

## This Month in Mongolian Studies – April 2009

This is a monthly compendium of important and interesting events taking place in Mongolian Studies in Ulaanbaatar and around the world. This list is based on information the center has received and is presented as a service to ACMS members. If you would like to renew your membership, have information you would like to submit to future e-mails or have received this message in error, please contact the ACMS at [info@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:info@mongoliacenter.org)

### Contents

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Fellowship Program Review Announcement

ACMS Library Acquisitions

ACMS Speaker Series

Fellowships

Call for Papers

Call for Interviewees

Research Grants

New Publications

=====

### Fellowship Program Review Announcement

For members who applied to the ACMS Research Fellowship, US-Mongolia Field Fellowship, and ACMS Language Fellowship programs thank you for your interest in conducting research and study in Mongolia. We are currently sorting the applications and preparing them for selection committees to review. We expect to announce award recipients in early April, so please be patience during the review process. If you have any questions about your application, please send an e-mail to [info@mongoliacenter.org](mailto:info@mongoliacenter.org).

### ACMS Library Acquisitions

Each month the ACMS library publishes a list of materials acquired and processed into the ACMS library collection. This list can be viewed on the ACMS library website at [www.mongoliacenter.org/library/bibliography](http://www.mongoliacenter.org/library/bibliography).

### ACMS Speaker Series

#### **“Mongolia’s Journey through Hell”**

Dr. Brian Baumann, Indiana University, ACMS Fellow

APRIL 9TH, 2009, 5PM ROOM 305, BUILDING NO. 5 NUM

Beginning with an introduction to a pre-classical Mongolian Buddhist treatise on enlightenment and liberation from the bonds of Hell, this lecture will explain the ties that bind the classical genre of Hell as it stretches across Eurasia and through time, and so use Hell’s foundation in science as a way to understand the history of the genre in Mongolia.

#### **“Recent Re-evaluations of Chinggis Khan and Khubilai Khan”**

Dr. Morris Rossabi, City University of New York

APRIL 23RD, 2009, 5PM ROOM 305, BUILDING NO. 5 NUM

Over the past decade, there have been quite a number of books, both for a popular audience and for scholars, and museum exhibitions dealing with Chinggis Khan and Khubilai Khan, the two most renowned figures of the Mongolian era in global history. This lecture will attempt to sort out and, as far as possible, evaluate these interpretations.

**“Strings, Pipes, and Magnets: The Mathematical Theory of Vowels, Historical Linguistics, and Mongolian”**

Dr. Mikael Thompson, ACMS Fellow

APRIL 30TH, 2009, 5PM ROOM 305, BUILDING NO. 5 NUM

Since the 1960s the study of the physics of speech production has progressed greatly; concurrently, advances in digital sound processing and computer technology have afforded linguists unprecedented opportunities to study the sounds of the world’s languages, and as a result a number of theories have been put forward to explain regularities found in the vowel systems of languages. However, none of these theories is fully adequate to account for change in vowel systems over time. Khalkha Mongolian is significant for such studies in part because its close clustering of rounded vowels is unusual among the languages of the world, and as this appears to be fairly recent, the details of its historical development might be found fairly easily by studying the current language cross-generationally and through comparison with other dialects. Dr. Thompson's study has several aims: First, to study the vowel system of contemporary UB Khalkha in the speech of 75-100 native speakers in great detail; second, to use this data to study stress and devoicing; and third, to find evidence of change in progress in the vowel system of UB Khalkha. Finally, to place this study in the full context of contemporary linguistics, Dr. Thompson will touch on the role of instrumental phonetic studies like this one in sociolinguistics and historical linguistics.

More information about speakers at: [www.mongoliacenter.org/ss](http://www.mongoliacenter.org/ss).

## Fellowships

### **“Academic Fellowship Program 2009 Returning Scholars”**

Open Society Institute

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 7, 2009

The Academic Fellowship Program (AFP) announces the 2009-10 competition for the Returning Scholars Fellowship. The program offers financial, professional, and departmental development support, as well as opportunities for further professional growth as AFP alumni. Fellowships include a monthly stipend and various allowances, including departmental, professional development, and mobility funds. Fellowships begin in August or September 2009, last one academic year, and are renewable. Mongolian scholars are eligible to apply for this program. More information at:

<http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/afp>. Apply online at <https://oas.soros.org/oas/>.

### **“Academic Fellowship Program 2009 International Scholars”**

Open Society Institute

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 7, 2009

The Academic Fellowship Program (AFP) announces the 2009-10 competition for the International Scholars Fellowship. The program invites highly qualified scholars in the social sciences and humanities to consult at carefully selected university departments in

the AFP region which includes Mongolia. Fellowships include a modest stipend, transportation, accommodation, and various other allowances, beginning in August or September 2009, lasting one academic year, and are renewable. More information at: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/hesp/focus/afp>. Apply online at <https://oas.soros.org/oas/>.

## Call for Papers

### **“21st Annual Nicholas Poppe Symposium”**

University of Washington, May 9, 2009

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: APRIL 18, 2009

Papers from students and faculty pertaining to Inner/Central Asian Studies are being solicited. Most welcome are papers that address the topic of "The Impact of Globalization on the Turkic and Mongolian Culture and Society" Please submit abstracts (250 words maximum) by April 18, 2009 to:

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[e-mail:icirt@u.washington.edu](mailto:icirt@u.washington.edu)

### **"Study of Mongolian Symbolism: Quest and Perspectives"**

September 9-10, 2009, Centre for the Study of Nomadic Culture and Civilization, National University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

The Center for the Study of Nomadic Culture and Civilization, National University of Mongolia, invites panel and paper proposals for its first Conference on Mongolian Symbolism scheduled for September 9-10, 2009. The Center welcomes panels and paper topics related to all aspects of Symbolism in the Mongolian cultural area. The Mongolian cultural area including (but not limited to): The Republic of Mongolia, The Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region (PRC), Xingjian Autonomous Region (PRC), Buriyati (RF) and Kalmukya (RF). See full announcement at [www.mongoliacenter.org/announcements](http://www.mongoliacenter.org/announcements).

## Call for Interviewees

### **“The Mongolian-American Experience”**

Anne Henochowicz at The Ohio State University is seeking interviewees to discuss their experiences regarding Mongolian-American folklife for entries in the forthcoming Encyclopedia of Asian American Folklore (Greenwood Press, 2010). Please contact [henochowicz.1@osu.edu](mailto:henochowicz.1@osu.edu) for more information and the list of interview questions.

## Research Grants

### **“Global Supplementary Grant Program for Doctoral Studies”**

Open Society Institute

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 8, 2009

The Open Society Institute's Network Scholarship Programs (NSP) is pleased to announce the Global Supplementary Grant Program (GSGP) for the 2009 - 2010 academic year. GSGP offers supplementary grants to students from select countries of Eastern and Central Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Mongolia. The purpose of the program is to enable qualified students to pursue doctoral studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences at accredited universities in Asia, Australia, Europe, the Middle/Near East, and North America. For further details about the program please visit: [http://www.soros.org/initiatives/scholarship/focus\\_areas/global\\_supplementary/guidelines](http://www.soros.org/initiatives/scholarship/focus_areas/global_supplementary/guidelines).

**“University of Chicago East Asian Collection Library Travel Grant”**

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

The Center for East Asian Studies sponsors a library travel grant for researchers in the Midwest who would like to take advantage of the University of Chicago's extensive East Asian library holdings. Reimbursements of up to \$250 are available. Applicants should submit a brief description of their research topic and a statement of the library holdings they hope to examine. Please contact Dianne Yurco ([eas@uchicago.edu](mailto:eas@uchicago.edu)) or 773-702-8647 at The Center for East Asian Studies for more information. In addition to the collection in East Asian languages, the University library system contains over 50,000 volumes in English or other Western languages on or related to East Asia. The library also contains materials in Tibetan, Mongolian, Manchu, and Vietnamese languages. More information at: <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/easia>.

**“Travel Grants in Mongolian Studies”**

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

The Center for East Asian Studies of Western Washington University is offering travel grants for research in the WWU Libraries on any subject dealing with Mongolia and the Mongols. Two grants of up to \$500 each will be awarded in any one calendar year to scholars, including doctoral candidates, who at the time of application reside more than 500 miles from Bellingham. Applicants from institutions with few or no Inner Asian resources are given preference. Applications must be submitted by August 1 for research during September through January and by February 1 for research during February through June. They should include a brief description of the research project, an up-to-date curriculum vitae, and an estimated budget. When completed, they should be sent to:

Director,  
Center for East Asian Studies  
Western Washington University  
Bellingham WA 98225-9057

**New Publications**

**“Journal of Eurasian Studies”**

The Journal of Eurasian Studies is published by the Foundation Mikes International and has an international editorial board comprised of distinguished scholars and professionals from the UK to Inner Mongolia. The journal can be accessed at the following address: <http://www.federatio.org/joes.html>.

## **“Old Maps of Tuva, Vol. 2”**

Old Maps of Tuva (OMT), Vol. 2 was issued in March, and is a series of issue indexes of the Tannu-Uriankhai maps that were drawn between the 18th and early 20th centuries during the Qing Dynasty era to the pre-Soviet period, linking with the present Tuvan toponyms. OMT is a free of charge, though unfortunately, the number of copies is extremely limited according to the publisher, and applicants of OMT will receive priority over order of requests. For more information contact Masahiko Todoriki at: [riki@ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp](mailto:riki@ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp).

Todoriki, Masahiko: Old maps of Tuva 2 - Tannu-Uriankhai Maps in Eighteenth Century China. The Research and Information Center for Asian Studies, The Institute of Oriental Culture, University of Tokyo, Tokyo (2009). See: <http://www.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>.

## **“Journal of Central Asian and Caucasian Studies”**

\*\*\*Now Online\*\*\*

Journal of Central Asian and Caucasian Studies (JCACS) is a refereed journal and published twice (Summer and Winter) a year. JCACS publishes scholarly articles in Turkish and English from all over the world. JCACS focuses on legal, political, sociological, cultural, social, religious, anthropological and economic studies regarding Central Asia, Caucasus and neighboring states' (Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, China, Mongolia, Russia) and regions' (Black Sea, South Asia, Middle East, Far East) relations with Central Asia and the Caucasus. The journal encourages interdisciplinary studies. Online Access is now available for previous issues of Journal of Central Asian and Caucasian Studies (JCACS) at <http://www.usak.org.tr/EN/dmenu.asp?id=55>.