

CENTER FOR
SOUTHEAST
ASIAN
STUDIES



F A L L 2 0 1 6



N E W S L E T T E R

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear CSEAS Community,

A productive academic year segued smoothly into summer, a time when we at CSEAS typically catch up with our reporting obligations to the US Department of Education, work on longer term projects, and look ahead to the upcoming academic year. Among other things, this summer we added to our information and curricular materials with a research work on Indonesian gamelans in the United States and Canada and the influence of gamelan on Western art music composers (see page 2). In addition, we now have articles available to help first-time travelers to Indonesia, Myanmar, and Thailand and are finishing up two more on Vietnam and the Philippines. We are happy to send these out to students, staff, faculty, and other members of the CSEAS community by request, so please don't hesitate to contact us (cseas@umich.edu).

Among our community are faculty in their last year (more on this in the next newsletter) and faculty in their first, recently tenured affiliates, and others making their way with dual appointments. We have had an especially strong relationship with the professional schools, including this past winter, spring, and summer terms, with conferences and workshops organized by the Schools of Nursing, Natural Resources and the Environment, and Public Health that brought Southeast Asian scholars to U-M. We also made language inroads with Foreign Language and Area Studies awards going not only to historically friendly departments like Anthropology, but also to the School of Information and the Law School.

As ever, my best wishes to all of you as we start another packed school year charged with the mission to support and promote Southeast Asian Studies across the whole of the University of Michigan and beyond.

Sincerely,

Christi-Anne Castro

CSEAS Director

Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology

IN THIS ISSUE

Lecturers, MA Students **1**

Announcements, CSEAS Library and Special Collections Fellow **2**

Myanmar Forum, U-M Conferences **4**

Land Transactions Workshop **6**

Thai Studies Grant Recipients **8**

CSEAS Faculty Updates, Exhibition Announcement **10**

Donor Profile, Adelwisa L. Agas Weller **12**

CSEAS Donation Drive **13**

CSEAS LECTURER

Jessica Hill received a MA/MPP in Southeast Asian Studies and Public Policy from the University of Michigan in 2015. Her research interests are situated in the study of religion, trauma studies, and civil society. She is a former FLAS fellow in Thai and Indonesian. Before formally joining staff as an Academic Program Specialist at the Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies in April 2016, she supported the Islamic Knowledge, Histories & Languages, Arts & Science (IKHLAS) Research Initiative at the International Institute. Jessica will be teaching SEAS 455/501 this semester.



THAI LANGUAGE LECTURER

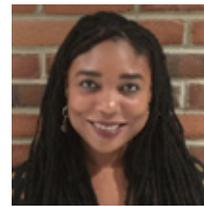
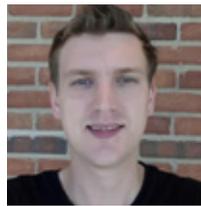


The Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC) has hired a new Thai language lecturer. Montatip Krishnamra announced last year that she would be retiring after 26 years at U-M, which is when ALC began to conduct their search for a new lecturer and hired **Aimkamon Bunmee**. Aimkamon, born in Lampang, Thailand, obtained her

bachelor's degree from the University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok in 2002. Knowing that she wanted to teach, she decided to pursue a master's degree in linguistics from the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures at Mahidol University. While doing her MA, Aimkamon had several opportunities to work on translations and with students who visited the university to study Thai. These experiences inspired her to learn more about how to teach Thai as a foreign language.

After graduating with an MA in 2007, Aimkamon worked as a Thai language lecturer at the Center for Language Education at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan. She remained in this position for five years, and then worked at a school in Fukuoka for a year. During her six years in Japan, Aimkamon taught Japanese students, foreign students, and professionals who were interested in expanding business in Thailand how to speak Thai. In 2015, Aimkamon moved back to Lampang to work for a private language school and had planned on staying for a while. About seven months into the position, however, the Thai language lecturer position became available at U-M and it was an opportunity that she could not pass up.

Please join us in welcoming Aimkamon to campus!



NEW CSEAS MA STUDENTS

Samuel Farris is a 1st year SEAS MA student with an interest in Thai politics and Thai language who received a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship for advanced Thai. Over the past five years, Samuel has lived in Thailand and Cambodia and, in the future, he hopes to work with non-governmental organizations or as a Foreign Service Officer.

Ellen Myers is a 1st year SEAS MA student. She received her bachelor's degree in anthropology from U-M in 2012. Following her graduation, Ellen was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Indonesia. Her interests are in exploring Javanese dance and gamelan music styles, Indonesian youth culture as it

relates to social media, and gender identities. Ellen was awarded a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship for Indonesian.

Klairoong (Puma) Pattumma will be a SEAS MA student in winter 2017. Puma, who has been serving in the U.S. Army for 12 years and is currently assigned as a Southeast Asia Foreign Area Officer in Malaysia, is interested in environmental and maritime security in the region. She has been attending Malaysian Armed Forces Staff College where she studies Strategic Studies. As part of the integrated training, she has been traveling the region extensively and has felt very engaged in cultural and regional experiences.

CSEAS MA STUDENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

Nate Samuelson (MPP/SEAS '18) left in August for an 11-month fellowship at the University of the Philippines, Diliman. His fellowship, supported by the Boren awards program, will allow him to study Tagalog and conduct research on U.S.-Philippine military relations.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LinkedIn CSEAS Community

Please join the Center for Southeast Asian Studies Network on LinkedIn! We created the group this summer with the intention to provide an additional venue for faculty, students, and alumni to connect with one another.

www.linkedin.com/groups/8562037

Gamelan Composition in the United States

This summer, Nathinee Chucherdwatanasak, a U-M doctoral student in historical musicology, researched and wrote an article for CSEAS about the historical and contemporary relationship between Western art music composers and Southeast Asian musical forms, focusing on Javanese and Balinese gamelan. She also went further and included a history of the gamelan ensemble as it has appeared at universities in the United States and Canada. The paper complements our existing resources on Javanese gamelan pedagogy and enhances them by providing context not only for the ensemble as a U.S. musical development made possible through transnational ties but also as a musical form that has impacted Western art music composition.

You can read the article on our website:

ii.umich.edu/cseas/gamelan.

Nathinee playing Thai gongs.



STUDYING QUEZON CITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

By Michael Pante

July 2015 CSEAS Library and Special Collections Fellow

My research about Quezon City brought me to the University of Michigan. The history of this city is the topic of my ongoing dissertation, and it is a topic that means a lot to me personally. I have spent my entire life in Quezon City. I was born and raised in this enormous expanse of suburban land just outside Manila. This is where I studied, worked, and got married—and I still live here with my family. Just like many historians, my goal to illumine specific corners of the past is not purely academic but a personal quest to know more about the place and the society that molded me.

Quezon City was established in 1939. At the time, the Philippines was still under American rule but enjoyed domestic autonomy under the Commonwealth government. Upon the establishment of the Commonwealth in 1935, Filipinos elected as their president Manuel L. Quezon, after whom the city was named. Given the context of the 1930s Quezon City emerged at a juncture in which the colonizers and the elites among the colonized were working closely together in running Philippine affairs. Hence, historical methodology dictates that I look at personal papers of both Americans and Filipinos.

The Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan holds a great number of personal paper collections of former American colonial administrators. In fact, I spent most of my research time in Michigan in this library. Among its holdings, what I found most useful were the papers of Joseph Ralston Hayden and Frank Murphy.

Hayden, who obtained his MA and PhD from the University of Michigan, served as Vice Governor-General and Secretary of Public Instruction in the Philippines in the 1930s. He was a bureaucrat with a deep knowledge of the Philippines, as evidenced by the publication of his book, *The Philippines: A Study in National Development*. Fortunately, he kept a lot of his research



materials, which are now part of his collection at Bentley. Most of these documents are newspaper clippings and unpublished government reports that cover a wide range of topics: from labor issues to opium smuggling. The Hayden papers also contain his correspondence with fellow administrators and Filipino politicians who served in the colonial state.

One of the most important documents I found in the Hayden papers was a 1935 map of Manila and its surrounding towns (see photo 1). This map shows the geographical extent of landed estates in Manila's suburbs. Prior to Quezon City's creation, the territories that would comprise it were under different landholdings owned either by Catholic friars or rich landlords. As a result of the 1903 Friar Lands Act initiated by former governor-general and US President William Howard Taft, the colonial government began purchasing friar estates for eventual distribution to the actual tenants and residents. The implementation of the law was incomplete, however. By the 1930s, many of the estates surrounding Manila were no longer under the control of religious groups but were still under landlord control rather than distributed to the peasants who tilled the land. When the Commonwealth government took over, they saw in these suburban lands the solution to the housing shortage that was then gripping Manila. Quezon City would be the showcase of this government program, as it was projected to provide affordable housing to Manila's working class who could not get their own houses and lots in the capital city.



Philippine Coast and Geodetic Survey, "City of Manila and Vicinity," 1955. Courtesy of the Stephen S. Clark Library, Hatcher Graduate Library, University of Michigan.

Another important collection I accessed in the Bentley Historical Library was the Frank Murphy papers. Murphy was Hayden's contemporary in the Philippines and was the last governor-general. When the Commonwealth was inaugurated and the position of governor-general abolished, he became the first American High Commissioner of the country. After his stint in the Philippines, he returned to the US and had a successful political career. He became Mayor of Detroit, Governor of Michigan, and an Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court. His correspondence and personal documents reveal so much about the early Commonwealth period. Of particular importance to my research are the government reports on housing in Manila that illustrate the extent of the crisis in the 1930s.

Other personal collections in the Bentley Historical Library that I found helpful were those of George Malcolm, jurist and founder of the University of the Philippines Law School, Santiago Artiaga, former Manila City Engineer, and Walter W. Marquardt, a former Superintendent of Schools in Leyte province. The library also has microfilm copies of selected boxes from the Manuel L. Quezon Papers, the originals of which are stored in the Philippine National Library in Manila. The Quezon Papers are an indispensable primary source to reconstruct the history of Quezon City because Quezon was the brains behind the city.

Aside from the Bentley Historical Library, I also spent time researching at the Hatcher Graduate Library. The Hatcher Graduate Library has such an extensive collection of Filipiniana that certain materials here are not even found in major Philippine libraries. For example, it has one of the most complete collections of the *Congressional Record*, which is the transcript of each plenary session of the Philippine Congress. It is useful in dissecting the debates that led to the passage of all laws that have been enacted since 1945, including laws that directly relate to Quezon City. The library also has a variety of outdated newspapers in microfilm. I found myself scanning hundreds of pages of pre-Second World War issues of *The Manila Daily Bulletin* and the *Philippines Free Press*, as well as early post-independence issues of *The Manila Times* and *Manila Chronicle*. Compared with government reports and transcripts of Congressional debates, newspaper accounts give a different angle to important political and socioeconomic issues, thus allowing a historian to narrate the past from multiple perspectives instead of just repeating what are stated in official documents.

The library also houses a Special Collections Library. Hatcher's Special Collections include the Worcester Philippine History Collection, an important repository of primary sources especially for those who study the early-twentieth-century Philippines. The centerpiece of this collection is, of course, the personal papers of Dean

Conant Worcester. Worcester, an alumnus of the University of Michigan, was one of the first and most controversial US colonial officials in the Philippines. Those who are interested in the early American colonial period and the history of medicine will benefit from this specific set of papers. Aside from Worcester's personal papers the Worcester Philippine History Collection also features other historically significant documents: the David J. Steinberg Philippines Collection, the Manila collection of colonial-era photographs, the Donn V. Hart letters from Manila, and many others.

Through the Hatcher Graduate Library, I was also able to access materials from other libraries in the University of Michigan. I was surprised to find that the Health Sciences Library has issues of the *Bulletin of the Quezon Institute* because there seem to be no extant copies of these documents in Philippine libraries. The Quezon Institute, which was established during the American colonial period, is a public hospital that specializes in the treatment of tuberculosis and is one of the earliest and most important institutions in Quezon City. Hence, data about this institute will help me piece together a narrative about the city that includes not only political but also socio-civic institutions.

I was also fortunate to visit the Clark Library Map Collection at the Hatcher Graduate Library. It has a wide array of maps, including mid-twentieth-century Philippine maps. I even requested for a scanned copy of a 1950s Manila map (see photo 2). This map shows urban development outside Manila's borders, including Quezon City. During this decade, Quezon City replaced Manila as capital city, but the latter remained the undisputed economic center of the country. Meanwhile, Quezon City's status as a Manila suburb persisted, with urban growth in this nominal capital limited to only a few areas near the de-facto capital. This 1950s map is one historical source that shows the "undeveloped" character of Quezon City as seen in its vast spaces yet untouched by streets and sprawl. Such is the image of Quezon City that I want to analyze in a more in-depth manner for my dissertation. ■

MYANMAR FORUM

By Linda Lim

CSEAS partnered for the second year in a row with the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (formerly Institute for Southeast Asian Studies) to offer a multidisciplinary one-day Forum, this time on Myanmar, held at the Marina Mandarin Hotel in Singapore on May 20, 2016.

The Forum attracted 168 participants from business, government, academia, media and the general public. The 29 panelists and moderators included four U-M CSEAS faculty affiliates—Linda Lim (Economics PhD and Ross Business), the co-organizer with Moe Thuzar of ISEAS-YII; moderators John Ciorciari (Ford Public Policy) and Allen Hicken (Political Science); panel speaker Michael McGovern (Anthropology) and three other U-M alumni—Maitri Aung-Thwin (History PhD), Paul Cheung (Sociology/Social Work PhD), both faculty at the National University of Singapore, and Wachirachai Koonawattana (MBA) of SCG (Thailand). Other alumni and current students were present in the audience.

The five panels covered 1. History and Culture—the Past Informing the Present, 2. Political Evolution—Democracy Dilemmas, 3. Economic and Social Development, 4. International Relations and 5. Doing Business. The lively discussions reflected concerns about national reconciliation, communal tensions, institutional development and poverty alleviation, and optimism over the improving business environment including the rise of dynamic young local entrepreneurs.

The highlight of the program was a discussion with U Ko Ko Gyi, former student leader, democracy activist and political prisoner who is general secretary of the 88 Generation (Peace and Open Society) organization, moderated by Ong Keng Yong, former ASEAN Secretary-General and Executive Deputy Chairman of the Rajaratnam School of International Studies at Nanyang Technological University.

The full Forum program, photos and a summary of the discussion are available at www.iseas.edu.sg/medias/event-highlights/item/3165-myanmar-forum-2016. ■



UM-THAI SYMPOSIUM ON CANCER AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The UM-Thai Symposium took place at the U-M School of Public Health (SPH) on August 24 and 25, 2016. The symposium brought together investigators from Thailand and the United States to discuss strategies to address cancer and chronic diseases in Thailand. Topics discussed included cancer rates and projections, environmental issues in Thailand, and strategies for research and policy within the context of Thailand's universal health care system.

In collaboration with the Office of Global Public Health at SPH and Associate Director and CSEAS Faculty Affiliate Dr. Laura Rozek, CSEAS was able to invite and fund nine Thai public health experts as well as three U.S. experts to attend and present at the symposium.

Presentations were given by:

- » Dr. Hutcha Sriplung, Prince of Songkla University
- » Dr. David Levy, Georgetown University
- » Dr. Sunpong Ritthiruksa, Songkhla Provincial Public Health Office

- » Dr. Richard Neitzel, University of Michigan School of Public Health
- » Dr. Kowit Nambunmee, Mae Fah Luang University
- » Sarah Miller and Serena Bidwell, MPH Candidates at the U-M School of Public Health
- » Dr. Shama Virani, Fogarty Global Health Fellow at Prince of Songkla University
- » Dr. Surapon Wiangnon, Khon Kaen University
- » Dr. Patravoot Vatanasapt, Khon Kaen University
- » Dr. Donsuk Pongnikorn, Lampang Cancer Registry
- » Dr. Theodore R. Holford, Yale School of Public Health
- » Pianpian Cao, PhD Candidate at the U-M School of Public Health
- » Christian Alvarez, PhD Candidate at the U-M School of Public Health
- » Dr. Surasak Sangkhathat Na Ayudya, Prince of Songkla University



Dr. Hutcha Sriplung and Dr. Laura Rozek



SCHOOL OF NURSING GLOBAL HEALTH CONFERENCE



Above: Dr. Siriorn Sindhu. Photo on right, pictured from left to right: Roumporn Konggumnerd, Institute of Nursing dean at Suranaree University of Technology; Kathleen Potempa, PhD, RN, FAAN, former dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan; and Dr. Singha-Dong.

In April, 2016, CSEAS had the opportunity to participate in the School of Nursing's Global Health Conference by supporting two Thai attendees, Dr. Siriorn Sindhu and Dr. Naruemol Singha-Dong.

Dr. Sindhu, President of Noncommunicable Disease Case Management Association of Thailand and Associate Professor in the Department of Surgical Nursing at Mahidol University in Bangkok, gave a keynote talk during the "Nurses as Global Leaders" portion of the conference. Her talk was about women's empowerment as a key aspect of women's health.

Dr. Singha-Dong, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Nursing at Suranaree University of Technology, participated and presented in the School of Nursing's Global Health Conference where she discussed findings from the joint work with the faculty and students from the School of Nursing. While in Thailand in 2015, the group used a family genogram model to evaluate hypertension control and stroke prevention within a rural Thai community. Dr. Singha-Dong was also able to attend the Chronic Disease Management in Primary Care class for the nurse practitioner students (N666) and discuss the approach and management to chronic health conditions in Thailand.

The conference was well-attended and provided a meaningful opportunity for scholars, students, nurses, and community members to come together and discuss global health topics. ■





LAND TRANSACTIONS AND THEIR SOCIAL-ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS

A U-M WORKSHOP

By Suhyun Jung

The workshop on “Land transactions and their social-ecological impacts” took place over two days on April 20-21, 2016 at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. It was jointly supported by the International Forestry Resources and Institutions (IFRI) network, African Studies Center, Center for South Asian Studies, and Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the U-M, and by a grant from National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to Daniel Brown and Arun Agrawal. The support from different Area Studies Centers, coupled with a grant from NASA, facilitated research conversations on a global phenomenon that crosses conventional area-studies boundaries.

Nineteen scholars from Denmark, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Sweden, Vietnam, and the US participated in the meeting. Junior and senior researchers from the University of Michigan and other educational institutions actively engaged in research on land transaction issues in African, Southeast Asian, and South Asian countries. One decision maker from the National Investment Commission of Liberia also attended the workshop.

The past decade has seen a surge in efforts aimed at gaining control of land and land-based resources all over the world. Over this period, food, energy, finance and environmental crises have led to large scale investments in land for

conservation, resource extraction, commercial production, and/or speculation by international and national actors. Although the motivations for the investments vary, they all involve new, distant actors (be they domestic or international) who seek control over land in ways that change existing land use patterns and affect the livelihoods of local residents. As research on land transactions has blossomed in the last decade, it has generated new research findings about the antecedents, structure, and outcomes of land transactions globally. Many aspects of land transactions and land grabbing have been explored in detail. Yet, some aspects have received relatively less attention.

The workshop was intended to discuss the state of research on land transactions, identify key areas for future research, and fill the gap in the land transactions literature by bringing together researchers studying land transactions from very different epistemological and methodological perspectives. On the first day, papers by Kennedy Gastorn, Namita Wahi, and Laura German reviewed legal frameworks on land tenure that guide land transactions, and presented case studies in India, Tanzania, and Mozambique. The following three papers by Jens Friis Lund, Sai Balakrishnan, and Patrik Oskarsson investigated the causes and impacts of land tenure change through different types of interventions such as

conservation laws in Tanzania and urbanization in India. On the next day, Ian Baird, Nga Dao, Miles Kenney-Lazar, and Kevin Woods provided in-depth analysis of dynamics in causes and consequences of land transactions in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam. In contrast, Suhyun Jung, Chuan Liao, and Kerstin Nolte studied patterns and environmental and livelihood outcomes of land transactions by looking into existing large datasets on land transaction boundaries/attributes and livelihood indicators and using statistical and simulation methods. The participants had good discussions on gaps in the land transactions literature as well as on methodologies, especially on the value of reconciling qualitative and quantitative methodologies to find evidences on the outcomes of land transactions. The workshop participants will continue to work on their papers in preparation for a special issue for the prominent journal *Global Environmental Change*. In addition, workshop participants also discussed the possibility of putting together grant proposal for new work on land transactions and their impacts.

The co-organizers of the workshop, Arun Agrawal, Dan Brown, Suhyun Jung, and Chuan Liao at U-M and Jens Friis Lund at the University of Copenhagen would like to acknowledge and thank the U-M International Institute centers that were involved and NASA for their support.

External Workshop participants: Ian G. Baird (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Sai Balakrishnan (Harvard University), Nga Dao (York University), Kennedy Gastorn (University of Dar es Salaam), Laura German (University of Georgia), Miles Kenney-Lazar (Clark University), Jens Friis Lund (University of Copenhagen), Kerstin Nolte (German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA)), Patrik Oskarsson (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences), Melvin Sheriff (National Investment Commission, Liberia), Namita Wahi (Center for Policy Research, India), Kevin M. Woods (University of California-Berkeley), Faustin Maganga (University of Dar est Salaam), Rie Odgaard (International Working Group for Indigenous Affairs).

University of Michigan participants: Arun Agrawal (SNRE), Kelly Askew (Anthropology, DAAS), Dan Brown (SNRE), Suhyun Jung (SNRE), Chuan Liao (SNRE), Howard Stein (DAAS). ■

C SEAS is always looking for opportunities to enhance outreach efforts, and since Nga Dao was already in the area for the Land Transactions Workshop, we invited her to deliver a lecture at Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC) on April 19, 2016. Nga is the Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development in Vietnam and currently a lecturer for York University's International Development Studies Program in Toronto, Ontario. She has worked and conducted research in Southeast Asia for over 20 years. The talk, entitled "Whose Voice Counted? Resource Governance and the Daily Livelihoods in Southeast Asia," was well-attended and provided students and faculty at KVCC an opportunity to enhance their network and to explore potential collaborations in Vietnam.



THAI STUDIES GRANT RECIPIENTS



Pulitzer Prize winner Aaron Jay Kernis, and Mark Adamo. The festival featured composition master classes, lectures, and concerts. These activities allowed me to learn about the works and compositional processes directly from the composers and discover new compositions, particularly those by Thai composers whose music is rarely performed and recorded. The observation of Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, which was practicing concertos written by the guest composers, also provided me firsthand experience of the rehearsing process and the working relationship between the composers and the orchestra.

Manila Hada

I worked as a program coordinator in southern Thailand in the summer of 2016. My goal was to investigate the differences between Buddhist and Muslim women in terms of the prevalence of cervical cancer and attitudes towards self-sampling. I developed IRB protocols, created fieldwork protocols, designed questionnaires, and trained workers on collecting samples using self-sampling kits. This study is currently in progress, and the collected samples will be shipped to the University of Michigan, where I will analyze them for HPV infection. This project has allowed

CSEAS granted Thai Studies Grants to eight graduate students in 2016. We asked these students to update us on the work they completed using these funds.

Serena Bidwell

Over the summer, I was fortunate enough to work at both Prince of Songkla University in Hat Yai, Thailand and Khon Kaen University in northeast Thailand in order to evaluate pediatric cancer trends in the country. In Hat Yai, I worked under the direction of Dr. Hutchia Sriplung, the Chief of the Thai Cancer Information Network and Thai Network of Cancer Registry, to compile a childhood cancer dataset and analyze incidence and survival trends in cases diagnosed between 1990-2011. Additionally, I worked with Dr. Surapon Wiangnon, a faculty member in the Department of Pediatrics at Khon Kaen University, to learn more about the successes and challenges of diagnosing and treating childhood cancer cases in Thailand. This



collaborative experience taught me about data management and analysis along with the clinical responsibilities of oncologists. I could not be more thankful for all that I learned and was exposed to over the summer and look forward to continuing to build upon the relationships I formed as I move forward with my research goals.

Nathinee Chucherdwatanasak

On July 18-23, 2016 I participated in the 12th Thailand International Composition Festival at the College of Music, Mahidol University in Thailand. The guest composers this year included Pulitzer Prize, Grammy Awards, and Academy Awards winning composer John Corigliano, another



me to learn how to set up an epidemiology study in a foreign area and to respect cultural and religious sensitivities while conducting research. This experience will be instrumental for my own future research in a global health setting.

Matan Kaminer

My dissertation project is an ethnography of Thai farmworkers and their employers on farms in a hyper-arid region of Israel, the Arabah. I spent eight months in 2015 and 2016 working on two farm and getting to know the Thais and Israelis on them. Over the summer, with the aid of the Thai Studies Graduate Research Grant, I carried out interviews with both groups to find out more about how global and local, political, cultural and economic contexts shape their relationships on the job. In December and January I plan to spend time in Northeast Thailand (Isaan) with people who have worked in Israel and their families, to learn about the impact their experience has had on their lives and communities.

Aubrey Langeland

I spent 6 weeks in Thailand researching the health and environmental effects of electronic waste ("e-waste") recycling in Kalasin, Thailand. Working with a group of Thai health professionals, Dr. Kowit Nambunmee of Mae Fah Luang University and his students, Dr. Nirawan Sanphoti of Kasetsart University and her students, as well as a group of local health volunteers, I collected samples to evaluate the



local effects of this growing informal industry. Personal samples including health metrics, personal air samples, blood and urine were collected to determine the health impacts of e-waste workers. Environmental impacts will be evaluated through the analyses of locally grown rice, soil, and area air sample measurements. This information will serve as a basis to inform and implement interventions that improve occupational and environmental health impacts of e-waste work, without impacting the availability of this valuable source of income for Thai communities.

Sarah Miller

This summer I collaborated with the Epidemiology Unit at the Prince of Songkla University in Hat Yai, Thailand. Through this collaboration I have learned new statistical software, such as R and Joinpoint, and conducted age-adjusted incidence and survival analysis as well as projections for nasopharyngeal cancers (NPCs) within the

Songkhla province. Beyond my research I made invaluable connections with researchers and other health professionals which I will continue to cultivate. Moving forward I will be continuing analysis of NPCs and conducting a comparison of trends found in Thailand with those in the US.

Napong Tao Rugkhanan

I received a Thai Studies Endowment Grant for my graduate research entitled 'zoning and its negation'. As an urban planner, I am interested in the ways in which zoning, under the guise of technical expertise, is employed by the state as a means of exclusion. The grant made possible my short fieldwork in Thailand in May 2016, where I met with local officials, located archival materials, and conducted site visits. My fieldwork coincided with two incidents: displacement of riverside communities and forced eviction of Prom Mahakan residents. While not pertinent to my original proposal, the incidents get at the heart of urban exclusion, shedding light on the question of authoritarian power and space. ■



CSEAS FACULTY UPDATES

Arun Agrawal, Professor at the U-M School of Natural Resources & Environment (SNRE), was recently appointed as Samuel Trask Dana Professor of Governance and Sustainability at SNRE. Agrawal was awarded the STEP Best Paper Award from the American Political Science Association for the article “Motivational Crowding in Sustainable Development Interventions: Assessing the Effects of Multiple Treatments.” The article was published in the *American Political Science Review*. Agrawal also co-authored “Carbon, Biodiversity and Livelihoods in Forest Commons: Synergies, Trade-offs, and Implications for REDD+” in *Environmental Research Letters*. Agrawal will be the principal investigator for two grants received in 2016: “Land Transactions and Investments: Impacts on Agricultural Production, Ecosystem Services, and Food-Energy Security” funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), and “Impacts of Large-Scale Land Acquisitions on Local Women’s Land and Forest Tenure Rights: Case Studies from Western Ethiopia,” funded by Rights and Resources Initiative. He will also serve as co-principal investigator for a third grant, “Global Dependence of Livelihoods on Forests and the Impacts of Forest Investments: Disaster Recovery in Nepal,” funded by the National Science Foundation Rapid Response Research (NSF RAPID).

Yuen Yuen Ang, Assistant Professor of Political Science, published *How China Escaped the Poverty Trap* (Cornell University Press, Cornell Studies in Political Economy, September 2016). The book examines China’s great economic and institutional transformation since market opening in 1978. It argues that China escaped the poverty trap by first building markets with “weak” institutions—features that *defy* norms of good governance—and by creating the right conditions for bottom-up improvisation within the state bureaucracy.

Longer book description and endorsement can be found at www.amazon.com/Escaped-Poverty-Cornell-Studies-Political/dp/1501700200.



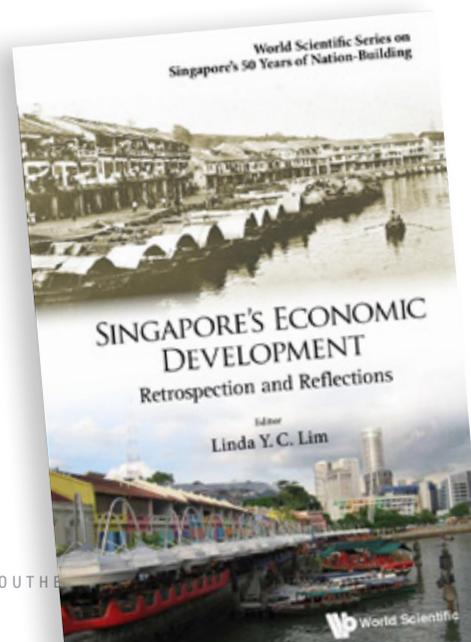
Ingersoll-Dayton pictured with collaborators at Mahidol University’s Institute for Population and Social Research. From left to right: Sureeporn Punpuing, Berit Ingersoll-Dayton, Kanchana Tangchonlatip, Wannee Hutaphat, and Kanchana Theinlai.

Allen Hicken, associate professor of political science, will lead the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies as interim director and Ronald and Eileen Weiser Professor of Emerging Democracies in 2016-17, while a nationwide search for a new director is conducted.

Berit Ingersoll-Dayton, Professor at the U-M School of Social Work, has been conducting research on aging and migration in Thailand. She is collaborating with a team of researchers at Mahidol University’s Institute for Population and Social Research. The research team has conducted qualitative interviews with older Thai people who are caring for their grandchildren in “skipped generation households” because their adult child have migrated to find work. They are now analyzing these interviews and have completed a book chapter, “Migration and Skipped Generation Households in Thailand” for a book on “Parenting from Afar: The Reconfiguration of the Family Across Distance.” They will also be presenting their findings at a symposium on “Skipped Generation Households in Asia: Solidarity and Conflict” at the Gerontological Society of America in November.

Stuart Kirsch (Professor of Anthropology) will be a visiting fellow at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame in Fall 2016, where he will work on his book *Anthropology Beyond the Text*, which includes a chapter based on long-term research with the refugee community from West Papua, Indonesia.

Linda Lim (Professor of Strategy) is editor of a new book called *Singapore’s Economic Development: Retrospection and Reflection*. This edited collection of papers by academic economists provides a retrospective analysis of Singapore’s economic development during the past fifty years, from the perspectives of different policy domains. Common themes among the



papers are: the primacy of economic growth in driving social as well as economic policies, the interconnection between different policy arenas, the persistence of a particular development model despite sharp changes in policy direction, and the dominant role of the state. The authors collectively conclude that economic policy was both innovative and effective in the first two to three decades of independence, particularly in simultaneously delivering on both rapid economic growth and improved social welfare. In more recent decades, economic growth and social welfare for a significant minority of residents have begun to diverge. Looking ahead, there appears to be a consensus that slower GDP growth, higher productivity, a relative shift from manufacturing to services and from a global to a regional market orientation, and more vibrant and innovative local private entrepreneurs, are necessary for continued economic development. There is also consensus that public policy must pay greater attention to directly meeting the growing social needs of the population, especially the poor, low-income, elderly and other vulnerable groups. ■

CONGRATULATIONS TO TENURED SEA FACULTY



John Ciorciari, Ford School of Public Policy

Deirdre de la Cruz, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures and Department of History

Victor Mendoza, Departments of Women's Studies, English, American Culture, and the Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies Program



SINKING CITY, BETWEEN CIVILIZATION AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA

The fact that Jakarta, Indonesia is literally sinking while also experiencing climate change related sea-level rise is troubling. Add to that the yearly heavy rainfall the city sees from the Southeast Asian Monsoon and a population that has swelled beyond ten million due to rapid urbanization, and it's easy to see why Jakarta's infrastructure is experiencing significant strain. The predicament is undeniable: Jakarta has a serious problem with flooding. Jakarta isn't an isolated example of this perfect storm. It represents the future difficulty that coastal cities all over the world are likely to face.

Understanding that lessons learned in Jakarta can have a global impact, U-M alum Frank Sedlar set out to help with flood mitigation in Jakarta. Frank, whose story was featured in the Spring 2016 CSEAS Newsletter, received his MS from the U-M College of Engineering and also studied Indonesian language while at U-M. He was captured by photojournalist and filmmaker Marcin Szczepanski and writer Ben Logan from the U-M Communications and Marketing Office at the College of Engineering as he worked on modern solutions to this growing problem.

The resulting work will be featured in an exhibit organized by CSEAS. Please join us for an opening reception on Friday, October 21 at 5 pm at the International Institute Gallery. Refreshments will be served. The exhibit will be on display October 19–November 17, 2016. ■

DONOR PROFILE

ADELWISA L. AGAS WELLER

by Nayiri Mullinix



from the Philippines) to share with the community in Ann Arbor. The newsletter had contributors from a variety of departments and colleges at U-M and highlighted cultural information related to performers, musicians, and traditional Philippine food.

When Adelwisa L. Agas Weller first came to the U.S. in 1968, it was because she had been sent to train in survey research methodology under a bilateral agreement for technical development between the U.S. and Philippine governments. Already a personnel administrator and lecturer at the College of Public Administration at the University of the Philippines (UP) in Manila as well as at several other consortium partner universities, the hope was for her to return from the U.S. with new skills to teach survey research methodology courses. Without a planned course of study Adelwisa, also known to some colleagues and friends as Deling, arrived in Ann Arbor to pursue an academic degree at U-M. She was given three months to do so.

When she arrived on campus, Deling approached the Institute for Social Research (ISR) to find out if it would be possible to obtain training or an academic degree in such a short amount of time. She learned that one of ISR's centers, the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), ran a 3-month program in the summer, but that she had arrived too late to take advantage of the program. It was recommended by various faculty members on campus that she enroll in classes and decide on a course of study at the end of her first semester. She took this advice and focused on taking any and every course that she could related to survey research methodologies. As it became evident that Deling would obtain a degree, the government of the Philippines extended the initial grant of three months three times in order to allow her time to finish a Master of Arts degree in Political Science while also acquiring extensive practical training on Survey Research Methodology at ISR and ICPSR.

Even as Deling was managing a full class load, she discovered CSEAS and began to connect with the community it fostered on campus. In her first year at U-M, she made an effort to attend as

many lectures and discussions as possible, and to meet with affiliated faculty to make connections with people interested in Southeast Asia. Her early involvement with CSEAS seemed to serve as an early premonition: that her relationship with the center would be a lasting one.

In 1969, Deling returned to the Philippines with her MA in Political Science from U-M in hand. Back at UP, her position was transferred and she took on the role of an academic researcher at the Local Government Center (LGC), a unit within the university that was used to train local government officials and provide extension services. After three years in this role, Deling was sent back to U-M to pursue a doctoral degree in sociology to get a better understanding of the problems associated with rapid population growth. The hope was that Deling would be able to teach courses in population planning at the College of Public Administration at the University of the Philippines. Working with her advisor in Sociology, Dr. Gayl D. Ness, Deling began to put together a comparative study of the administration of family planning programs in five SEA countries: Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Thailand, and the Philippines.

The summer of 1972 was not a peaceful one in the Philippines and, while Deling wasn't participating in formal group protests on campus, she began to meet with activists who were visiting campus to discuss issues and ideas. It was at this time that she began to work with CSEAS to organize talks, and even went so far as to organize talks and gatherings in her own home. For Deling, CSEAS was a practical venue for some of the actions that the Philippine community wanted to take in Ann Arbor. The community felt that emphasizing culture, politics, food, and music was a form of protest that they could take on. Around this time, Deling also created a publication called PMC Newsletter (PMC stood for Philippine Michigan Club, which was the organization of U-M students

Deling would return to the Philippines once more to resume her administrative and teaching job at UP, but in 1980 she moved back to the U.S and stayed. It was in 1988 that Deling took a position at U-M teaching Tagalog (later Filipino). When she first took the position, she taught for one year. For several years after that, Deling worked closely with Susan Go, SEA Librarian, examining the Philippine materials in U-M's vast library collection. She resumed teaching Tagalog in 1994 and remained a lecturer until 2007.

During the years that Deling worked as a lecturer at U-M, she felt that her students were constantly challenging her as to why there were so few programs available in Philippine studies on campus. One problem was that there was no study abroad trip to the Philippines. She was inspired by her students to try to grow the availability of opportunities and helped to organize a Global Intercultural Experience for Undergraduates (GIEU) trip for the following year. Students who were not able to study through GIEU had the opportunity to participate in an Advanced Filipino Abroad Program administered by the University of Hawaii and sponsored by Fulbright that took place during the summer months. Deling taught this program in the Philippines when she was not busy with field research or development of teaching materials. Deling also served as advisor for the newly formed Filipino American Student Association (FASA) from 1990-2007, which increased the opportunities that Filipino students had to engage with one another on campus. FASA continues to have a strong presence on campus today.

As a U-M lecturer, Deling continued to work closely with CSEAS to organize lectures, workshops, and performances related to Philippine studies, and to meet weekly with the Philippine studies group on campus. In 2000, the name of the Philippine language course that Deling taught at U-M changed from Tagalog to Filipino, and has remained Filipino since. This

was also the year that Deling, along with other faculty and community members, established the Philippine Studies Initiative. Housed at CSEAS as of 2002, the initiative became the Philippine Studies Endowment in 2010. In what would prove to be a busy year, 2000 also marked the formal organization of the Philippine Studies Group (PSG), which consisted of graduate students from the U.S. and the Philippines.

The work being done on-campus by Deling and others to promote Philippine Studies was extensive, but it didn't end there. One example of the work that the Philippine community accomplished off campus was to organize the Philippine artifacts at the Frank Murphy Memorial Museum in Harbor Beach, MI. In collaboration with CSEAS, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Project (UROP) and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA), U-M students and faculty worked to organize the artifacts available at the memorial to Murphy, who served as the last United States Governor-General/High Commissioner of the Philippine Islands before the establishment of the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

Having provided her with an avenue to successfully execute her goals and to build the Philippine studies community at U-M, Deling felt that CSEAS was doing important work. For this reason, upon retirement, Deling requested that people donate money to the Philippine Studies Endowment in lieu of personal gifts. She promised to match any gifts that were given in her name. Not only did Deling keep this promise, but she has continued to donate regularly and generously to CSEAS with the hope that it can continue to grow and attract more scholars from the Philippines to come to U-M to take advantage of the rich resources available.

We thank Deling for her consistent and generous donations to CSEAS. ■

To donate to the Philippine Studies Endowment (731185), please visit ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate. To donate by mail, please send a check made out to *The University of Michigan* with *For Philippine Studies Endowment 731185* in the memo line to:

Center for Southeast Asian Studies
1080 South University Avenue, Suite 3603
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106

DONATE TO CSEAS

Frank Sedlar's story serves as a perfect example of the kind of testimonials we hear about the significant impact that SEA language courses can have on our students. With your generous support, CSEAS assists in maintaining Indonesian, Thai, Filipino, and Vietnamese courses, growing the curriculum and providing our language instructors with professional development opportunities. Your donations have increased language enrollment through promotions and scholarships, bought needed instruments for the gamelan, and contributed to the activities of Philippine, Vietnamese, and Indonesian Studies.

Please consider giving again this year, as any amount is helpful in our pursuit of area study excellence. Gifts to your favorite program are always an option, and the different possible funds can be found online at ii.umich.edu/cseas/donate.

HOW TO GIVE

II.UMICH.EDU/CSEAS/DONATE

or mail a check made out to the University of Michigan to:

CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES
1080 South University Avenue, Suite 3603
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1106

with a note on the memo line that specifies the fund to which you'd like to donate. If you have no preference, please consider giving to the CSEAS Strategic Fund 365095.

1080 South University Avenue
Suite 3603
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1106
734 764 0352
www.i.umich.edu/cseas

© 2016 Regents of the University of Michigan: Michael J. Behm, Mark J. Bernstein, Laurence B. Deitch, Shauna Ryder Diggs, Denise Ilitch, Andrea Fischer Newman, Andrew C. Richner, Katherine E. White, Mark S. Schlissel, *ex officio*

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity, and Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Office for Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-1388, institutional.equity@umich.edu. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY

The dome of Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque, Bandar, Brunei © Sophie James / Shutterstock.com

DESIGN

Susan Ackermann

