

THE CEUS MONTHLY

The Monthly Newsletter of the Indiana University Department of Central Eurasian Studies

December, 2005

NEWS

Christopher Atwood was an interpreter during President George W. Bush's 4-hour trip to Mongolia on Monday, November 21. He did simultaneous interpretation of President Bush's speech in the Government House, broadcast live on Mongolian TV, as well as interpreting for the President during the cultural event afterwards. (The meetings with Mongolian President N. Enkhbayar and Prime Minister Ts. Elbegdorj were conducted in English.) Chris will discuss his trip at a public lecture this month (see Upcoming Events).

Christopher Beckwith has just published a book, *Medieval Tibeto-Burman Languages II* (Leiden: Brill, 2005). Among the parts authored by him are: Introduction: Toward a Tibeto-Burman Theory, pp. 1-38; The Sonority Sequencing Principle and Old Tibetan Syllable Margins, pp 45-55; and Old Tibetan and the Dialects and Periodization of Old Chinese, pp. 179-200. He completed his Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship (Tokyo, Japan, 2004-2005) this summer and has begun tenure of his Guggenheim Fellowship (awarded 2004, deferred to this year, 2005-2006).

In mid-October **Gardner Bovingdon** traveled to Urumci, in Xinjiang, China, for a conference titled "A forum on non-traditional security in Central and Western Asia." Gardner delivered a paper, titled "Dui Zhongya fei chuantong anquan wenti de sisuo" (a somewhat loose translation of the original English title, "Thinking non-traditionally about security in Central Asia"). Conference participants included several dozen scholars from China, as well as scholars from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic.

Shahyar Daneshgar was a panelist at the Azerbaijan Elections Panel Discussion, titled "Democracy, Islam, and Oil-Oh My!" sponsored by Students for Global Democracy International, November 10, 2005, in Bloomington, Indiana. On October 2nd, Shahyar presented a talk in New York on the occasion of the celebration of the 120th jubilee of Uzeyir Hajibeyov, organized by the Azerbaijan Association of New York. The talk was titled "The Life and Work of Azerbaijani Composer, Uzeyir Hajibeyov and the Globalization of His Music."

Devin DeWeese presented a paper, entitled "Breaking the Chain: Encounters with the Dead and the Making of the Naqshbandi Silsilah" at the recent annual meeting of the *Middle East Studies Association* in Washington DC.

György Kara's essay "Literature in Mongolian" appeared in the *History of Civilizations of Central Asia, vol. VI, Towards the contemporary period from the mid-19th to the 20th centuries*, ed. Chahryar Adle et al (Paris: UNESCO, 2005), pp. 921-936.

Talant Mawkanuli presented a paper, entitled "Challenges in teaching and learning the Arabic Script based Uyghur Alphabet" at the conference on Content, Tasks, and Projects: Meeting the Challenges of Classroom Implementation, convened at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, May 21, 2005. Talant's book, *Jungar Tuvan Texts*, was recently published in the Uralic and Altaic Series (Bloomington: Research institute for Inner Asian Studies, 2005).

UPCOMING EVENTS*

Friday, December 2, 2:30 pm, Ballantine Hall 221

CEUS colloquium series: **Ron Sela** will present "Invoking the Russian Conquest of Khiva and the Massacre of the Yomut Turkmens: The Choices of a Central Asian Historian."

Friday, December 2, 7:25 pm, Buskirk-Chumley Theater

Budapest Ensemble CSARDAS The Tango of the East.

Saturday, December 3, 1:30 pm, Ballantine Hall 004

Mikulas Party! Sponsored by the IU Hungarian Cultural Association.

Monday, December 5, 5 pm, Main Library 033

Chris Atwood will discuss his recent trip to Mongolia as President George W. Bush's interpreter in a talk, titled "Adventures in Presidential Interpreting."

Tuesday, December 6, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, University Club

Finnish Independence Day.

Wednesday, December 7, 7 pm, Swain Hall East 140

Budapest Film Series:
Kontroll, directed by Antal Nimród (2003).

Saturday, December 17, 10 am

IU Graduation Ceremonies: IU to award honorary degree to former Mongolian president Bagabondi.

Monday, December 19, 8 pm, Wylie Hall 005

Turkish Film Series:

Avanak Apti, directed by Natuk Baytan (1978).

Thursday, December 29, 8 pm, Wylie Hall 005

Turkish Film Series:

G.O.R.A., directed by Omer Faruk Sorak (2004).

*See an updated list of all CEUS events at: <http://www.indiana.edu/~ceus/eventsnew.shtml>

Communication for the next edition of *The CEUS Monthly* should be electronically submitted by noon, Tuesday, January 10, 2006 to Ron Sela at rsela@indiana.edu