



Explorations

A Graduate Student Journal of Southeast Asian Studies

Volume 15 | 2019





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Restored Fort Amsterdam in Ambon
Image: Benjamin Moseley

Dear Readers –

Welcome to **EXPLORATIONS: a graduate student journal of Southeast Asian studies**. The scholarship contained in this volume includes well-researched and original articles, eye-opening notes from the field, and constructive book reviews, all of which contribute to our ever-expanding knowledge of Southeast Asia as an area of study. Between these pages, graduate students and early career scholars explore important topics such as humor in contemporary Thai culture, differences and similarities between the China policies of Cambodia and Vietnam, and the dilemmas faced by scholars conducting field research in post-disaster areas in Indonesia.

The **EXPLORATIONS** editorial team is pleased to be a part of this student-initiated platform to encourage and promote graduate scholarship in Southeast Asian Studies. Nonetheless, we are grateful for the guidance and support provided by the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Center for Southeast Asian Studies. We are especially appreciative of the center's always delightful associate director Paul Rausch and its lifesaving tech wizard Diliaur Tellei.

Sincerely,

EXPLORATIONS Editorial Team

EXPLORATIONS is a publication wholly managed and edited by a board of graduate students, in conjunction with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and partially funded by the United States Department of Education, through a Title VI grant.

The principle mission of **EXPLORATIONS** is to offer a forum for students to present disciplinary and interdisciplinary research on a broad range of issues relating principally to the region which today constitutes Southeast Asia. Embracing both the diversity of academic interests and scholastic expertise, it is hoped that this forum will introduce students to the work of their colleagues, encourage discussion both within and across disciplines, and foster a sense of community among those interested in Southeast Asia.

The views expressed in **EXPLORATIONS** are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the editorial board. If you have interest in participating in the production of **EXPLORATIONS** or have questions, comments, or submissions, please contact the editors at: explore@hawaii.edu, or **EXPLORATIONS** c/o CSEAS, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Moore Hall 416, 1890 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822 USA.

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Cover Picture:

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