Why Do Mongolians Love Elections? Electable Selves, Postsocialism, and Campaigning with Dr. Manduhai Buyandelger

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 | 4:30-5:30 PM
Hallock Auditorium
Reception to follow in the Atrium

MANDUHAI BUYANDELGER is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at MIT. Her book Tragic Spirits: Shamanism, Gender, and Memory in Contemporary Mongolia won a 2014 Francis L.K. Hsu book prize from the Society of East Asian Anthropology and was shortlisted as one of the top five social science books on Asia by the International Convention of Asia Scholars in 2015. Her second book, A Thousand Steps to the Parliament: Constructing Electable Women in Mongolia, examines women candidates’ competition for parliamentary seats and their transformation into electable selves to persevere in the campaigns that have become defining forces of Mongolia’s today. Buyandelger holds a PhD from Harvard and was a post-doctoral fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows.

ABOUT JACK GLAZIER: Jack taught anthropology at Oberlin from 1971 until his retirement in 2013. His fieldwork included research in East Africa among subsistence farmers, Eastern European immigrants and their descendants in the American Midwest, and African Americans in the upper South. He sees anthropology as a unique discipline, combining the explanatory and generalizing goals of the sciences with the interpretive and historical sensibilities of the humanities. In the classroom and in his books and articles, he sought an understanding of human experience in wide ranging comparative terms while never losing sight of the distinctiveness of that experience in particular times and places. The lectureship bearing Jack’s name recognizes his contributions to an encompassing anthropology and to the liberal education of Oberlin students.