

## WORKSHOP ON EMERGING SOUTHEAST ASIA

Monday, October 9, 2017

8:30 a. m. to 4:15 p. m.

Clayton State University - Fayette/Peachtree City (Campus) - Room 118

100 World Drive ▪ Peachtree City, Georgia 30269

**NOTE:** NOT THE MAIN CAMPUS OF CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY IN MORROW, GEORGIA

**NO REGISTRATION FEE:** *To ensure coverage of liability, please ask those attending to get travel approved by their supervisors with zero dollars. We will do a separate travel authorization at the conference for your participants.*

**To participate:** contact Raj Sashti directly on or before **Wednesday, September 27, 2017:**

Raj Sashti

Director, Nine University and College International Studies Consortium of Georgia

Middle Georgia State University ▪ 100 University Parkway ▪ Macon, Georgia 31206

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### Jointly Sponsored by

- Middle Georgia State University
- Northern Illinois University Center for Southeast Asian Studies
- Nine University and College International Studies Consortium of Georgia

This program is jointly sponsored in collaboration with the Northern Illinois University Center for Southeast Asian Studies, a U. S. Department of Education funded Area Studies National Resource Center. We have been able to select an outstanding set of consultants from Northern Illinois University who are dedicated to teaching and learning to serve as experts for the workshop. The workshop will be anchored around the themes of history, culture, politics, resources, infrastructure, challenges and multimedia resources. Consultants whose profiles are included as a part of this email will, based on first-hand study, travel and research experiences, share their insights on the above topics with our faculty members. As a result of participation in the workshop, participating professors will be able to leverage the knowledge and information gained to enrich and enhance the general education and other courses and incorporate more cutting edge information on SE Asia.

### WHY AMERICAN STUDENTS SHOULD LEARN ABOUT EMERGING SOUTHEAST ASIA

Southeast Asia's ten countries have a combined GDP of \$1.9 trillion (bigger than India); a population of almost 600 million people (nearly twice that of the United States); and an average per-capita income near that of China. Over the last decade, the countries have averaged a growth rate of more than 5 percent per year. If Southeast Asia were one country, it would be the world's ninth largest economy. It would also be the most trade-dependent, with a trade-to-GDP ratio in excess of 150 percent, and one of the world's consistently good performers.

In terms of other aspects, the area is thriving economic hub and is one of the least understood regions of the world which receives little no coverage in general education and other undergraduate courses like World History. At first glance, the area - bound by many regional trade and political agreements—seem to make no sense together. Nevertheless, the countries share a strategic location and access to plentiful natural resources. Furthermore, their diversity and increasing integration lie at the heart of the region's rapid and resilient economic growth. Politically, the region provides stability in a part of the world that is rapidly reshaping the global balance of power. As a result, its continued development—which depends on investments in infrastructure and education, as well as improvements in business climate—is important for the rest of the world.

As for its strategic location, Southeast Asia owes its success to geography. The countries sit astride the Malacca Straits, the world's second busiest shipping channel (after the English Channel) and second most popular oil tanker route (after the Straits of Hormuz). Well over half of the world's merchant fleet capacity uses the channel each year, and closing the Straits would be highly disruptive and possibly even catastrophic for world trade.

## PROGRAM

- 8:30 a. m. Welcome and Program Overview  
Raj Sashti, Consortium Director
- 8:40 a. m. Southeast Asia: Past and Present - Colonialism, Nationalism, Historical and Cultural Heritage and Current Events  
Eric Alan Jones, Ph. D.  
Director, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Professor of History,  
Northern Illinois University (NIU), DeKalb, Illinois
- 9:45 a. m. Q & A and Discussion - Participants
- 10:00 a. m. Refreshment Break
- 10:15 a. m. Emerging Southeast Asia  
Thomas Rhoden, Department of Political Science, NIU
- 11:15 a. m. Q & A and Discussion - Participants
- 11:30 a. m. Lunch – University Cafeteria
- 1:00 p. m. U. S. Southeast Asia Relations  
Eric Alan Jones, Ph. D.
- 2:00 p. m. Q & A and Discussion - Participants
- 2:30 p. m. Refreshment Break
- 3:00 p. m. Do's and Don't's for Visitors - Cultural Notes  
Colleen Gray, Director, Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative,  
Outreach Coordinator, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, NIU
- 3:30 p. m. Demonstration of Multimedia Resources for Teaching and Learning About Southeast Asia  
Colleen Gray
- 4:00 p. m. Q & A and Discussion - Participants
- 4:15 p. m. Adjournment

## PROFILES OF CONSULTANTS

Eric Alan Jones, Professor of History & Director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Northern Illinois University (NIU), from the University of California, Berkeley. As a faculty member, in addition to World History and U. S. and Southeast Asia, he teaches most of the undergraduate and graduate courses on nearly every country in Southeast Asia. His focus is on Islam and he has taken students for study abroad in Malaysia. In terms of current research, his first book dealt with female underclass in Southeast Asia. Jones was a Fulbright Scholar in Malaysia and has several major publications to his credit.

<http://www.niu.edu/history/about/faculty/jones.shtml>

Thomas Rhoden, Department of Political Science, NIU, received his Ph. D., from the same school and has an M. B. A. in Global Management from the Thunderbird School of Global Management. His teaching and research interests include Southeast Asian politics, democratization, human rights, and comparative politics. Author of a more than dozen books, he has received several awards and fellowships. In terms of languages he speaks, Burmese, Lao, Thai and German.

<http://niu.edu/polisci/academics/graduate/profiles/rhoden.shtml>

Colleen Gray holds an M. A. in Anthropology with a Graduate Concentration in Southeast Asian Studies and a B. A. with a minor in Southeast Asia. Colleen has conducted field work in Sarawak and has spent several months living Southeast Asia over the past few years. Based on her living and working experience in the region she has a nuanced understanding of the political landscape at the regional and national level. Recipient of four U. S. Department of Education funded Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships for four years, she is fluent in Bahasa Malay and Bahasa Indonesia.