

SAIS Southeast Asia program Semi-annual Update

Fall 2003 (nr 3)

Dear SEA Alumni and friends,

We are the new student representatives of the Southeast Asia department for the academic year 2003/2004. This is the second year that students have volunteered to represent the students of the department in order to enhance cooperation and strengthen the ties between students, faculty and our alumni. With the generous assistance from our predecessors, Ulrika and Edi who initiated the Southeast Asia student representative program, we continue to organize a series of events for the department (i.e. film screenings, gatherings and more).

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the alumni gathering (rescheduled for the spring) in Washington DC. This event will provide those of you who are in DC at that time meet old friends, professors, and current SAIS Southeast Asia students. We look forward to hearing about your experiences after SAIS, and sharing our stories of life at school.

Finally, we would like to mention a few practical details. Some alumni have indicated problems opening the document with the newsletter when attached to an email. Therefore it was decided last semester to send out number two only as a link to the website, a system we will continue using. Furthermore, we have received some updates on your whereabouts, but would like to give everybody a chance to update us on changes in location and lives. We will therefore update and attach the "where are they now" section to the spring edition of the newsletter.

Happy holidays and all the best for the new year!

Vicky Cheung and Ruangkhao "Ryce" Chanchai

EVENTS FALL 2003

This semester featured several special events. Professor Brown hosted a conference on "**The Future of Relations Between Vietnam and the United States**" in cooperation with the Institute of International Relations, Hanoi, Vietnam, in October 2-3. Keynote speeches were made by His Excellency Nguyen Dy Nien, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and by James Kelly Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, USA. A link to the conference report will be available on the department website as of January 2004.

Professor Welsh has organized the "ASEAN Ambassador Speaking Series" over the academic year. During fall 2003 the department had the pleasure of hosting His Excellency Roland Eng, Ambassador of the Royal Government of Cambodia in October, and Her Excellency Prof. Chan Heng Chee, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore in November.

For more information on previous and upcoming events, please go to:

<http://www.sais-jhu.edu/programs/asia/seasia/index.html>

'Brown Bag' lectures FALL 2003:

- *Dr. Wan Azizah Wan Ismail*, Leader of Keadilan Rakyat (People's Justice Party), Malaysia
- "The Lessons of Cambodia for Iraq", *Dr. James Shear*, National Defense University and *Michael Bailey*, RONCO Consulting Corporation
- "The Asian Transformation: Economic and Strategic Realignments in Asia", *Dr. David B. H. Denoon*
- *His Excellency Roland Eng*, Ambassador of the Royal Government of Cambodia*
- *Her Excellency Dr. Chan Heng Chee*, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore*
- "Thailand: Its Role In 21st Century Trade", *H.E. Kobsak Chutikul*
- "Political Islam and Counter-terrorism in Southeast Asia: An Agenda for US Policy", *Catharin E. Dalpino, Karl D. Jackson, Edward Masters, Bronson E. Percival*
- "Burma: Six Months Later", *Brian Joseph, David Steinberg, Bridget Welsh*
- "Refugee Problems in the Region", *Lionel Rosenblatt, Shep Lowman*
- "Seeds of Terror: An Eyewitness Account of Al Qaeda's Newest Center of Operations in Southeast Asia", *Maria Ressa*, CNN Jakarta Bureau Chief
- "Thailand's Current Economic and Business Climate", *Dr. Roongrueng Bhidayasiri*

* Part of the ASEAN Ambassador Speaking Series of the academic year 2003-04.

PLANNED EVENTS SPRING 2004

Professor Welsh will launch her edited volume entitled *Reflections: The Mahathir Years* in early February. This spring, the Southeast Asia Studies Program will host two conferences. Professor Welsh has organized a conference entitled "**Southeast Asia**

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on Capital Hill” to be held in late February. Theodore Friend, the C.V. Starr Professor for spring 2004, will host a conference addressing Indonesia and the Philippines.

IN THE NEWS

Professor Jackson will take a semester’s leave to work on a book project together with two alumni of our program, Dr. Jay Ku and Dr. Prinat Apirat. We are looking forward to reading the result!



Spot the alumni among the first years if you can!

‘NON-GRADED’ ACTIVITIES...

The Southeast Asia department organized its first get-together of the year in early September, as an orientation for the first years, and for the introductory meetings between mentors and mentorees within the ‘patron-client’ mentor program.

Much in line with the tradition, the Southeast Asian table was among the first to run out of food during this years international dinner in November despite large amounts of Yum Woon Sen, Vietnamese summer rolls and chicken Adobo ...

Moreover, first year students have already made a niche for themselves at SAIS due to their 24 hour marathon study groups in the cafeteria, and their wild dancing at SAIS gatherings.

SEA GRADUATE PROFILE

Jirayu (Joey) Tulyanond, Thai, SAIS 2000

Jirayu is currently the Deputy Executive Director of the Thailand-U.S. Business Council (www.tusbc.org); the Business Council is dedicated to assisting Thai companies conduct business in the United States in addition to facilitating bi-lateral trade and investment between the two countries. The Business Council is currently involved in the

implementation of Operation Safe Commerce (OSC), a U.S. Government program aimed at increasing security in international supply chains, as well as the formation a Thai FTA Business Coalition to assure the successful completion of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Thailand and the U.S.

Jirayu came to SAIS on a Fulbright Scholarship and completed his summer internship at Thailand’s Democrat Party. In the future, he hopes to become more involved in the field of international trade policy.

While at the Southeast Asia Studies Department Jirayu especially enjoyed the small size of the department, which allowed for close association among professors and students. TUSBC also helps secure internship positions for SAIS students in companies which have membership with the Council. TUSBC members include: Bangkok Bank, the Thai EXIM Bank, Asia Cement and the CP Group.



The more or less Southeast Asian cooks at the international dinner.

Today there are two groups of former SAIS graduates in Southeast Asia, Thailand (contact: Phil Robertson at floppy@loxinfo.co.th) and Indonesia (contact: Andrew Zlot at Andrew.Zlot@ubsw.com). Both groups hold regular gatherings. If you would like to get in contact with former SAIS grads who are in your region, please let us know by sending an email to the department at seasia@mail.jhuwash.jhu.edu. We will try to connect you to the network. Also, please forward the addresses of other alumni/friends who may be interested in the update.

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Professional Careers of Southeast Asia Studies Graduates

We appreciate the responses from all of you who have gotten in touch with us to update your contact information, and let us know what you are doing, and where. For next spring's "*WHERE ARE THEY NOW?*" we hope to get a more complete list of Southeast Asian studies alums. **We therefore kindly ask you to send us the following information:**

1. Name:
2. Email address:
3. Year of graduation:
4. Language when at SAIS:
5. Occupation (after graduation and now):
6. Location:
7. Would you like to be notified when the semi-annual newsletter is posted on the department's web site: Yes/No
8. Would you like to receive information about events in Washington DC: Yes/No
9. Would you agree to the department making your contact information available (by request) to other Southeast Asia alums that might want to contact you? Yes/No
10. Would you agree to being contacted by current Southeast Asia studies students who want to benefit from your experience: Yes/No
11. Please feel free to add any additional information you would like to share with us and your former class mates (married? children? new pets?...)

Please send you information either by email to the address indicated below, or to SAIS Southeast Asian Studies, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 606, Washington, DC 20036, USA. Thank you!