

Announcement of the Henry Luce Foundation award to the University of Wisconsin Foundation for
“Professional and Materials Development to Strengthen Southeast Asian Language Instruction”

The Henry Luce Foundation has awarded a five-year grant (8-2019 to 8-2024) of \$1.1 million to the University of Wisconsin Foundation for the proposal “*Professional and Materials Development to Strengthen Southeast Asian Language Instruction*,” a project submitted on behalf of the national organization, the *Southeast Asian Language Council (SEALC)*. This project will professionalize the field of Southeast Asian language teaching in the United States by offering training workshops and materials development opportunities to expand the expertise of teachers as well as to create national standards, oral and reading proficiency assessments, and instructional resources for Southeast Asian language programs. The institutional stakeholders include the Department of Education Title VI Southeast Asia National Resource Centers (NRCs) and other institutions offering instruction in Southeast Asian languages. The project will support and coordinate language-related efforts at the national level by working with the Council of Teachers of Southeast Asian Languages (COTSEAL), the Southeast Asian Summer Studies Institute (SEASSI), language-specific organizations, institutional stakeholders, Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA), and other national initiatives supporting Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs) that include Southeast Asian language programs.

More specifically the proposed grant activities will focus on: 1) development of instructional materials, including those for heritage learners, 2) creation of materials for distance learners and flipped classes by expanding the use of technology, 3) instructor awards to develop curricular materials during the summers, 4) SEASSI fellowships, 5) strengthening and empowering language-specific organizations, 5) facilitating communication among all stakeholders, 6) coordination with CORMOSEA to ensure open access to SEALC-developed materials in the Southeast Asia digital library, and 7) support for the COTSEAL website and annual conference.

Additional information on this project can be obtained by writing Dr. Ellen Rafferty at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, U. Wisconsin, Madison, sealc@iris.wisc.edu.