This Month in Mongolian Studies – November 2009

This is a monthly listing of selected activities and resources related to Mongolian Studies in Ulaanbaatar and around the world. This list is based on information the Center has received and is presented as a service to ACMS members. If you would like to renew your membership, submit information to be included in next month’s issue, or have received this message in error, please contact the ACMS at info@mongoliacenter.org

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ACMS Announcements

The US ACMS office has moved from Western Washington University (WWU) in Bellingham to the University of Wisconsin – Madison; it is now being hosted by the Center for East Asian Studies. Brian White is the Director of this US Office (333 Ingraham Hall on Observatory Drive) and Robin Charpentier is the Resident Director of the ACMS in Mongolia (Room 304 in Building #5 of the National University of Mongolia). The American Institute for Pakistan Studies is also located at UW-Madison. Contact: info@mongoliacenter.org

ACMS Fellowships for 2010

The American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS) is pleased to announce several fellowship and language study programs for students, faculty and other interested individuals. Application material and further information on all programs is available from the ACMS website: www.mongoliacenter.org. The application deadline for all programs is March 1, 2010. Each program requires a separate application.

Research Fellowship Program

The ACMS Research Fellowship Program annually supports three fellows to conduct 6 to 12-months of doctoral dissertation or post-doctoral research in Mongolia on topics in the Social Sciences or Humanities. Natural Science research is not eligible, unless there are clear areas in which the research furthers social, cultural, political, or policy knowledge relevant to Mongolia or the region. Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the US or Canada. The maximum fellowship is $27,000, which can be used to pay for travel, living and research costs. Funding support for this program is provided by the Henry Luce Foundation.
Intensive Mongolian Language Program Fellowships

The ACMS Intensive Mongolian Language Program offers fellowships of up to $3000 for participants based on merit and need. The Intensive Mongolian Language Program is an eight-week program held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from June to August 2010. The ACMS Intensive Mongolian Language Program will provide the equivalent of nine semester credit hours of language training (144 contact hours) at the intermediate and advanced level, and will be held in small groups led by experienced Mongolian language teachers. All applicants must have the equivalent of at least one year of Mongolian language study experience by the time the program begins. The program is open to students from all countries.

US-Mongolia Field Research Fellowship

The US-Mongolia Field Research Fellowship supports students to conduct at least 6 weeks of field research in Mongolia between May and October 2010. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent residents enrolled full-time in a university or college at the time of application. Students graduating in spring 2010 are eligible for the program. Undergraduate applicants must have at least third year standing in their program, while graduate applicants can be at a masters or pre-dissertation doctoral level (first two years of a PhD program). Research projects in all fields of study are eligible under this program. Funding support is provided by the US State Department Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau.

Faculty Research Fellowship

The ACMS is pleased to announce a new fellowship program for faculty members from US colleges and universities. The fellowship offers up to $2500 per faculty member to support travel and research costs for faculty who plan to conduct field research and studies in Mongolia between May and October 2010. Research projects in all fields of study will be considered. 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 and outreach. The funding is intended to serve as a catalyst and may be used in conjunction with funds from other sources. Funding support is provided by the US State Department Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau.

ACMS Speaker Series

November 5, 2009

5 PM, Room 305, Building #5, National University of Mongolia

Intimate Partner Violence, Childhood Sexual Abuse and HIV/STI Risks Among Women Engaged in Sex Work in Mongolia, Susan Sloan Witte, Ph.D. Columbia University and Dr. Altantsetseg Batsukh, Ministry of Health, Mongolia
November 12, 2009 5 PM

5 PM, Room 305, Building #5, National University of Mongolia

The Oirat Gegen Zaya Pandita: Reflections on Buddhism Among the Mongols, Richard P. Taupier, Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Student Presentations - World Learning Program: ACMS Ulaanbaatar, December 2, 2009, 10 AM, Room 304, Building #5, National University of Mongolia

The ACMS will 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. SIT Study Abroad Mongolia program includes intensive cultural immersion, substantial community involvement, enlightening educational excursions, and emphasis on individual field-based research. The program ends 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.

Presenters:

Brandon Miliate, University of Southern California, India’s Role in Mongolia’s Third Neighbor Policy

Britt Van, Colorado College, The Relationship between Religion and Mining: Perceived and Potential Interactions and Affects

Kara Pellegrino, Kenyon College, Dairy and Its Cultural Significance in the City

Sam LeGrys, Goucher College, The Mongol and the Wolf

Lindsay Myron, Cornell University, Tomatoes Ripened from Red to Green: Post-Socialist Vegetable Cultivation in Mongolia

Nathan Wenzel, George Washington University, The Legend of the Almas: A Comparative and Critical Analysis
ACMS Library: Selected Recent Acquisitions


The complete list of books and materials acquired and added to the ACMS library collection in October 2009 is now available: www.mongoliacenter.org/library/bibliography

Meetings, Conferences and Workshops


Established scholars, early career researchers and graduate students will interact with indigenous researchers, museum curators, archivists and audio-visual experts to discuss strategies for collecting, recording, preserving and disseminating oral literatures and endangered narrative traditions. Mongolia is included in the program http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/940/ Contact: Imogen Gunn, World Oral Literature Project, Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge, imogen.gunn@maa.cam.ac.uk

A multifaceted presentation of Chinggis Khan’s life and times, and those of his sons and grandsons during the formation, peak, and decline of the Mongol Empire. More than 200 objects—many of which have never been seen outside of Russia or Mongolia—will be on display including gold jewelry and ornaments, silk robes, musical instruments, pottery and sophisticated weaponry. Contact: http://dmns.org/gk/

News

Western Washington University in Bellingham has a position available in the Modern and Classical Languages Department for a Mongolian language instructor to teach first-year Mongolian starting in the Spring 2010. Applications are currently being accepted on line: https://jobs.wwu.edu/JobPosting.aspx?JPID=1192 Contact: Dr. Vicki Hamblin, vicki.hamblin@wwu.edu or 360-650-4859.

The creative team of the National Television of Mongolia just finished shooting a documentary film about Kazakhstan. Shot primarily in Ust-Kamenogorsk, the film is about the Mongolian Kazakhs’ ties to their historic homeland in Kazakhstan. This project was initiated by the Kazakh Embassy in Mongolia to improve bilateral relations. Mongolian TV journalists met with oralmans (Kazakh diaspora returning to Kazakhstan), who shared their impressions about their historical homeland and how they now live there. See the International Relations section on 10.21.2009. http://assembly.kz/index.php?f=show&ft=2000&type=107&id=177026544325

The Harvard College Library and the National Library of China plan to digitize one of the largest collections of rare Chinese books outside of China. This six-year, multimillion-dollar project is in two phases: January 2010 (books dating from the Song, Yuan and Ming dynasties) and January 2013 (Qing dynasty). http://h-net.msu.edu/~asia/ 10.13.09

Resources

The Treasury of Lives is a new electronic resource for Tibetan Studies, a project of the Shelley and Donald Rubin Foundation http://www.tibetanlineages.org/. This is a website of biographies of religious figures in Tibetan Buddhism; biography is linked with the Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center (TBRC) and Himalayan Art Resources (HAR). The Treasury website is designed to associate each biography with five categories: tradition, community, historical period, geography, and natural landmark. The goal is to provide a biography of every known Tibetan religious figure, excluding those still living; there are currently over 150 biographies, with about 75 more in the editing stage. Website features include mapping of teaching lineages and dynamic tours of lineage paintings. Contact: Alexander Gardner, Ph.D., 646-839-5913 x306
Publications of Interest

*The Mongols in the Making of Europe, 1220-1500: Images and Texts*, Fielding, A., 2009, Global Oriental Publishing. An examination of the effect of the Mongols on the Western imagination. New light is brought to bear on some of the great literature of the period, such as the romanticization of Chinggis Khan in Chaucer’s “Canterbury Tales.

*Politbarometer 2009* presents the results of a survey conducted by the Sant Maral Foundation October 1-11, 2009, when the Oyu Tolgoi mining agreement was in progress. Survey results from a representative sample of 1200 respondents from UB and four other aimags are presented in this report. The survey was sponsored by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation of Germany.

http://docs.google.com/Doc?docid=0AedUBKHXjVtoZDV3czRyNi82ZGJjdjNhNzM&hl=en

*Fragmenta Buddhica Uigurica*, Raschmann, S-C and Wilkens, J., 2008, Klaus-Schwartz-Verlag Press, an anthology of Zieme's research on Buddhist literature of the ancient Turks, based on text fragments in the Berlin Turfan collection. Furthermore, the editors have expanded researchers’ access to his studies through several indices, including a subject index, a word index, an index of the published and quoted Buddhist works, an index of the published and quoted Turfan fragments, as well as indices of the names of people and places. http://www.klaus-schwartz-verlag.com/index.php?title=Simone-Christiane+Raschmann+und+Jens+Wilkens+Fragmenta+Buddhica+Uigurica&art_no=SSGK07

Opportunities for Scholars

Scholarship: “Global Undergraduate Scholarship 2010-2011,” US Embassy in Mongolia

This program offers one-semester and one-academic year scholarships to outstanding undergraduate students in Mongolia for non-degree study at accredited American institutions. To qualify, the students must be a second or third year student of a university in Mongolia and have a GPA of no less than 3.0. Deadline: November 6, 2009. Contact: US Embassy in Mongolia, 329095 or http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/ugrad_announcement10.html

Call for Proposals: The 2010 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation is the only US government program that provides direct small grant support to heritage preservation in less developed countries. In Mongolia, the American Embassy has provided grants supporting cultural preservation projects every year since 2003. Preservation applies to an object or collection of objects, a cultural site or sites, or forms of traditional cultural expression. Awards typically range from $10,000 to $30,000. Eligible applicants must be non-governmental organizations, museums, ministries of culture, or
similar institutions. **Deadline:** December 2, 2009. **Contact:** Public Affairs Section, US Embassy in Mongolia 312376 or pao@usembassy.mn


The ninth consecutive AAS Dissertation Workshop, to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the AAS. This workshop is intended for doctoral students who work on contemporary or historic aspects of Asian states and societies to develop dissertation proposals and assist with research or dissertation writing. The workshop will be limited to 12 students selected from a broad array of disciplines in a variety of time periods, working in various regions of Asia. It will also include a small multidisciplinary and multi-area faculty with similar interests. **Deadline:** December 11, 2009. **Contact:** Michael Paschal, mpaschal@asian-studies.org or David Szanton, Szanton@uclink.berkeley.edu