester ahead.



Where possible we invite others of you to participate in our programming remotely.

In this newsletter you will find information about some of our past and future programming, news about some of our outstanding students and faculty, and tributes to faculty and alumni who have recently passed away. As always, I want to express my gratitude to the faculty, students, and alumni that make our vibrant and valuable CSEAS community what it is.

Best wishes,

Allen Hicken Interim Director Center for Southeast Asian Studies

FACULTY UPDATE

Trent Walker Joins the U-M Department of Asian Languages and Culture

rent Walker joins the faculty of Asian Languages and Culture as Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Studeies and Thai Professorship of Theravada Buddhism. His work focuses on Southeast Asian Buddhism, literature, and music. He received his BA in Religious Studies from Stanford and a PhD in Buddhist Studies from UC Berkeley, where his dissertation focused on Cambodian chanting manuscripts. He also completed postdocs in the Department of Thai at Chulalongkorn University and the Ho Center for Buddhist Studies at Stanford University.

His courses are grounded in South and Southeast Asian texts and musical genres as platforms to explore enduring questions of language, religion, and meaning. In addition to survey courses on Theravada Buddhism and Southeast Asian literature, he also teaches seminars that build bridges between song and poetry, religion and magic, Buddhism and translation, and Southeast Asia and its many diasporas.





His research spans the medieval period to the present, focusing on handwritten materials—bark-paper documents, palm-leaf manuscripts, and stone inscriptions—and their performative realization in speech, chant, and song. He has long worked with Thai, Khmer, Lanna, Lao, Pali, and Sanskrit sources, and more recently with those in Tai Khün, Tai Lue, Shan, and Vietnamese. In the field of Khmer literature, he authored Until Nirvana's Time: Buddhist Songs from Cambodia (Shambhala Publications, 2022) and co-edited a major anthology, Out of the Shadows of Angkor: Cambodian Poetry, Prose, and Performance through the Ages (Mānoa/University of Hawaiii Press, 2022). His recent publications include articles on Thai literary history, Lao and Shan exegesis, Theravada nuns, Pali-vernacular homiletics, Khmer epigraphy, and Vietnamese Buddhist translation.



Michael Hawkins joins as CSEAS Lecturer

ichael Hawkins joined as a lecturer for CSEAS and he will be teaching the SEAS 501 course. He recently completed his PhD in Geography at the University of North Carolina. His dissertation, "From Colonial Cargo to Global Containers: An Episodic Historical Geography of Manila's Waterfront, 1898–2020" narrates an episodic historical geography of the Port of Manila and examines a series of key moments t hat transformed it.

Amnuay Viravan

MAY 22, 1932 - APRIL 18, 2023

r. Amnuay Viravan, Thai government official and Michigan alumnus, passed away on April 18, 2023. He was 90 years old.



Dr. Viravan received three degrees from the University of Michigan. He first received an M.BA. with distinction in 1954. His second degree was an MA

in Economics in 1957, swiftly followed by a PhD in Business Administration in 1958. He later received an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1990.

His public service career started in 1963 when he served in Thailand's Ministry of National Development. He later entered politics ascending to the position of Minister of Finance on two separate terms, from 1980 to 1981 and 1996 to 1997, when he was also appointed Deputy Prime Minister.

Dr. Viravan remained a lifelong member of the Michigan community and returned to Ann Arbor many times. As Deputy Prime Minister in 1992, he delivered the William K. McInally Memorial Lecture entitled, "Trans-Pacific Cooperation: A Challenge in the 1990's."

In 2007, together with the support of U-M alumni in Thailand, Dr. Viravan and his wife, Khunying Samronsri, generously established the Amnuay and Samornsri Viravan Thai Studies Endowment. Professor Allen Hicken, Chair of the Thai Studies Endowment Committee, remarked on the lasting impact of the Viravan gift. "Their generosity has enabled hundreds of Michigan faculty and students to conduct research in Thailand independently and in collaboration with Thai partners, tackling a wide range of issues and challenges."

Dr. Viravan separately established the Thai Professorship of Theravada Buddhism, with matching support provided by the Crown Property Bureau. Dr. Viravan stated that his intention was to dedicate the endowed chair to His Majesty the late King of Thailand Bhumibol Adulayej, Rama IX. Professor Benjamin Brose, Chair of the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, noted that, "through the generosity and vision of Dr. Viravan, generations of Michigan undergraduate and graduate students now have the opportunity to learn about the rich traditions of Thai Buddhism." The professorship will be held by incoming professor Trent Walker.

He is survived by his wife, Khunying Samornsri Viravan, and three children — Rosanaporn Viravan, Amornpimol Viravan, and Takonkiet Viravan — and grandchildren.

Priscilla Rogers

MARCH 5, 1949 - MAY 3, 2023

riscilla "Pris" Rogers, Ph.D., associate professor emerita of management communication, passed away on May 3, 2023, at 74.

For many years, Professor Rogers served as co-chair of the Law, History and Communications Area and the head of Business Communication at the Ross Business School. She was a pioneer in the field of management communication and was known for her outstanding contributions to business communication research, teaching, and pedagogy. She was recently awarded the top honor from the Association of Business Communication, its prestigious Fellow Award, for achieving extraordinary excellence in business communication in 2020.

Professor Rogers's publications have appeared in the Journal of Business and Technical Communication, Academy of Management Discoveries, and the Journal of Business Communication. She was still active as a researcher at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.



Professor Rogers received her B.S. (1971) and M.S. (1976) from Western Michigan University and her Ph.D. (1986) from the University of Michigan. She held a number of positions at U-M before she was appointed an assistant professor in 1986, and was promoted to associate professor in 1993.

The "Prof. Dufey Scholarship Fund for Asian Students" at the Ross School of Business, was renamed the Profs. Dufey and Rogers Fund. Also, Professor Emeritus Gunter Dufey, her life partner of 33 years and some of her former students are also funding a "Pris Rogers Professorship of Strategic Communication" endowed chair in the LS&A Department of Communications. Last October, the Association for Business Communications at its Annual Meeting in Denverr renamed its annual research fund the "CR Anderson & Pris Rogers Research Award", in recognition of Pris' leadership in the field.



ee Anthony Peter (Pete) Gosling, passed away peacefully, from a recurrence of lymphoma, at his home in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on December 13, 2023, surrounded by his immediate family. Pete was a world-class geographer, working on the dynamics of rural development in Southeast Asia, conducting extensive fieldwork in Malaysia and Thailand on populations whose livelihoods would be disrupted by developments like mechanization, road construction and dam building. He was also a pillar of the Southeast Asian Studies community at Michigan. Pete was instrumental in the founding of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (then the Center for South and Southeast Asia) at Michigan, directed the Center on three occasions (a total of eight years) between 1962 and 1980. Throughout his career at Michigan Pete was a bridgebuilder, entrepreneur, and fierce champion for Southeast Asia Studies. Pete worked tirelessly to raise money from outside funders in support a Southeast Asia program and within the university, and doggedly lobbied departments to hire Southeast Asianists.

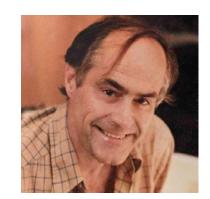
L.A. Peter Gosling

NOVEMBER 14, 1927 - DECEMBER 13, 2023

In order make the case for a Center to the university Pete scoured the ranks of faculty in the professional schools, identifying several faculty who had done work in the region from Engineering, Nursing, etc. He then pitched the idea of an interdisciplinary center to administrators as a way to bring programs and scholars from across the university together. It is no exaggeration to say that the Center for Southeast Asian Studies would likely not exist were it not for Pete.

His work in support of the Southeast Asian Studies also extended well beyond the University. Pete was closely involved with the

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES | WINTER 2024



Association for Asian Studies throughout his career, serving as Secretary Treasurer for a total of 14 years between 1963 and 1994, and working to broaden the organization's focus to include more attention to Southeast Asia. Continuing this legacy Pete and his wife Professor Linda Lim recently established the Gosling-Lim Postdoctoral Fellowship in Southeast Asian Studies, housed at the Association for Asian Studies, and hosted at Michigan, designed to provide expanded research opportunities for scholars from Southeast Asia.

Throughout their years at Michigan Pete and Linda helped build and strengthen the CSEAS community by opening their home to visiting scholars, faculty, and students. Countless numbers of people enjoyed the warm Gosling-Lim hospitality, eating good food, chatting about Southeast Asia, and building lasting connections.

Pete and Linda also established Gosling-Lim Southeast Asia Library Fund in 2020 to support to CSEAS' Southeast Asian Studies Library Collection at the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library. You can support the fund at https://giving.umich.edu/um/w/ gosling-and-lim-sea-library-fund-337379.

CSEAS STUDENTS

During the summer, MIRS students Shimon Likhtman and Donna Hoang conducted research in Cambodia.

lan Kennedy was selected an AY 23-24 Boren Fellow which he will use to travel to Indonesia to advance his language skills and conduct research.

MIRS students Tyler Rongxuan Chen and Gwen McCaw graduated from CSEAS MIRS in WN 23.

DISSERTATIONS

2022

Eitan Paul

Public Policy and Political Science Raising Representation? Gender and Village Budgeting Reforms in Indonesia

Anil Ramachandran Menon

Political Science

Historical Violence, Trauma, and Political Identity

2023

Hillary Jan Izatt

Political Science

The behavioral effects of institutional manipulation and electoral suppression: Political inequality, emotion and mobilization

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Erin McCauliffe published "'The Ancestral Line is through the Father:' The Gendered Production of Statelessness in Rural Myanmar" in Law & Social Inquiry.

AWARDS

Chao Ren was awarded the best Graduate Student Paper in Southeast Asian Studies by the Association of Asian Studies' Southeast Asia Council for his paper, "Corporate Frontiers: Business, Empire, and Colonial Legal Pluralism in a Burmese Oilfield, c. 1900-1908"









Judith Becker Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research on Southeast Asia 2023



Gavin Ryan (top left) with members of the Gamelan Kyai Telaga Madu and Gamelan Madu Biru

avin Ryan is the 2023 recipient of the Judith Becker Award. He is a dual-enrolled Master of Arts in Media Arts and Doctor of Musical Arts in Percussion graduate student at the University of Michigan. The combination of these two degrees often places his work and artistic aesthetic firmly in experimental and progressive fields. But the influence of his Balinese teachers prompted him to pursue the forefront of performance technology not in spite of tradition, but as a mode of honoring it.

Despite the associations of gamelan selonding with religious rituals and a reputation of sanctity, many of the younger gamelan selonding musicians Ryan met were equally as interested in forward-thinking

and innovative practices in gamelan music. Many of his collaborators in Bali, Indonesia viewed preservation and transformation as complimentary sides of their artistic output, and they often discussed a concept of "innovation as tradition."

Ryan will use the funding from the Judith Becker Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Research on Southeast Asia to collaborate with and commission I Putu Arya Deva Suryanegara to compose a new gamelan work with live, interactive electronics for Gamelan Kyai Telaga Madu, to be premiered by our ensemble in the 2023 and 2024 academic year.



Ammin Achaur tapping a tattoo on a University of Michigan student.

ReConnect/ReCollect

Reparative Connections to Philippine Collections at the University of Michigan

A recap by **PROFESSOR DEIRDRE DE LA CRUZ**

rom the 1870s through the first half of the twentieth century, the University of Michigan played an important role in the US colonization of the Philippines. U-M faculty, students, and alumni traveled to the Philippines as colonial administrators, educators, researchers, and entrepreneurs, resulting in the acquisition of thousands of flora and fauna specimen, archaeological artifacts, photographs, and archival materials currently housed in multiple repositories across campus. For most of their history, these collections have been accessed and used only by academic researchers, and few outside of specialized fields knew of their origins. For the past two years, ReConnect/ReCollect: Reparative Connections to Philippines Collections at the University of Michigan, has worked to raise awareness about these

collections of Philippine materials and taken bold steps to repair the harms caused by this archival, community based, artistic and

history of colonial collecting through multiple scholarly endeavors.

Supported by a generous grant from the U-M Humanities Collaboratory, and comprised of faculty, archivists and librarians, collection managers, students, and members of the Filipino and Filipino American community, ReConnect/ReCollect embarked on an ambitious collaborative project with our institutional partners: the Bentley Historical Library, U-M Museum of Anthropological Southeast Asian Studies. We consulted with an external advisory board of Filipino, Filipino American, and Indigenous Filipino scholars, archivists, and community organizers to make sure that our activities were culturally

One of our first challenges was to conduct a survey of all Philippine-related materials on campus. We examined how materials were categorized and accessible and developed reparative approaches towards things like finding aids and catalogues, drawing attention to offensive or outdated language and offering alternative descriptions for materials that had long been categorized by colonial provenance. This resulted in a "Glossary of Harmful Language" and technical tools that other institutions can use to remediate their own collections.

Archaeology, the Special Collections

Research Center, and the Center for

sensitive and historically grounded.

in a homecoming of materials that was both humbling and moving. ReConnect/ReCollect developed a website that chronicles our collective journey and provides a toolkit with resources so other institutions with Philippine colonial materials (and there are a lot of them!) can apply our lessons and methods to their own collections. Visit it at: www.reconnect-recollect.com.

We also piloted an ambitious series of

community engagement programs that

descent, and vice versa. Throughout the

two-year period we offered several public

events for the U-M and greater Southeast

the collections, and mounted a popular

exhibit at Kalayaan, the annual Philippine

Independence Day celebration that draws

from the region. We organized three artist

and culture bearer residencies that opened

our Philippine collections to Filipino, Filipino

American and Indigenous People (IP)s from

the US and the Philippines for inspiration,

Over the course of a year, we hosted eight

the Visayas, and Indigenous communities

of the Cordillera in residencies that ranged

from one to two weeks. Their time in the

collections was inspiring and intense, and

we were fortunate to have them share their

culmination of our community engagement

programs took place this past August, when

a group from ReConnect/ReCollect traveled

to the Cordillera region of the Philippines to

hand over digital and print copies of several

of the U-M's Philippine photographic and

archival collections. We engaged, shared,

members of the Ibaloy, Bontoc, Kankana-ey,

Ifugao, and Ilongot indigenous communities

celebrated—and even danced!—with

reflections and expertise through public

roundtables and demonstrations. The

artists and culture bearers from the US,

reflection, and collaborative learning.

hundreds of Filipinos and Filipino Americans

Michigan communities, grounded in

aimed to bring U-M's Philippine collections to communities of Filipino and Indigenous

Halo-Halo **Ecologies**

lyssa Paredes, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, hosted a three-day workshop entitled, "Community-based Countermapping of Water Systems in Plantation Mindanao," on June 27–29, 2023. Held in Davao City in the Southern Philippines, the workshop brought together Indigenous Peoples, forest and watershed guardians, civil society organizations, and local government units who have found their lives impacted by the presence of plantation agriculture. Cian Dayrit, artistactivist and geographer from the University of the Philippines Diliman, led the countermapping exercise, which resulted in fifty personal depictions of Mindanawons' relationships with the rivers, streams, and springs of the Mindanao River Basin and the Davao River Basin. The workshop was generously awarded support from the University of Michigan College of LSA, the ADVANCE Program, and the Department of Anthropology. Paredes intends to use the results of the workshop to inform a chapter of her book manuscript, Bananapocalypse: Ecologies of Plantation Capitalism in a Global Mindanao, as well as future scholarship and community engagement.

In addition, Paredes and co-editor Marvin Montefrio, Associate Professor of Social Sciences (Environmental Studies) at Yale-NUS College have launched the edited volume project Halo-Halo Ecologies: The Emergent Environments Behind Filipino Food. Halo-Halo Ecologies argues that we cannot begin to meaningfully consider Filipino and Filipinx cultural or gastronomic identity formation without a new storytelling tradition that creatively combines critical studies



Halo-Halo Ecologies editors, Professor Alvssa Paredes and Professor Marvin Montefrio (Yale-NUS College)



on food and on the environment. This volume thus brings together a transnational community of scholars, writers, activists, and food enthusiasts from the Philippines and the Filipino/Filipinx diaspora. Its 12 chapters representing the vegetable frontiers of farnorthern Benguet to the seaweed farms of far-southern Tawi-Tawi, and the gardens of Lumad (Indigenous) Schools to the carceral geographies of urban Manila, challenge the selective fetishization of culinary culture by revealing emergent issues that have propelled the archipelago both into the global limelight and into certain ecological precarity. A chapter-writing workshop was held in June 2022 and an editorial workshop in January 2023. Halo-Halo Ecologies is currently under contract and under review with the University of Hawaii Press, and has received generous support from the University of Michigan Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

CSEAS Lecture Series

Lectures can be viewed on U-M CSEAS' YouTube channel

SEPTEMBER 2

Living with the Mekong: Archaeological Perspectives and Alternative Futures

Miriam Stark, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SEPTEMBER 9

Welfare Politics in Cambodia: An **Examination of the National Ageing Policy** 2017-2030

Soksamphoas Im, Center for Khmer Studies

OCTOBER 4

The Filipino Subjunctive: A Transpacific Counterhistory of Filipinization

Adrian de Leon, University of Southern California

OCTOBER 21

Four of the Thirteen Lives Are Stateless: The Cave Rescue, Hollywood Heroism and Ethnonational Traps at the Thai-Burma Border

Jane Ferguson, Australia National University

Beyond Center and Periphery: Locating Southeast Asia in the Muslim World Ismail Fajrie Alatas, New York University

DECEMBER 2

Making Life in the Aftermath of War in Lao PDR

Davorn Sisavath, California State University, **Fullerton**

WINTER 2023

JANUARY 20

Western Cultures as Thailand's Strategy for Independence

Jittapim Yamprai, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

FEBRUARY 3

Refugee Youth Agency in Flux: Active and Passive Waiting in Transit Country Indonesia

Realisa Masardi, Universitas Gadjah Mada and University of Michigan

FEBRUARY 10

Massacre in Myanmar: How two reporters uncovered a Rohingya mass grave—and the price they paid for it.

Antoni Slodkowski, Reuters News Agency

MARCH 10

Fruit of the Poisonous Tree: The Marcos

Ambeth R. Ocampo, University of Michigan/ Ateneo de Manila University

History in Ruins: Keramat and Stories of Singapore Islam

Teren Sevea, Harvard Divinity School

MARCH 31

Reincarnation and Recursivity as Politics of Atmosphere

Ben Tran, Vanderbilt University

APRIL 7

From the "Bloody Crown" to space travel: Comparing the social imaginaries of Malay and English language novels in Brunei Darussalam

Kathrina Daud, Universiti Brunei Darussalam

WINTER 2024

FEBRUARY 2

Disorientations: Political Ecology of Displacing Communities from Cambodia's Tonle Sap Lake

Sopheak Chann, Michigan State University

FEBRUARY 9

Of Traditions and Innovations: Tiao Nithakhong Somsanith's Art Stenciling Project and Sustainability in Luang Prabang, Laos

Boreth Ly, University of California Santa Cruz

FEBRUARY 12

Aesthetic Nationalism: Dancing the Tai Nation in the Thai-Myanmar Borderlands Tani Sebro, Cal Poly Humboldt

From Migpanud to Migsolat: Preserving and Transformation of Oral Tradition into Written Form in Lumad Mindanao

Oona Paredes, University of California Los Angeles

MARCH 29

The End of Accountability? The Philippines Under Duterte and Marcos Sheila Coronel, Columbia University

APRIL 5

The Movement of Female Islamic Scholars

Nor Ismah, Nahdlatul Ulama University and University of Michigan

APRIL 19

Explaining Intra-Institutional Rebellion Using the Case of the US War in Vietnam (1965-75)

Dana Moss, University of Notre Dame



Ambeth Ocampo, Visiting Professor of Southeast **Asian Studies**

n the Winter 2023 semester, **Professor Ambeth Ocampo** served as a Visiting Professor of Southeast Asian Studies thanks to a Philippine Studies grant by the Republic of the Philippines. He taught two classes at the University of Michigan: SEAS 215—Contemporary Social Issues in Southeast Asia: Under Two Empires: The Philippines, Spain, and the US; and SEAS 455—Topics in Southeast Asian Studies: Unlocking Historical Documents: Jose Rizal and the Emergence of the Filipino Nation.

He delivered guest lectures at the University of Michigan and at universities across the United States. His CSEAS lecture last March was entitled, "Fruit of the Poisonous Tree: The Marcos Diaries" which discussed the historical relevance and his experience dealing witht he diaries of the late Philippine president, Ferdinand Marcos, Sr. He also gave a lecture, "Rizal, the First Swagapino" with U-M's Filipino American Student Association and Filipino Young Leaders Program (FYLPRO).

Professor Ocampo currently is the Horacio de la Costa Professor in History and the Humanities at the Ateneo de Manila University. He is a public historian whose research covers the 19th-century Philippines—its art, culture, and the people who figure in the birth of the nation. Professor and former chairman of the Department of History at the Ateneo de Manila University, Professor Ocampo writes "Looking Back," the longest-running editorial page column on history for the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART EXHIBITION OPENING

Angkor Complex

Cultural Heritage and Post-Genocide Memory in Cambodia

GUEST CURATOR: NACHIKET CHANCHANI ON VIEW FEBRUARY 3 – JULY 28, 2024

s crises of public health, economic instability, authoritarian regimes, racial injustice, and climate change spread around the globe, millions are experiencing distress, conflict, uncertainty, and vulnerability. This troubling combination of experiences is nothing new for Cambodians. Between 1975-1979, when the Khmer Rouge ruled Cambodia, about a quarter of the country's population died of infectious diseases, weapon wounds, and malnutrition.

This exhibition brings together more than 80 works of art spanning a millennium to present how the visual culture of Cambodia and its diaspora has changed in the face of upheavals. Angkor Complex also allows viewers to encounter the still-fresh scars of a genocide and critically appreciate the strategies evolved to nurture resilience in trying times.





Jonathan Valdez with Center for Khmer Studies President Eve Zucker in Siem Reap.

CKS MOU SIGNING

In January 2023, CSEAS partnered with the Center for Khmer Studies through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to enhance education and research on Southeast Asia. The center looks forward to collaborating on Khmer Studies projects in

The Center for Khmer Studies (CKS) promotes research, teaching, and public service in the social sciences, arts, and humanities in Cambodia and the Mekong region. CKS is a private American Overseas Research Center supported by a consortium of educational institutions, scholars, and individuals. CKS is also the first member institution of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) in Southeast Asia.



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PHOTOGRAPHY

Cover image by Karl Paul Baldacchino courtesy of Unsplash.com

DESIGN

Susan Ackermann

EDITORIAL TEAM

Jonathan Valdez, Shimon Liikhtman, and Patrick Peralta



For example:

An \$100 gift supports a U-M student's registration to present their research at an academic conference

A \$500 gift creates a Southeast Asia-specific curriculum module for Michigan K–14 classrooms

An \$1,000 gift supports bringing a national expert on Southeast Asia to present to our students, faculty, and community members at our CSEAS Lecture Series