This Month in Mongolian Studies - July 2006

A publication of the American Center for Mongolian Studies

This is a monthly compendium of important and interesting events taking place at the ACMS in Ulaanbaatar in Mongolian Studies and among the Mongol peoples of the world. This list is based on information our center has received and is presented as a service to ACMS members. If you would like to become a member, have information you would like to submit to future newsletters or have received this message in error, please contact the ACMS at info at mongoliacenter.org.

For more information on each entry, please see the "Announcements" section of the ACMS webpage.

News from the Center

The coming of July means only one thing in Mongolia—the spectacle of Naadam, the annual summer festival of sports and culture. This year’s festival is apt to be especially vibrant with the celebrations surrounding the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Mongol state. All visitors to the Center this summer are invited to bring an academic book or journal along to donate to the ACMS Scholarly Library.

ACMS Announcements

ACMS Concert Series

July 19-22  A Mongol Drama: Traditional Mongolian Musical Theatre

Performances of a traditional drama from the western Mongolian Oirat peoples that shows the ethnic diversity of the region. Shows are daily at 3pm and 6pm, July 19-22, at the Red Ger Gallery of the Zanabaazar Museum, downtown Ulaanbaatar. Ticket prices are T10000 (foreign adults) and T5000 (Mongolians, children). For more information, call the Center at (976) 9973-9869 or email: info at mongoliacenter.org.

Job Opening, Resident Director, ACMS Ulaanbaatar Office

The American Center for Mongolian Studies is seeking a Resident Director for its Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia office. The ACMS Resident Director is responsible for the management of the ACMS Ulaanbaatar office, staff and programs, and the development of new programs, partners and funding sources. The position is primarily administrative, but requires an ability to work effectively with international and Mongolian academic institutions, scholars and students. Application screening will begin June 1, 2006, and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified. The position is available starting August 1, 2006. For more information on the ACMS, please visit our website: mongoliacenter.org or email: info at mongoliacenter.org.

Call for Papers

Biographical Research on Post-Socialist Space, December 2006

DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2006

The ESA Research Network will organize the conference, Biographical Research on Post-Socialist Space: Ten Years After, at the Centre for Independent Social Research in St. Petersburg, Russia, on December 15-17, 2006. The conference will be a follow-up to the conference Biographical Perspectives on Post-Socialist Societies organized a decade earlier. The new conference will focus on the results of biographical research into post-socialist space carried out during the last decade, and will also touch on methodological questions. For more information about the rationale and content of the conference, see www.valt.helsinki.fi/esa/biog.htm.

Conferences and Workshops

Visual Anthropology: New Views to Social Reality, July 2006

Saratov State Technical University and Center for Social Policy and Gender Studies, in Saratov, Russia, announces the interdisciplinary scholarly conference "Visual anthropology: new views to social reality" to be held July 28-29, 2006. This conference intends to bring together social and cultural anthropologists, historians and sociologists, and scholars in cultural studies to discuss methods and findings of analyzing visual objects and documents that open for social scientists new perspectives to understanding past and present. For more information, contact conference organizers Evgenia Vassina and Ekaterina Antonova, E-mail: vasinaev at yandex dot ru, arnadia_e at mail dot ru.

Fellowship & Grant

Senior and Research Fellowships, IFK, Vienna
DEADLINE: JUNE 1, 2006
The Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften is an independent institute for advanced study that aims to support and develop the intellectual enterprise of trans-disciplinary cultural analysis and the study of culture. The IFK is offering Senior Fellowships designed to support excellent scholars, who are well advanced in their academic careers. The IFK is also offering Research Fellowships designed to support post-doctoral scholars early in their careers. Qualified scholars are eligible without regard to nationality, institutional, or departmental affiliation; although preference is given to qualified Austrian applicants. For the application form or for more information, go to www.ifk.ac.at/fellowships-en.html.

Central Eurasia Project 2006 Grantmaking Initiatives
DEADLINE: Rolling through 2006
The Central Eurasia Project uses grantmaking to international and indigenous NGOs to help build local capacity, bring international expertise to bear on the region, and promote cooperation between local activists and international civic movements in the fields of human rights and transparent governance. The Central Eurasia Project requests proposals to provide program and general operating support grants to organizations focused on advancing open societies in the region. Central Eurasia is understood to encompass the former Soviet republics of Central Asia and the Caucasus, Turkey and Mongolia. Please go to www.soros.org/initiatives/regions/central-eurasia for contact information.

New Publication
The Other Side of Russia: A Slice of Life in Siberia and the Russian Far East
This work depicts the details of everyday life in southern Siberia and the Russian Far East, set within their cultural and historical context, local customs, foods, and festivals, as well as urban housing, the education system, and the developing market economy. The author, Sharon Hudgins, makes Asian Russia’s natural beauty, thriving cities, and proud people shine from the pages of this book, proving that Siberia is not only a land of harsh winters and vast uninhabited spaces, but also a home to millions of Russian citizens who live and work in modern metropolises and enjoy a rich social and cultural life.