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This Month in Mongolian Studies - September 2005

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 [acms_2005 at yahoo dot com](mailto:acms_2005@yahoo.com).

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

News from the Center

It's the first day in September and with the ringing of bells and the singing of the national anthem, schools across Mongolia begin a new school year. We at the ACMS wish all a productive year!

The Center is helping to organize the visit of a group of American cowboy poets and singers to Ulaanbaatar. All are invited to join us for a 'cowboy'-themed Speakers Series next Thursday and a gala concert next Friday (details below).

ACMS Announcements

ACMS Speaker's Series Resumes

"Sagebrush to Steppe: Lives of the Cowboys in America and Mongolia", by Dr. Charlie Seeman
September 8, 2005, 5:00 pm in the 'Round Lecture Hall' (second floor) NUM Building No. 1

The ACMS Speaker's Series gets underway in the 2005-2006 school year with a lecture by Dr. Charlie Seeman, Director of the Western Folklife Center in Elko, Nevada. Those who ride horses and tend livestock speak a common language across nations and cultures, and the American cowboy has much in common with the Mongolian *malchin*, including a love of horses and a reverence for wide open spaces, a legacy of independence and a culture challenged by a changing modern world. In his talk, Dr. Seeman will discuss issues common to herders around the world such as grazing practices, water quality, environmental impacts, and meat prices.

"Perspectives on Mongolian Pastoralism", by Troy Sternberg

September 22, 2005, 5:00 pm in the 'Round Lecture Hall' (second floor) NUM Building no. 1

A recipient of the 2004-2005 Fulbright award, Troy will examine the political implications of Mongolian pastoralism, focusing on the suitability of the market economy and effectiveness of the Mongolian government in the countryside.

"Sagebrush to Steppe: The Cowboys in Concert"

September 9, 2005, at 7pm in the 'Great Khan Irish Pub,' beside the Academic Theatre, Ulaanbaatar

In 2004, a group of Mongolian musicians and herders descended upon the National Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, wowing the audiences with performances of Mongolian traditional song, poetry, and 'cowboy' stories. The American cowboys are "returning the favor" with their visit to Mongolia this year, with the help of the ACMS, that will culminate in this gala concert that will reunite the cowboys and their Mongolian friends on stage. Admission will be free, but all are advised to come early to get a good seat.

Calls for Papers & Conferences in September and early October

Call for Papers: Mongolian Culture and Education, October 5-8, 2005

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2005

The Mongolian Cultural Institute in Ulaanbaatar will organize the conference "Key Problems of Cultural Education in the Period of Globalization," an international scientific conference to be held October 5-8, 2005, in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Institute's establishment. The overall theme of the conference will focus on how to better understand the correlation between culture and education in the new century. For more information please contact: Ts. Urelmaa, Foreign Relations Coordinator, e-mail: [tsuren_urel at yahoo dot com](mailto:tsuren_urel@yahoo.com).

Photo Exhibition – People and War, August 31-September 6, 2005

The photo exhibition "People and War," designated to 60 the Anniversary of Victory over Japan in 1945, will be open from August 31 to September 6, 2005, at the Theatre museum (opposite the Khas Bank main office). The exhibit, prepared by Sh. Tsog and R. Bayar, includes eighty photos taken between 1939 and 1945. Most of the photos were taken by P. Shagdarsuren, a war veteran during those years.

Conference - Uyghur Studies in Kazakhstan: Tradition & Innovation, September 2005

The Center of Uyghur Studies, Institute of Oriental Studies, Almaty, plans to hold a Conference "Uyghur Studies in Kazakhstan: Tradition and Innovation" in late September 2005. The Conference will discuss a wide range of problems relating to Uyghur Studies from a perspective of traditional and new theoretical and methodological approaches. While the Conference is primarily planned for Central Asian scholars, experts in Uyghur Studies from other regions and countries are also welcome to participate. For more information, contact the conference organizer Dr. Ablet Kamalov at e-mail: [abletk at yahoo dot com](mailto:abletk@yahoo.com).

Conference - Middle East & Central Asia Politics, Economics and Society, September 8-9, 2005

The third annual multidisciplinary Middle East & Central Asia Politics, Economics, and Society Conference will be held on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, USA, Sept. 8-10, 2005. The objective of the conference is to bring together academics, analysts, and policy makers interested in the Middle East and Central Asia who wish to network and share their research endeavors. The three-day event will include as many as four prominent guests and keynote speakers: Updates will also be included in the conference website <http://www.conferencealerts.com/seeconf.mv?q=ca1h8i8s>

Conference – 8th Annual NAMBC Investors' Conference & Prime Minister's Roundtable, September 11-13, 2005

The North America-Mongolia Business Council will host its Eighth Investors' Conference & Prime Minister's Roundtable at the Chinggis Khan Hotel, Ulaanbaatar, September 11-13. Those who register on or before September 1, 2005, are eligible for a slight discount in the registration fee. To register and for more information, see the conference website at www.nambc.org, or send an email to [steve at nambc dot org](mailto:steve@nambc.org).

Conference - 9th Conference of ESCA: The Altai-Sayan Region, September 12-14, 2005

The 9th Conference of the European Society for Central Asian Studies will be held 12-14 September 2005 in Krakow, Poland. We would like to create a space where researchers working on contemporary processes in the Altai-Sayan region can meet and discuss the potential contributions of Altai-Sayan regional studies to larger theoretical debates. Rarely (if ever) have scholars of the Altai-Sayan region had the opportunity to meet at one conference and discuss the complex blend of social, political, economic, and ecological phenomena present in this diverse area. Our aim is to create a space for researchers interested in this region to discuss their work, consider future collaboration and explore the potential contributions of Altai-Sayan regional studies to larger theoretical debates. For more information contact Brian Donahoe [donahoe at eth dot mpg dot de](mailto:donahoe@eth.mpg.de) or Agnieszka Halemba [halemba at eth dot mpg dot de](mailto:halemba@eth.mpg.de) at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology.

Conference - International Symposium on East Siberia and the North, September 29-30, 2005

The 5th International scientific symposium, "Education, culture and humanitarian research of East Siberia and the North in the beginning of the XXI century" will be held in Ulan-Ude and on Lake Baikal, September, 29-30, 2005. The objectives of the symposium include defining strategies for the development of educational, cultural and humanitarian research in East Siberia and in the North; undertaking the interdisciplinary scientific examination of the contents, structure, functions and technologies of the professional training in the sphere of culture and art; and seeking their influence on the development of the region. For more information, see www.vsgaki.burnet.ru; or contact Kuznetsova E.V., Organizing Committee, e-mail: [ipkvsasaki at nm dot ru](mailto:ipkvsasaki@nm.ru).

Conference - Central Eurasian Studies Society, September 29-October 2, 2005

The Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS) is organizing the Sixth CESS Annual Conference, September 29-October 2, 2005, in Boston, Massachusetts. The event will be hosted by Boston University. The ACMS will be hosting one or more panels with papers on Mongolian Studies. Based on past CESS conferences, we expect the 2005 conference to be lively and well-attended by scholars from all over the world. The program will include panels and roundtables on a wide variety of topics related to Central Eurasia. For full information about participating in this conference, please visit <http://cess.fas.harvard.edu>, or send an email to: [CESSconf at fas dot Harvard dot edu](mailto:CESSconf@fas.harvard.edu).

Volunteer & Work Opportunities**Native Mongolian Speakers Sought as Telephone Interpreters**

Native Mongolian speakers that live in the US or Canada are sought to become telephone interpreters. Our rates are very competitive and you can work from your house. If you are interested and/or know someone who would be interested, please contact me (Steven) at [scolbert56 at yahoo dot com](mailto:scolbert56@yahoo.com).

Alliance for International Women's Rights, Mongolia

The Alliance for International Women's Rights (AIWR) is devoted to supporting international women's rights efforts by tapping into the adventurous and generous spirit of American professionals and students who love to travel and who are also interested in furthering women's rights. The Alliance is now actively recruiting volunteers to spend two to three weeks providing training, consulting and assistance to five of Mongolia's most dynamic and effective women's rights organizations. The Mongolian women's rights organizations are eager and excited to host volunteers in many different capacities – just some of the possibilities include assisting with sexual harassment workshops and training sessions, helping design programs to promote the recently enacted domestic violence legislation, teaching English, accounting, or computer skills, helping to write funding proposals and educational materials, consulting on legal issues, and even helping draft recommendations for new legislation. You can learn the details about the mission, history and projects of the Alliance on our website: www.aiwr.org.

New Publications & Resources**On-Line Resource – Mongolian Tree-Ring Project**

This website <http://www.ideo.columbia.edu/res/fac/trl/research/Mongolia/SEA-pap/index.html> summarizes some of the data collected by teams of Mongolian and American researchers led by Dr. Gordon Jacoby of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, in Palisades, New York, USA. He and his teams have been investigating temperature and precipitation in Mongolia based on research that analyses tree-rings, among

other sources, for a number of years. There results are fascinating and may hold prove helpful to scholars working in other lines of historical research in this region.

On-Line Resource – New Mongolian Arts and Culture Site

The website <http://mongolianartist.com/art> is a newly developed site that contains information about Mongolian arts and culture that have been culled from websites and other sources. The site also features information about events in and around Mongolia and news of cultural events taking place around the United States.

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