

This Month in Mongolian Studies – May 2010

This is a monthly listing of selected academic activities and resources related to Mongolia. This list is based on information the ACMS has received and is presented as a service to its members. If you would like to submit information to be included in next month's issue please contact the ACMS at info@mongoliacenter.org

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ACMS Speaker Series

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 research presentation, to meet other scholars from all countries conducting research in Mongolia, and find out who is leaving/arriving.

Title: TBD

John Waldman, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Biology, Queens College, City University of New York
MAY 20, 2010, 5PM ROOM 407, BUILDING NO. 5 NUM

ACMS Position Openings

Director of International Relations

The ACMS Director of International Relations will be responsible for representing the ACMS in interactions with representatives of Mongolian and other governments, ministry and city agency officials, heads of university, business and legal entities, and International NGOs to carry out our strategic initiatives. The Director of International Relations reports to the ACMS Resident Director and will join a strong team of employees in the ACMS Ulaanbaatar office. The position is open to Mongolian citizens with a strong academic background and English language capabilities.

Specific responsibilities include:

* Maintaining and expanding relationships between the ACMS and Mongolian universities, government ministries, academic organizations and individual scholars

* Facilitating the research activities of international scholars working in Mongolia by overseeing office staff responsible for logistical support services such as the acquisition of required permits, registrations and visas and locating partner institutions and scholars in Mongolia

* Oral and written translation from Mongolian into English and from English to Mongolian

* Ensuring that the ACMS maintains good standing in its registration, personnel and taxation requirements as a foreign NGO operating in Mongolia

* Assisting in the development of new programs and identification of funding sources to support the mission of the ACMS

Requirements for the position include:

* A Master's degree in a relevant field, preferably from a Western university

* Experience studying or conducting research in a North American university

* Excellent spoken and written English

* Excellent Mongolian-English and English-Mongolian translating ability

* Demonstrated interpersonal and negotiation skills

* Administrative and managerial experience

* Experience in the Mongolian higher education system

* An understanding of and commitment to the goals and priorities of the ACMS

This is a full time position; however, opportunities exist for cross- or partial appointments depending on the circumstances of the candidate. The position is part of a staff of 5 full-time employees. Submit: a cover letter, current CV with contact information, and a list of three references to: Robin Charpentier, ACMS Resident Director rcharpentier@mongoliacenter.org
For more information about the position visit: [www. mongoliacenter.org](http://www.mongoliacenter.org)

ACMS Program Assistant (Temporary, Part Time)

The position is open to Mongolian citizens with good English language capabilities and a solid work ethic who are mature, able to work as a member of a team, and who have a commitment to excellence. Training will be provided. The Program Assistant will report to the ACMS Program

Manager and be responsible for handling the day-to-day tasks involved in facilitating the activities of ACMS Fellows and other international scholars conducting research in Mongolia.

Requirements for the position include:

- A Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited university
- Upper-intermediate level spoken and written English
- Experience working in a fast-paced environment
- Familiarity with the requirements of international researchers
- Willingness to travel around and outside of UB
- Excellent references

This is a half-time, temporary position; however, it is possible that the position could continue beyond September 2010. Submit: a cover letter, current resume with contact information, and a list of three references (in English) to: Baigalmaa Begzsuren, Program

Manager baigalmaa@mongoliacenter.org

For more information about the position visit: [www. mongoliacenter.org](http://www.mongoliacenter.org)

ACMS Conference

“**Cultural Practices in Post-Soviet Mongolia**” is the title of the Second Annual ACMS Conference to be held June 10-11, 2010 at the Open Society Forum, Ulaanbaatar. The keynote speaker is Carole Pegg, Ph.D., Senior Affiliated Scholar, Faculty of Music and Department of Social Anthropology (Mongolia & Inner Asia Studies Unit), University of Cambridge who will present her research on “Performing Mongolian: Culture and Identities in a Globalizing World.” Cultural practices in the areas of: the arts; new cultural practices; language; and religion will be explored by panelists in terms of the ongoing revitalization, adaptation, change or preservation efforts in Mongolia since 1990. The Opening Reception in the Khan Bank Theater features a pre-premiere documentary film screening of ‘Mongolian Bling,’ which will be presented and discussed by the filmmaker. The Conference, sponsored by the Henry Luce Foundation, is free but advanced registration is required since a large audience is expected. Simultaneous translation will be provided during the Panel presentations and closing Roundtable Discussion. Full Conference details and a registration form will be available on the ACMS website shortly. For further information or to register in advance contact: baigalmaa@mongoliacenter.org

ACMS Trainings

ACMS Web-based Applications and Resource Literacy Training is for students and faculty to develop search strategies for locating information relevant to their educational and research needs and to learn how to use web-based and freely available tools to strengthen their search and communication strategies. To register, send an email to: library@mongoliacenter.org before the training.

Picasa Web Albums

MAY 12, 2010, 5PM ROOM 304, BUILDING NO. 5 NUM

How to use iGoogle

MAY 26, 2010, 5PM ROOM 304, BUILDING NO. 5 NUM

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 March 2010 can be viewed on the ACMS library website at http://www.mongoliacenter.org/library/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=648&Itemid=54

Here are a few highlights:

“Surviving the Dragon: a Tibetan Lama's Account of 40 Years under Chinese Rule,” Arjia Rinpoche (2010), Macmillan

“The Atoms of Language,” Baker, M. C. (2001), New York: Basic Books

“Contemplative Science: Where Buddhism and Neuroscience Converge,” Wallace, B. A., & Hodel, B. (2009), Columbia Series in Science and Religion, New York: Columbia University Press.

“Military Orientalism: Eastern War through Western Eyes,” Patrick Porter (2009), New York: Columbia University Press

“The Iconography of Islamic art: Studies in Honor of Robert Hillenbrand,” O'Kane, B. & Hillenbrand, R. (2007), Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press

“Scholastic Sanskrit: a Handbook for Students,” Gary A. Tubb and Emery R. Boose, (2007), New York American Institute of Buddhist Studies, Columbia University Press

Call for Papers, Applications and Proposals

Call for Papers - Modern Art Asia August Issue

Modern Art Asia, a journal dedicated to the arts of Asia from the eighteenth century to today, presents graduate research from historical perspectives and international news on Asian art. Graduate students working on the arts and material cultures of Asia during this time period are invited to submit previously unpublished papers of 4,500-10,000 words for peer-review. Asia is broadly defined to include Central, East, South and Southeast Asia, as well as Asia Pacific. Deadline: June 18, 2010. Contact: modernartasiaenquiries@yahoo.co.uk or visit <http://www.modernartasia.com/contribute.html>

Call for Book Chapters - Mining Sector Publication

“Contemporary Issues in Mining” is the title of a planned edited collection of papers concerned with commercial and financial issues in extractive industries, and related economic consequences. Suggested topic areas are:

- Challenges in the valuation and impairment of mining assets
- Issues in accounting within the mining sector
- Mining asset management and leading indicators of firm performance
- The investment performance of mining stocks
- Risk measurement and management of mining assets
- The economic contribution of the mining sector
- Business regulation and taxation of mining entities
- Environmental performance, emissions trading and the mining sector

This list is not exhaustive and interested authors are encouraged to contact the editor with alternative proposals. Papers written in English that include an international perspective, a case study approach or an empirical study will be highly regarded. Deadline: July 15, 2010. Contact: Nigel Finch, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Sydney by email: nigel.finch@sydney.edu.au

Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowships 2011-2012 US Embassy in Ulaanbaatar

This one-year, non-degree professional exchange program provides study and related professional experience in the U.S. to mid-career professionals working in: Agricultural Development/Agricultural Economics; Communications/Journalism; Substance Abuse Education, Treatment and Prevention; Economic Development, Finance and Banking; Educational Administration, Planning and Policy; HIV/AIDS Policy and Prevention; Natural Resource and Environmental Policy and Climate Change; Human Resources Management; Public Health Policy and Management; Public Policy Analysis and Public Administration; Teaching of English as a Foreign Language; Technology Policy and Management; Trafficking of Persons, Policy and Prevention; Urban and Regional Planning; Law and Human Rights. Deadline: July 19, 2020 at noon. For further information, including eligibility criteria, visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/scholarship_announcements/test.html

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA) 2011-2012 US Embassy in Ulaanbaatar

The FLTA Program is aimed at strengthening foreign language instruction at U.S colleges and universities while providing foreign teachers of English with the opportunity to refine their skills, increase their English language proficiency and extend their knowledge of the culture and customs of the United States. The grant is for one academic year and is non-renewable. Deadline: July 19, 2020 at noon. For further information, including eligibility criteria visit: http://mongolia.usembassy.gov/flta_announcement.html

Call for Nominations – International Convention of Asia Scholars Book Prize 2011

The International Convention of Asia Scholars - Book Prize 2011

The International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS) seeks to recognize the best research on Asian Studies by awarding prizes for the best books and PhD dissertations in the Humanities and Social Sciences. The deadline (for sending in PhD work defended between July 2008 and July 2010) is August, 2010. For information on submission rules and regulations, previous prize winners and editions visit: www.icassecretariat.org

Meetings, Conferences, Workshops

“Nomadic Civilization and Buriat – Mongols” International Scientific Conference 2010

June 23-24, 2010, Ulaanbaatar

This International Scientific Conference is being held in conjunction with the Buriat International Festival “Altargana 2010” in Ulaanbaatar. Co-organizers are: the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia, the Academy of Sciences of Mongolia, the Academy of Buriat Studies, and the Altargana Festival Committee. The purpose of the Conference is to support the development of international Buriat studies and to develop ties with other international and national scientific and cultural organizations that are interested in Buriat studies. The working languages of conference are Mongolian, English, Chinese and Russian. Contact: E.Zorigbaatar – Academy of Buriat Studies, bodonguud_zorigt@yahoo.com visit: <http://www.altargana.org/2010/04/international-scientific-conference-2010-%E2%80%9Cnomadic-civilization-and-buryad-mongols%E2%80%9D/>

"Russia - Mongolia: Cultural Identity and Intercultural Interactions" International Conference

June 24 -25, 2010, Russian Federation

St. Petersburg State University and the Mongolian State University of Culture and the Arts will sponsor an International Scientific Conference June 24 -25, 2010. The Conference, part of a joint project, follows up on the November 2008 conference at St. Petersburg State University on "Russia - Mongolia: Identity and Interaction of Cultures in a Globalizing World." The 2010 conference will include topics such as: cultural identity of Russia and Mongolia in terms of interaction and cooperation; social institutions for the preservation and representation of cultural identity; nomadic civilization past and present; mechanisms to ensure cultural diversity in regional and global context; art as a factor of intercultural rapprochement and mutual understanding; studying cultural heritage; contemporary features of social and cultural development in both countries. The Conference will be held in Russia (venue to be announced). Contact: Dianova Valentina Mikhailovna: v_dianova@mail.ru

“The Tuvan Written Language” International Conference 2010

July 1-4, in Kyzyl, Tuva

The conference on “The Tuvan Written Language, Research Questions of Writing Systems, and Written Monuments of Inner Asia” will be held in Kyzyl, Tuva. The Tuvan Institute of Humanitarian Research is sponsoring this conference, which will explore the written languages of Russia and Inner Asia. The focus will be both historical, examining the way in which methods and techniques are consciously continued, and contemporary, looking at how written languages are learned now, in an era of globalization in which new ways coexist with tradition. Particular attention will be paid to folklore and literature of peoples of Siberia and Inner Asia: genesis, typology, tradition, and innovation. Contact: Mariana Kharunova, Tuvan Institute of Humanitarian Research, igi@tuva.ru or visit: <http://tigi.tuva.ru>

“Nuclear Physics” – International Research Conference

July 26-30, 2010, Ulaanbaatar

The MonAme Scientific Research Center will hold its second International Conference, focusing on topics in nuclear physics and its applications. Visit:

http://www.monamescience.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&id=5&Itemid=24

“Emerging Infectious Diseases” Third International Symposium, Mongolia

July 29-30, 2010, Ulaanbaatar

Mongolian Center for Communicable Diseases and the University of Florida’s Department of Environmental and Global Health at the will host the 3rd International Symposium on Emerging Infectious Diseases, at the Chinggis Khan Complex, outside of Ulaanbaatar. Topics will include: environmental and occupational risk factors for cardiovascular disease; emerging adenovirus threats; infectious disease surveillance; wild birds as biomonitors of zoonotic disease and anthropogenic pollutants. Contact: Gregory C. Gray, MD, MPH, Director, Global Pathogens Laboratory: gcgray@phhp.ufl.edu or visit <http://egh.phhp.ufl.edu/mongolia/index.html>

“Shamanism and Art” Academic Symposium and Festival in Buriatia

August 2-9, 2010, Russian Federation

A festival and an academic symposium will be held August 2-9, 2010 on the theme "Shaman: Personality, Psychophysiology, and Creativity" in Tunkinsky National Park, Buriatia, which borders Mongolia. Events are being organized by the Russian Academy of Sciences’ (RAS) Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, the Center for Studies of Shamanism and Other Indigenous Spiritual Beliefs and Practices (RAS), the Institute of Mongolian, Buddhism and

Tibet Studies of the Siberian Branch of RAS (Ulan-Ude), and the local religious community of shamans. The topic of the plenary session is "Shamanism as a 'Traditional Religion' in the Republic of Buriatia in light of the Introduction of 'The Basics of Religious Cultures and Secular Ethics' in the School Curriculum." Proceedings will be held in Russian and English.
Contact: Valkharit@iea.ras.ru or medanthro@mail.ru

"Daily Life and Urban Spaces in Northeast Asian Border Towns, 1900 to 1950" Workshop

November 25-27, 2010, Germany

A workshop will be held at Heidelberg University to compare and analyze the social history of urban spaces in the "border towns" and "border regions" of Northeast Asia (Russian and Soviet Far East, Siberia, Northeast China, Mongolia, Korea, and Japan) during the first half of the 20th century. This area and period present a complex history of competing powers and diverging colonial interests. One of the outcomes from this power struggle was the prevalence of encounters between different social, political, ethnic, and cultural groups in addition to the emergence of boundaries beyond traditional borders as defined by nation-states and empires. Special attention will be given to this question: In various public spaces of everyday city life, to what extent were the cross-border phenomena shaped by individuals, groups, and institutions and by their respective performative actions? Important topics include economy, culture, religion, entertainment, politics, and social organizations.

Contact: heidelbergworkshop@googlemail.com or visit

<http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de/en/research/b-public-spheres/b10.html>

Resources

MNET launched the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) database containing such descriptions as the companies that conducted the assessments, a summary of the impacts, environmental management plans, and Inspection Agency comments. The interactive map shows mining concessions, forest cover, protected areas, etc and in future it will be possible to see planned project locations. Contact: Tony Whitten, Senior Biodiversity Specialist, The World Bank or visit: <http://geodata.mne-ngic.mn/eiareport>

Events

Mongol Children's Festival and Competition – Washington, DC

June 6, 2010, Washington, DC

The Mongolian Community Association of DC will hold its Seventh Annual Mongol Children's Festival and Competition from 2pm-6pm at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre and Auditorium, Washington DC. Festival organizers aim to bring together all Mongolian children residing in the US for this day-long event. Contact: iveelt@harhorin.com or info@mongolcc.org

Photographic Exhibition – New York

“Dark Heavens: Hunters & Shamans of Mongolia” is the title of a photographic exhibition by Hamid Sardar, Ph.D., showing at the Tibet House US until August 20, 2010. Location: 22 West 15th Street, New York, NY 10011 www.tibethouse.us