

THE CEUS MONTHLY

The Monthly Newsletter of Indiana University's Department of Central Eurasian Studies

October, 2005

NEWS

Christopher I. Beckwith gave a paper, entitled "The Location and Linguistic Identification of the Koguryo Language," at the Conference on the Language(s) of Koguryo and the Reconstruction of Old Korean and Neighboring Languages in Hamburg, Germany, September 23-24, 2005. His article, "On the Proto-Indo-European Obstruent System," has been accepted for publication in *Historische Sprachforschung*, and his article, "On the Chinese Names for Tibet, Tabghatch, and the Turks" is coming out this fall in *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi* 2005.

On Friday, October 7, **László Borhi** is giving a lecture at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington DC on "Hungary in the Soviet Empire 1945-1956: New Evidence, New Interpretations."

Lauran Hartley (Ph.D. CEUS 2003) was one of three presenters at a symposium entitled "Tibet in Asia: Cultural and Religious Interactions," sponsored by the Department of Asian Languages & Cultures at Rutgers University on September 22. She also presented at a forum on "Future Directions in Modern Tibetan Studies," held in conjunction with the inauguration of the first Leila Hadley Luce Chair of Modern Tibetan Studies at Columbia University on September 26. Her most recent publications include the following: "Tibetan Publishing in the Early Post-Mao Period," *Cahiers d'Extrême-Asie* 15 (2005):231-253; and a review of *Timeless Rapture: Inspired Verse of the Shangpa Masters*, compiled by Jamgon Kongtrul and translated by Ngawang Zangpo. *Journal of Asian Studies*, vol. 53, no. 4 (November 2004): 1120-22. She currently serves as consultant and editor for the Latse Contemporary Tibetan Cultural Library.

Lynn Hooker's class, "Budapest in the 19th and 20th Centuries: The Evolution of a European Capital," offered in the 2nd Eight Weeks term of Fall 2005, explores the transformation of the city through years of political and cultural change. To accompany this class, Prof. Hooker is showing films set in Budapest (see below, and in the November issue of *The CEUS Monthly*). These films show urban life in Hungary interpreted by some of Hungary's best known filmmakers. Feature films will be preceded by excerpts from *Budapest retró*, featuring newsreels, commercials, and propaganda films about everyday life in Budapest of the 1960s and 1970s.

In the spring semester, **György Kara** taught at ELTE, University of Budapest. He received the Labor Merit Order of Mongolia from the hands of the President of the Mongol State. His Russian book about the history of Mongol writing was translated into Chinese and published in Huhehot by the Inner Mongolia People's Publishers. A new,

American version of the same work, *Books of the Mongolian Nomads: More than Eight Centuries of Writing Mongolian*, translated by J. R. Krueger, revised and enlarged by the author, was published in the IU Uralic and Altaic Series (x+331 pp. + xxxviii pl.). G. Kara's paper "A Western Khalkha benediction for a new round tent" appeared in the *Journal de la Société Finno-Ougrienne*, vol. 90 (Helsinki, 2004), pp. 57-66. Three Festschrifts honoring his 70th birthday were published this year: one in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (ed. by Ts. Shagdarsueren of the Mongolian National University), one in Wiesbaden, Germany (ed. by S. Grivelet, R. Meserve, G. Sary), and one in Budapest, Hungary (ed. by A. Birtalan of ELTE, University of Budapest).

Paul Losensky's on-going research on the intersections of architecture and poetry in Persian literature of the 16th and 17th centuries recently yielded two articles: "The Palace of Praise and the Melons of Time: Descriptive Patterns in 'Abdi Shirazi's *Garden of Eden*," *Eurasian Studies* 2 (2003): 1-29; and "'The Equal of Heaven's Vault': The Design, Ceremony, and Poetry of the Hasanabad Bridge." In *Writers and Rulers: Perspectives on Their Relationship from 'Abbasid to Safavid Times*. Edited by Beatrice Grundler and Louise Marlow (Wiesbaden: Dr. Ludwig Reichert Verlag, 2004): 195-216. Prof. Losensky will be including five films and an expanded selection of post-revolutionary writing in his spring course, "Persian Literature in Translation: Literature and Cinema in Modern Iran."

As of September 1, **Alexandr Naymark** (Ph.D. CEUS 2001) is tenured as Associate Professor of Art History at Hofstra University in New York. Naymark spent the summer at the Ashmolean Museum and Oriental Institute in Oxford, UK, as a Shama Fellow.

In the summer, **Ron Sela** organized an international workshop on Islam in Central Asia under the auspices of the Nehemia Levtzion Center for Islamic Studies in Jerusalem. Leading scholars from Central Asia, Europe and the Middle East convened at Hebrew University in Jerusalem to work together on the following topics: "Islam and Islamization in Central Asia in Historical Perspective," "Islam in Central Asia in Literary and Oral Traditions," and "Themes in Contemporary Central Asian Islam." Plans are under way for the publication of the proceedings under Sela's editorship. Sela also narrated, in Hebrew, the film "Uzbekistan," directed by Uri Weltsch (2005).

During a recent visit in Moscow, Distinguished Professor Emeritus **Denis Sinor** was appointed to an Honorary Professorship of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow).

Donny Smith's (Turkish Studies) translation of Argentine poet Wenceslao Maldonado was published as "Gorgona" in the Spring 2005 issue of *Metamorphoses: A Journal of Literary Translation*.

In 2004, **Elliot Sperling** presented the following lectures: "Tibetan Historiography and the Twilight of the Qing: the representation of Zhao Erfeng in the Biography of Brag-dkar Blo-bzang dpal-ldan," (Columbia University); "The Kings of Nang-chen and the Qing Court," (Harvard University); and "The Recognition of Tibetan Incarnations: Qing Dynasty Regulations and Their Significance for Modern Sino-Tibetan Relations,"

(The University of British Columbia). In 2005, he published, “Karma Rol-pa’i rdo-Rje and the Re-Establishment of Karma-pa Political Influence in the 14th Century,” in *The Relationship Between Religion and State (chos srid zung ’brel) in Traditional Tibet*, edited by Christoph Cüppers (Lumbini); and the Policy Study *The Tibet-China Conflict: History And Polemics*, for the East-West Center, Washington. Prof. Sperling was also interviewed by the Voice of America and Radio Free Asia.

Mike Thurman (Ph.D. CEUS 1999) has been working as the Water Users’ Association Specialist in the Ak Altin District and Tashkent, Uzbekistan since 2003. His 3-volume *Manuals for Water User Associations in Uzbekistan* (Vol. 1: *Legal Issues*; Vol. 2: *Formation and Development*; and Vol. 3: *Financial Management*) are to be published by the Asian Development Bank and the International Water Management Institute.

Nicole Willock (Tibetan Studies) was awarded a 2005 Summer Pre-dissertation Travel Grant to do preliminary fieldwork for her dissertation, which included conducting an interview with Alak Tshe tan Zhab drung Blo bzang ‘jigs med rig pa’i blo gros, and networking with scholars at Qinghai Nationalities University in Xining. In September 2005, Willock presented a paper, entitled “Jiao Yingqi’s Perspective on the Military Campaign to Tibet in 1720/1,” at the 54th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA) held in Michigan. Together with **Gendun Rabsal**, **Christopher Walker** and **Indrek Park**, Willock also completed a learning module for Amdo dialect of Tibetan (<http://www.bloomington.in.us/~amdo/>). The project was funded through the Center for Advanced Research on Language (CARLA) project for the Less Commonly Taught Languages at the University of Minnesota.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 7, 8 pm, Wylie Hall 005

Turkish Film Series:

Egreti Gelin (Borrowed Bride), directed by Atif Yilmaz (2004).

Sunday, October 9, 2 pm - 5 pm, Lower Cascades Park North Shelter House

The Annual CEUS Department Picnic, hosted by the Association of Central Eurasian Students.

Wednesday, October 12, 7 pm, Swain Hall East 140

Budapest Film Series:

The Girl [A lány], directed by Márta Mészáros (1968).

Thursday, October 20, 7 pm, Swain Hall East 105

Persian Film Series:

Tangsir, directed by Amir Naderi (1973).

Friday, October 21, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, University Club, IMU 150

1956 Hungarian Revolution Commemoration.

Wednesday, October 26, 7 pm, Swain Hall East 140

Budapest Film Series:

Moscow Square [Moszkva tér], directed by Ferenc Török (2001).

Communication for the next edition of *The CEUS Monthly* should be electronically submitted by noon, Thursday, October 27, to Ron Sela at rsela@indiana.edu