for a long boat ride on an ox-bow lake. We’ll see many wildlife animals such as orangutans, macaques, red and silver leaf mon-keys, elephants, hornbills, crocodiles, civet cats, otters and the ever-sought-after proboscis monkeys. The bird life includes egrets, kingfishers, oriental darters, bee-eaters, hornbills and many more! After a few hours on the river, we return to our lodge for a quick coffee and biscuits, before departing again for a bus ride to the nearby Gomantong Caves. This is a very famous site where tens of thousands of swiftlets are to be found and the nest of which is used for a famous local soup. There are also a large number of bats and crabs in the caves, so we spend a couple of hours exploring its chambers and walkways. The bird life around the cave is particularly rich with often sightings of crested serpent eagles, kingfishers, Asian fairy bluebirds, and leaf birds. After finishing our visit, we drive back to our lodge in Salu village for dinner. The following day after breakfast, we will make the journey to the water. Once over, we will return to Sandakan Airport and fly to Kota Kinabalu. Here, at the beachfront hotel, we will all need to gather for an early breakfast and an early departure to the water. We will catch the first appearance of the hatching of the green turtles. The rangers will transfer these eggs to a hatchery and provide a couple of hours of observation before the hatchlings will be released, giving us the opportunity to watch the remarkable sight of young green turtles hatching from their eggs. The tourists can also explore the park and learn about the conservation efforts being made to protect these magnificent creatures.

KOMODO DRAGON EXTENSION
October 12 - 17, 2013
The islands of the Komodo Dragon are part of the complex of 175 islands, 200 nautical miles east of Bali, between the islands of Flores and Sumbawa. Both above and below the sea, Komodo represents a unique range of geological and biological diversity. Komodo’s symbol of international fame is its dragons, the world’s largest living lizard. The surrounding sea is filled with vibrant color and exotic life that will enchant divers and snorkelers alike. There are endless schools of fish that ride the current, and do. One of the most popular afternoon adventures is snorkeling in the crystal-clear waters of the Komodo Reef, where you will see a variety of marine life, including manta rays, eagle rays, and many species of tuna, sharks, and rays. For those of you who wish to stay dry, we also offer a half-day tour to the nearby island of Rinca, where you can hike to the summit of Rinca Island for stunning views of the surrounding islands.

For more information on Spartan Pathways tours, visit alumni.msu.edu. For more information and to sign up for the tour, call (231) 668-9848 or go to: http://wantexpeditions.com.
Sunday, September 29 - Kuching
We begin the first full day of our expedition with a great break- fast followed up by a road trip to Semangat Orangutan Reha- bilitation Centre, for up close interactions with these majestic semi-wild apes. After a sumptuous lunch it’s time to explore the inner workings of orangutans and ob- serving these captivating animals, we will travel back to Kuching for a nice air-conditioned lunch. Following our meal, we’ll take a tour of this beautiful city, making sure we spend a fair amount of time in the city’s Straw Hat Market. In the evening, we will pro- vide exceptional insight into the once powerful and feared head- hunting culture of the Iban people, now farmers who are quickly fading into the void of globalization and oblivion. In the early evening, we’ll head down to the waterfront for a lovely sunset cruise. This boat trip will enable us to see the his- torical and colorful Kuching Waterfront, Astana, Fort Mar- gherta, traditional Malay Kampong, the Satok Bridge, a Chinese temple, wetlands and more. To end our day, we’ll gather not far from our hotel in a vibrant, local, open-air seafood restaurant, for a delicious and traditional Welcome Dinner.
Accommodations: Comfortable 4-star city hotel

Monday, September 30 - Kuching/Mulu National Park
Perhaps other than its orangutans and jungles, the other iconic feature of Borneo is its caves. Today we are going to experience some of the most spectacular caves in the world: mil- lions of bats as they depart from their caves in the lush jungles and exit the cave as a twisting black ribbon in the sky. Once it is dark, we will head to our lodge just in time for a short relaxation and dinner. After dinner we’ll grab our torches and head out to explore the forest on stilts over the Brunei River. Once we have sampled all the local refreshments and have an ample amount of pictures, we will head back to our hotel for dinner.
Accommodations: Wildlife resort/jungle lodge

Tuesday, October 1 - Kuching/Mulu National Park
This morning we wake up with the fascinating noises and voices come alive with the tempera- ment of the forest will come alive with a cacophony of sounds and scents back down from the cave, we have the option to go by longboat or to stride across a walkway, Indian ‘Jones’ style, sus- pended along the limestone cliffs down to the foot of Clearwa- ter Lake. From here the tour comes alive as a chance for a chance to observe wildlife up on-high. Dinner will be as early as possible tonight to make am- ple time for one of Mulu’s most exciting and unforgettable ad- ventures: the guided night walk to experience the sights and sounds of the many nocturnal inhabitants.

Accommodations: Wildlife resort/jungle lodge

Wednesday, October 2 - Temburong National Park
Today we embark on our trip to Brunei, an interesting and rich sultanate surrounded by Malaysia. We’ll leave early this morning from a flight to Miri, then continuing overland to the Sungai Tujoh border of Brunei, with lunch en route. After the border crossing, our next destination is the capital of Brunei, Bandar Seri Begawan. After a short break, we head toward the water- front to catch a local boat on our journey toward our final desti- nation, Temburong National Park. From Bandar Seri Begawan, it’s a 45-minute boat ride. Have you ever gone through mangro- lined waterways to Bangar Town. Here we will take a short drive to the Batang Duri riverbank, where we’ll board a traditional longboat for the journey along the Temburong River into the Brunei Delta. For the remainder of our time on the safari trip along an im- mense and pristine rainforest, and we expect to reach our lovely National Park will all proceed to the Timpohon Gate. The gate lies at 1,800m (5,900 ft) above sea level. In the right conditions, this place is a birder and botanist’s paradise. Our goal is to reach the first shel- ter, about an hour or two from the gate. At this point, we will park the boat and walk up to the lodge which is nestled on the top. Climbers continuing onward will spend the night at Laban Rata (a basic mountain shelter), and resuming their ascent to the peak at 2:30am. Those of us in Group B, we’ll turnaround at the first shelter, making our way to an extraordinary area of the park where we’ll enjoy the chance to see many of the thousands of endemic and rare orchids, pitcher plants, lichens and, intriguing club mosses. Once we return to our villa, we’ll enjoy lunch before packing up for our onward journey toward Laban Rata. We’ll visit the Centre of Plant Diversity, home to some of the world’s most sought after, rare, and invaluable orchid species on earth. Dinner tonight will be at the park headquarters, and then it’s off to bed for a great night’s rest.
Accommodations: Mountian lodge

Thursday, October 3 - Temburong National Park/ Bandar Seri Begawan
Starting with a very early morning, we’ll head directly to the for- est in the pre-sunrise darkness. Our goal is to be on the canopy walk before the diurnal mammals and birds awake. As the sun’s first rays start to penetrate the horizon, the forest will come alive with a cacophony of sounds and scents. The tempera- tures and our bellies will be warm as we head back to the lodge for a well-deserved breakfast. Next up for the day, we’ll gear up and head out for an exciting hike through the forest, cross streams and come up to a beautiful waterfall where we’ll take a rest. We will head back to our hotel for dinner for the next leg of our trip. We’ll reverse yesterday’s journey on our way back to Ban- dar Seri Begawan. Once we’ve checked into our lovely hotel, we’ll head out to photograph the city and its beautiful mosques in the evening. A delicious dinner at our hotel, and perhaps one of their special “mocktails,” before reti- ring to bed after a long, but exciting day.
Accommodations: Comfortable 4-star city hotel

Friday, October 4 - Bandar Seri Begawan
Our entire day is dedicated to the exploration of the capital of Brunei and its surrounding areas. After breakfast, we take off for a full day of exploration. One part of our adventure will be dedicated to the beautiful and interesting architecture and centrally located sites: the Morning Market, the Sultan Omar Ali Saufuddien Mosque, and the Hassanil Bolkiah Mosque. We’ll also visit the entrance of Iban Nunal Iman, the world’s largest residential palace and the official residence of His Majesty The Sultan of Negara Brunei Darussalam. After our morning explo- ration, we have an excellent lunch in a local restaurant and return to our hotel for a short rest. After resting we will get on the road again and visit the Royal Regalia Museum. A newer addition to the city, this museum was built in 1992 to com- memorate the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty’s The Sultan of Brunei. It is 45 minutes from the city. Have you ever gone through mangroves? Entering the Brunei Delta for the first time, we’ll be over- live on stilts over the Brunei River. Once we have sampled all the local refreshments and have an ample amount of pictures, we will head back to our hotel for dinner.
Accommodations: Comfortable 4-star city hotel

Saturday, October 5 - Bandar Seri Begawan/Mt. Kinabalu National Park
This morning we will all proceed to the Centre of Plant Diversity, home to some of the world’s most sought after, rare, and invaluable orchid species on earth. Our entire day is dedicated to the exploration of the marvelous surrounding rainforest. After a quick breakfast, we depart from our lodge for an hour-long boat ride on the spectacular Mulu National Park. Our first destination is another area of this huge cave system: Cave of the Winds. It’s a tough hike up to the edge of the cave, but as we step inside, the gentle breeze will cool us as we explore the dry river passage. Once we have de-