Quite a few studies have recently examined how people, ideas, and commodities flow beyond the borders between different states and systems in many parts of the world. Although those studies have emphasized how porous the borders are, it does not mean that people, ideas, and commodities can flow in a vacuum, without any check. Neither does it mean that they always meet insurmountable barriers or conflicts in different states and systems. It rather seems that moving people (and other creatures too), ideas, commodities, and systems, and receiving human societies and natural environments experience some sorts of interface in their encounters, and that they engage in constant negotiations with each other. Such negotiations lead to interaction, which affects all the parties involved, often leading to adjustments and adaptations at various levels, such as legal or institutional arrangements, technological devices, social groupings and communalities, ideological discourses, or transient but concrete on-the-ground practices.

These kinds of interface, negotiation, and interaction deserve scholarly attention as a central theme of research, and this will provide new insights into another side of the abovementioned “flow.” This seminar aims to discuss interface, negotiation, and interaction between multiple groups of people, states, and systems in relation to movements of people and other creatures, ideas, technologies, capital, and commodities and any sorts of objects in Southeast Asia in the past and present. Discussed topics therefore include (but are not limited to) local politics and economy, migration, trade, religion, hybrid culture, ecology, non-traditional human security, and so forth.
PROGRAM

MARCH 11, MONDAY

13:30-13:35  Yoko Hayami  Opening Remarks

SESSION 3  The Power of Narratives: Changing Interfaces
Convened by Stan Tangbau

14:20-15:05  Masao Imamura “Melancholy of Tribal Frontier”

Coffee break

15:30-16:15  Chang, Wen-Chin, “Craving, Crafting and Contrasting: Memories of
Home Place in Northern Burma”
16:15-17:00  Yuki Mukdawijitra, “Practices of Multiculturalism: an Ethno-biography
of Cam Trong a Thái Cultural Politician in Vietnam”

17:00-18:00  DISCUSSION