

What is GIST?

The Group-Independent Study Travel (GIST) is a culminating activity of the Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP). It is an independent field study designed to provide intensive field work and research opportunities for selected fellows of APLP.

The Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP) is an innovative, graduate level leadership development certificate program and a hallmark of the East-West Center. The East West Center (www.eastwestcenter.org) is an education and research organization established by the U.S. Congress in 1960 to strengthen relations and understanding among the peoples and nations of Asia, the Pacific, and the United States. The Center contributes to a peaceful, prosperous and just Asia Pacific community by serving as a vigorous hub for cooperative research, education and dialogue on critical issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the United States. Funding for the Center comes from the U.S. government, with additional support provided by private agencies, individuals, foundations, cooperations and the governments of the region.

The Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP) is a none month graduate certificate program combining the development of regional expertise with the enhancement of individual leadership capacity. Based at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, the program has created a network of 461 dynamic leaders in 53 countries who are helping to build a peaceful, prosperous and just Asia Pacific community. The APLP draws on the diverse knowledge and leadership experience of its participants as well as the world-class resources of the East-West Center and its extended community.



ASIA PACIFIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

1601 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96848 USA
(808) 944-7111
apl@eastwestcenter.org



GIST 2014



Doing intensive
fieldwork and
research while
exploring cultural
heritage and
languages in South
East Asia.

Aloha! We are the participants of Asia Pacific Leadership Program (APLP) Generation 13.

The APLP is the center of excellence for leadership education in Asia Pacific and a signature program of the East-West Center. The program links advanced and interdisciplinary analysis of emergent regional issues with experiential leadership learning. Currently on its 13th cohort, the APLP has created a network of 461 dynamic leaders in 53 countries who are helping to build a peaceful, prosperous and just Asia Pacific community.

The Group Independent Study Travel (GIST) component of the APLP involves a team of selected 'delegates' spending fifteen weeks in South East Asia. As delegates of GIST, we will be conducting an intensive field work to carry out focused individual research, community projects, and 'quests', which involves problem solving and overland travel across the region.

The APLP had provided us the time, tools, contacts and knowledge needed to successfully navigate personal and regional change. GIST provides the space to reflect on these lessons in the context of South East Asia, framed to address the following three questions:

- **What's going on?:** Emerging regional issues, charting (seeing and mapping trends), navigating uncertainty
- **What types of leadership are required?:** Understanding the nature of leadership, leading diversity, developing resilience
- **Where do we fit?:** Imagining preferred and alternative futures, building scenarios, analyzing social networks

We look forward to connect and engage with individuals and communities to discuss, share and reflect on these ideas.

The GISTers 2014

**Annalie
Edday**

Philippines

EddayA@apl.EastWestCenter.org



**Kartika
Anindya
Putri
Indonesia**

PutriK@apl.EastWestCenter.org



**Kaing
Menghun**

Cambodia

KaingM@apl.EastWestCenter.org



**Hla Hla
Win**

Myanmar

WinH@apl.EastWestCenter.org



Their Projects

Anne will immerse in green and cultural schools in SouthEast Asia and learn on their best practices and challenges as she wants to build the Philippine Blaan School in 2016. For more information about Anne and her advocacy, please check:

<http://anneddayquest.wix.com/annalie-edday>

Tika will explore group learning methods and different modalities of conducting constructive and reflective dialogues about leadership. She will be collecting stories and insights about "what is possible" about leadership in Asia, and looking into elements of positive communication.

Menghun is interested in looking at how the ASEAN Integration in 2015 will have an impact on Cambodian migrant workers in Thailand and Malaysia. She is interested in learning about how they are preparing for the upcoming opportunities and challenges.

A researcher, educator with entrepreneurship spirit, **Hla Hla** plans to explore the region where there is influx of Myanmar migrant workers. She will deepen her understanding on international standards and procedures for social security of workers as she plans to establish a rights-based overseas employment agency in the near future in Myanmar.