



Central Eurasian Studies Society  
[www.centraleurasia.org](http://www.centraleurasia.org)

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS: CESS 2020

Central Eurasian Studies Society 21th Annual Conference,  
October 15-18, 2020  
and Pre-Conference Workshops, October 14-15, 2020  
The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA

### About the Annual Conference

[www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/annual](http://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/annual)

CESS Annual Conferences have been held at universities around North America since 2000, currently offering up to 70 panels and attracting around 300 participants from all over the world.

For CESS 2020, we invite submissions relating to all aspects of humanities and social science scholarship. The geographic domain of Central Eurasia encompasses Central Asia, the Caucasus, Iran, Afghanistan, Tibet, Mongolia, Siberia, Inner Asia, the Black Sea region, the Volga region, and East and Central Europe. Practitioners and scholars in all fields with an interest in this region are encouraged to participate.

The CESS Annual Conference in 2020 (CESS 2020) is being hosted by The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. The conference will run from 1pm on October 15 to 1pm on October 18, 2020 with pre-conference workshops on October 14 (afternoon) and October 15 (morning).

### How to Submit a Proposal

[www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/annual/#submit](http://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/annual/#submit)

We invite the following types of proposal for the Annual Conference: individual paper, pre-organized panel, author-critic forum for published books, book-in-progress panels for authors who wish to discuss their manuscripts ahead of submission, roundtable, single session workshop. Find out more about the different submission types and the information needed to submit proposals: <https://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/proposal-submission-information/>.

Before submitting a proposal, read the conference rules and guidelines: <https://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/rules-guidelines/>.

Submissions to the Annual Conference are made online: <https://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/annual/#submit>.

The deadline for proposal submissions is Monday 30 March, 2020 (23.59 Eastern Standard Time).

We expect to notify applicants by mid May 2020.

## Travel Grants

[www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/travel-grants](http://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/travel-grants)

CESS is delighted to once again be able to offer travel grants for presenters at our Annual Conference. Grants are between \$500-\$1,500 USD depending on residency location. Priority is given to early career scholars, to applicants who have not previously received a travel grant from CESS, and to applicants who reside in the Central Eurasian region.

The eligibility criteria are:

- has submitted a proposal for the CESS 2020 Annual Conference that has been accepted;
- is a citizen of Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, or Uzbekistan;
- has a record or holds promise of fostering public discourse in the scholar's home context;
- has a record or holds promise of advancing institution-building by promoting quality academic scholarship in the scholar's home context;
- holds promise for a productive scholarly career;
- is capable of executing high quality scholarship in the English language;
- is in financial need.

[Eligible applicants](#) can submit a travel grant application at <https://forms.gle/f2psr3s3ff5fVkJUT8>.

The deadline for travel grant applications is Monday 30 March, 2020 (23.59 Eastern Standard Time).

We expect to notify applicants by mid June 2020.

## Pre-Conference Workshops

[www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/workshops](http://www.centraleurasia.org/conferences/workshops)

Pre-conference workshops will be offered at the CESS 2020 Annual Conference. This format was successfully introduced at the CESS 2018 Annual Conference in Pittsburgh and has now become an annual event. Intended to provide additional opportunities for scholarly engagement and training, the workshops are held on the afternoon before the Annual Conference and the morning of the day that the Annual Conference starts.

At this time, we invite CESS members to design and propose either a half-day workshop or a workshop that runs over two half days. An honorarium for workshop facilitators will be offered.

To submit a pre-conference workshop application, please [review the requirements on our website](#) and submit your application by Monday 30 March, 2020 (23.59 Eastern Standard Time).

## Call for Chairs and Discussants

We always need Chairs and Discussants for panels of individual paper submissions, especially (but not only) in Anthropology, Economics, Language, History, Media and Migration. Conference delegates may have up to two roles in addition to presenting a paper, so please consider supporting the CESS community by offering to be a Chair or Discussant too!

If you are interested in volunteering to serve in one or both of these roles, please [email the Conference Committee](#). In your email, please specify which role(s) you are interested in and provide brief details about your research interests so we can try and match you to a suitable panel. On our website, you can find more details about [what is expected of Chairs and Discussants](#).

## Central Eurasian Studies Society

CESS was founded in 1999 and incorporated as a non-profit corporation in 2001 and is the first North American-based scholarly society dedicated to the study of Central Eurasia.

The mission of CESS is to facilitate communication and interaction among scholars of the Central Eurasia region, to promote high standards of scholarship about the Central Eurasia region, to promote cooperation among those concerned with the scholarly study of Central Eurasia, and to promote general knowledge of and public interest in Central Eurasia.

## About the Host: The Ohio State University

The [Ohio State University](#) (OSU) is a public research university in Columbus, Ohio, one of the fastest growing cities in the USA. It has the third largest university campus in the country, with almost 60,000 students. Its faculty include scholars who are leaders in the sciences, engineering, medicine, public policy, law, social sciences, arts, and humanities. OSU has strength in Eurasian, Russian, East European, East Asian, and Middle Eastern studies. It is one of the few US universities that teaches the Uzbek language regularly. OSU hosted the CESS Annual Conference in 2011.

Being situated in central Ohio, OSU is within two hours from other excellent institutions of higher education with faculty that research Central Eurasia: Miami University (Oxford, Ohio), Kenyon College (Gambler, Ohio), Kent State University (Kent, Ohio), Denison University (Granville, Ohio). Together with other universities with Central Eurasian expertise, like Indiana University, The University of Michigan, The University of Pittsburgh, and Case Western Reserve University, the Midwest region of the US has become a nexus of research relevant to CESS.

Columbus, Ohio, the second most populous city in the Midwest (after Chicago) is an affordable, pleasant city with a vibrant cultural life and excellent restaurants. It is easy to reach with a two-hour flight from New York, Washington, Atlanta, Chicago, or Toronto. Columbus's airport code is CMH.

## Questions?

For inquiries regarding the conference or travel grants, please contact the CESS Administrative Coordinator at: [info@centraleurasia.org](mailto:info@centraleurasia.org).

For inquiries regarding the pre-conference workshops, please contact the CESS Administrative Assistant at: [finance@centraleurasia.org](mailto:finance@centraleurasia.org).

We look forward to receiving your proposal!

Diana T. Kudaibergenova, Conference Committee Chair; Morgan Liu and Scott Levi, Annual Conference Co-Hosts, on behalf of the CESS 2020 Conference Committee