**Schedule for 2017 Myanmar Program**

**August 26, Saturday**. Depart to Yangon International Airport. Transfer to Panorama Hotel.

**August 27, Sunday**. Group introductory meeting and planning session. Get-together lunch with students of the Pre-Collegiate Program (PCP) who become our hosts and guides for the following days. Afternoon: Initial exploration of Yangon and environs with PCP students. Evening: these students guide us through the cultural core of Myanmar: the Shwedagon Pagoda which dominates the city. B, L, D

**August 28, 29, 30. Monday-Wednesday.** Myanmar students will guide our entry into their society, whether through meeting with the staffs of NGOs where they volunteer, examining the colonial architecture, talking in one of the many sidewalk teashops and having dinner one evening in their homes. The emphasis is on building personal relationships as well as observing daily life. A briefing by UNICEF staff will introduce some of the nation’s social challenges. Japanese and Thai students will meet with their Embassy officials; Taiwan students will meet with Taiwan trade officials. B, L, D

**August 31, Thursday**. Morning flight to Mandalay, the historic capital and the country’s second largest city. After having lunch and settling into our hotel, we’ll visit the Golden Palace Monastery and a nearby pagoda with the world’s largest stone books. Shortly before sunset, we travel to Mandalay Hill which overlooks the city, the Irrawaddy river and the far hills. B, L, D

**September 1, Friday**. We visit Phaung Daw Oo School, started by a Buddhist priest to serve children who are too poor to attend public schools; we’ll meet with the priest, with teachers and with students. In the afternoon, we’ll talk informally with students, including young monks, at an English school. B, L, D

**September 2, Saturday**. The group visits one of the area’s largest monasteries where thousands of young monks study and walk the historic, mile-long U-Bein Bridge. Free afternoon for independent exploration of Mandalay. B, L, D

**September 3, Sunday**. We float down the Irrawaddy river on a ten-hour boat trip to reach the fabled plains of Bagan, dotted by thousands of 800-year-old temples, pagodas and stupas. B, L, D

**September 4-5, Monday-Tuesday**. With our local guide, we visit some of the most interesting of Bagan’s fabled sites, whether the huge Ananda Pahto temple or the small stupas found in the fields. We’ll also explore the local marketplace, a village-based toddy-palm enterprise and have dinner with local people. On Tuesday afternoon, we’ll hold our final group reflection session and take an early-evening flight to Yangon. after a final group dinner, the Japanese group departs on an overnight flight to Narita. Taiwan participants

depart for Taipei either shortly after midnight or the following day. B, L, D

**September 6, Wednesday.** Arrive Narita or Taipei.

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

***Leadership:***  This program is led by Dwight Clark, who first began introducing students to Asia when he was Dean of Freshmen Men at Stanford University. He founded Volunteers in Asia (VIA) and served as its President for many years. In 2004 he started Learning Across Borders, a non-profit educational organization which offers international study programs such as this. He has led over forty study programs to Southeast Asia for Asian university students, including similar programs to Myanmar since 2004.