

NewsNet

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

Goulash Post-Communism

Kim Lane Scheppele, Princeton University

By the time the Soviet empire ended, Hungary was well known for having its own brand of communism. Hungary proclaimed its communist commitments while introducing a number of liberal elements, including some aspects of a market economy, a general loosening of repression and a changed burden of proof for dissenters expressed in the Kádárist slogan: “Those who are not against us are with us.” The end result was liberal adaptation to Soviet rule that made Hungary the “merriest barrack in the camp.” Goulash communism – as it was called – invoked the mixture of ingredients in the common Hungarian stew.

The current Hungarian government was elected in 2010 and has a 2/3 supermajority in the parliament dominated by the political party Fidesz. It is busily cooking up goulash post-communism, using a similar recipe. Fidesz leaders proclaim unwavering *anti*-communism while they steadily introduce elements that are familiar from the communist period. The result is a mixed system of ingredients, put together in a distinctly Hungarian way.

Across most of the Soviet space, the ideology of communism was generally associated with specific tactics for its maintenance. But as the Hungarian

system showed, those two pieces could come apart. Goulash communism kept the ideology of communism while moving to liberal tactics. The Hungarian government is repeating its earlier performance, only backwards. Now, goulash post-communism has kept the ideology of anti-communism while restoring some communist tactics.

The Fidesz government came to power advertising itself as fiercely anti-communist. It sought to put an end to the lingering effects of communism in Hungary by getting rid of the constitution that was still called Law XX of 1949 (even though its content had changed completely in 1989). In its place, the government pushed through a new constitution of its own that openly condemns the Soviet period.¹ The government has also extended the statute of limitation for crimes

1 For the new constitution, see <http://lapa.princeton.edu/hosteddocs/hungary/Hungarian%20Constitution%20English%20final%20version.pdf>. The harshest anti-Soviet parts of the constitution can be found in the Preamble. For an analysis of the new constitutional order, see Kim Lane Scheppele, “Hungary’s Constitutional Revolution” on Paul Krugman’s “Conscience of a Liberal” blog at <http://krugman.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/12/19/hungarys-constitutional-revolution/>.

Inside This Issue • June 2012 • v. 52, n. 3

Goulash Post Communism	1	Publications	16
<u>The Ural Working-Class Movement</u>		<u>In Memoriam</u>	23
<u>Seen Through the Discourse of Russian Mass Media</u>	6	<u>Institutional Member News</u>	24
<u>Rampaging Through RuNet</u>	8	<u>Affiliate Member News</u>	28
<u>Bturn Magazine: Reinventing the Balkans</u>	10	<u>ASEEES News</u>	30
<u>Building Niche Communities Online</u>	11	<u>Calendar</u>	31
<u>Personages</u>	15		

committed under communism,² and has persistently refused to deal with the Socialist opposition on the grounds that the Socialists now constitute the successor party to the communists. Fidesz has justified what it has done as finally closing the books on the communist era (as if no one else had attempted to do so in the last 20 years).³

In the meantime, the government has steadily introduced elements that recall the old system of Soviet control. Among other things, the government appears to be punishing political dissent. While, of course, figures are impossible to produce because no one is keeping official statistics, there are signs that all is not well with the “democratic opposition” (the title used by those who oppose Fidesz from the political center and left to distinguish themselves from the neo-Nazi Jobbik party which is in opposition as well).



The government is firing those affiliated with the democratic opposition from their state-sector jobs, or at least so they believe. Surely the law provided an opportunity to do that, if such were the government’s goal. As one of its first acts in office in May 2010, the Fidesz government changed the law on the civil service so that state workers could be fired without reasoned decisions. In February 2011, the Hungarian Constitutional Court found this change unconstitutional, but it nullified the law “prospectively” – which meant that the government got an additional three months to fire people before having to modify the law. As a result, the government had one year with no legal constraints on whom they fired. The new law adopted in May 2011 permits the government to fire anyone whose workplace must undergo austerity cuts. Since almost all parts of the government are undergoing such cuts, this too provides no protection.

There have been more than 10,000 people fired from public payrolls as part of government austerity programs in the first two years of the Fidesz government. That is plenty of pain to go around, but many members

2 For the law that did this, see Transitional Provisions to the Hungarian Basic Law

3 Eva Balogh, “Fidesz’s Attitude Toward the Communist Past”

of the democratic opposition believe that the axes have come down disproportionately on them. Some also believe that the economic campaign against those opposed to the government now extends to private businesses that rely on government contracts. Private businesses are thought to be firing people with opposition ties, either because the government is telling them to or because the business believes that it has better chances of getting government contracts if it fire dissenters first. Everyone in the democratic opposition has examples of those fired, they say, because of their opposition to Fidesz.

In the Soviet time, the government was famous for bringing pressures to bear not on the dissidents – who were often willing to take the harsh consequences for their bravery – but on their family members. In the Fidesz time, stories of such pressures are starting to reappear. On a recent trip to Budapest, I was told of family members of critical journalists being fired for simply being the mother or spouse of a government critic. I heard about spouses, working parents and adult children fired from jobs, told that the reason was because they were closely related to someone critical of the government. Again, it’s impossible to tell how common this is – or whether, in a time of sharp austerity measures, the firings are really politically random.

As I write (April 2012), the Hungarian government is carrying out radical education reform. The new constitution that went into effect on 1 January 2012 centralized government control over all primary and secondary schools in the country. Suddenly all school teachers, administrators and principals, who had been the employees of regional governments, are now the employees of the national (Fidesz) government. All principals were told that they had to reapply for their jobs by March 2012. While the results have not been announced yet, the worry is that the grounds for re-appointment will be political. Since there have been no performance assessments conducted to determine which schools were functioning well and which were not, on what other basis will the jobs be decided?

It is difficult to prove political discrimination systematically, of course, because the economic crisis has caused so many people to be fired from their jobs. But in any event, sometimes belief is reality. If people believe that they will lose their jobs for public disagreement with the governing party or if private businesses believe that the government cares whom they hire, then this very belief will have a chilling effect on dissent. As everyone who lived through the Soviet period will recall, the Kádár government often didn’t have to enforce (or even acknowledge) the crucial rules; people eager to please (or eager to avoid problems) enforced the rules instead, often on themselves.

In another tactic familiar from the Soviet period, the government is clearly putting the squeeze on the critical media. And the method is familiar: government is passing vague laws and then putting people closely allied with their own party in charge of enforcing them. A new raft of media regulations brings control over all media – public and private, broadcast online and print – under the control of a single state media council filled entirely with Fidesz loyalists who can stay in office for nine years or more.⁴ The media council not only awards broadcast frequencies but also monitors media content in a potentially intrusive way, and can issue large fines if a media outlet fails to achieve “balance” in political coverage. Of course what may look like balance to journalists may not appear to be balance to the government. But if a body consisting only of allies of the governing party gets to say what “balance” means, then this too will discourage the media from criticizing the government.



Lucky Joker Lottery ad

YouTube video

The media squeeze goes beyond the overbearing regulations of the media board. Since the transition of 1989 and after, the largest advertiser in Hungary has been the government itself, advertising everything from the lottery to the public transportation system. Since the Fidesz government came to power, media outlets friendly to the government still carry public advertising while media outlets critical of the government have seen their public advertising cut to zero. Moreover, private business advertising is down in the critical media as well. Both journalists and business people I interviewed in Budapest earlier in the year report that there is a “Lucky Joker” rule. The Lucky Joker is a game in the state lottery, and businesses believe that they are safe to advertise only where the Lucky Joker does. If they advertise elsewhere, they say that they will lose all access to public contracts. Since fully 50% of Hungarian GDP runs through the government in some way (through taxes, public subsidies, public contracts, and public institutions), it is no small threat to be cut off from government money. The end result? The government-critical media are teetering on the brink of financial collapse because both their public and their private advertising revenues are way down.

⁴ See Kim Lane Scheppelle, “Hungarian Free Media” on Paul Krugman’s “Conscience of a Liberal” blog .

In the Soviet time, real political power was not held in ministries and parliaments; it was held in the party which set policy and then directed the organs of state to carry it out. In Hungary too, there are many signs that the Hungarian government is again becoming a country in which the party seem to trump the government. The thousands of pages of new laws passed in the first two years of the Fidesz government were not written in the ministries and public agencies of the state. Instead, they were written by private law firms at the behest of the party, pushed through the parliament on strict party line votes where it was evident that the MPs who voted for the laws had no idea what they were voting on. Party discipline was so strict that there were only a few cases out of nearly 400 laws where a single member of the Fidesz party fraction in the parliament voted no.

Moreover, it appears that party credentials are more important than anything else for being named to important state positions. A former Fidesz MP and Olympic gold medalist was elected (by a Fidesz party-line vote) President of the Republic. He recently resigned in disgrace when it turned out his doctoral thesis had been plagiarized. If the Fidesz government is true to form, it will appoint another person whose adult career has been largely inside the party. The new minister of national development, the ministry in charge of distributing EU cohesion funds, has no college degree; the new head of the state accounting office has no background in accounting; some of the new constitutional court judges have had neither advanced degrees in law nor a career in legal practice, even though the law stipulating credentials requires one or the other. Instead the main qualification for public office, including offices that require technical knowledge, seems to be long association with Fidesz. While no one expects a government to appoint its opponents to important positions, one might expect a government to value professional credentials over party affiliation, particularly for jobs where expertise is an asset. Instead, party loyalty seems to trump other factors.

There are also other miscellaneous reminders of the Soviet period. Homelessness is now criminalized, much as joblessness used to be in the Soviet time.⁵ While the Stalinist constitution proclaimed, “Everyone according to his ability and to everyone according to his work,” the 2012 constitution says, “[People] shall be obliged to contribute to the performance of state and community tasks to the best of [their] abilities and potential.”⁶ In one of its first acts in office, the

⁵ Eric Westervelt, Homelessness is Now a Crime in Hungary, NPR News, 6 April 2012.

⁶ For more similarities between Hungary’s 1949 Stalinist constitution and the 2010 one, see Kim Lane Scheppelle, “Communist Nostalgia” at Eva Balogh’s Hungarian Spectrum blog.

Fidesz government passed a “Declaration on National Cooperation” and required that it be posted in all public offices,⁷ much as exhortative declarations were published in state buildings in the Soviet time.

The Fidesz government has not engaged in many of the worst tactics of the Soviet period in Hungary. It has not jailed its opponents, but its opponents believe that they will suffer consequences for maintaining their dissent. It has not nationalized private property, though it did manage to nationalize private pensions.⁸ It has not prevented people from leaving the country, so an increasing number of people (particularly Roma) are seeking asylum abroad.⁹ It has not created a police state, but it has set up an Anti-Terrorism Unit (TEK) with extraordinary powers to conduct secret surveillance and to gather in one place a huge amount of private information about individuals held in state agencies and third-party service providers. All

7 The Declaration (in multiple languages, including English) can be found at http://www.mfa.gov.hu/kum/en/bal/Ministry/political_declaration_on_national_cooperation/.

8 Margit Feher, “Hungary Forces Private Pension Fund Members Back to State Scheme,” Wall Street Journal, Emerging Europe blog, 24 November 2010.

9 Many of those seeking asylum are Roma. Joëlle Stolz, “Twice As Many Hungarian Asylum Seekers in Canada in 2011: Increase Reflects Economic Misery Climate and Grim Political Mood Caused by Policies of Right-Wing Nationalist Government.” Guardian, 20 March 2012.

of these things will bear watching, as this is a government only two years into its first term in office and there are few signs that this government will be replaced by another any time soon. Not only is the democratic opposition in disarray, but a new electoral system makes it very unlikely that Fidesz can lose the next election.

This is not your father’s authoritarianism yet, but people from a wide range of social positions are saying that the 1980s were much freer than this. So far, people are not comparing daily life in Hungary to the 1970s, or the 1960s, or the 1950s, but these are still early days for this new government. Hungary, which was creative in the Soviet time in developing alternatives to strictly enforced communism, is now being creative again in developing alternatives to neoliberal anti-communism.

Once, Hungary brought the world goulash communism. Now, it is serving goulash post-communism, instead.



Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History

www.slavica.com/journals/kritika/kritika.html

Vol. 13, no. 2 (Spring 2012)

Articles

RICHARD WORTMAN
The Representation of Dynasty and “Fundamental Laws” in the Evolution of Russian Monarchy

FAITH HILLIS
Ukrainophile Activism and Imperial Governance in Russia’s Southwestern Borderlands

ALEXANDER MORRISON
Metropole, Colony, and Imperial Citizenship in the Russian Empire

DAVID BRANDENBERGER
“Simplistic, Pseudosocialist Racism”


SETH BERNSTEIN
Valedictorians of the Soviet School

Forum: Empire, Nation, and Society in the Work of Geoffrey Hosking

Contributions by ALEXEI MILLER, ADRIENNE EDGAR, MARK EDELE, and CATRIONA KELLY

Response by GEOFFREY A. HOSKING

Slavica Publishers
Indiana University
1430 N. Willis Drive
Bloomington, IN 47404 USA



SLAVICA

1-812-856-4186/1-877-SLAVICA (tel)
1-812-856-4187 (fax)
slavica@indiana.edu
<http://www.slavica.com>

DONATE TO ASEEEES ONLINE

Consider supporting ASEEEES by contributing to its endowment funds. ASEEEES is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization; all contributions to the endowment funds are tax deductible. You can contribute to:

ASEEEES General Endowment Fund, which contributes to ASEEEES programming;

Kathryn Davis Matching Endowment Fund, which funds the Davis Graduate Student travel grants.

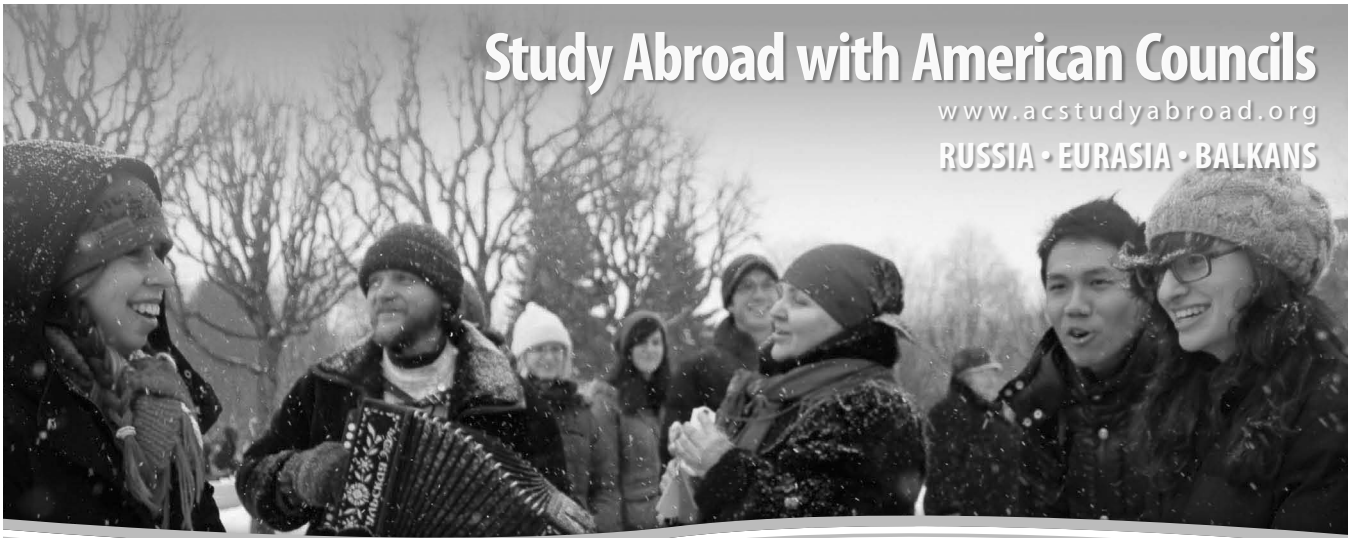
Or send a check, payable to ASEEEES to this address or call us with your credit card information at (412) 648-9911.

ASEEEES thanks our generous donors; their commitment to supporting our work is sincerely appreciated.

Study Abroad with American Councils

www.acstudyabroad.org

RUSSIA • EURASIA • BALKANS



AMERICAN COUNCILS

For more than 35 years, American Councils has offered diverse study abroad options to graduate students, undergraduates, teachers, scholars, and professionals. Its renowned programs in Russia, Eurasia, and the Balkans offer the highest quality language instruction, cultural immersion, and scholarly research opportunities within these regions. Financial aid opportunities are available for most American Councils programs. *Start your journey today.*

AC STUDY ABROAD ON FACEBOOK

Join American Councils on Facebook and stay up to date on all of our activities abroad. Featuring rich media, participant blog entries, and frequent program updates, *what's not to 'Like'?*

- www.facebook.com/acStudyAbroad

Funded Programs for Graduate Students & Teachers

TITLE VIII RESEARCH SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Fellowships available for research trips to Central Asia, Moldova, Russia, the South Caucasus, Southeast Europe, and Ukraine. *Application Deadline: October 1st*

TITLE VIII COMBINED RESEARCH & LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAM

Fellowships available for research trips combined with language study in Central Asia, Moldova, Russia, the South Caucasus, Southeast Europe, and Ukraine. *Application Deadline: October 1st*

SUMMER RUSSIAN LANGUAGE TEACHERS PROGRAM*

Generous fellowships available for university and secondary school teachers of Russian to study abroad in Moscow for six weeks. Graduate students are encouraged to apply. *Application Deadline: March 1st (*pending U.S. Dept. of Education funding)*

Immersion Programs for Undergraduate & Graduate Students

ADVANCED RUSSIAN LANGUAGE & AREA STUDIES PROGRAM

Live and study in Moscow, St. Petersburg, or Vladimir for a comprehensive immersion experience in Russian language and culture.

EURASIAN REGIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Experience Eurasia with language immersion programs in Armenian, Azeri, Chechen, Georgian, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Persian (Dari, Farsi, Tajiki), Romanian, Turkmen, Ukrainian, and Uzbek.

BALKAN LANGUAGE INITIATIVE

Explore Balkan languages and cultures with programs in Albanian, Bosnian, Macedonian, and Serbian.

Apply Today

PROGRAM WEBSITES & APPLICATIONS <http://www.acstudyabroad.org>

QUESTIONS? Email: outbound@americancouncils.org

AMERICANCOUNCILS® FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
A C T R ▲ A C C E L S



The Ural Working-Class Movement Seen Through the Discourse of Russian Mass Media

Evgenii Ishmenev, Russian Academy of Sciences ♦ Translated by: Wendy Goldman, CMU

The largest demonstration since the fall of the Soviet Union, in support of Russia's working class, took place in Ekaterinburg on January 28, 2012. The demonstrators' official slogan was "to protect the rights of workers and to guarantee the economic stability of the state." In the month leading up to the demonstration, journalists and experts presented a spectrum of discussion points in various forms of Russian media (**Средства массовой информации** or SMI) about the aims of the demonstrations. The general federal-level publications, based in Moscow, ("Российская газета," "Вести.Ru", "РИА-Новости"), considered the demonstration's main aim to be "support by the workers for the current Prime Minister of Russia, V. Putin, in the forthcoming presidential elections."¹ In contrast, the regional SMI, based in Ekaterinburg ("УралПолит.Ру", "Ura.Ru", "Новый Регион"), defined the demands of the demonstrators as "the reaction of the workers to the preceding political declarations of the opposition in the large cities of Russia."²

The divergent approaches of the regional and federal SMI can be explained in various ways. One reason for the declaration of the regional SMI was that the organizers of the "workers' movement" appealed directly to Putin, on December 4, suggesting that he "come and help with the dispersal of demonstrators of the political opposition." In their appeal, the workers, primarily representing the small towns of the Ural region, expressed their mistrust of the inhabitants of large cities, such as Moscow and Ekaterinburg. The workers' main argument was that "the prosperous part of the population of the large towns did not value the results of economic stabilization of the preceding years and did not respect the interests of the common people

from the provinces."³

Another influence on the formation of regional media discourses in Ekaterinburg was internet communication. In the past three to five years, the scope of mass communication in Ekaterinburg has significantly broadened through the inclusion of blogs and social networks, which have become an alternative to the official SMI and a useful tool for organizers of street demonstrations of the political opposition. The "workers' movement" strongly criticized this use of electronic communication during the organization of the January 28th demonstration. In their comments in the press, the representatives of the workers' unions repeatedly expressed resentment towards "office employees" role in promoting a lack of social stability. Various SMI presented an even more radical view: "the meeting of January 28 was directed against 'office hamsters' and 'luxurious mink coats.'"⁴

At present, many social activists, journalists, and political experts in Ekaterinburg have their own blogs in which they provide their daily evaluation of the political situation and thereby create "a regional agenda or narrative." The formation of an alternative "agenda" affects the growth of critical popular moods, and finds confirmation in the electoral preferences of the audience of the SMI of Ekaterinburg. Sociological data of the past few years reveal that those parties and candidates that rely on the support of state power in the elections receive the fewest number of votes in Ekaterinburg in comparison with other larger cities in Russia. In addition, criticism of state power has be-

3 <http://www.newsru.com/russia/27jan2012/ekaterinburg.html>

4 <http://lenta.ru/news/2012/01/19/holmanskij/>, <http://www.nr2.ru/moskcow/369643.html/print/>, <http://www.aif.ru/society/article/49051>

1 <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=698968>

2 http://fedpress.ru/federal/polit/part/id_271047.html



come a required part of many pre-election speeches in Ekaterinburg. Political leaders and other public personas regularly employ critical rhetoric to engage the emotions of their audience in their programmatic speeches, interviews, and public relations campaigns.

The interest of the federal SMI in the demonstration was primarily directed at explaining the role of “the workers’ movement” in contemporary Russia. The demonstration of January 28 was the first public expression in which the workers of contemporary Russia made a claim for themselves as a political class. Workers’ common support for Putin’s candidacy for president became the basis for their formation and identification as such a class.

The federal SMI’s main purpose was to emphasize the history of “the workers’ movement.” Insofar as the Ural region has been a center of industrial and defense production in Russia since World War II, many SMI tried to explain the significance of the “workers’ movement” in the context of its historical symbolism. During

the organization of the demonstration in Ekaterinburg, the most popular theme in the SMI was the attempt of workers in the Ural Tank Factory (*UralVagonZavod*) to drive a tank they themselves produced to the demonstration. For a month, the organizers of the demonstration conducted discussions with the region’s leaders about the possibility of using a “military object” as a symbol of the action. The symbolic importance of this action was reflected in the unprecedented attention of the entire Russian SMI: for over two months, it focused on the question of “how the workers’ movement of the Urals organized to fight for economic stability.”⁵ In this way, a number of approaches were unified and the federal and regional agendas fully coincided.

5 <http://www.rg.ru/2012/01/18/tank.html>



UC Berkeley Institute of Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies (ISEEES) Seeks Program Coordinator

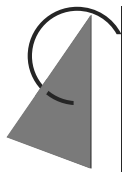
ISEEES serves as the focal point at the University of California, Berkeley for students and faculty who conduct research and teaching on the geographic region of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. As the primary, full-time staff member responsible for ISEEES programming, the Program Coordinator designs, conducts, promotes, and supports various research and public educational programs, outreach events, and fundraising initiatives at the Institute, including conferences, workshops, lecture series, faculty and visiting scholar support programs, student fellowships, and other academic and public programs. The incumbent researches and assesses outreach and educational needs and interests for targeted public segment audiences, and develops programs, publications, communications materials, technology, learning, and fundraising approaches accordingly. The Program Coordinator also processes and services a variety of operational and financial transactions and services as required by specific program activities.

Full details can be found [HERE](#) or by searching the Job Site by Job Title “Program Coordinator” or Job ID “13947”.

How to Apply

Submit your application [HERE](#). Please upload your resume and cover letter as a single document.

This is an Equal Employment Opportunity position.



Rampaging Through RuNet

Sean Guillory, University of Pittsburgh

On 27 March, the Russian tabloid, *Sobesednik*, reported that the police had been rummaging behind every shrub in President Medvedev's neighborhood searching for the First Cat, Dorofei, a rare Nevsky Masquerade, which had run away from home. Within hours, the news spread throughout the Russian media. Soon thereafter, the Twitter hashtag #Дорофей skyrocketed to the top of global trending. Fueled by jokes speculating why the cat had abandoned the President, the disappearance of the First Cat illustrated the public sentiments toward the President. "Freedom is better than unfreedom, thought the cat #Dorofei, wagged his fluffy tail and off he went. Now he's crossing the EU border at Brest," went one tweet, playing on Medvedev's famous quip. "There are rumors that Medvedev's cat #Dorofei has decided to follow the example of @xenia_sobchak. He's sick of his bourgeois life and decided to go out to the streets like an ordinary cat," read another lampooning Ksenia Sobchak's transformation from a socialite to an opposition activist. The next morning, Dorofei had a Twitter account, @Dorofey_Kot, and 874 followers. By the afternoon the cat's whereabouts had been discovered. Medvedev tweeted from Asia, "About the cat. A source close to #Dorofei says he has not gotten lost. Thank you all for your concern!"



The Dorofei Affair demonstrates the carnivalesque qualities of RuNet, the Russian internet. It exposed Medvedev to comedic and political scrutiny. But is the internet a safety valve, a virtual Feast of Fools, where the powerful are merely lampooned but the power structure is reaffirmed? The recent protests against the December 2011 parliamentary returns suggest an emerging "networked public sphere" in which Russia's denizens carve out an autonomous launch pad for political action.¹ The Russian internet, and in

1 Thanks to Kevin Rothrock, Veronica Khokhlova, and Alexey Siderenko for their time and insight.

Bruce Etling, et al., "Exploring Russian Cyberspace:"

particular, blogs and social networking sites increasingly serve as a habitat where people gather to express themselves, network, discuss, disseminate, collaborate, and, of course, ridicule. RuNet functions as a battlefield on which citizen and state vie to capture and control (virtual) territory to shape, regulate, and affirm political discourse. The vibrancy of the RuNet is an essential source for researchers interested in present day Russia.

Russia has more internet users than any other European country and their numbers multiplied exponentially in the last four years. In 2008, there were an estimated 33.7 million internet users, or 23 percent of the population. Now there are over 60 million, or 55 percent of the population. Eighty-two percent of Russian internet users are registered with a social networking site, up from 52 percent two years prior. An estimated 99.7 percent of daily users use social networking and indigenous platforms; Odnoklassniki and Vkontakte, are the most popular. The internet is progressively becoming Russians' main source for information. According to the internet research group Masmi, users regard the internet as a major source for national news (63 percent), local (48 percent), and international news (45 percent). Moreover, as *Vedomosti* recently reported, more and more people, especially young, consider internet sources more reliable than traditional media, especially television.

Yet for many users, the internet isn't simply a source of information, but a tool for political engagement. Russian citizens utilize the internet to monitor local government, fight corruption, marshal volunteers, spread civic awareness, and organize mass protests.² "More people now understand that politics isn't supposed to be like, say, football," says Veronica Khokhlova, who bogs at Neeka's Backlog and writes for Global Voices RuNet Echo, which tracks Russian citizen media. "Now more people understand that, for example, busting corrupt cops or drawing attention to some out-

Digitally-Mediated Collective Action and the Networked Public Sphere," Harvard University, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Research Publication No. 2012-2, March 2, 2012, 6.

2 The political activity in RuNet has been cataloged in a several studies published by Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. See the Russia tag of their Internet and Democracy Blog for a list of it studies. Also.

rageous things happening in your neighborhood is part of politics - they now understand that politics is about making your own life better, and RuNet is a very useful tool.”

RuNet’s impact on real politics is difficult to measure. The internet, in the words of [Alexei Siderenko](#), acts as a “social elevator” for people who have no formal political power, but through their popularity serve as authoritative nodes in Russia’s networked public sphere on the internet command authority.³ As an example, Siderenko uses the fact that while the anti-corruption blogger [Aleksey Navalny \(@navalny\)](#) remains unknown to most Russians, he was able to successfully disseminate the meme “United Russia—the party of crooks and thieves.” Indeed, some of the most respected bloggers are sympathetic or “oppositionists” [Rustem Adagamov \(@adagamov\)](#), [Ilya Varlamov \(@varlamov\)](#), [Oleg Kozyrev \(@oleg_kozyrev\)](#), [Anton Nosik \(@dolboed\)](#), and [Oleg Kashin \(@KSHN\)](#), to name just a few.

RuNet is not just a social elevator; it is a leveler of hierarchies. Indeed, the relationship between Russian traditional and citizen media is inverted. Traditional media increasingly relies on bloggers for stories. And some, like the case of Oleg Kashin, the line between the traditional and virtual is completely blurred. Kashin, a compulsive tweeter, reports for *Kommersant* and writes a blog. This is not to suggest that RuNet equalizes discursive power. Rather, as tracking sites like [LJRate](#) and [Twi Journal](#) show, the blogosphere hierarchy is always in flux, and the authority of blogs and of tweets rises and falls according to reader activity. This creates a challenge for politicians who wish to take part in the new public sphere. Participation forces them to compete for popularity and authority, which in turn challenges the traditional Russian concept of leadership. Though many Russian politicians blog, most notably Dmitry Medvedev, some see the leveling power of the internet as a threat to the sacredness of authority. Alexei Chadaev, a former ideologist for United Russia, [disapproved](#) of government officials blogging and tweeting because, he argued, it violated the three values of Russian political leadership: “miracle, secrecy, and power” and rendered politicians and bureaucrats “ordinary people like everyone else” thereby undermining their authority.⁴

The Kremlin is split in its approach to the political challenge RuNet poses. On the one hand, there

3 Alexei Siderenko, “Russian Digital Dualism: Changing Society, Manipulative State,” *Russie.Nei.Visions* No. 63, December 2011, 14.

4 *Ibid.* 18

are those who consider the internet a ‘dirty’ technology, a tool in the hands of Western governments to “create and maintain constant tension.” As the FSB deputy director Sergei Smirnov [said](#) at the regional security conference in April 2011, “Society must defend itself. We need to purge the space from such activity in some way.” However, the FSB has yet to formulate a [comprehensive strategy](#) to purge RuNet. This is not to suggest that the Kremlin and its adherents are leaving RuNet to its own devices. Russian authorities thus far have tried to use existing laws, like the anti-extremism law, to shut down websites and prosecute their owners. At the same time another Kremlin approach is visible in the actions of pro-Putin youth group Nashi. Nashi members have been waging smear campaigns against [oppositionists](#), most notably Alexey Navalny. During the Duma elections last December, a [string of coordinated](#) DDoS (Denial of Service) attacks hit opposition news and independent election monitoring sites. In fact when the Russian arm of [Anonymous](#) hacked into the [emails](#) of several pro-Kremlin figures, including [Vasilii Yakemenko](#), the head of the Russian Youth Agency and founder of Nashi, and Nashi’s press secretary [Kristina Potupchik](#), which detailed Nashi’s activities online, including evidence that the Kremlin had paid bloggers to smear oppositionists, use bots to bombard websites, and carry out a DDoS attack against the business daily *Kommersant*.

RuNet can be daunting. The sheer tidal wave of blogs and tweets inflict vertigo on a reader. Luckily, there are some sites that separate the wheat from the chaff. [Kevin Rothrock](#), who blogs about Russia at [A Good Treaty](#) and edits RuNet Echo, recommends that the best way to follow what’s hot in the Russian blogosphere is to use tracking sites like [Best Today](#), [LJRate](#), and [Yandex’s Blog](#) page, all of which compile daily lists of the most discussed blogs, tweets, and topics. [Google Reader](#) or a newsreader like [FeedDemon](#) or for Twitter, [TweetDeck](#) are also useful to sort and organize material.





Bturn Magazine: Reinventing the Balkans

Lily Lynch

Bturn Magazine is a new online destination for contemporary Balkan culture, art, music, design, fashion, technology, politics and society. Launched in October of 2011, the magazine is the first publication to attempt a comprehensive cataloguing of the region's unmapped and exciting contemporary culture. *Bturn's* aim is to become a fresh, informative and entertaining resource on this disparate, rapidly evolving cultural space.

In addition, *Bturn* tasks itself with "reinventing" the Balkans, which it defines geographically as spanning from Ljubljana to Istanbul. For *Bturn*, "reinventing the Balkans" means finding alternative narrative threads to those essentialist, stale themes that have long defined the region, imposed both from the outside and from within. Recognizing that the term "Balkan" comes burdened with multiple mythologies, meanings and contested histories, *Bturn* seeks to highlight and unearth new non-essentialist ideas and voices without ignoring the more difficult aspects of the recent past.

The Balkans have, for the last century or more, been defined by the outside (and often, by forces within) as a terrain of various struggles and divisions. The term "Balkanization" has come to denote "the parcelization of large and viable political units". Divisions in the region are both physical and mental, evident in the time it takes to travel by plane from Belgrade to Tirana (which generally requires a stopover in an EU country, meaning a flight in the opposite direction), and in lingering tensions at remote, contested border crossings. Despite these multiple divisions, *Bturn* identifies something uniquely and consistently "Balkan" in much of the life and creative industry of the region.

Bturn has approached this uniquely Balkan experience with articles on a range of topics: the opening of a museum dedicated to punk rock in Ljubljana, a Bosnian artist's 84-day occupation of the National Gallery in Sarajevo, the "nation branding" of Balkan countries for marketing new member accession to the EU, a Yugoslavian build-it-yourself computer that continues to inspire young computer scientists and engineers today, an Eastern European rapper's portrayal of life as an immigrant in London, a visual history of late Yugoslav fashion, and Western ignorance about Balkan geography inspired by a wildly inaccurate map of the region recently featured on Fox News.

In its brief existence, *Bturn* has also managed to stir controversy. When online magazine *Kosovo 2.0* was prevented from attending Belgrade's annual Share Conference in April due to threats from ultranationalists, *Bturn* made several hundred copies of the magazine available at its booth. Nasi, a Serbian ultranationalist group that has been implicated in a number of violent attacks on minority groups, named and openly condemned *Bturn* on its website.

Moving forward, *Bturn* will continue to provoke and to share, with the ultimate goal of becoming the number one resource on the contemporary culture of Southeastern Europe. Immediate goals include expanding the magazine's international team of contributors and broadening its existing "events" section, where readers can find information about Balkan-related talks, debates, and performances around the world. If you are interested in becoming a contributor to *Bturn*, you can find more information at: <http://bturn.com/8164/want-to-write-for-us>





Building Niche Communities Online

Josh Wilson, School of Russian and Asian Studies

The School of Russian and Asian Studies (SRAS) specializes in study abroad specifically to Russia, Kyrgyzstan, and Ukraine. Study abroad itself is a fairly narrow, competitive market and the countries we specialize in do not register on any list of “most popular destinations.” Students realize that the languages are hard, the cultures very foreign, and the sad state of tourism infrastructure in these countries is legendary. Parents, who are often also the students’ major source of funding, worry about safety issues in these exotic lands and usually press students to go somewhere more “normal.” Our market is limited and challenging to say the least; we market to handfuls of college students spread across North America – and beyond. Without the Internet, we probably wouldn’t exist. We certainly would not be growing as quickly as we are.

As a disclaimer, I should mention that everything that I’ve learned about creating niche-communities I’ve learned on the job, mostly by trial and error. However, given the frequency that we see professors’ concerns on SEELANGs or LinkedIn about growing or even saving their own programs, and given how often we are asked about our online materials at conferences, I believe that most of ASEEES readership will be interested to hear about how we have harnessed mankind’s most powerful creation ever to perform the modest task of exciting the world’s geographically scattered students of Russian about their subject. We have additionally found that our efforts online have actually improved student experiences on our programs and can even help alleviate parental concerns about study abroad.

I. What’s a Niche Community?

Most likely, you have already seen plenty of Internet resources designed to appeal to and draw Russia-related niche communities together. These resources can take on many forms. For example, SEELANGs is a “listserv:” a service that allows one person to instantly email many others. While the technology behind it is quite old, this particular service is still beloved by scholars of Russian literature and language as a way to seek help in answering all manner of questions, to discuss the state of the profession, or to share interesting news. Other examples include the multi-media site FarFromMoscow.com, a fantastic English-language resource for those interested in modern non-mainstream music from Russian-speaking countries. SRAS’ ArtInRussia.org provides English-language information about art from Russia

and the former USSR, including bios of contemporary artists and reviews of current exhibitions and museums focused on Russian art in Russia, the US, and Canada.

Many universities are starting to build resources to support their own niche communities as well. On Stetson University’s unofficial student blog, students share interesting Russian-related items. Connecticut College runs online blogs where students and professors express their thoughts during faculty-led tours of Russia. Russian clubs have launched Facebook pages to share information and arrange evenings out; Russian departments have launched pages to share their news.

Private businesses and freelancers have also found the Internet a great place to network. For example, Facebook.com/RussianOnSkype is run by a private Russian tutor who works over Skype. By providing regular Russian-language related questions and facts over Facebook, she’s attracted more than 1700 potential clients. SRAS also runs a very active site and Facebook page to provide information and to raise awareness of our study abroad programs.

All of these resources are designed to appeal to people with very specific interests. Additionally, these sites allow these individuals to build a common cultural experience and to communicate with one another; thus, a few scattered individuals become a wider society unrestricted by geographic distance. They are better able to share ideas and support each other in their interests. As they are now gathered in one (virtual) place, they also become a consumer demographic – highly specialized goods and services can be marketed directly to them – including travel, professional services, and yes, even university programs.

II. Where Do I Start? Build Content!

If you are truly looking to reach out more globally, you should not limit yourself to social media alone as most Internet traffic passes through search engines. Your social media profile is not likely to register in most searches for anything other than, well, the name of your profile. Our first step at SRAS, therefore, was to build up our site. Our original efforts focused mostly on short language resources (we’ve since dubbed them “Mini-Lessons”), interviews with professionals who use their Russian skills on the job, and articles on nearly any subject relating to Russian culture and history. All of this was geared to not only be practical for our

target audience of students and professors of Russian, but also to diversify our site so that SRAS.org would appear in nearly any Russia-related Google search.

One of our early efforts, one that has also proven to be one of our most successful, was launching *Vestnik: The Journal of Russian and Asian Studies*. From my experience teaching undergraduates, I knew that there were many bright students out there able to produce extraordinary analysis. I felt that, with the SRAS website and brand, we could do more to encourage and celebrate these students. Thus, *Vestnik* is a scholarly journal specifically focused on publishing student research on any subject related to Russia or the countries of the former Soviet Union. *Vestnik* extensively edits submissions and provides authors feedback from multiple sources. This has resulted in stronger papers for publication but also in eye-opening experiences for the students. Most have praised the process for allowing them to identify weaknesses in their argument or writing styles. Many have been overjoyed to see their *Vestnik* articles judged strong enough to even appear on high school and college-level course syllabi as required reading! It is hard to underestimate the effect that being published in a prestigious publication can have on a student's drive to further pursue their studies and improve their work. The project has also helped SRAS build a much stronger presence online and to present itself as a serious academic organization to students, professors, and parents.

Our newsletter was another early, successful project – built on a similar model. The newsletter is a free, monthly publication that covers programs and funding opportunities, new resources on our site, new primary documents and other web resources available online, and more. In other words, it's diverse enough, practical enough, and cool enough that about 10,000 people both sign up for it and read it. Students have also supported it by writing and contributing articles in part because it represents a resume-building experience with a respected publication.

Recently, we started a Cheap Eats Project. Responding to several concerns about the difficulty finding affordable food in Moscow, St. Petersburg and, particularly, in more "remote" locations, we encouraged students to blog about eating options in their various cities. We now have entries for Moscow, St. Petersburg, Irkutsk, Vladivostok, and Bishkek. The project has been expanded to include reviews of cultural events, sport events, and popular student hang outs.

Developing our website and organization with projects such as those listed above has had several positive effects. Obviously, this has provided us with more material to attract more visitors to our site to also

introduce to our organization and courses. Perhaps more importantly, it improved student experience while abroad by allowing students to gain resume-building publication credits. Projects like Cheap Eats highlight the flourishing diversity of cafes now sprouting up in several Russian cities. Lastly, many of our projects improve future student experiences by helping students to better understand and navigate their cities while abroad and to facilitate research in their interests while at home or abroad.

III. The Challenge of Content

Now that you are (hopefully) excited about the power of content, I should warn you that content is not easy. Expect technical challenges and challenges in managing content, especially as the site grows. Thankfully, an array of online user-friendly products and hosting services can help you start your website. Blogspot and WordPress, for instance, provide relatively easy-to-use platforms with attached hosting services. Basically, this means that you can sign up for, operate, and customize these with little to no programming experience. However, you may still find the process tedious, especially if you are not adept with computers. There can be headaches involved if you want to customize your site beyond the basic templates provided and especially if you have a specific look or functionality that can require programming knowledge.

Most universities have realized the power that electronic services can bring in promoting their programs, improving program image, and making programs competitive. As a result, universities may make available their IT services to university departments. While this can be a major help, conceptualizing and communicating your specific ideas to a programmer can be challenging – especially since most of us do not know exactly how site programming works or the technical terms to describe what we want.

SRAS wanted an integrated site with a list of specific functionalities so we invested in a custom site, with a custom "backend" (what you use to load new articles, maintain the site and perform other internal functions). For us, a fully custom site has been both great and regrettable: the site does exactly what we wanted it to do in a beautifully simple manner. Day-to-day operations are very efficient. It's been regrettable though, in that we have to hire a programmer any time we want the site (or backend) to do something new. We have faced other challenges because of the specific type of site that we decided to launch. For instance, as we are intensively academic and have integrated the process of contributing to our site with our educational services, adding new information is fairly labor-intensive in its substantial editing process.

However, deciding what focus your site will have is the first step towards effective site management. Who is your audience? If you are seeking a truly global reach as an educator, a more formal website is probably needed. If you are reaching out to the Russian students in your local community or to members of your own academic circle, then you might take a more informal style. Perhaps most importantly, you need to ask yourself how your site will differ from all the other sites out there that are also competing for your audience. What can make your site unique?

Deciding on what subject or subjects to focus on is also important. In terms of specifically reaching a niche community, a quite narrow focus can actually be good, although you may want to be broad in approaching it; look at all aspects of your subject and with multiple opinions to make your site a go-to source for someone looking for or interested in such information. Focus will also help in maintaining site navigation – allowing your visitors to easily find the information they want. Having a focus is also a good way to keep your visitors coming back to see what’s new on your site.

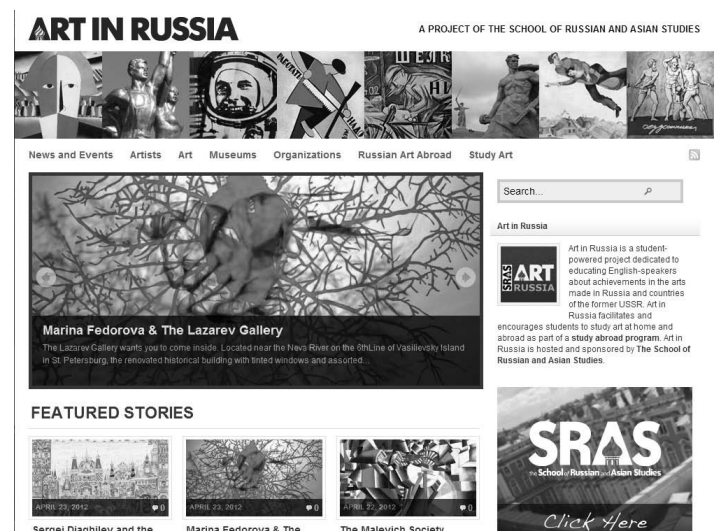
SRAS chose to focus specifically on Russia and the former USSR, realizing that this was a purely geographic focus with a nearly infinite amount of material to offer. Most people describe our site as “very cool” right before saying that “it’s easy to get lost in.” SRAS.org now showcases resources such as a guide to the logistics of Eurasian travel, histories and descriptions of Eurasian cities and regions, advocacy information for educators, Russian lessons and tests, our student journal, a collection of annotated web links and statistics that we call “The Library,” our language-intensive Eurasian Cookbook, a growing list of interviews, and what is basically a pile of magazine-style articles on everything from politics to culture.

Some of this challenge stems from the fact that our site has been active for more than a decade. We’ve had lots of good ideas, received good ideas from educators and students, and sometimes particularly successful articles have grown to become their own sections (as with our Eurasian Cookbook and Library projects). We’ve also found that while this is a weakness in terms of maintaining organization, it has been positive in terms of setting ourselves apart from other sites competing for traffic from our readers. The sheer breadth and variety of our site is something that people have found impressive and cool.

SRAS has also launched two satellite sites: ArtInRussia.org contains all information that SRAS.org once held on the subject and has sparked student contributions on museums, art, artists, and art history. We also have a new site at Students.SRAS.org. This site, currently in beta-version, is tentatively called

“Students Abroad” and focuses on student travel and experiences while abroad. It features our Cheap Eats Project and many of the travel articles our students have written are slated to migrate. We hope that this site will eventually become a free platform on which students can open personal blogs as well.

These new sites allow us to better organize our information and to reach out to even smaller and more focused niche communities. We also hope, of course, that our efforts at ArtInRussia will be beneficial to raising enrollments in our focused programs abroad. Additionally, we are now able to experiment with other platforms. Both were built using WordPress due to its ease of use and its ability to create a more formal E-zine organized with attractive links to articles rather than just lists of posts. We also chose this platform for its flexibility and ease of use of the backend so students can more readily contribute. This in turn, helps them hone technical and writing skills and relieves SRAS of some of its tasks. We did, however, solicit professional help in finishing these sites – particularly in trying to install a filter search system on Students Abroad. If successful, we will likely launch other niche-sites for subjects such as politics in Russia. We also hope to integrate more advanced organization techniques to SRAS.org based on what we learn from operating these other sites.



VI. Briefly on Social Media

While starting a social media account and page is easier as options for design and functionality are much more limited, because of its ease of use, there is much more competition among social media feeds reaching out to niche communities.

Facebook and Twitter feature many accounts started by teachers and students, enthusiasts of language, history, and/or culture, and by professionals, professional organizations, and businesses focused

on all manner of niche interests. These are usually focused on trying to bring together a niche community to promote an educational program, intellectual or travel services, or to simply give an outlet to one person's enthusiasm.

Many pages have difficulty gaining any real number of Facebook likes. Initially, a page's membership will usually be drawn from its founder's list of friends after the founder advertises the page on his/her personal page. However, as often only a small percentage of one's friends are also members of one's niche community, garnering 2-3 dozen initial likes from a friend list of a few hundred is not surprising. Further organic growth occurs when those people who have joined begin to interact with the page, notices of that interaction are shown on their own pages, and their friends begin to migrate to your page out of their own interest.

Multiple studies have shown that the vast majority of online communities are passive participants. Only 1-2% of the total membership is responsible for nearly all of the activity. This means that a certain critical mass must be reached before the page will truly organically grow. The problem, then, is circular; you need a large membership in order to gain a large membership. There are ways around this. If you are looking to push your page to a global reach, you might start by investing a few dollars into advertising with Facebook. The fact that most don't take advantage of Facebook's relatively simple ad system means that those that do can gain a quick advantage. Even a short campaign, properly focused to your target audience (you can focus ads to only be shown to, for example, college students majoring in Russian and interested in politics), can gain you multiple new points of contact. These new contacts have completely different lists of friends from which you can organically grow over time. The downside is how quickly funds on Facebook can be spent. You might spend a few hundred dollars and perhaps gain only a couple dozen new likes. However, overtime these can pay off as the points of contact spread.

Another good way to jump ahead in growing your page is to have a related content-rich site. When we launched our Facebook page, SRAS.org was already attracting upwards of 30,000 unique visitors every month. Thus, integrating our Facebook efforts with our site by placing a prominent link in our main menu to our social media page was effective, especially early on, in gaining extra likes.

For those without such a site and who don't wish to pay for advertising, Facebook contests can be effective. By posting a question that challenges your audience's knowledge of their niche interest, or which

encourages them to share their experiences in being part of a niche community, you can encourage your existing members to be more active; their activity should attract new members to your page. We have found that offering actual prizes greatly improves participation. Even something as simple as a t-shirt, movie tickets, or a used book is enough – often people just like the opportunity to compete for something. Obviously, there are costs involved in procuring and shipping prizes.

One method you can use to leverage your visibility that does not cost anything but time and tact, is to interact with other Facebook pages not as your personal profile, but as your organizational page. By clicking on the small arrow at the top right of your page, you effectively “log into” your page. Each comment or like you leave will be done as that page, leaving your page's name and link back to your page where your personal name and link would ordinarily be featured. Be aware that not all pages allow other pages to make posts to them. Second, be careful not to overuse the ability or to make frivolous comments as doing so makes it readily apparent that you are seeking free advertising on other people's pages. This can seem “cheap” and “spammy,” and can harm your image. Some pages take offence if you “headhunt” from their members and may ban you from their page. Finally, people can only handle a finite amount of information on their feeds, meaning that all the many pages out there are essentially competing for audience.

Facebook pages, like full websites, also need good content. Contests are great as content, as are status updates with interesting information such as “today in history” and “did you know” that will appeal to your niche community. Links to other information online can also be great, but are not as effective. While some use the “share” function to share a link that you shared (and thus creating a link back to you), they may share the link by cutting and pasting the link directly into their own feed, giving you no benefit from having originally found the information. Linking to your own content site is better as then you can garner traffic to that site and, by having a prominent link on that site, also perhaps gain traffic to your social media page again. Indeed, all new information that you post to your content site should also be shared on your social media pages.

We have found that the best content for growing a Facebook page, however, is original Facebook content. These are most often original images that are unique, informative, and, if possible, humorous. In this vein, SRAS recently released its first-ever viral campaign: a series of public service announcements urging people not to study Russian. This reverse-psychology, encapsulated in relatively simple graphics and captions put together with our minimal Photoshop

skills, was enough to make our “reach” (the number of people seeing our name and link on Facebook) jump by 550% and garnered us over double our average number of weekly likes for the two weeks we released the campaign. We are still gaining more weekly likes now than before the campaign, indicating that is having a long-term positive effect.



V. Conclusion: Just Don't Give Up!

When building a site or running a social media page, it is easy to occasionally feel like you are banging pots in the woods: making a lot of noise for what seems like only your own benefit. Sometimes you'll make a post on social media that you thought was great, only to have virtually no response. Sometimes you'll get negative feedback on your site, which can sting considering that content sites are really labors of love. You are bound to make mistakes – I know I certainly have as I've searched for ways to grow SRAS's (and now several other organizations') online presence. However, bear in mind that as soon as you stop feeding into the system – creating new information online and making new posts – you begin to lose your reach. So, keep in mind the words of that great Russia-watcher Winston Churchill: “Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.” The Internet is, honestly, mostly about enthusiasm – keep yours and you'll do fine.



Personages

Sarah Cameron has accepted a tenure-track position in Soviet history at the University of Maryland.

William J. Comer has been promoted to Full Professor and now serves as Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas.

Mark G. Field (Harvard University) has relocated to Falls Church, VA to be near his daughter. He has given to the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard his professional files and other materials. In addition, Harvard has received an anonymous gift of a million dollars to establish the Professor Mark G. Field Honorary Fund.

Kristen Ghodsee (Bowdoin College) has been awarded a 2012 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship.

Irina Ivliyeva received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at the Missouri University of Science and Technology, starting September 1, 2012.

Eric Lohr has been awarded the first Susan E. Lehrman Chair in Russian History and Culture at American University.

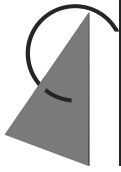
The incoming Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect for the Slavic & East European Section of the ALA is **Natasha Lyandres**, Russian Language and Literature, University of Notre Dame.

Aaron Retish (Wayne State University) received a research grant from the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation to support his book project, “In the Courts of Revolution: Violence, Legality, and Social Control in the Soviet Rural Courtroom, 1917-1939.”

Karen Ryan was named dean of Stetson University College of Arts & Sciences. Ryan will also hold a faculty position, as professor of Russian language and literature. She will start at Stetson on July 23.

Erik R. Scott has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Modern Russian History at the University of Kansas, beginning in August 2012.

Michael Urban has been named Emeritus Professor of Politics at the University of California, Santa Cruz.



Publications

Roger E. Kanet and Maria Raquel Freire have recently edited three books: *Competing for Influence: the EU and Russia in post-Soviet Eurasia* (Republic of Letters Publishing, 2012); *Russia and Its Near Neighbours: Identity, Interests and Foreign Policy* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012) and *Russia and European Security*. (Republic of Letters Publishing, 2012)

In The Cinema of Tarkovsky: Labyrinths of Space and Time, Nariman Skakov explores the phenomenon of spatio-temporal lapse in Tarkovsky's cinema – from 'Ivan's Childhood' (1962) to 'Sacrifice' (1986). He argues that dreams, visions, mirages, memories, revelations, reveries and delusions are phenomena which present alternative spatio-temporal patterns; they disrupt the linear progression of events and create narrative discontinuity. Each chapter is dedicated to the discussion of one of Tarkovsky's feature films and, in each, one of these phenomena functions as a refrain. Skakov discusses the influence of the flow of and lapses in space and time on the viewer's perception of the Tarkovskian cinematic universe. He opens and closes his book on Tarkovsky's cinema by focusing on the phenomenon of time that was discussed extensively by the filmmaker in his main theoretical treatise 'Sculpting in Time', as well as in a number of interviews and public lectures. (I.B. Tauris, 2012).

Maria Podraza-Kwiatkowska is a prominent scholar of Polish Literature associated with the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. *Labirynty-Kładki-Drogowskazy* (Labyrinths-Bridges-Guideposts) is her newest book which examines Polish Literature through the prism of comparative studies. The broad, literary analysis starts with the Young Poland movement (Stanislaw Wyspiański) and evolves toward the psychological, paradoxical writings of Witold Gombrowicz.

The book situates Polish literature in a rich, literary context of the European tradition. Using the idea of intercontextualism, the author argues that literary components/elements have a relational meaning and value. This meaning connects different literatures. Thus, there is a strong, cultural possibility to link Stefan Żeromski's prose to the French writings of Marcel Proust. Furthermore, Gombrowicz's *Pornography* can be compared with Choderlos de Laclos' French novel(s). In conclusion, the book proposes an innovative, comparative examination of Polish literature. It shows that literature is the intricate line of hidden connections. (Universitas Publishing House, 2011)

Berghahn Books is pleased to announce the recent publication of a paperback edition of *Post-Communist Nostalgia*, edited by Maria Todorova and Zsuzsa Gille.

Although the end of the Cold War was greeted with great enthusiasm by people in the East and the West, the ensuing social and especially economic changes did not always result in the hoped-for improvements in people's lives. This led to widespread disillusionment that can be observed today all across Eastern Europe. Not simply a longing for security, stability, and prosperity, this nostalgia is also a sense of loss regarding a specific form of sociability. In this volume scholars from multiple disciplines explore the various fascinating aspects of this nostalgic turn by analyzing the impact of generational clusters, the rural-urban divide, gender differences, and political orientation. They argue persuasively that this nostalgia should not be seen as a wish to restore the past, as it has otherwise been understood, but instead it should be recognized as part of a more complex healing process and an attempt to come to terms both with the communist era as well as the new inequalities of the post-communist era.

Carol Silverman recently published *Romani Routes: Cultural Politics and Balkan Music in Diaspora* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

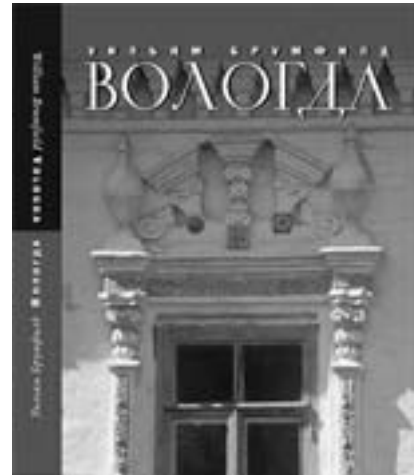
Over the past two decades, a steady stream of recordings, videos, feature films, festivals, and concerts has presented the music of Balkan Gypsies, or Roma, to Western audiences, who have greeted them with exceptional enthusiasm. Yet, as author Carol Silverman notes, "Roma are revered as musicians and reviled as people." In this book, Silverman introduces readers to the people and cultures who produce this music, offering a sensitive and incisive analysis of how Romani musicians address the challenges of discrimination. Focusing on southeastern Europe then moving to the diaspora, her book examines the music within Gypsy communities, the lives and careers of outstanding musicians, and the marketing of music in the electronic media and "world music" concert circuit. Silverman touches on the way that the Roma exemplify many qualities—adaptability, cultural hybridity, transnationalism—that are taken to characterize late modern experience. Rather than just celebrating these qualities, she presents the musicians as complicated, pragmatic individuals who work creatively within the many constraints that inform their lives. As both a performer and presenter on the world music circuit, Silverman has worked extensively with Romani communities for more than two decades both in their home countries and in the diaspora. At a time when the political and economic plight of European Roma and the popularity of their music are objects of international attention, Silverman's book is incredibly timely.

Click here for related photographs, audio clips, text supplements, song words, and over 100 video clips.

William Brumfield has released over 53 articles and photo essays on Russia's regional heritage for the foreign-language service of the Russian national newspaper Rossiiskaia Gazeta. A link to the series can be found at: http://rbth.ru/discovering_russia

This additional link contains text and photographs devoted to the Architectural-Ethnographic Museum at Semyonkovo (near Vologda). For best results with the slide show, click the 4-arrow icon at lower right of photo window.

Tri Quadrata Publishing House (Moscow) announces the publication of *Vologda* by William Craft Brumfield. This is the sixth volume in a series devoted to the architectural heritage of historic towns in the Vologda territory. In addition to the text and notes (in both Russian and English), the book contains 310 color and black-and-white photographs taken by the author during some 40 visits to Vologda from 1995 to 2012. Of particular interest is the book's photographic documentation of fresco cycles in Vologda churches, including most notably the Cathedral of St. Sophia.



Zara Martirosova Torlone (Miami University, Ohio) and Maria Stadter Fox (independent scholar) have published Marina Tsvetaeva's classical plays, *Ariadne* (1927) and *Phaedra* (1928) in English translation: *Soul and Passion: Marina Tsvetaeva's Classical Plays* (Staroe Vino, 2012).

Special issue & digest dedicated to the 70th anniversary of *Новый Журнал* / *The New Review*

**Russian Emigration in the USA,
Новый Журнал, June, #267, 2012**



Content: from epistle archives: 1920–40th – Mikhail Tzetlin to Gleb Struve; 1940–1950th – Mark Aldanov to Vasily Maklakov; 1970th – Igor Chinnov to A. Bakhrakh; also: *Vozdushnie Puty* & Osip Mandelstam; Russian DPs – Horrow & Glory of the Postwar Immigration; in honor of the 90th anniversary of *Russkaya Zhizn* in San Francisco; NTS in the US; in memory of Leonid Rzhevskii (1905–1985) and Yuri Kashkarov (1940–1996) – prose; poems by Amary, Chinnov, Struve; contemporary prose and poems of the Russian Diaspora in the US, etc. 400 pp. The issue was published under the sponsorship of *Russkyi Mir* Foundation.

The New Review is the oldest continuously published literary quarterly of the Russian emigration. Established in 1942 by well-known writer Mark Aldanov and poet Mikhail Tzetlin with the help of Ivan Bunin, the magazine during the last seventy years had formed the literary process of Russian émigré culture. Our contributing authors included Russian Nobel Prize laureates – Ivan Bunin, Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Joseph Brodsky, as well as a plethora of other writers, poets, philosophers, artists and politicians. *The New Review* is distributed in 32 countries. *The New Review's* annual Mark Aldanov's Literary Prize for the best novel rewards writers of Russian-speaking Diaspora.

See also under **The New Review's project "Russian Emigration at the Crossroads of XX century":**

- **Russian Emigration in Bulgaria, #247, 2007; 266, 2011:** an interview with Bulgarian tsar Simeon von Sachsen-Coburg und Gotha; memoir of the prince Lobanov-Rostovsky; story of the relationship of actress Vera Pushkareff and poet K.R., etc.; memoirs of the White Russian Émigrés;

- **Russian Emigration in Czechoslovakia, #251, 2008:** Gen. Kutepoff's letters to Karel Kramarz; "Russian Action" in Czechoslovakia; Alfred Bem – in memoirs of his daughter and grandson; Russian immigrants – about Prague in 1945, etc.

- **Russian Emigration in France, #253, 2008:** unknown texts of Boris Poplavsky; a novel by Irene Nemirovsky; a diary and poems by Irina Knorring; an essay by mother Maria (Skobtsova) – "About Creativeness"; Boris Zaytsev's letters to Rene Guerra; etc.

- **Russian Emigration in China, # 256, 2009:** unknown poems by Larissa Anderson; novels by Mikhail Scherbakov and Alexander Perfiliev; Russian Churaevka in the US (letters of G. Grebenshikov and A. Achair), etc.

- **Russian Emigration in Yugoslavia, # 259, 2010:** Crown Prince of Yugoslavia Alexander II Karageorgevich's interview; Ivan Bunin's letter to E. Tauber; Russian cadets in Serbia in 1920-1945, poems, prose & articles of contemporary Serbian writers, etc.

Four digests based on the texts from #251(in Russian, English and Czech), #253 (in Russian, English and French), #259 (in Russian, English and Serbian),and #267 (in Russian and English) are also available.

The New Review 611 Broadway, suite 902, New York, New York 10012, (212)353-1478, newreview@msn.com



NATASHA KOZMENKO
BOOKSELLERS
SLAVIC LITERATURE LLP

www.nkbooks.ru

BOOKS IN RUSSIAN
DIRECTLY FROM MOSCOW

non-fiction
weekly book-lists
latest russian books
directly from moscow
approval plans
books from the provinces
for all slavists, scholars & LIBRARIANS

MARC21

To ensure you have no further problems obtaining recent Russian books, all you now need to do is e-mail a request for our lists to:

INFO@NKBOOKS.RU



2012 ACLS FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to the following ASEEEES members for receiving ACLS Fellowships:

Gabor Agoston / ACLS Fellowship

Associate Professor, History, Georgetown University War, Empire and the Making of Europe: Ottomans, Habsburgs and Russians, 1500-1800

Sarah Cramsey / East European Studies Dissertation Fellowship

Doctoral Candidate, History, University of California, Berkeley Uncertain Citizenship: Czechs, Poles and the Jewish people 1938-1948

Connor Doak / Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship

Doctoral Candidate, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Northwestern University Poetry in the Matador's Cape: Masculinity in the work of Vladimir Mayakovsky

Marina Dobronovskaya / Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship

Doctoral Candidate, Historic Preservation, University of Delaware The Material Culture of Stalinism: The City of Novgorod, Urban Reconstruction and Historic Preservation in the Soviet Union after World War II (1943-1955)

Victor Friedman / ACLS Fellowship

Professor, Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Chicago Balkan Languages and Identities: Macedonia as Macrocosm, Mesocosm, and Microcosm

Edward Geist / Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship

Doctoral Candidate, History, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Two Worlds of Civil Defense: State, Society, and Nuclear Survival in the USA and USSR, 1945-1991

Piotr Kosicki / ACLS New Faculty Fellows Program

New Faculty Fellow, History, University of Virginia Between Catechism and Revolution: Poland, France, and the Story of Catholicism and Socialism in Europe, 1878-1958

Kyrill Kunakhovich / East European Studies Dissertation Fellowship

Doctoral Candidate, History, Princeton University In Search of Socialist Culture: Cultural Life and Cultural Administration in Krakow and Leipzig, 1945-1970

Lauren Ninoshvili / ACLS New Faculty Fellows Program

New Faculty Fellow, Music, New York University Singing between the Words: The Poetics of Georgian Polyphony

Applications for the 2012-13 fellowship competitions will be available by early August. Updated program descriptions and application information will be posted at www.acls.org/programs/comps



<http://www.acls.org>

American Council
of Learned Societies
633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017-6795
212.697.1505

2012 ACTR NATIONAL POST-SECONDARY RUSSIAN ESSAY CONTEST

Congratulations to the winners of the Thirteenth Annual ACTR National Post-Secondary Russian Essay Contest. In this year's contest, there were 1,040 essays submitted from 48 universities, colleges, and institutions across the nation. Each essay was ranked by three judges in Russia, and often the results were simply too close to call.

Non-Heritage Learners, Level 1

1st Place

John Nunes Brandeis U
James Reyes Columbia U

2nd Place

C. Dickinson Ole Miss
B. Donahoe Columbia U
Naomi Sharp Columbia U

3rd Place)

Joseph Babeu Brandeis U
Grace Cho Columbia U
B. Rashkovich Columbia U

Non-Heritage Learners, Level 2

1st Place

G.Hsu Rutgers U
S.Stebelska Rutgers U

2nd Place

C. Anthony BYU
B. Belingheri BYU
T. Kaji Columbia U

3rd Place

Ian Calloway U of Chicago
Justin Trifiro U of MT-Missoula

Non-Heritage Learners, Level 3

1st Place

Matt Kupfer Brandeis U

2nd Place

D. Bowen Portland State U
Paul Cannon BYU
Paul Gallo BYU
N. Lambson BYU

3rd Place

C. Champenois BYU
Beau Gabriel Yale U
Trent Olsen BYU
J. Parsley Portland State U

Non-Heritage Learners, Level 4

1st Place

T. Madsen Indiana U
J.Yue UPenn

2nd Place

T. Long Portland State U.
P. Phelan Notre Dame
B.Pleszczynski Sewanee

3rd Place

Sydney Heller UCLA
E. Nurmi U of Chicago
C. Stephenson U of Chicago

Heritage Learners, Level 1

1st Place

M. Tydykov Brandeis U

2nd Place

A. Austin Brandeis U
M.Sidykh Rutgers U

3rd Place

A. Glebov U of Rochester
N. Riabkova UCLA

Heritage Learners, Level 2

1st Place

I. Ivashchenko USMA

2nd Place

T. Brodskiy U of Mississippi
Valeria Spirko Portland State U

3rd Place

E.Toutok U of Rochester

Heritage Learners, Level 3

1st Place

O.Kibitkina College of Charleston
H. Stepanyan UCLA

2nd Place

Arpi Karen Grigoryan U

3rd Place)

Lilit Gabrielyan UCLA
Maia Kustin UCLA

More complete results, including those earning Honorable mention, are published in the ACTR Letter, and facsimile excerpts from some of the best essays are printed there as well.





ASEEES 44th Annual Convention • November 15-18, 2012 New Orleans Marriott • New Orleans, LA

A block of rooms in the conference hotel has been made available for ASEEES attendees at a discounted rate \$185 per night plus tax (single/double/triple/quad). Our group rate applies 3 days before and 3 days after our convention dates, based on availability.

Please book your room early, we will sell out. You can make your reservation online https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=8377571

Or Call Reservations Toll Free: 877-622-3056

Block code: ASEEES / Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies

NOTE: Please use the number above to insure that you get the group rate. DO NOT call the main line to the hotel to make the reservation.

If you are interested in Exhibiting and/or Advertising at the Convention, please contact Wendy Walker for an exhibit and ad kit (wwalker@pitt.edu).

For more information about the convention or to register, please visit:

<http://www.aseees.org/convention/registration.html>

To view the preliminary convention program, please visit: <http://www.aseees.org/convention/program.html>



**ASEEES 44th Annual Convention — New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, LA — November 15-18, 2012
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM**

The information given here will be used to create your convention name badge and to create or update your database record.
Therefore it must be **correct, complete, and clear.**

Name: _____

Institution: _____

E-mail address: _____

Home address: _____

Office address: _____

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINES and FEES

The convention program's **Index of Participants closes September 21**. If we have not **received** your registration by this date, your panel will appear in the program, but your name will not appear in the index.

Although your name won't appear in the index, you can continue to register after September 21, up until **pre-registration closes on October 10, 2012**. After this date, you must register on site. On-site registration will cost an additional \$30 (additional \$10 for students, \$15 for retirees). **All persons attending the convention must register and pay the fee. All speakers, roundtable participants, and discussants must be members unless eligible to register as a non-member. See www.aseees.org/rules.php for details.**

	Fees for registering by August 17	Fees for registering by October 10	
ASEEES Members.....	\$120.....	\$140.....	\$ _____
ASEEES Member student or income under \$30K.....	\$30.....	\$35.....	\$ _____
ASEEES Member retiree.....	\$60.....	\$70.....	\$ _____
Non-Member.....	\$170.....	\$190.....	\$ _____
Non-member student or income under \$30K.....	\$40.....	\$45.....	\$ _____
Awards Buffet, Saturday, November 17, 2012: Featuring hearty hors d'ouvres and a cash bar.			
_____ tickets @ \$45 each		_____ student tickets @ \$20	\$ _____
		SUBTOTAL:	\$ _____
2012 Membership Dues (rates have gone up, see inside back cover of NewsNet or www.aseees.org/ind.php)			\$ _____
		TOTAL:	\$ _____

If paying by check, please make check payable to ASEEES in U.S. dollars. If paying by credit card, provide the following information:

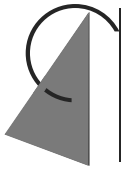
Visa Mastercard AMEX _____ _____
Credit Card Number EXPIRATION DATE

Cardholder name: _____ Signature: _____

Billing Address: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO: **ASEEES, 203C BELLEFIELD HALL, PITTSBURGH, PA 15260-6424 • FAX: +1-412-648-9815 • EMAIL: ASEEES@PITT.EDU**

*All refund requests for the convention registration fee and/or buffet ticket must be made in writing by e-mail to aseees@pitt.edu (preferred) or by fax to +1-(412)-648-9815. Refund requests received on or before **September 15, 2012** will be refunded 100% of your registration fee, less a \$20 administrative fee to cover the cost of processing. Cancellations received between **September 16 and October 15, 2012** will be refunded 50% of your registration fee, less a \$20 administrative fee. **Refunds will not be available for cancellations made after October 15, 2012, no shows, or membership dues.** No exceptions. All refunds will be issued after the annual convention.*



In Memoriam

Dr. Alex Alexander, a Slavist and specialist in Slavic folklore, died on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 in New York City. He was 77. Dr. Alexander was a professor at Hunter College for many decades. Alex Edward Alexander (Aleksandrowicz) was born in 1935 in Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski, Poland. He survived the Nazi occupation in Poland and came to the United States in 1949. In 1958-60 he served in the U. S. Army in Korea; after his military service he completed his studies at City College. Alex Alexander received his Ph.D. from Columbia University. Since 1968 he has taught at Hunter College. He published two scholarly books *Folk Epic and Fairy Tale* (1970) and *Russian Folklore* (1975), as well as many articles in various academic publications. Dr. Alexander has been involved with the activities of the Polish Club of Hunter College.

Dr. Ronald D. Bachman, 64, of Falls Church, VA, died at Canaan Valley, WV, on Feb. 10, 2012, in a traffic accident on a mountain road. Ron was born Nov. 4, 1947, in rural Rulo to the late Elias and Marguerite (Homewood) Bachman. He majored in Russian at the University of Nebraska and earned his BA in 1970. He was awarded his Ph.D. in Slavic Linguistics from OSU in 1980.

In 1975, Ron began his career with the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. For fourteen years, he served as a translator, research analyst, and editor of Slavic materials in the Federal Research Division. During 1990 and 1991, he worked at the Pentagon as an East European Analyst, Air Force Intelligence Agency. He regularly briefed the Air Force senior leadership, including the Secretary and the Chief of Staff, on current events within that region. He was required to be on call at all times and was happy when he was selected to work in the European Division of the LOC as the Area Specialist for Poland and Eastern Europe in late 1991. Among the notable challenges he faced during his fifteen years in that position was the supervision of fifty translators who prepared the materials for the exhibit "Revelations from the Russian Archives." He co-edited a book bearing the same title. He spoke several languages and traveled throughout Europe. Colleagues recall his generosity, kindness, sense of humor, intelligence, and humility.

Ron retired from the LOC in 2007 and pursued other interests.

Carl Linden passed away on April 2, 2012. Dr. Linden, was a noted expert on the domestic politics of the Soviet Union, Russian political thought, and Western political thought.

Linden retired from GW in 2011. During his time at GW, he was an engaged member of the Sino-Soviet Insti-

tute/Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES) community. He authored nine books including *The Soviet Party-State: The Politics of Ideocratic Despotism* (Praeger Publishers, 1983) and *Khrushchev and the Soviet Leadership 1957-1964* (John Hopkins, 1966), which was a major contribution to the Soviet studies field.

He was a member of the C&O Canal Association for over 50 years, during which time, he successfully restored and preserved the Monocacy Aqueduct, which had been designated one of the 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

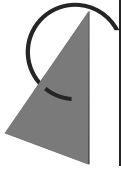
Dr. Dragan Milivojevic, 82, professor emeritus of modern languages at the University of Oklahoma, passed away Friday, Feb. 24, 2012, after a short illness.

Milivojevic was born in Belgrade, Serbia, on April 20, 1929, as the only child of a prominent Belgrade attorney and his wife, a professor of French. From his parents, he developed a deep love of languages and of the arts.

Dr. Milivojevic defected from Tito's Yugoslavia in 1951 and after a series of adventures he reached Canada. He had received his bachelor's degree from the University of Belgrade. After obtaining a doctorate in linguistics from the University of Texas at Austin, he spent most of his professional career at the University of Oklahoma's Department of Modern Languages, teaching Russian, linguistics and allied subjects. He also taught in England and Hawaii. A polyglot who spoke fluently at least six languages and was conversant with many more, Professor Milivojevic published a number of books on linguistic and literary subjects, ranging from a linguistic study of Slavic phonology to his edited collection of essays on Tolstoy's relationship to Buddhism.

Dragan Milivojevic was not only a scholar of distinction, he was also a hugely gifted teacher. As his OU colleagues, Emily Johnson and Pamela Genova, recall: "Dragan played a key role in the internationalization of the University of Oklahoma both while he was a Russian professor and later, after his retirement from teaching, through his work in the Education Abroad office. He helped to encourage many students who otherwise might never have considered traveling abroad or studying a challenging foreign language..."

Until his final days, Dragan Milivojevic maintained his love for travel, for the outdoors, for the arts, for chess (of which he was a master) and for his family and friends. He is remembered and venerated by all who knew him as a truly brilliant, warm, compassionate, generous person with a mischievous sense of humor. He will be missed by the countless students whom he mentored and by his many friends at OU, in Norman and around the world.



Institutional Member News

ACTR RUSSIAN SCHOLAR LAUREATE IS NOW OPEN

Deadline: June 30. Current members can nominate their your best sophomore or junior secondary school Russian student for this award. A PDF of the brochure and the nomination form can requested from the Chair by email. Please send your complete nomination materials to the address below:

Nataliya Ushakova, Chair

ACTR Russian Scholar Laureate Award
Staten Island Technical HS, 485 Clawson Street,
Staten Island, NY 10306, nushakova@gmail.com

NEW INTERNATIONAL AND AREA STUDIES LIBRARY AT UIUC

The new International & Area Studies Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was dedicated on March 6, 2012 with an open house, lecture, and wine reception. Debora Jakubs, the Rita DiGiallonardo Holloway University Librarian and Vice Provost for Library Affairs at Duke University lectured on "The Global Dimensions of Scholarship and Research Libraries."

The IAS Library occupies refurbished space on the main library's third floor formerly housing the English Library and the Asian Library. The new home of the Slavic Reference Service includes seven workstations in the former English Library periodicals room. A corridor leading from the SRS room to the main reading room contains all current Slavic and East European periodicals, and the Slavic reference books are housed adjacent to the reading room and the Reference Service.

Other librarians' offices are across the hall in the former Asian Library, and the Asian reading room has been converted into a conference-class room with advanced technology for information literacy instruction and teleconferencing. We share the third floor with the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, the Scholarly Commons, and the Library's main computer classroom.

Here are some photos of the IAS Library and the March 6 open house.

INDIANA U HOSTS WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES

New Approaches to Grammar in Foreign Language Instruction, Friday, June 29, 2012, 2-5 pm

In this workshop for pre-service and in-service teachers of foreign languages in both pre-college and university/college programs, participants will explore alternative approaches to the teaching of grammar. We'll try to move away from the explicit presentation and practice of grammatical rules, with its emphasis on production and on accuracy, and instead consider some other dimensions of grammar teaching: grammar as understanding; grammar as options; grammar as puzzle; grammar as play; and grammar as personal.

The workshop will be conducted by Bill Johnston, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at Indiana University and a leading specialist in methodology for instruction of less commonly taught languages (LCTLs). Together with Louis Janus, he founded the summer institute Developing Classroom Materials for LCTLs which has been offered continuously at the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA, University of Minnesota) since 1999. He has led workshops at CARLA, the International Conference on Language Teacher Education, and the TESOL Convention, while also serving for many years as a trainer for teachers of the Lakota language in North and South Dakota. Johnston's publications in the field of foreign language pedagogy include Developing Materials for LCTLs (University of Minnesota, 2007) and, with co-author C. A. Buzelli, *The Moral Dimensions of Teaching: Language, Power, and Culture in Classroom Interaction* (RoutledgeFalmer, 2002). He is also a prolific translator of Polish poetry and fiction.

Travel fellowships are available to pre-college Russian teachers who wish to attend the workshop. The fellowships will cover the cost of transportation between the teacher's home and Bloomington, one night's accommodation, and a small per diem to offset the cost of meals. We encourage all interested teachers to apply; however, preference will be given to applicants who currently teach Russian in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio, or Michigan and/or those who have not received such a fellowship in the past five years.

To apply for a travel fellowship, please write to Mark Trotter at martrott@indiana.edu. Sponsors: Russian and East European Institute, Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center



THE KENNAN INSTITUTE AT THE
WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR
SCHOLARS

Grant Opportunities:

Please check the Kennan Institute website for the most updated information when applying:

KI SHORT-TERM GRANTS Up to one month's duration
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, 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. Applications may be submitted via e-mail, fax or post. If sending a hard copy, the application must be in clear, dark type, printed on one side only, without staples.

Grant recipients are required to be in residence in Washington, D.C. for the duration of their grant. Four rounds of competitive selection for Short-Term Grants are held each year. The next closing date is June 1, 2012. Applicants are notified of the competition results roughly seven weeks after the closing date. Only U.S. citizens are currently eligible for Short-Term Grants. NOTE: Short-Term Grants for non-US citizens are suspended until further notice. Please check the KI website for updated information on the Short-Term Grant Program for non-US citizens.

The Short-Term Grant Program is supported by the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the former Soviet Union (Title VIII) of the U.S. Department of State and the Kennan Institute endowment.

For more information, please contact Lauren Crabtree or, please see www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan.

KI TITLE VIII-SUPPORTED RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS 3-9 months duration

Title VIII Research Scholarships are available to academic participants in the early stages of their career (before tenure) or scholars whose careers have been interrupted or delayed. For non-academics, an equivalent degree of professional achievement is expected. Eligibility is limited to the postdoctoral level for academic participants, although doctoral candidates in the process of completing a dissertation may apply (the dissertation must be successfully defended before taking residence

at the Kennan Institute). Applicants must be U.S. citizens. Research proposals examining the countries of Central Eurasia are eligible. Those proposals related to regional Russia, Ukraine, Central Asia, Belarus, the Caucasus, and contemporary issues are particularly welcome. The Title VIII Research Scholar grant offers a stipend of \$3,300 per month, research facilities, computer support, and some research assistance. Grant recipients are required to be in residence at the Institute in Washington, D.C. for the duration of their grant.

One round of competitive Title VIII Research Scholar selection is held per year. The deadline for receipt of applications and supporting materials is December 1, 2012. Application materials must be submitted by mail; materials sent by electronic mail or facsimile will not be considered. Decisions on appointment will be made in mid-February; grantees are able to commence their appointments as early as July.

Applications can be downloaded here: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan>.

The Research Scholar Program is supported by the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII) of the United States Department of State.

KI SUMMER RESEARCH GRANTS 2 months duration

Scholars who conduct research in the social sciences or humanities focusing 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 should consider applying for the summer research grants. The summer grants must be used between May-September 2013, and grant applicants are required to hold an MA degree or higher. The Summer Research Scholarships will provide a stipend of \$6,400 for 62 days (\$103.22/day), research facilities, computer support, and some research assistance. Travel and accommodation expenses are not directly covered by this grant.

Applicants are required to submit a concise description (700-800 words) of his or her research project, 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 Institute. All of these materials may be submitted via e-mail except for the letters of recommendation. The letters should be sent, with signature, either by fax or post. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens. Applications should be submitted in clear dark type, printed on one side only, without staples. Closing date is December 1, 2012.

For more information, please contact Lauren.Crabtree@wilsoncenter.org; Phone: (202) 691-4274; Fax: (202) 691-4247. Send all application materials to: Lauren Crabtree, Kennan Institute, One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20004-3027.

Scholars in Residence:

Each year, the Kennan Institute sponsors between 35-40 scholars to conduct humanities, social science, and policy research in Washington, D.C. Grant opportunities include Title VIII Research Scholarships, Fulbright-Kennan Scholarships, Starovoitova Scholarships, and Short-Term grants. The Kennan Institute welcomes the following scholars this spring and summer:

Title VIII-Supported Research Scholars

Danielle Lussier, Assistant Professor, Grinnell College. "Activating Democracy: Political Participation and Regime Change in Russia and Indonesia."

Erik Scott, independent scholar. "Familiar Strangers: The Georgian Diaspora in the Soviet Union."

Title VIII-Supported Short-Term Scholars

Paul Rimple, journalist. "History of US Military Involvement in Georgia, 2001-2011."

Susan Smith, independent scholar. "Poems in Stone": Historic Preservation."



NCEEER WELCOMES NEW PRESIDENT

In a new collaborative agreement between the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER) and American Councils for International Education (ACTR/ACCELS) Dr. David Patton, a Vice President at American Councils, has been formally appointed as the President of NCEEER while continuing in his current role at American Councils.

For more than a decade, NCEEER and American Councils have collaborated closely on international fellowship programs and advanced research on Russia, Eurasia and Southeast Europe. Dr. Patton's appointment reinforces the complementary missions of the two organizations, allowing them to pursue these missions on a more expansive scale by utilizing combined resources. Confirming the complementary activity of the organizations, Dr. Patton – the newly appointed President of NCEEER – said, "I believe that closer cooperation between the organizations will create an alliance that is greater than the sum of its parts, which will benefit the research community both in the U.S. and abroad through more effective and comprehensive support for researchers and their projects, as well as innovative program design and management. I very much look forward to the challenges and rewards ahead."

Congratulating Dr. Patton on his new role, Dr. Maria Carlson, Chairman of the NCEEER Board of Directors,

said, "The Board of Directors of NCEEER is delighted to welcome Dr. David Patton as its new president. His innovative shared-executive role, as President of NCEEER and a Vice-President of American Councils, is a multiplier for both entities, which have a long history of successful and collegial cooperation. Under Dr. Patton's leadership, NCEEER is ready to enter the current period of great challenges and greater opportunities."

NCEEER's focus on policy-relevant, postdoctoral research expands American Councils' already broad range of participants in its exchange programs throughout Europe and Eurasia. Dr. Dan E. Davidson, President of American Councils, said, "I am very pleased with the decision of the NCEEER Board to appoint Dr. David Patton as the new president. David's understanding of the needs of the field and his ability to play senior leadership roles both for NCEEER and American Councils will further strengthen our cooperation, while helping to streamline program administration and operating costs for both organizations."

American Councils is a leader in international education, academic exchange, and overseas language immersion. For more information about American Councils and its programs, visit www.AmericanCouncils.org.

GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

"Literary Theatricality: Theatrical Text"

Princeton U Dept of Slavic Languages & Literatures

October 26 & 27, 2012

Convergence between text and dramatic performance can be found in the narrative strategies of some of the most foundational texts of Russian literature. For instance, in *Eugene Onegin* Pushkin's narrator shifts between masks, using the disguises to create a plurality of voices throughout the structure of his lyrical stanzas. In a similar vein, Gogol's narrators relied rely on complex verbal textures borrowed from vocalized turns of speech (skaz). In the 20th century, Silver Age and modernist artists both theorized and explored a synthesis between genres, particularly in the case of dancers who drew on literature as both textual and inspirational sources for their formulations of movement codes. Early Russian film and film theory freely borrowed from theatrical conventions, while Eisenstein and Tynianov regarded film as structurally analogous to a written text.

This interdisciplinary conference will explore this crucial trend to consider literature as something performative and to read performance in literary terms. We hope to tease out one of the most fundamental, but largely overlooked, structural and thematic capabilities of the text in Russian literature. We hope to bring perspectives together from other fields of language and literature, anthropology, history, gender studies, performing and visual arts, and film and media studies.

Please address questions to Susanna Weygandt (weygandt@princeton.edu).



RSUH PROMOTING RUSSIAN LANGUAGE ABROAD

At the invitation of the Russian Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States, Compatriots Living Abroad and International Humanitarian Cooperation, Russian State University for the Humanities (RSUH) initiated a program of promoting Russian language abroad. Since November 2011 several professors from the Department of English and the Department of Russian as a Foreign Language have undertaken trips to Greece, Moldova, Mongolia and are planning to visit France, Germany and India. While in foreign countries, RSUH representatives deliver lectures on modern approaches and techniques to Russian language teaching, provide hands-on master classes and conduct seminars for both local teachers and students of Russian at universities, language schools and centers of Russian culture. The program is supervised by Prof. Irina Petrova.

SRAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Application deadlines for fall programs are coming fast! Students can study abroad in a range of locations across Ukraine, Russia, and Vladivostok in subjects as diverse as cultural studies, geopolitics, conflict, the environment, and, of course, Russian language! More details on our innovative programs and internships can be found here.

Many funding opportunities for study abroad to Russia are listed here.

We have also launched a tongue-in-cheek public service campaign to "Stop Russian," which has culminated in a poster designed to warn students just how addicting Russian can be! Find out more about this campaign (and download the poster) here.

Vestnik, The Journal of Russian and Asian Studies, is now accepting submissions of outstanding STUDENT research on any subject related to Russia, the former USSR, or any country that was formerly part of the USSR. As is now tradition, a \$200 Jury Award will go to the best submission published!

NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

Elaine Rusinko, ed. "God Is a Rusyn": Anthology of Contemporary Carpatho-Rusyn Literature. Translated by Elaine Rusinko, with Bogdan Horbal and Slavomir Olejar, 322 p., 2011 (ISBN 978-0-89357-381-2), \$29.95.

Situated at a crossroads of states, cultures, and languages, Rusyn literature has survived a history of linguistic disorder, political oppression, and cultural denigration. Today a renewed Rusyn literature, written in newly codified linguistic variants, plays a decisive role in shaping the identity of the stateless Carpatho-Rusyn people. This anthology is the first comprehensive compilation of Carpatho-Rusyn literature in English.

Nikolaos A. Chrissidis et al., eds. Religion and Identity in Russia and the Soviet Union: A Festschrift for Paul Bushkovitch, 276 p., 2011 (ISBN 978-0-89357-379-9), \$31.95.

In this collection of essays focusing on the themes of religion and identity, Paul Bushkovitch's students celebrate his manifold contributions to the study of Russian history.

Priscilla Hunt and Svitlana Kobets, eds. Holy Foolishness in Russia: New Perspectives, 413 p., 2011 (ISBN 978-0-89357-383-6), \$34.95.

This richly illustrated volume's innovative interdisciplinary approaches and engagement with the newest scholarly literature presents a new basis for exploration of holy foolishness in Russia as a unique expression of national identity.

Henry R. Cooper, ed. An Anthology of Croatian Literature, 340 p., 2011 (ISBN 978-0-89357-391-1), \$29.95.

As a result of the slow dissolution and then violent collapse of the Yugoslav federation, the individualities of its literary traditions have come to the fore once again. This anthology, featuring excerpts from the works of 66 writers, spans 10 centuries of Croatian literature. With its overview of Croatian literary history, explanatory footnotes, and brief biographical sketches for each author, the volume also seeks to contextualize Croatian writers, enabling the curious reader to seek out and understand other translations not included here.

Slavica Publishers
Indiana University
2611 E. 10th St.
Bloomington, IN 47408-2603
[Toll-free] 1-877-SLAVICA
[Tel.] 1-812-856-4186
[Fax] 1-812-856-4187
[Email] slavica@indiana.edu
<http://www.slavica.com/>

SLAVICA



Affiliate Member News

AATSEEL

AATSEEL SEEKS CONTRIBUTORS TO NEWSLETTER

The American Association of teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) seeks contributions to its "Psychology of Language Learning" column. Articles may deal with any topic that falls under the title of "Psychology of Learning." Contributions to the Newsletter should be around 800 words; in exceptional cases, up to 1200 words (6,500-8,000 characters) is possible, depending on availability of space. Please submit your ideas to Valery Belyanin <russianforyou@gmail.com>

AATSEEL ANNUAL MEETING

The 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) will be held in Boston, MA, Jan. 3-6, 2013. For information about this meeting and details about submission procedures, please see: <http://www.aatseel.org/program/>

The Program Committee invites scholars in our area to submit panel proposals; however, scholars may also submit individual paper proposals and The Program Committee will find appropriate panel placements for all accepted proposals. Deadline for proposals is July 1, 2012. To submit a proposal, you must be an AATSEEL member in good standing for 2012-13. For information on AATSEEL membership, details on conference participation, and guidelines for preparing proposals, please follow the links from AATSEEL's homepage.

CFP: THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

ASEC announces its 5th biennial conference to take place at Georgetown University, DC on March 8-9, 2013.

The theme for this year is "Antecedents and Subsequents of Iosif Volotsky: Exploring Eastern Christian Concerns" and is conceptualized to embrace topics from any period, and all regions related to Eastern Christian groups. While Iosif Volotsky (d. 1515) represents a branch of the Russian tradition, ASEC nevertheless encourages papers and panels on topics outside that experience. The topic is broadly conceived to address the interests and concerns of Iosif, a monastic reformer, whose life and work influenced the religious culture of Muscovy as well as modern scholarship of his period. Iosif's interests encompassed the multi-faceted issues of religious and spiritual life and ranged from monastic reform to patristics, liturgics, education, administration, spirituality,

heresy, and secular Christian life, among others.

Panel proposals of 3-4 presenters plus chair/discussant are preferred but individual papers are also encouraged. Please send panel and paper proposals with abstracts of 100-200 words for each paper, and a brief 1-2 page C.V. for each participant to Valeria Nollan (NOLLAN@rhodes.edu). Deadline: August 15, 2012.

Registration is \$50 (\$25 for graduate students). Participants must be members of ASEC by March 2013. Fees are waived for students and faculty of Georgetown University (ID required). To become a member, please contact the ASEC treasurer, Lucien Frary, Rider U, 2083 Lawrence Rd, Lawrenceville NJ 08648 lfrary@rider.edu

ASEC ACCEPTING PRIZE NOMINATIONS

ASEC is accepting nominations for its Distinguished Scholar Prize. This award is for an outstanding English-language article-length publication relating to a society or societies that are influenced by Eastern Christian culture, although the article need not be on religion specifically. Articles published between September 1 2010 and August 31, 2012 are eligible for consideration. The deadline for nominations is September 1. Self-nominations are also accepted. Please send your nomination including a copy of the article to jennifer.spock@eku.edu



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2012 MARY ZIRIN PRIZE

The Prize aims to recognize the achievements of independent scholars and to encourage their continued scholarship and service in the fields of Slavic or Central and Eastern European Women's Studies.

The Zirin Prize Committee will accept nominations (including self-nominations) until August 1, 2012. Nominations must include: (1) a 2-page, double spaced nomination letter; (2) the nominee's current C.V. and (3) a sample publication (e.g., article or book chapter). The nomination letter must describe the scholar's contribution to the field, as well as work in progress. For a partial list of past recipients click [here](#). Nominations should be sent to Paula Michaels at paula-michaels@uiowa.edu.

AWSS SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes the work of a scholar in the field of Slavic Studies, who has also served as a mentor to female students/colleagues

in this field. To submit a nomination, please write a letter detailing what your candidate for this award has achieved in Slavic Studies in terms of scholarship or other professional accomplishment, and mentoring of female students/colleagues. In addition, please provide a short list of references with accompanying email addresses so that the committee can contact these referees directly for further information. The committee recommends that this list include both peers and students/staff. A list of past recipients is available on the AWSS website. Please email your letter and list by September 15, 2012 to Adele Lindenmeyr (Chair) at: adele.lindenmeyr@villanova.edu; Maria Bucur at: mbucur@indiana.edu; and Karen Petrone at: petrone@uky.edu



**CZECHOSLOVAK STUDIES ASSOCIATION
PECH PRIZE ARTICLE COMPETITION**

The Czechoslovak Studies Association (CSA) is pleased to announce its Stanley Z. Pech Prize Competition for 2012. Eligible is any article or essay (including a chapter in an edited volume) that concerns the history of Czechoslovakia, its successor states, or its predecessor provinces, and was published by a CSA member in 2010 or 2011. The Pech Prize Committee welcomes submissions from all academic disciplines, provided that they contain a substantial historical component.

To apply for the Pech Prize, please email an electronic copy of your own work or that of a colleague no later than July 1, 2012 to the chair of the Pech Prize Committee: Professor Jeremy King, Department of History Mount Holyoke College, email: jking@mtholyoke.edu

Submissions may be in either pdf or doc/docx format, and should be accompanied by evidence that they were published in 2010 or 2011.

Membership in the CSA is available at nominal cost by contacting Gregory Ference at: <GXFERENCE@salisbury.edu>

**CALL FOR ENTRIES: 2012 ZORA KIPEL BOOK AND
ARTICLE PRIZE COMPETITION**

The Zora Kipel prizes, funded jointly by the family of Zora Kipel and the North American Association for Belarusian Studies, are awarded biennially and are designed to recognize outstanding new publications in the fields of Belarusian cultural studies, literature, linguistics, history, and social sciences. As of this year, the prize categories will alternate thematically each cycle. For the 2012 book competition (prize amount: \$500), we are soliciting

entries only in the fields of history and social sciences, published between 2009 and 2012. For the 2012 article competition (prize: \$200), we are soliciting entries only in the fields of Belarusian literature, linguistics and cultural studies published between 2009 and 2012. To enter the competition, please send a copy of your book or article to the following address by October 1, 2012:

Dr. Curt Woolhiser, Department of German, Russian and Asian Languages and Literature, Brandeis U, 415 South Street MS-024, Waltham, MA 02454
Tel. (781) 736-3200, Fax (781) 736-3207, Email: cwoolhis@brandeis.edu



**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES
2012 GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE
DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2012**

The Society for Romanian Studies is pleased to announce the Fourth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize competition for an outstanding unpublished essay or thesis chapter written in English by a graduate student in any social science or humanities discipline on a Romanian subject. The competition is open to current M.A. and doctoral students or to those who defended dissertations in the academic year 2011-2012. If the essay is a seminar paper, it must have been written in 2011-2012. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Essays/chapters should be 25-50 pages double spaced, including reference matter. Expanded versions of conference papers are also acceptable if accompanied by a description of the panel and the candidate's conference paper proposal. Candidates should clearly indicate the format of the essay submitted. If you have questions, contact Margaret Beissinger at mhbeissi@Princeton.edu.

Please send a copy of the essay and a CV to each of the three members of the Prize Committee below.

Prof. Margaret Beissinger, mhbeissi@Princeton.edu

Dr. James Koranyi, jtk21@st-andrews.ac.uk

Prof. Paul Sum, paul.sum@und.edu



ASEEES News

2012 DAVIS GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to:

Nadia Berkovich	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Seth Bernstein	University of Toronto (Canada)
Piotr Goldstein	University of Manchester (England)
Peter Hallama	University of Munich (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Germany)
Olga Klimova	University of Pittsburgh
Alissa Klots	Rutgers, State University of NJ
Simon Lewis	University of Cambridge (England)
Yulia Mikhailova	University of New Mexico
Bradley Moore	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Toader Popescu	“Ion Mincu” U of Architecture & Urban Planning (Romania)
Patryk Reid	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Thomas Skowronek	Humboldt University (Germany)
Amanda Swain	University of Washington
Alexy Golubev*	University of British Columbia (Canada)
Irina Kogel*	University of California, Berkeley

Kathryn W. Davis’s generous donation to our organization, combined with matching donations from ASEEES members, enables us to offer Kathryn W. Davis Graduate Student Travel Grants to help subsidize their travel costs to the ASEEES Convention.

* Indicates alternate

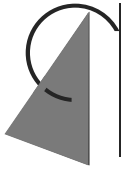
COMMITTEE ON GENDER EQUALITY SURVEY

ASEEES’s Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) invites you to participate in a gender equity survey. In 1999, CSW conducted its first survey, with Laura Schlosberg and Christine Worobec reporting the findings to the membership in 2002. They found meaningful disparities in rank, time-to-degree, and other considerations, but also found evidence that affirmative action programs were beginning to redress gender imbalances in the professorate. In the decade since that report, much has changed in the field of Slavic Studies and in the professions represented in ASEEES’s membership. In the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis, with its devastating impact on higher education and other arenas, it seems high time to survey the field anew and assess the role of gender in our professional lives and career trajectories. The survey takes only about ten minutes to complete. We hope that graduate students, academics, and other professionals in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies will participate, as a high response rate will ensure meaningful results. To complete the survey, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GLWJSWQ>

ASEEES CALL FOR ARTICLES

Please consider submitting articles to be published in future NewsNets. NewsNet articles are a forum for brief essays on contemporary issues or matters of broad professional interest to our members. They can include summary discussions of new research (for example, reports on well-attended and much-talked about sessions at the annual convention). Please keep in mind that NewsNet is not a venue for extensive research essays. Most cover articles run between 2,500-3,000 words in length.

We encourage members, including graduate students, who are interested in proposing a NewsNet article to contact the Communications Coordinator, Mary Arnstein (newsnet@pitt.edu) or the Communications advisory committee’s chairperson, Serguei A. Oushakine (oushakin@Princeton.EDU).



Calendar

2012

June 29. Indiana U Workshop for Teachers of Foreign Languages: New Approaches to Grammar in Foreign Language Instruction

October 26-27. Graduate Student Conference: "Literary Theatricality: Theatrical Text," Princeton U Dept of Slavic Languages & Literatures

November 4-7. D.A. Prigov's Art: Verbal – Visual - Performative: The Prigov Foundation, the Prigov Laboratory at the Russian State University for the Humanities (Moscow), and the Department of Contemporary Art of the State Hermitage Museum (St. Petersburg, Russia) invite scholars and graduate students in all fields of humanities and Russian Studies to participate in a three-day international conference dedicated to the opening of the Dmitri A. Prigov's permanent exhibition as part of the Contemporary Art Department of the State Hermitage Museum. The Hermitage (St. Petersburg).

November 15-18. The 44th Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), New Orleans, LA, New Orleans Marriot

2013

January 3-6. The 2013 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) will be held in Boston, MA, Jan. 3-6, 2013. For information about this meeting please see: <http://www.aatseel.org/program/>

January 3-6. The 2013 Annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America will take place at the Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts. <http://www.lsadc.org>.

February 7-9. The Melikian Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at Arizona State University is pleased to announce an international conference on "Post-Atheism": Religion, Society and Culture in Post-communist Eastern Europe and Eurasia, to be held on the ASU campus in Tempe, Arizona. For more information, please contact: Alexei Lalo, Research Administrator, ASU Melikian Center (alalo@asu.edu) or see: <http://melikian.asu.edu/events>

February 28-March 3. "Ready for Democracy? Religion and Political Culture in the Orthodox and Islamic Worlds" conference at Indiana University Bloomington. Direct inquiries to Padraic Kenney, pjkenney@indiana.edu

February 28-March 3. Music and Power: Historical Problems and Perspectives in Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia, Miami University (Oxford, Ohio). Sponsored by the Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies, and the Departments of Music, the School of Fine Arts, and the Jewish Arts and Culture Series (Posen Foundation) Inquiries may be directed to: Dr. Rebecca Mitchell, mitcher3@muohio.edu. For more information, see www.muohio.edu/havighurstcenter

March 8-9. The Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture 5th biennial conference, Georgetown University, Washington DC.

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

203C Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6424

tel.: 412-648-9911 • fax: 412-648-9815 • e-mail: aseees@pitt.edu
www.aseees.org

Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), established in 1948, is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, scholarly society and is the leading private organization dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about Russia, Central Eurasia, and Eastern & Central Europe.

ASEEES Staff

Executive Director:

Lynda Park, 412-648-9788, lypark@pitt.edu

Communications Coordinator & NewsNet Editor:

Mary Arnstein, 412-648-9809, newsnet@pitt.edu

Membership & Subscriptions Coordinator:

Jonathon Swiderski, 412-648-9911, aseees@pitt.edu

Convention Coordinator:

Wendy Walker, 781-235-2408, wwalker@pitt.edu

Financial Support:

Maureen Ryczaj, 412-648-9911, aseeesfn@pitt.edu

NewsNet (ISSN 1074-3057) is published five times a year (January, March, May/June, August, and October; however, the May/June edition is only available on line.) ASEEES members receive *Slavic Review* (the ASEEES quarterly of Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies), and NewsNet. Affiliates receive only NewsNet. Institutional members receive two copies of each publication. Membership is on a calendar year basis. Individual membership is open to all individuals interested in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies. Institutional membership is open to all education-related organizations in the field of Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies. ASEEES' office is located at 203C Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6424.

Subscription to NewsNet is \$25.00 for U.S. subscribers and \$40 for non-U.S. subscribers. Single copies are \$5.00 each. To subscribe or order back issues, contact Jonathon Swiderski. Back issues are available up to two years only.

Periodicals postage paid at Pittsburgh, PA, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: ASEEES, 203C Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6424.

Individual Membership Rates Institutional Membership Rates

If you are interested in becoming an individual or institutional member, visit: <http://www.aseees.org/membership/membershipindividual.html>

Submission of materials

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;

May issue—15 April;

Aug issue—5 July;

October issue—1 Sept

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

<u>American Councils</u>	5
<u>Kritika</u>	4
<u>Natasha Kozmenko Booksellers</u>	18
<u>New Review</u>	17
<u>Slavica Publishers</u>	27
<u>UC Berkeley ISEEES</u> <u>Program Coordinator</u>	7

ADVERTISING

Appropriate ads are accepted for NewsNet on a space-available basis. ASEEES reserves the right to decline advertisements which fail to meet the scholarly, non-political standards of the organization.

Please check out <http://www.aseees.org/advertising/newsnetads.html> for our advertising specs and rates

2013 SLAVIC REVIEW
SUBSCRIPTION AVAILABLE
VIA JSTOR



For the libraries and institutions*, 2013 subscription and pricing info for *Slavic Review* is available on the [JSTOR Current Scholarship Program](#). You can also view the [2013 catalog](#) [in PDF]. Please check to make sure your institution has a subscription. If not, contact your librarian and request a subscription. Also, please make note of [JSTOR Developing Nations Access Initiative](#) for access at waived or reduced fee.



*ASEEES members have automatic subscriptions, unless otherwise noted.