

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **Fourth International Conference on Lao Studies**

**When:** Friday, 19 April 2013 to Sunday, 21 April 2013

**Where:** University of Wisconsin-Madison,  
Madison, Wisconsin, USA (Pyle Center)

The Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Center for Lao Studies (CLS) are pleased to announce that the Fourth International Conference on Lao Studies (ICLS) will be held on April 19-21, 2013 in Madison, Wisconsin, USA. The main objective of the conference is to promote Lao studies, broadly defined, by providing an international forum for scholars to present and discuss various aspects of Lao Studies.

### **Theme**

The theme of the Fourth International Conference on Lao Studies is 'Lao Studies' as well as 'The diverse ethnic groups of Laos'. However, this conference intends to accommodate all academic scholarship in the social sciences and humanities related to Laos, and peoples linked either to identifying as Lao or to the country of Laos more generally, including people from all ethnic groups in Laos, and diaspora communities all over the world.

### **Description**

The conference will bring together Lao Studies scholars and researchers from all disciplines in the social sciences and humanities, and all intellectual and political perspectives, to share paper presentations, panel presentations, exhibits, performances, and cultural activities.

The following are included within the target groups of the conference:

- 1) All self-identified ethnic groups of Laos (e.g. Lao, Khmu, Hmong, Ieu-Mien, Akha, Phouan, Phou Tai, Nyouan, etc.);
- 2) Lao/Thai Isan and other ethnic Lao groups in Thailand (e.g. Lao Song, Phouan, Phou Tai, etc.)
- 3) Ethnic Lao living in Cambodia
- 4) Cross-border ethnic groups living in Vietnam, China, Burma, Thailand and Cambodia (e.g. Akha, Hmong, Phouan, Ieu-Mien, Khmu, Tai Lue, Tai Dam, Lahu, Brao, etc.)
- 5) Overseas diaspora originally from Laos or descendents of people from Laos (including Lao Americans, Hmong Americans, Khmu Americans, French Lao, Australian Lao, Canadian Lao, etc.)

The following are some, but certainly not all, of possible topics of interest to the conference organizers:

- Architectural Transformations
- Art and Music

- Border Trade and Interactions
- Buddhism and Other Religions
- Community
- Cultures of Ethnic Groups in Laos
- Education
- Environment and Health
- Ethnic Groups and Economic and Social Change
- Extractive Industries
- Families and Children
- Gender Relations
- Identity Politics
- Internet-Based Communications and Networking
- Irredentism and Regionalism
- Language, Linguistics and Literature
- Lao American Issues
- Lao Heritage
- Lao History
- Lao People in the Regional/Global Economy
- Lao Politics
- Lao Relations with People from Other Ethnic Groups
- Large-Scale Economic Land Concessions
- Livelihood Changes
- Nature Conservation (including Wildlife and Protected Area Management)
- Nature-Society Interactions
- Research Methodologies in Lao Studies
- Rural Development
- Transnational Networks and Relations
- Urbanization and Development

## PROCEDURES and TIMELINES

- 1) Please submit abstracts in English before October 31, 2012
- 2) Submit abstracts electronically, sending preferably a Microsoft word file (document) in an e-mail attachment to [4thinternationallaostudiescon@gmail.com](mailto:4thinternationallaostudiescon@gmail.com) (see below for specific instructions regarding preparing abstracts)

General Contact information:

The Fourth International Conference on Lao Studies  
 Center for Southeast Asian Studies  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison  
 207 Ingraham Hall  
 1155 Observatory Drive  
 Madison, Wisconsin  
 USA 53706-1397

Tel: +1-608-263-1755

Fax: +1-608-263-3735

[www.laostudies.org/conferences](http://www.laostudies.org/conferences)

- 3) The conference abstract committee will review abstracts and send an acceptance letter with scheduling information and other instructions for submitting final abstract statements and full versions of papers.
- 4) Abstracts of panels, and individual papers and full versions of conference papers will be collected for distribution on-line.

### ORGANIZED PANELS

Organized panels, composed of 3-4 scholars presenting formal papers and 1 or 2 discussants that can be scheduled into one-and-a-half-hour time slots are also invited. Panel organizers are requested to supply the following information:

- Title of the panel
- Conference theme(s) related to the panel
- Name, institution, address and email of the panel organizer
- Name, institution, address and email of each paper presenter
- Names, institutions, addresses and email of the panel discussants
- Abstract (250 words or less) describing the panel as a whole
- Title of each paper and abstract (250 words or less) for each paper

### INDIVIDUAL PAPERS

Individual papers will be grouped into coherent panels. The papers must include the following:

- Title of the paper
- Name, institution, address and email address of paper presenter
- Abstracts (250 words or less) with identified keywords.
- Related conference topic(s)

### REGISTRATION

All participants are requested to register online. The registration fee includes the conference program, and morning and afternoon snacks for the three-day conference. Early registration deadline is January 15, 2013. Please note that there will be no refund for cancellation or absence.

#### Conference and Conference Banquet Registration

Rate Type	Early Registration On or before January 15, 2013	Late Registration After January 15, 2013
Non-student	US\$175	US\$200
Student Registration	US\$90	US\$115
Center for Lao Studies Members or Senior Citizens (with low income) Center for	US\$150	US\$175

Lao Studies Membership information is available at: <a href="http://laostudies.org/support-us/membership">http://laostudies.org/support-us/membership</a>		
Community participants (Upper Midwest: Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota)	US\$125	US\$150

Note: 90% refunds are possible up to March 1, 2013. After this time refunds are not possible.

- Center for Lao Studies Fundraiser Banquet: Friday April 19, 2013 at 7PM. US\$25. Tickets are available for purchase separately at <https://co.clickandpledge.com/advanced/default.aspx?wid=50776>
- Conference Banquet: Conference Participants US\$25/Non-Conference Participants US\$35

Note: CLS Fundraiser Banquet must be purchased through CLS website at: <https://co.clickandpledge.com/advanced/default.aspx?wid=50776> Tickets will also be sold at time of registration on Friday, April 19, 2013.

Conference Banquet tickets for Saturday, April 20, 2013 must be purchased before March 1, 2013. There will be no refunds for banquet tickets after March 1, 2013.

\* Students, CLS members and senior citizens must be able to provide evidence of their status.