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## This Month in Mongolian Studies - March 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@yahoo.com](mailto:acms_2005@yahoo.com).

For more information on each entry, please see the "Announcements" section of the ACMS webpage <[mongoliacenter.org](http://mongoliacenter.org)>

### News from the Center

With days growing longer and temperatures rising up from their winter slumbers here in Ulaanbaatar, anything above -18C (around 0F) tends to feel "warm." On these days many Mongolians exchange their winter coats for spring jackets and are quick to comment on how beautiful the weather has become.

### ACMS Announcements

#### ACMS Speaker's Series Resumes

*"Continuity and Change within Mongolian and Turkish Folk Beliefs," by Prof. Ozkul*

**March 24, 2005, 5:00 pm in the 'Round Lecture Hall' (second floor) NUM, Building no. 1**

The ACMS Speaker's Series gets underway again this spring semester with a lecture by Prof. Ozkul. Cobanglu, Visiting Lecturer of the Turkish Language at the National University of Mongolia. Prof. Cobanglu will present, "Continuity and Change within Mongolian and Turkish Folk Beliefs," a talk that will draw from his long research into the historical relationships between the nomadic Mongolian and Turkic societies that have a long history in the Inner and Central Asian steppelands. The ACMS Speakers Series features lectures by visiting international and Mongolian scholars. They are always free and open to the public.

*Critical Thinking Workshop for Mongolian Higher Education*

**March 2-5, 2005, at the Songino Resort, near Ulaanbaatar**

This is a series of training sessions between a group of professors from colleges and universities around Mongolia and American experts in higher education reform from the University of Hawaii. The workshop is intended to be the beginning of a two-year project to stimulate the spread of critical thinking teaching methodologies in Mongolian higher education. The project is being conducted with support from the US Embassy in Mongolia, the Mongolian Educational Alliance, the Canada Fund, and the National University of Mongolia.

*The 1st National Mongolian Librarians' Conference*

**March 10-12, 2005, at the Songino Resort, near Ulaanbaatar**

The conference will bring librarian administrators, librarians and catalogers together with officials from the Mongolian government and foreign embassies and NGOs to discuss the problems facing Mongolia's libraries and possible solutions. Of particular urgency will be tackling the problems of developing a nationwide electronic cataloging system that will interlink Mongolia's disparate libraries, archives and rural information centers. The ACMS is closely collaborating on this project with the US State Department's Public Affairs Unit, the Mongolian Ministry of Culture, and the local offices of UNESCO and the Asia Foundation.

*Annual Meetings of the ACMS & Mongolia Society*

**April 2, 2005, 1:00-2:30pm in the Acapulco Room, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago USA**

The ACMS will hold its annual membership meeting in conjunction with the AAS conference. The meeting will feature reports by the Director and Deputy Director of the ACMS office in Ulaanbaatar about the progress we've achieved in our first year in operation and our hopes for the coming year. We'll discuss the Center's current and planned programs and topics related to higher education and academic research in Mongolia.

In conjunction with the Mongolia Society, the ACMS will also host a panel on US-Mongolian Bi-lateral Relations on Thursday, March 31, at 4 pm in the Cominsky Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Panel speakers will include US Ambassador to Mongolia Pamela Slutz, Dr. Alicia Campi, Baasan Ragchaa and M. Saruul-Erdene. Ambassador Slutz will present "Implementing a Comprehensive US-Mongolia Partnership, Challenges and Opportunities, from an Ambassador's Perspective." For more information, please see <[mongoliacenter.org](http://mongoliacenter.org)> or email the ACMS at [acms\\_2005@yahoo.com](mailto:acms_2005@yahoo.com) or the Mongolia Society at [monsoc@indiana.edu](mailto:monsoc@indiana.edu).

### Call for Papers with Approaching Deadlines

**Central Eurasian Studies Society, October 2005**

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: April 1, 2005

The Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS) invites Paper and Roundtable proposals for the Sixth CESS Annual Conference, September 29-October 2, 2005, in Boston, Massachusetts. For full information about participating in this conference, please visit <<http://cess.fas.harvard.edu>>.

**Conferences in March****2005 SOYUZ Symposium: Post-Post Socialism?, March 4-5, 2005**

SOYUZ, the Post-Communist Cultural Studies Interest Group of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) will hold its 2005 meeting March 4-5, 2005 at Indiana University in Bloomington. The two-day symposium is an intimate forum where scholars (including graduate students, junior faculty, and senior faculty) from across the world can exchange ideas and engage in dialogue. The theme of this year's symposium is "Post Post-Socialism?" Scholars have recently begun suggesting that many aspects of social and cultural life once considered unique to socialist and post-socialist societies actually have parallels in post-colonial, post-modern, and post-welfare societies. Just what these parallels are still requires concrete discussion. For more information, please contact Sarah D. Phillips, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University, Bloomington at email: [sadphill@indiana.edu](mailto:sadphill@indiana.edu).

**8th Annual HEAS Graduate Student Conference, March 5-6, 2005**

The Harvard East Asia Society (HEAS) will host the 8th Annual Harvard East Asia Society Graduate Student Conference on March 5-6, 2005. The HEAS Graduate Student Conference provides an interdisciplinary forum for promising graduate students from the United States and around the world to exchange ideas and discuss current research on East Asia with peers, professors, and professionals. For more information, contact Diana Carligeanu at email: [dcarligh@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:dcarligh@fas.harvard.edu)

**Grants & Other Awards due in March****ACIE Eurasian Regional Language Program**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1 AND APRIL 1, 2005

Graduate students and advanced undergraduates are eligible for full and partial fellowships to study on the American Councils for International Education Eurasian Regional Language Program. The program provides participants the unique opportunity to study virtually any of the languages of the former Soviet Union in an overseas immersion setting. Also available are programs in Armenian, Azeri, Belarusian, Buryat, Dari, Farsi, Pashto, Tatar, Turkmen, and Yakut. Substantial financial aid is currently available for spring 2005 programs. Application deadlines: Summer Program: March 1; Fall Semester/Academic Year Program: April 1. For more information and an application, please see <[www.americancouncils.org](http://www.americancouncils.org)> and select "Language Learning."

**Grant - Central Eurasia Project on Human Rights**

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: MARCH 4

The Central Eurasia Project (CEP) strives to make available more and better information about human rights and the social and economic health of the South Caucasus and Central Asia both within the region and internationally in order to shape policies that contribute to building open societies. The Central Eurasia Project uses grant-making 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 grant proposal format and detailed information about restrictions on grant funds are available at <[http://www.soros.org/initiatives/cep/focus\\_areas/human\\_rights](http://www.soros.org/initiatives/cep/focus_areas/human_rights)>. Grants applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year and will be considered for funding two times during 2005 according to the following schedule.

**Fellowship - 2005-2006 HJ Heinz Company Foundation Fellowship Program**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2005

This fellowship for emerging leaders from developing countries gives one year of practical, professional, and non-degree educational experience through the University of Pittsburgh. It is open to those whose record of accomplishment early in their career indicates strong potential for leadership and achievement in the non-profit, government or private sector. More information and application forms are available at <<http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/heinzfellowship>>.

**Fellowship - Returning Scholar Fellowship Program, Open Society Institute**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2005

The International Higher Education Support Program (HESP) of the Open Society Institute is pleased to announce the 2005-2006 Academic Fellowship Program's Returning Scholar Fellowship Program (RSFP). This program invites applications for 2005-2006 from talented scholars who, after studying abroad, seek university positions and academic careers in their home countries. RSFP helps universities in the region retain promising young scholars who are essential to the revitalisation of departments, and to the sustainability of reforms in higher education. RSFP represents a conscious strategy to combat "brain drain" in the social sciences and humanities. For application forms and guidelines, please see the fellowship programs area of our web site: <[http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus\\_areas/afp](http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus_areas/afp)>.

**Grant - Endangered Languages Documentation Programme**

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: MARCH 28, 2005

Full details of the application procedure are on the website at <<http://www.hrelp.org/grants>>. **Deadlines for Trip Grants starting between June 1, 2005 & May 31, 2006 is March 28, 2005.** Please address queries to Najma Hussain at e-mail: [nh32@soas.ac.uk](mailto:nh32@soas.ac.uk).

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