

NewsNet

News of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Stanford Slavic Department Revises its Reading List Gabriella Safran, Stanford University

What must a literary scholar read? Lidiia Ginzburg begins her *Notes of a Siege Person* with a conversation between Yury Tynyanov and Semyon Vengerov. Tynyanov has asked his teacher where to find a certain essay of Herzen's, and Vengerov is shocked. "How can it be that I'm admitting you into the (graduate) program and you haven't yet read through all of *Kolokol* (The Bell)?" Ginzburg reflects ruefully, then, on her own generation: "I'm being admitted into the institute, but what do we know?"

Ginzburg's anecdote appeals to me as the introduction to a report about the revision of the Stanford Slavic Department's PhD reading list, because it reminds us of the longevity of the debates in which we are engaged. On the one hand, Vengerov, Tynyanov, and Ginzburg are all evidencing an attitude I will call the Retentive: the notion that our duty is to absorb a canon that was identified in the past, to know those texts well enough that we can find any reference we need. This might be opposed to what I'll call an Adaptive orientation to reading. Recognizing (as Tynyanov and Ginzburg did) that readers ask different things of texts, and in fact ask for different texts, at different points in time, we could assume that we read to meet the needs of the present and the future, to demonstrate the required exper-

tise and to be able to produce creative or scholarly writing to satisfy current and future audiences. PhD programs in literature inevitably work to balance the Retentive and the Adaptive approaches. As literary scholars, we recognize the value of the already spoken or written word; our profession depends on the notion that of all the spoken and written words out there, some are more worthy than others of being published, republished, translated, edited, staged, filmed, and read long after their original audience has died. At the same time, we exist inside the world known to the Formalists, which values novelty, looking for a new word that casts the value of the old words into doubt: we teach our students that their scholarship cannot consist of restatement of already published fact or defense of a familiar opinion.

At certain moments, the need to negotiate between these two perspectives comes into focus. At Stanford's Slavic Department, we faced such a moment three years ago, in the spring of 2011. We had always thought of our program as relatively fast and flexible.

Our PhD students all focus on Russian literature. They pass reading exams in two other languages, either French or German and another language useful to their stud-

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ies. Instead of coursework in a second Slavic language, they complete three courses in a Related Field, another discipline that they choose. Until 2011, this is how the program was organized: They spent their first two years in coursework; they produced a 25-35 page Qualifying Paper at the end of the second year, then at the start of the third, they took Comprehensive Exams (“The Comps”) based on a preset reading list. These were six written exams, divided by era and genre (medieval, 18th century, 19th-century poetry, 19th-century prose, 20th-century poetry, 20th-century prose). Soon after, they went through an oral defense of a paper (often the Qualifying Paper). While teaching Russian during their third year, and still taking courses, they were supposed to produce a dissertation prospectus and defend it by the end of that year.

However, our students had always had trouble completing a dissertation prospectus by the end of their third year, or even the beginning of the fourth. When they only settle on a dissertation at the end of the fourth year, they cannot complete it during their five years of guaranteed funding; often even if they compete successfully for a sixth year of funding, they do not finish. With the drying up of federal funding for graduate work in general and area studies in specific, there is less of a cushion now for students to prolong their writing, and Stanford’s relatively small undergraduate enrollments mean that they cannot support themselves endlessly by teaching. Meanwhile, the Stanford humanities faculty has been involved in a nationwide discussion about the ethics of doctoral programs: if those students who spend the most time in PhD programs are the least likely to move on to an academic job, and find it more difficult to transition into employment in another field, should we faculty not try harder to shorten time to degree, to clarify expectations, identify bottlenecks and try to clear them?

As we Slavic faculty were considering these questions, a group of our PhD students came to us with suggestions about revamping the program. Rather than waiting for their third year to start teaching, they wanted to teach in their second year (as other modern language students do), which would give them more time to work on their prospectus in their third year. At the same time, they complained that the Comps did not seem to relate to their coursework: We were teaching theater, film, folklore, Russian-Jewish literature, late and post-Soviet literature, gender and philosophical approaches, all of which the students found inspirational (and productive, eventually, of dissertation projects), but were only testing them on that subsection of their coursework that neatly lined up with the Comps fields.

The students’ suggestions came at the right time to

push us into action. As the department director, I asked one of the grad students to do research on other Slavic PhD programs. The results were startling: while we were looking the other way, some of them had become more pared-down and pragmatic than us! Both Princeton and Michigan had switched to having students compile their own lists, and Northwestern and Columbia were also revising their lists. With this information in hand, I scheduled a six-hour departmental retreat to discuss the graduate program.

There we decided to take many of the students’ suggestions. We kept the Qualifying Paper, which they liked. Providing their Russian is sufficiently good, they can now teach in their second rather than their third year. We committed to teaching more in Russian and we added an oral exam in Russian to the Comps. Reorganizing the comprehensive exams by chronology instead of genre, and adding a late and post Soviet field, made us and the students better able to connect the courses to the exams. We thought hard about giving up on the reading list altogether, but we felt insufficiently Adaptive and too Retentive for that. So we decided to cut it significantly – or, rather, to boldface about a third of the items, and to promise that those were the really required ones, while leaving the other items unboldfaced but not abandoned.

At the retreat and two more department meetings, we spent hours discussing what to remove, what to boldface, what to add and boldface, and what to add but not boldface. There was little argument about some of the changes - to boldface *Slovo o Polku Igoreve* but not *Zadonshchina*, Fonvizin’s *Nedoros’* but not Sumarokov, *Oblomov* but not *Byloe i Dmy*. We added three byliny, three skazki, and texts by Chukovsky, Marshak, and Okudzhava (but not boldfaced). It was easy to not boldface some Soviet prose – Kataev, Sholokhov. We added women, including Petrushevskiaia, Ulitskaia, Tokareva, and Tatiana Tolstaia. We added more recent texts, including Sorokin, Pelevin, and Kibirov. And we added films by 35 directors, with 19 films in boldface. Given our new commitment to chronology, we reorganized the list by author’s birth date and provided the date for each text when possible.

The process was enlightening in expected and surprising ways. Having gone into the revision feeling like a champion of the Adaptive in principle, I was surprised to realize how Retentive I was in reality. I was heartened by the passion we shared about many items on the list. I was frustrated when some of us wanted to keep items on the list, but refused to commit to assigning them – but I saw that we shared the need to leave texts on the list even without requiring them, wanting to symbolically affirm not just their importance but also our mutual belief in communicating to our

students that one should read certain things, even though one will not be tested on them. The new chronological ordering of the list itself showed me that we had listed 40 writers born between 1800 and 1889, and 20 born between 1890 and 1900. What was it about that decade, or the ensuing ones?

When we originally did research on reading lists, Nancy Condee at Pitt wrote to us about their list, “The faculty (and students) agree that it is a flawed document, but it was the result of a good deal of labor and heated discussion, so we have been living with it for several years now. Hope this helps.” I laughed at her frankness, but now, of course, I feel the same way. The new list and the new system are probably better than the old ones, but we are still tinkering, especially with the schedule. I know that we all care about the texts themselves (the Retentive approach), and that we are all committed to getting our students through the program expeditiously, having learned what they need and written a dissertation that corresponds to the academic job market (the Adaptive approach). We know that the reading list and the exam structure are only one part of making that happen, but since they are a part that we can affect, we must do our best with them.

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**Boldfaced Selections from Stanford University
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
Graduate Reading List**

(The full reading list can be found here: http://www.aseees.org/sites/default/files/downloads/Stanford_Slavic_readinglist.pdf)

XX век

Анненский, Иннокентий (1856-1909)
 Двойник («Не я, и не он, и не ты...»)
 Идеал («Тупые звуки вспышек газа...»)
 Черная весна (1906)
 Перебой ритма (Сонет)
 Сологуб, Федор (1863-1927)
 «Елисавета, Елисавета...» (1902)
 Черговы качели (1907)
 Иванов, Вячеслав (1866-1949)
 Альпийский рог
 Любовь («Мы – два грозой зажженные ствола...»)
 Бальмонт, Константин (1867-1942)
 Челн томленья (1894)
 «Я мечтою ловил уходящие тени...» (1895)
 «Я в этот мир пришел, чтоб видеть Солнце...» (1902)
 Влага (1902)
 «Я – изысканность русской медлительной речи...» (1902)
 Горький, Максим (1868-1936)
 Челкаш (1895)
 Двадцать шесть и одна (1899)
 На дне (1902)
 Детство (1913)

Гиппиус, Зинаида (1869-1945)
 Песня («Окно мое высоко над землею...») (1893)
 Надпись на книге (1896)
 Швея (1901)
 Луна и туман (1902)
 А. Блоку (1918)
 Бунин, Иван (1870-1953)
 Антоновские яблоки (1900)
 Деревня (1909-1910)
 Господин из Сан-Франциско (1915)
 Митина любовь (1924)
 Брюсов, Валерий (1873-1924)
 «О, закрой свой бледные ноги...» (1894)
 Творчество (1895)
 Тени (1895)
 Юному поэту (1896)
 «По улицам узким, и в шуме, и ночью, в театрах, в садах я бродил...» (1901)
 Конь блед (1903)
 В склепе (1905)
 Холод (1906)
 «Где слог найду, чтоб описать прогулку...» (1906)
 «О, быть покинутым – какое счастье!...» (1907)
 Разговор («Маркиз гуляет с другом в цветнике...») (1907)
 В саду («Их руки были приближены...») (1907)
 «Отрадно улетать в стремительном вагоне...» (1907)
 «Светлая горница – моя пещера...» (1907)
 «Стекла стынут от холода...» (1907)
 «Двойная тень дней прошлых и грядущих...» (1907)
 «Сердце, как чаша наполненная, точит кровь...» (1908)
 «Нас было трое; я и они...» (1909)
 Белый, Андрей (1880-1934)
 Вечный зов (1-3) (1903)
 «Да не в суд или в осуждение...» (1907)
 Прости (1908)
 [Проза:] Петербург (1913-1914)
 Блок, Александр (1880-1921)
 «Предчувствую Тебя. Года проходят мимо...» (1901)
 «Свет в окошке шатался...» (1902)
 «Вхожу я в темные храмы...» (1902)
 «По городу бегал черный человек...» (1903)
 «Ты в поля отошла без возврата...» (1905)
 «Девушка пела в церковном хоре...» (1905)
 Незнакомка («По вечерам, над ресторанами...») (1906)
 Клеопатра («Открыт паноптикум печальный...») (1907)
 Поэты («За городом вырос пустынный квартал...») (1908)
 На поле куликовом (1908)
 «О доблестях, о подвигах, о славе...» (1908)
 «Как тяжело ходить среди людей...» (1910)
 Шаги командора (1910-1912)
 Голос из хора («Как часто плачем – вы и я...») (1910-1914)
 «Без слова мысль, волненье без названья...» (1911)
 «Я – Гамлет. Холодеет кровь...» (1914)
 [Поэмы:] Двенадцать (1918)
 Скифы (1918)
 [Драма:] Балаганчик (1906)
 Толстой, Алексей Н. (1882-1945)
 Гадюка (1928)
 Замятин, Евгений (1884-1937)
 Мы (1920)
 Пещера (1920)
 Хлебников, Велимир (1885-1922)
 «Бобэоби пелись губы» (1908-1909)
 Заклятие смехом (1909)
 [Др. сочинения:] Журавль (1909)
 Гумилев, Николай (1886-1921)
 Волшебная скрипка (1907)
 Памяти Анненского (1911)
 Пантум (Гончарова и Ларионов) (1917-1918)
 Заблудившийся трамвай (1919)
 Шестое чувство (1920)
 У цыган (1920)

- Ходасевич, Владислав (1886-1939)
 Баллада («Сижу, освещаемый сверху...») (1921)
 «Перешагни, перескочи...» (1921-1922)
 «Большие флаги над эстрадой...» (1922)
 Берлинское (1922)
 «Жив Бог! Умен, а не заумен...» (1923) Ахматова, Анна
 (1889-1966)
 «Память о солнце в сердце слабеет...» (1911)
 Песня последней встречи (1911)
 Прогулка (1913)
 Вечером (1913)
 «Я пришла к поэту в гости...» (1914)
 «Не с теми я, кто бросил землю...» (1922)
 Лотова жена (1924)
 Муза («Когда я ночью жду ее прихода...») (1924)
 Поэт («Он, сам себя сравнивший с конским глазом...»)
 (1936)
 «Мне ни к чему одические рати...» (1940)
 Эпиграмма («Могла ли Биче, словно Дант, творить...»)
 (1958)
 [Поэмы:] Реквием (1935-1940)
 Пастернак, Борис (1890-1960)
 «Февраль. Достать чернил и плакать!...» (1912)
 Метель («В посаде, куда ни одна нога...») (1914, 1928)
 Марбург (1916, 1928)
 Памяти Демона (1917)
 Плачущий сад (1917)
 Определение поэзии (1917)
 Гроза, моментальная навек (1917)
 Тема с вариациями (1918)
 Разрыв (1919)
 «Так начинают. Годы в два...» (1921)
 Смерть поэта (1930)
 «Мне по душе строптивый норов...» (1935)
 «Во всем мне хочется дойти...» (1956)
 «Быть знаменитым некрасиво...» (1956)
 Ночь («Идет без проволочек...») (1956)
 В больнице (1956)
 [Проза:] Детство Люверс (1918)
 Охранная грамота (1931)
 Доктор Живаго (1945-1956)
 Мандельштам, Осип (1891-1938)
 «Истончается тонкий тлен...» (1909)
 «Дано мне тело – что мне делать с ним...» (1909)
 Silentium (1910)
 «Сегодня дурной день...» (1911)
 «Отчего душа как певуча...» (1911)
 Кинематограф (1913)
 «Я не слышал рассказов Оссиана...» (1914)
 «На розвальнях, уложенных соломой...» (1916)
 «В Петрополе прозрачном мы умрем...» (1916)
 Соломинка (1916)
 «На страшной высоте блуждающий огонь...» (1918)
 «Вернись в смесительное лоно...» (1920)
 «Я слово позабыл, что я хотел сказать...» (1920)
 Грифельная ода (1923)
 «Я вернулся в мой город, знакомый до слез...» (1930)
 Ламарк (1932)
 Импрессионизм (1932)
 «Не у тебя, не у меня – у них...» (1936)
 Стихи о неизвестном солдате (1937)
 [Проза:] Шум времени (1923)
 Феодосия (1923-1924)
 Булгаков, Михаил (1891-1940)
 Дни Турбиных (1926)
 Цветаева, Марина (1892-1941)
 «Мне нравится, что Вы больны не мной...» (1915)
 Ахматовой (I: «О, Муза плача, прекраснейшая из муз...»)
 (1916)
 Ученик (7: «По холмам – круглым и смуглым...») (1921)
 «Неподражаемо лжет жизнь...» (1922)
 Деревья (1922-1923)
 Провода (1923)
 Поэты (1923)
 «Рас-стояние: версты, мили...» (1925)
 [Проза:] Мой Пушкин (1937)
 Маяковский, Владимир (1893-1930)
 Утро (1912)
 Уличное (1913)
 Из улицы в улицу (1913)
 Наш марш (1917)
 Левый марш (1918)
 [Др. сочинения:] Владимир Маяковский (1913)
 Облако в штанах (1914-1915)
 Клоп (1928-1929)
 Во весь голос (1929-1930)
 Бабель, Исаак (1894-1940)
 Одесские рассказы (1921-1924)
 Конармия (1926)
 История моей голубятии
 Пильняк, Борис (1894-1938)
 «Россия счастье. Россия свет...» (1931)
 «Стоило ли этого счастье безрассудное?..» (ок. 1950)
 Зощенко, Михаил (1895-1958)
 Аристократка (1923)
 Обезьянный язык (1925)
 Нервные люди (1925)
 Баня (1925)
 Есенин, Сергей (1895-1925)
 «Я последний поэт деревни...» (1920)
 «Не жалею, не зову, не плачу...» (1921) Олейников, Николай
 (1898-1937)
 Таракан (1934)
 Олеша, Юрий (1899-1960)
 Зависть (1927)
 Набоков, Владимир (1899-1977)
 Приглашение на казнь (1935-1936)
 Дар (1937-1938)
 Платонов, Андрей (1899-1951)
 Чевенгур (1927-1928)
 Котлован (1930)
 Джан (1935)
 Фро (1936)
 Река Потудань (1937)
 Сельвинский, Илья (1899-1968)
 Цыганский вальс на гитаре (1922)
 Вор (1922)
 Заболоцкий, Николай (1903-1958)
 Меркнут знаки Зодиака (1929)
 Ночной сад (1936)
 «Я не ишу гармонии в природе...» (1947)
 Читая стихи (1948)
 Где-то в поле возле Магадана (1956)
 Хармс, Даниил (1905-1942)
 «Все все все деревья пиф...» (1929)
 «Человек устроен из трех частей...» (1930)
 «Фадеев, Калдеев и Пепермалдеев...» (1930)
 На смерть Казимира Малевича (1935)
 Оптический обман (1934)
 Пушкин и Гоголь (1934)
 Сонет (1935)
 Вываливающиеся старухи (1936-1937)
 Голубая тетрадь № 10 (1937)
 Анекдоты из жизни Пушкина (1939)
 Старуха (1939)
 Солженицын, Александр (1918-2008)
 Один день Ивана Денисовича (1962)
 Матренин двор (1963)
 Трифонов, Юрий (1925-1981)
 Обмен (1969)
 Дом на набережной (1976)
 Синявский, Андрей [Абрам Терц] (1925-1997)
 Пхенц (ок. 1957)
 Ахмадулина, Белла (1937-2010)

Не уделяй мне много времени (1957)
 Петрушевская, Людмила (1938-)
 Свой круг (1988)
 Время ночь (1992)
 Ерофеев, Венедикт (1938-1990)
 Москва-Петушки (1970)
 Бродский, Иосиф (1940-1996)
 Песни счастливой зимы (1964)
 Речь о пролитом молоке (1967)
 Натюрморт (1971)
 На смерть Жукова (1974)
 «...и при слове «грядущее» из русского языка...» (1975)
 «Ниоткуда с любовью, надцатого мартабря...» (1975-1976)
 Представление (1986)
 Михаилу Барышникову («Раньше мы поливали газон из лейки...») (1992-1993)
 «Ты не скажешь комару...» (1993)
 Итака (1993)
 «Снаружи темнеет, верней – синеет, точней – чернеет...» (1993)
 Пригов, Дмитрий (1940-2007)
 «Когда здесь на посту стоит Милицанер...» [sic] (1976)
 «Народ, он делится на ненарод...» (1976)
 «В буфете Дома Литераторов...» (1978)
 «В полуфабрикатах достал я азу...» (1980-е гг.)
 Соколов, Саша (1943-)
 Школа для дураков (1976)
 Цветков, Алексей (1947-)
 «отверни гидрант и вода тверда...» (1980)
 «от крайней северной до восточной оконечности...» (1985)
 Кибиров, Тимур (1955-)
 Послание Сереже Гандлевскому. О некоторых аспектах нынешней социокультурной ситуации
 Сорокин, Владимир (1955-)
 Норма (1979-1983 / опубл. 1994)
 Пелевин, Виктор (1962-)
 Generation «П» (1999)

ASEEES is delighted to announce the results of the 2014 Board of Directors elections

Vice-President/President-Elect
Padraic Kenney, Director of the REEI, Director of the Polish Studies Center, and Professor of History and International Studies at Indiana U

Members-at-large:
Mary Neuburger, Professor of History, Director of the CREEES, Chair of Slavic and Eurasian Studies, and Associate Director of the EU Center for Excellence at the U of Texas, Austin

Sarah Phillips, Professor of Anthropology at Indiana U

Congratulations to Padraic Kenney, Mary Neuburger, and Sarah Phillips. We look forward to their contribution to ASEEES governance.



THE SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN AND NEAR EASTERN
Summer Language Institute
 JUNE 8 - AUGUST 14, 2015

2015 Pittsburgh Programs
 APPLICATION DEADLINE: ROLLING ADMISSION

2015 Abroad Programs
 APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 6, 2015

8-WEEK INTENSIVE PROGRAMS:

- Arabic - Beginning
- Persian (Farsi) - Beginning
- Russian - 4 levels

6-WEEK INTENSIVE PROGRAMS:

- Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian - 3 levels
- Bulgarian - Beginning
- Czech - Beginning
- Hungarian - Beginning
- Polish - Beginning and Intermediate
- Slovak - 3 levels
- Turkish - Beginning
- Ukrainian - Beginning

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- Latvian - Beginning & Intermediate
- Lithuanian - Beginning & Intermediate

*BALSSI host university for 2015 TBA

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- Pittsburgh - Bratislava, Slovakia
- Pittsburgh - Debrecen, Hungary
- Pittsburgh - Krakow, Poland
- Pittsburgh - Moscow, Russia
- Pittsburgh - Podgorica, Montenegro
- Pittsburgh - Prague, Czech Republic
- Pittsburgh - Sofia, Bulgaria

8-WEEK ABROAD PROGRAM:

- Russian - Intermediate and Advanced for ROTC students on Project GO scholarships

6-WEEK ABROAD PROGRAMS:

- Czech in Prague - Intermediate and Advanced
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Russell E. Martin, *A Bride for the Tsar: Bride-Shows and Marriage Politics in Early Modern Russia* (Northern Illinois University Press).

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Maria Rogacheva, "A History of a Town that Did Not Exist: The Soviet Scientific Intelligentsia in the Post-Stalinist Era," University of Notre Dame.

The prize winners will be recognized during the ASEEEES Annual Convention award ceremony on Saturday, November 22, 7:00pm, in San Antonio. The event is open to the public. The prize citations will be printed in the convention program.

The Department of History at Tufts University seeks a tenure-track historian at the rank of assistant professor in Russian History, beginning in the Fall 2015 semester. Specialists in all periods are welcome to apply. Candidates will be expected to teach two courses per semester, including surveys of pre-modern and modern periods, in addition to specialized courses. Ph.D. at time of hire and evidence of strong scholarly accomplishment or potential required; strong teaching experience preferred. Send letter of application, CV, a writing sample, and three letters of reference to: Professor Beatrice Manz, Search Committee Chair, via <http://apply.interfolio.com/20690>. Review of applications begins October 20, 2014 and continues until the position is filled. Tufts University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. We are committed to increasing the diversity of our faculty. Members of underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

**ASEEES 46th
Annual Convention
November 20-23, 2014
San Antonio, Texas**

<http://aseees.org/convention>

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Nov 20-22 Visual Anthropology Film Series: For a complete schedule, click here.

Nov 20 Opening Reception and Tour of the Exhibit Hall

Nov 21 Plenary: "25 Years After the Fall of the Berlin Wall: Historical Legacies and New Beginnings"

**Chair: Stephen E. Hanson, College of William & Mary
Valerie Bunce, Cornell U**

Vladimir Tismaneanu, U of Maryland, College Park

Vladislav Zubok, London School of Economics (UK)

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In Memoriam

Maurice Friedberg, who died on August 15, 2014 in Washington, D. C., belonged to the generation of scholars who, following World War II, established Slavic and Russian studies as a major campus discipline in the United States and had a notable impact on government policy toward the Soviet Union and its allies during the cold war. A Polish-born Holocaust survivor and life-long opponent of political tyranny of every hue, Friedberg believed that novels and poems matter because they exalt the human spirit and help us make sense of ourselves and the world we live in, so all those who banned, distorted, or falsified literary texts were, for him, beneath contempt and fair game for the crusading public intellectual, which is precisely what he was.

As the Head of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in 1975-2000 (and a one-time Director of the Russian and East European Center,) Friedberg was a prominent national presence in the academic and wider worlds and was frequently interviewed by the print media, radio and TV about US-Soviet relations, the dissident movement in the USSR, Poland, and elsewhere, and a plethora of other current-affairs topics. He was a Fulbright Scholar (1965-66), a Guggenheim Fellow (twice, in 1971 and 1981), and a Senior Fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities (1990-91). In the course of his four decades as a professor and scholar he accrued numerous other awards and honors, including the 2002 ASEES Distinguished Contributions Award. Friedberg's investigations covered Russian and Soviet literature, cultural transactions and transfers among the Western, Slavic, and Jewish worlds, the ideological competition between the Soviet Union and the West, and the methodologies of literary translation. His study *A Decade of Euphoria: Western Literature in Post-Soviet Russia* (1977) became a standard work on the subject as soon as it was published. It was an assigned text in Russian and comparative literature programs across the English-speaking world and, incidentally, brought down on its author the ire of Soviet propagandists, for this book showed how government censors bowdlerized the novels of foreign writers, quite without a by-your-leave or even knowledge on their part. Some of the American novelists whose works he discussed severed relations with their Soviet publishers, which pleased Friedberg to no end. He was able to visit the Soviet Union only after perestroika got rolling, for he had been a persona non grata across the Soviet Bloc: testimony to his effectiveness as an investigative scholar of the communist repression of culture. He was a wonderfully thoughtful and supportive mentor to his graduate students and junior colleagues.

His thousands of students at Illinois and before that, at Hunter College and Indiana University, and his colleagues across the country and abroad will always remember him for his intellect, warmth, good humor, and compassion for those who fight against political and cultural oppression.

Contributed by Richard Tempest, Acting Head, Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

UC Berkeley economist, **Gregory Grossman**, considered a towering figure in the study of the Soviet economy who shaped the thinking of generations of scholars, died on Aug. 14, 2014 at the age of 93, at a Berkeley care facility due to complications from a fall.

He received his undergraduate degree in economics from Berkeley in 1942 and his Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University in 1952, before returning to Berkeley, where he spent his entire career. He retired in 1993.

Grossman was born July 5, 1921, in Kiev, Ukraine. In early 1923 the family fled the post-Russian Revolution chaos and famine and took a month-long journey on the Trans-Siberian Railway to Harbin, Manchuria. After completing high school in 1937 in Tientsin, China, he boarded a Japanese ocean liner en route to attend Berkeley. During World War II, Grossman served as artillery observer with the 731st Field Artillery Battalion during the Battle of the Bulge and completed his war duty in Czechoslovakia.

Grossman's seminal 1963 article "Notes for a Theory of the Command Economy" both coined this term and identified the ways to expect economic behavior to be shaped by the formal "command" organization. The article also is said to have demonstrated why only partial reform of that system could not work. Another article, "The Second Economy of the USSR" (1977), drew the field's attention to how Soviet society worked around the restrictions of the command economy to create, purchase or sell economic goods that were not readily available in the formal economy.

Grossman conducted more than a decade of research on all aspects of this second economy, gathering evidence based on interviews with emigres from the Soviet Union. Grossman was the author of several books and many highly influential articles. He served as ASEES President in 1981; additionally, in 1991, he was awarded the Distinguished Contributions award from ASEES. Citing Grossman's works on the "command economy" and the "second economy," the award also noted his earlier, path-breaking book, *Soviet Statistics of Physical Output of Industrial Commodities* (1960), saying that the book "provided the profession with basic rules for working with distorted Soviet economic statistics and avoiding the many pitfalls of that enterprise."

Grossman was a polymath who also understood the political, ideological, social and cultural underpinnings of economic life in the Soviet Union. As a result, he was widely sought out by his peers for comments on their scholarship. Grossman's surviving spouse, Joan Delaney Grossman, a UC Berkeley professor of Slavic Studies, was President of ASEES in 1989.

Excerpted from the UC Berkeley News Center

ASEEES 47th Annual Convention, November 19–22, 2015

Philadelphia, PA

Convention Theme: FACT

Accuracy matters. Without a clear and full understanding of events current and past and their context, social trust will disappear. The “information wars” on the Internet in recent years have badly threatened precisely such trust. A surge of reports and categorical judgments, on the basis of selective, poor, or no information, has provoked an impoverishment of discussion. “Facts” circulate from blogs into politicians’ statements, and back again, acquiring authority with repetition. Despite the ease with which photographs can be edited, it is precisely photographs that often get marshaled as clinching evidence. Conversely, the word “fake” has acquired an abusive ring that brooks no argument. Yet it is no accident that both “fact” and “counterfeit” are derived from the same root Latin verb, with a range that covers both “doing” and “making”, pointing to the inevitable process of construction that takes place when events or phenomena are recorded and reviewed. As the philosopher Mary Midgley points out (*Beast and Man*, 1995), “*What counts as a fact depends on the concepts you use, on the questions you ask*” (her italics). Somewhere between the transcendent status of “truth” and the specifically professional resonance of “data,” the term “fact” requires from its users a complex but often unacknowledged process of classification, and an engagement with concepts such as “significance” alongside “accuracy” and “veracity.” As well as journalism and politics, the term is central to science and scholarship, and indeed to artistic creation (which may assert the primacy of fact, or on the other hand express its maker’s conviction that artistic truth is superior to mere reality). So the crucial issue is: how do we retain a sophisticated sense of these many ramifications of the factual, without sliding into bland generalizing relativism of a kind that plays into the hands of ideological distortions and disinformation?

Proposals for panels are invited that address conceptual dimensions of the factual, or its practical resonance, or both. For example, topics might include (without being limited to) current and past “information wars” in our region; the arguments over history and memory in post-socialist Eurasia and Eastern Europe; the practices of journalism in the region and of foreign journalism with reference to the region; the classification of evidence in different academic cultures; the borders between “fact” and “fiction” and how they are marked out and/or transcended; genre conventions of the documentary in literature and the arts; different perceptions of “useful information” among academics, policy-makers, creative artists, etc.; and the cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural applicability of the basic term (the presence across European languages of the term *fakt/fact[e]* may conceal variations in the precise understanding of the term, while terms used in other languages may have quite different semantic fields; the familiar truism from the social sciences, “The plural of anecdote is not data” begs the question of when and which evidence is in fact accepted as “data”).



General Rules for ASEEEES Convention Participation

TWO-SESSION/ONE-PAPER RULE: A convention participant **may appear on the program in no more than two sessions (panels or roundtables) and may present only one paper** (which counts as one of the two session appearances) during the convention. There are no exceptions to this rule. *Please Note: if you submit an Individual Paper proposal, it constitutes your one presentation.*

MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION RULE: All individual paper submitters and session organizers in the U.S. and abroad **must be current members of ASEEEES in order to submit a proposal** for the 2015 Convention. All participants who are in Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies in the U.S. or abroad *must* be ASEEEES members by the time of proposal acceptance. Scholars and professionals outside the field of Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies do not need to join ASEEEES, but must pre-register at the non-member rate. *All* participants on panels/roundtables *must* preregister for the Convention by the deadline and pay the registration fee. Organizers are responsible for letting panelists know about registration fees and membership rules and fees.

CV INFO: All participants must have their individual profile, including their cv/bio information, in the ASEEEES Members Site. **Ask your session participants to update or create their profile. This is essential. Do not wait until just before the submission deadline.**

SCHEDULING: If you agree to participate in the ASEEEES Convention, you agree to be scheduled during any of the planned sessions.

Rules for Individual Paper Submission

Deadline for Submissions: **January 15, 2015**

The Program Committee will consider proposals for individual papers *that are not associated with a panel*. Paper proposals will be reviewed and accepted for the conference **only if** it can be fit into a coherent panel, and if that panel is then approved by the Program Committee. Space constraints may also preclude our being able to accommodate all individual papers proposed. Acceptance rate for individual paper submissions is much lower than for panel submissions. The Program Committee strongly *urges* all scholars to use the ASEEEES website, SEELANGS, H-Russia, and other means of networking to form a full panel rather than submit an individual paper proposal. **Individual paper submitters must be current members of ASEEEES at the time of submission.** No exceptions.

DO NOT SUBMIT AN INDIVIDUAL PAPER PROPOSAL FOR A PAPER THAT IS ALREADY PART OF AN ORGANIZED PANEL, AND DO NOT SUBMIT A PROPOSAL IF YOU ARE PRESENTING ANY PAPER ON ANY OTHER PROPOSED PANEL.

Rules for Panel/Roundtable Proposal Submission

Deadline for Submissions: **February 15, 2015**

Panels entail presentation of prepared papers (distributed in advance to a discussant) on a related topic or theme, followed by structured discussion of those papers. A panel **must** have a chair, 3 paper presentations, and at least one discussant (maximum two discussants). A paper can be co-authored.

NEW: While one role per participant is strongly preferred, the chair may serve also as a discussant or a paper presenter, if necessary. However, a paper presenter cannot be a discussant on the same panel.

Roundtables entail structured discussion of a topic/theme, without the presentation of papers. Proposals for roundtables should be submitted only when the topic clearly justifies this format. A roundtable **must** have a chair and 3-5 roundtable presenters.

NEW: While one role per participant is strongly preferred, the chair may serve also as a roundtable presenter, if necessary, but in such a situation, there must be at least 4 roundtable presenters.

- Special consideration will be given to panels reporting on recent field or archival research, especially those that include presentations by junior faculty and/or advanced graduate students. Sessions with more than one disciplinary representation are strongly encouraged.
- As a rule of thumb, graduate student participants generally should be at the research-stage in their programs, and panels composed primarily of graduate students should include at least one member who has completed their terminal degree. A session made up only of students will most likely be rejected.
- Panel discussants should ideally be at the post-doctoral level. If a graduate student is designated as discussant on a panel, a second discussant at the post-doctoral level should be added to the panel. Professors may not serve as discussants for graduate students from their own departments.
- A panel/roundtable should not be made up of participants from only one institution. The presenters on a panel/roundtable must be from at least two different institutions.

With any questions, please contact:

Wendy Walker, ASEEEES Convention Coordinator • e-mail: wwalker@pitt.edu • phone: 781-235-2408

To see the complete rules go to: www.aseees.org/convention/rules

The ASEEEES 2015 Convention Proposal will open in early December 2014, when the proposal forms and online proposal site will become available on the ASEEEES website. Please check www.ASEEEES.org, for the latest information and instructions.

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The Struggle for the History Textbook in Russia

Ivan Kurilla, Volgograd State University (Russia)

After the collapse of the USSR and communist ideology that informed history teaching, the old textbooks on twentieth century Russian history were thrown away, and for a brief period Russian schoolchildren used a translated monograph by the French historian Nicolas Werth *History of the Soviet State, 1900-1991* (Moscow, Progress-Akademia, 1992).¹

Soon, however, new Russian textbooks appeared. Several independent publishers offered their own “lines” of textbooks for different grades. If some books were of low quality, both in content and appearance, others won the market and spread to thousands of schools. The Russian Ministry of Education and Science established a special expert board with the authority to recommend textbooks to schools (or reject bad books). Still, several textbooks coexisted, and teachers were the final decision-makers in textbook selection.

While the Russian state in the 1990s preferred a position of benign neglect towards history textbooks, there were public initiatives that targeted “anti-patriotic” texts. At that time a textbook on world history in the 20th century, written by Professor Alexander Kreder, was accused by veterans’ organizations and regional legislatures of diminishing the role of the USSR in World War II.² In fact, the book was intended to tell the story of the war outside the Russian-German front (that front was covered in a parallel textbook on Russian history), but the author faced the accusation of telling “a story of Americans who won the war without Russians.”³

In the early 2000s, history became more important as newly elected President Vladimir Putin decided to build a new quasi-ideology centered on the national myth of the Great Patriotic War. Since that time the Russian state has attempted to regain control over history textbooks. The first casualty of the struggle was a textbook by Igor Dolutsky that challenged high school students by including a provocative assessment of Vladimir Putin’s regime by two opposition figures. In 2004, the Ministry of Education and Science excluded that textbook from a recommended list, and it subsequently disappeared from classrooms.

In 2007, President Putin endorsed another school textbook that provided pupils with an “official” view of recent Russian history. The main purpose of the book, *History of Russia, 1945-2007* (by Alexander Filippov, Alexander

Danilov, and Anatoly Utkin), was to eliminate from schools any particularly harsh criticism of the regimes that existed in twentieth-century Russia and the USSR.⁴ Critical assessments were “counterbalanced” by lists of positive achievements.

Since then, Putin and his associates have repeatedly insisted that educating a “patriot” of the country requires the teaching of a heroic history, and that dark pages of the national past are not proper subjects for school textbooks. Many historians and human rights activists have condemned this position.

The latest wave of the fight over the history textbook started in February 2013 when President Putin declared the need to establish a “unified” (“edinyi”) textbook that would give a single account of Russia history. Putin and other Russian state officials explained two main reasons for the move: the need to control regional history textbooks (sometimes they included interpretations of historical events that contradicted national narratives); and the need to help teachers and pupils who presumably suffered from too varied a choice of textbooks and historical interpretations.⁵

The gravity of the situation increased during the winter of 2012-13 when investigative scholars discovered a fraud ring in the dissertation council at Moscow State Pedagogical University. The Ministry of Education and Science was forced to close the council and fire its head, Alexander Danilov, who was at the same time co-author of almost all the school textbooks on Russian history published by “Prosveshchenie,” the oldest and the biggest publisher of school textbooks.

One of the obstacles the state faced in previous efforts to create “state-sanctioned” history textbooks was academic historians’ resistance to the inclusion of propagandistic content in the books. By early 2013, two state-sponsored historical societies formed a commission to work on a new textbook. Specifically, the Russian Historical Society (headed by State Duma Chairman Sergey Naryshkin, who does not have a higher degree in history, and who had served earlier as the head of the “Commission to Counter Attempts to Falsify History to the Detriment of Russia’s Interests”) and the Russian Society for Military History (headed by Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky, who was famous for his public calls to replace history with patriotic myths) were called upon

to outline the concepts to be included in the new textbook. Additionally, several state officials and high-ranking historians such as Alexander Chubarian, director of the Institute of World History of the Russian Academy of Sciences, contributed to the commission. Chubarian reportedly made an effort to craft more measured initial drafts. Furthermore, he insisted that the commission's goal was not to create a "unified textbook" but to "discuss the situation of history education in schools as a whole."⁶ His colleague, director of the Institute of Russian history Yurii Petrov, repeatedly claimed that "a unified textbook does not mean the only one."⁷

In the fall of 2013 the group released a "historico-cultural standard" that must form the basis for future textbooks.⁸ The standard is not yet a textbook; it contains not the narrative itself but the key points that must be included and analyzed in the text. The standard was criticized for keeping political history at the center of the narrative, while leaving culture, everyday life, and microhistorical topics in the margins. There are also many critics of the tempered description of the Stalin epoch. Many other historians insisted that the standard is not bad per se; it could not make existing school textbooks any worse. However, the problem remains that the declared goal is to establish the textbook as the indisputable account of 20th century Russian history. A new textbook will be selected and sent to schools in September 2015.

Most critics of the future textbook consider it an attempt to re-establish an official ideology in Russia. However, there are also other interpretations. For example, some analysts link the move to a unified history textbook to the business interest of the Putin's close associate, Arkady Rotenberg, whose holding company (reportedly) purchased "Prosveshchenie," the main publisher of school textbooks, in the fall of 2013. If this criticism is valid, then creation of a

state-sanctioned textbook could well be an attempt to create a monopoly for the new proprietor.

The heated debate over the "unified textbook" was added to several other stories disturbing historians in Russia, namely, stories revealing networks of plagiarized dissertations, and attempts by the Russian Parliament to limit freedom of historical research, most visible with the adoption of an amendment to the Russian Criminal Code in May 2014 that criminalized "Rehabilitation of Nazism" (vague formulations of the law made free historical inquiry into WWII a risky endeavor).⁹ All of that had one unintended consequence: state activity in the field of history finally created an incentive among some historians to build their own professional network, and on the last day of February 2014, sixteen Russian historians established an independent "Free Historical Society." Among the founders of the Society are two corresponding members of Russian Academy of Science, Askold Ivanchik (leading historian of antiquities and the editor of reputable journal *Vestnik drevnei istorii*); Pavel Uvarov (leading Russian medievalist and the editor of the journal *Srednie veka*); the head of the State Archives of Russia Sergey Mironenko; Cambridge professor Alexander Etkind, and several other well-regarded historians.¹⁰

Among the goals of the new organization is the defense of academic freedoms against any encroachment. The total propagandistic offensive by the state during spring and summer of 2014 left historians with little room to react. In fact the only available method was open protest; however, the Society's protests against the firing of professor Andrei Zubov from Moscow State University of International Relations (MGIMO) for his harsh criticism of Putin's decision on Crimea,¹¹ against the Law on "Rehabilitation of Nazism,"¹² and anti-war address of early March 2014,¹³ were widely discussed by colleagues.

The latest news from the political Olympus demonstrates that the historians' criticisms of the unified textbook have already had an impact: On August 27, 2014, Minister of Education and Science Dmitrii Livanov announced that "most likely, there will be no unified textbook, just [an] historico-cultural standard as the basis for new texts."¹⁴ State Duma Deputy Vladimir Burmatov (who had been one of the first politicians in Russia accused of plagiarizing his dissertation and, since that time, started a personal vendetta against the Ministry of Education and Science) immediately attacked Livanov for his "failure to fulfill the presidential order."¹⁵ The next day, Vladimir Putin himself, while talking to young teachers and professors of history, political science and sociology at a youth forum on Lake Seliger reminded those present that "we need to have the canonic point of view" of

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history.¹⁶ Still, the scenario that all historians considered the worst seems to have been abated by this less damaging, while still far from optimal, plan. Hopefully, with a less turbulent period ahead, the independent historians' network will be in place to alter the course of writing and teaching history in Russia.

Ivan Kurilla is a Professor of History at Volgograd State University in Russia.

(Endnotes)

- 1 Vert N. *Istoriya sovetского gosudarstva*, 1900-1991. (Moscow: Progress-Akademia, 1992). Translated from: Nicolas Werth. *Histoire de L'Union Soviétique*. 1900—1991. (Paris Presses Universitaires de France. 1990).
- 2 Kreder A.A. *Noveishaya istoriya zarubezhnykh stran, 1914-1997*. (Modern History of the Foreign Countries, 1914-1997). Textbook. Moscow, 1998.
- 3 See: Rachkova O., Danshin V. "Uchebnik noveishei istorii popal v istoriyu" (Modern History textbook went down in history). *Kommersant*. 1997. October 31. <http://www.kommersant.ru/doc/186904>; "Professor of Moscow University Georgii Alexeev believes that "the third part of new Russian history textbooks were written in accordance to George Soros foundation" // <http://old.za-nauku.ru/?mode=text&id=677&PHPSESSID=ca454bc13040d7173b43d4ae62f282b9>
- 4 Danilov A., Filippov A., Utkin A. *Istoriya Rossii, 1945-2007*. Moscow, 2008.
- 5 Official translation of Putin's proposal uses term "common history textbook", but it does not seem an equivalent translation. See: *Meeting of Council for Interethnic Relations*. February 19, 2013. President of Russia <http://eng.kremlin.ru/news/5017>
- 6 Alexandr Chubarian – o edinom uchebnike istorii Rossii (Alexandr Chubarian speaks on the unified Russian history textbook) // *TV channel Culture*. March 4, 2013 http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/79561.
- 7 Lemutkina M. Edinyi uchebnik istorii pridet v shkoly uzhe cherez paru let (Unified history Textbook will Come to School within Two Years) // *Moskovskii komsomolets*. March 4, 2013. <http://www.mk.ru/social/2013/03/04/821219-edinyiy-uchebnik-istorii-pridet-v-shkoly-uzhe-cheraz-paru-let.html>
- 8 See the text of the draft standard: <http://минобрнауки.рф/документы/3483>
- 9 See for details: Kurilla I., The Implications of Russia's Law against the "Rehabilitation of Nazism". *PONARS Eurasia Policy Memo* 331. http://www.ponarseurasia.org/memo/201408_Kurilla
- 10 The full list of the founders and the first Manifesto of the Society may be found here: http://polit.ru/article/2014/03/03/manifesto_vio/
- 11 http://polit.ru/article/2014/03/27/vio_about_zubov/
- 12 http://polit.ru/article/2014/04/28/vio_280414/
- 13 <http://polit.ru/news/2014/03/05/rosukr/>
- 14 Minobrnauki otkazalos ot idei vvedenia edinogo uchebnika istorii (Ministry of education and science abandoned the plan to introduce unified history textbook) // *RIA Novosti*, August 27, 2014. <http://ria.ru/society/20140827/1021587921.html>
- 15 <http://er-duma.ru/press/64288>
- 16 Seliger 2014 National Youth Forum // President of Russia. August 29, 2014. <http://kremlin.ru/news/46507>

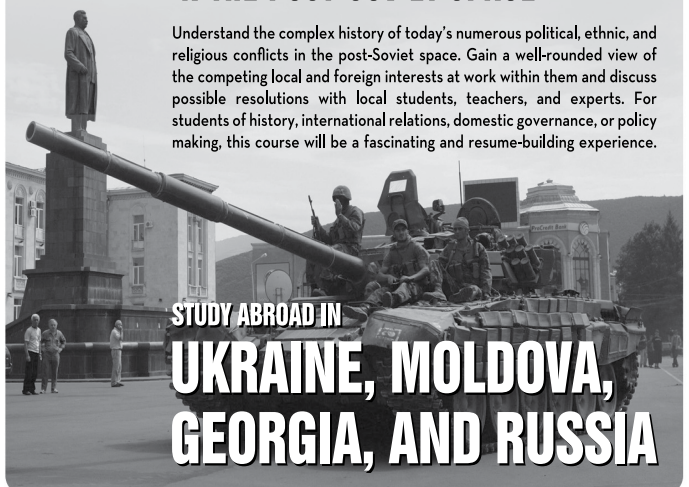
WILLIAMS COLLEGE HIRING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN

The Department of German & Russian invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor of Russian (tenure-track) beginning July 1, 2015. Qualified candidates must be able to teach Russian language at all levels, Russian literature and culture, and Comparative Literature. While the area of specialization is open, the department has particular interest in candidates who can offer cross-disciplinary courses in the humanities and social sciences that address Russia and Eurasia more broadly, so that they not only support but also expand the department's existing curriculum. Native or near-native proficiency in the language is required; the Ph.D. should be in hand by the date of appointment. Application deadline: December 1, 2014. Preliminary interviews will be held at the Vancouver MLA/ATSEEL conferences in January 2015. For initial application, submit cover letter, CV, 3-4 letters of reference, 2 sample syllabi (for 1 Russian lang and 1 lit course), and graduate school transcripts. Queries should be directed to Julie.A.Cassiday@williams.edu All materials must be submitted through Interfolio: <http://apply.interfolio.com/25695> Fax and e-mail applications will not be accepted. All offers of employment are contingent upon completion of a background check.

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Member Spotlight

Paula Michaels, Monash University (Australia)

Paula Michaels is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of History at Monash University in Australia.

When did you first develop an interest in Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies?

I grew up in the Brighton Beach neighborhood in Brooklyn and, though my family was not part of that émigré community, Russian was spoken all around us. When I went off to college I had to take a foreign language and I decided to study Russian. It was the early 1980s—Ronald Reagan, evil empire and all that. Russian seemed exotic, yet practical. I had a wonderful first-year Russian teacher and fell in love with the language, which led me to the history. I couldn't get enough of it and I've been at it ever since.

How have your interests changed since then?

They've broadened out from what started off as an interest in Russia proper to a much wider geographic frame. When I was a senior in college I took a Middle East history class and it was revelatory. In graduate school I decided to focus on Soviet Central Asia as a way to bridge my newfound interest in the Muslim world with my Russian Studies background.

Thematically, my interests have expanded as well. I started off very interested in women's history, then turned to history of medicine, though women's history has remained an important thread in my research. Since I published my first book, on medicine and public health in Soviet Kazakhstan, I have found myself drawn in a number of directions, writing on film history and ethnohistory, among other topics. But, even as my thematic interests and methodological approaches diversify, the history of Russia and Central Asia continues to excite me.

What is your current research project?

After nine years of work, including archival research in five countries, I've just wrapped up a book called *Lamaze: An International History* (Oxford University Press, 2014), which traces one method of natural childbirth from its origins in the USSR in the 1940s, to France in the 1950s, and to the United States in the 1960s and 1970s. In the course of doing that project, I encountered the work of British physician Grantly Dick-Read who, in 1933, coined the term "natural childbirth." I'm working now on a book that puts Dick-Read at the heart of a transnational history.

A second project I'm getting off the ground is also transnational, but allows me to return to some degree to my roots as a Central Asianist. That book will explore the Soviet Union's activism in the realm of medical diplomacy, the use of medicine and medical cadres as instruments of "soft power" on

the international stage. Given Central Asia's positioning as a showcase to the developing world of the USSR's accomplishments, it was front and center in the effort to use, for example, medical education to promote warm relations with Asia and Africa.

What do you value about your ASEES membership?

I appreciate ASEES' advocacy to sustain governmental support for the work we do. I also value the annual meeting for professional development, networking, and socializing. It is my favorite conference, the one that I go to year in and year out. It's a great chance to catch up with old friends, make new ones, and stay current in the latest research on a broad range of topics.

Besides your professional work, what other interests and/or hobbies do you enjoy?

Having moved to Australia in 2013, I'd like to report that I've taken up surfing. The fact that my hobbies are, in fact, book-binding and knitting should tell you all you need to know about why I cannot make that claim. I am a big film buff and have been thoroughly enjoying the great film scene that Melbourne has to offer.



Lamaze: An International History (Oxford, 2014) was short-listed for the New South Wales Premier's Prize in History. The judges described it as "a wonderful example of imaginative research ... not only connecting the histories of countries but also of science, medicine, popular culture and political ideology."



Personages

Ronald Bobroff has returned to his teaching responsibilities as associate professor of history at Oglethorpe University. He has also begun work there as the Director of the Center for Global Education.

This fall, the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies will host a prestigious group of scholars who will gather around the theme of “Jews and Empires.” Led by Mikhail Krutikov, Professor of Slavic and Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, the group will offer a broad range of events to the public, including lectures and symposia. The 2014-215 cohort of Frankel Institute Fellows includes:

- Sara Feldman**, University of Michigan
- Zvi Gitelman**, University of Michigan
- Mikhail Krutikov**, University of Michigan
- Jindrich Toman**, University of Michigan
- Jeffrey Veidlinger**, University of Michigan
- Deborah Yalen**, Colorado State University

Kathryn Graber was hired as Assistant Professor of Anthropology and of Central Eurasian Studies at Indiana University.

Theocharis Grigoriadis is now an Assistant Professor of Economics and East European Studies at Freie Universitaet Berlin.

Mikhail Krutikov was promoted to the rank of professor at the University of Michigan.

Dawn Seckler is now University of Pittsburgh REES Acting Associate Director. Since 2012, Dawn had been coordinating REES’s major Department of Defense-funded Project GO program and the Center’s new Study Abroad Consortium for East Europe and Eurasia (SACEEE). Following upon her success with these programs, she soon became involved in an expanding number of other REES activities and initiatives. Her move to the position of Acting Associate Director will further increase her responsibilities to include personnel management, directing REES’s language-related programming, coordinating new initiatives with Community Colleges, working with potential funders and donors and representing the Center at various meetings and events. As if all that were not enough, Dawn is also the new Executive Director of SLI and will be working closely with the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures to ensure the continuing success of this critical program.

Jeffrey Veidlinger received the 2014 Canadian Jewish Book Award for his book *In the Shadow of the Shtetl: Small-Town Jewish Life in Soviet Ukraine*.



Tara Zahra, Professor of East European History, Department of History at the University of Chicago, was awarded a MacArthur Genius Grant. Zahra is a historian who is challenging the way we view the development of the concepts of nation, family, and ethnicity and painting a more integra-

tive picture of twentieth-century European history. With conceptual and empirical rigor, Zahra’s writings combine broad sociohistorical analysis with extensive archival work across a wide range of locales. See more at: <http://www.macfound.org/fellows/926/#sthash.YJ8AxlJ.dpuf>

FORTHCOMING IN *SLAVIC REVIEW* WINTER 2014

PLATONOV’S TURKMENIA

Nariman Skakov, Special Section Guest Editor

Introduction: Andrei Platonov, an Engineer of the Human Soul

by Nariman Skakov

“The Dialectics of Nature in Kara-Kum”: Andrei Platonov’s Dzhan as the Environmental History of a Future Utopia

by Mieka Erley

“The Mountain of the Mind”: The Politics of the Gaze in Andrei Platonov’s Dzhan

by Philip Ross Bullock

Soul Incorporated

by Nariman Skakov

Afterword

by Eric Naiman

ARTICLES

The Diaristic Form and Subjectivity under Khrushchev

by Anatoly Pinsky

Images of the Nation Foreseen: Ivan Meštrović’s Vidovdan Temple and Primordial Yugoslavism

by Aleksandar Ignjatović

Stalin’s Answer to the National Question: A Case Study on the Editing of the 1938 Short Course

by David Brandenberger and Mikhail V. Zelenov

The Witches of Wilno: Constant Litigation and Conflict Resolution

by David Frick



Publications

Theocharis Grigoriadis has authored: *Aid in Transition: EU Development Cooperation with Russia and Eurasia* (Springer, 2015).

Rusko Matulic has published the third volume of *Bibliography of Sources on the Region of Former Yugoslavia* (Xlibris, 2014), which is comprised of eight thousand entries. Matulic also authored *FEB 1944 - El Shatt Egypt - NOV 1948*, which is a short memoir of Yugoslav refugees during WWII whom no country wanted. The memoir was also published by Xlibris in June 2014.

The fourth edition of *Comparative Politics: Interests, Identities, and Institutions in a Changing Global Order*, edited by Jeffrey Kopstein, Mark Lichbach, Stephen E. Hanson, was recently published by Cambridge University Press. Additional contributors include: Peter Rutland, Laurence McFalls, Andrew C. Gould, Miranda A. Schreurs, Yu-Shan Wu, Anthony Gill, Rudra Sil, Vali Nasr, Antoinette Handley, Paulette Kurzer, and Okechukwu C. Iheduru.

The book provides twelve case studies combining insights of cutting-edge institutional analysis and deep study of national histories, which explore how the concepts of interests, identities, and institutions shape the politics of nations and regions. The country studies trace the global and historical contexts of political development and examine the diverse pathways that countries have taken in their quest to adapt to the competitive pressures of twenty first century globalization. These country studies constitute the overarching framework of the text, addressing the larger question, “why are countries ruled and governed so differently?” *Comparative Politics* inspires thought-provoking debate among introductory students and specialists alike, and encourages students to engage in real comparative analysis. In this new edition, all twelve country studies are rewritten, and the first two theory chapters are updated to reflect the latest research in the field.

Cultivating the Masses: Modern State Practices and Soviet Socialism, 1914-1939 (Cornell University Press, 2011) by David L. Hoffmann, has just been issued in a paperback edition.

Stanford University Press announces the upcoming release of *Globalizing Knowledge: Intellectuals, Universities, and Publics in Transformation*, by Michael D. Kennedy.

Globalizing Knowledge introduces the stakes of globalizing knowledge before examining how intellectuals and their institutions and networks shape and are shaped by globalization and world-historical events from 2001 through the uprisings of 2011–13. But Kennedy is not only concerned with elaborating how wisdom is maintained and transmitted, he also asks how we can recognize both interconnectedness and inequalities, and possibilities for more knowledgeable change within and beyond academic circles. Subsequent chapters are devoted to issues of public engagement, the importance of recognizing difference

and the local’s implication in the global, and the specific ways in which knowledge, images, and symbols are shared globally. Kennedy considers numerous case studies, from historical happenings in Poland, Kosovo, Ukraine, and Afghanistan, to today’s energy crisis, Pussy Riot, the Occupy Movement, and beyond, to illuminate how knowledge functions and might be used to affect good in the world.

The fourth edition of *High Society Dinner: Dining in Tsarist Russia* by Yuri Lotman and Jelena Pogosjan, was recently published by Prospect Books (2014). *High Society Dinners* offers insight into the domestic arrangements of the Russian aristocracy, presenting nine months’ worth of menus served in St Petersburg to the guests of Petr Durnovo (1835–1918), Adjutant-General of the Tsar’s Imperial Suite, part of an important late-19th-century dynasty that included ministers and high officials. The menus themselves would be useful enough for what they reveal about culinary culture in Russia, but Lotman’s commentary dissects the dining rituals and the social circles of the participants. Durnovo’s menus and guest lists, interspersed with extracts from family letters and the leading newspapers and journals of the day, set in context the domestic and gastronomic underpinnings of life in this group at the heart of the Russian empire.

The Russian has been translated by Marian Schwartz, and the book is annotated and introduced by Darra Goldstein and Harriet M. Adsit. The book is illustrated with paintings and photographs that give a sense of the high society milieu in mid-nineteenth-century Russia.

In Midnight at the Pera Palace: The Birth of Modern Istanbul (W.W. Norton, 2014), by Charles King brings to life a remarkable era when the city of Istanbul stumbled into the modern world and reshaped the meaning of cosmopolitanism.

At midnight, December 31, 1925, citizens of the newly proclaimed Turkish Republic celebrated the New Year. For the first time ever, they had agreed to use a nationally unified calendar and clock. Yet in Istanbul—an ancient crossroads and Turkey’s largest city—people were looking toward an uncertain future. Never purely Turkish, Istanbul was home to generations of Greeks, Armenians, and Jews, as well as Muslims. It welcomed White Russian nobles ousted by the Russian Revolution, Bolshevik assassins on the trail of the exiled Leon Trotsky, German professors, British diplomats, and American entrepreneurs—a multicultural panoply of performers and poets, do-gooders and ne’er-do-wells.

Leuven University Press recently published: *On the Very Edge Modernism and Modernity in the Arts and Architecture of Interwar Serbia (1918–1941)*, with Jelena Bogdanović, Lilien Filipovitch Robinson, Igor Marjanović (eds). *On the Very Edge* brings together empirical and comparative essays about the production,

perception, and reception of modernity and modernism in the visual arts, architecture, and literature of interwar Serbia (1918–1941). The contributions highlight some idiosyncratic features of modernist processes in this complex period in Serbian arts and society, which emerged “on the very edge” between territorial and cultural, new and old, modern and traditional identities. This book reveals a vibrant and intertwined artistic scene, which, announced interests in pluralism and globalism. *On the Very Edge* addresses issues of artistic identities and cultural geographies and aims to enrich contextualized studies of modernism and its variants in the Balkans and Europe, while simultaneously re-mapping and adjusting the prevailing historical canon.

Nation Building in the Baltic States: Transforming Governance, Social Welfare, and Security in Northern Europe (CRC Press, 2014), was authored by Gundar King and David McNabb.

Broadview recently published *Notes from the Underground* in a new translation by Kirsten Lodge. This translation renders Dostoevsky’s work in readable and idiomatic contemporary English. As well as the full text and an informative introduction, this edition provides background materials that offer personal and intellectual context for the work.

Piano Makers in Russia in the Nineteenth Century by Anne Swartz (Lehigh University Press, 2014) illuminates the extent to which the state provided financial support for the fledgling piano industry and paved the way for artists in the modern era.

Putin and the Oligarch: The Khodorkovsky-Yukos Affair, by Richard Sakwa, was published by IB Tauris in 2014.

The arrest of Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the head of the Yukos oil company, on 25 October 2003, was a key turning point in modern Russian history. Sakwa analyzes Russia’s emergence as an energy superpower, and considers the question of the “natural resource curse” and the use of energy rents to bolster Russia as a great power and to maintain the autonomy of the regime. Crucially this book also examines the relationship between Putin’s state and big business during Russia’s traumatic shift from the Soviet planned economy to the market system. It is a detailed analysis of a dramatic confrontation between economic and political power in our era, full of human drama and moral dilemmas. It is also a study of political economy, with the market and state coming into confrontation. The “Yukos affair” continues to shape contemporary Russian politics. It traces the struggles of the Putin era as two visions of society came into conflict. The attack on Khodorkovsky had - and continues to have - far-reaching political and economic consequences but it also raises fundamental questions about the quality of freedom in Russia as well as in the world at large.

Tri kvadrata announces the publication of *Smolensk: Architectural Heritage in Photographs*, volume fourteen in the “Discovering Russia” series, originally established with the support of the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Stud-

ies. The text and photographs are by William Craft Brumfield.

The volume begins with a description of the city’s history and its reflection in architecture. The Smolensk text includes a survey of the city’s turbulent history in the 20th century and its rebuilding after the Second World War. Noted in this section is the Katyn Memorial, a joint Polish-Russian project erected on the execution site of over 4,000 Polish prisoners-of-war in 1940. The text section concludes with an essay on the Talashkino estate. The work concludes with 98 photographs related to the text.

Jan C. Behrends and Thomas Lindenberger are the editors of *Underground Publishing and the Public Sphere* *Ankündigung Transnational Perspectives* (Lit Verlag, 2014).

Censorship and its counterpart, the “underground” production and distribution of printed texts and images, existed ever since a “public sphere” came into being. The volume approaches this phenomenon by covering cases from the Tsarist Empire, the Soviet Union, Central Europe, South America and China. In a long-term as well as global perspective, the well-known practise of samizdat under communist rule may be understood as part of a long tradition of underground publishing still relevant today in places like Russia, Iran, or China.

Valentin Fëdorovich Bulgakov, V spore s Tolstym: Na vesakh zhizni i drugie materialy was edited and compiled by Andrew Donskov, together with Liudmila Gladkova and Arkadi Klioutchanski. It was published by the Slavic Research Group at the University of Ottawa, in conjunction with the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art and the State L. N. Tolstoy Museum in Moscow. *V spore s Tolstym* sets forth Bulgakov’s evolving polemic with Tolstoy’s legacy, which escalated twice — first, following his exile from Russia to Prague in 1923 and, again, after his return to the Soviet Union in 1948. As for Tolstaya’s letters to Bulgakov, each document was compared with its original: discrepancies were corrected, deleted passages were restored, newly discovered letters were included and all were integrated with Bulgakov’s previously unpublished letters to her. This collection offers an opportunity to track the relationships of these kindred spirits as they evolved over the decades, to follow their conversations on the major issues of the day, and to gain new insights into the more delicate nuances of their characters. The publication also includes letters written to Bulgakov by various Doukhobors in Canada, from the 1930s to the 1960s. These are indicative of the considerable authority Bulgakov enjoyed among this emigrant group.

NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

Ber Kotlerman. *Disenchanted Tailor in "Illusion": Sholem Aleichem behind the Scenes of Early Jewish Cinema, 1913–16*, 398 p., 2014 (ISBN 978-0-89357-418-5), \$34.95.

Until now the story of Sholem Aleichem's "cinema obsession" has been virtually unknown. By reconstructing the famous writer's contacts with the world of cinema in Europe, Russia, and the US, this monograph sheds new light on his life and work, and on the background of early Jewish cinematography.

Seth L. Wolitz. *Yiddish Modernism: Studies in Twentieth-Century Eastern European Jewish Culture*, ed. Brian Horowitz and Haim A. Gottschalk, 489 p., 2014 (ISBN 978-0-89357-386-7), \$39.95.

In the first decades of the 20th century Yiddish-speaking writers and artists from Moscow to New York to Buenos Aires created a vibrant avant-garde that transformed Eastern European Jewish culture into the most contemporary of living European cultures and demonstrated the vitality of Jewish secularism. Seth Wolitz played a formidable role in recovering this lost culture, which he terms Yiddish Modernism. This volume of selected studies, articles, and creative interpretations from the last 30 years of

Wolitz's scholarly career brings to life the art, literature, and Weltanschauung of those who believed that *yidishkeyt* as a movement in art, literature, and poetry could change the world.

Michael S. Flier, David J. Birnbaum, and Cynthia M. Vakareliyska, eds. *Philology Broad and Deep: In Memoriam Horace Gray Lunt*, 402 p., 2014 (ISBN 978-0-89357-398-0), \$34.95.

Lunt, one of the leading Slavic philologists of his time, spent his entire academic career at Harvard (1949–89), where he helped to train generations of graduate students in Slavic linguistics and philology. The present volume contains 21 essays by his former students and colleagues that reflect his own devotion to philology, linguistics, and medieval studies, and confirm his enduring influence on those he taught and mentored.



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Announcements submitted to all regular columns are published free of charge. NewsNet frequently publishes unsolicited material. All submissions should be e-mailed to: newsnet@pitt.edu

Deadlines for submissions (ads, articles, announcements)

January issue—1 Dec;

March issue—1 Feb;

June issue—1 May;

August issue—5 July;

October issue—1 Sept



Kritika is dedicated to critical inquiry into the history of Russia and Eurasia. The quarterly journal features research articles as well as analytical review essays and extensive book reviews, especially of works in languages other than English. Subscriptions and previously published volumes available from Slavica. \$95 institutions; \$40 individuals; \$30 students and gifts to Russia and Eastern Europe. Contact our business manager at slavica@indiana.com for all questions regarding subscriptions, including eligibility for discounts.

Vol. 15, no. 3 (Summer 2014)

IN THE SHADOW OF THE HOLOCAUST SOVIET JEWRY ON THE EASTERN FRONT

Articles

ANNA SHTERNISH

Between Life and Death

VLADIMIR SOLONARI

Hating Soviets—Killing Jews

ANIKA WÄLKE

Jewish Youth in the Minsk Ghetto

ARKADI ZELTSEV

Differing Views among Red Army Personnel about the Nazi Mass Murder of Jews

Reaction by JAN T. GROSS

History and Historians

VICTORIA SMOLKIN-ROTHROCK

"The Confession of an Atheist Who Became a Scholar of Religion"

Review Essays

MARK GAMSA

Cities and Identity, War, and Memory in the Baltic Region

POLLY JONES

Socialist Worlds of Dissent and Discontent after Stalinism

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Institutional Member News

AMERICAN COUNCILS

CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) program is part of a U.S. government effort to expand dramatically the number of Americans studying and mastering critical need foreign languages. CLS institutes provide fully-funded group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences for seven to ten weeks for U.S. citizen undergraduate and graduate students.

The CLS program offers intensive summer language institutes in 13 critical foreign languages. The selection process is administered by American Councils for International Education with awards approved by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The CLS program is administered by American Councils and The Ohio State University / Ohio University.

Deadline Date: November 15, 2014

To apply: <http://www.clscholarship.org>

THE KENNAN INSTITUTE AT THE WILSON CENTER New Staff at the Kennan Institute

The Kennan Institute is pleased to welcome Izabella Tabarovsky as our new Manager for Regional Engagement. Ms. Tabarovsky previously led the implementation of the Euro-Atlantic Security-Next Generation initiative (EASI Next Generation) at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. She has over 15 years of experience engaging with Russia, Ukraine, and the broader post-Soviet space through a variety of organizations, including policy research and academic institutions, private sector, and the media.

Grant Opportunities

KENNAN INSTITUTE TITLE VIII SHORT-TERM GRANTS

The Kennan Institute offers Short-Term Grants to scholars whose research in the social sciences or humanities focuses on the former Soviet Union (excluding the Baltic States), and who demonstrate a particular need to utilize the library, archival, and other specialized resources of the Washington, D.C. area. Policy-relevant research is preferred. Academic participants must either possess a doctoral degree or be doctoral candidates who have nearly completed their dissertations. For non-academics, an equivalent degree of professional achievement is expected.

Short-Term Grants provide a stipend of \$3,200 for 31 days. While the Kennan Institute cannot provide office space for Short-Term scholars, we do provide a carrel with a computer and internet access. Travel and accommodation expenses are not directly covered by this grant. There is no official application form for Short-Term Grants. The applicant is requested to submit a concise description (700-800 words) of his or her

research project (including a title), curriculum vitae, a statement on preferred dates of residence in Washington, D.C., and two letters of recommendation specifically in support of the research to be conducted at the Kennan Institute. Please note, the recommendation letters must be signed. Applicants should also state their citizenship status in their materials. All of these materials may be submitted via e-mail. Please note that the letters of recommendation, if sent by email, must be sent directly from the referee and be a scan of a signed letter. Referees are also welcome to send their signed letters by fax or post.

Grant recipients are required to be in residence in Washington, D.C. for the duration of their grant and give a presentation. Four rounds of competitive selection for Short-Term Grants are held each year. The next closing date is December 1, 2014. Applicants are notified of the competition results roughly seven weeks after the closing date. Awardees must provide at least one month notification before beginning their grant. Only U.S. citizens are currently eligible for Short-Term Grants.

Scholars in Residence

Each year, the Kennan Institute sponsors between 30-40 scholars to conduct humanities, social science, and policy research in Washington, D.C. Grant opportunities include Title VIII Summer Research and Short-Term Scholarships, Fulbright-Kennan Scholarships, Public Policy Scholarships, and Starovoitova Scholarships. The Kennan Institute welcomes the following scholars in the coming months:

Fulbright-Kennan Institute Research Scholar

Andis Kudors, Executive Director, Centre for East European Policy Studies. "The Russian Orthodox Church as a Promoter of Traditional Values in the International Arena."

Public Policy Scholars

Jill Dougherty, Former CNN Foreign Affairs Correspondent. "Putin's Attempts to Control the Russian Media and Use his Nation's Soft Power."

Ambassador William H. Hill, Professor, National War College. "Post-Cold War Euro-Atlantic Security Institutions."

Michael Kofman, Program Manager and Research Fellow, Center for Strategic Research, Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS), National Defense University. "Russia Foreign Policy: The New Normal in Russian-Western Relations."

SLAVIC REFERENCE SERVICE NOW OFFERS ONLINE BIBLIOGRAPHIC INSTRUCTION SESSIONS

The University of Illinois Slavic Reference Service is excited to offer online bibliographic instruction sessions via Blackboard Collaborate. These sessions are designed to provide our patrons with in-depth consultations on all subjects and regions

affiliated with Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. This free service is open to all ASEES members, students, independent scholars, teaching faculty, government employees, teachers, and librarians. To set up a consultation session, please complete the online form at <https://illinois.edu/fb/sec/9156069>. Please contact the Slavic Reference Service [<http://www.library.illinois.edu/spx/srs.html>] with questions regarding this service.

12TH GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM ON SLAVIC LINGUISTICS

The Slavic Linguistics Forum and the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures are pleased to announce the Twelfth Graduate Colloquium on Slavic Linguistics. The colloquium will take place on November 15, 2014, at the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, OH.

We encourage students working in both formal and functional frameworks to participate in this event. Interdisciplinary projects from the students in related fields such as anthropology, sociology, psychology, and comparative studies are welcome, as far as they are related to Slavic and East European languages. Accommodations with local graduate students will be available.

CFP: CENTRIFUGAL FORCES: READING RUSSIA'S REGIONAL IDENTITIES AND INITIATIVES

University of Virginia, March 26-28, 2015

Contemporary Russia has been described as a “country of broken links,” where much of the financial and intellectual wealth of the country is centered in Moscow and Moscow Re-

gion (with a population of nearly 20 million), while the rest of the country (another 123 million people) remain unheard and underestimated. At first glance, Russia's regions often appear to mimic Moscow in all sorts of ways—politically, visually, architecturally, and intellectually... Until they don't—for example, in the 2010 census thousands of Siberians protested the impact of the center by self-identifying as “Sibriak.” Blogs, tweets, as well as conventional hard-copy writing, challenge overly centralized power and resources. Legal challenges to maltreatment from Moscow have arisen in the South Russian-North Caucasus region. Ethnographers, literary scholars, cultural historians, political scientists, anthropologists—all are finding that many people in Russia's regions are taking initiative and articulating their particular identities and interests.

Proposals for “Centrifugal Forces” will resist “Moscow-centric” perceptions of Russia and, through various disciplinary approaches to studying the Russian provinces, strive to hear voices from the regions instead of allowing views and opinions from Moscow to dominate. They will consider ways in which people on the peripheries engage in cultural, economic, and political processes; how they represent themselves culturally, artistically, and socially; how self-perception is developing in various regions; and, importantly in the 21st century, how the Internet impacts the very notions of center and periphery.

The organizers invite 20 minute papers from scholars from all relevant disciplines. Please submit a 250-word abstract by December 1, 2014 to: clowes@virginia.edu. For more information please visit our website: <http://www.russiasperipheries.com>.



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
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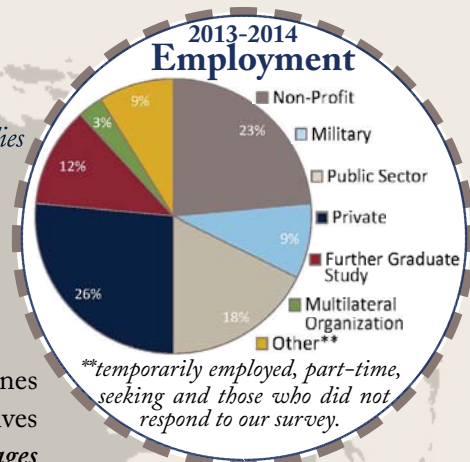
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Deadline for Fall 2015: January 15



For more information, go to <http://ceres.georgetown.edu> or email us at ceres@georgetown.edu

Russian Culture in War and Revolution, 1914–22

Political Culture, Identities, Mentalities, and Memory



Edited by
Murray Frame, Boris Kolonitskii,
Steven G. Marks, and Melissa K. Stockdale

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Front, Far East and Japan, International Affairs, Arc of Revolution, Central Powers, Military History), scheduled to appear during 2014–18. The initial volume on cultural history (Bk. 1 *Popular Culture, the Arts, and Institutions*; Bk. 2 *Political Culture, Identities, Mentalities, and Memory*) appeared in September 2014, and the next book (*The Empire and Nationalism at War*) will be published in November. Individuals and institutions who place a standing order for the full set will receive each book as it is published at a 20% discount and with free domestic shipping. Call or email the publisher for details. Also available to libraries as an ebook through Project MUSE and the University Press Content Consortium.

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ADVERTISING

Appropriate ads are accepted for NewsNet on a space-available basis.



Affiliate News

AATSEEL CONFERENCE

The 2015 AATSEEL Conference will be held on January 8-11, 2015 at the Renaissance Harbourside in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada within easy reach of the Modern Language Association (MLA) conference. In addition to scholarly panels, participants will have the chance to attend advanced seminars, roundtables, workshops and other special events. The 2015 Advanced Seminars will be led by Mark Lipovetsky (UC-Boulder) and Marcus Levitt (USC). For more information, visit the AATSEEL website: http://www.aatseel.org/cfp_main

CFP: ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, INC. 6TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

September 18-19, 2015

The Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture is pleased to invite scholars of all disciplines working in Slavic, Eurasian, and East European studies to submit proposals for individual papers and panels for its biennial conference, to be held at Rhodes College, Memphis, Tennessee and The Westin Memphis Beale Street Hotel. Scholars from the U.S. and around the world are welcome. Proposals for individual papers and panels should be submitted by email to Dr. Randall Poole, Acting Vice President of ASEC (rpoole@css.edu) no later than December 1, 2014.

Limited funding is available to provide graduate students with assistance for travel expenses. General information regarding the hotel and meeting, and the conference registration form, will be available after October 1, 2014 here: <https://in.rhodes.edu/academic/modernlanguages/Pages/Russian-Studies.aspx>

CENTRAL SLAVIC CONFERENCE

November 7-9, 2014, St. Louis, Missouri

The Central Slavic Conference is pleased to invite scholars of all disciplines working in Slavic, Eurasian, and East European studies to attend its annual meeting, to be held in conjunction with the [2014 International Studies Association Midwest Conference](#). Additionally, CSC will also host a symposium is dedicated to the scholarship of longtime CSC member Charles Timberlake. Graduate students who present at the CSC Annual Meeting are invited to participate in the Charles Timberlake Graduate Paper Prize competition. Submissions should be emailed to Dr. Nicole Monnier at monniern@missouri.edu by October 25th, 2014.

CSC registration is separate from ISA-M registration, but general information regarding the hotel and meeting can be found on the [ISA Midwest Conference web page](#)

SHERA NEWS

The Society of Historians of Eastern European, Eurasian, and Russian Art and Architecture (SHERA) (www.shera-art.org) looks forward to the ASEES Annual Convention in San Antonio, where its members will be participating in over ten panels ranging from eighteenth-century prints to twentieth-century art and architecture in Eastern Europe and Russia. SHERA's business meeting will be held on Saturday 22 November at 3:30pm, and is open to both members and non-members.

In recent months SHERA's members have been very busy organizing exhibitions, publishing new research, and planning conferences. To see their activities, go to www.shera-art.org and click on News; for members's recent publications and work in progress, click on Research.

SHERA welcomes the Cambridge Courtauld Russian Art Centre (CCRAC) (<http://ccrac.heart.cam.ac.uk>) as a new institutional member. CCRAC is a joint initiative between the Department of History of Art, University of Cambridge, and The Courtauld Institute of Art, London, to provide a forum for the investigation of Russian and Soviet art. It aims to stimulate debate, support collaborative work, and generate and disseminate research on all aspects of the visual arts, architecture, design, and exhibitions in Russia and the Soviet Union.

CFP: CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES

Bucharest, 17- 19 June 2015

Theme: Linking Past, Present and Future: The 25th Anniversary of Regime Change in Romania and Moldova (1989/1991)

Anniversaries represent opportunities to reflect on past events, re-assess their impact on the present, and draw lessons for the future. Together with other 20th century historical events – including World War I, World War II, and the communist take-over – the overthrow of the communist regime represented a watershed event for Romania and Moldova, the most recent great transformation it is seen as having led to the end of the communist dictatorship, democratization of the political system, the introduction of market economy, cultural liberalization, the opening of borders, and a re-alignment with the West. At the same time, given Romania's and Moldova's persistent problems with political instability, pervasive corruption, slow economic growth, populism, and nationalism, the significance of the 1989/1991 regime change and its outcomes remains a source of contestation. The aim of this conference is to take a fresh look at the transformative events of a quarter century ago. We wish to examine their significance for the two countries' post-communist trajectories, past, present, and future both domestically and in the wider European and Eurasian contexts with the help of broad historical, political, literary, and cultural disciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries.

CFP: 53RD ANNUAL MEETING
SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON SLAVIC STUDIES
Lexington, KY March 5-7, 2015

The Fifty-Third Annual Meeting of the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SCSS) will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Downtown Lexington, KY, March 6-7, 2015. The meeting will be hosted by the University of Kentucky, Transylvania University, and Eastern Kentucky University. The SCSS is the largest of the regional Slavic and Eurasian Studies associations and its programs attract national and international scholarly participation. The purpose of SCSS is to promote scholarship, education, and in all other ways to advance scholarly interest in Russian, Soviet, East European, and Eurasian studies in the Southern region of the United States and nationwide. Membership in SCSS is open to all persons interested in furthering these goals.

Papers from all humanities and social science disciplines are welcome and encouraged, as is a focus on countries other than Russia/USSR. Papers and panels on all topics will be considered. The program committee is accepting panel and paper proposals until January 15, 2015. Whole panel proposals (chair, three papers, discussant) are preferred, but proposals for individual papers are also welcome. Whole panel proposals should include the titles of each individual paper as well as a title for the panel itself and identifying information (email addresses and institutional affiliations) for all participants. Proposals for individual papers should include paper title, email contact, institutional affiliation, and a brief (one paragraph) abstract to guide the program committee in the assembly of panels. If any AV equipment will be needed, the panel or paper proposals

should indicate so when submitted. AV will be of limited availability and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Email your proposals to Alice Pate at apate9@kennesaw.edu

For local arrangements or conference information other than the program, please contact Dr. Karen Petrone petrone@uky.edu. The conference hotel can be booked online [here](#). For questions, proposals or other information regarding the program, please contact Alice Pate at apate9@kennesaw.edu or by telephone at 470-578-3288.

CFP: WESTERN ASSOCIATION FOR SLAVIC STUDIES
Portland, Oregon April 8-11, 2015

We invite proposals for individual papers, complete panels, and roundtable presentations in all areas of studies on Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Russia, the former Soviet Union, and Central Asia. The topics may include any aspect of economy, politics, and culture with a broad chronological span from the Middle Ages to present. Contributions are encouraged from disciplines including: anthropology, archeology, architecture, arts, communication, cultural studies, demography, economics, education, environment, ethnic and minority studies, film, gender studies, geography, history, international relations, Jewish studies, law, linguistics, literature, political science, psychology, religion, sociology, theatre, travel and tourism. Graduate student proposals will also be considered. For more information regarding the conference site, registration and submitting a proposal, go to the website: <http://www.wssaweb.com/conferences.html> Deadline: December 1, 2014. Please submit proposals to evguenia@pdx.edu.

A Alfa Fellowship Program

PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING OF RUSSIA

Alfa-Bank and Cultural Vistas are pleased to announce a call for applications for the Alfa Fellowship Program, an **11-MONTH PROFESSIONAL-LEVEL** initiative, which is celebrating its ten-year anniversary this year. At a time of increasing need for specialists with Russia expertise, this program affords young American, British, and German leaders the opportunity to receive meaningful professional experience in Russia.

The program begins with **LANGUAGE TRAINING** in the U.S., U.K., or Germany, followed by a language course in Moscow starting in mid-June. Throughout the summer, Alfa Fellows attend a **SEMINAR PROGRAM** with key public and private sector officials to discuss current affairs in Russia. Fellows then **WORK AT PROMINENT ORGANIZATIONS IN RUSSIA**, including private companies, media outlets, think tanks, and foundations.

Eligible candidates must have a graduate degree and professional experience in business, economics, journalism, law, public policy, or a related field. Russian language proficiency is preferred. The Fellowship includes a **GENEROUS MONTHLY STIPEND, LANGUAGE TRAINING, PROGRAM-RELATED TRAVEL COSTS, HOUSING, AND INSURANCE.**

- Deadline to apply for the 2015-2016 program year: **December 1**
- Additional details and the online application can be found at: **www.culturalvistas.org/alfa**

For more information, please contact: alfa@culturalvistas.org or 212 497 3510.

OJSC Alfa-Bank is incorporated, focused and based in Russia, and is not affiliated with U.S.-based Alfa Insurance.





EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT CEU

Assistant Professor, Department of History
Application deadline: November 9, 2014

The Department of History at Central European University (CEU) invites applications for an Assistant Professor position in the field of Soviet and Post-Soviet History. Scholars with Central Asian and/or Caucasian research interest are encouraged to apply.

In keeping with the Department's strong emphasis on interdisciplinary, comparative and cross-cultural studies, we seek applicants whose teaching and research accommodate contemporary approaches in social, political, gender, or cultural history. Applicants should hold a PhD degree and have excellent command of the Russian language.

Please submit your complete application package to positions@ceu.hu including job code in subject line: 2014/052.

CEU is an equal opportunity employer.

***For full job ad, please visit: <http://hro.ceu.hu/vacancies/assistant-professor-5>

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Russian & Slavic Studies ARTS AND SCIENCE

The Department of Russian & Slavic Studies at New York University invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position at the rank of assistant professor from scholars whose work focuses on 20th-century Russian literature. Specialization in Modernism and/or poetry particularly desirable; other areas of specialization welcome as well. Position is to begin September 1, 2015, pending budgetary and administrative approval. Duties will include undergraduate and graduate teaching and departmental service; teaching load is two courses per semester. Must have the PhD in hand by September 1, 2015.

Applicants should apply online by submitting a c.v., a letter of application, three references, and a short writing sample such as an article or chapter via the Department of Russian & Slavic web site: <http://russianslavic.as.nyu.edu/page/facultysearches>

*We will begin reviewing applications by October 1, 2014; the deadline for applications is October 17, 2014. **First-round interviews will be conducted at the ASEES conference in San Antonio, TX (November 20-23).***



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Also, if you are a scholar permanently residing in Eastern Europe or Eurasia, be sure to check [our reduced membership dues program](#).

ASEES Webinars

ASEES offers programming throughout the year to help members keep up with trends and more easily gather information. If you have ideas for a webinar or would like to present content, please contact: newsnet@pitt.edu. To register, please see <http://aseees.org/programs/webinars>

Upcoming session:

Navigating Academia: Networking

Wednesday, October 29, 2014, 2PM-3PM EDT

Sponsored by ASEES affiliate AWSS, this webinar will discuss various kinds of networking available to scholars, including social media, professional organizations, and person-to-person contacts. The participants will address such questions as: Which kinds of networking are most useful, and for what purposes? How can junior scholars take advantage of networking opportunities to advance their research and scholarship? Which of the many available social media are particularly useful to scholars?

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- **EURASIAN REGIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM (ERLP)** ERLP provides high-quality language instruction, specially designed cultural programs, and expert logistical support to participants studying the languages of Central Asia, the South Caucasus, Ukraine, and Moldova – more than a dozen languages in total. All program sites offer highly-individualized instruction, homestays, and structured extracurricular activities.
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Calendar

2014

October 23-26. The Central Eurasian Studies Society will be holding its 15th Annual Meeting at the Harriman Institute of Columbia University

November 15. Twelfth Graduate Colloquium on Slavic Linguistics, Ohio State U. Contact: ouzina.2@osu.edu

November 20-23. ASEEES 46th Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX. <http://aseees.org/convention>

November 21-23. American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Henry B. Gonzales Convention, San Antonio, TX.

December 12-13. "Giving Voice to Cultures: Practices of Russia-Britain Cross-Cultural Communication in the 21st Century" International Conference, The Princess Dashkova Russian Centre, the U of Edinburgh, Dashkova.Centre@ed.ac.uk

2015

January 8-11. AATSEEL annual conference will be held at the Renaissance Harbourside in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

January 16-18. 2015 APSA Teaching & Learning Conference, Washington, DC.

March 5-7. 53rd Annual Meeting of the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, Lexington, KY. Contact: Alice Pate at apate9@kennesaw.edu

March 11-12. "The Great War and its Legacy in Central Europe and the Middle East," hosted by Qatar U

March 26-28. "Centrifugal Forces: Reading Russia's Regional Identities and Initiatives," U of Virginia. Contact: eec3c@virginia.edu

April 8-11. Western Association for Slavic Studies (WASS), Portland, Oregon, <http://www.wssaweb.com/conferences.html>

April 23-24. Baylor U Symposium: "Georgia at the Crossroad," <blogs.baylor.edu/georgiasymposium>

May 31-June 3. Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies, Miami U (Ohio) Young Researchers Conference: Writing the Past/Righting Memory, Cuma, Italy. Contact: Ben Sutcliffe at sutclibm@miamioh.edu

August 3-8. The International Council for Central and East European Studies World Congress, Makuhari, Japan, <http://src-h.slav.hokudai.ac.jp/iccees2015/index.html>

November 19-22. ASEEES 47th Annual Convention Philadelphia, PA, Philadelphia Marriott Downtown