

This Month in Mongolian Studies – January 2012

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 and/or the editor, Marissa Smith, at msmith@mongoliacenter.org.

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ACMS Sponsored Programs and Events

ACMS US-Mongolia Field Research Fellowship Program: The American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS), with funding support from the US State Department Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, invites applications for the seventh year of the ACMS US-Mongolia Field Research Fellowship Program to support short-term student, post-doctoral, or faculty field research in Mongolia in the Summer or Fall 2012. The program will provide awards of up to \$4,000 to approximately 4-8 students, post-docs, or faculty. Previous experience in Mongolia is not required to apply to this program. Faculty or post-doctoral applicants are especially encourage to submit joint applications with student applicants. Research proposals should be conducted in conjunction with a Research Sponsor, such as a faculty member or senior researcher, and involve at least 6 weeks for students or 3 weeks for post-docs or faculty of fieldwork in Mongolia. Preference is given to projects in which the Research Sponsor will work directly with the researcher in the field in Mongolia.

Deadline for receipt of complete applications: February 15, 2012. More information about the program and how to apply is at: www.mongoliacenter.org/field.

ACMS Library Fellowship: American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS) is pleased to announce the second year of the ACMS Library Fellowship. This fellowship supports US advanced graduate students, faculty members, or professionals in library and information sciences from colleges and universities to conduct short-term library development projects and/or research in Mongolia for a period of up to 12 weeks between May and October 2012. The fellowship is supported with funding from the US State Department Education and Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers. The ACMS Library Fellowship program is intended to help support the development of the ACMS research library and build stronger connections among local library partners through specific defined

projects designed to enhance collection content, resource accessibility, and training. Fellows are hosted by the ACMS and should propose projects that have measurable positive outcomes for the scholarly community served by the ACMS. Project proposals with similar outcomes and impacts on local partner libraries are also especially encouraged. Fellows spend a minimum of 4 weeks and a maximum of 12 weeks onsite in Mongolia at the ACMS library. Projects must begin after May 1, 2012 and end no later than September 30, 2012. Prior experience working in Mongolia is not a requirement. One to two Fellowships will be awarded to fund travel and living expenses (\$2,000 for travel and up to \$2,000 for a project stipend unless otherwise agreed upon). Deadline for receipt of complete applications: February 15, 2012. More information about the program and how to apply is at: www.mongoliacenter.org/librarian.

ACMS Mongolian Visiting Scholar Program: The American Center for Mongolian Studies (ACMS) is pleased to announce the second year of the ACMS Mongolian Visiting Scholar Program. The Visiting Scholar Program provides funding support for 3-12 week short-term visits by Mongolian scholars to US universities and academic research centers to work with US based counterparts on collaborative projects and public outreach activities. The Program is supported by the US State Department Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau (ECA) and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), and is intended to build ties between Mongolian and US scholars and to increase understanding about Mongolia in the United States. Project proposals in all academic fields are eligible, and small colleges and universities are especially encouraged to apply. Applications for the program must be submitted by a US host institution representative on behalf of an invited Mongolian scholar. Visits to the US must begin between September 1 and December 31, 2012. This program is intended to fund non-degree, scholarly exchange activities.

Deadline for receipt of complete applications: February 15, 2012. More information about the program and how to apply is at: www.mongoliacenter.org/exchange.

ACMS Enkhbaatar Demchig Field Research Fellowship Program: The ACMS is continuing the Enkhbaatar Demchig Field Research Fellowship Program to enable Mongolian students the opportunity to carry out field research, become adept in modern research methods and technologies, and support a new generation of Mongolian scholars. This fellowship supports students who are Mongolian citizens currently enrolled full-time in a university in Mongolia or North America to conduct research in Mongolia for a period of up to 3 months. The program will award one or two fellowships and students will receive a research stipend of \$500 to support their work in the summer or fall of 2012.

Deadline for receipt of complete applications: February 15, 2012. For further details visit: www.mongoliacenter.org/enkh.

Online Mongolian Course Spring 2012. The American Center for Mongolian Studies is pleased to announce the spring semester of Mon 102: Introduction to Mongolian Language and Culture, an online Mongolian course being offered at University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) from January 9 to May 5, 2012. The course is co-organized by UMA, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), and ACMS. The course is open to anyone (you do not need to be a student at UMA or UAF to participate), and it is the second semester in a two semester offering of beginner Mongolian. The class is divided into two cohorts. The first cohort, having participated in a previous semester of the course, builds on the previous semester's work with 13 new lessons and

two exams aimed at reaching the high-beginner/low-intermediate level. The second cohort, having participated in no previous semester of the course, begins with lesson one of the course completing 13 lessons and two exams in all to gain an introductory understanding of the Mongolian language in preparation for the second semester.

For further details visit: <http://www.mongoliacenter.org/mon101>

New Books in the ACMS Library:

N. Batsaikhan, R. Samiya, S. Shar, S.R.B. King. 2010. Mongol orny khukhtun amitad = Field Guide to the Mammals of Mongolia. Zoological Society of London.

J. Bat-Ireedui. 2010. Ireeduin yertunts. Mon-Education Press.

G. Buyantogtokh, M. Bayarsaikhan. 1992. Mongol Ulsyn Tuv sangiin Manj Khumrugiin nom zuin burtgel = Catalogue of the Manchu Collection in the Mongolian State Central Library. Ulsyn Töv Nomyn San, Ulaanbaatar.

Mette High, D Bum-Ochir, Simon Wickham-Smith. 2010. Ayultai khishig: Mongolyn alban bus altny uurkhain ediin zasag dahi hurungui ba etsegchlel. Admon Press, Ulaanbaatar.

G. Mend-Ooyo (editor). 2011. Amerikiin yaruu nairag = American Poetry, 2nd volume. Soyol Yaruu Nairgyn Academy, Ulaanbaatar.

David S Tinnin, Sumiya Ganzorig, Scott Lyell Gardner. 2011. Helminths of Squirrels (Sciuridae) from Mongolia. Museum of Texas Tech University Occasional Papers no. 303.

David S Tinnin, Sumiya Ganzorig, Scott Lyell Gardner. 2011. Helminths of Small Mammals (Erinaceomorpha, Soricomorpha, Chiroptera, Rodentia, and Lagomorpha) of Mongolia. Museum of Texas Tech University Special Publications no. 59.

David S Tinnin, Jon L. Dunnum, Jorge Salazar-Bravo, N. Batsaikhan, M. Scott Burt, and Terry L. Yates. 2002. Contributions to the Mammalogy of Mongolia, with a Checklist of Species for the Country. Special Publication of the Museum of Southwestern Biology no. 6.

G. Zolbayar D. Baasanbat. 2011. Mongol Tuva bichgiin khelnii dundyn ug. Ulaanbaatar.

Call for Papers, Conferences, Workshops, and other Academic Programs

AAS/SSRC Dissertation Workshop: Rewriting History: Nationalism, Identity, and the Politics of the Past at Toronto, March 12-15, 2012. The Association for Asian Studies and the Social Science Research Council are pleased to announce plans for the first jointly organized AAS/SSRC Dissertation Workshop funded by the Henry Luce Foundation. The workshop will be held in conjunction with the AAS annual conference in Toronto in March, 2012. Radical and conservative scholars, novelists and biographers, governments, education ministries, and tourist agencies are all writing and rewriting national histories and narratives. The attempt to strengthen

or legitimate specific interests has entailed the rediscovery, reinterpretation and even the reinvention of values and identities, past social forms, victories and defeats, as well as natural and human trauma. Rewriting the past and creating heritage are of course ancient and seemingly universal phenomena, raising difficult questions about what we can know and the politics of historical writing. Issues of rewriting history are not limited to the concerns of historians; they are as salient to anthropologists, political scientists, specialists on religion, cultural studies, and others across the humanities and social sciences. The goals and modes of these reinterpretations may be scholarly, political, and/or popular. Clearly, all across Asia the past is not dead. This workshop is intended to bring together doctoral students in the humanities and social sciences who are (1) developing dissertation proposals or are in early phases of research or dissertation writing; and who are (2) also dealing with the kinds of issues mentioned above in the context of contemporary or historic Asian states and societies. The workshop will be limited to 12 students, ideally from a broad array of disciplines and working on a wide variety of materials in a variety of time periods, and in various regions of Asia. It also will include a small multidisciplinary and multi-area faculty with similar concerns. Participants of this workshop will be invited back for a post-fieldwork workshop to be held in 2014. Deadline: January 3, 2012. Visit: <http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/aasworkshop/>.

Call for Papers, Conference: **Rising Asia, Anxious Europe**, University of Copenhagen, May 2-3, 2012. Scholars are invited to reflect, describe and even speculate on (from their own fields of specialization and vantage points) the current state as well as the future of Europe's 'new' engagement with Asia. Scholars are particularly invited to submit empirical studies, ethnographies and historically grounded accounts of the event - of the rise of Asia - as witnessed in a variety of settings and localities. Deadline: January 15, 2012. Visit: http://asiandynamics.ku.dk/english/rising_asia_anxious_europe/call/.

Call for Proposals, Workshop: **Interpreting the Soviet Cultural Legacy in Central Asia**, March 6-7 2012 at the American University of Central Asia, Bishkek. Twenty years into independence, Central Asia's Soviet past still remains a politically painful and academically under-examined subject, resulting in major gaps in the historical narratives of Central Asian societies. The leaders of newly independent nation-states quickly embarked upon reviewing and revising pre-Soviet and Soviet history, relating it to the current political agendas. Most scholarly research has focused on current-day matters, responding to the market and to availability of data. Scarce references to the Soviet period tend to focus mainly on early Soviet years (creation of nations, collectivization, etc.). These circumstances point to a pressing need for more comprehensive and systematic inquiry into the Soviet past of the region, particularly on matters that continue to shape social and political agendas. This academic workshop is aimed at discussing the frameworks that organize popular thinking today about the things that gave a sense of cultural commonalty to the Soviet experience in Central Asia, as well as the ways that they have been and can be analyzed in scholarship. The possible frameworks may include cultural imperialism/post-colonialism, Soviet-style modernization and/or internationalism, nostalgia, the inertia of socialist (or "Soviet") culture, Russian soft power, and others. Deadline for paper and panel proposals: 20 January 2012.

Workshop, Call for Proposals: **Bordering China: Modernity and Sustainability** at University of California, Berkeley, August 1-10, 2012. This Research Institute invites proposals that will

contribute to a focused conversation concerning the following: "Bordering China": Instead of works on China Proper, we invite proposals that examine happenings and issues that cut across the territorial boundaries of the Chinese nation. We seek proposals that will permit a focused examination of environmental and resource issues that cut across conventional borders concerning any of these regions. The Research Institute aims to convene senior scholars (post-PhD) in all stages of academic careers (post-doctoral researchers, lecturers, assistant professors through full professors) who are currently actively developing a book manuscript or research project on themes and topics as described above. Invited participants are expected to make two presentations: a work of original research (chapter-length from a work-in-progress) based on one's current project, and a primary text (or texts) pertaining to the source materials of one's work. Participants are also expected to serve as respondents to a doctoral student conference that will take place on August 4, 2011. Applicants are invited to submit a project description that is no more than 3 pages, single-spaced, in length, plus a bibliography of the project, and curriculum vitae by January 20, 2012. Notifications of acceptance will be sent before March 1, 2012. Visit: <http://ieas.berkeley.edu/resources/bsri.html>

Workshop, Call for Applications: **Mongolia: Steppe Ecology and Civic Media**, June 10-20, 2012 (in Mongolia) and September to early December, 2012 (web-based learning community). Offered by Miami University's Project Dragonfly, Earth Expeditions and the Global Field Program brings together graduate students, scientists, educators and community leaders at critical conservation sites worldwide. The courses and degree programs can be completed part-time from anywhere in the United States or abroad, and are open to educators and other professionals from all disciplines and settings. In Mongolia, the "Land of Blue Sky" and birthplace of the Mongol empire, students explore the great steppes, and especially engage in the conservation story of two key steppe species: Pallas' cats and Przewalski's horse. Students experience an open wilderness that has few parallels in the modern world while learning about participatory media, local knowledge and community-based conservation. Course costs for seven graduate credits and all basic in-country expenses are covered in the \$1,290 course costs. Accepted students are responsible for airfare. Deadline: Jan. 28, 2012. Visit: <http://www.EarthExpeditions.org>, <http://www.MastersGFP.org>

Call for Papers: **Language and Identity in Central Asia**. May 4-5, 2012 at UCLA. We are seeking the participation of graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and junior faculty to take part in a two-day workshop to present and discuss their work in this area. These participants will be joining a group of four invited established scholars in the field and faculty discussants. The conference is organized along four axes of interaction between Central Asia and other parts of the world: contact with the Islamic Middle East and Ottoman world, contact with the Russian Empire and its successor states, internal contact among populations of Central Asia, and contacts with China and East Asia. We are seeking papers that treat questions of language and identity along any of these axes of interaction, either finished work or reports of early works in progress. It is our hope that the conference will provide an opportunity for scholars to present and refine their current research in an area that often lacks institutional support. Deadline: February 1, 2012. Visit: <http://www.international.ucla.edu/asia/centralasia>.

Call for Proposals: **5th Annual OASIES Conference: The Power of Identity: Forces of Change In Inner Eurasia**. March 31, 2012 at Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey. The

conference seeks to bring together scholars from a variety of disciplines who are interested in the power dynamics that shape identity and the forces of identity that shape society. Papers should address categories of identity (such as ethnicity, gender, faith, citizenship, and class) and their interplay with the forces of religion, culture, politics, and markets. The scope of the conference takes in Eurasia past and present, spanning from the Black Sea to Mongolia, from Siberia to South Asia. February 5, 2012. Visit: <http://www.oasies.org>.

Call for Proposals, Workshop: **Peripheral Visions of Sovietization**, 24-25 February 2012 at Columbia University, New York City. Radically transformative in its intentions as well as many of its results, certain to have History on its side, Soviet Socialism was also a political system and an ideology with its legitimacy at risk. Its ability not merely to maintain a status quo but to continually claim further transformation was a condition of its very survival. This workshop will focus on one key aspect of this vital Soviet mission of transformation and the practices and discourses it produced: the Sovietization of peripheries after 1939. By putting the peripheries at the center, the workshop approaches the Soviet phenomenon as a whole from an oblique yet pivotal perspective: Confronting the Other, be it in terms of modernist-developmental hierarchies or spatial and cultural distance, it could not but also confront – as well as reveal – itself. Key issues to be explored at the workshop will include the relationship between nationalizing policies and Sovietization; the postwar conjuncture between late Stalinism, prior Soviet modes of nationality policy, and war, conquest, policing and repression; the everyday life of local elites and populations; the practices and meanings of resistance, subjugation, co-optation and adaptation; the multiplicity of encounters between Sovietizers and Sovietized, from the official to the intimate; the persistence or disappearance of alternatives; and the effect the peripheries had not only on the center but on the Soviet Union as a whole as well as each other. This workshop is by invitation only. For more information, please contact Professor Tarik Amar (tca2109@columbia.edu).

Call for Applications: **Brown International Advanced Research Institutes** at Brown University, Providence, June 9-23, 2012. BIARI represents a unique professional development initiative to provide a platform for outstanding young faculty and practitioners from the global south and emerging economies to engage in a sustained, high-level intellectual and policy dialogue with leading scholars in their fields. BIARI 2012 will comprise the following four Institutes: 1. Global Health and HIV/AIDS: Cutting Edge Issues for Underserved Populations, 2. Theater and Civil Society: Politics, Public Space, and Performance, 3. Population and Development: New Approaches to Enduring Global Problems, 4. Climate Change and its impacts: Regional approaches. Financial aid is available for international participants. Deadline: review of applications begin January 4. Visit: <http://www.brown.edu/biari>.

Call for Applications: **Indiana University Summer Language Workshop**, June 4-July 27, 2012. First year Mongolian, first year Kazak, 9 levels of Russian (Russian 1 begins May 29) and a number of other Eastern European and Eurasian languages. Fellowships available. Visit: <http://www.indiana.edu/~swseel/index.shtml>. Deadline: March 1, 2012.

Call for Applications: **NEH Summer Institute for Middle and High School Teachers on the theme Central Asia in World History** at Ohio State University, from July 15-27, 2012. Central Asia in World History will engage teachers in a deeper understanding of how Central Asia has

historically functioned as a crossroads of intercultural exchange, connecting the great civilizations on the Eurasian periphery, giving rise to world empires of its own in antiquity and the medieval era, and serving as the playing ground for the Anglo-Russian "Great Game" in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This will be done through expert presentations, analysis of primary material, both narrative and documentary, screenings and discussion of relevant films, immersion in traditional food and music of the region, and the development of unit plans for classroom use. An advisory panel will select twenty-five teachers from various disciplines to participate in the Institute. Primarily, we will seek out teachers in the fields of world history, the social sciences, geography, and Asian Studies. We will also consider full-time graduate students pursuing a K-12 teaching career for participation. NEH Summer Scholars receive a stipend of \$2,100 to help cover travel expenses and the cost of housing. Additional information, including a list of participating faculty, the Institute schedule and instructions on how to apply, can be found at: <http://hti.osu.edu/centralasia>. Deadline: March 15, 2011.

Call for Applications: **The Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute**, June 18 – August 10, 2012 at University of Wisconsin, Madison. The Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia (CREECA) and the Department of Languages and Cultures of Asia at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are proud to announce the second annual Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute, CESSI. In summer 2012, CESSI will offer intensive courses in beginning and intermediate Kazakh, Tajik, Uyghur, and Uzbek. With sufficient enrollment, other Central Eurasian Turkic languages could also be offered. Please contact the CESSI program coordinator if you are interested in a language not listed above. Scheduling of all courses is contingent upon enrollment. Please apply to CESSI as early as possible to help ensure that your class will be offered. CESSI 2012 will also feature lectures (in English) on Central Eurasian history and culture and a rich program of cultural events and field trips related to the countries of Central Eurasia. Visit: <http://www.creeca.wisc.edu/cessi>. Deadline for admission and the fee remission grant: April 16, 2012. Deadline for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships at UW-Madison is February 15, 2012.

Research Fellowships, Scholarships and Grants

Fellowships: **The Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies**, Harvard University, "Imperial Legacies and International Politics in the Post-Soviet Space?" The Fellows Program brings together recent PhDs and senior scholars from the US and former Soviet space to consider a common theme spanning the social sciences and humanities. The program is coordinated by faculty from across Harvard University whose research interests include aspects of the selected theme. Deadline: January 9, 2012. Visit: <http://daviscenter.fas.harvard.edu>

Fellowship: **UNESCO/Japan Young Researchers' Fellowship**. The UNESCO/Keizo Obuchi Research Fellowships Program funded under the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the capacity-building of Human Resources will aim, in particular, to impact on capacity-building and research activities in the following areas: 1. Environment (with particular attention to Water Sciences); 2. Intercultural Dialogue; 3. Information and Communication Technologies; and 4. Peaceful conflict resolution. Mongolians are eligible to apply. Application deadline: January 13, 2012. Visit: <http://tinyurl.com/3dfm8eq>

Postdoctoral Fellowship: **The Johns Hopkins University Program in East Asian Studies** invites applications for the Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in East Asian Studies for two fellows, who will be appointed to a one-year term renewable for a second year, beginning July 1, 2013. One position requires a specialization in early modern or modern Japanese history, the other in East Asian humanities, including social or cultural anthropology, art history, literature, or philosophy. The fellowship period will be for two years, from fall 2012 until spring 2014. Fellows will teach one course each semester and are also expected to pursue research that will make a significant contribution to the field of East Asian studies. Candidates should have a recent Ph.D. (received between January 1, 2009 and June 30, 2012). Contact: To apply, send a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a dissertation outline or writing sample, and a sample course syllabus to EAS Coordinator Tyree Powell at tyree@jhu.edu. Please also ask three referees to send letters of recommendation to Mr. Powell. Deadline: January 15, 2012.

Fellowship: **Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Fellowship**. The CAORC Multi-Country Fellowship Program supports advanced regional or trans-regional research in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences for U.S. doctoral candidates and scholars who have already earned their Ph.D. Preference will be given to candidates examining comparative and/or cross-regional research. Applicants are eligible to apply as individuals or in teams. Scholars must carry out research in two or more countries outside the United States, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center. Approximately nine awards of up to \$12,000 each will be given. Deadline: January 17, 2012. Visit: <http://www.caorc.org/programs/multi.htm>

Graduate Fellowship: **The History Department at CEU Budapest** offers competitive fellowships for MA and PhD programs. The History Department focuses on early modern and modern history, with a number of regional concentrations, including Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the former territories of the Ottoman and Russian Empires. Comparative perspectives on Western Europe and the Middle East are encouraged in both teaching and research. Furthermore, it is possible to concentrate on a number of special subjects such as Eastern Mediterranean Studies, Jewish Studies, Ottoman Studies, History of Science, or Religious Studies. The affiliated Source Language Teaching unit offers courses in Arabic, Hebrew, Ancient Greek, Latin, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Hungarian, Russian, Syriac, and Turkish. The curriculum is comparative, interdisciplinary, and relates to current theoretical discussions in the field and beyond. The department offers courses in the following fields: Historical Studies: Historiography, Theories, Methods, Skills; Social and Political History; Religious, Cultural, and Intellectual History; Ethnicity, Nations, Nationalism and Empires. The department invites applications for the 1) one-year MA program, designed for students who have completed at least a four-year Bachelor's degree; 2) two-year MA program, designed for those who have completed a three-year Bachelor's degree; and 3) PhD program. All academic programs start in September 2012. The application deadline is January 25, 2012. Visit: <http://www.ceu.hu/admissions>. Contact: Ms. Agnes Bendik, BendikAg@ceu.hu.

Postdoctoral Fellowship: **SSRC Postdoctoral Fellowship for Transregional Research**. The SSRC is pleased to announce a pilot postdoctoral fellowship program that will support transregional research under the rubric Inter-Asian Contexts and Connections. Its purpose is to strengthen the understanding of issues and geographies that don't fit neatly into existing divisions

of academia or the world and to develop new approaches, practices, and opportunities in international, regional, and area studies in the United States. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, these fellowships will help junior scholars (those at the postdoctoral stage, one to seven years out of the PhD) complete first books and/or undertake second projects. In addition to funding research, the program will create networks and shared resources that will support Fellows well beyond the grant period. The Postdoctoral Fellowship for Transregional Research will thus provide promising scholars important support at critical junctures in their careers. As stressed by SSRC president Craig Calhoun, "Recent PhDs have written brilliant dissertations bringing new excitement to the social sciences and humanities by taking on the intellectual challenges of innovative transregional work. We want to help them complete, consolidate, and expand the work they've undertaken. The intellectual thrust of the pilot project will be the re-conceptualization of Asia as an interlinked historical and geographic formation stretching from the Middle East through Eurasia, Central Asia, and South Asia to Southeast Asia and East Asia. Proposals submitted for the fellowship competition should bear upon processes that connect places and peoples (such as migration, media, and resource flows) as well as those that reconfigure local and trans-local contexts (such as shifting borders, urbanization, and social movements). The broad focus of the program is intended to advance transregional research as well as to establish structures for linking scholars across disciplines in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences. Deadline: February 15, 2012 Visit: <http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/transregional-research-fellowship/>

Graduate Fellowship: **Mongolia Scholarship, University of Westminster**. This scholarship, including tuition fee waivers, accommodation, living expenses and flights to and from London, is for Mongolian students who have been accepted for full-time Masters degree studies. Award based on financial need, academic excellence and development potential. Deadline: May 31, 2011. Visit: <http://www.westminster.ac.uk/study/prospective-students/student-finance/funding/scholarships/postgraduate/mongolia-scholarship>

Position Openings

<no listings this month>

Resources

Mongolia Today: "This blog is an attempt by three avid Mongolia watchers to share their observations about current developments in Mongolia." By Julian Dierkes and Dalaibulanii Byambajav, social scientists at the University of British Columbia, this blog mostly follows Mongolian politics and the mining sector. Visit: <http://blogs.ubc.ca/mongolia/>

News and Events

Monthly Biobeers Talk: First Thursday of the month (January 5), Sweet Cafe (located behind the Information and Technological National Park and next to the Admon Printing Company, west of Internom Bookstore Building). People are requested to arrive after 6pm, in time for the talk to start at 6.30. Biobeers is a monthly gathering of government and NGO staff, biologists, researchers, and other professionals interested in conservation. Each month, Biobeers sponsors a

half-hour presentation on a topic relevant to Mongolian conservation, followed by an informal gathering to discuss activities and issues of interest. This month's talks include: P. Gankhuyag from Wildlife Science and Conservation Center, who will give a talk entitled "Bird Watching and its activity in Mongolia"; and T. Odbayar from The Institute of Biology MAS, whose talk is entitled "Gobi bear population estimate using Genetic Analysis". Biobeers is an opportunity to find out what is happening in the field of conservation in Mongolia, talk informally to other researchers and peers in your field, and share information about issues critical to the environment and people of Mongolia. Biobeers is organized by the Zoological Society of London's Steppe Forward Programme and sponsored by the Wildlife Conservation Society. Join the Yahoo! Group Mongolbioweb for announcements.

Exhibition: **Mongol Visions: Winged Horses and Shamanic Skies: Contemporary Masters from the Land of Chinggis Khaan**, Tibet House, New York City, December 1, 2011- February 15, 2012. "The vast influence of Mongolia on Euro-Asian civilization is only now being fully appreciated. Tibet House is delighted to join in the celebration of this inspiring and magical legacy by hosting an exhibition with some of Mongolia's greatest young artists whose works bring together the integrity of tradition and the creative impulse of the contemporary aesthetic. These celebrated artists include Gankhuyag Natsag, whose paintings, statues and traditional lama dance masks have shown in more than a dozen cities around the world; D. Soyolmaa, renowned for bringing the clarity and precision of traditional Buddhist art into a contemporary ambiance; T. Nurmaa, famed for her ability to capture on canvas the radiance and raw intensity of the Mongolian spirit; D. Bulgantuya, an acclaimed artist who has received rave reviews in Sofia, Budapest, Warsaw, Kiev, and Vienna; and Ts. Bolor, especially known for her 'aesthetics of the feminine.'" Visit: <http://tibethouse.us/art-gallery/upcoming-exhibitions/221>

Exhibition: **Chinggis Khaan: an Exhibition**. Mongolian National Museum, until February 2012. The exhibition includes precious objects from the USA and Mongolia which are on display for the first time and highlight the period of Chinggis Khaan and Great Mongolian Empire. The goal is to familiarize local and international audiences with the richness of Mongolian culture & history. Some of the objects have been viewed by 300,000 visitors internationally while traveling in Singapore & the USA since February of 2009 and now arriving for the first time in the land of their origin.

Recent Publications

"On the Tea Road: A Journey into Mongolian Life and Culture." Gaby Bamana. October, 2011. "On the tea road: A journey into Mongolia life and culture" tells about the life and culture of the Mongolian nomads in the 21st century. Using the history of the tea road as an alibi to meet nomads in their daily life, the book provides information, commentaries and explanation about Mongolian culture in general and about the life style of the people the author introduces in the book in particular. These are stories about real people encountered during a journey throughout the country. The book relates how people of Mongolia make sense of their life in their particular natural environment. Thus the book is a glimpse into a different way of life wherein people create meaning while struggling to preserve a traditional way of life while also looking forward to integrate modernity.

“Dukhan, a Turkic variety of Northern Mongolia: Description and Analysis (Turcologica).” Elisabetta Ragagnin. December, 2011. This volume offers the first grammatical description of Dukhan, a highly endangered non-written Turkic language spoken in northern Mongolia by approximately 500 people. Most of the Dukhans are engaged in reindeer breeding and follow a nomadic lifestyle in the forested taiga areas of the Tsagaan Nuur county in the Khovsgol province of Mongolia. The present description is exclusively based on the material collected by the author during intensive fieldwork sojourns. After a presentation of the Dukhan people with respect to lifestyle, material culture and ethnohistorical background and some introductory linguistic considerations including a sociolinguistic scrutiny, the descriptive chapters focus on the sound system, derivational and inflectional morphology and the verbal categories aspect, mood and tense. The description of the phonological system is of particular interest, since it helps to better understand the fortis vs. lenis opposition of Turkic consonants. The volume also includes a large text corpus organized according to the topics "How to do things", "Life stories", "Tales" and "Legends". Each text is interlinearized: the first line represents the phonetic IPA-based transcription, the second line represents the broad transcription in use in Turcological studies, whereas the third and last line contains morpheme-by-morpheme glosses. Translations are given separately at the end of each text.

“Living with Herds: human-animal coexistence in Mongolia.” Natasha Fijn. April, 2011. Domestic animals have lived with humans for thousands of years and remain essential to the everyday lives of people throughout the world. In this book, Natasha Fijn examines the process of animal domestication in a study that blends biological and social anthropology, ethology and ethnography. She examines the social behavior of humans and animals in a contemporary Mongolian herding society. After living with Mongolian herding families, Dr. Fijn has observed through firsthand experience both sides of the human-animal relationship. Examining their reciprocal social behavior and communication with one another, she demonstrates how herd animals influence Mongolian herders' lives and how the animals themselves are active partners in the domestication process.

“Harnessing Fortune: Personhood, Memory and Place in Mongolia (Proceedings of the British Academy)”. Rebecca M. Empson. June 2011. Based on long-term fieldwork with herding families along the Mongolian-Russian border, this book examines how people tend to past memories in their homes while navigating new ways of accumulating wealth and fortune in the face of political and economic uncertainties. It is at this intersection, where the politics of tending to the past and the morality of new means of accumulating wealth come together to shape intimate social relations that the book reveals an innovative area for the study of kinship in anthropology. Combining personal experience with ethnographic insight, the volume will be essential reading for social anthropologists and those with a general interest in East Asia and post-socialist countries.

“Vegetation Dynamics of Mongolia (Geobotany).” P.D. Gunin, Elizabeth A. Vostokova, Nadezhda I. Dorofeyuk, Pavel E. Tarasov, Clanton C. Black (Editors). January, 2011. Mongolia is an expansive land-locked country, tilted by tectonic forces to the North, that experiences extremes of continental climate. Moisture-carrying wind currents are scarce so that the land has extended highs and lows in its environment. Culturally the people are mostly nomadic, having been sustained for centuries by an economy based on domestic livestock grazing. There is a saying that, 'As the noses go, so goes Mongolia', referring to the domesticated grazing noses of

sheep, goats, camels, yaks or horses, and wild ungulates such as gazelles. The vast fenceless steppes of Mongolia furnish the vegetation for grazing. With such extremes in climate it is clear that the vegetation must be resilient and dynamic to cope with the dictates of its extremely harsh environments. Pollen profiles from lakes, plant macrofossils and other data over the last 15,000 years show the dynamic nature of Mongolian vegetation. Currently Mongolian society is experiencing much human-driven economic development which increases pressure on its vegetation. The Great Khural Laws of 1995 forcefully addressed such environmental concerns with the expanded establishment of National Reserves and Parks. But continued effort and vigilance must be expended to insure that Mongolian society will continue to be sustained by its vegetation. This book highlights work such as conserving and restoring plant diversity in various ecosystems and makes recommendations for sustaining the vegetation basis of the nomadic Mongolian society.

“Tibet, Tartary and Mongolia: Their Social and Political Condition, and the Religion of Boodh, as There Existing (Cambridge Library Collection - History).” Henry Thoby Prinsep. June 2011. Henry T. Prinsep (1792-1878) was the son of a prominent East India Company servant, and like his father, he spent much of his life in the East. He left Britain for Calcutta in 1809, at the age of seventeen, and stayed in India, working in a variety of roles, until his retirement in 1843. He wrote a number of books about India: in this work, published in 1851, he turns to the north of the subcontinent. Prinsep draws from travel narratives of the few explorers who had been to this territory - which corresponds to today's western China and Mongolia - to illustrate the lives of the people there. Using sources ranging from the thirteenth-century account by Marco Polo to eighteenth-century reports by French missionaries, Prinsep brings information on what was then a little-known world to a wider audience.

“The Impact of the Financial Crisis on Poverty and Income Distribution in Mongolia,” March 2011. The global financial crisis of 2008-09 slowed down economic growth and severely affected Mongolian households. GDP contracted by 1.6% in 2009 after growth of 8.9% in 2008. The crisis led to a temporary halt in progress in reducing poverty. The poor were the most strongly affected by this negative shock but benefited the least from the early recovery in 2010-11. While poverty appears to have started to decline again post-crisis, the analysis suggests that it has been accompanied by rising inequality. Download at: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/mongolia>

“Rural Out-Migration and Family Life in Cities,” March 2011. How large has internal migration been recently in Mongolia? Is it beneficial? The growing concentration of migrants in Ulaanbaatar has become very visible and inevitable. Its potential social, economic, and environmental impacts are of interest to policy makers and the international development community. This calls for a good understanding of the nature of migration in Mongolia and its impacts on the life of migrants. Using the 2007/08 Household Socio-Economic Survey, this paper documents the characteristics of recent internal migration in Mongolia and assesses the livelihoods of rural-to-urban migrants in comparison to those staying in rural areas as well as to local urban residents. Download at: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/mongolia>