ACMS Speaker Series – Mongolia

These lectures are free and open to the public. Directly following the lecture the ACMS hosts “Thursday Nights/Naitz at the ACMS.” This is a time and a place where lecture attendees and other scholars in Ulaanbaatar gather to continue discussing the presentation and to meet others conducting research in Mongolia.

Date: 5:30 PM, Thursday-November 11th, 2010, MUST, Central Library, Room 405
Speaker: Jaqueline Moore, PhD., Professor of History at Austin College, Texas
Title: “The Dilemmas of Curriculum Revision: Reports from the Front Lines in Hong Kong and the United States”

Date: 5:30 PM, Thursday-November 18th, 2010, MUST, Central Library, Room 405
Speaker: Alan M. Wachman, Ph.D., Associate Professor of International Politics, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University
Title: “Beijing’s Battle for Moral Supremacy and Mongolia’s Long-Term Interests”

ACMS Event – US

“Horse Song: The Naadam of Mongolia” authors Ted and Betsy Lewin to visit Wisconsin
As part of 9th Annual International Children’s and Young Adult Literature Celebration, authors Ted and Betsy Lewin will discuss the story they have written and integration of it into classroom instruction along with other authors. The workshop will close with reception and book signing. The event is organized to inspire foster internationalization in school curriculum and communities. Registration deadline: November 15, 2010.
Visit: http://www.wioc.wisc.edu/childlit/
ACMS Fellowship Programs – 2011

The ACMS has added a new program to its current slate of offerings, bringing the total number of Fellowship programs to five, for a maximum of 16 slots. In addition to the US-Mongolia Field Research Fellowship Program for students, the Faculty Research Program, the year-long Research Fellowship Program funded by the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Summer Language Fellowship Program, is the new Library Fellowship Program. The application deadline for all of these programs is February 15, 2011. Contact: info@mongoliacenter.org with questions.

ACMS Research Fellowships 2011

The ACMS is pleased to announce the fourth year of the ACMS Research Fellowship Program funded by the Luce Foundation. The program supports in-depth research in Mongolia by scholars whose projects will enhance knowledge of Mongolia and the Mongols within relevant academic disciplines or fields of study. Projects that link research conducted in Mongolia to research in other parts of Eurasia or across academic fields are especially encouraged. Up to three Fellowship awards will be made, for a maximum award of $27,000 per award (depending on the time spent conducting research in the region). Fellows will also organize an academic conference in Mongolia that brings together international, regional and local scholars and students. Research work under this program must begin between September 2011 and March 2012, and last for a continuous 6-12 months. Fellowship recipients must be based in Mongolia for the duration of their fellowship, but research travel in the broader region is encouraged. For further details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org/doctorate

ACMS Field Research Fellowship 2011 Program

The American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS), with funding support from the US State Department Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau, will make awards for the sixth consecutive year for the ACMS US-Mongolia Field Research Fellowship Program which supports student field research in Mongolia. The program will provide awards of up to $4,000 to approximately 4-5 students from US universities to conduct academic field research in Mongolia between May and October 2011. Student applicants can be at an advanced undergraduate, masters or pre-dissertation doctoral level, and all fields of study are eligible. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents currently enrolled full-time in a university or college in the United States. Students graduating in the Spring of 2011 are eligible to apply. For further details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org/field

ACMS Intensive Mongolian Language Fellowship Program Summer 2011

The American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS) invites applications from students and scholars wishing to participate in an eight week Intensive Mongolian Language Program from June 13 to August 12, 2011 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Approximately four Fellowships of up to $3000 each (including $1,000 to cover expenses and a $2000 tuition waiver) will be awarded. The purpose of this summer language program, now in its fourth year, is to provide Intermediate-level students of the Mongolian language with an opportunity to enhance their communicative competence through systematic improvement of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, in
an authentic environment. Classroom and supervised outside-the-classroom activities will help students achieve more fluent, accurate and multi-functional communication. The program entails intensive study of the Mongolian language at the Intermediate level of language learning which is equivalent to approximately 9 semester credit hours. The course will be taught by experienced Mongolian language teachers and is open to students from all countries. For further details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org/language

ACMS Faculty Research Fellowship 2011

The American Center for Mongolian Studies is pleased to announce the second year of the ACMS Faculty Research Fellowship. Up to five fellowship awards of approximately $4000 each will be provided for travel and living expenses. The fellowship supports faculty members from US colleges and universities to conduct short-term field research in Mongolia between May and October 2011. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents currently teaching at a college or university in the United States. The program priority is to support faculty from non-research intensive universities and colleges, especially faculty who are helping guide student research projects or who can show how the experience will enhance their teaching. Prior experience working in Mongolia is not a requirement and the program is open to all fields of study. For further details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org/faculty

ACMS Library Fellowship 2011

American Center for Mongolian Studies is pleased to announce the first year of the ACMS Library Fellowship. This fellowship supports US advanced graduate students or faculty members in library science from US colleges and universities to conduct short-term projects and/or research in Mongolia between May and October 2011. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents currently enrolled in or teaching at a college or university in the United States. The ACMS Library Fellowship program is to help support the development of the ACMS research library through specific defined projects designed to enhance the collection content and resource availability. The Fellow will also offer training and support for local scholars and the public. Fellows will spend up to 12 weeks onsite in Mongolia at the ACMS library; prior experience working in Mongolia is not a requirement. One to two Fellowships will be awarded to fund travel and living expenses ($2,000 for travel and up to $2,000 for a project stipend unless otherwise agreed upon). For further details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org/librarian

ACMS Sponsored Event

World Learning/SIT Study Abroad Program - Students’ Independent Study Project Presentation
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2010, 9:30AM – 1:30PM MUST, Central Library, Room 405

The ACMS will again host the student research conference presentations for this semester’s School for International Training’s (SIT) Study Abroad program. This field-based, academic, undergraduate program immerses students in real-world contexts where they can examine critical, global issues from diverse perspectives and multiple sources of knowledge. The program concludes with a month-long Independent Study Project (ISP) that provides the opportunity to learn primary research methods, skills, and ethics; practice field study; and gain a deep understanding of the research topic:
New Acquisitions at the ACMS Library

Each month the ACMS publishes a list of materials acquired and added to the collection. The complete list for October 2010 can be viewed on the ACMS library website at http://www.mongoliacenter.org/library/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=658&Itemid=54 Here are some highlights:

“Монгол Цаазын Бичигт Хийсэн Эрх Зүйн Судалгаа (Legal Research on Great Law),” B.Bayarsaikhan, I. Dashniam, N. Lundendorzh, (2005), NUM
“Монголын Төр, Эрх Зүйн Түүх: Дээж Бичиг (Mongolian State and History of Legal Structure-6 volumes)”, B. Bayarsaikhan.NUM

Call for Papers, Conferences and Workshops

International Conference: November 7-10, 2010, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 770th Anniversary of the “Secret History of Mongols.” To commemorate the anniversary the National Academy of Sciences of Mongolia in collaboration with other academic institutions in Mongolia, the Academy is organizing a conference on the historical impact and research topics related to the “Secret History of Mongols.” The conference will take place in “Khuduu Aral”, Delger-Khaan soum, Khentii Province as well as in Ulaanbaatar city. The working languages for the conference are Mongolia, English and Russian. Contact: info@history.mas.ac.mn

Mongolia’s Changing Role in Eurasia, Wednesday, November 10, 2010, Washington, DC
This seminar, hosted by the Jamestown Foundation, will feature panelists from the Brookings Institution, Mongolia Society, and from President of Mongolia’s cabinet. Topics are: “Mongolia’s Competing Regional Identities: Between Eurasia and the Pacific” and “Mongolia’s Foreign Policy Vision for Eurasia”. The event will take place at The Jamestown Foundation, 7th Floor Conference Room, 1111 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. Contact: (202) 483-1405
Student Conference, February 25-27, Boston, Harvard East Asia Society Graduate Student Conference.

This annual conference is for graduate students from around the world to present papers from all disciplines on topics related to East or Inner Asia. Papers focusing on Chinese, Korean, Japanese or Vietnamese diaspora in any region of the world are also welcome. Abstract submission deadline: November 17th, 2010.
Visit: http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~heas/conference/abstracts.html

Conference: November 19, 2010, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, “The Network of Conservation Educators and Practitioners (NCEP)” This conference is presented by Wildlife Conservation Society, Mongolia and the School of Biology and Biotechnology, National University of Mongolia. The conference will be held at National University of Mongolia, Building 1, Room 320. Contact: jamesctallant@gmail.com

Contact: kate.rattner@vanderbilt.edu Visit: http://www.vanderbilt.edu/rpw_center/fac_fellows1.htm

International Conference: December 3, 2010, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. To commemorate the 370th anniversary of the treaty between the Khalkha and the Oirat. The conference will focus on Khalkha and Oirat treaty of 1640. As part of this event there will be a release of three books dedicated to the Jangar Tuulu. Contact: Sukhbaatar, Tod Nomiin Gerel Group, +976 9919 9592.

Call for Papers: The Journal of Central and Inner Asian Dialogue
The Journal of Central and Inner Asian Dialogue (JCAID) aims to promote Central and Inner Asian cultures and heritages while working together with faculty from academic institutions, like those at the University of Washington and the International Library in Tashkent, in supporting and promoting Central and Inner Asian languages and area studies. To those ends, JCAID invites innovative manuscripts for submission. Manuscripts should not be under consideration by other publishers at the time of submission. The journal also encourages interdisciplinary studies on recent or current developments as well as review articles. Faculty as well as students are welcome to submit papers. Deadline: January 15, 2011.
Contact: info@jciadinfo.org or Visit: http://www.jciadinfo.org/

Summer Language Workshop (Mongolian), June 17-August 12, 2011, Bloomington, IN
This program provides Introductory Mongolian on the campus of Indiana University, Bloomington during an intensive 8-week intensive. This training is equivalent to an entire year of university-level instruction. Courses in other Central Asian and East European languages also available. Bloomington has an active Mongolian community and is home to The Mongolia Society and the historic Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center (TMBC). Title VIII Fellowships are available to U.S. graduate students, established scholars, and area
professionals for the study of Mongolian, as well as for other languages. Fellowships cover tuition, fees, and a generous stipend. Visit: http://www.indiana.edu/~swseel/

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

Korean Government International Undergraduate Scholarship Program - 2011
The objective of this Scholarship Program is to provide international students with the opportunity to conduct advanced studies at higher educational institutions in Korea, to promote international exchanges in education and mutual friendship. Approximately 100 people from 59 countries will be selected (including Mongolia). Deadline: November 19, 2010. Visit: http://eng.inha.ac.kr/intro/notice_view.asp?pIdx=424&pGroup=04

Northeast Asia Regional Program Fellowships – 2011
The Mongolia Nominating Committee of the Eisenhower Fellowships (EF), c/o USAID/Mongolia, is now accepting applications for the 2011 Northeast Asia Regional Program. The Eisenhower Fellowship Program will sponsor the Northeast Asia Regional Program (NARP) in the Fall of 2011. The program will include China, China (Taiwan), Japan, Korea, and Mongolia. It will build on the momentum created in these countries, and the EF network in the region as a whole. Given the growing importance of these countries to each other and continuing importance to the United States, this program comes at an ideal time. It will enhance existing relationships and foster new ones among leaders in the region which will influence the future of Northeast Asia and its cooperation with the United States. NARP Fellows will pursue rigorous, individually-tailored programs that will provide them with the opportunity to meet with leaders in their fields, attend pertinent conferences, and participate in relevant site visits. Deadline: November 26, 2010. Visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/eisenhower2011.html

The UNDP Academic Fellowships: “Climate Change and Human Development” - Asia and Pacific Regions
The Fellowship is intended for young Ph.D. students who are at an advanced dissertation stage working on a topic related to human development – theoretical, applied or policy oriented. The theme is “Climate Change and Human Development.” Climate change is a human development challenge because it threatens to erode human freedoms and limits choice, plunging large numbers into hardship. Climate change is hampering efforts to deliver the MDG promise as it undermines international efforts to combat poverty and exacerbates already existing inequalities. Those, in turn, can result in an increase in conflict over sharing natural resources. The UNDP Human Development Academic Fellowship for Asia Pacific carries an award of US$ 10,000. Applicants from these regions (includes Mongolia) are eligible to apply. Deadline: November 30, 2010. Visit: http://asia-pacific.undp.org/practices/HDRU/documents/UNDPAcademic2010.pdf

Residential Research Fellowship on “Sacred Ecology: Landscape Transformations for Ritual Practice”
A one-year residential research fellowship is available for scholars interested in participating in a broadly interdisciplinary faculty seminar entitled “Sacred Ecology: Landscape Transformations for Ritual Practice” at the Warren Center, Vanderbilt University, during the 2011-2012 academic year. The fellowship pays a stipend of up to $45,000. Each year, the Warren Center sponsors a Fellows Program with a particular thematic focus involving Vanderbilt faculty members and one year-long Visiting Fellow. The Fellow meets weekly with these faculty and may have offices in the Center. Individual research funds in the amount of $4,000 are available for selected participants. In addition, program funds provided by the Center can be used by the group for visiting speakers, conferences, or other appropriate program-related expenses. The seminar provides an unusual opportunity for faculty members with a variety of specializations to work cooperatively on a common issue in a sustained manner. Deadline: January 15, 2011. Contact: kate.rattner@vanderbilt.edu Visit: http://www.vanderbilt.edu/rpw_center/fac_fellows1.htm

The International Fulbright Science and Technology Award

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State sponsors the International Fulbright Science & Technology Award for Outstanding Foreign Students (Fulbright S&T) to provide exceptional foreign students with an opportunity to pursue Ph.D. study at top U.S. universities. Fulbright S&T is designed to be the most prestigious international scholarship in science and technology and to demonstrate the United States’ commitment to welcoming top-notch future researchers and leaders to pursue serious scientific study and research at U.S. institutions. Grantees receive three years of funding from ECA followed by support from their U.S. host institution until the completion of the Ph.D. program. Eligible fields of study are: Aeronautics and Astronautics / Aeronautical Engineering; Agriculture (theoretical/research); Astronomy / Planetary Sciences; Biology; Biomedical Engineering; Chemistry; Computer Sciences / Engineering; Energy; Engineering (electrical, chemical, civil, ocean, mechanical, and petroleum); Environmental Science / Engineering; Geology / Earth and Atmospheric Sciences; Information Sciences (Engineering focus); Materials Science / Engineering; Mathematics; Neurosciences; Oceanography; Physics; Public Health (research or theoretical focus only). Mongolians who wish to pursue their PhD in the U.S. should visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/fsta3.html Deadline: April, 2010

Open Society Returning Scholars Fellowship Program - Mongolia

The Returning Scholars Fellowship Program, as part of a conscious strategy to combat “brain drain” in the social sciences and humanities, supports talented young scholars who, after earning a postgraduate degree abroad, seek university positions and academic careers in their home countries. The program will support scholars from Mongolia who have received (or will receive by the start of the fellowship) eligible degrees in the following fields: anthropology, area/cultural studies, economics, gender studies, history, human rights & public law, international relations, journalism/media studies, philosophy, political science, psychology, public policy/ environmental studies, public policy/public health, social work, and sociology. The program does not support scholars in philology, the visual and performing arts, and
Open Society International Scholars Fellowship Program - Mongolia

The International Scholars Fellowship Program selects highly qualified scholars in the social sciences and humanities to assist Academic Fellowship Program partner departments where Returning Scholars are placed. The International Scholars advise on the overall reform agenda of the departments and share the latest developments in the respective disciplines, and beyond, with departmental colleagues; collaborate on the introduction of new courses; and encourage the development of skills that are crucial for academic success. International Scholars share their experience with Returning Scholars and the entire department on a consultative basis. They work on-site with the departments during two or three short and intense visits, and remain in touch with colleagues in the time between these consultations. International Scholars play important roles in the Academic Webfolio Project by mentoring individual Returning Scholars and commenting directly on fellows’ webfolios within their Discipline Group, both during and between visits. The details of such arrangements as travel and work plans are negotiated on an individual basis during the selection process. Deadline: April 11, 2011.
Visit: http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/afp/grants/isfp

Resources

New Journal of Central and Inner Asian Studies

The Central Asian Studies Seminar and the Association of Central Asian Students of the University of Washington have introduced a new journal geared towards scholarly advancement within the field of Central Asian Studies. The *Journal of Central and Inner Asian Dialogue* (JCIAD) is a new online journal dedicated to various topics such as arts, languages, and literatures of peoples of Central and Inner Asia. Visit: http://www.jciadinfo.org/

New Survey: “Politbarometer” from Sant Maral - Mongolia

The Sant Maral Foundation has completed its latest “Politbarometer” survey of public opinion in Mongolia. The survey was taken October 1-9, 2010, with a representative sample of 1000 respondents. The full text survey is now available in both English and Mongolian on Sant Maral website: http://santmaral.mn/en/publications/polit-barometer-october-2010

Position Openings

Two Internship Opportunities in Mongolia: 2010-2011

The Wildlife Conservation Society of Mongolia invites applications for student interns in ecology and natural resource management positions. Applicants should be highly motivated and qualified senior undergraduate-level or graduate-level students to study natural resource management in Mongolia under the mentorship of Mongolian and US scientists. The successful
candidates will join an interdisciplinary team of faculty and students in ecology, anthropology, geography, environmental communication, biodiversity conservation and hydrology working together on an interdisciplinary research project entitled “Increasing the Adaptive Capacity of Mongolian Livestock Herders under a Changing Climate through Rangeland Ecosystem Monitoring and Community-based Conservation.” This opportunity is especially appropriate for students motivated to develop their skills in interdisciplinary research with an applied problem focus. Deadline: November 8, 2010. Contact: wcs.mongolia@gmail.com

PhD Graduate Student Position: Rangeland Ecosystem Science, Colorado State University Applications are invited for a highly motivated and qualified PhD student to study rangeland ecosystem science under the mentorship of Drs. Robin Reid and Maria Fernandez-Gimenez in the Department of Forest, Range and Watershed Stewardship at Colorado State University. The successful candidate will join an interdisciplinary team of faculty and students in ecology, anthropology, geography, environmental communication and hydrology working together on an NSF-funded project to answer the following global questions in Mongolia: 1) How resilient or vulnerable are Mongolian pastoral social-ecological systems to climate change? 2) Does community-based rangeland ecosystem management (CBREM) increase coupled systems’ resilience to climate change? The successful PhD student will work on the ecological aspects of these two questions. Funding is available for 2.5 years for a graduate research assistantship with stipend and tuition with several additional possibilities for funding. The application is open to Mongolian nationals. Deadline: December 15, 2010. Contact: Robin.Reid@colostate.edu or Visit: http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/frws-prospective-students/graduate-studies.html).

News and Events

Mongolia Society and Young Mongolian Professionals’ Association Fundraiser Roundtable and Dinner, November 11, 2010 6-10 PM, Washington, DC

The event entitled “US-Mongolian People to People Relations—Growing our Ties” will include presentations by Mrs. Ann LaPorta, wife of the U.S. former Ambassador to Mongolia, Mr. Jeffrey Davidson of Rio Tinto, Ms. Sas Carey from Vermont’s Nomadicare, Mr. Dan Plumley of Massachusetts-based Totem Project for Mongolia’s reindeer people, and Mrs. Dash Nyamsuren from the Mongolian School of the National Capital Area. Visit: www.mongoliasociety.org or contact Alicia Campi at monsocacampi@gmail.com or Baljaa at Baljaa@ymapusa.org

Oirat Festival - Ulaanbaatar

The first festival of Oirat people called “Ilkh Khogsuu” will take place in Ulaanbaatar, November 11-13, 2010. The purpose of the festival is to promote and to develop traditions, arts, culture and language of the Oirat people. The festival program includes an exhibition of Oirat national dress in Sukhbaatar Square, Oirat furnishings at the Zanabazar Fine Art museum, and an international science conference on Oirat art and culture at the State Philharmonic Hall. The festival will end with a gala concert at the Mongolian National Wrestling Palace.

Source: http://ubpost.mongolnews.mn/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5483&Itemid=45
Zurag Gallery and Mongolian Center Opens in Berlin

The Zurag Gallery is the first gallery founded and operated by a Mongol outside of Mongolia. Berlin-based artist Otgonbayar Ershuu founded the Zurag Gallery in 2010. Zurag Gallery’s location spreads over two floors, each with 15 x 7 meters large rooms, marble floors, natural stone walls and a courtyard. In addition, founder Otgonbayar Ershuu is displaying his exhibition “Roaring Hooves,” which is open between September 25 and November 10, 2010.

Source: http://ubpost.mongolnews.mn/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5447&Itemid=43

Presidential Decree Commemorates the 2220th Anniversary of Mongolia’s Statehood

President Elbegdorj issued a Decree to commemorate the 2220th anniversary of the Mongolian State and provided directives to the Government associated with this major undertaking. The President’s Decree provides directions for commemorating the 2220th anniversary of the Mongol State as a National Day in 2011 so as to revive and enhance studying, preserving and enriching the history and traditions of the Hunnus while promoting and encouraging national consciousness and pride for Mongolia’s millennia-old historical, intellectual and cultural heritage. The Decree also directs the construction of the “World’s Nomadic History and Culture Complex,” to hold international scientific and research symposia, establish international research expeditions and engage in the production of scientific, cultural and artistic works.


First European Union Film Festival in Mongolia, November 10-14, 2010

The Film Festival is organized by the Delegation of the European Union for Mongolia in partnership with the German Goethe-Institute’s Liaison Office in Mongolia, Urgoo cinema in Ulaanbaatar and the “Uurkhaichin” cultural center, Erdenet. EU countries (Belgium, Germany, France, the UK, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Italy and Holland) will show one movie, mainly new productions, which have been successful in their own countries, including thrillers, comedies, and drama. All movies are shown in their original language with Mongolian subtitles. Contact: 322751, 99114465

Recent Publications

“Harnessing Fortune: Personhood, Memory and Place in Northeast Mongolia,” Rebecca M. Empson, (December 1, 2010), Oxford University Press. Based on long-term fieldwork with migrant herding families who traverse the Northern Mongolian-Russian border, the volume explores how intimate social relationships and identities are drawn upon to engage with new political and economic uncertainties. The attention to various forms of material culture, including photographs, embroideries, and changing household furnishings among nomadic families sheds light on how social remembering and networks of knowledge transfer make use of the material culture of the home.
“Mongolia in the 21st Century: Society, Culture and International Relations,” edited by K. Warikoo, Sharad K. Soni, (2010), Pentagon. This book deals with historical, cultural, economic, and geopolitical perspectives on Mongolia and its relations with direct and third neighbors. Eminent academics and Mongolists from India, Mongolia, Russia, USA, Kazakhstan, China, Japan and Turkey have contributed to this volume. Mongol culture areas outside Mongolia in Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region of China, Buryatia, Kalmykia and Tuva Republics of Russian Federation are dealt with separately and in detail.

“Vegetation Dynamics of Mongolia,” edited by P.D. Gunin, Elizabeth A. Vostokova, Nadezhda I. Dorofeyuk, Pavel E. Tarasov, Clanton C. Clark, (November. 2010), Springer. Mongolia was tilted by tectonic forces to the North, and experiences extremes of continental climate. Moisture-carrying wind currents are scarce so that the land has extended highs and lows in its environment. The vast fenceless steppes of Mongolia furnish the vegetation for grazing. With such extremes in climate it is clear that the vegetation must be resilient and dynamic to cope with the dictates of its extremely harsh environments. Currently Mongolian society is experiencing much human-driven economic development which increases pressure on its vegetation. The Great Khural Laws of 1995 forcefully addressed such environmental concerns with the expanded establishment of National Reserves and Parks. This book highlights work such as conserving and restoring plant diversity in various ecosystems and makes recommendations for sustaining the vegetation basis of the nomadic Mongolian society.

“Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers of the Baikal Region, Siberia: Bioarchaeological Studies of Past Life Ways,” Andrzej Weber, M. Anne Katzenberg, and Theodore G. Schurr (eds), (2010), University of Pennsylvania Press. Siberia’s Lake Baikal region is an archaeologically unique and emerging area of hunter-gatherer research, offering insights into the complexity, variability, and dynamics of long-term culture change. The exceptional quality of archaeological materials recovered there facilitates interdisciplinary studies whose relevance extends far beyond the region. The Baikal Archaeology Project—one of the most comprehensive studies ever conducted in the history of subarctic archaeology—is conducted by an international multidisciplinary team studying Middle Holocene (about 9,000 to 3,000 years B.P.) hunter-gatherers of the region. This book presents the current team's research findings on questions about long-term patterns of hunter-gatherer adaptive strategies. Grounded in interdisciplinary approaches to primary research questions of cultural change and continuity over 6,000 years, the project utilizes advanced research methods and integrates diverse lines of evidence in making fundamental and lasting contributions to hunter-gatherer archaeology.

“Managing Urban Expansion in Mongolia: Best Practices in Scenario-based Urban Planning,” Takuya Kamata, James Reichert, Tumentsoqt Tsevegmid, (2010), World Bank Publications. The sustainable development of "ger" areas in Ulaanbaatar is one of the critical development issues facing the country. The lack of basic public services resulted in air and water pollution as well as serious health risks to residents. There is high susceptibility to ad-hoc behaviors that place premiums on short-term private gains over long-term value-creation in public goods. Many supporting mechanisms, including land valuation and taxation, have not yet been developed to create incentives for long-term value creation. This publication aims at helping policy makers and citizens of Ulaanbaatar to improve their understanding of the consequences of their choices.
of policies and practices. Specifically, it intends to provide clear cost and benefit implications of three different development paths (central, mid-tier, and fringe) for seven sectors (land and housing, water supply, roads and public transport, heating, electricity, solid waste, and social services).

“Mongol khelnii tovchilson ugiin tol’ bichig (Dictionary of abbreviated words of the Mongolian language),” (2010), Mon Sudar. The dictionary provides common Mongolian abbreviations, acronyms, idioms, and professional terms.

“The Mongol Invasions of Japan 1274 and 1281,” Stephen Turnbull, (2010), Osprey Publishing. Written by eastern warfare expert Stephen Turnbull for use in undergraduate university teaching, this book tells the story of the two Mongol invasions of Japan. Using detailed maps, illustrations, and newly commissioned artwork, Turnbull charts the history of these great campaigns, which included numerous bloody raids on the Japanese islands, and ended with the famous kami kaze, the divine wind, that destroyed the Mongol fleet and would live in the Japanese consciousness and shape their military thinking for centuries to come.

“The Mandate of Heaven and the Great Ming Code,” Yonglin Jiang, (December, 2010), University of Washington Press. This study challenges the conventional assumption that law in premodern China was used merely as an arm of the state to maintain social control and as a secular tool to exercise power. Jiang argues that the Ming ruling elite envisioned the cosmos as an integrated unit; they saw law, religion, and political power as intertwined, remarkably different from the "modern" compartmentalized worldview. In serving as a cosmic instrument to manifest the Mandate of Heaven, The Great Ming Code represented a powerful religious effort to educate the masses and transform society.

“Mapping Mongolia: Situating Mongolia in the World from Geologic Time to the Present,” edited by Paula L.W. Sabloff, (September, 2010), University of Pennsylvania Press. Would marginalized countries such as Mongolia benefit from a reconfiguration of area studies programs or even from another way of thinking about grouping nations? This book uses Mongolia as a case study to critique the area studies methodology and test the efficacy of another grouping methodology, the "-scapes" method proposed by Arjun Appadurai. Could the application of this approach for tracing individuals' social networks by theme (finance, ethnicity, ideology, media, and technology) be applied to nation-states or peoples? Could it then prevent Mongolia from slipping through the cracks of academia and international diplomacy? Experts from ecology, genetics, archaeology, history, anthropology, and international diplomacy contemplate these issues in their chapters on Mongolia through the ages. Their work includes over 30 maps to help situate Mongolia in its geologic, geographic, economic, and cultural matrix. By comparing maps of different time periods and intellectual orientations, readers can consider for themselves the place of Mongolia in the world community and the relative benefits of these and other grouping methodologies.

“The Troubled Empire: China in the Yuan and Ming Dynasties,” Timothy Brook, ed., (2010), Harvard. The Mongol takeover in the 1270s changed the course of Chinese history. The Confucian empire—a millennium and a half in the making—was suddenly thrust under foreign occupation. Four centuries later, another wave of steppe invaders would replace the Ming dynasty with yet another foreign occupation. The Troubled Empire explores what happened to
China between these two dramatic invasions. If anything defined the complex dynamics of this period, it was changes in the weather. Asia, like Europe, experienced a Little Ice Age, and as temperatures fell in the thirteenth century, Kublai Khan moved south into China. His Yuan dynasty collapsed in less than a century, but Mongol values lived on in Ming institutions. A second blast of cold in the 1630s, combined with drought, was more than the dynasty could stand, and the Ming fell to Manchu invaders.

“Siberia: A Cultural History,” A. J. Haywood, (September, 2010), Oxford. The author offers a detailed account of the architectural and cultural landmarks of cities such as Irkutsk, Tobolsk, Barnaul, and Novosibirsk.

“Birds of Mongolia,” Sunde Gombobaatar, Axel Bräunlich, (April, 2010), UK. Using plates specially created for the book, the guide follows traditional field guide design with plates arranged opposite the text. Detailed accompany the text.