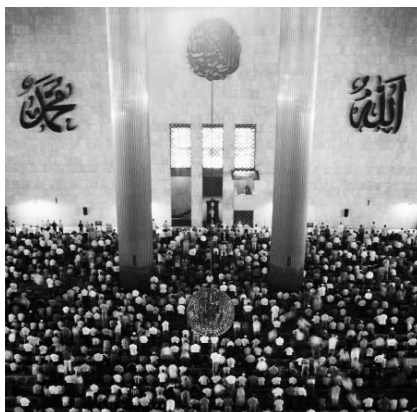


SOUTHEAST ASIA FORUM



SOUTHEAST ASIA IS AN ECONOMICALLY VIBRANT, POLITICALLY VARIED REGION OF HALF A BILLION PEOPLE IN TEN COUNTRIES: BRUNEI, CAMBODIA, INDONESIA, LAOS, MALAYSIA, MYANMAR, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, THAILAND, AND VIETNAM. **THE SOUTHEAST ASIA FORUM (SEAF)** IN THE WALTER H. SHORENSTEIN ASIA-PACIFIC RESEARCH CENTER IS THE ONLY UNIVERSITY-BASED PROGRAM IN THE UNITED STATES DEDICATED TO RESEARCHING CONTEMPORARY, POLICY-RELEVANT SOUTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS. ITS LOCATION AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY AFFORDS EASIER INTERACTION WITH SCHOLARS AND INSTITUTIONS IN ASIA, WHILE ITS DISTANCE FROM WASHINGTON DC ENCOURAGES BROAD, NONPARTISAN CONSIDERATION OF KEY ISSUES.



“The Southeast Asia Forum seeks to bring Southeast Asia to Stanford, and Stanford to Southeast Asia.”

DONALD K. EMMERSON, DIRECTOR, SEAF

Southeast Asia is an economically vibrant, politically varied region of half a billion people in ten countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The Southeast Asia Forum (SEAF) in the Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center (Shorenstein APARC) is uniquely focused and placed to study this region. It is the only university-based program in the United States dedicated to researching contemporary, policy-relevant Southeast Asian affairs. Its location at Stanford University, on the Pacific Rim, affords easier interaction with scholars and institutions in Asia, while its distance from Washington DC encourages broad, nonpartisan consideration of key issues.

RECENT AND PLANNED PROJECTS

STRATEGIC SINGAPORE Singapore’s location between mainland and island Southeast Asia—and the concentration of area experts in its universities and think tanks—make

The Southeast Asia Forum (SEAF) seeks to:

- undertake and encourage innovative research on Southeast Asian issues and conditions;
- stimulate fresh perspectives on the policy implications of regional events and trends;
- create opportunities for scholars and other professionals with Southeast Asian expertise to discuss and refine their ideas;
- help Stanford University students learn more about Southeast Asia; and thus
- bring Southeast Asia to Stanford and Stanford to Southeast Asia.

the city-state a natural intellectual gateway into the region. Jointly with the National University of Singapore, SEAF is planning a shared distinguished visitorship on contemporary Southeast Asia, open to qualified candidates from any country. SEAF seeks to raise a major endowment for the position, and for related activities such as international workshops, traveling seminars, and scholarly publication.

TRANSITIONAL INDONESIA Indonesia has become the largest Muslim-majority democracy in the world, but poverty, corruption, and terrorism still jeopardize its escape from authoritarian rule. SEAF co-sponsored a National Commission on U.S.-Indonesian Relations to suggest ways to help Indonesia consolidate its democratic transition. Congressional hearings were held, and a key recommendation for aid to education is being implemented. Plans are under way for interaction between American, Indonesian, and other Asian scholars and policymakers on topics of mutual interest.

ASIAN REGIONALISM All of the region's ten countries belong to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which will celebrate its 40th anniversary in August 2007. The ASEAN Secretariat has agreed to assist SEAF in planning an international conference on Asian regionalism—its achievements, shortcomings, and prospects—including the roles of China, Japan, India, and the United States.

EUROPEAN LINKAGES Southeast Asianist scholars in Europe and the United States have much to share but few occasions to do so. SEAF is exploring a pilot project with French counterparts to enable young European scholars with Southeast Asian expertise to exchange views and findings with their American colleagues.

PUBLICATIONS AND OUTREACH

SEAF is preparing a book manuscript on the scholarly and policy implications of the words used to describe acts of violence committed, in Southeast Asia and elsewhere,

in the name of Islam. A second SEAF book, on the sometimes troubled relations between Southeast Asian studies and American political science, is forthcoming from Stanford University Press. The Stanley Foundation recently published the recommendations of a conference that SEAF hosted on U.S. policies toward Southeast Asian regionalism.

SEAF sponsors the burgeoning Southeast Asian Leadership Network, launched by Stanford students, which brings computers and educational software to needy secondary schools in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand. SEAF also works with the Malaysia Forum—an independent but

SEAF-inspired organization of Malaysians—that convenes meetings at Stanford and elsewhere on contemporary issues in that country.

Throughout the academic year, SEAF invites experts and practitioners from around the world to come to Stanford to share their thinking and writing on Southeast Asia. SEAF's director lectures frequently, gives media interviews, travels to and in Southeast Asia, writes widely for general and scholarly publication, and teaches courses on the region. These courses include a three-week overseas seminar, conducted in Singapore, for selected Stanford undergraduates.



The Walter H. Shorenstein
Asia-Pacific Research Center
Freeman Spogli Institute
for International Studies
Stanford University
Encina Hall
Stanford, CA 94305-6055
Phone: 650-723-9741
Fax: 650-723-6530
<http://shorenstein.stanford.edu>

Contributions enable SEAF to conduct and coordinate research and publication, organize conferences, support faculty and students, and sponsor outreach on contemporary Southeast Asia. Persons and organizations interested in helping to fund SEAF activities are encouraged to contact:

Donald K. Emmerson, *Director*
Phone: 650-724-6403
emmerson@stanford.edu