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CCEASE - CCSEAS

LE BULLETIN DU CONSEIL CANADIEN DES ÉTUDES SUR L'ASIE DU SUD-EST • VOLUME 11 • NO. 2 • PRINTEMPS 2013

HOMMAGE À DAVID WURFEL *Philip Kelly & Dominique Caouette*

THE RESILIENCE OF HANOI'S STREET VENDORS *Noelani K. X. Eidse*



MYANMAR IN 2013 *Bruce Matthews*



Dear readers...

We are pleased to bring you this second issue of the eleventh volume of the CCSEAS newsletter for Spring 2013.

This issue includes a wide range of contributions by members and friends of CCSEAS. You will find a homage to the late David Wurfel, who passed away at the end of 2012, written by Philip Kelly and Dominique Caouette. Also, as usual, we have included contributions from graduate students who share their fieldwork experience with us. In the Updates from Members section, Rodolphe De Koninck and Jacques Bertrand write about recent developments concerning CCSEAS, while Bruce Matthews informs us of the situation in Myanmar since the 2010 elections. Finally, a new section allows civil society organizations to share information about their work and impressions.

We also want to bring your attention to the call for papers for our upcoming biennial meeting to be held in Montreal on October 17-19, 2013. **Please take note that the deadline for submitting your abstract is June 30, 2013.**

Thanks to all who contributed to this newsletter, and to past editions. We hope you enjoy reading the present issue.

Yours,
The Editorial Committee

Comments, suggestions and submissions for future issues are always welcome. You can reach the Editorial Committee at ccseas.executive@gmail.com.

Cher(e)s lecteurs et lectrices,

Le comité exécutif du CCEASE est fier de vous présenter ce deuxième numéro du onzième volume de notre bulletin d'information pour le printemps 2013.

Ce numéro regroupe les contributions variées de membres et amis du CCEASE. On y retrouve un hommage au regretté David Wurfel, qui nous a quittés en 2012, par Philip Kelly et Dominique Caouette. Aussi, comme à l'habitude, nous accueillons des contributions de la part d'étudiants aux cycles supérieurs, qui partagent avec nous leurs impressions de terrain. Dans la section "Nouvelles des membres", Rodolphe De Koninck et Jacques Bertrand font le bilan des derniers développements touchant le CCEASE, et Bruce Matthews fait l'état de la situation au Myanmar depuis les élections de 2010. Enfin, une nouvelle section permet aux organisations de la société civile de partager leurs impressions.

Nous attirons votre attention sur l'appel à contributions concernant notre prochaine rencontre biennale qui se tiendra à Montréal du 17 au 19 octobre 2013. **Prenez note que la date butoir pour la soumission des résumés est le 30 juin 2013.**

Merci à tous ceux qui ont contribué à ce bulletin et aux éditions précédentes. Nous espérons que vous prendrez plaisir à la lecture de ce numéro.

Vôtre,
Le comité éditorial

Les commentaires, suggestions, et soumissions pour les prochains numéros sont les bienvenus. Vous pouvez nous joindre à : ccseas.executive@gmail.com.



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CCEASE CCSEAS

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Photo: Ben Smethers



Photo: Mark Fischer

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Kadayawan Festival, Davao City (Philippines) 2012. Photo: Eric Montalban



MOT DU PRÉSIDENT



En route vers Montréal - Octobre 2013

Dominique Caouette, président du CCEASE et directeur du Centre d'études de l'Asie de l'Est (CÉTASE), Université de Montréal

2013 est déjà là et bientôt nous nous réunirons à l'Université de Montréal du 17 au 19 octobre dans le cadre du colloque du CCEASE. Cette année, nous aurons la chance d'accueillir deux conférenciers de marque, Benedict R.O'G. Anderson, professeur émérite à l'Université Cornell, et Saturnino « Jun » Borrás Jr., professeur agrégé à l'International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) à La Haye. Issus de régions et générations différentes, ils ont influencé et influencent toujours nos réflexions sur l'Asie du Sud-Est à travers leurs travaux marqués par des recherches sur le terrain et une connaissance profonde des pays et cultures de la région. Que ce soit les écrits paradigmatiques d'Anderson sur le nationalisme, la culture populaire et la littérature, ou les recherches prolifiques de Borrás sur les enjeux agraires et le monde rural, ils ont tous les deux contribué à situer l'Asie du Sud-Est dans une perspective comparée et participé aux débats contemporains en sciences sociales.

Organisée autour d'un thème inclusif, « Rencontres plurielles, espaces dynamiques: L'Asie du Sud-Est à la croisée des chemins », le colloque de Montréal souhaite permettre une participation nationale et internationale tant en anglais qu'en français. Comme lors des années passées, la participation des communautés et groupes issus du

Sud-Est asiatique et des organisations de la société civile est encouragée et sollicitée. De plus, pour nourrir la relève, un pré-colloque pour les étudiants/es du baccalauréat a été organisé avant l'ouverture officielle de la conférence. Celui-ci offrira la possibilité de présenter une première communication dans un cadre convivial tout en ayant la possibilité de recevoir des commentaires de la part de chercheurs/es et spécialistes chevronnés. Nous invitons les étudiants de premier cycle à participer au pré-colloque, et nous invitons les membres du CCEASE, leurs collègues, étudiants et amis à soumettre des propositions de panels, de tables rondes ou de communications individuelles en grand nombre pour le colloque. Nous avons d'ailleurs prolongé la date limite pour la soumission de résumés au 30 juin. Cette date sera cependant finale et non modifiable. Je vous invite à soumettre le tout via le site de l'ACÉA: http://www.casa-acea.ca/?page_id=1001.

Même si nos regards sont déjà tournés vers l'automne, il nous est apparu important de prendre un certain recul sur le CCEASE pour comprendre ses origines et son évolution. Rodolphe De Koninck a accepté de relever le défi et de dépoussiérer ses dossiers datant des débuts de l'organisation en 1971 pour nous offrir toute une série d'observations, de remarques et d'anecdotes sur une organisation

qui a aujourd'hui plus de 40 ans. De plus, l'histoire de notre Conseil est étroitement liée à celle de l'ACÉA (Association canadienne des études asiatiques). À un moment où celle-ci est en pleine transition, nous sommes heureux que son trésorier sortant, Jacques Bertrand, ait pris le temps de nous expliquer les décisions récemment adoptées lors de l'assemblée générale de l'ACÉA en novembre 2012.

Comme le CCEASE est avant tout une organisation qui regroupe des chercheurs/es et passionnés/es de la région, nous avons voulu leur laisser la parole. Ainsi, Noelani K. X. Eidse et Justin Veuthey, tous deux plongés dans des séjours de recherche de terrain, démontrent comment ceux-ci sont essentiels et riches en enseignements. De plus, Bruce Matthews, un fin observateur de la Birmanie (Myanmar), nous offre son regard informé pour nous aider à déchiffrer une situation qui prend de plus en plus la forme d'un imbroglio politique complexe.

Mais au-delà de tout cela, il nous importait avant tout de souligner la mémoire de celui qui a su façonner et donner une impulsion significative aux études sur les Philippines au Canada, David Wurfel. En effet, il est rare d'avoir pu côtoyer un spécialiste dont les premiers écrits remontent à la fin des années 1950 et qui a su, tout au long d'une longue et riche carrière universitaire, allier une production scientifique et un enseignement rigoureux avec une affection réelle et un souci de justice sociale authentique pour l'archipel et la région. Son absence en octobre sera évidente, lui qui était présent depuis le tout début du CCEASE.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

En Route to Montreal - October 2013

Dominique Caouette, CCSEAS President and Director of the Centre d'études de l'Asie de l'Est (CÉTASE), Université de Montréal

It is already 2013 and soon we will meet at Université de Montréal from October 17-19 for the CCSEAS Conference. This year, we will have the pleasure of welcoming two distinguished keynote speakers, Benedict R.O'G. Anderson, Emeritus Professor at Cornell University, and Saturnino "Jun" Borrás Jr., Associate Professor at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) at The Hague. Coming from different regions and generations, both have had an important influence on our reflections about Southeast Asia through their work, which is characterized by fieldwork and a detailed understanding of the region's countries and cultures. Whether it is Anderson's paradigmatic writings about nationalism, popular culture and literature, or Borrás' prolific research about agrarian issues and the rural world, they have both contributed to the study of Southeast Asia in a comparative perspective, and to contemporary debates in social science.

Organized around an inclusive theme, "Multiple Encounters, Shifting Spaces: Southeast Asia at the Crossroads", the Montreal Conference encourages national and international participation, and contributions in English or French. Participation of communities and groups from Southeast Asia is solicited and encouraged. Further, to encourage

future researchers, a pre-conference student event for undergraduate students has also been organized before the conference. This event will give them the opportunity to present at a conference for the first time in a friendly environment and to get feedback from area specialists. We thus invite undergraduate students to participate to the pre-conference event and we invite CCSEAS members, their colleagues, students and

We invite CCSEAS members, their colleagues, students and friends to submit propositions for the 2013 CCSEAS Conference.

friends to submit panel, round table or individual propositions for the CCSEAS Conference. We have moved the deadline for submitting an abstract to June 30, 2013. This deadline will be final. You can submit propositions here: http://www.casa-acea.ca/?page_id=1001.

Even while we are looking forward to the Fall, it seemed important to look back on CCSEAS' history so we could better understand the organization's

evolution. Rodolphe de Koninck has accepted the challenge and dusted off his files from the beginnings of the organization in 1971 to offer us observations and anecdotes about an organization that is now more than 40 years old. Since our organization's history is also closely related to that of CASA (Canadian Asian Studies Association), we are glad its outgoing treasury, Jacques Bertrand, took the time to explain recent decisions adopted by CASA's General Assembly in November 2012.

Since the CCSEAS is made up of researchers who are passionate about Southeast Asia, we've also asked them to speak up in this newsletter. Noelani K. X. Eidse and Justin Veuthey, who are doing fieldwork in the region, tell us about the invaluable lessons of their stays abroad. In addition, Bruce Matthews, a Burma (Myanmar) specialist, also offers us insightful observations about the complex political situation in the country.

Above everything else, though, we wanted to pay tribute to a man who has shaped and has been a driving force for Filipino studies in Canada, David Wurfel. Indeed, it is quite rare to have been able to work with a specialist whose first writings go back to the end of the 50s and who, during a long and fruitful academic career, has combined scientific articles and rigorous teaching with a true affection for the Philippines and a deep concern for social justice in the region. David had always been present to CCSEAS conferences since the very beginnings of the organization, and his absence in October will be felt by all.

HOMAGE



Homage to David Wurfel, 1929-2012

Philip Kelly, Director, York Centre for Asian Research

With the passing of David Wurfel on November 12, 2012, Asian Studies in Canada lost a principled and influential scholar, and the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) lost a valued mentor and friend.

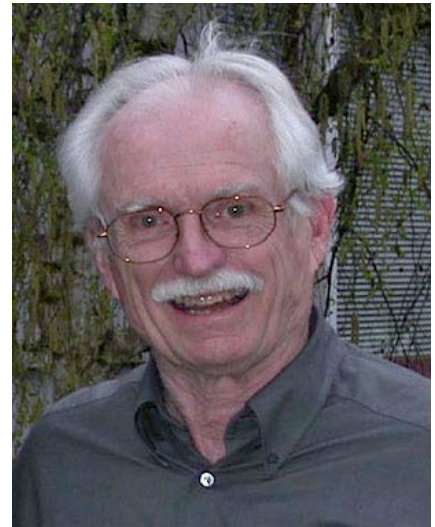
David received his PhD from Cornell and then taught Political Science at the International Christian University, Tokyo (1959-62), the University of Missouri (1962-68), and the University of Windsor (1968-1993). Upon retiring to Toronto, he was a Senior Research Associate at the York Centre for Asian Research. David was a founding Chair of the Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies (1973-75) and of the Canadian Asian Studies Association (1980-81). He was best known for his important works on Philippine politics (including *Filipino Politics: Development and Decay*, Cornell, 1988), land reform, labor, foreign policy, and aid. He also published more widely on Vietnam, East Timor, Japan, and regional political economy.

For David, politics was never just an intellectual pursuit, and he was an engaged scholar and public intellectual from the start. He was involved in early anti-nuclear and anti-war movements in the 1960s, and ran with the NDP for a federal parliamentary seat in 1980. After

retiring to Toronto, he became deeply involved in issues of homelessness in the city and international movements for social justice and democracy.

David's personal engagement with the Philippines represented a lifelong commitment to and passion for the country's people and politics. His knowledge of post-colonial politics in the Philippines wasn't just scholarly – he had friends and contacts in all sectors of Filipino society and a personal knowledge of the country dating back to the early years of independence. His first sojourn was as an exchange student at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, in 1947/48.

In 2006, David funded the Wurfel Award at YCAR, which supported student research on the Philippines. He wanted to contribute to the emergence of a new generation of Filipino leaders in Canada, knowledgeable about the Philippines' history, culture and politics. Awardees didn't just get David's financial support - they also often benefited from his advice and guidance based on decades of experience. His generosity supported research undertaken by Masters students on the political ecology of coastal resources in the Western Visayas, the role of the Catholic Church in Philippine public life, the emergence of Filipino-Canadian



David Wurfel, photo: Kathy Wurfel

second generation identities, and on the work of religiously-based philanthropy organizations in Philippine development.

We didn't see as much of David after he and Kathy moved to Seattle in 2012. My last email from David, in June 2012, was in response to a course outline I sent him for a new class I was planning to teach on the Philippines. Feisty as ever, David wanted to know why it didn't contain more of his own writing! His work will, of course, live on as a lasting analysis of the modern political history of the Philippines, and his careful curating of his life's work is available for students and colleagues everywhere at www.davidwurfel.ca

We are grateful for all of the ways in which David touched us, as a scholar and as a friend, and we extend heartfelt condolences to Kathy and his children.

Homage to David Wurfel, 1929-2012

Dominique Caouette, Centre d'études de l'Asie de l'Est, U. de Montréal

Il est de ces personnes qui semblent défier le temps et qui traversent les époques en sachant garder ce regard frais et ébloui des premiers jours. David Wurfel était l'une de ces personnes et son décès marque la fin d'une ère pour les études sur les Philippines au Canada, car il faisait partie de cette toute première génération de politologues formés dans l'après-guerre au moment où émergent les études régionales (area studies) aux États-Unis. Formé à l'Université de Californie à Berkeley pour ses études de maîtrise et à l'Université Cornell pour son doctorat pendant les années 1950, il fut témoin et participa au développement et à la croissance exponentielle des études sur l'Asie du Sud-Est. En 1947, sa mère, Dr. Violet E. Wurfel, fit partie de l'une des premières cohortes de Peace Corps ayant séjourné aux Philippines à la fin des années 1940. Ce séjour au pays, pendant lequel il étudia à l'Université des Philippines, marqua David et il en reparla ensuite souvent comme d'un moment charnière dans son cheminement. Pendant plus de soixante ans, David se rendit de manière régulière aux Philippines, mais aussi au Vietnam et au Timor Leste. Lors de son dernier voyage, en avril 2012, il fut invité à juste titre comme conférencier d'honneur pour le 50^e anniversaire de l'Association philippine de science politique.

Sa carrière, comme le souligne mon collègue Philip Kelly, fut marquée par un désir de bâtir un corpus de recherche solide et rigoureux, mais aussi par un engagement éthique et politique pour une démocratisation et un développement durables et pacifiques aux Philippines, ainsi que dans toute la région. D'ailleurs, son

opposition à la guerre du Vietnam et ses critiques des politiques américaines expliquent pourquoi il a passé une grande partie de sa carrière au Canada à partir de 1968, à l'Université de Windsor durant 25 ans et puis au Centre d'études asiatiques de l'Université York. Pendant ses années à Windsor, il fut l'un des bâtisseurs du CCEASE et de l'ACÉA (Association canadienne des études asiatiques). Puis, durant ses années à York, il mit sur pied un prix pour contribuer à l'émergence d'une nouvelle



*David Wurfel, late 1950s
Photo: Kathy Wurfel*

génération de spécialistes des Philippines. Chercheur accompli, militant déterminé et mentor pour des dizaines d'étudiants, il savait transmettre cette passion pour la recherche universitaire, mais surtout pour la compréhension de la vie politique d'un archipel souvent imprévisible. Son ouvrage *Filipino Politics* (1988) est et continuera d'être un incontournable pour

quiconque se lançant dans l'étude des Philippines, tout comme ses travaux sur les réformes agraires et les relations internationales en Asie du Sud-Est.

Après sa retraite, David s'investit avec Kathy Watada Wurfel, sa compagne et complice de toujours, dans un nombre impressionnant de causes, allant du dialogue entre Israéliens et Palestiniens pour un véritable processus de paix au problème d'itinérance à Toronto, sans oublier bien entendu la dénonciation des infractions commises par les compagnies minières canadiennes aux Philippines.

En 2007, lors de la conférence du CCEASE tenue à l'Université Laval, une table-ronde avait souligné ses contributions et son influence marquante. Plusieurs témoignages sont venus mettre en lumière cette longue carrière d'enseignement sur l'Asie du Sud-Est et plus de cinquante ans de publications universitaires depuis son premier article publié dans *Pacific Affairs* en 1954! Des extraits de ces témoignages sont présentés à la page suivante.

Pour finir, sur une note plus personnelle, c'est une rencontre fortuite avec David en 1989, alors que je vivais sur l'île de Negros, qui était au beau milieu de confrontations violentes entre de riches planteurs de canne à sucre et des paysans et travailleurs agricoles sans terre, que David a pour la première fois semé l'idée d'études doctorales en moi. Il souligna que parfois, il importe de prendre une certaine distance pour mieux comprendre et, qui sait, mieux agir. David a eu une influence marquante sur nombre d'entre nous, et nous nous en rappellerons tous comme d'un chercheur brillant et passionné, comme d'un intellectuel engagé, et comme d'un homme de convictions, profondément humain.

Salamat gid David!

Doing Political Science in the Philippines: 1962-2012

David Wurfel, April 2012

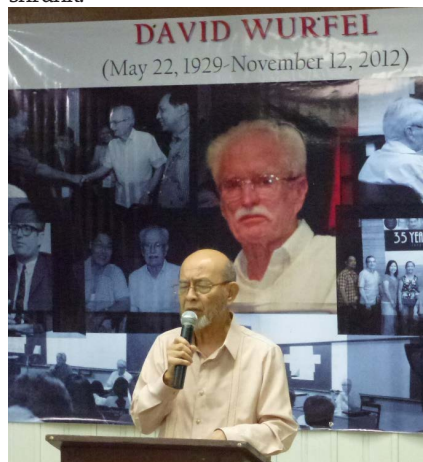
Below are excerpts from a keynote speech read at the 2012 Conference of the Philippine Political Science Association (PPSA) at Xavier University (Philippines), to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the organization. Excerpts are taken with permission from and special thanks to Prof. Temario Rivera. The full speech can be found here: David Wurfel (2012): Doing Political Science in the Philippines: 1962-2012, Philippine Political Science Journal, 33:2, 242-249.

It is a great honor to have been invited to address you today, and a beautifully appropriate way to end my 64th year in the study of Philippine politics. Maraming salamat. In fact, this honor would have been an impossible career goal to imagine for that skinny American who began as an undergraduate student of Philippine politics at UP Padre Faura in late 1947. In the intervening years I have pursued research in all regions of the country, including Mindanao, produced some books and articles, and have failed to complete some worthy projects – which grieves me deeply. In fact, I guess my main claim to fame is that I stuck with it.

It is out of that longevity that I will tell stories today; I hope I do not disappoint you, I have no new theories or historical revelations to offer. “Why study Philippine politics?” I was often asked by American friends in the early days: for those unconcerned about the complexity of a full answer I would respond “because it was so much fun.” Rallies provided movie stars and pop music shows, lots of food; the electoral system included innovative political mechanisms. And because most Filipinos found it fascinating, and liked to talk about it, I was infected with that fascination.

Over the decades interest in the Philippines abroad waxed and waned, reflecting events. In the 1950s came the Huk Rebellion with America’s Boy, Ramon Magsaysay – at the time, in my naivety, he was my hero as well – assisted by the CIA, to the rescue. There was no difficulty then in explaining the rationale for studying

Filipino politics, especially to Americans. Or for opposite reasons in the Martial Law era, with Marcos as the destroyer of democracy, an understanding of this “aberration” was widely sought. A bit later People Power became widely known, and highly respected, around the world. But as Pres. Cory Aquino’s performance in office became more and more disappointing, as the military toyed with coups, and as civilian politicians reverted to the worst of pre-Martial Law habits, worldwide interest in the Philippine affairs again waned, and the market for research and commentary shrunk.



Homage to David Wurfel, University of the Philippines, Manila. Photo: TWSC

One thing to be learned from reviewing one’s own work at the end of a career is how one’s view of political science and politics shifted over the years. I am appalled to discover how conservative I was as a young scholar. I accepted “Communism as the enemy,” endorsed unique American virtue (“exceptionalism”), and was uncritical of the dominant paradigms in policy analysis. From the 1970s some of my Filipino friends on the Left were helpful in correcting my perspective. I felt comfortable about reversing the old adage, “in youth a revolutionary, in old age a reactionary.” This ideological shift certainly did not move me closer to the power holders, but it did bring me into association with those whose

analyses had been most accurate –some of them in this room, a very satisfying experience.

In the mid-1950s, when I began my PhD thesis research, agrarian reform, anchored in land redistribution, had a high priority. Over time the experience of extreme difficulty faced by those acting against the perceived self-interests of the landed elite has disheartened many of those previously pushing for agrarian reform through legislation. The shift in emphasis by political scientists from land reform to resisting the depredations of corporate mining was due primarily to changed conditions in the Philippines. For me, it was also reinforced by a momentous, unplanned decision in my life –in the spring of 1968, moving to Canada and becoming a Canadian citizen. The move was the consequence of my having taken the lead at the University of Missouri in mobilizing opposition to the Vietnam War, followed by the effort of the Chancellor to blackball me at two universities where the decision to offer me an appointment had passed the first hurdle. I knew little about Canadian universities, but felt lucky to be able to go to Windsor, where I accepted a tenured position. Furthermore, academic freedom in Canada was at that time better protected than in the US. In any case, being in Canada, like the Philippines a neo-colonial enterprise, gave me a new standpoint on world affairs. I thought my position would allow a dual perspective, that is, both as a citizen of a superpower and of a small power. But it didn’t work out that way; my sympathies were always with the latter.

Though I have not had the pleasure of participating in previous PPSA conferences, my own efforts in helping to found and then reorganize the Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies (CCSEAS) in the 1970s allow me to appreciate the burden on a few people that is often created in the formation of an academic society. In any case, though there may have been challenges in the past, the size and quality of this meeting is most impressive, allowing one to hope that this association in the near future will be recognized more widely as a leader, both intellectually and ethically, among Asian social scientists.

Congratulations!

Homage to David Wurfel, 1929-2012

Testimonies from the 2007 CCSEAS Conference, U. Laval

David was a young assistant professor when I entered International Christian University (ICU), Mitaka, Tokyo, in the spring of 1960. As I was thinking of pursuing my career in the Japanese diplomatic service, I took an introductory course to international relations offered by David [...] David's activist approach to international relations was well demonstrated in an episode. One day in the spring of 1960, more than half of the students in his class of international relations were absent. The first question David asked was: "Where are the rest of the class?" No one dared to answer because they

worrying what would come next. Then, David added: "Those who went to the American Embassy practiced international relations through their acts and I will not record them as absent in my class." Some forty years later, from this class, I find a Supreme Court Justice, a Toyota executive, a top UN staff, several professors, successful business lawyers, several TV commentators, and top editorial staff of the leading newspapers including Asahi, Mainichi, Yomiuri and Nikkei. It is my conviction that David's impact on the ICU students' professional career was not at all small.

Yozo Yokota, Chuo Law School, Tokyo

Barrington Moore once noted in his famous work, "no bourgeoisie, no democracy." It is safe to say "No Wurfel, no Southeast Asia."

knew by then that David was very strict in attendance. He pushed the question further and one student reluctantly responded that they all went to the American Embassy in Toranomon, Tokyo, to protest against the revised Japan-US Security Treaty which had been approved by the Japanese Diet one day before. One week later, the class was again fully attended. David asked: "Who went to the American Embassy last week? Those who went, please sign-up on this sheet of paper." The students looked at each other what to do. After a few moments, all students who had been to the American Embassy signed up, apparently

We are often inspired by one or more teachers in our undergraduate careers and none influenced me more than David Wurfel [...] And though it was almost by accident that I took David's class during my academic semester abroad in Japan, it's safe to say he inspired me to explore the politics and culture of the region of Southeast Asia.

Barrington Moore once noted in his famous work, "no bourgeoisie, no democracy." Well, to borrow that phrase and relating it to my own academic trajectory, it is safe to say "No Wurfel, no Southeast Asia." [...] It was because of his deep moral engagement on human rights issues that I became interested in Burma and East Timor and other places. I ended up working for an Asia-related NGO in Washington DC after finishing my undergraduate career. Then I moved to Bangkok and worked for a research advocacy NGO for two years before returning to school to earn my PhD in Southeast Asian politics.

As I begin my own research and teaching career I think David

reminds me that it is important to be not just a good scholar, but a good person and that these two, far from being mutually exclusive, are often integrally linked.

Ehito Kimura, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

I am honoured to have been given this opportunity to reflect on some aspects of the academic work of Professor Wurfel, as well as on one of my most treasured personal relationships with both David and Kathy. David played an important role in my academic progress, but perhaps an even more critical part in my initially reluctant and awkward transition from academia to activism. I can now appreciate how fortunate I was that David featured in these two particular periods of my life, and how much I have benefited from both his exemplary qualities as an academic and his personal generosity.

There are three qualities I found in David that particularly inspired me. These qualities are his broad ranging academic interests, his deep engagement with social justice issues, and a great personal generosity, which he shares with his wife Kathy!"

Catherine Coumans, MiningWatch Canada

David was a person of great integrity who lived by his principles, and stood by them even at great personal cost.

I admired his energy, spirit and dedication to social justice - I hope to have half that energy at his age. I also have great respect for his academic work, moral clarity, and the significant contributions that he has made to various causes. Furthermore, I want to acknowledge Kathy Wurfel's involvement in, and support for David's work - every great man has a great woman behind him!

Nancy Slamet, alumni from University of Toronto

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD



What Other Alternatives Are Left? The Struggles and Resilience of Hanoi's Ancient Quarter Street Vendors

Noelani K. X. Eidse, McGill University

Nestled among parked motorbikes, sidewalk tea stalls and crowds of passers-by, my translator Phuong and I stood on the edge of Hanoi's bustling Mã Mây Street, waiting to have lunch with Lien – a vendor selling fans in the city's Ancient Quarter. It was thirty minutes past our arranged meeting time and I worried that perhaps we had the wrong address. Then from down the street Lien came running, empty handed, waving for us to meet her at the corner. There had been a crackdown on street vendors earlier that day. Just after she arrived, five vendors had been arrested in front of her and she had narrowly escaped being caught herself.

Guiding us down winding alleys, Lien continued to scan for approaching law enforcement officers. She apologetically explained that the police had been patrolling Mã Mây Street, and that she didn't dare wait for us there. Lien was taking us to a restaurant off the beaten track, but first needed to retrieve the goods she had hidden that morning. After disappearing into a textile shop, Lien emerged with two bags, passing one to Phuong and one to myself: "Even if the police see me carrying a purse – they will recognize me and know I have fans to sell", she told us.

However, she explained that if we carried the goods, the police would not reprimand her. Lien said the police had intensified their efforts to clear the streets of vendors in recent

a living. Now, as even street vending seems unfeasible, what alternatives are left? After lunch, she made her two hour commute home without having made a single sale but, due to the crackdown that day, not daring to continue trading at the risk being caught. However, the next day Lien would return to Hanoi, cautious but determined to try selling again.

Vendors like Lien, and their stories of resilience are the focus



Street vendors, Hanoi, Vietnam. Photo: Noelani K. X. Eidse

weeks, and her eyes began to fill with tears. Her family, from a nearby periurban village, cannot survive on farming alone, and this is the only other way she can think of to make

of my research. I explore the daily politics of street vending in Hanoi, as these informal traders negotiate government regulations aimed at restricting their livelihoods. This

comes as part of an ongoing research project I have been carrying out with Sarah Turner (Geography, McGill University), on Hanoi's vendors, beginning in 2010 with my undergraduate honors thesis, and expanding now as Master's research.

Throughout my fieldwork – spanning a total of five months between 2010 and 2012 – I have had the opportunity to interview numerous informal traders like Lien. Often these vendors are female, rural-to-urban migrants who do not have access to more formal livelihoods due to a lack of formal education, financial capital or social networks.

Although informal selling in Hanoi currently offers over 11,000 people a livelihood means, recent government efforts have sought to restrict the use of public space for such trade. In 2008 Hanoi's municipal government banned street vending

on 62 streets and from the vicinity of 48 public spaces throughout the city. The result is an increased pressure on vending livelihoods, as traders who are caught selling are often faced with high fines, confiscation of their goods or even arrest. Considering that thousands of individuals continue to ply their trade in the city streets, my project aims to better understand resistance strategies undertaken by Hanoi's vendors in order to maintain their livelihoods.

During my recent field season, a reoccurring lesson I learned was that when it comes to fieldwork, planning ahead can only get you so far. Time and time again, I found that, although I had drafted a detailed research schedule before arriving in Hanoi, many of my fieldwork activities were somewhat outside of my control. Whether it was vendor interviews

that didn't quite go according to plan – such as my lunch meeting with Lien – or attempting interviews with officials when Vietnam's red tape proved to be harder to cross than anticipated, it became clear to me that remaining calm and flexible would be essential to my fieldwork experience. Considering the multiple sources of pressure which Hanoi's vendors must constantly negotiate – including farming responsibilities, weather conditions, or crackdown periods – in order to work with this population, I had to try to be as flexible as they are, adapting to sudden changes in schedules, rearranging meeting places or abandoning interviews all together when obstacles were too great. Despite the steep learning curve, the ability to learn more about the livelihoods of these vendors has been incredibly rewarding, and I hope my final thesis will do their stories justice.

Typhons et fièvre typhoïde : L'histoire d'un cordonnier bien mal chaussé

Justin Veuthey, Université de Montréal

L'histoire qui suit est celle de mes récentes mésaventures médico-climatiques, et de ma petite catastrophe personnelle lors de mes recherches de terrain pour un doctorat sur la façon dont les communautés rurales se préparent aux aléas climatiques aux Philippines.

Après plusieurs mois d'entrevues, j'étais plutôt content de ma cueillette de données auprès d'autorités locales et de résidents des régions rurales. Je me réjouissais d'une visite à Cebu, la plus grande ville des Visayas.

Je quittai donc mon site d'étude rurale pour une petite pause urbaine. Mon plan était de m'absenter une semaine et, voulant voyager léger, j'avais pris le strict minimum dans

un petit sac à dos. Après deux jours de voyage sur des routes cahoteuses, j'avais traversé l'île de Leyte et je me trouvais dans la petite ville portuaire d'Ormoc afin d'y prendre un ferry pour Cebu. J'étais presque arrivé à destination, je pensais prendre un navire le lendemain matin, et les merveilles du 21e siècle seraient ensuite enfin à moi : des librairies, des cinémas, et de l'accès wifi rapide !

Malheureusement, lorsque j'arrivai sur le quai au petit matin, je constatai que tous les ferries étaient annulés à cause d'une dépression tropicale qui s'approchait rapidement de notre région. Pendant deux jours, j'attendis que la tempête passe, mais elle ne fit que s'intensifier. La pluie tombait toujours

plus fort. Et surtout, plus inquiétant, j'avais une fièvre qui montait en flèche : mes nuits devinrent rapidement des marathons de tremblements dans des bains de sueur.

Vingt-quatre heures plus tard, le typhon continuait toujours son avancée sur la ville et la fièvre m'embaumait de plus en plus l'esprit. Je réalisai finalement que les choses pouvaient mal tourner, d'autant plus que je ne connaissais personne à Ormoc: il était temps de battre en retraite. Il fallait que je rebrousse chemin vers un endroit connu et dans lequel j'avais un réseau de connaissances de confiance : Tacloban. Je trouvai un bus, mais la tempête faisait rage et la route était souvent



encombrée par des arbres tombés. Je me redressais parfois, et je voyais les flaques d'eau boueuse devenir de plus en plus larges et profondes.

Tacloban est la ville principale de la Région des Visayas orientales. On y trouve de nombreux bureaux gouvernementaux, des ONGs et même un aéroport régional. Mais la ville était aussi en plein dans le trajet du typhon. De nombreuses routes étaient barrées par des débris de la tempête, les petites cliniques médicales étaient bondées, et l'électricité était coupée.

Lorsque les ventilateurs recommencèrent à tourner et que l'internet se réveilla, je consultai par Skype des amis médecins en Amérique du Nord. La fièvre se calma pendant quelques jours, puis revint au galop, et puis s'effilocha à nouveau comme les nuages du typhon. La tempête semblait alors s'atténuer, je pensais avoir passé le cap, et je commençai à planifier mon retour vers mon site de recherche.

Soudain, à 2h du matin, je rechutai brutalement. Dix mille petits marteaux m'éclataient le

crâne de l'intérieur avec une cadence de java infernale. La fièvre avait repris l'ascenseur. J'avais de la peine à raisonner et à prendre des décisions, et je me fiaï alors aux conseils d'un ami qui m'avait logé ces derniers jours : il m'encouragea à prendre un avion pour me rendre dans un hôpital à Manille. Après une semaine à être plus ou moins dans les vapes, j'étais encore assez lucide pour réaliser que la fièvre avait sérieusement ébréché ma capacité de raisonnement. Je me fiaï donc à ses conseils. Quelques heures plus tard, j'atterris dans la capitale et je m'affaissai, tremblotant, dans un taxi.

Le trajet de l'aéroport fut rapide: c'était un dimanche. La modernité des bâtiments et la propreté du quartier financier me semblaient surréelles, et l'admission aux urgences fut rapide et professionnelle. Mais pardieu, quel froid ! Je demandai des couvertures supplémentaires. Puis plus tard, encore d'autres couvertures. Après

moult examens, on me dit que j'avais probablement la fièvre typhoïde. Je m'endormis.

Après quelques jours à l'hôpital, je commençai ma convalescence. Le médecin m'indiqua que j'étais sous antibiotiques, que plusieurs semaines seraient nécessaires pour me remettre, et c'est là où j'en suis au moment où j'écris ma petite histoire pour ce bulletin.

Quel est donc le bilan de cette expérience qui va me coûter au minimum un mois de travail ? Il me semble avoir eu de la chance de pouvoir me replier vers des gens qui se sont occupés de moi lorsque je n'étais plus capable de raisonner avec discernement. Finalement, j'aurais dû être plus à l'écoute des actualités locales afin de ne pas me laisser surprendre par le typhon. En effet, c'est assez paradoxal d'étudier la préparation aux aléas naturels et de se laisser surprendre par une tempête. J'étais vraiment un cordonnier bien mal chaussé.

Justin Veuthey, hôpital de Manille, Philippines. Photo: Catherine Liamzon



NOUVELLES DES MEMBRES

Continued Transition at CASA and Its Impact on CCSEAS *Jacques Bertrand, University of Toronto*

At the Canadian Asian Studies Association (CASA) General Meeting in November 2012, I presented a report as outgoing treasurer and suggested a number of changes that members adopted. Margot Wilson also reported on the continuing challenges of our transition to a new structure and self-funded association. The CASA executive, and particularly Margot Wilson, worked very hard to restore our non-profit status with Industry Canada and Revenue Canada. A neglect of the requirements to maintain our status had resulted in its temporary loss that led to the dismantlement of our secretariat. This was further aggravated by the fact that the Conservative government imposed new rules for non-profit organizations that required some minor changes to our by-laws. Now that these are in place, we have been able to restore our non-profit status and move forward.

Moreover, the transition to administrative support under the Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences has worked very well. As a member of the CFHSS, CASA has obtained access to on-line services that help manage efficiently membership fees, membership renewals, and maintain an up-to-

date database. These services have allowed to eliminate the need for a secretariat and to fully transition to a “virtual”, self-funded association, while they also contribute to greater transparency. The CASA executive ironed out a number of small kinks and we can now report that the new structure is firmly in place.

On the financial side, some adjustments have also been required. As an association that now relies almost exclusively on membership and conference fees, it is crucial that we plan ahead carefully. We agreed on the principle that CASA and council conferences (CCSEAS and others) should be self-funded at a minimum and, ideally, might generate a small additional revenue. For example, CCSEAS has benefitted enormously from the past revenue generated by conferences. With conferences, it has been better able to seek sponsors for events and funding from universities that both contribute to alleviate pressure on conference fees, while they also help generate additional funds. I reported to CCSEAS members last year that our accumulated surplus had reached around \$10,000. This surplus, which is now housed at the Université de Montréal, provides the current CCSEAS executive with opportunities for new initiatives, continued funding

for its newsletter, as well as a healthy cushion in case it faces more difficult circumstances in the future. It is a model that is worth pursuing not only for CCSEAS, but also for CASA as a whole.

In addition to conferences, CASA also needs to cover fixed costs that allow it to continue functioning as a non-profit, academic association. Much of these costs are associated with the services we receive as part of the CFHSS, as well as accounting and other minimal, but completely fixed, administrative expenses. In order to cover these costs, we need to plan for sufficient revenue, which is generated almost entirely by membership fees. After the two transitional years we went through, it became evident that membership fees were insufficient to cover these expenses. Part of the problem is the vast fluctuation in membership from year to year, due to cyclical patterns associated with renewals only at the time of conference registration. We have encouraged members to renew regularly, but CASA requires further protection to remain financially viable. At the General Assembly, we also agreed not to raise membership fees, particularly since a large number of our members are students who would find higher fees more challenging. Instead, we decided to modify our By-laws to eliminate Council revenue. According to a practice established when CASA was financially strong, CASA by-laws required that 50%

of all membership revenue be redistributed to Councils and the other 50% to the general CASA fund. It would be impossible to generate sufficient revenue at our current levels of membership fees to cover fixed costs that benefit all members and all Councils. These shared costs are a benefit for CASA at large and for Councils. Council revenue was typically used in the past to fund newsletters and awards, or to increase support for students who wished to attend CASA (and Council) conferences. The abolition of revenue provision to Councils from our membership fees allows us to maintain fees at current levels while covering administrative costs. We decided to move instead to a system of project proposals, by which Councils could propose initiatives that would be funded with any small funds still available after our regular expenses have been covered. We also hope that Councils will generate revenue from their conferences and will use some of this additional revenue to cover initiatives previously funded through transfers from CASA's central budget. We are hoping that this model will best protect the financial viability of CASA, while allowing for some flexibility.

The CASA executive will test

this new approach adopted by members at the General Assembly in November 2012. With a new team, I think the association is

now in excellent shape to continue developing new initiatives and pursuing our core academic activities.



Two boys on a water buffalo, Northern Palawan, Philippines. Photo: Eric Montalban

Notes sur l'histoire du Conseil canadien des études sur L'Asie du Sud-Est

Rodolphe de Koninck, Université de Montréal

L'Association canadienne des études asiatiques (ACÉA, ou CASA en anglais) a été fondée en 1968 (1). Elle rassemblait alors des universitaires impliqués dans les études portant sur l'Asie

de l'Est, l'Asie du Sud et l'Asie du Sud-Est. Très rapidement, le noyau constitué par ceux qui s'intéressaient en priorité au Sud-Est asiatique se révéla le plus dynamique. En 1971, ceux-ci fondèrent le Conseil canadien

des études sur l'Asie du Sud-Est (CCEASE), lequel tint dès cette année-là son premier colloque annuel à l'université de Guelph.

À cette époque, la grande majorité des membres du CCEASE provenaient d'institutions établies dans le sud de l'Ontario et ce sont d'ailleurs de telles institutions qui, de 1971 à 1978, accueillirent les premiers colloques (Tableau 1). Ce n'est qu'en 1979 que notre

colloque annuel fut convié à l'University of British Columbia (UBC), prenant une ampleur résolument internationale, avec le regretté Geoffrey Hainsworth à la barre. Il s'agissait alors du premier d'une longue série de rassemblements du CCEASE à être organisé par Hainsworth. Véritable maître en la matière, ce grand impresario parvint même à organiser deux autres colloques à teneur résolument internationale, le premier à Singapour en 1982, en collaboration avec l'Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), alors dirigé par Kernial Singh Sandhu, directeur-fondateur de l'ISEAS. En mai 1986, Hainsworth remettait cela en organisant un troisième grand colloque international, cette fois à Bandung en Indonésie. Il faut dire que cet énergique économiste d'UBC avait l'oreille de l'Agence canadienne de développement international (ACDI) – à l'époque encore ouverte au monde des idées – qui acceptait volontiers de telles activités. Depuis cette époque, l'ACDI a continué à se distancer de tout ce qui peut représenter le progrès, se définissant de plus en plus comme une simple agence de redistribution de fonds au monde canadien du lobbying, de la consultation et des affaires. Mais revenons à Hainsworth. Celui-ci assumait la direction, toujours énergique, de trois autres de nos rassemblements annuels à UBC, en 1989, 1999 et 2009, ce dernier ayant sans grande surprise pris une dimension à nouveau tout à fait internationale (2).

Au cours des années 1980, les colloques annuels du CCEASE se répandirent, en quelque sorte, à une échelle presque pancanadienne, l'Ontario

demeurant privilégiée, et le premier colloque à être organisé au Québec ne survenant qu'en 1985, à l'Université Laval, sous la gouverne du soussigné. Cet élargissement allait mener à la tenue de colloques ailleurs en Ontario, notamment à Thunder Bay, mais aussi en Alberta et en Nouvelle-Écosse, et même en Saskatchewan en 1987. Peu après, pour des raisons financières, la cadence annuelle dut être abandonnée, alors qu'après les colloques de 1989 à Vancouver, nous ne nous sommes plus rassemblés qu'à tous les deux ans, en 1991, 1993, etc.

Les colloques du
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Pratiquement sans exception, depuis plus de 40 ans (3), ces rassemblements ont toujours revêtu un caractère très convivial, à un point tel qu'à l'initiative du soussigné le deuxième C dans le sigle CCEASE en vint à être reconnu pour représenter le qualificatif convivial et non pas canadien... Cette subtilité langagière n'échappa pas aux principaux animateurs du groupe, notamment Geoffrey Hainsworth, Judith Nagata et Bruce Matthews (4), qui s'en firent les promoteurs en l'appliquant au CCEASE qui, pour les intimes, devint ainsi le Convivial Council for Southeast

Asian Studies.

Cela dit, depuis sa naissance, notre Conseil a évolué en lien étroit avec l'Association canadienne des études asiatiques. Au fil des décennies, ces liens se sont desserrés et resserrés alors que le siège social de l'ACÉA, longtemps établi à Ottawa, a été déplacé à Montréal, et que le degré d'autonomie du CCEASE vis-à-vis notre société-mère a beaucoup fluctué. Surtout, le dynamisme exceptionnel de nos rencontres annuelles tranchait souvent avec celui moins affirmé des colloques de l'ACÉA, dans lesquelles, par ailleurs, les deux autres conseils étaient généralement plus impliqués (5). Les colloques du CCEASE ne se sont bien sûr jamais résumés à de simples rassemblements conviviaux. Tous ils ont donné lieu à d'intenses échanges, alors que les publications qui en sont issues sont légion. En dresser la liste exhaustive demeure impossible, mais l'on dispose tout de même d'une douzaine de recueils issus des colloques tenus entre le milieu des années 1970 et la fin des années 1990 (6). L'analyse du contenu de ces recueils reste à compléter (7). On peut au moins dire ici qu'on y trouve un très large éventail de sujets où les enjeux politiques sont à l'honneur, et où l'on voit déjà poindre l'importance grandissante et quelque peu à contre courant que vont prendre les enjeux agraires dans nos travaux. Ajoutons que les contributions en langue française bien que présentes, notamment dans le recueil issu du colloque tenu à l'Université Laval en 1985, occupent une place modeste. Cela dit, alors que cette université a toujours tenu sa place au sein tant du CCEASE que de l'ACÉA, l'Université de Montréal elle-même y a mis du

temps. Mais, comme à McGill et à l'UQAM, on semble y avoir enfin reconnu la place qu'il importe d'accorder aux études sur le Sud-Est asiatique.

Tout comme les notes que voici, cette reconnaissance méritera de s'étoffer.

Notes:

1. Ce paragraphe s'inspire largement de l'article intitulé « Les études sur l'Asie du Sud-Est au Canada » que j'avais signé dans le numéro 17 de la revue *Archipel*, paru en 1979, pp. 3-13.

2. Ajoutons qu'à l'initiative de Hainsworth et de collègues américains, des membres du CCEASE se réunirent conjointement à au moins deux occasions, à Vancouver en 1992 et à Seattle en 1994.

3. Sauf défaillance de ma mémoire, je crois bien avoir participé activement à la totalité des colloques du CCEASE, y compris à ceux, hors série, tenus à St. Catharines (1974), Singapour (1982) et Bandung (1986).

4. Soulignons que Judith Nagata et Bruce Matthews furent avec Hainsworth les membres les plus actifs du Conseil, leur ouverture devant le recours à la langue française comptant parmi leurs nombreuses qualités. Nagata et Matthews furent aussi très impliqués dans l'organisation des colloques à York et à Wolfville, les deux tenus dans cette dernière ville demeurant inoubliables par leur qualité académique et leur... convivialité!

5. Il faudra un jour reconstituer la grande tout comme la petite histoire de l'ACÉA, elle-même riche en enseignements, mais ici n'est pas le lieu. En tout cas, cela permettrait de souligner l'admirable travail de Mme Loy

Denis qui a assuré la direction du secrétariat central pendant de nombreuses années, tant à Ottawa qu'à Montréal. Cela permettrait tout autant de souligner aussi le rôle qu'ont joué dans la gestion du CCEASE et de l'ACÉA et dans son rayonnement et le développement de ses réseaux non seulement les Hainsworth, Nagata et Matthews, mais aussi les David Wurfel, Gordon Means, Elliot Tepper, Terry McGee, Villia Jefremovas, Yann Roche, André Laliberté et j'en passe.

6. S'y ajoute une double publication particulièrement originale, hors colloque, ayant rassemblé, sous la direction d'Elliot Tepper, des textes écrits par des membres du CCEASE concernant les événements survenus dans la région au cours des années 1970 et ayant entraîné l'exode de populations du Laos, du Cambodge et du Vietnam, notamment vers le Canada. Cf. tableau 2.

7. Pour quelques commentaires sur le contenu des premiers recueils, cf. De Koninck 1979, op. cit.

Tableau 1. Lieux de la tenue des colloques annuels ou biennaux du CCEASE

1971	University of Guelph, Ontario
1972	University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
1973	York University, Downsview (banlieue de Toronto), Ontario
1974	University of Windsor, Ontario
1975	University of Guelph, Ontario
1976	York University, Downsview, Ontario
1977	McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
1978	Université d'Ottawa, Ontario
1979	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Colombie britannique
1980	University of Windsor, Ontario
1981	University of Calgary, Alberta
1982	Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario
1983	University of Toronto, Ontario
1984	Acadia University, Wolfville, Nouvelle-Écosse
1985	Université Laval, Québec
1986	Université d'Ottawa, Ontario
1987	University of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
1988	University of Halifax, Nouvelle Écosse
1989	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Colombie britannique
1991	York University, Downsview, Ontario
1993	University of Edmonton, Alberta
1995	Université Laval, Québec
1997	Acadia University, Wolfville, Nouvelle-Écosse
1999	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Colombie britannique
2001	University of Victoria, Colombie Britannique
2003	Université de Montréal, Québec
2005	York University, Downsview, Ontario
2007	Université Laval, Québec
2009	University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Colombie britannique
2011	University of Toronto, Ontario
2013	(à venir) Université de Montréal, Québec

Tableau 2. Parmi les actes issus des colloques du CCEASE

Année	Université d'accueil	Référence bibliographique
1974	Brock University	Victor FIC (ed.) (1975). <i>Strategies for Social Change: Focus upon Malaysia and Singapore</i> . Ottawa, CASA.
1976	York University	Gordon P. MEANS (ed.) (1977). <i>Development and Underdevelopment in Southeast Asia</i> . Ottawa, CASA.
1977	McMaster University	Gordon P. MEANS (ed.) (1978). <i>The Past in Southeast Asia's Present</i> . Ottawa, CASA.
1978	Université d'Ottawa	Ozay MEHMET (ed.) (1979). <i>Poverty and social Change in Southeast Asia</i> . Ottawa, University of Ottawa Press.
1979	U. of British Columbia	B. HAINSWORTH (ed.) (1982). <i>Village Level Modernization in Asia. The Political Economy of Rice and Water</i> . Vancouver, U.B.C. Press.
1981	University of Calgary	Douglas R. WEBSTER (ed.) (1981). <i>The Southeast Asian Environment</i> . Ottawa, University of Ottawa Press.
1982	Lakehead University	Anita BELTRAN CHEN (ed.) (1985). <i>Contemporary and Historical Perspectives in Southeast Asia</i> . Ottawa, Carleton University Printing Shop.
1984	Acadia University	Bruce MATTHEWS (ed.) (1985). <i>Southeast Asia: Problems of the social and Physical Environment</i> . Nova Scotia, Lancelot Press.
1985	Université Laval	R. DE KONINCK & J. NADEAU (ed.) (1986). <i>Ressources, problèmes et défis de l'Asie du Sud-Est</i> . Québec, Presses de l'Université Laval.
1991	York University	Bruce MATTHEWS (ed.) (1992). <i>Quality of life in Southeast Asia: Transforming Social, Political and Natural Environments</i> . Montréal, CASA and McGill University.
1993	University of Calgary	J. DEBERNARDI, G. FORTH & S NIESEN (ed.) (1995). <i>Managing Change in Southeast Asia : Local Identities, Global Connections</i> . Montréal, CASA.
1999	U. of British Columbia	Geoffrey B. HAINSWORTH (ed.) (2002). <i>Globalization and the Asian Economic Crisis: Indigenous Responses, Coping Strategies and Governance Reform in Southeast Asia</i> . Vancouver, Center for Southeast Asia Research, Institute of Asian Research, UBC.
2001	University of Victoria	H. LANSDOWNE, P. DEARDEN & W. NEILSON (ed.) (2002). <i>Communities in Southeast Asia. Challenges and Responses</i> . Victoria, University of Victoria.
	Hors série	Elliot L. TEPPER (ed.) (1980) <i>Southeast Asian Exodus. From Tradition to Resettlement</i> . Ottawa. CASA. Elliot L. TEPPER (ed.) (1981) <i>D'un continent à un autre: les réfugiés du Sud-Est asiatique</i> . Ottawa, ACÉA

Myanmar in 2013

Bruce Matthews, Acadia University

Driving southwest from the old capital of Yangon (Rangoon) through the new township of Hlaingtharyar to Twante and Patheingyi in the great Irrawaddy delta, as I did this past December (2012), one cannot help but be impressed. Important advances in industry, road infrastructure, massive new bridges and mechanized farming undreamed of even five years ago are evidence of real economic progress. Downtown Yangon, Mandalay and the new capital, Naypyitaw (a five hour drive north of Yangon in the remote Pegu Yoma hills), are all good examples of modern Southeast Asian cities with smart new shopping malls and facilities. Emerging vast industrial projects such as Dawei in the southeast Mon State and Thilawa SEZ near Yangon (a 2400 hectare “city built from scratch” backed by Japanese money) complement already hugely productive offshore and onshore oil and gas fields facilities which earned in excess of US\$3 billion in just eleven months (2012). The nearly completed Kyauk Phyu natural gas pipeline linking the Bay of Bengal with China’s Yunnan province, and accelerated plans for at least one highway linking India with Southeast Asia through Myanmar, are harbingers of a positive economic future for a country that has been a regional outlier for over five decades.

Yet questions aplenty remain about the durability of Myanmar’s economic prospects and, even more crucially, about its political or democratic renaissance since the first meaningful national elections in fifty years held in November 2010. In this article, I propose to examine this topic from four perspectives. These are quick reviews of the structure of government, of economic and living conditions, of the continuing ethnic crises in the Rakhine and Kachin

States, and some forecasts for the future

Turning to the first point, Myanmar, the largest country in Southeast Asia (676,578 sq kms), with a population of 57.5 million (including a BaMa ethnic majority of 70%), is still categorized as one of the world’s Least Developed Countries (www.wfp.org/countries/myanmar/overview). Almost as isolated as North Korea until recently, quickly moving events since 2008 (possibly triggered by the 2007 ‘Saffron Revolution’, the disastrous cyclone Nargis and, later, by the sweeping energy of the Arab Spring) persuaded the military-dominated Myanmar polity to reengage its place in the world, resulting in the lifting of international sanctions that had

severely constrained the nation’s economy for over a decade.

Despite a new Constitution that skewed control to the ruling military-backed United Solidarity and Development Party (Pyi Htaung Su Kyant Khai Pwit Phyo Ye) over the two houses of parliament (Pyidaungsu Hluttaw), Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the iconic figure of resistance to tyranny, was persuaded to participate in parliamentary by-elections in April 2012. Easily victorious, she automatically became leader of the National League for Democracy (Nation Ah Mho Thar Dimocasi). All of this was arguably made possible by the careful leadership of President Thein Sein (pronounced ‘Thay Say’), who is 67, the same age as Daw Suu Kyi, and was described by ASEAN Chair Surin Pitsuwan as “very soft, very gentle, very careful.” Formerly fourth in command of the previous military regime, Thein Sein’s unexpected



Yangon headquarters of NLD, 2012 by-elections. Photo: Geert Travelling

elevation to the Presidency in 2011 was initially clouded by the impression that former dictator Than Shwe would exercise control from the wings. This does not appear to be the case, and both Thein Sein and Daw Suu Kyi have proved popular and respected in conducting their political responsibilities.

A second topic concerns national economic challenges. These issues are now debated in parliament and open to far more scrutiny than before. For decades, Myanmar's extractive resources have yielded vast profits for the state, much of it siphoned off by secretive military leaders and their business cronies. U Myint, a brilliant former resident UN economist recently (and perhaps unexpectedly) invited to play an important advisory role to government, boldly remarks that "too often oil money that should go to a nation's poor ends up in the pockets of the rich or squandered on grand palaces and massive showplace projects." (Myanmar and the FDI Issue, 24 Nov. 2012, paper for an internal conference, Naypyitaw). Myanmar still lacks appropriate property rights, rule of law, transparency, fair competition, and efficient bureaucracy. In anticipation of reforms on these matters, however, international interest in this 'last frontier market' has been huge. Not a few important Western and Asian politicians and officials have pointedly visited Myanmar in 2012, including President Barak Obama. Trade missions (including Canada's Minister of International Trade Edward Fast) and multinational businesses such as Caterpillar, Boeing, GM, IBM, Price Waterhouse and VISA are not far behind. Myanmar's state revenue of US\$7.7 billion (2011-12) and expenditures of US\$10.6 billion leave a deficit, but allotment for the armed forces (Tatmadaw) has been cut nearly in half as attention is diverted to education and health. GDP sectors show agriculture at 70%, industry at 7% and services at 23% (IMF Country

Report No.12/104, May 2012).

Closely associated with economic performance is the issue of cost of living. With 70 % of the population considered rural, conditions vary widely. Rural inhabitants often live without many benefits of modernity. The mechanized farming of the delta is not always apparent elsewhere. An astonishing 70% of the population has no access to electricity, and even those on the antiquated national grid are subject to frequent power cuts in the dry season. By government standards, 26% of the population is below the poverty line, marked by 9% child malnutrition. Salaries for a

The question remains, however, whether the stunning reforms are as transparent and trustworthy as they outwardly appear to be, or whether they are more of a 'regime survival' strategy.

laborer, at Kyats 47,000 (or \$US55) per month, or K70,000 for a police constable or teacher, are barely sufficient, leading U Myint to remark that the poor in particular have to work from dawn to dusk to eke out a living (Interview, 6 December 2012, Yangon). Not unexpectedly, rice prices (the staple grain) have doubled in ten years, with one pyi (eight empty condensed milk tins) of Paw san (high quality) now K1600 and ground nut cooking oil at K4200 per viss (1.6 kilos), although cheaper grades of rice and oil can be bought for half that price.

Importantly, Myanmar has also paid off debt arrears to the World Bank, Paris Club and Asian Development Bank of US\$6 bn, with \$3bn forgiven by Japan. This development has allowed for \$1bn

new funds from the World Bank, but there is skepticism about how much of these funds, if any, will trickle down to small business, keeping in mind that Transparency International still lists Myanmar as the world's sixth most corrupt nation (Asia Times, 6 February, 2013).

A third topic for review concerns Myanmar's continuing rocky ethnic minority discords. Naypyitaw (Government of Myanmar) has signed ceasefire agreements with ten out of eleven main ethnic groups, which is by itself an achievement. The northern Kachin State is the exception. Kachins have long agitated for more autonomy of a federal kind (some are outright secessionists), but their former truce of 1994 has broken down (June, 2011), leading to serious battles between the Tatmadaw and 'rebel' forces with consequential loss of life. It would appear that the military decisions are being made not by President Thein Sein but by the Commander in Chief, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Military analysts suggest the December 2012 Tatmadaw campaign has been poorly conducted (HIS-Jane's, Bangkok, Anthony Davis, Asia Times, 31 January 2013). A tentative, weak ceasefire facilitated by China leaves the whole issue festering, a black eye to Naypyitaw's new international image.

Elsewhere in the western state of Rakhine, nearly one million Muslim Rohingya (disparagingly referred to by government as 'Bengalis') are largely without citizenship and victims of a vicious pogrom instigated by local enraged Rakhine Buddhists over a rape-murder case in May 2012. This situation has even more international repercussions for Myanmar than the Kachin crisis in part because it involves a Muslim minority. It is further exacerbated by sporadic serious attacks on Muslims by thuggish self-styled BaMa Buddhist nationalists, as in Meiktila in March, 2013. Anti-Indian and anti-Chinese vitriol is also



Burmese monk talking on cell phone. Photo: Pam Matthews

increasingly problematic, sentiments easily whipped up by hardliners who may aim to provoke communal fears before the 2015 elections. But such is the international enthusiasm for Myanmar's evident attempts at political reform that these examples of internal distress have not derailed the global welcome extended to the country.

Fourthly and by way of conclusion, some prospects for the future of Myanmar might be productively contemplated. Myanmar's isolation has effectively come to an end, a turn of events I would not have predicted even two years ago. The question remains, however, whether the stunning reforms are as transparent and trustworthy as they outwardly appear to be, or whether they are more of a 'regime survival' strategy. Some aver that Naypyitaw, with its Tatmadaw-dominated parliament and Constitution, will remain essentially governed by the military "in disguise as a civilian government" while Western and Asian "educated technocrats and developers will be advisors." (Maung Zarni, al-Jazeera, 14 Nov., 2012). In this regard, the Tatmadaw is still the "wild card", ultimately controlled not by the President but, according to the Constitution, by its own commanding

general. Doubters claim that the Tatmadaw depends on internal ethnic conflicts to stay in power, and that its officer corps resentfully goes along with reforms largely because of the possibility for increased financial returns. This viewpoint strikes me as too harsh. Initiatives to bring the Tatmadaw into the slipstream of change include opportunities to become a modern, progressive army based in part on more inclusive relationships with regional military forces (for example, an invitation to participate in the annual Cobra Gold multilateral joint training exercise with certain Asia Pacific and US forces), and I am informed that the key National Defense Academy is quite rational about the need for and responsibility of change.

Equally as crucial for the near future are the next national elections in 2015. So much about Myanmar's recent dramatic adjustment depends on just two key persons, the President and Daw Suu Kyi. This could see both Thein Sein and Daw Suu Kyi as opponents, although the possibility exists that their two parties might agree to a coalition of sorts, with Thein Sein continuing in office. At any rate, Daw Suu Kyi is ineligible for the Presidency. A virtually unchangeable Constitution prohibits high elected

office for anyone who has married a foreigner, although technically this change could be done as a result of a landslide parliamentary electoral victory. There are those as well who maintain that despite unparalleled grassroots support and personal charisma, Daw Suu Kyi would make a fractious leader bent on asserting her will, and that the NLD lacks the necessary team of seasoned political strategists, and is too weak in policy formation in order to form a successful government – something Thein Sein shows a gift for. This of course is largely conjecture. But as a final warning to all of us interested in the future of Myanmar, Daw Suu Kyi has recently cautioned India (and by extension observers everywhere) not to be overly optimistic about political change in her country. The Realpolitik of Myanmar's emergence into its new age demands that constraining historical, cultural and economic features be acknowledged, along with a vibrant hope that Thein Sein and Suu Kyi will together solidify a new polity within the next two years. They appear completely dependent on each other. For now, so as well does the nation rely more or less entirely on these two crucial personalities and what they can work out.

SOCIÉTÉ CIVILE



Le GTAP recherche des partenaires

Denis Côté, coordonnateur du Groupe de travail Asie-Pacifique



Le Groupe de travail Asie-Pacifique (GTAP) est un des trois groupes de travail géographiques du Conseil canadien pour la coopération internationale (CCCI). Le groupe est constitué de 24 organisations de la société civile canadienne et d'une institution académique qui travaillent ensemble à la poursuite de deux objectifs principaux : s'éduquer par rapport aux enjeux liés au développement et aux droits de la personne en Asie et faire du plaidoyer pour améliorer les politiques canadiennes en lien avec l'aide internationale, le commerce et les droits de la personne.

Le GTAP concentre actuellement son travail sur l'agenda commercial du Canada et ses impacts sur les droits de la personne en Asie, ce qui était d'ailleurs le thème du symposium annuel du groupe de travail en avril 2013. Nous organisons aussi régulièrement des webinaires sur plusieurs enjeux. Les événements récents portaient sur les thèmes suivants : les impacts des accords commerciaux sur les

droits de la personne en Asie, le Partenariat Transpacifique et la négociation de l'accord de libre-échange Canada-Inde. Nous lançons également deux projets de recherche, avec l'aide de stagiaires étudiants, pour examiner plus en détails les liens entre l'aide au développement, le commerce et les droits de la personne en Asie. Les autres principaux enjeux auxquels s'intéresse le GTAP sont les politiques concernant les agrocarburants, la sécurité alimentaire, le changement climatique, la santé et la nutrition, les enfants et les jeunes, et l'aide humanitaire.

Le GTAP est toujours à la recherche de partenaires dans le milieu académique pour travailler en commun sur des enjeux et pour organiser conjointement des activités d'apprentissage. Il y a plusieurs façons de s'impliquer avec le groupe de travail. Premièrement, vous pouvez vous inscrire à la liste d'envoi du bulletin hebdomadaire du GTAP. Ce bulletin présente un sommaire de nouvelles et d'événements à venir en lien avec l'Asie et la coopération internationale. Deuxièmement, vous pouvez participer à nos webinaires, rencontres régionales et/ou symposium à titre de conférencier ou encore comme simple participants.

Les invitations pour ces événements sont diffusées à travers le bulletin hebdomadaire. Troisièmement, vous pouvez fournir des commentaires sur nos projets de recherche et nous aider à identifier des recommandations politiques pertinentes. En ce moment par exemple, nous sommes à la recherche de commentaires pour nous aider à développer notre position face à aux agrocarburants. Quatrièmement, votre institution peut devenir membre du groupe de travail. Le Humber College s'est joint récemment au groupe de travail et nous espérons que d'autres institutions académiques se joindront au groupe en 2013. Les membres participent à l'élaboration du plan de travail annuel du GTAP et sont invités à participer à certains événements fermés – comme des rencontres avec des représentants de l'ACDI, du MAÉCI ou encore de la Banque asiatique de développement – et au développement des positions politiques du groupe. Devenir membre est gratuit, mais nous invitons les membres à faire une contribution volontaire au groupe de travail sur une base annuelle afin de soutenir nos activités.

Pour toute information, contactez le coordonnateur du GTAP, Denis Côté, à dcote@ccic.ca. Vous pouvez également visiter notre site web ici : http://www.ccic.ca/working_groups/apwg_f.php

The APWG is looking for partners

Denis Côté, Coordinator, Asia Pacific Working Group

The Asia-Pacific Working Group (APWG) is one of three regional working groups of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC). It is comprised of 24 Canadian civil society organizations and one academic institution which come together to achieve two main objectives: learning about development and human rights issues in Asia, and advocating for improved Canadian policies in relation to aid, trade and human rights.

The APWG is currently focusing its work on the Canadian trade agenda and its impact on human rights in Asia, which was the theme of the annual symposium of the working group in April 2013. We also organize webinars on a regular basis. Recent webinars have been about issues such as the impacts of trade agreements on human rights in Asia, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and the Canada-India FTA. We are

also launching two research projects, with the help of student interns, to examine in more details the linkages between aid, trade, and human rights in Asia. The other main issues of concern for the APWG are the policies around agrofuels, food security, climate change, health and nutrition, children and youth, and humanitarian work.

The APWG is always looking to partner with academics to work on common issues and to organize joint learning events. There are various ways to get involved with the working group. First, you can subscribe to the (free) weekly APWG E-Bulletin. This bulletin offers a list of news and upcoming events related to Asia and international cooperation. Second, you can participate as a guest or a speaker in our webinars, regional meetings and/or annual symposium. The invitations for these events are sent through the bulletin. Third, you can provide

comments on our research projects and help us identify relevant policy recommendations for the Canadian government. At the moment, for example, we are seeking input for the policy position that we are developing towards agrofuels. Fourth, your institution can become a member of the working group. The Humber College recently became a member of the working group and we are hoping that more academic institutions will join the group as well in 2013. Members participate in the elaboration of the annual work plan of the APWG and are invited to participate in closed events - such as meetings with policy makers at CIDA, DFAIT, or the ADB - and in the development of the group's policy positions. Becoming a member is free but the group asks for annual voluntary contributions to sustain its activities.

For more information, please contact the APWG Coordinator, Denis Côté at dcote@ccic.ca. You can also visit our webpage here: http://www.ccic.ca/working_groups/apwg_e.php

GROUPE DE
TRAVAIL
ASIE-
PACIFIQUE



ASIA-
PACIFIC
WORKING
GROUP



ANNOUNCEMENTS

York Centre for Asian Research International Graduate Conference

April 26-27, 2013 | York University, Toronto

The question of reconstructing the conceptual frameworks for research in Asia and Asian Diaspora has been actively debated in the last few decades, reflecting dynamic changes in both scholars' and broader society's notions of 'Asia'. The disciplinary divides traditionally associated with Area Studies are also being contested,

and more interdisciplinary approaches are being demanded for researching Asia.

Taking up this challenge, the YCAR conference seeks graduate student research that can speak to ways of rethinking the epistemologies and methodologies of researching Asia, and reconstructing conventional categories and frameworks from a broad range of disciplines.

THEME

(Re)Constructions: Researching and Rethinking Asia

For more information:

<http://www.yorku.ca/ycar/Events/>

Contact email:

YCARreconstructions2013@gmail.com



Photo: Stéphanie Martel

5th International Conference on The History of Medicine in Southeast Asia

January 9-11, 2014 | Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City

The 2014 HOMSEA Conference will be held at Ateneo de Manila University in Quezon City, Loyola Heights (Metro Manila, Philippines) on January 9-11, 2014. It will be hosted by the Department of History.

The goal of HOMSEA is to promote research in all aspects of the history of medicine and health in Southeast Asia

in order to foster closer fellowship among medical historians and greater cooperation among scholars and students, especially those practicing in the region, by providing a forum for the international exchange of ideas and research.

Its main aim is to organise a conference in Southeast Asia related to its goal once every two years, usually

in cooperation with other societies.

The 2014 Conference will feature presentations on the following themes, among others: the history of medical education, indigenous medical traditions, history of military medicine, women's health and family planning, etc.

For more information: laurence.monnais-rousselot@umontreal.ca

Call for Papers:

Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies Conference 2013

The Centre for East Asian Studies, Université de Montréal invites submissions for the 2013 edition of the CCSEAS conference. The conference will be held at the Carrefour des arts et des sciences at Université de Montréal, Quebec, on October 17-19, 2013.

The conference aims to encourage exchanges under the broad following theme: 'Multiple Encounters, Shifting Spaces: Southeast Asia at the Crossroads.' We welcome submissions of abstracts and panel proposals from professors, researchers and graduate students who have completed research related to Southeast Asia as well as members of civil society organizations.

Please note that membership to the Canadian Association of Asian Studies (CASA) is mandatory in order to participate to the CCSEAS conference. If you have not already renewed your membership to CASA for 2013, we encourage you to do it as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline:
June 30, 2013

Confirmation of Attendance Deadline:
September 1, 2013

Full Papers Due: **September 30, 2013**

You will find the complete call for papers and the form to submit

abstracts in the CCSEAS section of the CASA website: <http://casa-acea.ca/>.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dominique Caouette (U of Montreal, Chair, CCSEAS)
Villia Jefremovas (York University, Vice-Chair, CCSEAS)
Danielle Labbé (U of Montreal, Treasurer, CCSEAS)

Conference logistics:

Clara Boulianne-Lagacé (McGill University, Student Rep., CCSEAS)
Stéphanie Martel (U. of Montreal, Student Rep., CCSEAS)

Contact (email):

ccseas.conference2013@gmail.com

Appel à communications:

Colloque du Conseil canadien des études sur l'Asie du sud-est 2013

Le Centre d'études sur l'Asie de l'Est, Université de Montréal, vous invite à soumettre un résumé de communication pour l'édition 2013 du colloque du CCEASE. Le colloque se tiendra au Carrefour des arts et des sciences de l'Université de Montréal, Québec, du 17 au 19 octobre 2013.

La conférence vise à encourager les échanges autour du thème général suivant: « Rencontres plurielles, espaces dynamiques: L'Asie du Sud-Est à la croisée des chemins ». Nous encourageons les soumissions de la part de professeurs, chercheurs et étudiants des cycles supérieurs dont les travaux portent sur l'Asie du Sud-Est, au même titre que des membres d'organisations de la société civile travaillant dans la région.

Veuillez noter que l'adhésion à

l'Association canadienne des études asiatiques (ACÉA) est obligatoire pour participer au colloque du CCEASE. Si vous n'êtes pas membre ou n'avez pas renouvelé votre abonnement pour l'année 2013, vous êtes encouragés à le faire le plus tôt possible.

DATES IMPORTANTES

Date limite pour la soumission des résumés: **30 juin 2013**

Paieement des frais d'inscription et confirmation de participation:

1er septembre 2013

Date limite pour la soumission des papiers: **30 septembre 2013**

L'appel à communications complet et le formulaire au moyen duquel

soumettre vos résumés sont disponibles dans la section du CCEASE sur le site Internet de l'ACÉA: <http://casa-acea.ca/>.

COMITÉ ORGANISATEUR

Dominique Caouette (Université de Montréal, Président, CCEASE)
Villia Jefremovas (York University, Vice-Présidente, CCEASE)
Danielle Labbé (Université de Montréal, Trésorière, CCEASE)

Logistique du colloque:

Clara Boulianne-Lagacé (Université McGill, Rep. étudiante, CCEASE)
Stéphanie Martel (Université de Montréal, Rep. étudiante, CCEASE)

Contact (courriel):

ccseas.conference2013@gmail.com

Call for Papers:

CCSEAS 2013 Conference: Pre-Conference Student Event

The Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies (CCSEAS) is inviting students to participate to a student pre-conference, which will take place on October 17, 2013. The event is primarily aimed at third or fourth-year undergraduate students who have worked on a quality paper about Southeast Asia, such as an honors thesis. First-year MA students are also welcome to participate.

The aim of this pre-conference event is to allow undergraduate students to get a first conference presentation experience in a friendly

environment. It should be viewed by students as an occasion to work on their oral communication skills and to get feedback from their peers and professors, as well as a great addition to their CV.

Students from all disciplines are welcome, the only constraint being that student presentations should be about Southeast Asia. Student papers should range from 5000-7000 words (20-25 pages, double-spaced). Students should submit individual papers, which will be organized into panels of 3 or 4 papers. A professor will act as a discussant for each student panel.

If you know of students who fit this profile and might be interested to participate to the pre-conference event, you may tell them to contact us at the following email address so we can send them an official call for papers with more information: ccseas.conference2013@gmail.com.

Abstract Submission Deadline: **June 30, 2013**

Full Papers Due: **September 30, 2013**

Appel à communications:

Colloque 2013 du CCEASE: Pré-colloque étudiant

Le Conseil canadien des études sur l'Asie du Sud-Est (CCEASE) invite les étudiants à participer à un pré-colloque qui aura lieu le 17 octobre 2013. L'événement s'adresse aux étudiants en voie de compléter leurs études de premier cycle qui souhaiteraient présenter un travail de qualité sur l'Asie du Sud-Est, tel un travail dirigé de fin de baccalauréat. Les étudiants en première année de maîtrise sont aussi les bienvenus au pré-colloque.

Cet événement permettra aux étudiants au baccalauréat d'acquérir une première expérience de présentation lors d'une conférence académique dans un environnement amical. L'événement sera une

occasion pour les étudiants d'améliorer leur habilité à présenter devant un public, et d'obtenir des commentaires sur leur travail. Il s'agit également d'une belle réalisation à inscrire à leur CV.

Les étudiants de toutes les disciplines sont les bienvenus, la seule contrainte étant que les présentations devront porter sur l'Asie du Sud-Est. Les articles présentés par les étudiants devront comporter de 5000 à 7000 mots (20-25 pages à double interligne). Nous nous attendons à ce que les étudiants soumettent des présentations individuelles, que nous regrouperons en ateliers thématiques par la suite. Chaque atelier comportera de 3 à 4 étudiants, et un professeur fera office de discutant.

Si vous connaissez des étudiants qui correspondent à ces critères et pourraient être intéressés à participer à ce pré-colloque étudiant, ils peuvent contacter le comité organisateur de la conférence à l'adresse courriel suivante: ccseas.conference2013@gmail.com.

Un appel à communications avec plus d'informations pourra alors leur être transmis.

Date limite pour la soumission des résumés: **30 juin 2013**

Date limite pour la soumission des textes: **30 septembre 2013**

We look forward to seeing you next October!
Au plaisir de vous voir en octobre!

The Conference Committee / Le comité organisateur
