

FALL 2010

LANE HALL
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES
50TH ANNIVERSARY
ISSUE



THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

LANE HALL 2010



"This special edition of the newsletter is a look back at the development of Southeast Asian Studies at Michigan & a celebration of where we are headed."

Fifty years ago, several ambitious faculty members decided it was high time the University of Michigan had a place on campus focused on the study of Southeast Asia. As the product of those efforts, the Center for Southeast Asian Studies celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. We want to thank all those who have helped build a vibrant program in Southeast Asian studies at Michigan. The US Department of Education recently affirmed this tradition of excellence by awarding CSEAS Title VI and FLAS funding for another four years.

Throughout this year we will be celebrating this anniversary in a variety of ways. We are delighted that many alumni and friends will be able to attend our 50th Anniversary Conference and Reunion, October 22-23. This international conference, sponsored in part by the Luce Foundation, is titled "Issues and Trends in Southeast Asian Studies." It will cover a diverse set of topics across a variety of disciplines, including Music and the Performing Arts, History, Anthropology, Sociology, Law, and Public Policy, bringing together leading scholars from around the world. More information about both the conference and the reunion can be found through our website: www.i.umich.edu/cseas.

This special edition of the newsletter examines the history of Southeast Asian studies at Michigan and celebrates where we are headed. We realize that this is an incomplete snapshot – many names and memories are, unfortunately, not included. For example, we have not devoted space to past strengths in programs like Geography, Linguistics, or Art History or to our incredible collections in libraries, archives, and museums across campus. We are, however, very interested in compiling a more complete history, including your recollections from the past fifty years, which we will publish on our website. We would also love to receive any pictures you have from the past, with notes identifying the people in them and the year. Please send these to the center at cseas@umich.edu.

We hope that whether or not you are able to attend the reunion you will find something in this issue to enjoy. Thank you for your continued support of Southeast Asian studies at Michigan!

Best wishes,
Allen Hicken, Director

GIGI BOSCH GATES RETIRES



Throughout its history, CSEAS has been fortunate to have been supported by the work of incredible staff members whose work has been critical to the success of the center's mission. Some of their names are well known – Mike Cullinane, Bonnie Brereton, and Cindy Middleton, just to mention a few. Gigi Bosch Gates is another; in September, she is retiring after many years, including several incarnations as the CSEAS Student Services Coordinator.

For recent students, if you needed to figure out a problem in your class schedule, you went to Gigi. If you wanted to talk about your FLAS application, you went to Gigi. If you wanted to know how many credits you needed to graduate, or how to get a course counted for Southeast Asia credit, or how to get some block grant funds, you went to Gigi. And if your MA thesis wasn't completed after a certain period of time, or your federal reporting wasn't complete, Gigi went to you.

Having juggled way too many balls for quite a long time, Bu Gigi (as some Indonesianists call her, with a joking smile, since it translates as "Mother Tooth," a lisped version of Mother Goose with all her children) now moves on, taking with her the enormous appreciation of a large number of students, faculty, and her staff colleagues for a job well and truly done.

Corrections from the Winter 2010 Newsletter:

Bonnie Brereton does not work for Habitat for Humanity. She volunteered to work one day in November 2009, when 84 cinderblock houses were being constructed in Chiang Mai's Sansai district. She is continuing her research on Isan-Lao art and cultural forms and presented a paper at the Third International Conference on Lao Studies at Khon Kaen University in July. Anju Paul's middle name is Mary, not Marie. We regret the errors.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN & SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES

A TIMELINE



Dean Worcester with the Philippines (and Filipinos) in hand. Credit: Dean C. Worcester Collection, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

1870s – Professor Joseph Steer leads zoological expeditions around the world, including to the Philippines, the Moluccas, and Singapore. On a return trip to the Philippines in 1887, he takes his student Dean Worcester with him.

1898 – Worcester is appointed member of the Philippine Commission under President Taft. He later returns to U-M as zoology professor. His papers are in the library's special collections.

1878-1920s – Southeast Asian students begin to come to U-M. The first is Myatt Kyau, from Burma (1878-1882). Others follow from the Philippine Islands, Dutch East Indies, and Siam.

1933-1935 – Professors Frank Murphy and Joseph Hayden serve as the last US Governor General and Vice Governor, respectively, of the Philippine Islands.



Joseph Hayden being sworn in as Vice Governor of the Philippines in Angell Hall, with U-M President Ruthven in attendance, 1933. Credit: Joseph R. Hayden Collection, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

1942-1946 – East Quad is home to special programs for military intelligence. Phillip Sullivan's survey course includes first systemic coverage of contemporary Southeast Asia at U-M. Malay is taught by Dutch-Javanese geography professor Mauritz Senstius and Thai by linguist Mary Haas.



Pointing out Southeast Asia to students in East Quad, 1943. Credit: University of Michigan photograph vertical file, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

1958 – Robert Crane (history), Pete Gosling (geography), and Russ Fifield (political science) form the Committee on Southern Asian Studies.

1960 – President John F. Kennedy announces his idea for the Peace Corps on the steps of the Michigan Union. Bill Gedney (linguistics) develops Thai language training for volunteers.

1961 – The Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies is formed, funded by the Ford Foundation. Richard Park is its first director. The center offers Thai and Indonesian languages.

1964 – U-M receives US Dept of Education funds to support SEA Studies for the first time.



Pamardi dances in the gamelan's performance of the Mahabrata, 2004. Credit: Sutejo Kurniawan

1966 – Professor Bill Malm buys the university a gamelan, *Kyai Telaga Madu*. Judith Becker is ensemble's first director, followed by Susan Walton. Many prominent Javanese visiting artists have performed with the ensemble in the over 40 years since its inception.

1999 – The Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies splits into two centers, CSAS directed by Pradeep Chhibber and CSEAS by Judith Becker.

2003 – Under the Global Intercultural Experience for Undergraduates program, Deling Weller and Montatip Krishnamra take undergraduates to the Philippines and to Thailand.

2007-2010 – The Filipino-American community of southeastern Michigan establishes a Philippines Studies Endowment. Thai Studies Endowment and Javanese Gamelan Endowment campaigns are initiated through gifts and bequests. The first competition for undergraduate language scholarships is established thanks to donor generosity.

2009 – U-M Museum of Art unveils new gallery space featuring treasures from its SE Asia collections including a Bangkok-era Buddhist altar and a modern Cambodian Apsara sculpture.



The Bangkok-era altar from the Doris Duke collection in the UMMA Southeast Asia gallery

2010 – Under the directorship of Allen Hicken CSEAS receives US Dept of Education funding, supporting the Center through 2014. CSEAS is supported for 47 of its 50 years since first funding. CSEAS faculty includes thirty-nine faculty in seven departments and seven professional schools.

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M UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Regents of the University

Julia Donovan Darlow, Ann Arbor	Andrew C. Richner, Grosse Pointe Park
Laurence B. Deitch, Bingham Farms	S. Martin Taylor, Grosse Pointe Farms
Denise Iltich, Bingham Farms	Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor
Olivia P. Maynard, Goodrich	Mary Sue Coleman (ex officio)



THE BEGINNINGS OF THE CENTER

We are fortunate to have so many of the original and early faculty of CSEAS still living in Ann Arbor, the "Institutional Memory Club," we've called them in preparing for this celebration. Pete Gosling and Gayl Ness share their stories of the beginnings of Southeast Asian studies at Michigan.

Sailing to the center

- L.A. Peter Gosling, Ann Arbor, April 2010



Peter Gosling. Credit: News and Information Services, Faculty and Staff Photographs, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

In 1947, while in the U.S. merchant marine, I spent a month sailing in the central Philippines, collecting a cargo of copra. I became convinced that Southeast Asia was the most wonderful part of the world. It occurred to me that the only way I could wander around Southeast Asia, doing exactly what I wanted, to be paid for learning and not working very hard, was to become a college professor. I quit the sea and came to the University of Michigan.

There was only one scholar working on Southeast Asia, Russell Fifield in Political Science. Russ nurtured my interest and became a lifelong friend. In the 1950s, before the establishment of all the other Asia area centers, most of the Asia faculty worked collectively with all students. My "training" covered all of Asia and many disciplines. I was a research assistant in the Japan Center, studied Chinese, and dabbled in Central Asian anthropology. My MA "thesis" dealt with Japanese colonial agricultural development in Taiwan.

It was a stimulating and exciting intellectual environment, and probably the origin of my view that a major function of an area center is to foster true interdisciplinary education in comparative perspective.

In 1954, a Ford Foundation fellowship supported over two years of my research in Southeast Asia, mainly studying rural development in British Malaya. I finished my dissertation in 1958, received a flurry of job offers (geographers working on Southeast Asia were rare), but ultimately stayed at Michigan. I didn't find the same level of pan-Asian collegiality and stimulation anywhere else.

In 1958, Russ and I went to a Council for Foreign Relations conference in Cleveland, where we spent much of our time in the hotel bar, sharing the company of Cora Dubois, a pioneer in Indonesian anthropology and good drinking companion. Cora noted, perhaps facetiously, that with two faculty, we were well-endowed with Southeast Asia specialists, probably enough to start a Center, if not an Institute. It seemed like a good idea at the time.

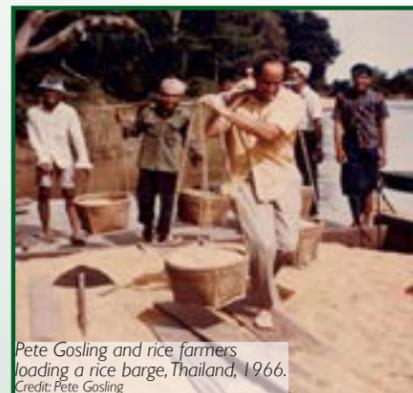
Back in Ann Arbor, sober and realistic, we joined forces with Bob Crane in South Asian History and Chavaria Aguilar in Linguistics, to form a Committee on Southern Asian Studies. We assumed the combination of the two regions would give us greater visibility. This proved to be the case, and was the genesis of the joint Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies that was to come.

It was fortunate timing. Within a year Michigan received a Carnegie grant to design an interdisciplinary undergraduate course in Asian Studies. The Asia faculty worked together to develop it, and it was very successful. Next, the Ford Foundation invited a proposal for funding to assist the expansion of area studies, ultimately creating a Southern Asia Studies Center in 1960. Our "center" grew to five faculty with the addition of Dick Park in Political Science and Bill Gedney in Linguistics.

In 1961, Dick became the first director of the new center. The next year, he took leave to serve as Director of the Asia Foundation office in India, and I took over the center. It was obvious that we needed to be an National Defense Education Act (NDEA)-funded center, particularly for graduate student fellowships. Dick's 1961 and my 1962 proposals for NDEA support were rejected because of our lack of language instruction. The collegial tradition at Michigan came to our rescue. Linguistics agreed to have Gedney teach Thai, and Far Eastern Language and Literature arranged for their visiting scholar to be Hans (Andreas) Teeuw, from Leiden, who taught Indonesian. We instantly had two Southeast Asian languages and the 1963 proposal was successful.

Our NDEA funding was for Southeast Asia only, but we were allowed considerable latitude in how to use our funds. With Ford funding, we could grow both South and Southeast Asia, maintaining a joint center.

I drafted a wildly ambitious "plan" to submit to the LS&A Dean. Amused, he noted that no one had ever presented him with a "plan" before, but nonetheless he would back me. Collegial support and luck quickly brought Gayl Ness (sociology), David Steinberg (history) and Aram Yengoyan (anthropology) to Michigan. With the key addition of Pete Becker (linguistics), we established the Thai (Gedney) and Indonesian (Becker) language foundation as required. Gayl Ness took over as director, expanding student financial support and fostering close student-faculty relationships, a hallmark of the center.



Pete Gosling and rice farmers loading a rice barge, Thailand, 1966. Credit: Pete Gosling

Very impressive growth lay in the immediate future, but that is another story, with wondrous achievements, and a cast of thousands.

The times were . . .

- Gayl D. Ness, Ann Arbor, March 2010

My life with Michigan Southeast Asian Studies began in Malaya in early 1961. After completing my doctorate at Berkeley in 1960, one of my major professors, Wolfram Eberhart, recommended me to the Institute of Current World Affairs, which provided me a 4-year grant to study economic development in Southeast Asia. My wife, two small children, and I made our way to Kuala Lumpur. I shortly met Michigan's Pete Gosling. Pete had done his doctoral dissertation work in Malaya and was back as a Fulbright lecturer. We immediately established a deep friendship that has continued through all these years. Pete was then working with Russ Fifield to start a Southeast Asia center at Michigan. What ensued is due largely to the efforts of Pete and Russ, and "the times."

The times were good.

We sociologists say that if you want to get ahead in life, choose your parents wisely. Now we can add, choose your time and place of birth wisely. I was born in 1929 and came of age when the post-World War II generation was enjoying massive economic expansion, supporting a bold New Frontier and a "can do" mentality. All universities were expanding to accommodate the G.I. Bill recipients, and the great research universities hired new PhD's by the boatload. Pete Gosling and Russ Fifield, who I had met in Sarawak in 1963, convinced the Sociology department to make me an offer, sight unseen.

When we came to Ann Arbor in August 1964, I was one of 13 new assistant professors hired by our department. Our chair, Al Reiss, called us together and told us that Michigan had no quotas; all could make tenure. He further said we had to publish good research, and just as important, he said we could not be bad teachers but we did not have to be great ones. Those were years when money was in no short supply.

The times were different.

The center then had a suite of three small offices in Lane Hall. We had one secretary and an editor for the publications. I took on the directorship of the center in 1965, which was also the year I got tenure. Tenure in one year! I did come to campus with a book manuscript accepted by the University of California Press, but my rapid advancement was due more to the times than anything else.

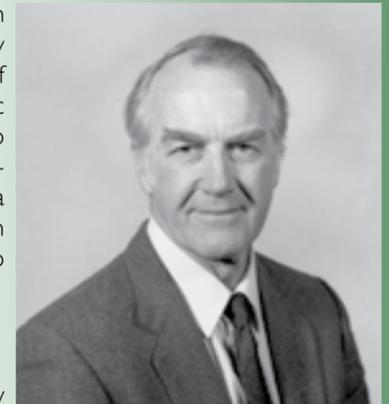
The times were extraordinary in other ways as well. I recall one summer day in 1967 sitting at my desk with letters from Walter Spink and John Broomfield. Both were in India doing research and needed more money. Just then the phone rang. Allen Smith, then Academic Vice President, said, "Gayl, if I told you that you could have \$20,000, could you give me a good proposal?" I replied, "In five minutes!" I walked the proposal to his office, got the money and sent it off to John and Walter.

The times, they were a-changing.

Other things were brewing, of course. In 1965 the US began bombing North Vietnam (another war we were lied into!). An intense ideological battle ensued in which all of us in Southeast Asian studies were labeled either "War Professors" or "Pinko Fellow Travelers." Some faculty and graduate students decided to strike against the university because of our misguided foreign policy.

What ensued was classical UMICH! While other universities tore themselves apart, Michigan began an intense three-day dialogue among faculty, students and administration. The result was calling off the strike and holding an all night "TEACH-IN," modeled on the famous southern "SIT-INS." Remarkably, Michigan had the institutional capacity to turn a potentially destructive strike into a highly creative protest movement.

That was 40 years ago. Since then the Center has split in two, and while the US Department of Education continues its support both for the Center and for FLAS funds, the Center has begun reaching out to alumni for assistance. The faculty is much larger these days, and students are carrying out research on a huge variety of subjects. The times have changed, but, in many ways, both "then" and "now" are exciting times to study Southeast Asia at Michigan.



Gayl Ness. Credit: News and Information Services, Faculty and Staff Photographs, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

Home away from home in Lane Hall

-Aram Yengoyan

Coming from the central valley of California, UCLA and the University of Chicago, I taught anthropology and Southeast Asian studies at Michigan from 1963 to the early 1990s. Working with superb colleagues in both fields was a terrific experience. With the center, we had to develop new area courses, get the languages in place and also make sure that graduate students were supported.

Teaching at Michigan was a real eye-opener. Most of our undergrads were from the east coast and they were bright, intellectually aggressive, and in your face. The Center provided a vast amount of intellectual exchange and over the years I developed a working relationship with Pete and Judy Becker as well as other center faculty. Pete and I still collaborated even after I left for California.

I had a superb cohort of graduate students during those thirty years, all of whom have developed their own ideas and have surpassed me in so many ways. Among them are Ken George, Michael Lambek, Michael Peletz and Bob Hefner.

And finally, two critical things. In 1963, I mentioned to the anthropology department and the center faculty that I also wanted to do field work among the Pitjantjatjara of the western desert of Australia. Surprisingly, that did not raise eyebrows among my colleagues. I still work in Australia. And lastly, the center should go back to Lane Hall and the great times we had.



Profile:
AJI ALATAS
The long road between homes

Aji Alatas studies in Michigan's highly regarded doctoral Program in Anthropology and History, studying Islam (especially Sufism), the Hadrami diaspora, and modernity, though he is also very much interested in the early maritime history of island Southeast Asia and the reception and translation of Sufi concepts and epistemology into the Malay world. The movement of ideas between the Arab and Malay worlds, and even farther afield, reflects Aji's own voyage as an intellectual.

Born to an Indonesian Hadrami family, Aji did his undergraduate work at the University of Melbourne, where his initial interest was in the history of the Middle East. But gradually, he writes, "I became interested in the connections and affinities between the two regions." He has also undertaken a voyage of disciplines, realizing that "for the work I am doing, training in anthropology would be helpful." So he applied to the joint Michigan program, "which gives me the chance to learn anthropology without forsaking my historian identity."

Aji chose Michigan because "studying here first and foremost means 'interdisciplinary' to me. This is an amazing place to study for the reason that disciplinary boundaries are not set as the limit of our intellectual endeavor. Rather, they are becoming the reasons for us to push through the boundaries of our own disciplines, which is a rare approach to find. The university also has one of the best lines of faculty working on Southeast Asia and the library is extensive. The combination of strong area studies training and the highly sophisticated theoretical inclinations of many of the faculty make Michigan a perfect place to pursue my graduate program."



The interdisciplinarity of Southeast Asia at
MICHIGAN
-Webb Keane

Michigan's anthropology department has had a long-standing relationship with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Since the 1990's, one notable feature of this relationship has been active collaboration with historians, which has helped anthropologists expand both the temporal and spatial frameworks for ethnographic research. Anthropologists such as the Indonesianist Ann Stoler played key roles in forming our joint PhD program in Anthropology and History, the first of its kind in the country. As a result of this kind of cross-disciplinary work, Michigan became a world leader in the anthropological study of colonialism, as well as fostering research on historical consciousness in the present. Another result was interest in Southeast Asian modernities. Two examples include the recently published *Refracted Visions: Popular Photography and National Modernity in Java*, by Karen Strassler (now teaching at CUNY), which originated in her 2003 dissertation, and my own *Christian Moderns: Freedom and Fetish in the Mission Encounter*. Other recent research trends, which often intersect with these, include a growing attention to religion and to global/local intersections. For example, Deirdre de la Cruz is writing a book on Catholic visions in the Philippines (although her faculty appointment is with the departments of History and Asian Languages and Culture, her PhD is in anthropology) and Marina Welker (now teaching at Cornell) wrote a 2006 dissertation about a multinational mining corporation operating in eastern Indonesia.

A history of *History*

The reason for establishing Southeast Asian studies at Michigan was the university's longstanding connection (since the 1880s) with the Philippines, and this too was the basis for studying the history of the region here. In 1964, the Department of History hired David Joel Steinberg to teach this field, especially the history of the modern Philippines. He would be followed in this position by Norman Owen and, quite recently, by Deirdre de la Cruz. In 1968, the Department also brought in David Wyatt, a specialist on Thailand, to teach premodern and mainland history. He would be succeeded by John Whitmore (Vietnam) and Victor Lieberman (Myanmar/Burma). In 1990, Rudolf Mrázek, an Indonesia specialist, began to teach modern and Island Southeast Asia. In addition, the History of Art department added Hiram Woodward, followed by Eleanor Mannika, working on Thailand and Cambodia, while other historical and textual work was done in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.

In this way, the Southeast Asian historians at Michigan, both professors and graduate students, have contributed to three broad areas of the region's past, areas of specialty that have marked Michigan off within both national and international communities studying the region. These three are the modern Philippines, the premodern mainland, and twentieth century Indonesia. While good work on other times and other parts of the region has also been done here, the major concentration of historical work at Michigan has added greatly to these three broad areas.



Profile:
JACK MERCHANT

THE ARTS of food and thinking

Nguyen Thi Thu Huyen and Jack Merchant

Jack Merchant studies young intellectuals, Vietnamese society, and culture during the inter-war period, roughly 1930 – 1945. Specifically, he is looking at the Franco-Vietnamese education system, physical movement within colonial space, and how this was accomplished and conceptualized. Anyone who knows the work of Jack's advisor, Rudolf Mrázek, can immediately see the influence. And Jack gives credit for his long road from an MA in SEA Studies to a PhD, in good Vietnamese style, to his teachers. "The reason I chose history, and Michigan, has principally to do with three individuals, Mrázek, Victor Lieberman and John Whitmore. These men are amazing scholars and thinkers, each in their own way, who have inspired me to truly learn and think. It has truly been an honor to have spent time with each of them."

Jack's other strong connection to Vietnam is his wife, Huyen, whom he met while teaching there. When asked what his favorite place in Southeast Asia is, he answers "if my wife were staring over my shoulder now, which she isn't, I'd say Ha Long Bay, near where she is from!" But to a question about his favorite Southeast Asian food, he is unequivocal – "Anything my wife cooks. She is a wonderful culinary artist, as Rudolf, Vic and John also believe." But outside the house, pho is everyone's favorite, and "the best time for this is on a cool fall evening in Ha Noi, light misty rain, and 11pm, eating on the street."

The ghosts of scholars past

-Deirdre de la Cruz

On the first day of my survey course in Philippine history, I end my introduction by informing students that the University of Michigan is full of ghosts. Judging from their puzzled expressions, very few know that I am referring to the fact that the U-M was an important center for the production of knowledge about the Philippines when it was a colonial territory of the United States. As we punctuate the semester with trips to several of the incredible collections of Philippine artifacts and materials that are on campus, students are asked to think not only about the content of those collections and the stories they tell, but the routes of circulation and dynamics of power that brought them here. Most students are quick to understand the lesson, and many are willing to embrace its ambivalent implications. The important thing is that they come to know what is, for many if not most Americans, a forgotten past, and realize that the history of the Philippines is only as distant as their proverbial back yard. One of the ironic outcomes of this legacy is the formidable presence of community members and faculty that continue to support and contribute to Philippine Studies in some way. Be it in schools and departments from business to urban planning to English to ethnomusicology, by teaching Tagalog, or by attending lectures and helping raise money for the Philippine Studies Endowment, many are doing their part in getting people interested in the Philippines in all its complexity, ghosts notwithstanding.

RUSS FIFIELD
Portrait of a founder



Russ Fifield. Credit: Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan

Russell Fifield arrived on Michigan's campus in 1947, fresh from a stint in the Foreign Service. As he began his long and distinguished career at U-M's political science department his scholarly interests shifted from the East Asia to Southeast Asia. It is fair to say that Russ was one of the first political scientists in the United States to recognize that the soon-to-be independent states of Southeast Asia provided an incredible opportunity for scholarship. Together with a handful of other U-M faculty, Russ worked to establish the Center for Southeast Asian Studies in 1961.

Russ quickly carved out a unique niche in the field of Southeast Asian politics as an expert on diplomacy and international relations in the region. He authored five monographs on the subject and has the distinction of being the first to dub a proposed grouping of Southeast Asian states the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). He was a frequent visitor to Southeast Asia, where, alongside his more scholarly endeavors, he talked Cambodian ballet with Sihanouk and is rumored to have engaged in a *balut*-eating contest with Magsaysay.

Among his students Russ was well-known as a master teacher, with an impressive command of sources, a quick wit, a reputation for telling students what they needed to hear, rather than what they wanted to hear. During his career at Michigan he supervised a score of PhD dissertations on Southeast Asia as well as a vast number of MA theses. A gentleman scholar in the truest sense, Russ had a lasting impact on the study of the politics of Southeast Asia the world over.

What students learn in
Poli-Sci 354

- Allen Hicken

The course evaluations that students fill out at the end of each semester consistently tell an interesting story. Very few of them wanted to take my course on Governments and Politics of Southeast Asia. To be specific, when asked to rate their desire to take the course most students indicate that their desire was weak. Their interest in the material? Mild, at best.

I don't take this personally. Most have entered U-M with very little in the way of exposure to Southeast Asia. They cannot name the countries in the region, nor confidently place them on a map, to say nothing of understanding the nuances of the region's politics. For most students Vietnam is as far removed from their experience as the Civil War.

The fun part about teaching is helping students understand that Southeast Asia is both interesting and relevant. It is wonderful to see the transformation over the course of a semester as they become more familiar with the region, and begin to discover that Southeast Asia is a wonderful terrain in which to explore some of the big questions political scientists care about: What makes for stable, effective government? Why are some countries richer than others? Can democracy work? Once they make that connection there is no stopping them. Some go on to take additional SEA courses and choose to make the region an integral part of their careers. Many more (hopefully most) leave the course better able to make sense of what is happening in the region – to see behind the headlines.

Profile:

DAVID WATNICK

From studying Ojibwe to covering Jakarta



David Watnick in Jakarta. Credit: Alyson Stawicki

David Watnick did not arrive as a freshman at U-M intending to study Southeast Asia. He fulfilled his language requirement with two years of Ojibwe, and only wandered into the study of the region by taking two courses on the region in his sophomore year: POLISCI 354, Government and Politics of Southeast Asia, and SEAS 215, Contemporary Issues in Southeast Asia. Those two courses, followed by a summer seminar on the geopolitics of two Indonesian cities, had him hooked.

David entered the Ford School, focusing on international policy, and interned at the US Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City the next summer. Loading on courses on gangsters in Southeast Asia and Women and Islam in the region, David graduated from U-M in April 2010, one of the first recipients of CSEAS's Southeast Asian Studies Undergraduate Scholar Awards, given to seniors who have immersed themselves in the study of Southeast Asia.

Also a budding journalist, David was the arts editor of The Michigan Daily, and he has moved to Indonesia to work at The Jakarta Globe. Already tired of the overly air-conditioned world of Jakarta malls, he is itching to get back to the street food and markets that first caught his fancy in Indonesia two summers ago, and to continue to understand Indonesia's fascinatingly challenging politics from the streets up.

Protesting with creativity

- Gayl Ness

I arrived on campus in August 1964. The first PhD dissertation committee on which I sat was for Al Guskin. His was quite a story. Al was on campus in 1960 and attended John Kennedy's speech on the steps of the Union, where he promised to create a Peace Corps if he were elected. When Kennedy was elected and inaugurated, Al and a contingent of U-M students went to Washington urging Kennedy to make good on this promise. They were successful! Al became one of the first Peace Corps volunteers, going to Thailand. He came back to do his PhD in social psychology (a field born at U-M), using semantic differentials to explore the roots of Thai culture.

In 1965 when America began bombing North Vietnam, a group of faculty and graduate students decided to strike against the University to protest our foreign policy. That could have been highly destructive as the Michigan legislature threatened to fire anyone who struck. President Hatcher kept the lawmen off our backs, and three days of intense discussion between the administration, faculty, and students. Sociologists were especially prominent in those discussions. The outcome was a decision not to strike, but to offer instead an all night "Teach-In." The worst of campus strife was avoided. It was different elsewhere; at Berkeley, my major professor, Reinhard Bendix, had to leave sociology and go to political science to find an acceptable home.

Sociology in Southeast Asia

- Frederick Wherry



Montatip Krishnamra and Fred Wherry

Sociology is the scientific study of society, focusing on inter-group relations. At the University of Michigan three approaches to the study of Southeast-Asian societies are manifest, namely the conflict, the Durkheimian, and the rational/utilitarian traditions. The conflict tradition emphasizes the competition for dominance and the unequal distribution of resources. Studies of informal sector workers, networks of migrants seeking a better life, farmers or factory workers fighting for a more favorable distribution of wealth fall within this tradition. The Durkheimian tradition shifts the emphasis to rituals, symbols, and the dynamics of solidarity. For Durkheimians culture takes center stage as the meanings of social life and the autonomous effect of meaning on social outcomes are examined. From the Durkheimians have come studies of civil society struggles, the meanings that guide market interactions, and cultural influences on economic enterprises.

Finally, the rational/utilitarian tradition is best exemplified by studies of population trends and demographic shifts. In the context of Southeast Asia, these studies have largely taken on HIV/AIDS, aging, and various family health outcomes. Sociologists often use Southeast Asian countries as "cases of" more general social, economic, cultural, and political phenomena. This means that what happens in Thailand may be compared with what is happening in countries outside of the region. It also means that less attention is sometimes paid to the specific histories and meanings within a particular place. Ethnographers and those engaged in cultural sociology favor thick description. Sociology faculty and graduate students are examining studies in Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia, working on corporate social responsibility, cultural industries and entrepreneurship, political participation, government effectiveness, migration, and family planning.

Profile:

MARCO GARRIDO

Savoring the sweet spiciness that is Manila

It's a long way from Harvard to the slums of Manila, but Marco Garrido fits in both places. After graduating with honors from a certain small school in Cambridge, and then working in the Philippines, Marco came to Michigan to work on a doctorate in sociology. He's writing his dissertation on segregation and social class in Metro Manila, having just spent a year there mainly interviewing the residents of subdivisions and slums about their perceptions of each other and their place in the city.

Marco's interest developed during his time working in Manila after college. "I chose to pursue my studies in sociology because it seemed like a discipline hospitable to my intellectual interests, which had to do with misperceptions across the development divide. But I recognize that such interests, both then and now, grew out of an inarticulate sense of attachment to a place, Metro Manila."

Manila is, ultimately, his favorite place in Southeast Asia, "simply because it's so alive, schizophrenic really, both exasperating and exhilarating, sometimes simultaneously." And his least favorite place? Manila as well, "EDSA during the morning or evening rush hour, or any of the city's innumerable malls."

And yet, it's there that he can find his favorite treat: "tamarind candy (the sweet and spicy kind) which I regularly eat with M&Ms for dessert."



Marco Garrido enjoying Manila

*From THAI AND INDONESIAN
to TAGALOG AND VIETNAMESE*

- Nancy Florida

The University of Michigan has been teaching Southeast Asian languages since the 1950s. In those early decades Thai and Indonesian were taught by linguists Bill Gedney and Pete Becker, respectively.

Several years later Tagalog was added, with the linguist Paz Naylor as its instructor. At this time the Southeast Asian languages were offered under the auspices of the Department of Linguistics, and these years witnessed the production of a number of Southeast Asian linguists, some of whom would go on to teach Thai and Indonesian in universities across the nation. Toward the end of the 1980s, the Southeast Asian languages were moved into the new Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. New faculty were hired with the linguist David Solnit teaching Thai language and linguistics, and fulltime lecturers teaching Indonesian and Thai language, and with me, a historian, teaching Indonesian languages and literatures.

Some twenty years later I am still teaching courses on Indonesian literary, historical, and cultural studies, on critical theory on Asia, and on Islam in Southeast Asia. Our Thai and Indonesian language lecturers are Montatip Krishnamra and Agustini. Filipino (as its now called,) is taught by a lecturer, most recently Richard Atienza, who joined us this fall. In 1992, Nguyen Thi Nga began teaching Vietnamese; our current Vietnamese lecturer is Thuy-Anh Nguyen. Recently, the anthropologist Deirdre de la Cruz joined the faculty to teach Philippine studies, focusing on history and culture of the Philippines, Southeast Asian ethnology, and Christianity in Asia.

New designs on language

- Agustini

The Southeast Asian language programs at U-M are committed to always keeping our language instruction at its highest level with the help of the most experienced and skillful lecturers in the field. Student evaluations have been very positive and the number of enrollments in all four of our SEA language courses (Filipino, Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese) have always been in the top five compared to our peer institutions in North America. The lecturers take an active role in designing and developing new teaching materials and adapting new teaching techniques to ensure that students benefit as much as possible from their language learning. Besides our academic pursuits, the SEA language lecturers are also actively engaged in promoting the languages through publications, presentations at conferences, and cultural events on campus throughout Michigan and internationally. These past three years, the Indonesian, Thai, and Vietnamese lecturers have taken students (from both language and non-language programs) to their home countries to carry out language immersion programs and explore relevant issues. These programs are expected to carry on this year and for many years to come. We also hope that the first-years scholarships and FLAS will attract more students to concentrate in SEA language and study programs. With the addition of Richard Atienza this fall, we hope that the SEA language programs will become even more vibrant and bring more students interested in the area. As we celebrate our center's 50th anniversary, we are optimistic that the area will grow stronger and stronger in the future. Happy 50th Anniversary, CSEAS!



Agustini and her husband, Hery Budiman, on a U-M summer seminar for undergraduates in Bali



Profile:

RICHARD ATIENZA

Singing Pinoy: A new Filipino voice in Ann Arbor

Richard Atienza was born in Quezon City, Philippines, and received his education at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1995. He has spent years teaching at the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (University of the City of Manila), before emigrating to the USA in 2005. While volunteering for the Filipino Community of Seattle, he was nominated by the leaders of the community to handle Filipino language courses at the University of Washington in spring quarter in 2006. Later in the same year, he relocated to Monterey, California where he taught intensive Filipino language at the Defense Language Institute until 2007. He returned to Manila to pursue his MA in education and major in language teaching at Saint Joseph's College in Quezon City.

Richard's keen interest in promoting second language learning was brought about by his personal experience as a traveling performer with the UST Singers, the Philippines' premier choral group. As a representative of Philippine culture through music, he realized the high value of being able to communicate in other languages with people from different parts of the world. He appreciates the fact that his simple knowledge of Spanish and German helped him enjoy better the many cultural exchanges he had participated in. Richard is much honored to teach Filipino at U-M beginning this fall semester 2010. He also looks forward to building a good relationship with the local Filipino communities in Michigan.

Judith, the coincidental grammarian



Judith Becker, leading the gamelan from the kendhang. Credit: U-M Gamelan Ensemble Archive, School of Music, Theater and Dance

For many years, Judith Becker and Southeast Asian musicology were synonymous at Michigan. Upon her retirement in 2008, **Andy Sutton** wrote the following:

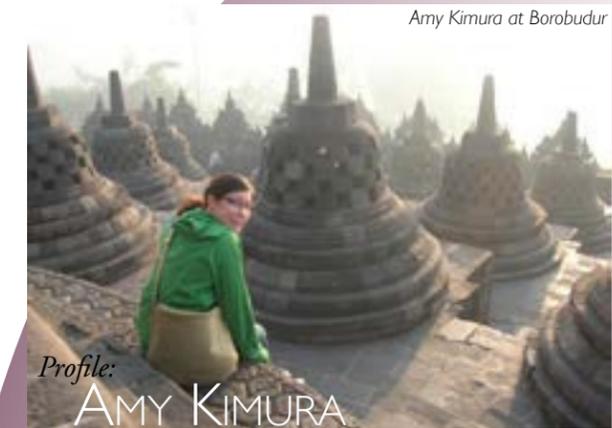
From the day in 1972 when I opened up the copy of your dissertation I had ordered and eagerly awaited as it made its way (non-electronically) from University Microfilms to the University of Hawai'i, I knew you would have a major influence in my life and that the discourse on Javanese music had fundamentally changed. Your work opened up many new vistas, not only for those of us working on gamelan in Java, but for a younger generation of students interested in the meanings of music, musical change, and musical aesthetics.

Four years later, when I enrolled as a doctoral student at Michigan, I was immediately engaged reading the new work you and Pete were doing on musical grammars. It inspired my own first conference paper in 1977 and my first publication (*Ethnomusicology*) which followed shortly thereafter. As I completed my PhD, your work kept developing in intriguing new directions, from translations of Javanese theorists to convincingly positing Java's tantric connections, to the beginnings of your seminal work on music and trance. From the mapping of gamelan cycles onto circles—a device I consistently use in my classes to teach students about gamelan's structures—to your and Pete's brilliant theorizing on coincidence/*kebetulan*, I've been so enriched by your penetrating and original thinking. It was not *kebetulan* that as a young student of gamelan I eagerly read your dissertation, but it surely was *kebetulan* that I was in Ann Arbor during those exciting years 1976-1981, with you as a wise and patient advisor. All your students hope we will continue to *ngangsu kawruh* (draw knowledge from the well) from talks and articles you've got percolating for us in the future.

AN ENSEMBLE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN MUSICS

- Christi-Anne Castro

Ethnomusicology at the University of Michigan continues to thrive. Because of the foundation set by Judith Becker, the program has always had a close relationship with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and many of our students participate in the gamelan ensemble. Our faculty is representative of this regional strength with Judith as professor emerita (Indonesia) and the more recent additions of Christi-Anne Castro (Philippines) and Meilu Ho (Malaysia and India). Since 2000, there have been several artists-in-residence teaching Javanese gamelan, dance, and shadow puppetry. Dr. Fe Prudente came to teach kulintang from the Philippines, and Dr. Phong Nguyen led a Vietnamese instrumental ensemble. At this writing, four ethnomusicology doctoral students are focusing their studies on Southeast Asia – Amy Kimura is writing a dissertation on the history of radio in Indonesia, Alex Cannon and Bretton Dimick are working on traditional music in Vietnam, and M. Antonette Adiova is researching the music festivals of Bicol, Philippines.



Amy Kimura at Borobudur

Profile:

AMY KIMURA

The unintentional Indonesianist

Amy Kimura came to her PhD program in musicology at Michigan as a Western musician. But she started playing in the gamelan during her first term, "when Mas Wasi [Bantolo] was in residence. One thing led to another; before long I was teaching with Mas Sigit [Sabdopriyono], learning Bahasa Indonesia, and changing my research focus to Indonesia."

Amy's dissertation research is musicological, but also historical, and is heavily influenced by Judith Becker's view of music as being firmly imbedded in societies, and Rudolf Mrázek's scholarship on late colonial Indonesia. It focuses on radio programming in the Dutch East Indies in the two decades leading up the World War II, and specifically at the history of Indonesian-run radio stations that emerged during that period, how their development reflected the politics and culture of the time and how the mass media influenced Indonesian (as well as Dutch) musical culture.

Her research has taken her both to the Netherlands and to Indonesia, mostly Jakarta, which is both her most and least favorite place in the region. "It's a nightmare of a city, and not very fun to live in, but in a way it encompasses so much of what's important to the country." And when she needs to, she can relax in a bowl of soto ayam (chicken soup), "which I could eat three times a day. I've spent many hours in the kitchen trying to perfect a recipe. Without the rickety plastic chairs and tables and stifling heat, though, it will never taste as good as it does in Indonesia."

A natural terrain for exploration

- Arun Agrawal

Southeast Asian studies as a field of instruction and research attracts several students at the School of Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE) each year. Given the many different ways in which rapid development and social change is transforming the region, it is not surprising that most of our students are interested in figuring out how the environment can be protected at the same time as demands on resources increase and challenges to environmental processes proliferate. Whether they focus on farmers and crop resources, aquaculture and its capacity to feed increasing populations, or pollution and its effects on population health, they manage to find faculty members who can work with them, guide their interests, and most importantly, maintain and develop the curiosity that brought these students to graduate school in the first place. Southeast Asia, in many ways, is a wonderful terrain on which to explore the complexities of the intersection between environmental change, developmental imperatives, and the politics of governance.

Profile:

WITCHUDA SRANG-IAM

Studying rice, and more



Witchuda Srang-iam relaxing in Northern Thailand

Witchuda Srang-iam came from Bangkok to Ann Arbor to study rice. Her doctoral program in SNRE focused on the interactions between natural resources and agriculture in Southeast Asia, and her research has focused on how small-scale, local agricultural practices in Thailand have adapted, and in turn, contributed to wider change in crop diversity.

Witchuda writes, "I think one of the unique characteristics of Southeast Asia lies in its agriculture. Unlike other regions, the majority is still small-scale, though much of its practice has changed under globalization and the Green Revolution. I find this both fascinating and challenging, given that traditional agriculture can survive these transitional phases."

Having received her PhD in August 2009, Witchuda has returned to Bangkok, where she is a lecturer at the National Institute of Development Administration. Bangkok is one of her two favorite places in Southeast Asia; the other is the Banaue rice terraces in the Philippines, a space she came to know through Michigan, "which provided me with the possibility to extend my academic network and get to know many international colleagues." But she says, "it is much better to be on the scenic, curvy mountain road than to get stuck in the polluted Bangkok traffic."

MEGACITIES, MEGA POTENTIAL

- Gavin Shatkin

Their rich cultures and histories and the dizzying rapidity of change they are experiencing make Southeast Asian cities fascinating subjects for research in urban planning and architecture. These cities sport some of the most beautiful historic structures, tallest skyscrapers, and biggest megaprojects, yet they also have some of the worst traffic, most polluted skies and waters, and largest slums.

Recent students in the PhD and masters programs in urban planning and architecture have done research exploring a number of pressing questions in the region: How can Geographic Information Systems (GIS) be used as a tool to empower residents of squatter settlements in Phnom Penh? How have traditional houses of central Thailand been adapted to the changing needs of their contemporary denizens? How are low-income residents of Ho Chi Minh City finding shelter as real estate prices skyrocket? My own research focuses on the impacts of large "new town" megaprojects in Southeast Asia, primarily in Metro Manila. I am interested in finding out why such projects are emerging in almost every major city in the region, what impacts they are having on access to public space among low income people, and how they are changing the spatial relationship and social and economic interaction between the rich and poor.

Profile:

JOSHUA MONTHEI

Cities or mountains?

Josh Monthei was first introduced to Thailand during a study abroad program in Chiang Mai. That experience led Josh to enroll in a joint MA program in Southeast Asian studies and urban planning at Michigan. "I believe that much of the 21st century will be shaped by how we develop our cities, particularly now that over half of the world's population lives in urban settings," he writes. U-M was a natural fit. "There are very few places where my unique course of study would have been possible."



Josh Monthei exploring ancient urban planning at Angkor Wat

Josh studies transportation infrastructure and social equity. Specifically, he has been researching how and why the new urban rail systems of Bangkok exclude large portions of the population. Ironically, Josh's favorite place in Thailand is the mountains surrounding Maehongsong, "where the air is refreshingly cool and crisp - a hiker's dream." His least favorite place on the other hand is in Bangkok: the Patpong red light district, which "stirs up emotions of anger and sadness that are not helped by guys on the sidewalk trying to sell me xxx DVDs." Life in modern cities, indeed.

WORK THAT SERVES AND TEACHES

- Nick Rine

Southeast Asian studies at Michigan have benefited from an exchange program sending professional and graduate students to internships in Cambodia and bringing Cambodian college graduates to Michigan as research scholars, a program begun by the Law School in the mid-'90s. American students going to Cambodia have had the opportunity to come face to face with the aftermath of a long civil war in a poor, developing nation. Worksites have included legal services and health organizations, NGOs and Cambodian government agencies. Interns have worked at organizations with a wide variety of community development concerns such as women's justice issues, health care access, environmental degradation, juvenile law, land rights, and workers' rights.

Besides an opportunity to work with their Khmer counterparts, U-M student interns in Cambodia enjoy an enormous second benefit. In-depth contact with the ancient and complex Khmer culture - the culture that produced the grandeur of the temples at Angkor - is an invaluable experience that stays with people for life; so much so that some have returned to Cambodia to work and many others have gone on to similar jobs in other developing nations around the world.

Profile:

CHRISTINA BRANDT-YOUNG

Legal wrangling from Phnom Penh to New York

Today, Christina Brandt-Young is the appellate attorney for the Domestic Violence Appellate Representation Project of the New York Legal Assistance Group, a nonprofit law office dedicated to providing free legal services to low-income New Yorkers. This is many miles away, but perhaps not so far temperamentally, from work she did at the Cambodian Women's Crisis Center (CWCC) in Phnom Penh in 2002.

As with many of Nick Rine's sponsored internships U-M students in Cambodia, Christina's project was eminently practical. Faced with judges who wanted specific types of physical evidence to support convictions in sex assault and sex trafficking cases, Christina was able to determine that such evidence was unlikely to be found, because it was sometimes physiologically unrealistic, or because forensic medical services in Cambodia were not consistent across urban and rural hospitals. Nick then used this information to develop a training for CWCC that focused on corroborating aspects of the victims' stories other than the physical ones.

Beyond what she learned, Christina benefited from being able to work with Nick Rine, "whose judgment as a litigator and internationalist is something I try to invoke to this day," she says, much to the benefit of poor New Yorkers in need of legal representation.



Christina Brandt-Young

Global labor, local economies, and Ford School students

- Dean Yang

Interest in Southeast Asia is at an all-time high at the Ford School of Public Policy. My own research has a strong focus the economic development impact of international migration and migrant remittances. The Philippines is among the world's most important countries to study in this research area, as the country's citizens accept over a million new contract jobs for overseas employers each year, and the remittances they send home account for over 10% of the country's GDP. I am running field experiments and household surveys in the rural province of Sorsogon that seek to shed light on the barriers to and impacts of international migrant work for families there. In related research, I am working with Philippine government data on international migrant labor contracts to understand the impact of the recent global economic crisis on Filipinos' opportunities to find work overseas. Two dozen Ford School master's students traveled to the Philippines last March to meet with policy-makers and NGOs and learn about the country's development policies and challenges, including those related to international labor migration.

Profile:

EMILY BEAM



Emily Beam visiting the rice terraces of Banaue

Migrating to work in the Philippines

Emily Beam studies labor markets and migration decisions, and finds the Philippines a fascinating context for this work. "The same questions that are increasingly relevant all over the world," she says, "how workers find jobs outside their own community, how individuals decide to migrate, what the costs and benefits of migration are on families left behind."

Emily ended up studying Southeast Asia "mostly by chance." The opportunity to work with Dean Yang in a field site Cavite came up at the same time she was looking to engage in field work overseas. Emily has found that the ability to link economic theory with public policy creates a powerful tool for poverty alleviation in the Philippines and elsewhere. "For me," she says, "policy is the natural framework for approaching economics questions." A Michigan native, Emily feels fortunate to be doing this work at Michigan now, not only because of the links U-M has to Southeast Asia, but also because of the university's proximity to cities like Dearborn and Detroit, "where issues of how workers find jobs and the effects of migration are just as relevant as they are in Sorsogon."

Bringing business to Southeast Asia

- Linda Lim

Karl Hutterer, Gayl Ness, Pete Gosling and I founded the Southeast Asia Business Education and Research Program (SEABERP) in the Center in 1984. We ran faculty research conferences, country business conferences and executive education seminars, built up a business library in our Lane Hall rooms, and established the *Southeast Asia Business Newsletter* (now the *Journal of Asian Business*), a peer-reviewed academic journal that is the first of its kind in the world.

In 2000, the Southeast Asia Business Program (SEABP) as it was now called, was folded into the Business School, reflecting a "mainstreaming" Southeast Asia into both the curriculum and faculty research. Along with me, colleagues Aneel Karnani, Priscilla Rogers and Gunter Dufey regularly teach and do research in and on the region. A student exchange program is under development with a business school in Singapore, and our annual Asia Business Conference (20 years and counting) has in the last 6 years featured ambassadors from Indonesia, Philippines and Singapore, and two ASEAN Secretary-Generals as keynote speakers.

Our graduates have worked for extensive periods in Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand, as well as the US, and as a group they continue to be generous to the Center with their time and their regular donations. Southeast Asian nationals have played a prominent role in over the years and each year, more than 40 ASEAN nationals study in our Ross degree programs, helping to spread knowledge about and connection with the region among their fellow students and faculty.

Since its founding, the masters program in Southeast Asian studies, run through CSEAS, has granted 220 degrees, with students focusing on nearly every country in the region, and doing interdisciplinary research that is the hallmark of SEA studies at Michigan. Formal joint degrees are available with the Ross (business) and Ford (public policy) schools, and students have initiated joint degrees in natural resources, urban planning, social work and law. Our SEAS MA is an important feeder to the next generations of both university faculty and public servants, as many of our graduates continue on either to doctoral programs at Michigan and elsewhere or into government service.



Hao Jie with fellow CSEAS MA students

A lost little boy finds his way

Hao Jie's earliest experience with Southeast Asia came when he was very young, visiting Singapore from his native Beijing. "I got lost with my mother, and we couldn't speak English. We couldn't even find a place to get a taxi, since in Singapore, taxis could only stop at certain spots (this was totally different from China)." With the help of a friendly waiter, they found their way to a taxi stand.

Hao's academic interest is on languages spoken by indigenous peoples, particularly in Laos and Thailand which are his principal focus. His MA thesis will pick up on elements of this as he explores intra-ethnic conflict among Chinese businessmen in Laos and inter-ethnic conflicts between these Chinese businessmen and the indigenous population.

Hao is a big fan of the University of Michigan. "Studying at Michigan is fantastic," he writes. "Every day I am challenged by my professors and classmates, and I have learned how to question and think, while before I only memorized the content of textbooks like a machine." This will surely help Hao as he continues in his studies of Southeast Asia, which he calls "a kaleidoscopic formation of different types of political and economic showcase which teaches you so much in its variety." Hao's English has clearly come a long way since he was a small boy, lost with his mother, in Singapore.



Profile:

VU THIEN NGUYEN

Making Vietnamese pay

Vu Nguyen came to an academic interest in Southeast Asia, Vietnam specifically, for personal reasons. Born in Vietnam but raised in the United States, he was unable to truly learn about Vietnam until college. After he was admitted into the BBA program in the Ross School of Business, he decided to minor in Asian languages and cultures, focusing on Southeast Asia. "To keep it short and simple," Vu says, "I was inspired to major in business because I was attracted by the numerous career opportunities it presents. And after graduation, perhaps I can earn a good living in Vietnam."

Vu Nguyen in Vietnam, 2008

If he does end up in Vietnam, Vu will be well prepared, both by his education at Michigan, "which makes me more confident in my future than ever before," and by his strongly developing skills in Vietnamese language. The winner of an Undergraduate Language Award for Vietnamese, Vu is now also one of the first recipients of new undergraduate Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) awards that provide \$10,000 towards tuition and a \$5,000 stipend. So Vu is making money studying Vietnam already, just as planned.

SUPPORT SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The support of CSEAS Alumni and Friends is instrumental to building on the Center's strengths, extending to new areas, and expanding faculty and student ranks in this dynamic part of the world. We invite you to help us in this mission by participating in the targeted opportunities described below.



STUDENT INITIATIVES

Undergraduate Initiatives (309964)

These funds provide incentives for Michigan's superb undergraduates to "discover" Southeast Asia. We seek to fund:

- **Undergraduate Language Scholarships** encourage undergraduates to choose one of our four language offerings – Filipino, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese – from the nearly 70 languages taught at Michigan.

Goal: Twelve \$1,000 scholarships annually, three for each language, or \$4,000 each for named four-year scholarships.

Endowed Named Scholarships: \$20,000 each

- **Undergraduate Experiential Fellowships** in Southeast Asia allows faculty to lead undergraduate research experiences in Southeast Asia.

Goal: \$20,000 per year, or \$60,000 for a 3-year named Fellowship Fund

Endowed Named Fund: \$400,000

Graduate Student Support (309966)

Our graduates over the past 50 years have taught and founded programs of study in major universities across the United States and around the world. We continue to attract the very best young students interested in the region, and finding ways to adequately support their education is more critical now than ever before. We seek to fund:

- **Named Scholarships for CSEAS MA and departmental PhD students** to allow us to continue to attract the very best students to Michigan.

Goal: up to five \$20,000 named scholarships per year

Endowed Named Scholarships: \$400,000 each

- **An endowed fund for graduate student research** supports field study, internships in Southeast Asia, and professional conference participation.

Goal: \$10,000 per year; or \$30,000 for a multi-year named pledge

Endowed Named Fund: \$200,000

COUNTRY INITIATIVES

Amnuay-Samonsri Viravan Endowment for Thai Studies (572202)

The creation of the Amnuay-Samonsri Viravan Endowment for Thai Studies at the University of Michigan has been made possible with a \$200,000 gift from Thai alumni Dr. Amnuay and Khunying Samonsri Viravan. This endowment serves to increase faculty, graduate, and undergraduate student interest and involvement in Thailand and support Thai Studies at the Center and the University as a whole.

Goal: On-going support to build the endowment

Endowment value as of June 2010: \$850,000

Indonesian Studies Initiative (312227)

Indonesian Studies has long been a particular strength at the University of Michigan. Funds donated to this initiative will support faculty and student research, and teaching and public programs on Indonesia at the University. We hope to be able to begin an endowment for Indonesian Studies in the near future.

Goal: \$5,000/year

Philippine Studies Endowment (731185)

Initiated by generous gifts from the Filipino community in Southeast Michigan, this endowment supports the continued study of the Philippines and Filipino languages and cultures at the University of Michigan.

Goal: On-going support to build the endowment

Endowment value as of June 2010: \$13,000

ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES

Javanese Gamelan Endowment (731164)

Building from a generous bequest from Rosannah Steinhoff, who with her husband Bill, was a loyal member of the Gamelan in the 1980's, this newly established endowment supports programs in the Javanese performing arts at the University of Michigan.

Goal: On-going support to build the endowment

Endowment value as of June 2010: \$10,000

Center Discretionary Fund (365095)

Unrestricted gifts to this fund permit the center director to respond to new needs and opportunities as they arise, allowing a flexibility to offerings and initiatives that keeps center programming current.

Goal: \$20,000 per year

If you would like to contribute to any of these funds, you may give online at www.ii.umich.edu, or feel free to contact us by email at cseas@umich.edu, or by phone at 734.764.0352.





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Two Deans on the Philippines

More than 100 years apart, U-M professors Dean Worcester's and Dean Yang's work both engage the Philippines.



A woman slicing a banana for hog feed, Aringay (La Union), 1904. Credit: Museum of Anthropology Worcester Collection 39C007



Asking questions about migration and labor in Sorsogon (Bicol), 2010. Credit: Dean Yang