



Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies  
Conseil Canadien des études sur l'Asie du Sud-Est

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## DEAR READERS,

On behalf of the CCSEAS Executive Committee, it is our pleasure to present you with the first issue of the fifteenth volume of our newsletter for Winter 2022. This issue contains a selection of contributions from friends and members of CCSEAS, divided into four parts. First, the **Presidents' column**. Here, our outgoing CCSEAS President, Dr. Leonora C. Angeles (University of British Columbia, UBC), shares her thoughts on the CCSEAS conference hosted (virtually) by UBC in October 2021, followed by a word from our incoming CCSEAS President, Dr. Jean Michaud (Université Laval).

Second, you will find the section **Notes from the field**, where graduate students and faculty members share their fieldwork experiences in Southeast Asia. Colleen Curran (MES, York University) reflects on community interviews conducted in the Philippines regarding peoples' personal experiences of typhoon Ompong. Next, Wendy Medina (York University) shares her thoughts on the challenges that foreigners face in obtaining research permits in Indonesia. This is followed by fieldwork notes from Lynn Ng Yu Ling (University of Victoria) relating to her research on Foreign Domestic Workers in the eldercare sector of Singapore and Taiwan. Finally, Mie Mie Kyaw (University of Mandalay) presents key findings from her study on taxonomic identification based on external characteristics in the Lower Mekong River Basin.

The third section is reserved for **Updates from members**, in which Dr. Shane Barter (Soka University of America) shares his reflections on a CCSEAS conference panel that celebrated the distinguished career of Dr. Diane Mauzy (UBC), a specialist of political science in Southeast Asia. This is followed by the **Announcements** section, where Julia Bentley (York Centre for Asian Research) promotes an upcoming webinar (Spring 2022) focused on the geopolitics of regional connectivity building in Southeast Asia.

We are pleased to introduce to you our new CCSEAS Executive Committee members: President Dr. Jean Michaud (Université Laval), Dr. Jean-François Bissonnette (Université Laval), Dr. Richard Fox (University of Victoria), Dr. Dennis Gupa (University of Winnipeg), Dr. Kai Ostwald (UBC), Dr. Hiên Pham (Université du Québec à Montréal), Simon Bilodeau (Université Laval), Maeve Milligan (University of Victoria), Patrick Slack (McGill University), and Alexandre Veilleux (Université de Montréal). We wish them all the best

Finally, we wish to share with you the most recent picture (see page III) of a longstanding CCSEAS tradition, gracefully kept alive in the Covidian era by our colleagues at UBC!

To all CCSEAS members and friends, we wish you good health, success, and happiness for 2022!

Yours,

**The Editorial Committee**

## CHÈRES LECTRICES, CHERS LECTEURS,

Au nom du comité exécutif du CCEASE, il nous fait plaisir de vous présenter le premier numéro du quinzième volume de notre bulletin pour l'hiver 2022.

Ce numéro contient une sélection de contributions d'amis et de membres du CCEASE, divisée en quatre parties. Premièrement, les **Mots de la présidente sortante et du nouveau président**. Ici, la présidente sortante du CCEASE, la Dre Leonora C. Angeles (University of British Columbia, UBC), partage ses réflexions sur la conférence du CCEASE organisée (virtuellement) par UBC en octobre 2021, suivie d'un mot de notre nouveau président, Dr Jean Michaud (Université Laval).

Deuxièmement, vous trouverez la section **Notes du terrain**, où des étudiant.e.s diplômé.es et des membres du corps professoral partagent leurs expériences de travail sur le terrain en Asie du Sud-Est. Colleen Curran (MES, York University) débute avec des réflexions sur des entretiens communautaires menés aux Philippines, axés autour des expériences personnelles des gens face au typhon Ompong. Wendy Medina (York University) enchaîne avec un partage de ses pensées sur les défis auxquels les étrangers sont confrontés pour obtenir des permis de recherche en Indonésie. Cela est suivi par des notes de Lynn Ng Yu Ling (University of Victoria) concernant sa recherche sur les travailleurs domestiques étrangers dans le secteur des soins aux personnes âgées de Singapour et de Taïwan. Enfin, Mie Mie Kyaw (University of Mandalay) partage les résultats de son étude sur l'identification taxonomique basée sur des caractéristiques externes génétiques des paysages fluviaux dans le bassin inférieur du Mékong.

La troisième section est réservée aux **Nouvelles des membres**, dans laquelle le Dr Shane Barter (Soka University of America) commente un panel de conférence du CCEASE qui a célébré la carrière distinguée de la Dre Diane Mauzy (UBC), spécialiste des sciences politiques en Asie du Sud-Est. Ceci est suivi par la section **Annonces**, où Julia Bentley (York Center for Asian Research) fait la promotion d'un webinaire à venir (printemps 2022) axé sur la géopolitique de la construction de connectivité régionale en Asie du Sud-Est.

Nous avons le plaisir de vous présenter les nouveaux membres du comité exécutif du CCEASE: Dr Jean Michaud (président), Dr Jean-François Bissonnette (Université Laval), Dr Richard Fox (University of Victoria), Dr Dennis Gupa (University of Winnipeg), Dr Kai Ostwald (UBC), Dre Hiên Pham (Université du Québec à Montréal), Simon Bilodeau (Université Laval), Maeve Milligan (University of Victoria), Patrick Slack (McGill University), et Alexandre Veilleux (Université de Montréal). Nous leur souhaitons le meilleur.

Enfin, nous souhaitons partager avec vous la photo la plus récente (voir page III) d'une longue tradition du CCEASE, gracieusement maintenue à l'ère Covidienne par nos collègues de l'UBC !

À tous les membres et amis du CCEASE, nous vous souhaitons bonne santé, succès et bonheur pour 2022!

Vôtre,

**Le comité éditorial**



Top / En haut: Louisa Khoo  
Middle / Au milieu: Nila Utami and Viktoria  
Zlomanova

Bottom / En bas: Gregoire Legault, Kai Ostwald,  
and Constant Courtin  
Behind / En arrière: Salihin Subhan

Photographer/Photographe: Paul Schuler, 2021

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## PRESIDENTS' COLUMN / MOTS DE LA PRÉSIDENTE SORTANTE ET DU NOUVEAU PRÉSIDENT

### From Vancouver,

*Leonora C. Angeles, University of British Columbia*

The 35<sup>th</sup> CCSEAS Biennial Conference hosted by the UBC was a conference like no other in our long history. It was a new milestone set by force of circumstances by the COVID-19 pandemic, the unexpected inspiration behind our conference theme, “People, Power, Politics, Pandemics and Other Perils in Southeast Asia.”

For the first time, CCSEAS was forced to shift to a virtual conference this year. Like the in-person conferences of the past 50 years or so, such academic gatherings provided attendees the opportunity to present research, share questions and answers during Q&A sessions, participate in discussions on current topics, meet new colleagues, and finally (re)establish old and new connections for future collaboration. We did our best to adhere to our traditional CCSEAS principles of pathbreaking and exciting interdisciplinary scholarship, transnational participation of Southeast Asianists around the world, fellowship among participants, and integration of the arts and cultural practices. We had a record submission of paper and panel proposals as well as official conference registrants (337 in total). Our quick tally showed only about half of these regularly showed up at the simultaneous panels and roundtables, something we expected given time zone differences.

The conference was bookended by an opening keynote lecture (Academic Research in Post-coup Myanmar: Challenges in Ethics, Values, Safety, and Best Practices) by Professor Ardeth Maung Thawngmung (University of Massachusetts Lowell), and a closing keynote lecture (The Pandemic as Social Movement in Pericolonial Southeast Asia) by Professor Oona Paredes (University of California, Los Angeles).

Many thanks to the capable members of the Local Organizing Committee, especially our enthusiastic

and indefatigable doctoral students—Salihin Subahan, Constant Courtin, Nila Ayu Utami, Isabel Chew, and Louisa-May Khoo—based at the UBC Centre for Southeast Asian Research, our web designer Anh Nguyen, and the ever-reliable CCSEAS Secretariat duo of Alicia Filipowich and Alex Felipe. With their help, we were able to pull off the four-day conference on 21–24 October without any major technical glitch.

Thanks go to the International Development Research Centre, the University of Victoria's Center for Asia Pacific Initiatives, and the UBC Institute for Asian Research headed by my Conference Co-Chair (Professor Kai Ostwald), the York Centre for Asian Research for their financial and logistical assistance, and our local supporters, the Southeast Asian Cultural Heritage Society, the National Pilipino Canadian Cultural Centre Society, Pinoy Pride Vancouver, and the Philippine Consulate General-Vancouver.

Most of all, we thank all of the dedicated CCSEAS members, conference participants, presenters, roundtable convenors, and panel chairs for your efforts, commitment, enthusiasm, energy, good sense of humour and patience, all of which enabled everything to come together more successfully than we could have ever imagined.

Professor Ostwald and I thank the 2019–21 CCSEAS Executive Committee—Stéphanie Martel (Queen's University), Isabelle Côté (Memorial University of Newfoundland), Antoine Beaulieu (Université Laval), Mallory MacDonnell (York University)—for their commitment to CCSEAS over the years. We are happy to pass on the baton to the new CCSEAS Board led by Professor Jean Michaud of Université Laval, where we hope to see you at the next CCSEAS Conference in 2023.

*Mabuhay!*

## De Vancouver,

*Leonora C. Angeles, University of British Columbia*

La 35<sup>e</sup> conférence bisannuelle du CCEASE organisée par l'UBC était une conférence pas comme les autres dans notre longue histoire. Il s'agissait d'une nouvelle étape franchie par la force des circonstances par la pandémie de COVID-19, l'inspiration inattendue derrière le thème de notre conférence, « Peuples, pouvoir, politique, pandémies et autres périls en Asie du Sud-Est ».

Pour la première fois, le CCEASE a été contraint de passer à une conférence virtuelle cette année. À l'instar des conférences en personne des 50 dernières années environ, ces rassemblements universitaires ont permis aux participant.e.s de présenter des recherches, d'échanger lors de séances de questions-réponses, de participer à des discussions sur des sujets d'actualité, de rencontrer et de revoir des collègues. Nous avons fait de notre mieux pour adhérer aux principes traditionnels du CCEASE, c'est-à-dire d'érudition interdisciplinaire novatrice et passionnante, de participation transnationale d'experts sur l'Asie du Sud-Est du monde entier, de camaraderie entre les participant.e.s et d'intégration des arts et des pratiques culturelles. Nous avons eu un nombre record de propositions d'articles et de panels, ainsi que d'inscriptions officielles à la conférence (337 au total). Notre décompte rapide a montré que seulement environ la moitié de ceux et celles qui étaient inscrites se sont présentées régulièrement aux panels et aux tables rondes simultanés, ce à quoi nous nous attendions compte tenu des différences de fuseau horaire.

La conférence a débuté avec une conférence d'ouverture (*Academic Research in Post-coup Myanmar: Challenges in Ethics, Values, Safety, and Best Practices*) par la professeure Ardeth Maung Thawngmung (University of Massachusetts Lowell), avant de terminer avec un discours de clôture (*The Pandemic as Social Movement in Pericolonial Southeast Asia*) par la professeure Oona Paredes (University of California, Los Angeles).

Un grand merci aux membres compétents du comité organisateur local, en particulier à nos doctorant.e.s enthousiastes et infatigables – Salihin Subahan,

Constant Courtin, Nila Ayu Utami, Isabel Chew, et Louisa-May Khoo – basées au *Centre for Southeast Asian Research* de l'UBC, ainsi qu'à notre concepteur Web, Anh Nguyen, et au duo toujours fiable du secrétariat du CCEASE composé d'Alicia Filipowich et d'Alex Felipe. Avec leur aide, nous avons pu organiser la conférence de quatre jours (21 au 24 octobre) sans aucun problème technique majeur.

Merci au Centre de recherches pour le développement international, au *Center for Asia Pacific Initiatives* de l'Université de Victoria, au *Institute for Asian Research* de l'UBC dirigé par le coprésident de la conférence (le professeur Kai Ostwald), et au *York Centre for Asian Research* pour leur aide financière et logistique, ainsi qu'à nos partenaires locaux, le *Southeast Asian Cultural Heritage Society*, le *National Pilipino Canadian Cultural Centre, Society, Pinoy Pride Vancouver*, et le Consulat général des Philippines à Vancouver.

Surtout, nous remercions tous les membres dévoués du CCEASE, les participant.e.s à la conférence, les présentatrices et présentateurs de communications, les animatrices et animateurs des tables rondes et les président.e.s des panels pour vos efforts, votre engagement, votre enthousiasme, votre énergie, votre bon sens de l'humour et votre patience, qui ont permis à tous de se réunir avec plus de succès que nous n'aurions jamais pu l'imaginer.

Le professeur Ostwald et moi-même remercions le comité 'exécutif du CCEASE 2019-21 – Stéphanie Martel (Queen's University), Isabelle Côté (Memorial University of Newfoundland), Antoine Beaulieu (Université Laval), Mallory MacDonnell (York University) – pour leur engagement envers le CCEASE au fil des ans. Nous sommes heureux de passer le relais au nouveau conseil d'administration du CCEASE dirigé par le professeur Jean Michaud de l'Université Laval, où nous espérons vous voir au prochain congrès du CCEASE en 2023.

*Mabuhay!*

**From Quebec,***Jean Michaud, Université Laval*

Dear CCSEAS members and readers,

It is my privilege to post this message as new president of the CCSEAS for the 2021–23 mandate, which will culminate with the fireworks of the next conference held in person (we surely hope) in the beautiful old town of Québec City.

The new team of 12 (who would have thought!) has met already and is happy to carry on with the excellent work done by the previous committee under the unforgiving duress of the COVID pandemic. Kudos to them!

There are plenty of reasons for the World to keep its eyes on Southeast Asia at the moment, so numerous in fact that even trying to summarize them is impossible. We are intent on staying in touch and participating in the global conversation about all these issues, big and small, notably through this Newsletter and social media. We are most grateful to whoever would like to have relevant material posted, just let us know!

Much like the past two years, the next two may contain a fair amount of the unexpected, so we are keeping ready to react and adjust. We all are in the same boat, so let us work as the dynamic and proactive council we have become since our first conference at the University of Guelph in 1971—that is 50 years ago already!

Stay healthy.

*Jean Michaud***De Québec,***Jean Michaud, Université Laval*

Chères et chers membres du CCEASE,

C'est avec un vif plaisir que je vous écris à titre de nouveau président du CCEASE pour le mandat 2021-23, qui culminera avec le feu d'artifice de la prochaine conférence tenue en personne (c'est notre souhait !) dans le Vieux Québec.

Notre nouvelle équipe compte 12 membres, qui l'aurait cru, et elle s'est déjà réunie. C'est avec bonheur que nous entendons poursuivre l'excellent travail accompli par le comité précédent sous l'épée de Damoclès de la pandémie de COVID. Bravo à elles et eux !

Il existe de nombreuses raisons pour que le Monde garde les yeux sur l'Asie du Sud-Est en ce moment, si nombreuses en fait que même essayer de les résumer serait utopique. Nous avons l'intention de rester en contact et de participer à la conversation mondiale sur toutes ces questions, grandes et petites, notamment à travers ce bulletin et les médias sociaux. Nous sommes très reconnaissants à tous ceux et celles qui souhaiteraient que du matériel pertinent y soit publié, faites-le nous savoir!

Tout comme les deux dernières années, les deux prochaines pourraient réserver une bonne part de surprises, nous restons donc prêts à réagir et nous nous adapterons. Nous sommes tous dans le même bateau, alors travaillons dans la tradition du Conseil dynamique et proactif que nous sommes devenus depuis notre première conférence à l'université de Guelph en 1971 – il y a 50 ans déjà!

Restez en santé.

*Jean Michaud*

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD/NOTES DE TERRAIN

### WALKING INTERVIEWS IN A COASTAL COMMUNITY: REFLECTIONS ON COMMUNITY, TYPHOONS AND PHYSICAL SPACE

**Colleen Curran**

*MES, York University*

This report reflects on community interviews from the Philippines. Walking interviews took place between late 2018 and early 2019 for a total of six months. Community members were asked to share their experience of typhoon Ompong that struck San Juan, Philippines, in the province of La Union, on 15 September 2018. Eight walking interviews with community members were conducted as part of the research. Generally, walking interviews consisted of a community member physically showing me the places that they went and things that they did prior to, during and after the typhoon. Three of these interviews featured community members of coastal neighbourhoods and are shared below.

#### Community member “I”

Prior to the typhoon, Community member “I” reinforced their beachfront stilt house locally known as a *kubo* (Image 1) with thick plastic and tied down their thatch roof. They relocated their surfboards to a safer location and bought food for three days. Along with some friends, they dismantled thatch roofs of beach kubos along the foreshore area to relocate them farther from the shoreline for protection. Surfing schools established these kubos, which are places where surf instructors recruit and provide surf lessons, rent surf boards, and store equipment. The interviewee belongs to the surfing community.

During the storm Community member “I” volunteered with the local government to perform storm surge watch and help people evacuate. They communicated with fellow volunteers and

government officials through a group social media chat.



**Image 1:** A surf *kubo*, San Juan, Philippines. Photo credit: Colleen Curran

#### Community member “J”

The typhoon started with strong winds in the morning, says Community member “J”; a tree fell but did not damage anything. They checked their boat, locally known as a *banca*, just after the storm began. Their *banca* was moved from the shoreline to an adjacent coastal lot that was vacant and covered with trees. The local fishing community and its leader facilitated this space for the interviewee’s *banca* (Image 2).



**Image 2:** The vacant lot sheltering community members’ bancas during typhoon Ompong. Photo credit: Colleen Curran

The group’s bancas were relocated to the vacant lot as well. The rain came at 11 p.m. and the strong winds continued. Community member “J” worked

with eight people, including their brothers, to clear canals in knee-deep water. They used a shovel to push the water and clear debris. Residents gave them money and food for the work.

### Community member “H”

Community member “H” was prepared for the typhoon. They charged their gadgets and stocked food and water. They closed their hotel and went through the storm with one of their workers and harboured 15 cats. During the storm, the bamboo fence of the adjacent hotel fell into the canal; Community member “H” was concerned that the canal would clog (Image 3). Tree branches fell into the canal and damaged the hotel’s roof. They think septage flowed into the canal through the pipes in an adjacent brick wall. After the typhoon, they spent five days cleaning debris from the canal with the help of other community members. At first, the local government would not pick up the debris, but after community member “H” collected the debris into sacks, they paid the municipality PhP 2,000 (C\$50) for them to remove the 50 sacks.



Image 3: The canal. Photo credit: Colleen Curran

### Discussion

Part of community members’ typhoon preparedness activities included relocating materials for their livelihood—thatch *kubo* roofs, surf boards and boats. Space played an important role in protecting livelihoods in these experiences,

particularly empty physical space. The community members negotiated access to this space through social capital, namely, relationships.

The Philippines is a country known for its long history of exposure—and resilience—to natural disasters. Bankoff equates this as “disaster culture” (2015). Through community experiences with typhoons, I am trying to see culture and learn lessons on how communities can better prepare for climate disasters. The two, culture and lessons learned, may seem diverging, but weather-related disasters are local in nature and contextual in understanding.

Looking at the three experiences through a socio-spatial lens, access to physical space was important for two community members to protect livelihoods. Moreover, these experiences provide a caution. If physical space is a crucial factor in protecting livelihoods from a typhoon’s destruction, then coastal erosion, sea-level rise and privatization of coastal areas would create barriers to preparedness. The Philippines offers many lessons for community adaptation—some of these can be articulated through the community members themselves.

### Acknowledgments

This research was supported by the David Wurfel Award for Philippine Studies and the Harold Mahabir Student Award for International Development. Thank you for your support.

### Reference

Bankoff, G. 2015. “Design by disasters: Seismic architecture and cultural adaptation to earthquakes.” . In *Cultures and Disasters: Understanding Cultural Framings in Disaster Risk Reduction*, edited by O. Bankoff and E.L.F. Schipper, 37–52. Abingdon-on-Thames\_\_: Routledge.

## RESEARCH PERMITS FOR FOREIGNERS IN INDONESIA: A BRIEF REFLECTION

**Wendy Medina**

*York University*

Based on Govt. Regulation no. 41/ 2006, all foreign researchers conducting research in Indonesia must apply for a research permit from the Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (*Ristekdikti* is the acronym in Indonesian).<sup>[1]</sup> The research permit is a double-edged sword and has implications for the way foreign researchers frame and conduct fieldwork in the country. The permit can be understood as a tool for the Indonesian Government to exert control on what is studied and how it is studied. However, considering the complexity of the government apparatus in the country at its various levels, the miscommunication within it and the challenges the physical geography of the country poses, this control is far from being total. The permit can also be interpreted as a mechanism for encouraging foreign researchers to give back to the country and to collaborate with Indonesian scholars.

At first sight, this sounds fair. However, “knowledge is power” and the interest in having foreign researchers report back seems to be driven mainly by the relevance it has for the sovereign to keep an eye on its scattered territory and population. For me, obtaining this permit was not only a matter of obeying the rules of a foreign government and acting according to its legal framework, but an ethical decision and a guarantee of my safety as a Latin American woman travelling alone while navigating a patriarchal bureaucratic and cumbersome administrative system at every government level.

There are several steps and government agencies involved in the process of obtaining a research permit. Before travelling to Indonesia, a foreign researcher needs first to complete an online application, which includes uploading various documents, such as a research proposal and a letter

of acceptance from a host Indonesian university that will play the role of the foreign researcher’s sponsor. Once the online application is approved, a research visa C315 is issued and sent to an Indonesian Embassy in the country that the researcher indicates upon application. With this visa, the researcher can proceed to complete the remaining paperwork needed to obtain the research permit and the related Limited Stay Permit (*Izin Tinggal Terbatas*) in Indonesia.

I must confess that obtaining my research permit was long and tedious, and there were structural challenges at its core that sometimes worked in my favour and other times against. My country of origin seems to have helped make the process of getting my online application approved quicker and smoother. Unfortunately, my lack of networks in Indonesia—associated with my lack of opportunities in the past for spending time in the country—appears to have dragged it out.

Given my plans to start field research in early 2019, I started the application process in May 2018; only then did I begin to build networks with professors in Indonesia. A key component of the application for a research permit is a letter of acceptance from an Indonesian university and the support of an Indonesian professor, who acts as a counterpart and who does most of the work to obtain this letter for the foreign researcher. Therefore, networks with professors in the country are relevant for obtaining this letter. As such, my online application did not take long to be approved and, paperwork aside, it was relatively easy to obtain my research visa C315. However, the actual adventure started once I reported myself to the *Ristekdikti* in Jakarta as it was only the first government office to be visited.

When reporting myself to the *Ristekdikti*, in addition to receiving a Research Permit Letter (*Surat Izin Penelitian*) and my Research Permit Card (*Kartu Izin Peneliti Asing*), I was given two cover letters which I later submitted to the National Police and to the Ministry of Home Affairs. I then received a Travelling Permit (*Surat Keterangan Jalan*) from the first letter and a Research Notification Letter (*Surat Pemberitahuan Penelitian*) from the

second one. Afterwards, once arrived at my destination in Gowa district (South Sulawesi province), I reported myself to Gowa's National Unity and Politics Agency (*Badan Kesatuan Bangsa dan Politik Kabupaten Gowa*) and received written approval to conduct research in the proposed subdistrict. I finally handed in this Letter of Approval (*Rekomendasi Penelitian*) to the subdistrict government office (*Kantor Camat*) who gave me another *Rekomendasi Penelitian* authorizing my fieldwork in the villages that I indicated as study sites.

At first glance, all of the paperwork and the administrative process would appear to have flowed smoothly. However, my experience in obtaining my research permit was coloured by delays, mistakes, waiting times, confusion, and things that I was not aware of. I also experienced some nervousness and uncertainty in the process as I was new to the field site that I selected for my research, and I was not sure of how sensitive the subject of my dissertation was for the Indonesian Government. In the end, my permit as a foreign researcher not only enabled me to collect useful information from government offices and private river sand and stone mining companies, but it also gave me the opportunity to interact with the Indonesian Government in the process of getting it. This provided the chance to experience firsthand its heterogeneity, its limitations in overseeing everything that happens within the country, and its intra-institutional disconnections, which sometimes were favourable for me and at other times made the process more complicated.

The process I went through to obtain my research permit and to do my fieldwork by sticking to the rules for foreign researchers in Indonesia has highlighted how administrative procedures, such as the one detailed in this text, are constituent parts of both our research processes and the research outcomes that we produce. As ordinary and even dull as they may seem, it is important to consider these administrative procedures as part of our research processes and identify the ways in which they shape our access to information, our interactions with participants, and our position in relation to the context we study.

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<sup>[1]</sup> My experience in obtaining a research permit is specific to late 2018 to early 2019. The process may have changed within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and as a result of the former Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education merging with the Ministry of Education and Culture to form the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology in 2021.

### Acknowledgements

My fieldwork in Gowa district (South Sulawesi province, Indonesia) in 2019 was supported by the Penny & John Van Esterik Award for Graduate Research on Southeast Asia (2019) as well as by York University's 2019 Fieldwork Cost Fund. Language training in Indonesia in 2019 was supported by a YCAR Language Award (2020).

## FIELDWORK NOTES FROM SINGAPORE: STORIES OF FOREIGN DOMESTIC WORKERS

**Lynn Ng Yu Ling**

*University of Victoria*

My PhD project is a comparative study of the eldercare sector in Singapore and Taiwan, where live-in Foreign Domestic Workers (FDWs)—“maids” in local parlance—have become the de facto caregivers for the elderly (Yeoh & Huang, 2009).

Since May 2021, I have been based in my home country of Singapore to conduct interviews with key informants in the eldercare sector while I plan to travel to Taiwan for a research trip during the first half of 2022. Since the current regulations do not allow non-family members to visit nursing homes, my informant groups have been adjusted to fit COVID-19 circumstances: FDWs, domestic employers, unpaid caregivers, non-government organizations’ (NGO) staff, leaders of community care collectives or eldercare organizations, and managers of FDW placement agencies. My fieldwork notes outline the main takeaways from interviews with seven FDWs and two domestic employers, all women. I focus on what my informants recommend to eldercare stakeholders to improve the quality of in-home caregiving, starting from better labour practices for FDWs.

### **Stories of domestic workers caring for the elderly under lockdown**

As seen from the Singapore government’s Ministry of Manpower official website, FDWs are a female-only sector (MOM, 2022). The body of existing literature on FDWs in Asia is generally assumed to refer to “women” unless otherwise specified, given that labour-receiving destinations have gender criteria. Seven of the nine interviews were conducted virtually through WhatsApp or Zoom, while two, one domestic employer and one FDW, were conducted in person. I analyzed the interview transcripts by treating them as sources themselves for grounded coding. The themes that I identified revolve around my informants’ narratives, while I

draw on the relevant online and scholarly sources where relevant to make sense of these findings. The key suggestions outlined below are based on the concerns and pressing issues in care work identified by informants when asked whether they had anything else to say beyond care delivery.

### **If I am going to write about our interview, what do you want to say?**

The first suggestion was that one rest day per week (continuous 24 hours) be made a legal requirement. Although a new weekly day off policy was implemented in 2013, its enforcement remains up to the discretion of private placement agencies, many of which require trainees to accept few to zero days off as per employer demand (Schumann & Paul, 2019). Domestic employers are also given the option to offer compensation (typically C\$15–20 a day) in exchange for a day off, which FDWs may find hard to reject. Even when granted a day off, it is common for FDWs to have to do their cleaning duties in the early hours of the morning before leaving the house for a few hours, then returning by evening to prepare dinner for their employers. As some of my informants mentioned, this was not a day off, but more of a break time.

FDWs were keenly aware of informal loopholes in private agency contracts that allow employers to wield an absolute bargaining power (Devasahayam, 2010). They emphasized that increasing employer education and understanding of good hiring practices is key to respecting their employees as fellow human beings with their own needs. Having rest days are essential for the psychological wellbeing of caregivers considering the mentally exhausting nature of eldercare. One informant mentioned the recent Ministry of Manpower (MOM) home visit initiative (government officials partnering with NGO case workers to check in on individual households), a welcome move to be consolidated further (Menon, 2021).

The second suggestion was for more employer support and understanding for FDWs to attend care training courses, as this benefits both the caregiver and the client. A few informants pointed out the lack of adequate care training provided prior to their deployment. Many realized only upon commencing employment that they were not

equipped with either the hard aspects (caregiving technicalities) or the soft aspects (maintaining a calm composure) required to comfortably handle their elderly clients (Tan, 2021).



**Image 1:** Indonesia Family Network (IFN) Support Group Singapore members participating in a choir activity. Weekly rest days are fundamental for FDWs to destress and unwind outside their workplace. *Photo provided by an informant via WhatsApp, with their consent of usage for a public website.*

About half of the interviewed FDWs mentioned that having the flexibility to receive skills training during the day (which many employers are reluctant to allow) would help with handling unexpected incidents like falls and minor injuries. Notably, the ability to maintain a calm composure and react efficiently was an area that many wanted more practice in. In three cases, FDWs were unable to attend these skills classes freely because employers did not see the real need and were unwilling to make flexible time arrangements given that the courses run during the day.

FDWs also identified unethical agency practices as an obstacle to their aspirations of caregiver professionalism. It was common to hear about agencies downright dismissing the training component for care work (despite hefty placement fees paid to them), such that my informants found themselves poorly equipped to handle their elderly ward's needs. In their view, governments of labour exporting and importing countries need stronger cooperation between them to crack down on this situation of normalized breaches.

The third suggestion was to increase the availability and accessibility of community advisory/counselling networks for FDWs. One informant, who carries psychological trauma,

recalls that during the first two months in their first employing household, "I really got depression, ya really depression." Although they have since had numerous good employment experiences, they said that it is common for newcomer FDWs to be in abusive or exploitative situations, and special attention is needed to check in on new FDWs in the early stages of employment. Additionally, increasing counselling services for FDWs would go a long way for those who previously experienced abuse as a caregiver to settle into new employing households. The same informant notes that while the Singaporean caregiver community has a considerable network of online communities and support groups in the heartland centres, the FDW community does not have a comparable one.



**Image 2:** Many informants wished to attend skills courses for personal enrichment and career upgrading, with a good number using their off days to attend community classes. *Photo provided by an informant via WhatsApp, with their consent of usage for a public website.*

### Domestic employers on their hiring decisions and caregiving dilemmas

I connected with a domestic employer virtually through a Facebook group and was able to conduct an interview via Zoom. An additional interview with a second domestic employer was aligned through my personal network. The interview questions followed those asked to FDWs but

adjusted for an employer perspective to include things like the factors at stake when deciding to hire FDWs for eldercare and how they perceived their caregiving role. Two themes stood out that point to important linkages between state family planning policy and the guest worker regime.

Both informants acknowledged that for the typical middle-class Singaporean household with both elderly and young dependents to care for, hiring FDWs is the most economical “All-in-One” solution (Ortiga, Wee & Yeoh, 2020). Institutional care options are not only more expensive, easily exceeding S\$1000 (C\$924) per month, but also do not offer continuous care service unlike a trained FDW, who can be on 24/7 standby in the home.

Furthermore, FDWs are not included in national labour laws, hardly an exception in the international migration landscape as most countries around the world have given this workforce “special treatment” (UNIFEM Singapore, HOME & TWC2, 2011, 23). In Singapore, how much FDWs are paid is governed informally by unwritten understandings of market norms and the charitable goodwill of individual employers. In most cases, this hovers around the S\$500 (C\$464) and upwards, depending on their job scope. The realization by Singaporean employers that “sometimes we have no choice” pointed to a general lack of support for those trying to balance the demands of paid employment and caregiving duties, finding that forgoing paid employment altogether is not an option when “the cost of living is very high.”

The above said, both informants were cognizant of the similarities in lifestyle-circumstances between themselves and FDWs as well as the importance of being a supportive employer whenever possible. Moments of mutual understanding and the forging of interpersonal relations emerge when my informants cited the “rat race” style of domestic competition among the Singaporean workforce, which forces most adult workers to outsource caregiving work, a situation that FDWs also face as primary income earners.

## Everyday anxieties during COVID-19

As a graduate student researcher whose fieldwork plans were interrupted by the pandemic, I soon realized that my fieldwork anxieties could hardly compare to that of my FDW informants and the elderly population in particular. Indeed, I have been relatively lucky to have had a good number of enthusiastic informants respond to my calls for interview requests amidst their own growing uncertainty.

Since the onset of the pandemic, local NGOs have reported a dramatic spike in abuse and runaway cases among FDWs (*The Star*, 2021). This increase is evidence of their heightened vulnerabilities during lockdown, as many no longer enjoy days off and are subject to additional accumulated stresses in the employing household as the population transitions to work-from-home arrangements (Ang & Co, 2021).

One domestic employer informant described in detail their justification for suggesting a minimum wage standard for FDWs (to date, not legally granted), given that their live-in employment scenario entails an absence of work and personal life. About this “home equals work” circumstance, the informant likened it to living in the office with their boss day in and day out, something that they “really cannot imagine.”

The elderly population in Singapore is likewise facing newfound insecurities with an escalation of already existing digital divides that affect their accessibility of pandemic-related resources and publicly disseminated information. Those aged 60 and above continue to account for a disproportionate number of COVID-19 deaths even as the national vaccination rates stand at well above 80 percent, given that health complications later in life may override vaccination immunity (Aravindan, 2021). Senior citizens who are digitally illiterate and not used to everyday usage of smartphone applications require additional assistance from community volunteers and social workers to ensure their basic needs are met during lockdown.

As FDWs are confined with the elderly, it is important for Singaporean society to increase

policy supports that emphasize the caregiver wellbeing and mental health of FDWs (Hagar Singapore 2021). The current zeitgeist of social activism points to an uptick in public awareness of the devaluation of care work on the part of FDWs, signalling a cause for optimism toward the caregiving landscape going into the near future.

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## RIVERSCAPE GENETICS TO INFORM NATURAL HISTORY OF EXPLOITED FISHES IN THE LOWER MEKONG RIVER BASIN: AT THE MYANMAR SEGMENT OF THE MEKONG RIVER, MYANMAR

**Mie Mie Kyaw**

*University of Mandalay*

### Study Area

Our study area is located along the Mekong River (Image 1), in the vicinity of Wan-Pon village, Mine-Phone area, Tachileik region, Eastern Shan state, Myanmar. The study site is situated in the area known as the “Golden Triangle” (Image 1), where the borders of Lao PDR, Thailand, and Myanmar meet (Latitude–20°21'8.39"N, Longitude–100° 5'5.94"E).



**Image 1:** Surveying along the Mekong River. *Photo provided by Mie Mie Kyaw.*

### Research Problem

Some target Mekong fish species were not found in the Myanmar sector of the Mekong River during surveys conducted from 2018 to 2019. All of these target fish species are commonly found in other Mekong countries (Thailand, Lao PDR,

Cambodia, and Vietnam). Twenty common Mekong River fish species are examined in this study (Table 1). Of these, nine were not accounted for during our sample collection.

### Research Question

What explains the absence of some target Mekong fish species in the Myanmar sector of the Mekong River; environmental factors or anthropological factors?

### Study Methods

Sample collection: Target fish species were directly collected, seasonally, from local fishermen (Image 2 and 3) and local markets in the study area.



**Image 2:** Discussion with a local fisherman. *Photo provided by Mie Mie Kyaw.*

Species were identified using morphological characters with reference to *Fishes of Laos* by Maurice Kottelat and *The Identification Fish Photographic Guide for Observation Field Survey in the Lower Mekong Basin* authored by Chaiwut Grudpan. Studies by Talwar and Jhingran (1991), Jarayam (2013) and Fish Base Software (2013) were used as additional references. The main morphological characters examined were body shape and depth, fin colour, type of scales, number of spines and soft rays on dorsal/anal/ventral/pectoral/caudal fins (e.g., total dorsal spines, total dorsal soft rays, total anal spines, total anal soft rays).

Water quality was assessed using physio-chemical indicators. Indicators monitored include pH

(scale), colour (units), turbidity (N.T.U), and conductivity (micromhos/cm). Chemical analyses (calcium, total hardness ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ), magnesium, chloride, total alkalinity, total iron, manganese, sulphate) were additionally completed and compared with World Health Organization standards at the Laboratory of Water and Sanitation Department, Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC) within 24 hours.

### Fish Consumption

The rate of freshwater fish consumption by locals in the study area is high because of a preference toward natural freshwater fish (Image 3) over cultivated or imported fish from Thailand.



**Image 3:** Fish caught from the Mekong River. Photo provided by Mie Mie Kyan.

### Absence of fish species

The absence of the nine select fish species may be due to anthropogenic and environmental barriers. There are many hydropower dams constructed upstream of the Mekong River (Myanmar sector). The portion of the river in China also includes several large dams. The development of hydropower projects and associated activities may pose barriers and challenges for fish routes. The water quality in the Myanmar sector of the Mekong River is in good condition according to our sampling, therefore fish survival within this habitat should not be an issue.

**Table 1:** List of the targeted sample of fish species of the Mekong River (Myanmar sector), scientific name and English name (when possible)

<i>Hemibagrus spilopterus</i>	<i>Trichopodus trichopterus</i> (Blue gourami, Three-spot gourami)	* <i>Pangasius conchophilus</i> (Shark catfish)
<i>Macrognathus siamensis</i> (Peacock eel, Peacock spiny eel)	* <i>Pangasius macronema</i>	* <i>Pangasius krempfi</i>
* <i>Pangasius larnaudi</i> (Black Ear Pangasius, Black Ear Catfish)	<i>Labeo chrysophekadion</i> (Black sharkminnow)	<i>Puntius falcatus</i>
<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i> (Indian butter catfish)	* <i>Helicophagus leptorhynchus</i>	<i>Henicorhynchus lobatus</i>
<i>Henicorhynchus siamensis</i> (Siamese mud carp)	<i>Scaphognathops bandanensis</i> (Bandan sharp-mouth barb)	* <i>Botia modesta</i> / <i>Yasubikotakia modesta</i> (Blue botia)
* <i>Botia lecontei</i> / <i>Yasubikotakia lecontei</i> (Silver loach, Red-finned Loach)	<i>Osteochilus vittatus</i> (Hard-lipped barb, Bonylip barb, Silver sharkminnow)	* <i>Pangasius pleurotaenia</i>
<i>Mekongina erythropsila</i>	* <i>Probarbus jullieni</i> (Jullien's golden carp, Seven-striped barb)	

**Note:** An asterisk (\*) indicates that there was no record of the species being caught or seen during data collection.

### Acknowledgements

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(Cambodia), Living Aquatic Resources Research Center (LARReC) Laos, The Ubon Ratchathani University (Thailand), and the University of Mandalay (Myanmar). Additionally, researchers from Old Dominion University and the Smithsonian Institution. Finally, special thanks are reserved to local indigenous ethnic communities at Wan-Pon village (Mine-Pone area (A), Eastern Shan state, Myanmar) for their extensive help during fieldwork.

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## UPDATES FROM MEMBERS/NOUVELLES DES MEMBRES

### A FRUITFUL UNION OF FACT AND THEORY: DIANE MAUZY ON POLITICAL SCIENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

**Shane Barter**

*Soka University of America*

Of the many highlights at the 2021 CCSEAS meeting was a festschrift celebrating the research and mentorship of Dr. Diane Mauzy. The panel featured reflections from longtime colleagues and former students, including Brian Job, Peter Dauvergne, John Funston, Trevor Preston and Nathan Allen as well as several kind wishes sent from around the world and an in-person audience of UBC luminaries (and a wonderful follow-up Malaysian dinner!). It was not intended as a roast, although we shared funny stories. Nor was it intended to inventory the many examples of Diane's mentorship, although they certainly came out. Instead, the panel focused on Diane Mauzy's approach to politics in Southeast Asia. A middle ground between universalizing social science and multidisciplinary area studies, Diane's legacy entails a Political Science grounded in Southeast Asia, resulting in a "fruitful union of fact and theory."

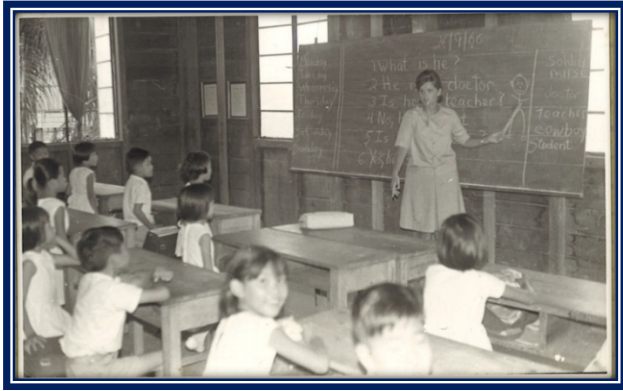
Like many scholars whose work analyzes specific regions, Diane's career began with firsthand experiences. In the early 1960s, Diane attended what was then San Jose State College to study journalism, contributing to the student newspaper, the *Daily Spartan*. Combing through its archives, her many articles include a tribute to President John F. Kennedy, reflections on a San Francisco 49ers victory, and the potential for Peace Corps volunteers in Southeast Asia. San Jose State College was an early centre of Peace Corps recruitment, specifically for Malaysian Borneo,

Completing her undergraduate studies, Ms. Mauzy arrived in Sabah in 1964. Diane would work

aided by a college alumna who had returned home to Sabah's Department of Education in the twilight of British rule. With Sabah joining an independent Malaysia, the first batches of American volunteers arrived in late 1963.

Sandakan for three years, including two teaching Chinese students at the Chi Hwa School (Image 1) and then one with the Department of Education to establish schools for upriver communities. During this time, she made many local friends, participated in school and cultural events, and explored Sabah. Diane then returned to California for Master's studies at San Jose State, mentored by a young female professor with considerable field experience in Southeast Asia, Dr. Lela Garner Noble. After completing her MA in 1971, Diane continued to the University of British Columbia (UBC) for doctoral studies. This included two years of fieldwork, featuring interviews with several contemporary and future Malaysian leaders. Her dissertation, "Consociationalism and Coalition Politics in Malaysia", locates Malaysia in the context of consociational theories of ethnic politics and party coalitions. Diane's research previews later work on electoral authoritarianism, asking how much democracy Malaysian politics can withstand as well as how Malay leaders might use the threat of violence to maintain order alongside party politics.

Her dissertation defended, Dr. Mauzy became the first female faculty member in UBC's Department of Political Science. Diane, in partnership with Dr. Stephen Milne, would author foundational studies of politics in Malaysia and Singapore, including seven books and dozens of articles and chapters. She also chaired the Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Study Group for the Association of Asian Studies as well as served as CCSEAS President from 1994–96.



**Image 1:** Diane Mauzy teaching English at Sandakan's Chi Hwa School, 1966. *Photo provided by Sane Barter.*

While familiar with several Southeast Asian countries, Diane's research is mostly single case, providing depth to unravel political currents to understand national dynamics. For example, *Singapore: The Legacy of Lee Kwan Yew* explains the country's impressive development largely in terms of the People's Action Party and Lee Kwan Yew's and distinctive benevolent authoritarianism. Writing on the eve of Lee stepping down as Prime Minister, it explores what it will take for the system to survive its architect.

For decades, Diane taught undergraduate and graduate students at UBC, pushing them to know and respect Southeast Asia. Her trademark course was Poli 324, a seminar on politics in Southeast Asia, still offered today by another gifted teacher. Diane taught graduate courses related to ethnic politics and conflict, serving as committee member or chair of dozens of MA thesis and doctoral dissertations. The value of her close mentorship is reflected in the acknowledgements of her students' work. For me, Diane has been an intimidating critic and caring mentor, guiding me to a Political Science that is mindful of context.

As noted in the introduction, Diane Mauzy's approach represents "a fruitful union of fact and theory." Plucked from Diane's dissertation, this quote is from Dr. Stephen Milne, who argues that country specialists must move beyond "the mere enumeration of facts" to be useful, but so too must we resist "the spinning of logical webs, unrelated to fact." The balance between grounded facts and generalizing theory drives more accurate, policy-relevant and conceptually innovative work that is respectful of place. This very much characterizes Diane Mauzy's work—we appreciate the opportunity to thank her for it!



**Image 2:** Trevor Preston, Diane Mauzy, and Shane Barter at CCSEAS, 2021. *Photo provided by Sane Barter.*

### Acknowledgements

Thank you to the CCSEAS organizers, UBC's Department of Political Science, and the panel participants for their work and support.

## ANNOUNCEMENT/ANNONCE

### Julia Bentley

*York Centre for Asian Research*

Are you interested in issues related to regional integration and the geopolitics of infrastructure connectivity in Southeast Asia? A forthcoming webinar offers a Southeast Asian perspective on smaller state external policy and elite legitimization, and why Southeast Asia matters in relation to Chinese foreign policy and Asian security.

On 5 April 2022, Professor Cheng-Chwee Kuik of the National University of Malaysia will give a talk at the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) on the geopolitics of regional connectivity building in Southeast Asia. It will cover (a) why connectivity cooperation is not only about big-power pushes, but also small-state pulls; (b) how the connectivity-building process is reflective of the features of the “multiplex world,” and (c) to what extent and in what way host-country agency is a function of internal resilience and external alternatives.

Cheng-Chwee Kuik will be joined by Lynette Ong (University of Toronto) and Amitav Acharya (American University). Professor Acharya taught in the department of political science at York University from 1993 to 2000 and was an active member of the York Centre for International and Security Studies and the University of Toronto-York University Joint Center for Asia Pacific Studies. Dr. Acharya will draw on his long-standing work on regionalism in Southeast Asia. Dr. Ong, a political scientist, will provide a political economy analysis of infrastructure development in authoritarian contexts, with a focus on how elite contestation and mass resentment surrounding China-backed projects played out in Malaysia's historic 2018 election.

Professor Kuik is head of the Centre for Asian Studies at the Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS) at the National University of Malaysia (UKM). He is also a non-resident fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced

International Studies. He has held consultant positions with Oxford, the Council of Foreign Relations, Asian Development Bank and the Malaysian government.

Dr Kuik's most recent book is *Rivers of Iron: Railroads and Chinese Power in Southeast Asia* (2020), co-authored with David M. Lampton and Selina Ho. He is also co-editor, with Alice Ba and Sueo Sudo, of *Institutionalizing East Asia* (2016). His publications on small-state hedging, Southeast Asian international relations and Asian security have appeared in peer-reviewed journals and edited books. He was guest editor of a special issue of *Asian Perspective* in spring 2021, “Southeast Asian Responses to China's Belt and Road Initiative.”

Lynette H. Ong teaches at the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. Her research sits at the intersection of authoritarianism, contentious politics and the political economy of development. She is an expert on China and Southeast Asia, particularly Singapore and Malaysia. She has held visiting fellowships at Harvard University, Peking and Fudan Universities in China. She frequently provides policy advice to the Canadian and other governments on engagement with China.

She is the author of *Outsourcing Repression: Everyday State Power in Contemporary China* (forthcoming in 2022) and *The Street and the Ballot Box: Interactions between Social Movements and Electoral Politics in Authoritarian Contexts* (forthcoming). Her publications have appeared in *Perspectives on Politics*, *Journal of Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Contemporary Asia and Foreign Affairs*. She is also the author of *Prosper or Perish: Credit and Fiscal Systems in Rural China* (2012).

Amitav Acharya is a Distinguished Professor of International Relations at American University in Washington D.C. and holds the UNESCO Chair of Transnational Challenges and Governance. His work on global international relations theory highlights concepts of world order from the non-

Western world to counterbalance the dominating influence of European history. Professor Acharya's work has been influential in shaping policy on Asian regionalism and human security.

Prof. Acharya's recent books include *The Making of Global International Relations* (2019), *Constructing Global Order* (2018) and *The End of American World Order*, 2nd edition (2018). His expertise on regional security, ASEAN and Southeast Asia is reflected in publications such as *The Quest for Identity: International Relations of Southeast Asia* (2000), *Constructing a Security Community in Southeast Asia; ASEAN and the Problem of Regional Order* (2001) and *East of India, South of China: Sino-Indian Encounters in Southeast Asia* (2017).

*The organization of this webinar is initiated in my capacity as an external research associate at YCAR. My research interests include Malaysia and China's Belt and Road Initiative and Canada's engagement in Southeast Asia and Asia more broadly. The webinar is part of YCAR's Canada, ASEAN and the Indo-Pacific speaker series, which was launched with "Canada and ASEAN: Trade Diversification in the Indo-Pacific" in November 2021. For more information or to register, visit <https://ycar.apps01.yorku.ca/event/regional-connectivity-building-southeast-asia-05042022/>.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/REMERCIEMENTS

Editors

**Antoine Beaulieu** (Université Laval) and **Mallory MacDonnell** (York University)

The CCSEAS Newsletter is the result of combined efforts by individuals of different backgrounds who share a passion for research in Southeast Asia, one of the world's most dynamic regions.

As editors, we wish to convey our genuine appreciation to all six contributors of this edition of the Newsletter for sharing their views and experiences of research in Southeast Asia with the CCSEAS community. We also wish to express our sincere gratitude to outgoing CCSEAS President, Leonora C. Angeles (2019–21), and incoming President Jean Michaud (2021–23) for their respective words of welcome.

While we leave the Newsletter in the excellent hands of the new editorial team, we sincerely hope that we can continue counting on the CCSEAS community to contribute to future editions of the Newsletter.

Thank you, and please stay healthy!

*A dedicated editorial team of graduate students throughout Canada edit the biannual CCSEAS newsletters. Submissions, in French and English, are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Get in touch with us at [ccseas@yorku.ca](mailto:ccseas@yorku.ca).*

*If you are aware of events or other activities that other CCSEAS members may be interested in, please share this information with us at [ccseas@yorku.ca](mailto:ccseas@yorku.ca).*

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Le bulletin du CCEASE est le résultat des efforts conjugués de personnes d'horizons différents qui partagent une passion pour la recherche en Asie du Sud-Est, l'une des régions les plus dynamiques du monde.

Nous souhaitons exprimer notre sincère appréciation aux contributrices et contributeurs de cette édition du bulletin d'information pour avoir partagé leurs points de vue et leurs expériences de recherche en Asie du Sud-Est avec la communauté du CCEASE. Nous souhaitons également exprimer notre sincère reconnaissance à la présidente sortante du CCEASE, Leonora C. Angeles (2019-21), et au nouveau président Jean Michaud (2021-23) pour leurs mots de bienvenue respectifs.

Alors que nous laissons le bulletin entre les excellentes mains de la nouvelle équipe éditoriale, nous espérons sincèrement que nous pourrions continuer à compter sur la communauté du CCEASE pour contribuer aux prochaines éditions du bulletin.

Merci et restez en bonne santé !

*Une équipe éditoriale dévouée d'étudiants diplômés de partout au Canada édite les bulletins semestriels du CCEASE. Les soumissions, en français et en anglais, sont acceptées et examinées au fur et à mesure. Contactez-nous à [ccseas@yorku.ca](mailto:ccseas@yorku.ca).*

*Si vous êtes au courant d'événements ou d'autres activités qui pourraient intéresser d'autres membres du CCEASE, veuillez partager cette information avec nous à [ccseas@yorku.ca](mailto:ccseas@yorku.ca).*