A Word from the Institute Director

This is the inaugural issue of “Jottings,” a monthly online bulletin of the Denis Sinor Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. Its purpose is modest but practical: to provide information about the Institute’s activities and projects, to describe particular resources in its collection of manuscripts and other unpublished sources, and to publicize its acquisition of teaching and research materials. Please contact the director if you wish to be added to our mailing list.

Edward J. Lazzerini

News

- Steps are being taken to improve the operational efficiency of the Institute, augment the holdings of its library, and extend the range of its activities. The necessary first step was to resituate the staff (our secretary, Barbara Gardner, and our two new Graduate Assistants, Leland Rogers and David Straub). Barbara has moved to Goodbody 144, the entry room of the Institute library, where she will continue her regular work while, simply by her presence, keep the library open from 8 am to 5 pm during the work week. Because she is full time, she will be able to maintain this schedule for the entire year. In turn, Leland and David will use Goodbody 335 after it has been suitably prepared and reorganized. They will be involved in various activities that the Institute sponsors as well as assist patrons of the library.

- In cooperation with the Genealogical Society of Utah, Central Eurasian Studies (CEUS) faculty members Chris Atwood and
Ed Lazzerini are inaugurating a long term project that seeks to amass data from Manchu and Turkic demographic records. Dating from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, these data provide information on births, deaths, and marriages, along with several generations of kin relationships. While the data sets will allow analysis of selected locales, they will also offer opportunities to assess the circumstances of families, in relation to one another and to the state and other authorities, within the larger Central Eurasian region.

- Funds to purchase new materials for the library are limited, but they do exist. Faculty and students of CEUS have an open invitation to suggest possible acquisitions, which we will make every effort to purchase or otherwise obtain. Increasingly, libraries and archives around the world are making digital copies of some of their holdings available as “open sources.” We are formulating the means to incorporate and catalogue such sources for faculty and student access within the SRIFIAS library.

- With the generous financial support of Denis Sinor, CEUS Professor Emeritus, the SRIFIAS will hold an international symposium from September 4-7, 2008 on the theme of “Family and State in Chinggisid and Post-Chinggisid Central Eurasia.” In addition to three CEUS faculty members (Atwood, Lazzerini, and Sperling), eleven scholars from other parts of the USA and abroad (Canada, Great Britain, Japan, South Korea, and the Peoples Republic of China) will discuss their current research.

**Acquisitions**

**Books**


Elverskog, J. *Our Great Qing: The Mongols, Buddhism and the State in Late Imperial China*. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 2006.


Periodicals and Serials


Reports


Offprints


Resources in Digital Format

1. Dissertations


Ohren, Dana M. “All the Tsar’s Men: Minorities and Military Conscription in Imperial Russia, 1874-1905,” Ph.D. diss., Indiana University, 2006.


Popova, Laura Michele. “Political Pastures: Navigating the Steppe in the Middle Volga Region (Russia) during the Bronze Age,” Ph.D. diss., University of Chicago, 2006.


Rottier, Pete. “Creating the Kazak Nation: The Intelligentsia’s Quest for Acceptance in the Russian Empire, 1905-1920,” Ph.D.


2. Additions to the Central Asian Archive


Министерство Внутренних Дел. Департамент Духовных Дел Иностранных Верований. Алфавитные списки Армяно-Григорианских церквей и Магометанских мечетей в империи. СПб., 1886. [Gift of Edward J. Lazzerini]


3. Other


---

**Editor:**

Edward J. Lazzerini, Director  
Denis Sinor Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies  
Goodbody Hall 348  
Indiana University  
Bloomington, IN 47405  
Tel. 812-856-0671  
elazzeri@indiana.edu