Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Alumni,

The first quarter of 2012 was marked by two highly rewarding collaborative endeavors of international scope. First, our alumni and friends, near and far, joined us with overwhelming support for our first Campaign for Southeast Asia Studies. Thanks to generous contributions from almost 60 individuals, we fully funded two new fellowships and began the task of funding a third. With rising tuition costs and a slow moving economic recovery, these fellowships are vital to sustaining our program. We, along with a very talented student class of 2014, are deeply grateful to all our donors. For anyone who has not yet contributed, please join the Campaign!

Second, our Johns Hopkins colleagues at the Homewood Campus offered us their fulsome support for our initiative to rebuild our long-dormant university relationship with Myanmar. In March, President Ron Daniels led a nine-member team to Myanmar, which included Karl and representatives of the Hopkins schools of medicine, health, nursing and arts and sciences. Earlier this month, President Daniels welcomed a Myanmar delegation led by the Minister of Health and two university rectors. Thanks to the collaborative involvement of our JHU colleagues and the dedication to reform that Hopkins encountered in Myanmar, new opportunities abound for 2012!

We proudly announce the December 2011 graduates:

Jia Han earned an M.A. and continues her studies at UCLA School of Law.

Amy Weiner (Southeast Asia and China Studies) earned an M.A. with high merits, based on an exceptional performance on the capstone oral exam. She begins as an international trade specialist in the Office of China and Mongolia at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Market Access and Compliance.

Thang (Jacky) Ly earned an Master of International Public Policy degree (M.I.P.P.) and has been assigned to the Joint Intelligence Operation Center, under U.S. Pacific Command. He is now the branch chief in the Southeast Asia Division.

Christopher Morgan earned an M.I.P.P. and is now attending the Joint Military Attaché School at Bolling Air Force Base in preparation for his assignment to the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta in June. He will serve as the assistant Army attaché in the Defense Attaché Office.

The Wolfowitz Fellowship Prize

On February 1, Dr. Paul D. Wolfowitz, former ambassador to Indonesia and former dean of SAIS, and Mr. Bruce Schuman (SAIS ’99) joined the students and faculty at the Spring Welcome Lunch to announce that Sean Creehan won the 2012 Wolfowitz Fellowship Prize. Established through the generosity of Mr. Schuman, the prize recognizes the second-year Southeast Asia Studies M.A. student with the highest GPA.

Tial Siang, a Myanmar foreign service officer, earned an M.I.P.P. She continues her studies for a second year at Chung Ang University in Seoul.

Ms. Tial Siang with Professor William Wise

SOUTHEAST ASIA STUDENT NEWS

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FACULTY PROFILE

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Steven Rood who joins Southeast Asia Studies as senior visiting professor to co-teach (with Karl Jackson) Domestic Politics of Southeast Asia: The Philippines and Thailand in spring 2012.

Dr. Rood is The Asia Foundation’s country representative in the Philippines. In his concurrent role as regional advisor for Local Governance, Dr. Rood assists in building local government, decentralization, and municipal government programs throughout the region. He was professor of political science at the University of the Philippines College Baguio from 1981 until joining The Asia Foundation in 1999. He was the only foreign faculty member with tenure in the University of the Philippines system.

Dr. Rood’s recent publications include “Interlocking Autonomy: Manila and Muslim Mindanao” in Autonomy and Armed Separatism: Case Studies from South and Southeast Asia (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, forthcoming); “Forging Sustainable Peace in Mindanao: The Role of Civil Society” (East-West Center, 2005); and “Elections as Complicated and Important Events in the Philippines,” in How Asia Votes (New York: Seven Bridges Press, 2002). Dr. Rood received a B.A. in political science from the University of Washington, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Boston University.

While in Washington, DC, Dr. Rood will be speaking at several forums that include the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace where he will co-speak on “The Philippines, the Economy, the State, and the Elites” on April 27. For Dr. Rood’s blog posts, see http://asiafoundation.org/in-asia/

FACULTY AND VISITING SCHOLARS NEWS

Through the generous support of the MacArthur Foundation, individuals from academia, the legislature, civil society, the business world and retired military and civil servants, from both Myanmar and the U.S., met for the first series of Track 1.5 dialogues in Yangon and NayPyi Taw in early March. This type of outreach from the Government of Myanmar represents a unique opportunity in the fragile warming of U.S.-Myanmar relations. These dialogues were preceded by a December 2011 trip to Myanmar by Professor Karl Jackson and U.S.-Korea Institute Director Jae Ku. A meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi, secretary general of the National League for Democracy, produced the unprecedented opportunity for SAIS students to intern with her this summer. In January 2012 Professor Jackson joined an assessment team led by JHU President Ronald Daniels to Myanmar to explore further collaborative initiatives that address Myanmar’s needs in the fields of public health, medicine, economics, and education.

Senior Visiting Professor Benjamin Reilly (professor of policy and governance, Australian National University). In Jan-Feb. 2012, Professor Reilly was invited to speak at numerous forums including the Foreign Policy Association’s Great Decisions series, where he spoke on “Indonesia: An Unlikely Democracy.” He presented a paper on “Regionalism and Democracy: The Australia-Malaysia Nexus” at the Institute of Malaysian and International Studies-University of New South Wales workshop in Malaysia. His article on “Asia’s Surprising Democratic Renaissance” appears in World Politics Review (March 2012).

Visiting Scholar Catharin Dalpino (former U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state and Brookings fellow). In addition to co-chairing the SAIS Indochina Roundtable, Professor Dalpino serves as the principle investigator for a project on the U.S.-Thailand alliance, organized by the National Bureau of Asian Research. In this capacity, she visited Bangkok in January and will return in March and in June. She teaches at Simmons College in Boston, as the Joan M. Warburg Professor of International Relations.

Visiting Scholar Marvin Ott (SAIS Ph.D. ’71; public policy scholar, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars). In addition to regularly lecturing at the Foreign Service Institute (U.S. Department of State) and the Marine Corps University, Dr. Ott was the lead witness before a blue ribbon panel that was appointed to advise the Chief of Naval Operations regarding strategy in East Asia. His recently published work include “The Emerging Strategic Dynamic in Southeast Asia” (East-West Center, 2012), “Southeast Asian Strategic Challenges” (National Defense University), “Deep Danger: Competing Claims in the South China Sea” (Current History, 2011), and “Southeast Asia’s Strategic Landscape” (SAIS Review of International Affairs, forthcoming).

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SAIS SOUTHEAST ASIA POLICY OUTREACH

SAIS Philippines Roundtable, the principal forum in Washington, D.C. for discussion of Philippine issues and U.S.-Philippines relations, is made possible through the major support of an anonymous donor and additional support of numerous individuals. Chaired by William M. Wise, the Roundtable resumes this spring with a talk by Professor Steven Rood and Tom Parks of The Asia Foundation on the conflict in Mindanao (4.10.2012).

The SAIS Burma Study Group, made possible through a generous grant from Chevron Corporation, the Study Group is co-organized by William M. Wise and David I. Steinberg, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University. The Study Group opened this spring with a talk by Ambassador Derek Mitchell, Special Representative and Policy Coordinator for Burma, on his recent travels to Burma/Myanmar and other capitals in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as his interpretation of recent Burmese government reform initiatives and their meaning for U.S. policy (2.9.2012).

WEDNESDAY LUNCH SEMINAR — FALL 2011

The Wednesday Lunch Seminar—the centerpiece of Southeast Asia Studies’ enrichment and community-building efforts—served as a forum this fall for numerous honored guest speakers.


10.26.2011 Noel M. Morada, executive director, Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, University of Queensland, “Promoting R2P in Southeast Asia: Challenges, Constraints, and Opportunities.”

11.2.2011 Carl Ungerer, program director, National Security Program, Australian Strategic Policy Institute; visiting scholar, Center for Australian & New Zealand Studies, Georgetown University, “Beyond Bin Laden: Terrorist Trends in Southeast Asia.”


Special Film Screening On November 3, Southeast Asia Studies hosted a film screening of Enemies of the People: A Personal Journey into the Heart of the Killing Fields, a film by Rob Lemkin and Thet Sambath. This highly acclaimed film has received numerous awards, including the 2010 Special Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. Co-director Rob Lemkin joined Professor Karl Jackson for a discussion following the film.
Through the support of SAIS Southeast Asia Studies, nine M.A. students received fellowships for intensive language study in Southeast Asia during intersession. In addition to classroom studies, they learned about local historical, religious, artistic, and social traditions. They enjoyed regional cuisines, flora and fauna, and architectural sites. They traversed urban centers of Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City, and Yogyakarta, as well as outlying rural areas. And, they met SAIS alumni, and students and faculty from other programs, who will become long-lasting colleagues and friends.

Thai
(Unity Thai Language School, Bangkok)

Alexis Collatos, Bao-chiu Jing, Elizabeth Posegate Vish, and Andrew Wasuwongse

***

Bahasa Indonesia
(Alam Bahasa Language School, Yogyakarta)

Young Lim Lee, Jennifer Schuch-Page, and Amanda Stek

***

Vietnamese
(University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City)

Nancy Ngo and Adrian Stover
As our most recent M.I.P.P. graduates Thang (Jacky) Ly and Christopher T. Morgan in the U.S. Army Foreign Area Officers (FAO) Program leave SAIS and assume new positions, we sought to find out where their predecessors are now. More than a dozen FAOs received their M.I.P.P.s in Southeast Asia Studies at SAIS. We tracked down a few who told us of their most recent endeavors.

Upon receiving an M.I.P.P. from SAIS, MAJOR GREGORY ROSS (‘09) was assigned to the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group in the Philippines where he served as chief of the Ground Operations Division, and subsequently as the Army and Marine Corps security assistance officer. His upcoming assignment will be as deputy chief and Army program manager at the Office of Defense Cooperation, U.S. Embassy in Singapore. His earlier assignments included commanding an Operational Detachments Alpha in the 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) at Fort Lewis, Washington, and later serving as the 2nd Battalion Plans Officer. Just prior to coming to SAIS, he graduated from the Indonesian Army’s Command and General Staff College (Sekolah Staff dan Komando Angkatan Darat) (2007).

MAJOR ANDREW M. PHALAN (‘06) is the Foreign Area Officers (FAO) proponent manager (Asia) in the Army G-3/5/7. His office oversees the accession of new FAOs, and oversees and teaches the Joint FAO Course (FAO Basic). The office is responsible for establishing policy guidance and FAO career field development as well as compiling and writing the Advanced Civil Schooling approved schools list for FAOs.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MARK S. RILEY (‘03) is the chief of strategy branch in the Strategy and Policy Division (J56) of the Strategy, Planning, and Policy Directorate (J5) at Headquarters, U.S. Pacific Command. He was previously assigned to the Allies and Partners Strategic Focus Group at PACOM. Prior to arriving in Hawaii, LTC Riley served at the U.S. Embassy in Australia as Army programs officer in the Office of Defense Cooperation. This assignment followed his deployment to the Strategic Effects Directorate of Headquarters, Multi-National Forces Iraq. During the height of that surge in coalition efforts, he served as the command’s action-level interface with the United Nations Assistance Mission-Iraq. Prior to Iraq, he served in the International Military Affairs Division of Headquarters, U.S. Army Pacific. He formulated the Army Pacific’s training, actions, and activities with the armies of Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Taiwan.

Since graduating from SAIS, LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES G. MCA DEN (‘00) and his family have served in Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, and at Pacific Command in Honolulu. He is currently the defense attache/security cooperation officer at the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane, Laos. He is the first who has held this position since 1975 when the office re-opened in 2009 and a defense attache was assigned to the Laos embassy in Washington. His small office runs a wide range of security cooperation and education programs with the Lao People's Army (LPA) that includes English language training, medical programs, and professional educational opportunities. They have made significant progress in just a few years toward restoring mutual trust and confidence between the LPA and the United States. LTC McAden is not the only SAISer at the embassy. Tracy Taylor, the embassy political officer, is a SAIS graduate, as well as Klonjit Chandrapanya, who works with the Mekong River Commission.
How to Make a Contribution

If you would like to apply your gift to a specific fund, please let us know. If you have no preference, be assured we will use it to the best advantage.

SEA Alumni & Friends Fellowship
Language Study
Course Trip Fund
Tran Thi Quynh Hoa Fellowship Fund
SEA Policy Outreach Program of your choice

Here is how to make your contribution:

By check:

Make checks payable to: “Johns Hopkins University,” and designate the SEA program of your choice on the “For” line. Please mail to: Southeast Asia Studies, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University 1619 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20036

By credit card:

Credit card contributions can be made through the SAIS website (www.sais-jhu.edu). Select: “Support SAIS” and “Online” under Make a Gift Now. In the form under Gift Information, be sure to select “Other” under Gift Designation and annotate your description with “Southeast Asia Studies” as part of the description.

Thank You!

Karl Jackson and Bill Wise

ALUMNI NEWS

2012 CAMPAIGN FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA STUDIES

We pride ourselves in having a diverse, yet closely-knit alumni/ae network. In this 20th anniversary year of the formal program, we’ve called on that network to help fund three fellowships for Southeast Asia applicants admitted for this fall. As you can see from the adjacent chart, our alumni have responded.

As of publication, 56 alumni have contributed or pledged $34,345. With your help, we met two challenge matches, giving us two new unrestricted fellowships. We’re now nearing the end of admissions season. Our goal is to offer a third two-year, $7,500 per year, fellowship for a promising incoming Southeast Asia concentrator this fall. Tuition has risen to $38,000 per year, the economy is still depressed, and our admitted students need your help. Please help us make this final goal!

ALUMNI AND STUDENT AFTER-HOURS ACTIVITIES

Following graduate studies, Bryan Chan (class 2008) accepted a position at Morgan Stanley (Hong Kong). In 2010, he returned to Singapore to work on Southeast Asian infrastructure and energy finance at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation. He recently climbed to the summit of Mount Kinabalu in Borneo with friends – a more physically challenging endeavor than expected!

On a trip to Myanmar and Singapore, Karl Jackson joined Ulla Rickert Saleh (S’05), Matt Hildebrandt (S’05), and fellow SAISers on the Waterboat House rooftop in Singapore. The Marina Bay skyline served as an inspiring backdrop for a discussion on “Myanmar in Transition?”

If you are interested in joining the Yahoo Group of Southeast Asia Studies alumni, please contact the group at SAIS_SEA_Alumni@yahoogroups.com. An alumni gathering in Washington, D.C. will be held later this summer.

SAIS CHERRY BLOSSOM BALL
Gene Martin came to SAIS after a distinguished Foreign Service career and contributed to our program in many ways. He was a visiting scholar in Southeast Asia Studies, co-chaired the SAIS Philippines Roundtable with me, and taught a course on Minority Politics in Southeast Asia in the fall 2010 semester. He had previously served as the director of the Washington Office of the Johns Hopkins-Nanjing Center in 2008-09. Gene will be remembered at SAIS for his deep appreciation of the peoples of our region, and for his keen intellect, his wonderful spirit, and his warm smile. In the days following his passing, I received many messages of fond remembrance from Gene’s colleagues and students at SAIS, Roundtable members and guest speakers, diplomats near and abroad, and letters to pass on to Gene’s wife Joyce and his family. He was a dear friend, respected colleague, and valued member of our SAIS family. –Bill Wise

Alumni and Friends

We would like to thank you, our alumni and friends, who generously gave to the Southeast Asia Studies fellowship funds during our 2012 campaign. You are helping to bring in the next generation of Southeast Asia students at SAIS.

Almon Fellowship Challenge

Nishaya Manklapruk, 2001
Khanh Phan, 2001

SAIS Fellowship Challenge and Alumni & Friends Fellowship

Alumni

Michael Anderson, 2008
Natsuda Bhukkanasut, 2001
Alvin Carlos, 2004
Bryan Chan, 2008
Fay Piyachatr Chetmakarnkul, 2000
Jeffrey Cranmer, 2001
Christian de Guzman, 2005
Pavis Devahasadin na Ayutaya, 2009
Amanda Douglas, 2003
MeiLee Dozier, 2011
Pichaya Fitts, 2004
Jesse Friedlander, 2002
Sampriti Ganguli, 1999
Ella and Peter Gudwin, 2004
Cambria Hamburg, 2009
Matthew Hildebrandt, 2005
Meghan Houlihan, 2010
Francis Huang, 2002
Joshua Johnson, 2010
Brian Jungwiwattonaporn, 2009
Dany Khy, 2009
Mee Jung Kim, 2011
Jacob Kirkegaard, Ph.D. candidate
*Shari Knoerzer 2002
Jae Ku, 2003
Cheng-Chwee Kuik, 2010
Leo Liebreich, 2008
Amanda Lonsdale, 2006
Angela Vinny Lumanau, 2005
Jeff Meyer, 2010
Meredith Miller, 1999
Gabriel Morris, 2001
Dominic Nguyen, 2010
Tuyen Nguyen, 2006
Alysson Oakley, 2009
Polleak Ok Serei, 2005
Ai Ghee Ong, 2009
Marc Parich, 2005
Thomas Parks, 2006
David Peters, 2002
Thitinan Pongsudhirak, 1993
Edward Rebholz, 2006
Mark Riley, 2002
Rawong Rojvanit, 2001
Kongphanh Savitong, 2010
Bruce Schulman, 1999
Tejal Shah, 2002
Edison Sian, 2004
Chone Sophonpanich, 1997
Mona Strassburger, 2001
Widy Sutiyo, 2004
Madhavi Swamy, 2001
Nancy Tran, 2008
Jennifer Hendrixson White, 2010
Kevin Widlansky, 2005
Justina Wong, 2010
Sindy Yeh, 1993

*Matching contribution from Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold

Friends

Thomas J. Reckford
Steven Rood
U.S.-Korea Institute at SAIS

THANK YOU!

The Southeast Asia Studies Program Newsletter is published online at www.sais-jhu.edu/southeastasia.

Editor: Jacqueline Ganem
Contributing Editor: William M. Wise

Submissions and comments are welcome and should be addressed to the Editor, Southeast Asia Studies, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036; seasia@jhu.edu