

# ARDETH MAUNG THAWNGHMUNG

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, LOWELL, MA 01854  
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978-934-4238

## PRESENT POSITION

**Professor**, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Lowell (Fall 2013 – present)

## CAREER HISTORY

**Chair**, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Lowell (Fall 2013 – 2021)

**Interim Director**, Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Massachusetts, Lowell (2020-2021)

**Associate Professor**, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Lowell (Fall 2008 – 2013 Spring)

**Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Science, University of Massachusetts, Lowell (Spring 2004 – Spring 2008)

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Victoria, Canada (Spring 2003 – Fall 2003)

**Lecturer**, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Fall 2001 – Spring 2002)

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI ( 2001)  
Dissertation: “Paddy Farmers and the State: Agricultural Policies and Political Legitimacy in Rural Myanmar (Burma).”
- M.A. International Relations, Yale University. New Haven, CT (1995)
- B.A. Political Science, Indiana University-Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN (1993)

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

Bertrand, Jacques, Alex Pelletier, and Ardeth Thawngmung, *Winning by Process: The State, Democratic Transition, Ethnic Conflict in Myanmar*, Cornell University Press, 2022.

Ardeth Thawngmung, *The Everyday Economic Survival in Contemporary Myanmar*, University of Wisconsin Press, 2019.

Ardeth Thawngmung, *The "Other" Karen in Myanmar: Ethnic Minorities and the Struggle Without Arms*. Lexington Books/Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group, Lanham MA, 2012.

Ardeth Thawngmung, *Beyond Armed Resistance: The Non-insurgent Members of Ethno-national Groups in Burma*. Policy Studies 62, East-West Center, Washington DC, 2011.

Ardeth Thawngmung, *The Karen Revolution: Divided Voice, Uncertain Ends*. Policy Studies 45 (Southeast Asia). East-West Center, Washington DC and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. 2008.

Ardeth Thawngmung, *Behind the Teak Curtain: Authoritarianism, Agricultural Policies and Political Legitimacy in Rural Burma*. Kegan Paul, London: 2004.

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

Ardeth Maung Thawngmung and Naw Moo Moo Paw (2024). "Agents" of the state or society? Resistance, accommodation, violence and the role of local administrators in post-coup Myanmar" *Democratization* 1(3), 575-595.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13510347.2024.2319320>

Ardeth M Thawngnung and Su Mon Thazin Aung, 2024 "Monthly Observation Research by Community Researchers: Coping With Dangerous Situations and Multiple Crises in Post-coup Myanmar," *The Journal of Burma Studies*, Volume 28, Number 1.

Ardeth M Thawngmung, Su Mon Thazin Aung, Naw Moo Moo Paw & Duncan Boughton (2023): "Water in One Hand, Fire in the Other:" *Coping with Multiple Crises in Post-coup Burma/Myanmar*, *Critical Asian Studies*, volume 55, issue 2, 2023, 306-329.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Saw Eh Htoo. "The Fractured Center: "Two-headed Government" and Threats to the Peace Process in Myanmar," *Modern Asian Studies*, 56 (2): March 2022. pp. 504-532.

Ardeth M. Thawngmung. 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023. 'Myanmar History', in Juliet Love (Ed.), *The Far East and Australasia 2021*. Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 599-609.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Valeria Fasolo, "Migration and Intercommunal Relationships: Interdisciplinary and Inter-regional Dialogue, *Migration Studies*, Volume 10, Issue 2, June 2022, pp. 396–421.

Jenifer Whitten-Woodring, Mona Kleinberg, Ardeth Thawngmung, Myat The Thitsar, "Poison if You Don't Know How to Use it: Facebook, Democracy and Human Rights in Myanmar," *International Journal of Press/Politics*, May 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1940161220919666>

Helene Kyed and Ardeth Thawngmung, "The Significance of EveryDay Access to Justice in Myanmar's Transition to Democracy, *Trends in Southeast Asia* # 9, ISEAS, Yusof Ishak Institute, 2019.

Jacques Bertrand, Alexandre Pelletier, Ardeth Maung Thawngmung, "First Movers, Democratization and Unilateral Concessions: Overcoming Commitment Problems and Negotiating a "Nationwide Cease-Fire" in Myanmar," *Asian Security*, May 2018  
10.1080/14799855.2018.1471466

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Sigs of life in Myanmar nationwide ceasefire agreement? Finding a way forward," *Critical Asian Studies*, Vol 49, Issue, 3, 2017.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Do consultancies compromise academic research and ethics? A case study of Burma/Myanmar," *Asian Journal of Political Science*, April 2017, Vol 25, Issue 2, 176-193.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Gwen Robinson, Myanmar's New Era: A Break from the Past, or Too much of the Same? *Southeast Asian Affairs* 2017, 237-258.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "The Politics of Indigeneity in Myanmar" *Asian Ethnicity*, Volume 17, Issue 4, 2016, pp. 527-547.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "The Politics of Everyday Life in Twenty-First Century Myanmar," *Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol. 70, No. 3, August 2011, 641–56

Ardeth Thawngmung and Maung Aung Myoe, "Myanmar in 2007: A Turning Point in the 'Roadmap?'" *Asian Survey*, Vol. 48, No. 1, January/February 2008, 13–19.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Maung Aung Myoe, "Myanmar in 2006: Another Year of Housekeeping?" *Asian Survey*, Vol. 47, No. 1, February 2007, 194–99.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Paul Sarno, "Myanmar Impasses: Alternatives to Isolation and Engagement?" *Asian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 14, No. 1, September 2006, pp. 40–63.

Ardeth Thawngmung "Rural perceptions of state legitimacy in Burma/Myanmar," *Journal of Peasant Studies*, Vol. 30, No. 2, 2003, 1–40.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Preconditions and Prospects for Democratic Transition in 3Burma/Myanmar," *Asian Survey*, Vol. 43, No. 3. May/June 2003, 443–61.

Ardeth Thawngmung "The socio-economic impacts of rice policies implementation in rural Burma/Myanmar" *Sojourn*, Vol. 18, No. 2, October 2003, 299–321.

#### CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

Mona Kleinberg, Jenifer Whitten-Woodring, Myat The Thitsar, and Ardeth Thawngmung, "Why Myanmar's Facebook Users were Susceptible to Hate Speech," in *Countering online hate and its offline consequences in fragile and conflict-affected situations*, Edited by Babak Bahador, Rachel Brown, Craig Hammer and Laura Livingston, Syracuse University Press, 2024.

Duncan Boughton , Ardeth Maung Thawngmung ,Cho Cho San , Nilar Aung , and Ikuko Okamoto, "Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Incipient Progress Aborted" in *Myanmar: Politics, Economy and Society*, Edited By Adam Simpson, Nicholas Farrelly, 1<sup>st</sup> and second edition. London: Routledge

Thawngmung, Ardeth Maung. "'National Races' in Myanmar." In the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History. Ed. David Ludden. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022.

Ardeth Maung Thawngmung and Michael Furnari, "Ethnic Armed groups in Myanmar," Andrew T H Tan and Benjamin Schreer (eds) in *Terrorism and Insurgency in Asia* Routledge Book, 2019.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Rural Myanmar," Nicholas Farrelly, Adam Simpson, Ian Holliday (eds) in *Handbook of Contemporary Myanmar*, Routledge New Contemporary Country Handbook), 2018, 72-83.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Yadana, "Citizenship and Minority Rights: The Role of Ethnic Affairs Ministers in Myanmar's 2008 Constitution," *Ashley South and Marie Lall (eds), Citizenship in Myanmar: Ways of being in and from Burma* (Chiang Mai University Press, Chiang Mai), 2018, 113-149.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Contending approaches to communal violence in Rakhine State." In Mikael Gravers and Flemming Ytzen (eds.) *Burma Myanmar-Where Now?*, Copenhagen: NIAS, 2014.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "From the 'Loyal' to the 'Revolutionary' Karen: Looking at Burma's Post-Independent Eras through the Life of Maung Sin Kye." In Wen-Chin Chang and Eric Tagliacozzo (eds.) *Burmese Lives*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Ardeth Thawngmung and Violet Cho, "Zipporah Sein: A Brief Biography of the KNU General Secretary." In Helen Ting and Susan Blackburn (eds.) *Women in Southeast Asian Nationalist Movements*, Singapore: National University of Singapore Press, 2013.

Ardeth Thawngmung "Burma: Competing Approaches to Multinational Societies." In Andre Laliberte and Jacques Bertrand (eds.), *Multinational States in Asia: Recognition, Accommodation and Resistance*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "The Missing Variable: The Price We Pay for Ignoring the Study of Rural Political Economy in Southeast Asia." In Vu Tuong, Dan Slater, and Erik Kuhonta (eds.) *Southeast Asia and Political Science*, Stanford CA: Stanford University Press, 2008.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Responding to Strategies and Program of Myanmar's Military Regime: An Economic Analysis." In *Southeast Asian Affairs 2008*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2008, 274-90.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Agricultural Implementation Processes in Burma/Myanmar: Problems and Limitations." In David Mathieson and R.J. May (eds.), *Illusion of Progress: The Political Economy of Reform in Burma/Myanmar*. Adelaide: Crawford House, 2003.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Thant Myint-U, *Hidden History of Burma: Race, Capitalism and the Crisis of Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. New York: W.W. Norton, 2019. Reviewed in *Current History: A Journal of Contemporary World Affairs* 119 (816):156-159 (April 2020).

Richard Cockett, *Blood, Dreams and Gold: The Changing Face of Burma*. New Haven: Yale University Press, Reviewed in SOJOURN Vol. 32 No. 2 (July 2017).

Kyaw Yin Hlaing (ed), *Prisms on the Golden Pagoda: Perspective on the National Reconciliation in Myanmar*. Reviewed in *Asian Journal of Social Science* 44(1-2):279-282 (January 2016).

Jessica Harriden, *The Authority of Influence: Women and Power in Burmese History*. NIAS: Copenhagen, 2012. Reviewed in *Asian Studies Review*, 38, 2, 2014, 320-321.

Yoshinori Nishizaki, *Political Authority and Provincial Identity in Thailand: The Making of Banharn-Buri*. Ithaca NY: Cornell Southeast Asia Program, 2011. Reviewed in *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 43, 2012, 556-58.

Peter John Perry, *Myanmar (Burma) Since 1962: The Failure of Development*. Vermont: Ashgate, 2007. Reviewed in *Sojourn*, Vol. 23, No. 1, April 2008.

Series-editor, "Special Issue on Poverty," in *Independent Journal of Burmese Scholarship*, Vol.1, Number 1, August 2016, with "introduction to the special issue on poverty." Available at <http://journalofburmesescholarship.org/issues.html>

## COMMENTARY PIECES

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Myanmar's National Unity forces must overcome divide and rule tactics," *Nikkei Asian Review*, July 31, 2021, <https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/Myanmar-s-National-Unity-forces-must-overcome-divide-and-rule-tactics>

Ardeth Thawngmung and Khun Noah, "Myanmar's Military Coup and the Elevation of Minority Agenda?", *Critical Asian Studies*, April 27, 2021. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14672715.2021.1912620>

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Back to the Future: Possible scenarios for Myanmar, *ISEAS Perspective*, 2021/30, <https://www.iseas.edu.sg/articles-commentaries/iseas-perspective/2021-30-back-to-the-future-possible-scenarios-for-myanmar-by-ardeth-maung-thawngmung/>

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Myanmar: Why the Military Took Over," *Critical Asian Studies*, <https://criticalasianstudies.org/commentary/2021/2/21/commentary-ardeth-thawngmung>, February 22, 2021.

Ardeth Thawngmung, "The Myanmar Elections 2015: Why the National League for Democracy Won a Landslide Victory," *Critical Asian Studies*, Volume 48, Number 1, March 2016, 132-142

Ardeth Thawngmung, "Complex, Divergent Forces Are Re-shaping Burma," *Oxford Analytica*, May 15, 2012.

Ardeth Thawngmung "Burma: A kinder, gentler authoritarianism?" *Foreign Policy*, November, 2003, 39-40.

### **RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- **UML Researchers and Scholars Investment Fund - Fall 2023.**
- **INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION GRANT 2022**  
"HOW HAVE SOME VILLAGES REMAINED PEACEFUL IN VIOLENT-PRONE AREAS? FACTORS AFFECTING THE NATURE, LEVEL, AND INTENSITY OF VIOLENCE IN POST-COUP MYANMAR"
- 
- **FULBRIGHT PUBLIC POLICY FELLOW, MYANMAR, 2020-2021 (CANCELLED DUE TO COVID AND MILITARY COUP IN 2021)**
- **UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE (2014-2016), "INSTITUTIONALIZING MINORITY PRESENTATION IN POST-TRANSITIONAL MYANMAR,"**  
**CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS- JACQUES BERTRAND AND ALEXANDRE PAQUIN-PELLETIER (UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO)**
- **Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Program, 2010-11**
- **Visiting Research Fellow, 2007-08**  
East-West Center, Washington, DC, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore.
- **Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Summer and Fall 2006**  
Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
- **Henry Luce Visiting Fellow, 2002**  
Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University

### **FUNDED PROJECTS**

2021-2024. COPING WITH MULTIPLE CRISES, TOTAL FUNDING FROM LIFT MYANMAR 53,550. WORK WITH 24 LOCAL RESEARCHERS TO BRIEF EVOLVING SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATIONS IN MYANMAR FOR THE LIFT MYANMAR.

2014-2015. "A Comparative Analysis between Old and New Refugee Populations in Lowell (1970-present)." Total funding from the Indochinese Refugees Foundation Endowment Fund 2,700 USD. Research assistant. Emily Fritz (Peace and Conflict Studies)

2014-2015. Increasing the Efficacy of Refugee Youth Programs in Lowell, Massachusetts.

Total funding 2,000 USD from the Mary Bacigalupo Endowment Fund. Co-investigators. John Wooding and David Lewis

2014-2015. Initiated and led a workshop on “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Poverty in Myanmar.” Yangon, Myanmar. TOTAL FUNDING 15,000 USD from Independent Myanmar Research Journal (*Lutt Latt Thaw Myanmar Thutethena Gyarnei*)

2014. Initiated and led capacity building workshop for ethnic minority political parties in Burma, Collaborative project with local NGO, total funding 25,000 USD from the British Embassy, Myanmar

2014. Initiated and led capacity building workshop for ethnic minority political parties in Burma, Collaborative project with Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University, total funding 20,000 USD

2012-13. Co-initiated and led four capacity building workshops for ethnic minority political parties in Burma. Collaborative project with local NGO, total funding 60,000 USD from British Embassy

2012-13. Working Women Wonder, Afterschool Program and Income-Generating Activities for Burmese women refugees in Lowell. Total funding 5,000 USD.

#### **REVIEWER FOR**

*Asian Ethnicity, Asian Journal of Social Sciences, Asian Politics and Policies, Asia Pacific Viewpoint, Asian Journal of Political Science, Asian Survey, Cambridge University Press, Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies, Columbia University Press, Contemporary Southeast Asia, Critical Asian Studies, Democratization, East Asia: International Quarterly, International Affairs, International Feminist Journal of Politics, Journal of Burma Studies, Journal of Economic Geography, International Area Studies Review, NEAS Press, Oxford University Press, Sojourn: Journal of Social Issues in Southeast Asia, Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism, University of Wisconsin Press, World Development,*

#### **CLASSES TAUGHT**

Introduction to International Relations, Southeast Asian Politics, Politics of Collective Identity, Democratic Movement in Southeast Asia, Democracy and Development, Reading and Simulation Experience in International Organizations, Directed Study in International Organizations, Research Seminar, Peace And Conflict Field Experience, Political Analysis, Research Methods (both undergraduate and graduate levels), Introduction to Pacific-Asian Region, Southeast Asia from 1800 to the Mid Twentieth Century, Southeast Asia in the Twentieth Century, Politics of Collective Identity in Southeast Asia, Democracy and Democratization in Southeast Asia, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Politics of



Southeast Asia, Practicum in Political Science, Interdisciplinary Education and Research (PhD level).

### **TEACHING AWARDS**

- **Teaching Excellence Award**  
Department of Political Science, UMass Lowell  
*2011/2012 and 2005/2006*
- **Teaching Award, Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities**  
Student Government, U Mass Lowell  
*2006/2007*

### **SELECTED SERVICE AT UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, LOWELL**

- Chair, Department Personnel Committee on Promotion to Full Professor (2024-2025)
- Search committee member, Visiting professor on Asian American Studies, Spring 2024
- Faculty senator, FAHSS, 2023-2025
- Steering committee member, Women leadership conference, UMass Lowell, 2022-
- College Personnel Committee, FAHSS, 2022-present
- Department Personnel Committee member on Tenure and Promotion, Economics Department, 2022-2023
- Advisory board member, Asian American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPIS), UMass Lowell, 2022-
- Chair, Department of Political Science, Fall 2013-2021
- Interim Director, Peace and Conflict Studies, 2020-2021
- Committee member, Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies, 2016-2020
- Co-chair, Greeley Scholar for Peace Studies, 2016-2020
- Member, Department Chair Retreat Planning Committee, 2017-2019
- Faculty Advisor for senior students, Political Science, Fall 2013-
- Dissertation Chair, Myat The Thitsar, Global Studies, UMass Lowell, 2018-
- Thesis Advisor, Honors College and MA's Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies, 2017-2018
- Chair, Scholarship committee, Political Science Department, 2013-present
- Member, Brad Morse Speakers' Series, Political Science Department, 2013- present
- Faculty Advisor, Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Department, Spring 2015-2016
- Faculty Senator, Political Science Department, Spring 2015-2017
- Chair, Committee on Evaluating Global Studies and Peace and Conflict Studies, Spring 2015
- Faculty Advisor, Practicum Program, Political Science Department, Fall 2013-2017
- Member, Planning Committee for Joyce Denning Fund Raising (2014-2015)
- Co-Chair, Search committee for Junior Position in International Relations, Political Science, 2012-2013
- Academic Advisor for Undergraduate Students, Political Science, 2005 -2012

- Faculty Advisor, Model United Nations Program, 2005 -2010
- Chair, Search committee for Senior/Junior Positions in International Relations, Political Science, 2009-2010
- Chair, Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (FAHSS) Undergraduate Studies Committee, Fall 2012
- Member, FAHSS Undergraduate Studies Committee, Fall 2010–2012
- Selection Committee for the Commencement Speaker, UML, 2005 -2016
- Member, Sub-Committee of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), 2011 - present
- Faculty Athletic Representative, Spring 2010 – present
- Coordinator, Research Forum for the School of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, 2008-2009

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- Board of Director, Critical Asian Studies, 2024
- Senior Advisor, *Freedom in the World 2025*, Annual Survey of Political Rights and Civil Liberties Freedom House Report on Myanmar.
- Reviewer for Grant proposals submitted at International Peace Research Association Foundation, 2023-34
- External Examiner for a Ph.D thesis, Marianne Mosberg, “The politics of climate change adaptation, vulnerability, and conflict dynamics: Insights from southeastern Myanmar”, Department of International Environment and Development Studies Faculty of Landscape and Society Norwegian University of Life Sciences, As, Norway, September 30, 2024
- Chair, Kahin Book Prize Committee, Association of Asian Studies, 2024-2025.
- Dissertation committee member, Samuel Thawng, Political Science Department, Australia National University, 2023-present
- External Examiner for a Ph.D thesis, Pragmatic nationalism and the making of Burma’s foreign policy, 1948-1988,” Moe Thuzar, History Department, National University of Singapore, Singapore, 2023-2024
- Chair, Selection committee on a Special panel on Burma studies, Association of Asian Studies, July 2023.
- Elected Member, Southeast Asia Council, Association of Asian Studies, 2024-26
- Dissertation Proposal committee, External Reader, Céline Allaverdian-Gharadaghi, “Take it or Leave it: The History of Land Allocation in Myanmar,” Département de géographie- UDEM, December 9, 2022
- SE Asia regional editor, *Critical Asian Studies*, 2020-
- External reviewer for Promotion to Full Professor, Political Science Department, Northern Illinois University, 2021-2022
- Editorial Board, *Critical Asian Studies*, 2018-2020
- International Advisory Board, *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 2012-
- Dissertation committee member, Annie Tong, Political Science Department, Northern Illinois University, 2019-present
- Dissertation committee member, “Women's Invisible Labor in Peacebuilding: Gender, Ethnicity, and Power in Transitioning Myanmar.” Mollie Pepper, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, July 19, 2020.
- External Examiner for a Ph.D thesis, “States-within-States: Encompassed State-Making and Everyday Life in Southeast Myanmar,” Annika Pohl Harrisson, Department of Anthropology, Aarhus University, Denmark, November 2019

- External Examiner for a Ph.D thesis, "Land tenure reform in Myanmar's regime transition. Political legitimacy vs capital accumulation," SiuSue Mark, International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands, December 2017.
- EuroSEAS Book Prize Committee member (2017-2018).
- External Examiner for a Ph.D thesis, "Governing the transition: policy coordination mechanisms in Myanmar's core executive," Su Mon Thazin Aung, University of Hong Kong, October 26, 2016.
- Series editor, "Special Issue on Poverty," *Independent Journal of Burmese Scholarship*, Vol 1, # 1, August 2016 (with "Introduction to the Special issue on Poverty"), available at <http://journalofburmesescholarship.org/issues.html>
- Founder and Board member, *Independent Journal of Burmese Scholarship*, 2015-
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion committee, Lewis and Clark College
- External Examiner, PhD Thesis, City University of Hong Kong, June 21, 2013
- Elected Member, Southeast Asia Council, Association of Asian Studies, 2012-15
- Trustee member, Burma Studies Foundation, 2008 -2010.
- Executive Board Member, New England Political Science Association, 2008-2010
- Chair, Committee for selecting Best Paper Presented at 2009 NEPSA Annual Meeting, 2008-2009

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- President, SayDaNar Community Development Center, Lowell MA, 2012-
- Parliament and People Advisory Panel, School of Oriental and Asian Studies, London, 2017-2018.
- Coordinator and Supervisor, Homework Help Programs for Refugees, Lowell, 2012-
- Board of Directors, Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries, 2013-
- Board of Directors, Lowell Community Health Center, 2012-2017
- Board of Directors, Enlightened Myanmar Research, 2013-2015
- Chair of Greely Scholar Committee, 2014-2021
- Academic Advisor Board, Inya Institute, Yangon, Burma, 2012-
- Parents' Advisory Board, Lowell Public Schools, 2012-2013
- Burma Volunteer Group, Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, 2009-2011
- Executive Board member, Friends of Burma, Fort Wayne Indiana, 2007-

### **PHD AND MASTER'S DISSERTATION COMMITTEES**

**2023-24** External Examiner for a Ph.D thesis, "The politics of climate change adaptation, vulnerability, and conflict dynamics: Insights from southeastern Myanmar" Marianne Mosberg, Department of International Environment and Development Studies Faculty of Landscape and Society Norwegian University of Life Sciences, As, Norway, September 30, 2024

**2223-24** MOE THUZAR (EXTERNAL EXAMINER, PHD, NATIONAL UNIVERSIYT OF SINGAPORE), SAMUEL THAWNG (EXTERNAL DISSERTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER, PHD, AUSTRALIA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY), MYAT THE THITSAR (CHAIR, PHD IN GLOBAL STUDIES)

**2023-24** Ivan MELENDEZ (Chair, MA in Peace and Conflict Studies), Awobajo, Tarhyel (Master's Degree student in PCS), Moo Moo Paw (Chair for qualifying

thesis, PhD in Global Studies), Kunkane Nong (Chair for qualifying thesis, PhD in Global Studies)

**2022 -2023** Bahara Hussaini (Chair, MA in Peace and Conflict Studies), Sara Zatorski (member, MA in Peace and Conflict Studies), Van Pho (member, PHD Global Studies), Rahab kisio (member, PhD Global Studies), Myat The Thitsar (Chair, PhD Global Studies), Ai Pau (External Examiner, PhD, Graduate Theological Union)

### SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

- 2024, “Throw me a lifeline: When survival motivates online information-seeking post-coup Myanmar,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 24, San Diego, California, Co-presented with Mya Su Tin
- 2024 Discussant, *Institutions, Identity, and Intergroup Conflict in Myanmar* Saturday, American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 7
- 2024 Panelist, *Configurations, power dynamics, and prospects in Myanmar since the 2021 military coup with a focus on the constitution and democratic state-building in Myanmar*, EuroSEA conference, the Netherlands, 23-25 July
- 2024 Panelist, *Emerging Trends in Southeast Asian Politics: Deeper Democratic Backsliding or Trickle of Emancipation? The Netherlands*, 23-25 July.
- 2024 Panelist, *Emerging Trends in Southeast Asian Politics: Deeper Democratic Backsliding or Trickle of Emancipation?* Association of Asian Studies, Seattle, Washington, March 14,
- 2023 Neither the state nor the society: Resistance, accommodation, violence, and the role of local administrators in post-coup, Burma Studies Conference, Zurich, 9-11 June 2023, Co-presenter: Naw Moo Moo Paw
- 2023 Enabling civil society peacebuilding in Asia’s new terrain: addressing rising tensions amid economic development and increasing authoritarianism, Peace conference, May 4-5, Washington DC,
- 2022 “Water in one hand and Fire in the other hand, Coping with Multiple Crises in Post-Coup Myanmar” Paris, EuroSEAS Annual Conference, June 28<sup>th</sup>-July 1, Paris, France
- 2022 Myanmar’s anti-coup coalition: Challenges and opportunities, ”Association of Asian Studies, March 24-27, 2022, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2021 Presenter, “Internal migration and inter-ethnic relationships in Myanmar,” EuroSEAS conference, September 7-10, Olomouc, Czech Republic
- 2019 Discussant, “Everyday Justice in Myanmar,” EuroSEAS Annual Conference, September 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, Berlin, Germany

- 2019 “The Economic Dimensions of Communal Relationships: Causes, Consequences, and Implications,” New England Political Science Association Annual Conference, April 25-27, Portland, Maine (Co-presenter. Valeria Fasolo).
- 2019 Discussant, “Everyday Justice in Myanmar,” Danish Institute for International Studies, May 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2018 “Policies and Practices relating to Minority Groups in Post-2011 Myanmar,” at a workshop on “Border Governance: Everyday Life in Transition at Myanmar’s margins,” University of Warwick, UK, April 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>.
- 2017 “Myanmar under the NLD: New Government, New Ways?,” Association of Asian Studies, March 19, Toronto, Canada.
- 2017 “Toward Federalism? The challenges of ethnic representation in democratizing Myanmar,” *International Studies Association*, February 23, Baltimore, Maryland. With Jacques Bertrand and Alex Pelletier
- 2016 “Democracy, Ethnicity, and Converging Areas of Authority in Contemporary Myanmar,” Northern Illinois University, October 2-9
- 2015 “Citizenship and Minority Rights: The Role of National Race Ministers in Myanmar’s 2008 Constitution,” *International Conference on Burma/Myanmar*, Chiang Mai, July 24
- 2015 Discussant, “Structures of Rural Dispossession and Resistance: Agrarian Political Economies, Land Grabs, and Debt in Rural Myanmar,” *International Conference on Burma/Myanmar*, Chiang Mai, July 25
- 2015 Discussant, “Media, Modernity, and Everyday Life in Regionalising Myanmar,” *International Conference on Burma/Myanmar*, July 25
- 2014 Discussant, “Dispossession by Development: Adverse Impacts of State-sponsored Development Schemes on Land Security of Rural Communities”, Association of Asian Studies annual Meeting, March 26-28
- 2014 “Elections, State Coercive Capacity, and Violence in Burma/Myanmar and Colombia,” Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, Washington DC, August 28-Sept 2. Co-author. Angelica Duran-Martinez
- 2014 “Field Research in Post 2010 Burma/Myanmar: Opportunities and Challenges,” Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, Washington, August 28-Sept 2.
- 2014 “Political Reforms and Religious Minorities in Contemporary Burma/Myanmar,” Annual Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, Philadelphia, PA, March 27-30.
- 2013 “Contending Approaches to Communal Violence in Rakhine State: Causes and Consequences,” Annual Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, San Diego, CA, March.
- 2011 “Every Day Politics in Myanmar,” Annual Conference of the Association of Asian Studies, Honolulu, HI, March.
- 2010 “The Politics of Everyday Life in Burma/Myanmar,” New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New Port, Rhode Island.
- 2008 “Research in Burma: Difficulties and Dilemmas” Roundtable, International

- 2004 Burma Studies Conference, Dekalb University, Northern Illinois University. “The Karens in Burma: A Political Dilemma,” International Burma Studies Conference, Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, Illinois
- 2000 “The Prospect of Agriculture in Myanmar, and the Impact of Horizontal and Vertical Coordination over the Execution of Summer Paddies (1992-present.)” Burma Studies Conference 2000, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb IL.
- 2000 “The Horizontal and Vertical Bases of Agricultural Stagnation in Myanmar (1992 - present),” SEASSI 2000 Conference, UW-Madison, Wisconsin WI.

### SELECTED INVITED TALKS

- Speaker “Perception, lived experiences, and coping strategies: How Myanmar residents perceive and respond to risks and insecurity in post-coup Myanmar,” McGill University, Montreal, Canada, December 6, 2024
- Speaker, Political Update in Myanmar, DIIS, Copenhagen, Denmark, 26, September, 2024
- Discussant, *Pursuing Morality Buddhism and Everyday Ethics in Southeastern Myanmar* (Asian Studies Association of Australia: Southeast Asian Publications Serie2024) by Justine Chambers, DIIS, Copenhagen, Denmark, 26 September, 2024
- Speaker, “Myanmar’s Evolving Political Situations,” at The Future of Myanmar, Local Governance and the Path to Peace, Center for Governance and Market, University of Pittsburg, 12 September, 2024
- Speaker, with Moo Moo Paw, “How Local Authorities Make Decisions in the Myanmar Civil War,” Webinar, Stimson, August 12, 2024
- Keynote speaker, *Myanmar Political Updates*, at The Myanmar Roundtable co-convened by the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute’s Myanmar Studies Programme and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS)’s Regional Political Dialogue Asia 2024
- June 19, 2024
- Speaker, “The Critical Asian Studies,” at *Concerned Asian Scholars, 55 Years Later: A Symposium*,” hosted by the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Michigan, and co-sponsored by the International Institute. 10 May 2024, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Keynote Speaker, “Myanmar post-coup scenarios”, January 20-21, 2024, hosted by IFES for civil societal actors in Myanmar, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- Speaker, “Agents” of the state or society? Resistance, accommodation, violence and the role of local administrators in post-coup Myanmar,” December 8, 2023, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- BROWN university
- Speaker, “Challenges in researching local administrcures in post-coup Myanmar,” IHRDG Semiar Series #4, Webinar, November 2, 2023.

- Presenter, “Responses to Military Dictatorship: The Role of local authorities in Post-Coup Myanmar,” at *Authoritarianism: Lives, Legacies, Traumas*, University of Toronto, September 28-29, 2023
- Speaker, Political Update, Myanmar Update Conference, July 21, 2023, Australia National University, Australia
- Keynote speaker: Ten lessons in Twenty Years: Field research in Myanmar, Burma Studies Conference, Zurich, Switzerland, June 11, 2023
- Speaker, “Coping strategies during the crisis,” Myanmar's Agrifood System: Assuring Resilience to Adversity" conference, hosted by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), May 31 – June 1, 2023, Bangkok, Thailand
- Speaker, Food insecurity, Conflict and Violence in Post-Coup Myanmar, Southeast Asia Brownbag seminar, April 19, 2023, Yale University, New Haven.
- Speaker, Resistance, accommodation, violence, and the role of local administrators in post-coup Myanmar, April 7, 2023, Northern Illinois university, Dekalb, Illinois,
- Speaker, “Agents of the state or society?: Resistance, accommodation, violence, and the role of local administrators in post-coup Myanmar, March 2, 2023, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.
- Discussant, *Authoritarian Innovation in East and Southeast Asia: Technology, Information Control, and Sanctions Evasion*, March 17, 2023, Association of Asian Studies, Boston, Massachusetts
- Speaker, The Political Outlook in Myanmar,” Regional Outlook 2023, ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, January 10, 2023.
- Discussant, Book launch on *Along the Integral Margin: Uneven Development in a Myanmar Squatter Settlement*, by Stephen Campbell, NTU Webinar Series, October 28, 2022.
- Discussant, *Crimes in Archival Form: Human Rights, Fact Production, and Myanmar* (UC, Berkeley), Ken MacClean, New Book Speaker Series, SEATriP and Anthropology, UC Riverside May 2, 2022.
- Water in one hand and Fire in the other hand, Coping with Multiple Crises in Post-Coup Myanmar, Department of Urban Studies, Worcester State University, April 26, 2022.
- “Burma and pro-democracy movement dynamics,” Myanmar US Defense Intelligence Agency, Webinar series, June 22, 2022.
- Myanmar: Ten Months after the Coup,” ISEAS Webinar by Myanmar Studies Programme, Singapore, December 17, 2021.
- “Myanmar: The World’s Longest Civil War and Military Dictatorship,” Edgewood Retirement Community, North Andover, MA, November 4, 2021.
- Keynote speaker, " Academic Research in Post-Coup Myanmar: Challenges in Ethics, Values, Safety, and Best Practices," October 21, 2021, 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies, British Columbia, Canada.
- Panelist, “Myanmar’s Post-Coup Economy” Doomed to Fail?,” Foreign Correspondent’s Club of Thailand, June 29, 2021.
- Panelist, “Unpacking Myanmar's Failed Coup? A Roundtable Discussion,” NIAS, ADI, DIIS, Copenhagen, May 19, 2021.
- Panelist, *Coups and Conflict: Examining Myanmar’s Struggle Toward Democracy*, Asia Center and Hinckley Institute of Politics, University of Utah, April 17, 2021 Panelist- *Authoritarianism in Southeast Asia*, Cornell University, Southeast Asia Program, Ithaca, April 15, 2021

- Keynote speaker" Identity Politics in Myanmar: Studying "minorities" from the perspective of a 'minority scholar.' Conference on Ethnic and Community Identity in Southeast Asia." Feb. 8-11, 2021, UC Berkeley. Lecturer, "Experiment with Democracy: Burma and Indonesia" and "Colonial Legacies, Ethnic Divisions in Myanmar," National Endowment for the Humanities funded Summer Institute on Colonial Experiences and their Legacies in Southeast Asia, East West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 24-29, 2019. Speaker, "Mind the Gap: International and Domestic Responses to Humanitarian Crisis in Northern Rakhine in Myanmar," Grinnell College, IOWA, October 31, 2018



- Speaker, Every Day Economic Survival in Myanmar, Middlesex Community College, Lowell, MA, October 17, 2018
- Keynote Speaker, "Doing Research in Difficult Environments: A Case Study of Myanmar," 13<sup>th</sup> Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asian Studies, Asia Research Institute, Singapore, July 25, 2018
- Panelist, "Federalism," Danish Institute for International Studies, Copenhagen, May 24, 2018
- Speaker "Human Security Challenges on Myanmar's Border with Bangladesh," AANAPISI, Southeast Asia 2017 Workshop, Middlesex Community College, November 17, 2017.
- Speaker, "Moving Forward with the National Ceasefire Agreements: Challenges and Opportunities, University of Sydney, Australia, May 19, 2017
- Presenter, "Opportunities and Challenges in Myanmar's Democratic Transition," Kennedy Center, BYU, April 12, 2017.
- Presenter, "Contemporary Myanmar/Burma: Historical and Regional Context for 2015 elections election and the ongoing issue of ethnic violence," Asian Studies Development Center, East West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii, August 10, 2016.
- "Myanmar: Beyond the *NLD* Landslide," Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University, New York, April 22, 2016
- Presenter, "Policies and Practices toward Minority Religious Groups in Myanmar," Religious Minorities and Pluralism in Asia Workshop, Northern Illinois University, April 9, 2016
- Presenter, "Ethnic Nationalities in Myanmar Transitional Democracy," Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, February 26, 2016
- Presenter, Toward a Pluralism Lens: Myanmar Case Study, Global Pluralism Think Tank Workshop, Global Center for Global Pluralism, Ottawa, Canada, January 29-30, 2016
- Speaker, The Cultural Lens: Southeast Asia, MIT Sloan School of Management, Business School, February 16, 2016
- Keynote Speaker, The Role of Language in the Preservation of Identity in Myanmar, International Conference on Language Policy in Multicultural and Multilingual Settings, Mandalay, Myanmar, February 8-11, 2016
- Panelist, "Myanmar's Election Year: Challenges and Trajectories," European Association for Southeast Asia Studies, Vienna, Austria, August 13, 2015
- Panelist, "Political Trend in Southeast Asia," European Association for Southeast Asia Studies, Vienna, Austria, 14 August, 2015
- Plenary Panelist, Reflections on Burma/Myanmar Studies, International Conference on Burma/Myanmar, Chiang Mai, 24-26 July 2015
- "The Future of Democracy in Southeast Asia," Asian Studies Lecture Series, Northeastern University, April 7, 2015
- "The politics of Indigeneity in Myanmar," Southeast Asian Studies Program, University of Wisconsin, Madison, March 18-20, 2015

- “Scholarly Engagement with Policy Communities in Transitional Myanmar,” Conference Plenary Speaker, Burma Research Forum, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, October 24-26, 2014
- “Communal Violence in Burma,” Keynote address, Colby College, Maine, October 16, 2013
- “Perspectives on Myanmar’s Ongoing Political Reform”, Weatherhead
- East Asian Institute, Columbia University, New York, September 26, 2013
- “Myanmar’s Transition from Authoritarianism”, Southeast Asian Seminar, Columbia University, New York, September 25, 2013.
- “Extractive Opportunities, Sustainable Livelihood,” panelist, World Economic Forum East Asia, Nay Pyi Taw, Burma, June 5-8, 2013
- “Myanmar: History, Politics, and Culture,” WIC Nutrition Program, Massachusetts, Department of Public Health, Framingham, April 24, 2013
- “The Role of Higher Education in State Building and Economic Development,” Arts and Social Sciences, Yangon University, Myanmar, February 25, 2013
- “Research Methodology”, *Myanmar Development Research*, Yangon, Myanmar, February 20, 2013
- Discussant: “The complexities of deepening democracy: The case of Nepal” *By C.K. Lal*, Conference on the Role of Political Parties in Democratic Transitions, Myanmar Political Party Program, Inya Lake Hotel, Yangon, Myanmar, February 19, 2013
- The Grassroots’ Approach to Poverty Alleviation in Contemporary Burma/Myanmar,” Southeast Asian Brown Bag, February 8, 2013, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- “The Grassroots’ Approach to Poverty Alleviation in Contemporary Burma/Myanmar,” Southeast Asian Brown Bag Seminar, January 31, 2013 University of Toronto, Canada
- “The Grassroots’ Approach to Poverty Alleviation in Contemporary Burma/Myanmar,” Southeast Asian Brown Bag Seminar, November 14, 2012, Yale University, New Haven.
- “Contending Approaches to Communal Violence in Rakhine State: Causes and Consequences,” Workshop on “Can Political Reforms Bring Peace to Myanmar/Burma,” organized by Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Rangoon, Burma, October 12-14, 2012
- “Coping with Daily Life in Myanmar/Burma: Strategies and Implications,” Southeast Asian Brown Bag Seminar, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 5, 2012
- “Identifying Capacity Building Needs for Myanmar Civil Servants,” Asian Development Bank Institute, Manila, 2011
- Grassroots’ Approach to Poverty Alleviation,” Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 2011
- “The Bottom Up Approach to Poverty Alleviation,” The American Center, Yangon, Burma/Myanmar, 2011
- “Coping with Daily Life in Myanmar: Strategies and Implications,” Center of Asia-Pacific Area Studies, *Institute of Academic Sinica, Taipei*, Taiwan 2011.
- “The Karen Government officials in Burmese military State”, HYI-CAPAS workshop on *Burmese lives: ordinary life stories under the Burmese Regime*, sponsored by Harvard-Yenching Institute (HYI), and Center for Asia-Pacific Area Studies, CAPAS, RCHSS, Academia Sinica, 2010.

- “Burma’s Ethnic Groups,” Keynote speaker, Lowell Public Education Forum on Burma and Burmese Refugees in Massachusetts, 2009
- “Beyond Militant Resistance,” East West Center, Washington DC, December 5, 2008.
- “Beyond Militant Resistance,” Faculty Salon, University of Massachusetts, Lowell.
- “Burma: From a historical perspective,” Yale University, Asia-Pacific-American Heritage Event, Saybrook Mater’s Tea

**Guest lectures**

*Ethnic politics in comparative perspectives*, Yangon School of Political Science, January 27, 28, February 3, 4, 11, 2023 (five courses)

*Mainland Southeast Asia: Politics and ethnic minorities in Myanmar*, Foreign Service Institute at the US State department- October 25, 2023.

*Literature review*, The Institute for Strategy and Policy- March 22, 2023; September 12, 2023

“*Repression and dissent in Post-coup Myanmar*,” *Honors symposium*,” Honors college, UMass Lowell, Friday, April 14th.

**CONSULTANCY**

2010-2011	Arr Yone Oo Development Agency, Burma/Yangon
2010	Pyoe Pin International, Burma/Yangon (on the “Political Economy of Tea in Shan State” and the “Political Economy of Fisheries in Rakhine State”)
2013	<i>The World Bank</i> (Environmental and Social Assessment of Thaton Gas-Fired Plant in Mon state, Myanmar)
2013	<i>Myanmar Development Research</i> , <i>Care Myanmar</i> , <i>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</i> (On “Small Land holders in Rubber Plantation: Mon State”)
2017	Institute for Security and Development Policy
2021-24	Livelihoods and Food Security Fund ( On The impacts of COVID-19 and the coup on livelihoods in Myanmar) 2021-2022
2024	Senior adviser for <i>Freedom in the World 2025</i> (Freedom House)

**LANGUAGES (NATIVE/NEAR-NATIVE FLUENCY)**

Burmese, Karen, English