



## MONGOLIAN CULTURAL CENTER

# XVIII ANNUAL MONGOLIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

co-hosted by

**The Embassy of Mongolia**

**Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History**

**February 6-7, 2026  
Washington, D.C.**

**with contributions from**

*Library of Congress  
Mongolian American Cultural Association  
Pyramid Granite LLC  
National Council of Language Policy, Mongolia  
Dr. Sanj Altan*

## REGISTRATION

The Mongolian Cultural Center will be hosting the XVIII Annual Mongolian Studies Conference in partnership with the Embassy of Mongolia and the Smithsonian Institution **February 6-7, 2026.**

**Registration is required, preferably at least two days prior to the conference.** To register, please do the following:

1. Send your **first and last name, employer (optional), and location (only city and state will be sufficient)** to [info@mglcenter.org](mailto:info@mglcenter.org) to make your conference ID badge.
2. **Pay the conference fee of \$80.** Fees can be paid using cash day-of or mailed in advance to the address below, or via Zelle to (202) 302-4340.

Mail to:

Mongolian Cultural Center  
7638 Wood Mist Lane  
Falls Church, VA 22043

The conference fee includes breakfast and lunch on both days, a copy of the published conference proceedings and papers, and admission to the Closing Reception, hosted by the Embassy of Mongolia on February 7 at 6pm ET.

## AGENDA

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

#### SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

**08:30 REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST  
(IN PUBLIC CAFETERIA, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, YOU WILL BE ESCORTED)**

**09:00 OPENING REMARKS**  
Q?rius Auditorium, West Lobby, National Museum of Natural History

**Batbayar, Ulziidelgeriin**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mongolia in the U.S.

**William Fitzhugh**, Director of the Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution,

**Saruul-Erdene, Myagmaryn**, President, the Mongolian Cultural Center

**09:30 ARCHAEOLOGY**

Mongolian Cultural Center  
202-531-3716 202-302-4340  
[info@mglcenter.org](mailto:info@mglcenter.org)

Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

Moderator: **William Fitzhugh**, Director of the Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution,

**William Honeychurch**, Yale University, USA, **Chunag Amartuvshin**, Center for Nomadic Archaeology, National University of Mongolia, Mongolia, **Lance Pursey**, Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, **Andrew Shimunek**, Woosong University, South Korea, **Sukhbaatar Bat-Erdene**, Mongolian University of Science and Technology, Mongolia, **Andres Uueni**, Archaeovision LLC, Estonia  
*When Silent Stones Speak: The Granite Archives of Eastern Mongolia reveal Mongolian Medieval History*

**Erdenebaatar, Diimaajavyn**, Chinggis Khaan Museum

*Mongolian Deer Stone-Khirigsuur Culture: The Question of the Purpose and Meaning of Deer Stones*

**Richard Kortum**, Eastern Tennessee State University

*Southern Bayan Ulgii Aimag Rock Art & Archaeology: Latest Discoveries June 2025*

**Asa Cameron**, Yale University/The Pennsylvania State University, **Christina Carolus**, Yale University/The Pennsylvania State University, **Jargalan Burentogtokh**, National University of Mongolia, **Bukhchuluun Dashzeveg**, Yale University, **Isabelle Holland-Lulewicz**, The Pennsylvania State University, **Jacob Holland-Lulewicz**, The Pennsylvania State University, **Matthew Picarelli-Kombert**, The Pennsylvania State University, **Amartuvshin Chunag**, National University of Mongolia  
*Going Against the Current: New Investigation of Prehistoric Settlement Networks and Subsistence along the Kherlen River in Eastern Mongolia*

**Darkhijav Batbayar**, Yale University

*Bioarchaeological Study of Skeletal Remains of Children from Mongolia*

**Isabelle Holland-Lulewicz**, Penn State, **Asa Cameron**, Penn State, **Christina Carolus**, Penn State, **Jacob Holland-Lulewicz**, Penn State, **Bukchuluun Dashzeveg**, PAX Environmental, **Jargalan Burentogtokh**, National University of Mongolia, **Matthew Picarelli-Kombert**, Penn State, **Chunag Amartuvshin**, National University of Mongolia, **Matthew Picarelli-Kombert**, Penn State, **Chunag Amartuvshin**, National University of Mongolia  
*The Importance of Wetland Resources in the Nomadic Pastoral Socio-Ecological Systems of Central Asia*

**13:00 LUNCH (IN PUBLIC CAFETERIA, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, YOU WILL BE ESCORTED)**

After lunch, the conference moves to the **Library of Congress**.

10 1st Street, SE, Thomas Jefferson Building, LJ 119.

Mongolian Cultural Center  
202-531-3716 202-302-4340  
[info@mglcenter.org](mailto:info@mglcenter.org)

Metro station: Capitol South; Metro lines: Orange, Blue and Silver

**ARRIVAL:** The Thomas Jefferson Building is located at 10 First Street, SE between Independence Avenue and East Capitol Street in Washington, DC. Enter on the ground level beneath the grand exterior staircase, using the center doors. This is also the designated ADA accessible entrance.

**SECURITY:** The Library of Congress, as part of the U.S. Capitol complex, is under the jurisdiction of the United States Capitol Police. Upon arrival, please be prepared to walk through a metal detector and pass personal belongings through an X-ray machine. Certain items are not permitted in Library buildings, including dangerous weapons. These include, but are not limited to, firearms, knives, razors, box-cutters and other sharp objects. In addition, oversized suitcases or bags (exceeding 25" w x 15" h) that will not fit on the X-ray conveyor belts are prohibited. Please allow enough time for entry. Upon exiting, an officer will conduct a bag inspection.

## **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

### **14:00 INTRODUCTION**

**Kay Qi Qiu, Chief of Asian Division, Library of Congress**

### **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

**CHRISTOPHER ATWOOD, University of Pennsylvania**

**"THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE MONGOLS' LITTLE BROTHER: THE CAMPAIGNS OF CHINGGIS KHAN, ITS TANGLED FATE AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE"**

### **15:30 ASIAN READING ROOM BOOK DISPLAY**

**Introduction to the Mongolian Collection in the Library of Congress**

Asian Division, LJ150

**Susan Meinheit, Tibetan and Mongolian Reference Specialist, Asian Division, LOC**

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

## **SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

### **08:30 BREAKFAST (IN GLASS AREA OF Q?RIUS ROOM)**

Mongolian Cultural Center  
202-531-3716 202-302-4340  
[info@mglcenter.org](mailto:info@mglcenter.org)

**09:00 HISTORY**

Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

**Moderator: Christopher Atwood**, University of Pennsylvania

**Emily Eklund, Jargalan Burentogtokh, William Gardner, Aspen Greaves**

*Monumental Landscapes in North-Central Mongolia: Investigating Late Bronze Age Khirgisuurs*

**Zachary Hershey**, College of William and Mary

*Titles and Translations: An Examination of the Usage of the Title, Yiljin 美離謹, in the Liao*

**Nicholas Tselides**, College of William & Mary

*The Darughachi and Embroidered Guard: Similarities in Maintaining Dynastic Control*

**Nuri Lewis-Pichler**

*The Reintroduction of the Bichig Mongolian Script: Precedents and Opportunities*

**11:00 EDUCATION**

Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

**Moderator: Saruul-Erdene Myagmaryn**, Library of Congress

**\*Tuul, N.**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture

*Current Status and Challenges of Talent Management for Mongolian Artists*

**\*Dagvadorj, Choisurengiin**, Mongolian American Cultural Association, Mongolia

*Life and works of Jambaldorj doorombo*

**\*Amartuvshin, M.**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture

*Higher Education of Art and Culture in Mongolia*

**12:30 LUNCH (IN PUBLIC CAFETERIA, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, YOU WILL BE ESCORTED)**

**13:00 WOMEN AND GENDER ISSUES**

Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

**Moderator: Simon Wickhamsmith**, Rutgers University

**Udaanjargal, Chuluunbaataryn**, University of North Carolina

*Politics of the Mongol Empresses in the Early Qing Court*

**\*Utnasun, Osorin**

*Life and Works of Princess Deva Nimbo*

**Nari Lee**, University of Montana

*Gendered Barriers to Working in Conservation: A Comparative Case Study in South Korea and Mongolia*

**Yunna J. Han**, Columbia University

*Spirits Unwritten: Gendered Eclipse and Survival of Indigenous Power in the Sino-Mongol Borderlands (1900–1945)*

**15:00 ART AND CULTURE**

Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

**Moderator: Sunmin Yoon**, University of Delaware

**\*Bayartur, Baljinniyamyn**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture

*Symbolic Attributes of Representation in Mongolian Painting*

**Ghilyana Dordzhieva**, Mongolian American Cultural Association, **Yanjindulam**

**Victor**, Western Regional School of the National University of Mongolia

*Text, Ritual, and Worship in the Zakhchin Long-Song “Эдийн Алтай бүрэн Тэнгэр”*

**\*Enkh-Amgalan, S.**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture

*Comparison of Traditional and Modern Techniques to Play Shudraga (Chanzy) Instrument*

**\*Saranchimeg, Tumur**, National Academy of Governance, Mongolia

*Ceremonial Clothing of the State Queen - Dondovlkham*

**18:00 – 20:00 RECEPTION IN HONOR OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS**

*Hosted by H.E. Batbayar Ulziidelgerin, Ambassador of Mongolia to the United States of America, at the Mongolian Embassy: 2833 M St NW, Washington, DC 20007*

**18:00 – 18:30 AMERICAN CENTER FOR MONGOLIAN STUDIES 2026 PROGRAM REVIEW**

***Note: Asterisks (\*) denote presentations that will be in Mongolian. All other papers will be presented in English.***