



# NewsNet

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

## Grappling with the Hungarian and Polish New Right in Power David Ost, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Eviscerating the Constitutional Court and purging the judiciary, complete politicization of the civil service, turning public media into a government mouthpiece, restricting opposition prerogatives in parliament, unilateral wholesale change of the Constitution or plain violation of it, official tolerance and even promotion of racism and bigotry, administrative assertion of old gender norms, cultural resurrection of authoritarian traditions, placing loyalty over competence in awarding state posts, surveillance without check – right-wing governments in [Hungary](#) and [Poland](#) have been directly attacking the institutions protecting the pluralism of democracy. The ruling parties, Fidesz and Law and Justice (PiS) respectively, do not even claim to adhere to “[liberal](#)” [democracy](#) anymore. Are they committed to democracy at all? Both accept it now that it has brought one-party rule by the party representing “the nation.” Otherwise, “democracy” appears to be a curtsy to the political correctness they otherwise abhor.

As a pro-PiS scholar vehemently asserted at a Poznan philosophy conference in early July, “democracy is beside the point! We’ve got to modernize the country, any way it takes.”

Interestingly, both PiS and Fidesz believe they are in the forefront of a struggle not only against political liberalism but against economic liberalism. Indeed, one of the innovative features of the new right – as we’ve seen with such parties in western Europe or even with Donald Trump in the U.S. – is that it no longer allies naturally with neoliberalism. PiS and Fidesz proclaim the need for a “strong state” to galvanize “the nation” in order to “end dependency” and “modernize” “national capacities,” against “neo-colonial” efforts promoted by the West and the European Union (which they wish neither to leave nor to strengthen). Despite defining themselves as right-wing parties, they have thus always gotten some support from leftists as well. Like the American voters who say they support either Trump or Sanders, so I have met PiS supporters whose second choice is [Razem](#), the new, left party (not “new left” party) that formed only a year ago. We are reminded that fascism was also in part a left-wing movement (for the “little people,” but only of the “proper sort,” to use Jarosław Kaczyński’s term for those PiS supporters).

Closer to our field, we are also reminded that state socialism once got considerable support from right-wing

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nationalists. Indeed, an unexpected “gift” this regime-change-from-above offers ASEEEES scholars is fresh insight into what made “communism” work in the first place. The differences are enormous: no mass arrests, no foreign power forcing change, no single ideology. But the assertive dismissal of “liberal” (then, “bourgeois”) democracy in favor of a “real” one committed to “the nation,” the use of state power to create a new elite loyal only to the party in power, the veritable creation of a new “nomenklatura” by dismissing from non-political jobs experts deemed unloyal, replacing history written by historians with history written by party stalwarts and spread through media and schools – ASEEEES scholars understand that communism did not come about only through force and terror, but imbued itself into the social fabric through Gramscian measures like these. For all the differences, scholars trying to understand communist origins will be able to feel their way into some real insights by closely following present developments.

### Explaining the Right’s Rise

So how to understand what’s happening? The transition paradigm so prominent after 1989 saw eastern Europe moving seamlessly into a condition of “democracy,” apparently “consolidated” soon afterwards. [Valerie Bunce](#) and [John Mueller](#) noted early on that establishing formal democracy, once the secret police were called off and a new political will appeared, was not as hard as some had imagined.<sup>1</sup> [Jeffrey S. Kopstein](#) and [David A. Reilly](#) argued that “geographic diffusion” made democracy almost inevitable in the countries bordering western Europe, and the many studies focused on the norm-enforcing pressures of the European Union agreed.<sup>2</sup>

So where does this new movement come from? The economy is probably the key place to look. Studying the contradictions between capitalism and democracy has never been a central aspect of our field. Scholars looked at different transformative paths, recommended rapid or slow privatization, noted “social costs” involved. But the basic insight that too much economic liberalism threatens political liberalism – a particular problem in eastern Europe given that it undertook its transformation in the very heyday of neoliberalism, just when Keynesian models were being abandoned – has never been widely accepted or understood.

National issues are also a source of the new developments. The standard view is that these countries regained real national autonomy only in 1989. Yet for fifteen years afterwards there was *also* limited autonomy, as east European countries committed themselves to “do anything” to get into NATO and the EU, and endured

quiet humiliation and bad terms of trade while being schooled.<sup>3</sup> New thinking about the role of the nation (and the downplaying of “civil society,” which for the right is a codeword for liberalism and a trap for foreign domination) is thus no surprise.

But why the crisis now? Earlier this year, [James Dawson](#) and [Sean Hanley](#) argued that eastern Europe was turning away from liberal politics because it had never really adopted them in the first place. They cite evidence of pre-radical right governments not reckoning with critics and pushing through legislation against strong social opposition years before Fidesz and PiS made such practices explicit.<sup>4</sup>

Of course, hypocrisy at least pays homage to the norms it violates, while the new right simply abandons the norms and presents as models control by the “party of the nation” and the need for a “strong state” teaching people what to think. But why is there more popular support for such values today? [Ivan Krastev’s](#) response to Dawson & Hanley perhaps says it best: rising illiberalism, he writes, “is less the result of weak elite commitment to the values of liberal democracy than of the failures of liberalism to deliver.”<sup>5</sup>

What didn’t it deliver? Community, solidarity. Liberal politics in fact has never been secure without them.

This basic truth was obscured in the immediate postcommunist period, an anomalous moment when people believed free market capitalism, as the supposed enemy of their enemy, to be a panacea for all ills. But in the face of neoliberal reality – the marketization of housing and health care mocking notions of solidarity, precarious work as the rule rather than exception, unions marginalized – that belief has come crashing down. Today it’s hard to find an article even in the liberal press singing the praises of the market, while even 15 years ago it was hard to find any criticism. In conversations with workers, which I’ve had regularly in Poland for the last 30 years, the change is even more dramatic. (One tells me she can no longer stand to hear only bad things about communism because “yes, things were bad, but I could yell at my boss without fear of getting the ax, and co-workers supported me instead of thinking how they could replace me.”)

Electoral democracy means a party will appear in which the disillusioned can place their hopes. In the past, those used to be left parties. But leftists in the late-communist world tended to become liberals – first political, then economic – and so far 21<sup>st</sup>-century leftists, mostly young people with graduate educations, have, in

line with recent trends, tended to focus on identity issues rather than economic ones (though the emerging Razem party in Poland is different).

### The Social Democratic Glue for Liberal Politics

Liberalism, of course, *used* to deliver on community and solidarity, but only when it was tied to social democracy after World War II. Since globalization and the consequent crisis of the left, the right has taken up this mantle – promising solidarity to a small and restricted community made up only of “people like us.” It is this connection of both left and right to community and solidarity that we need to unpack if we can understand developments in eastern Europe today.

One way to do so is by exploring west European interwar history, such as that laid out by Sheri Berman in *The Primacy of Politics: Social Democracy and the Making of Europe's Twentieth Century*.<sup>6</sup> This book is particularly relevant to east Europeanists because instead of the familiar Cold War association of communism with fascism, Berman argues that it is actually social democracy that is “similar” to fascism. For when the Great Depression ravaged European societies, it was only one or the other that took state power to provide community and solidarity – doing so, of course, in spectacularly different ways. Examining western Europe's political response to the Depression, Berman's insight is that it was not only liberals who argued that nothing could be done about it but orthodox Marxists too. The latter, fierce anti-Leninists but not yet social democrats, took the Depression to be proof of Marxist theory, saying nothing could be done to fix it – or to provide community and solidarity – until socialism, which would happen sometime in the future. Only the fascists offered a program of action: take state power, impose dictatorship, and regulate (not eliminate) capitalism to serve a community. And they did serve their community – albeit one very narrowly construed! – with a generous welfare state that achieved massive support until the war.<sup>7</sup> Social democrats, Berman shows, emerged only in response to fascism, having *agreed* with fascism that capitalism *could* be regulated. And by doing so, after the war, it succeeded, at last, in consolidating liberal democracy.

So when social democracy no longer knows how to provide for community – and with neoliberalism promoting only individual answers and Leninism quite dead – today the successors of the fascist tradition reemerge strong. As in the past, they are ready to challenge both liberal politics and economics in the interests of a community that most certainly does not include all, but eagerly incorporates non-elites willing to go along. And

so Poland and Hungary's radical right in power not only tramples on democracy but imposes special taxes on foreign banks and corporations, forces lower utility rates (Hungary), legislates higher pay for short-term jobs (Poland), and endlessly challenges west European “domination” (more than a few supporters were ardent Marxists in the past). And though this is too little to bring about equality with the West, the program does appeal, even to moderates tired of hearing that their countries have no choice but to remain weak and poor and that all checks on capitalism are impossible and counterproductive. This doesn't mean that liberals have disappeared. There are plenty still there, fighting hard against the right's stunning crackdown on democratic norms they thought had become inviolable. But they do so increasingly unsure of their own alternative, accepting now that no simple return to the liberal past is possible.

OK, some might say, but why the hysteria around Islam? For it is undeniable that these two countries, with barely any Muslim population, have been in the forefront of anti-Islamism in Europe. Viktor Orbán took the lead in [building fences](#) to keep out refugees. Jarosław Kaczyński used some of the worst racist tropes in declaring refugees carriers of dangerous [parasites and protozoa](#). Poland's Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski publicly declared himself an [“Islamophobe”](#) months before being appointed to the post.<sup>8</sup> Public media in both countries characterize those who do *not* accept “Islam” and “terrorist” as interchangeable as hostages to political correctness.

Here's where “whiteness” is a helpful category, not often deployed in studies of the region since “whites” are basically all there are.<sup>9</sup> The point, however, is to think of whiteness as an asset easterners wish to deploy to assert their claim to equality with the West. Extravagant anti-Islamism is like the garish racism attributed to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Irish immigrants to the U.S. The Irish, as is known, were not initially considered white by the dominant Anglo “native” population. And so in order to assert their claim to the privileges whiteness confers, Irish became some of the most lethal anti-black pogromists of the time.<sup>10</sup> Exaggerated anti-Islamism can be seen as easterners' effort to demonstrate that they are “real” Europeans – white and Christian, the kind that in the west had the national dignity, good jobs, and social protection they think they should have, too.

Will things change? As world events and the current U.S. election now make clear, there is no return to the neoliberal status quo, at least in a way that sticks. A restabilization of inclusive democracy probably requires a broad understanding of social democracy as the glue

(and not the challenge) to political liberalism, and a program to revive broad-based community and solidarity in a globalized world. Since these won't come soon (globalization is the nut here: capital can't be disciplined if it can eternally escape), the radical right, which can claim freshness (it's been marginalized since the defeat of fascism in 1945), is likely to gain significant triumphs, for at least the next decade. And if it can resolve some problems for a large enough constituency – a big “if,” but possible in eastern Europe due to relative homogeneity – it may even flourish.

It's common to say democratization is a never-ending process. That is especially true today. If the center cannot hold, and this new radical right, claiming also to be democratic, gains but fails, then we need a new interpretation of the left as well. The western left's rejection of Soviet-type state socialism was both valiant and vital. But new challenges loom and that left needs to move on. [Andrzej Leder](#) recently pointed out that while the Polish democratic opposition's break with the left helped it in the fight against the old regime, maintaining that position only helps push dissatisfied youth into the arms of the authoritarian right.<sup>11</sup> Among western scholars, [Kristen Ghodsee](#) has set about restoring dignity to left history.<sup>12</sup> In the interests of stable, inclusive democracy, there is more to be done, and much for ASEEES scholars to contribute.

*David Ost is professor of political science at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, author of many articles and books on east European political transformations; most recent Guest Editor for [East European Politics and Societies](#), special issue on “Class After Communism,” August 2015. Ost will speak on a roundtable on “[Illiberal Contagion?: Hungary and Poland Under Fidesz and PiS](#)” at the 2016 ASEEES Convention.*

(Endnotes)

1 Val Bunce, “Should Transitologists Be Grounded?,” *Slavic Review* 54:1, Spring 1995; John Mueller, *Capitalism, Democracy, and Ralph's Pretty Good Grocery* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001).

2 Jeffrey Kopstein & David A. Reilly, “Geographic Diffusion and the Transformation of the Postcommunist World,” *World Politics* 53 (October 2000), 1-37; Milada Vachudova, *Europe Undivided* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005).

3 Wade Jacoby, “Priest and Penitent,” *East European Constitutional Review* 8:1-2, 1999; David Ost, “Using America Against Europe,” in Mitchell Orenstein et al., eds., *Transnational*

*and National Politics in Postcommunist Europe* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2008).

4 James Dawson & Sean Hanley, “The Fading Mirage of the ‘Liberal Consensus,’” *Journal of Democracy* 27:1, January 2016, 20-34.

5 Ivan Krastev, “Liberalism's Failure to Deliver,” in *ibid.*, 37.

6 Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006.

7 [Berman](#), *Primacy of Politics*, ch. 6; also Götz Aly, *Hitler's Beneficiaries* (New York: Metropolitan Books, 2007).

8 Dawid Warszawski, “Witold Waszczykowski: Szef MZS Islamofobem,” *Gazeta Wyborcza*, November 10, 2015.

9 Hungary does have a Roma population of about 3 percent, and anti-Roma mobilization has been particularly important for the growth of the even further-right Jobbik party.

10 [David Roediger](#), *The Wages of Whiteness* (London: Verso, 2009; orig. 1991).

11 Andrzej Leder, “Puste miejsce po lewicy,” *Krytyka Polityczna* 44, 2016. Those aged 18-24 was PiS's strongest cohort in the 2015 elections.

12 [Kristen Ghodsee](#), *The Left Side of History: World War II and the Unfulfilled Promise of Communism in Eastern Europe* (Chapel Hill: Duke University Press, 2015).

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## 2016 ASEES Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Award

Established in 1970 the Association's Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Award honors senior scholars who have helped to build and develop the field through scholarship, training, and service to the profession. This year, ASEES is delighted to recognize **John E. Bowlt**.

The contributions of **John E. Bowlt** to the study of Russian visual culture of the 20th century are exceptionally deep and multi-faceted. Starting from the late 1960s, when much of the material he has spent his career studying was taboo in the USSR, Professor Bowlt has worked sedulously to uncover, make available, and analyze the oeuvres of once almost forgotten (and now world-renowned) artists such as Kazimir Malevich, Pavel Filonov, Liubov Popova and Olga Stepanova as well as a host of lesser lights. He has curated exhibitions, translated and published collections of documents, written monographs, and given countless public lectures that have brought the seminal contributions of Russian modernist art and artists to the attention of specialists in the fields of art history and Russian culture as well as a broad general public. Indeed, it would be fair to say that without the efforts of Professor Bowlt, Russian avant-garde art would not have anywhere near the level of international recognition that it now possesses.

Professor Bowlt's first book, *The Russian Avant-Garde: Theory and Criticism 1902-1934*, was published in 1976. In the forty years since, he has followed that foundational anthology with a steady stream of monographs, book chapters, exhibition catalogues, and translations. Among his most influential contributions are *Pavel Filonov: A Hero and His Fate: Writings on Revolution and Art 1914-1940* (1984, with Nicoletta Misler); *Moscow and St. Petersburg 1900-1920*; *Art, Life and Culture of the Russian Silver Age* (2008), the latter written for a non-specialist audience. He was also the editor of the Art and Architecture section for the *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Russia and the Former Soviet Union* (1994). Perhaps even more influential have been the exhibitions he has curated (and their accompanying catalogues) including

the path-breaking "Amazons of the Russian Avant-Garde" (with Matthew Drutt and Zelfira Tregulova, for the Guggenheim) and "A Feast of Wonders. Sergei Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes" (for the Nouveau Musée de Monte Carlo and the Tretyakov Gallery). All of Professor Bowlt's publications are based on scrupulous and painstaking archival work. However, unlike many scholars who make a career in the archives, Professor Bowlt has the ability in his lectures and publications to transcend the myriad facts he has uncovered and create compelling visual and narrative presentations that enthrall and inspire both scholars and the general public.



Professor Bowlt has been a faculty member at both the University of Texas and the University of Southern California and in 2015 was elected Slade Professor of Fine Art at Cambridge University. Professor Bowlt willingly engages in collaborative projects and his publications and exhibitions are often co-curated with younger scholars and scholars from Russia. One of Professor Bowlt's innovative collaborative projects is the Institute of Modern Russian Culture and its journal *Experiment*, which has made available a broad range of primary documents on a wide range of topics

drawn from 19th and 20th century Russian culture and cultural history.

For his tireless work in creating and promoting the field of Russian modernist visual culture, John Bowlt has been selected as the recipient of the 2016 ASEES Distinguished Contributions to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Award.

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# Get the Word Out!

## How to Bring Your Expertise to the Public

### Joshua A. Tucker, New York U

*This article is based on remarks delivered by Professor Tucker on November 21, 2015 at the ASEES Annual Convention as part of a Vice-Presidential Roundtable.*

Times are changing in academia. Whereas previously trying to share one's work with an audience beyond the academy might have been seen as a distraction at best and somehow "unprofessional" at worst, today there is a growing recognition that sharing one's research with a wider audience can be a rewarding part of an academic career. This article is primarily intended to serve as a primer for those who are interested in seeing more academic work shared, including both their own and their colleagues. Accordingly, it is divided into two parts: advice for individuals on steps that you can take to share your work more widely, and advice on steps that we can take collectively to facilitate the sharing of academic research with a wider audience more generally. However, I am going to start first by addressing the question of why?

#### **Why share your research more broadly?**

Academics are busy, and therefore any time someone comes along and suggests "here is something else you ought to do that is going to take up time", a healthy degree of skepticism is in order. However, let me suggest four reasons while trying to share your research with a broader audience might be the exception to this rule.

*Sharing your research as an obligation.* Most of us at one point or another were given the opportunity to study and learn and research while someone else was footing the bill, be it a university, one's parents, the state, etc. As a result, we have all developed specialized knowledge that few – if any – other people share. That knowledge will undoubtedly have value to someone beside you. Some work might help inform better public policy. Other work could help businesses make decisions about investment. Still other types of research may simply improve – or help correct – the historical record. Regardless of what we study, there is undoubtedly someone else out there who will be interested in it. Traditionally, we think of teaching as the way we pay back society for the investment it has made in all of us; public engagement may be another important way to accomplish this task as well.

*Sharing your research as service to the discipline.* As a political scientist, I am keenly aware of the fact that continued access to federal funding relies on Members of Congress continuing to value what we do. For others, it may be a question of needing to convince university administrators of the value of offering certain subjects and degrees. All of us undoubtedly value from having foundations and donors think our work is important. Sharing your work publicly is one crucial way to demonstrate its importance.

*Sharing your research as a way to do better research.* As academics, we are all very good at talking about our work in heavily jargon-laden terms. But the reality is that most people have no idea what post-modernism, endogeneity, or identification strategies are. Forcing yourself to talk about your own research in language that is accessible to a wider audience is a great way to force yourself to think clearly and concisely about what you are trying to accomplish, why you are doing so, and the ways in which you have or have not achieved this goal. This process can not only make you a better writer, but can also spur new ideas for future research.

*Sharing your research because you are proud of what you have done.* While there are of course professional reasons for needing to publish our research, most of us also publish because we genuinely want to share what we have accomplished and learned with others. Although we are loath to admit it, the number of people who will read the modal journal article or chapter in an edited volume is quite low. A well thought out blog post or op-ed, however, has the ability to reach many people. Moreover, it can serve as a gateway to the longer academic publication, making that version of your research output available to a larger audience as well.

#### **What can you do as an individual to share your research more widely?**

1) *Learn to write in a style that can be read by non-academics.* This means avoiding technical and field-specific jargon. And don't kid yourself – every field has its own jargon, no matter how "technical" the research may be. Indeed, the best way to write for a wider audience is to assume your reader is interested in your topic, but has

never take a university-level course in the subject. And note that this style of writing takes practice, as it is very different from what we usually write when submitting our work for peer review.

2) *Think about applying your work to topical issues.* This is not a requirement, but you will generally find that if you have a “hook” into a current development that’s in the news, it will be easier to place your write up of your research in a public outlet.

3) *Think about what is known in academy that might be unknown outside of the academy.*<sup>1</sup> There is a lot of information and insight that we can often take as given within an academic field (e.g., in political science one “law” is that proportional representation electoral rules are more likely to result in multi-party systems than “first past the post” single member districts), but that may not be well known outside your field. This can be an excellent subject for public engagement, and can also serve as a useful “hook” into your own research when appropriate.

4) *Take initiative, and take advantage of available resources.* Occasionally, we will be lucky enough that public outlets will come to us asking us to write about our research. But in the vast majority of cases – especially when trying to share work more widely for the first time – it is far more likely that you will have to take the initiative yourself. Crucially, you should know that’s fine! And fortunately, there are far more outlets that are hungry for content – and especially for informed content, the type in which academics specialize – today in the Internet age than there used to be. So one important part of the publication process is to reach out to these outlets – whether they are traditional media outlets, new media venues, or disciplinary or area-specific blogs – and find out how to pitch ideas for pieces. Some places will want a short “pitch”; others may want the full piece. Some have guidelines posted, but others will not.

It is also important to know that there are resources available to help you with this process. Most universities (and many centers, schools, etc. within universities) have dedicated public relations professionals whose job it is to help you get coverage of your research, and blogging about your work fits squarely within that realm. There are also helpful resources outside of your university, including disciplinary resources (more on this below) and websites like <http://womensoknowstuff.com/>. But most importantly, you do not need to navigate this (potentially) new world of publication opportunities alone.

5) *Support others who are engaged in sharing their own work.* I began this essay by noting that times are changing in academia, but that does not mean that everyone is in favor of these changes. If you are someone – like I am – who thinks that public engagement is a worthwhile endeavor for an academic, then speaking up and supporting your colleagues who have dedicated some of their time to it is another way to help. A simple congratulations on a well placed public piece is nice as well.

### **What can be done at the disciplinary level to encourage public engagement?<sup>2</sup>**

1) *Provide resources for those wishing to participate in public engagement.* This could include online training sessions, editors to help people with their writing, panels at conferences (like the one that inspired this article...) from people with experience with public engagement, administrative resources to help deal with getting articles ungated (freely accessible) in conjunction with blog posts about them, etc. The basic point here is that disciplinary associations could play a role in helping empower their members to share research more widely.

2) *Recognize that public engagement is a form of disciplinary service.* Promotion, evaluation, and merit raises in academia are traditionally based on some combination of research, teaching, and service. While in years gone by public engagement was likely to have been seen as a distraction to fulfilling those core obligations, today more and more people are coming to see public engagement as a legitimate form of service to this discipline. I have long felt that blogging actually helps my research and therefore could legitimately be said to be contributing to one’s research efforts, but I am willing to settle for now for a growing recognition of public engagement as fulfilling part of one’s core responsibilities as an academic through the service requirement.

People who share this belief, therefore, can contribute to the legitimization of public engagement as a form of service by recognizing it both publically and privately. Perhaps most crucially, this means that those of us who are asked to participate in the evaluation process of candidates for promotion should take the opportunity to highlight public engagement as a positive form of service (e.g., in tenure and promotion letters).

### **Area Studies and Public Engagement**

In some ways, area studies specialists have both the best



and the worst standing when it comes to opportunities for public engagement.

On the one hand, it may be more difficult to convince editors of mainstream publications that there will be interest in focused research on far-away countries about which much of the mass public may have little interest. Writing for mainstream audiences about events in countries about which they know little may be a particularly challenging case for writing in a manner that avoids jargon – where jargon here might be the names of regions, political parties, or great cultural figures – in an effort to be widely accessible.

On the other hand, though, when the public's gaze is fixed in the direction of a country about which little is known, the demand for exactly the kind of knowledge that academics who have been studying countries for years are uniquely positioned to deliver may be in extremely high demand. Moreover, the value of sharing this type of specialized academic knowledge for public policy may never be higher. Just to give two examples, a post by Oxana Shevel on the history of the Crimean Tatars at *The Monkey Cage* in March of 2014 got over 40,000 page views;<sup>3</sup> a recent post by Kimberly Marten on Putin and the Russian doping scandal at the same blog got over 140,000 views.<sup>4</sup> There is an audience out there for specialized area-studies knowledge. Finding it – and learning how to write for it – may take some time and effort, but the payoff both individually and collectively can definitely be worth it.

*Joshua A. Tucker is Professor of Politics at NYU, the incoming Director of the New York University Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, and a co-author of the award winning Monkey Cage blog at The Washington Post.*

#### (Endnotes)

1 h/t to Dan Drezner, who has made this point previously.

2 My comments in this section are based on a white paper I co-authored with Brendan Nyhan and John Sides that was the result of our participation in an American Political Science Association Presidential Commission on Public Engagement; for more detail see Nyhan, Brendan, John Sides, and Joshua A. Tucker. 2015. "APSA as Amplifier: How to Encourage and Promote Public Voices within Political Science", *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 48(S1): 90-93.

3 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2014/03/01/who-are-the-crimean-tatars-and-why-are-they-important/>

4 <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/06/20/what-russias-olympic-ban-means-for-vladimir-putin/>



## Assistant Professor of Russian Amherst College

The Amherst College Department of Russian invites applications for a **full-time, tenure-track position of Assistant Professor to begin on July 1, 2017**. We are looking for a broadly-trained, theoretically-engaged scholar of Russian literature and culture. In addition to having a well-articulated research plan, the successful candidate will be committed to undergraduate and interdisciplinary teaching in a liberal-arts context.

Within the last decade, Amherst College has profoundly transformed its student body in terms of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and nationality. Today, nearly one-quarter of Amherst's students are Pell Grant recipients; 44 percent of our students are domestic students of color; and ten percent of our students are international students. Our expectation is that the successful candidate will excel at teaching and mentoring students who are broadly diverse with regard to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, and religion. Our new colleague will teach two courses per semester, including all levels of Russian language and various aspects of Russia's cultural legacy; contribute to the core curriculum of the department and the College's liberal-arts curriculum; and advise undergraduate honors theses. Amherst College is home to an internationally-renowned research institution, the Amherst Center for Russian Culture, and the department's faculty regularly draws on its collections for teaching and research. The Center's unique strengths lie in the visual and performing arts, the culture of modernism and the long twentieth century. More information about the department is available at <https://www.amherst.edu/mm/13477>, and about the Center for Russian Culture at <https://www.amherst.edu/mm/41771>.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Slavic languages and literatures in hand by the start of the appointment. Native or near-native fluency in Russian and English is required, and prior teaching experience is expected. Interested candidates should submit electronically to <https://apply.interfolio.com/35265> a letter of application containing research and teaching statements, C.V., two course syllabi, a writing sample (not to exceed 25 pages), and three confidential letters of recommendation. Review of candidates will begin on **September 15, 2016**, and continue until the position is filled. Applications received by that date will receive full consideration. Questions about the search should be addressed to [bwolfson@amherst.edu](mailto:bwolfson@amherst.edu).

Amherst College is a private undergraduate liberal arts college for men and women, with 1,800 students and more than two hundred faculty members. Located in the Connecticut River Valley of western Massachusetts, Amherst participates with Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges and the University of Massachusetts in the Five-College Consortium.



# Successful ASEES-MAG Summer Convention Held in Lviv, Ukraine

## Lynda Park, ASEES, and Olga Bukhina, MAG

On June 26-28, ASEES held a joint summer convention with the International Association for the Humanities (MAG) at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. This was the second conference in the region for ASEES - the first one being held at Nazarbayev University in Astana, Kazakhstan, organized with the Central Eurasian Studies Society, in May 2014.

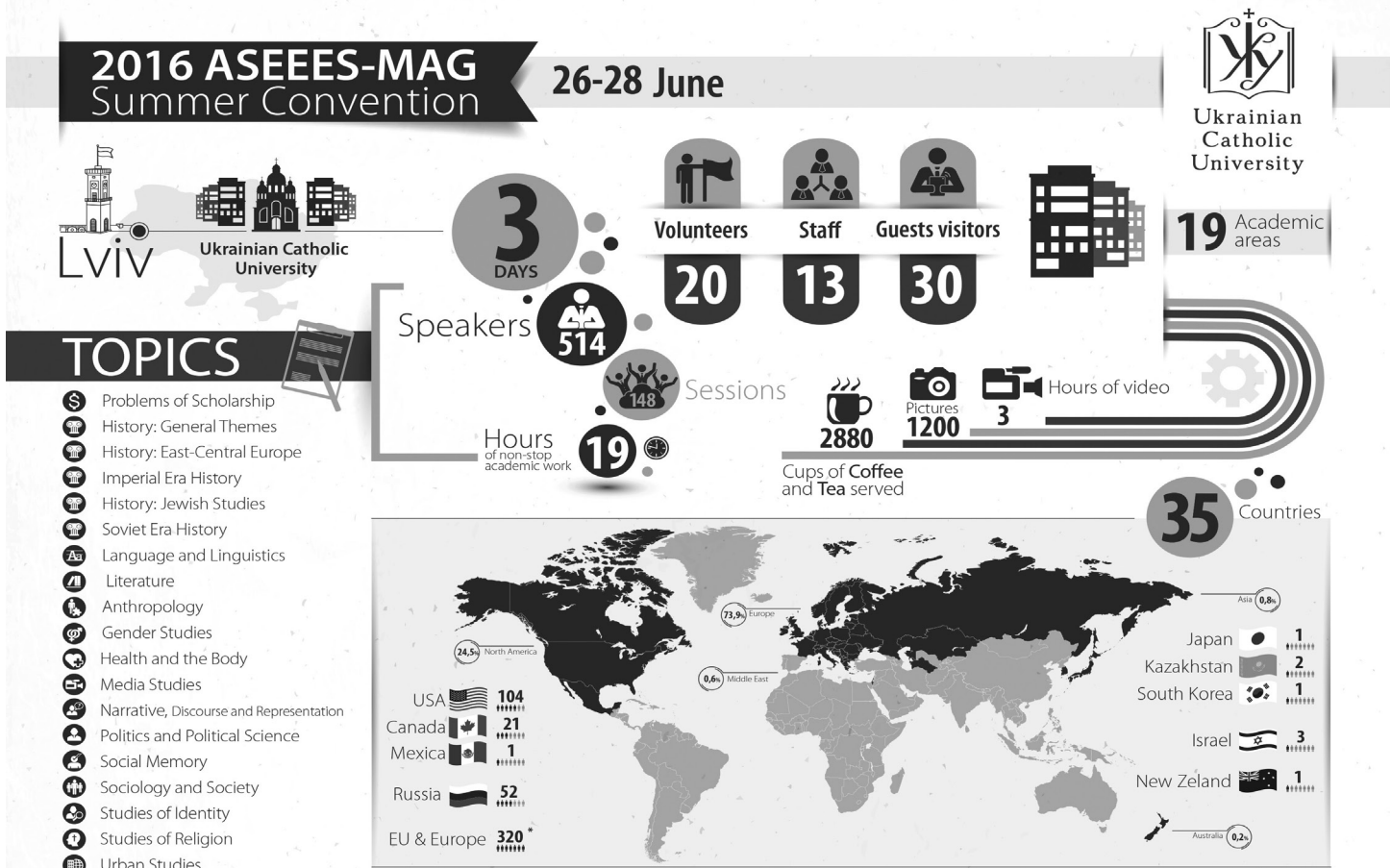
The initial impetus for ASEES' decision to organize summer conventions in the region was to exhibit the work of the association to the scholarly communities in the region and to bring together those scholars who do not or cannot attend the annual conventions in the US with the ASEES members (particularly from North America) to build new networks and strengthen existing ones. In that sense, the Lviv convention was a resounding success. ASEES' partnership with MAG, with its membership in Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine, was most fortuitous. MAG was able to publicize the convention's call for proposals widely throughout the region and attract scholars whom ASEES might not have been able to reach. The convention

drew 516 participants from 35 countries, including 154 from Ukraine, 52 from Russia, 15 from Belarus and 104 from the US. The event offered 148 sessions on diverse interdisciplinary topics. You can view the final [convention program](#) on the ASEES website.<sup>1</sup>

The Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) was a fantastic host with a well-organized staff (and student volunteers!) who went well beyond expectations to make the event a memorable one. We especially thank Oleh Turiy, UCU's Vice-Rector for Program Development, and Dmytro Sherengovsky, its Director of International Academic Relations, for their tireless efforts. We hope to organize another event in beautiful Lviv, hopefully during the jazz festival again!<sup>2</sup>

Much more than a great academic conference, the Lviv Convention was a milestone event for ASEES, MAG and UCU. In "[Tocqueville in Ukraine: Civil society in the academic community](#)," published in MAG's online

*Continued on page 12*





Photos by Halyna Vasylytsia

Continued from page 10

newsletter “The Bridge-MOST”, Andrzej Tymowski, the convention chair, underscored the importance of such voluntary associations and gatherings of scholars during these turbulent times.<sup>3</sup> In a moving [keynote address](#), Bishop Borys Gudziak, Founder and President of UCU, spoke of the unique role of scholarship in the movement from fear to dignity at this crucial moment.. The importance of the event, he urged, lay in the bringing together of scholars from so many different countries and areas of study to speak in and toward a common humanitarian discourse.<sup>4</sup> You can also read the reflections of Ukrainian participants on an [online forum](#).<sup>5</sup>

The Lviv Convention was a particularly invigorating moment for MAG. Thanks to support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the International Renaissance Foundation, MAG was able to give a significant number of grants to scholars from Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine. Its essay competition resulted in 14 travel grants for Belarusians, 17 for Russians, and 38 grants for Ukrainians. The convention provided MAG with the opportunity to hold its largest ever general assembly, bringing together a diverse audience of current and interested members who shared their vision of the organization’s future, new plans for research projects, and future conferences. The assembly adopted important amendments to

the MAG constitution to make its membership procedure more open and establish institutional membership. MAG invites scholars of all ranks from the region and elsewhere who are interested in creating a social and scholarly environment that preserves free expression and dissemination of humanitarian knowledge.

We thank the following convention sponsors: Indiana U REEI, Stanford U CREEES, U of Pittsburgh REES, and UC Berkeley ISEEEES.

ASEEES plans to organize the next summer convention in 2019. Stay tuned for more information!

(Endnotes)

- 1 [www.aseees.org/summer-convention/2016-program](http://www.aseees.org/summer-convention/2016-program)
- 2 You can view the Convention photos: [www.dropbox.com/sh/fgi1tu8msg0yqgi/AAD0dpCKaLt2aOS8jr2zduFa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/fgi1tu8msg0yqgi/AAD0dpCKaLt2aOS8jr2zduFa?dl=0) and watch a short video created by UCU: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOB\\_2P73FKg&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOB_2P73FKg&feature=youtu.be)
- 3 <http://thebridge-moct.org/tocqueville-in-ukraine-civil-society-in-the-academic-community/>
- 4 You can watch Bishop Gudziak’s keynote address at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=trEAFLBQ48E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trEAFLBQ48E)
- 5 [uamoderna.com/event/aseees-mag-convention-reflections](http://uamoderna.com/event/aseees-mag-convention-reflections)

Additional resource: <http://www.acls.org/news/08-11-2016/>

## CULTURE AS CONVERSATION: A CLASSIC TURNS FIFTY A SYMPOSIUM DEDICATED TO RE-EXAMINING *THE ICON AND THE AX*

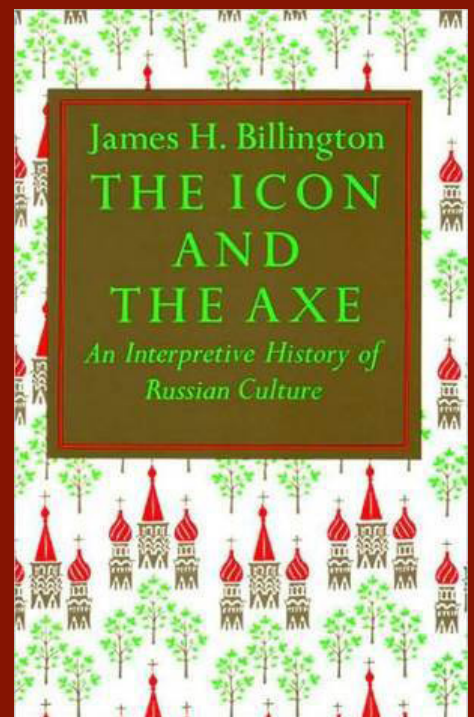
The Carmel Institute for Russian Culture and History at American University, the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, and the Wilson Center’s Kennan Institute invite you to a symposium to honor James H. Billington, author of the *The Icon and the Axe: An Interpretative History of Russian Culture*.

LOCATION: Claudio Grossman Hall, Washington College of Law, American University

DATE/TIME: November 16, 2016, 5:30 PM

Complimentary valet parking will be provided as well as shuttle transportation from several DC-area universities. Business attire is required.

[w.american.edu/carmel/events.shtml](http://w.american.edu/carmel/events.shtml)



# **ASEEES 48th Annual Convention**

**November 17–20, 2016**

**Marriott Wardman Park, Washington DC**

**[aseees.org/convention](http://aseees.org/convention)**

**Conference Theme “Global Conversations”**

- Aug 19** End of early pre-registration for the Convention (fees higher after this date)
- Sep 5** Final Deadline for all Convention Program changes
- Sep 15** Deadline to request invitation letters for visa purposes
- Sep 30** Registration deadline in order to appear in the Program Index of Participants
- Oct 14** End of Convention Pre-registration
- Oct 25** Last day to make hotel room reservation at discounted rate
- Nov 4** Deadline for changes to be included in the Convention Program supplement

**Nov 17 THATCamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp) workshop, sponsored by Slavic Digital Humanities Affiliate Group, 9:00a-12:00p**

**Opening Reception and Exhibit Hall Tour, 6:30p**

**Nov 18 Presidential Plenary: “On Whose Authority? How Area Studies Scholars Can Go Global, or Not” 12:00p**

Chair: Padraic J. Kenney, Indiana U Bloomington  
Jan Claas Behrends, Center for Contemporary History (Germany)  
Valerie Jane Bunce, Cornell U  
Choi Chatterjee, California State U, Los Angeles  
John F. Connelly, UC Berkeley

**ASEEES Annual Meeting of Members, 5:45p**

**Nov 19 Presidential Plenary II: “Russia’s New Role in the Middle East” 12:00p**

Chair: Padraic J. Kenney, Indiana U Bloomington  
Matthew Rojansky, Wilson International Center, Kennan Institute  
Celeste Ann Wallander, National Security Council  
Andrew Weiss, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**Pre-Award Buffet, 5:30p**

**Awards Ceremony & President’s Address: “Thinking Global, Speaking Regional: Area Studies in the World” 7:00p**

**ASEEES 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention —Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC — November 17—20, 2016  
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**. **Illegible or incomplete forms may substantially delay processing.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home  Office

Preferred postal address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home  Office

ASEEES plans to offer recognition of first-time attendees, and will provide a mobile-phone app for the program.  
 2016 will be my first ASEEES Convention: \_\_\_\_\_ I will use the app, and do NOT want a printed program: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINES and FEES**

**The convention program's Index of Participants closes September 30.**

If we have not **received** your registration payment 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 30, up until **pre-registration closes on October 14**. After that date, you must register on site. On-site registration will cost an additional \$30 (add'l \$10 for students and low-income attendees, \$15 for retirees).

**All persons attending the convention must register and pay the applicable fee.**  
**All speakers, roundtable participants, and discussants must be members unless eligible to register as a non-member.**  
 See [www.aseees.org/convention/rules](http://www.aseees.org/convention/rules) for details.

	Fees for registering by <b>August 19</b>	Fees for registering by <b>October 14</b>	
ASEEES Members.....	\$134.....	\$154.....	\$ _____
ASEEES Member, retiree.....	\$72.....	\$82.....	\$ _____
ASEEES Member, income under \$30K.....	\$47.....	\$52.....	\$ _____
ASEEES Member, student.....	\$41.....	\$46.....	\$ _____
Non-Member.....	\$189.....	\$209.....	\$ _____
Non-member, income under \$30K.....	\$67.....	\$72.....	\$ _____
Non-member, student.....	\$56.....	\$61.....	\$ _____

Awards Buffet, Saturday, November 19, 2016: Featuring hearty hors d'ouvres and a cash bar.

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$48 each      \_\_\_\_\_ student tickets @ \$24      BUFFET TICKETS:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SUBTOTAL:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2016 Membership Dues (see [aseees.org/membership/individual](http://aseees.org/membership/individual) to confirm current dues rates)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We accept most international credit and debit cards, including VISA, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. Please include the [card security code](#) as well. Checks and money orders are also accepted; please make payable in US dollars to **ASEEES** and send to address below.

\_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number      CSC      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](mailto:ASEEES@PITT.EDU)

Refund policy: see <http://www.aseees.org/convention/refund-policy>



## A Student's Experiences at the ASEES Convention

### Lina Meilus, Indiana U

*This article stems from a piece posted in Vol. 40 No. 1 (Winter 2016) of REEification, News from Indiana University's Russian and East European Institute.*

Last November, as an early start to my Thanksgiving, I flew to Philadelphia to attend the ASEES 47th Annual Convention. Over four days, I sat in on 12 different panels, some of which addressed my field of interest (comparative politics), while others introduced me to previously unfamiliar areas of research, such as “Rough Patches: Politics and Culture in Twenty-First Century Poland,” a panel on emerging and subversive Polish film makers and playwrights. Overall, the conference proved to be an informative, exciting, and positive experience—and I highly recommend it to any students interested in Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia.

What struck me as I first walked through the convention site doors, was the sheer number of attendees. At all times, the lobby was full with convention participants as they mingled, formed groups, and engaged in discussion; as I rode the escalator up each successive floor I continued to be overwhelmed at the preponderance of scholars. Coming from an undergraduate university smaller than my high school, and even at IU, despite all of its resources, I have often felt isolated as a student of Eastern European politics. When researching topics such as the political involvement of minorities in Bulgaria or issues of nationalism versus pan-nationalism in the Mari El Republic, there were often meager sources to pull from and I began to worry that few political scientists were interested in the role of identity and culture in Eastern European politics. Having attended the ASEES convention, I now know that this is not the case. There are professors and graduate students who share my interests, and thanks to ASEES, I was able to meet with them. While there was a lot of rushing from panel to panel, most attendees were very welcoming and willing to stop and chat, exchange contact information, and offer advice. Meeting people who showed interest in my research and encouraged me to continue with it really made me feel welcome in the ASEES community of scholars.



Although I enjoyed all of the panels that I attended, I admit to having a favorite. “Russian-Baltic Relations Today: Politics in Light of Ukraine” stood out as highly relevant to my research interest. The papers “Latvia and Russia: Politics in Light of Ukraine,” by Ivars Ijabs (U of Latvia) and “Estonian Domestic Politics and Perceptions of the Russian Threat” by Piret Ehin (U of Tartu) explored the impact of Russia’s actions in Ukraine on Latvian and Estonian attitudes towards both the Russian state and Russophones residing in Latvia and Estonia. These papers will help to guide me in structuring my MA essay and will serve as models for the incorporation of survey data and public opinion polls into a paper on nationalism. In the third contribution to the

panel, Chris Miller, an American scholar at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, argued that the Baltic states have been successful in putting pressure on the EU and NATO to continue sanctions on Russia. The chair and discussant were two IU alumni: Mara Lazda and Janis Chakars. Lazda and Chakars serve as president and vice-president, respectively, of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies. They informed me of the upcoming AABS conference.

The connections made at the ASEES convention will prove to be useful throughout my career. I began to have a sense of just how enormous the ASEES community is. To be honest, being a first-time attendee amongst

this vast network of scholars was intimidating. Thankfully, the 2015 conference included over 40 faculty, students, and staff from IU. Seeing familiar faces from REEI and other departments helped me feel less overwhelmed. The welcome solicitude of IU faculty did much to ensure that my first ASEES convention turned out to be a scintillating, invigorating, and thoroughly enjoyable experience.

*Lina Meilus, MA student in Russian and East European Studies at Indiana University, is interested in labor and migration and demographic shifts in Russia.*

## Forthcoming in *Slavic Review* Fall 2016

World War II: Occupation and Liberation  
Michael David-Fox, Special Section Guest Editor

Introduction. The People's War: Ordinary People  
and Regime Strategies in a World of Extremes  
Michael David-Fox

"Rural Russia on the Edges of Authority:  
Bezvlastie in Wartime Riazan, November-  
December 1941"  
Seth Bernstein

"Nationalist Utopianism, Orientalist Imagination,  
and Economic Exploitation: Romanian Aims and  
Policies in Transnistria, 1941–1945"  
Vladimir Solonari

"The Ambivalent State: Determining Guilt in the  
Post-World War II Soviet Union"  
Franziska Exeler

"Peasants into Perpetrators: The OUN-UPA and  
the Ethnic Cleansing of Volhynia, 1943–1944"  
Jared McBride

"Stalin's Doctrine of Price Reductions during the  
Second World War and Postwar Reconstruction"  
Kristy Ironside

### ARTICLES

"The Silent Side of Polyphony: On the  
Disappearances of 'Silentium!' from the Drafts of  
Dostoevskii and Bakhtin"  
Jason Cieply

"Crimea vs. Donbass: How Putin Won Russian  
Nationalist Support—and Lost it Again"  
Pål Kolstø

## THE MICHAEL HENRY HEIM PRIZE IN COLLEGIAL TRANSLATION

The MICHAEL HEIM PRIZE IN COLLEGIAL TRANSLATION is awarded annually for the best collegial translation of a journal article from an East European language into English. The prize is sponsored by *East European Politics & Societies and Cultures (EEPS)*, which will publish the winning article.

**DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2016**    **PRIZE: \$500 AND PUBLICATION IN *EEPS***    **SUBMISSIONS: TO [EEPS@ACLS.ORG](mailto:EEPS@ACLS.ORG)**

**PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT: NOV. 2016**    **CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES**

**COLLEGIAL TRANSLATION:** A translation by a colleague from a relevant discipline, rather than by a professional translator outside the author's field

### ELIGIBILITY:

- The translation cannot have been published previously.
- The translation must be from an East European language as defined by the geographic ambit of *EEPS*. Translations from German, Turkish, and Russian are not eligible.
- Articles should fall within the social sciences and the humanities.
- The subject matter and approach should be suitable for publication as an *EEPS* article.
- Translations of journalism, blogs, or other brief pieces do not qualify.

### In *Guidelines for the Translation of Social Science Texts*

([www.acls.org/programs/sstp](http://www.acls.org/programs/sstp)) Michael Heim encouraged scholars to translate their colleagues' work to make it more widely available. Although Heim was a renowned literary translator, he was convinced that the best translator of a scholarly text is a colleague in a relevant discipline who has acquired facility in translation, rather than a professional translator who is linguistically skilled but unfamiliar with the discipline's concepts, contexts, and controversies. This prize supports Michael Heim's vision.

### SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Scholarly significance of the article
- The quality of the translation
- The translation's contribution to scholarly communication across linguistic communities

### APPLICATION MATERIALS:

- The original article
- Your translation
- A brief abstract (in English)
- Your bio or CV
- A translator's note, elucidating the significance of the translated text, ca. 500 words (optional)

*EEPS* is an international, interdisciplinary journal for the examination of critical issues related to Eastern Europe. Its geographical scope is the area between Germany to the west and Russia to the east, and includes the Baltic region and the Balkans.



*EEPS* is sponsored by the AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES ([www.acls.org](http://www.acls.org)).  
<http://eep.sagepub.com>    Twitter: @EEPSJournal    Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EEPSJournal](http://www.facebook.com/EEPSJournal)





## 2016 Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant Recipients

Travel grant recipients, listed below and on page 18, will present their research at ASEEES 48th Annual Convention.

Charles Beacroft, U of East Anglia (UK)

“Without Sight, Sound and Thought’: The Rehabilitation of Deaf-Blind Children during the Inter-War Period”

Benjamin Beresford, Arizona State U

“Jazz Music Under Stalin as Ersatz Public Sphere”

Aleksandra Brokman\*, U of East Anglia (UK)

“Healing through Words: Psychotherapy in Soviet Medical Discourse”

Hannah Chapman, U of Wisconsin-Madison

“Technologies of Participatory Governance in Putin's Russia”

Mihai-Dan Cirjan, Central European U (Hungary)

“Between Austerity and Debt: The Global Co-Creation of a Post-Liberal Romania (1928-1935)”

Gabrielle Cornish, U of Rochester

“Communists, Komsomols, Pioneers!: Soviet Popular Song and the Making of the Cosmonaut Everyman”

Natalia Dame, U of Southern California

“Beyond the Family: Revolutionary Heroines in the Russian Fiction of the Late 1870s-Early 1880s”

Marina Fonseca Darmaros, U de São Paulo (Brazil)

“Amado and the Censors in the USSR”

Emily Elliott\*, Michigan State U

“Boundaries of Belonging: Transitioning from Temporary to Permanent, Migrant to Muscovite, 1971-1991”

Inessa Gelfenboym, U of Southern California

“Time Travel Contra Teleology in Leonid Gaidai's ‘Ivan Vasil'evich Meniaet Professiuii’”

Anastasiia Gordiienko, Ohio State U

“A Few Theoretical Approaches to the Societal Function of Underworld Songs in Russia and Ukraine”

Tomasz Grusiecki, McGill U (Canada)

“Thinking through the Periphery: Masquerading as a Pole in the Dutch Republic”

Maksym Klymentyev, National H. G. Skovoroda Institute of Philosophy (Ukraine)

“The Sensory Odyssey: Nikolai Gogol amid the Shifting Sensory Paradigms of the 19th Century”

Agnes Kriza, U of Cambridge (UK)

“Who is Sophia? Unravelling the ‘Novgorod icon of the Divine Wisdom’”

Ben McVicker, U of Toronto (Canada)

“From Disillusioned Dissidents to Opportunistic Organizations: Initial Reactions to the Soviet-Afghan War, 1979-1980”

Ksenia Nouril, Rutgers, The State U of New Jersey

“Ilya and Emilia Kabakov: Soviet Art History in a Global Art World”

Fabio Resmini, U of British Columbia (Canada)

“Top-down Personalistic Parties and Regime Stability: The Exceptional Case of United Russia”

Brittany Roberts, U of California, Riverside

“I Can Speak!': Tarkovsky's Mirror As Dialogic Therapy”

Eva Rogaar, U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

“An Exploration of Sources for Researching Muslim Women in the Soviet Union”

Tatjana Schell, North Dakota State U

“‘Dear children, Jacob and Amalie’: A Rhetorical Analysis of Letters from Russia to an Immigrant Couple in the Midwest”

Masha Shpolberg, Yale U

“Edges of Empire: Polish Documentaries about Contemporary Russia”

Katie Stewart, Indiana U

“Holidays as a Nation-building Tactic: A Regional Analysis of Holidays in Russia”

Mateusz Zatonski, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (UK)

“Democracy is Healthier? The Polish Anti-tobacco Movement Between 1974 and 1999”

\*alternates



## 2016 Convention Opportunity Travel Grant Recipients

Olga Bertelsen, New York U

“Joseph Brodsky’s Imperial Consciousness”

Rosy Carrick\*, U of Sussex (England)

“Mayakovsky and ‘The Dreaded Byt’”

Zakhar Ishov, Independent Scholar (Germany)

“From the Belfast Gantries to the Baltic Marshland: Louis MacNeice’s and Joseph Brodsky’s Creation of a Poet’s Sacred Landscape”

Dinah Jansen, Independent Scholar (Canada)

“‘A Truly Satanic Regime’: Russian Anti-Bolshevik Appeals in Britain and the Famine of 1921-1922”

Inna Leykin, The Open U of Israel (Israel)

“The Fault Lines of Kinship: Changing Life Course and Care in Post-Soviet Russia”

Emma Lieber, Independent Scholar/New York U

“What Does the Russian Novel Queer: Time and Failure in *The Idiot*”

Michael Loader, Independent Scholar

“Restricting Russians: The Propiska Regime in Riga, 1956-59”

Aleksander Lust, Appalachian State U

“The Blue Awakening? The Rise of the Far Right in Estonia”

Anastasia Shesterinina, Yale U

“Insurgent Cohesion: Social Networks and Conflict Identities in the Abkhaz Army”

David Stromberg\*, Hebrew U of Jerusalem (Israel)

“From Mode to Method: Platonic Irony in Dostoevsky’s *The Idiot*”

Alsu Tagirova, East China Normal U (PRC)

“From Honeymoon to Dispute: The Soviet Propaganda in China (1957-1969)”

Tatiana Voronina, Independent Scholar (Switzerland)

“Children of the Siege of Leningrad: The Soviet Literature’s Perspective”

Edward Waysband\*, The Hebrew U of Jerusalem (Israel)

“Russian Essentialism Revisited: Gorky and Khodasevich on Russian Peasant Poetry”

\*alternates



## 2016 Regional Scholar Travel Grant Recipients

Tatiana Borisova, Higher School of Economics (Russia)

“Imperial Law: Views from the Rulers”

Diana Dumitru\*, Ion Creanga Pedagogical State U (Moldova)

“This Was Different Place and I Was a Different Person: The Soviet State and Its Jewry in the Aftermath of the Holocaust”

Marija Grujic, Institute for Literature and Art (Serbia)

“All is Fair in Love and Politics: Political Comedy and Romance in Late Socialist Yugoslav Cinema”

Katherina Kokinova, Independent Scholar (Bulgaria)

“Pnin: Reading Instructions Badly”

Tereza Konyvkova, Janacek Academy of Music and Performing Arts (Czech Republic)

“Constructing Czech National Identity in The Sokol Movement’s Mass Performances”

Alexandru Lesanu, Independent Scholar (Moldova)

“Assembling the Enemy’s Line: A Case Study of the Postwar Technological Transfer in Soviet Moldavia (1944-1952)”

Andrey Makarychev\*, U of Tartu (Estonia)

“Practices of Governance in Authoritarian Regimes: The Case of

the FIFA 2018 CUP in Russia”

Claudiu Oancea\*, New Europe College (Romania)

“Building Charisma by Imagining the Nation: The Case of Nicolae Ceaușescu’s Socialist Romania”

Tatiana Riabova, Ivanovo State U (Russia)

“Clash of Masculinities? ‘Putin vs. Obama’ in Contemporary Russian Anti-Americanism”

Volodymyr Sklokin, Ukrainian Catholic U (Ukraine)

“Diaspora Historians and the Origins of the Postcolonial Reading of Ukrainian History in the 1990s”

Elena Shmeleva, Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)

“Language of Russian Leaders: a Mixture of Styles”

Alexander Verkhovskiy, SOVA Center for Information and Analysis (Russia)

“Virtual Political Preaching and Rethinking the ‘Church of Majority’ Concept”

Alexandra Yatsyk, Kazan Federal U (Russia)

“Biopolitical Games with(in) Russian Policy: the Case of Tatarstan”

\*alternates

# COHEN-TUCKER DISSERTATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN RUSSIAN HISTORICAL STUDIES

[aseees.org/programs/ctdrf](http://aseees.org/programs/ctdrf)

The Stephen F. Cohen–Robert C. Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship (CTDRF) Program for Russian Historical Studies supports the next generation of US scholars to conduct their doctoral dissertation research in Russia. The CTDRF Program is sponsored by the KAT Charitable Foundation.

Applications will be accepted until January 4, 2017

Fellowship amount: up to \$22,000

See our website for complete eligibility requirements.

## TITLE VIII FUNDING FOR RESEARCH & LANGUAGE STUDY

American Councils is pleased to announce the next competition for funding provided by the U.S. Department of State, Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (Title VIII), for the following programs:

### RESEARCH SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Provides full support for research in policy-relevant fields for three to eight months in Russia, Eurasia, and Southeast Europe. Fellowships include roundtrip international travel, housing and living stipends, visa support, medical insurance, archive access, and logistical support. Open to U.S. graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty. **Applications due October 1st, 2016.** For more information, visit [www.acstudyabroad.org/rsp](http://www.acstudyabroad.org/rsp).

### COMBINED RESEARCH & LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAM

Provides full support for research and individualized, advanced language instruction for three to eight months in Russia, Eurasia, and Southeast Europe. Fellowships include roundtrip international travel, housing and living stipends, tuition, visa support, medical insurance, archive access, logistical support, and up to 10 hours of language instruction per week. Open to U.S. graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and faculty. **Applications due October 1st, 2016.** For more information, visit [www.acstudyabroad.org/crlt](http://www.acstudyabroad.org/crlt).

### GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP FOR ADVANCED, OVERSEAS LANGUAGE STUDY

Provides fellowship support to U.S. graduate students participating in American Councils semester, summer, and academic year immersion programs in Russia, Eurasia, and the Balkans. For more information, visit [www.acstudyabroad.org/title-viii](http://www.acstudyabroad.org/title-viii).



**CONTACT:**  
[outbound@americancouncils.org](mailto:outbound@americancouncils.org)

*\*All competitions for funding are merit-based.  
Applicants must be U.S. citizens.*





## Publications

*Garden of Broken Statues: Exploring Censorship in Russia*, by Marianna Tax Choldin, was published by Academic Studies Press in June 2016. Captivated at a young age by Russia, Choldin immersed herself as a student at the University of Chicago in that country's language and culture. In her book she describes the tension between her strong commitment to freedom of expression and her growing understanding of Russian and Soviet censorship. Fluent in Russian, she travels widely in post-Soviet Russia, speaking with hundreds of Russians about their own censorship history. She writes of the close friendships she formed in Russia, and reflects on her Jewish roots in the country her family had left behind 100 years earlier.

*European Elites and Ideas of Empire, 1917–1957*, by Dina Gusejnova, was published by Cambridge University Press in March 2016.

Who thought of Europe as a community before its economic integration in 1957? Gusejnova illustrates how a supranational European mentality was forged from depleted imperial identities. In the revolutions of 1917 to 1920, the power of the Hohenzollern, Habsburg and Romanoff dynasties over their subjects expired. Even though Germany lost its credit as a world power twice in that century, in the global cultural memory, the old Germanic families remained associated with the idea of Europe in areas reaching from Mexico to the Baltic region and India. Gusejnova's book sheds light on a group of German-speaking intellectuals of aristocratic origin who became pioneers of Europe's future regeneration. In the minds of transnational elites, the continent's future horizons retained the contours of phantom empires.

Academic Studies Press published *From the Bible to Shakespeare: Pantelejmon Kuliš (1819–97) and the Formation of Literary Ukrainian*, by Andrii Danylenko in August 2016.

This is the first English-language study of the translations of the Bible and Shakespeare into vernacular Ukrainian by Pantelejmon Kuliš (1819–97), a true Ukrainian maverick in the national revival of his country and a precursor of the modern understanding of Ukrainian literature. In this study, Kuliš's translations are discussed in tandem with the time and people engaged in their assessment. As a result, the Ukrainian Bible and Shakespeare prove crucial to tracing the contours of a full and complete picture of the development of literary Ukrainian in the two historical parts of Ukraine—Galicia and Dnieper Ukraine—from the mid-nineteenth century onward.

*Holy Legionary Youth: Fascist Activism in Interwar Romania*, by Roland Clark, was published by Cornell University Press in May 2015.

Founded in 1927, Romania's Legion of the Archangel

Michael was one of Europe's largest and longest-lived fascist social movements. Clark approaches Romanian fascism by asking what membership in the Legion meant to young Romanian men and women. Viewing fascism "from below," as a social category that had practical consequences for those who embraced it, he shows how the personal significance of fascism emerged out of Legionaries' interactions with each other, the state, other political parties, families and friends, and fascist groups abroad. Official repression, fascist spectacle, and the frequency and nature of legionary activities changed a person's everyday activities and relationships in profound ways.

Clark's history traces fascist organizing in interwar Romania to nineteenth-century grassroots nationalist movements that demanded political independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It also shows how closely the movement was associated with the Romanian Orthodox Church and it was inspired by the muscular, martial aesthetic of fascism elsewhere in Europe. Although anti-semitism was a key feature of official fascist ideology, state violence against Legionaries rather than the extensive fascist violence against Jews had a far greater impact on how Romanians viewed the movement and their role in it. Approaching fascism in interwar Romania as an everyday practice, *Holy Legionary Youth* highlights how ordinary people "performed" fascism by working together to promote a unique and totalizing social identity.

*The Imperial Wife*, by Irina Reyn, was published by Thomas Dunne Books on July 19, 2016.

In this novel, two women's lives collide when a priceless Russian artifact comes to light. Tanya Kagan, a rising specialist in Russian art at a top New York auction house, is trying to entice Russia's wealthy oligarchs to bid on the biggest sale of her career, The Order of Saint Catherine, while making sense of the sudden and unexplained departure of her husband.

As questions arise over the provenance of the Order and auction fever kicks in, Reyn takes us into the world of Catherine the Great, the infamous 18th-century empress who may have owned the priceless artifact, and who it turns out faced many of the same issues Tanya wrestles with in her own life.

*The Imperial Wife* asks whether we view female ambition any differently today than we did in the past. Can a contemporary marriage withstand an Imperial Wife?

*Political Animals: Representing Dogs in Modern Russian Culture*, by Henrietta Mondry, was published by Brill in February 2015.

This book is the first interdisciplinary study of the representation of dogs in Russian discourse since the nineteenth century. Focusing on the correlation between humans and dogs in traditional belief systems, in literature, film and other cultural productions, it shows that the dog as

a political construct incorporates various contradictions, with different representations investing the dog with multiple, often-paradoxical meanings – moral, social and philosophical. From the peasantry’s dislike of the gentry’s hunting dogs and children’s cruelty to dogs in Pushkin and Dostoevsky to the establishment of the Soviet dynasties of border guard and police dogs, from Pavlov’s laboratory dogs to the monuments to the cosmic dog Laika and the subversive dog impersonations by the contemporary performance artist Oleg Kulik, the book explores the intersections of species-class-gender-sexuality-race-disability and, paradoxically, of Arcadian and Utopian dreams and scientific deeds. This study contributes to the unfolding cultural history of human-animal relations across cultures.

*Political Landscapes of Capital Cities*, edited by Jessica Joyce Christie, Jelena Bogdanović, and Eulogio Guzmán, was published by University of Colorado Press and Utah State University Press in August 2016.

*Political Landscapes of Capital Cities* investigates the processes of transformation of the natural landscape into the culturally constructed and ideologically defined political environments of capital cities. In this interpretation, an interdisciplinary group of authors including archaeologists, anthropologists, and art historians expose the intimate associations between human-made environments and the natural landscape that accommodate the sociopolitical needs of governmental authority. This work blends the historical, political, and cultural narratives of capital cities with a careful visual analysis, hinging on the methodological tools of not only architectural and urban design but also cultural, historiographical, and anthropological studies. The collection provides further ways to conceive of how processes of urbanization, monumentalization, ritualization, naturalization, and unification affected capitals differently without losing grasp of local distinctive architectural and spatial features. The essays also articulate the many complex political and ideological agendas of a diverse set of sovereign entities that planned, constructed, displayed, and performed their societal ideals in the spaces of their capitals, ultimately confirming that political authority is profoundly spatial.

*Silence Was Salvation: Child Survivors of Stalin’s Terror and World War II in the Soviet Union*, by Cathy Frierson, was published by Yale University Press in January 2015.

This book introduces ten people who were survivors of childhood trauma during the Soviet era and who were still living in Russia in 2005–2007. The Soviet government created their suffering when it orphaned them in the 1930s and 1940s by arresting one or both of their parents, whom the state then imprisoned, exiled, or executed. The children subsequently endured social, political, and economic stigmas as offspring of “enemies of the people” or “traitors to the motherland.”

*Terror and Pity: Aleksandr Sumarokov and the Theater of Power in Elizabethan Russia*, by Kirill Ospovat, was published by

Academic Studies Press in May 2016.

Situated on the intersection of comparative literary criticism, political history and theory, and cultural analysis, *Terror and Pity: Aleksandr Sumarokov and the Theater of Power in Elizabethan Russia* offers an in-depth reading of early Russian tragedy as a political genre. Imported to Russia by Aleksandr Sumarokov around 1750, tragedy reenacted and shaped the symbolic economy and the often disturbing historical experience of “absolutist” autocracy. Addressing half-forgotten texts and events, this study engages with literary and cultural theory from Walter Benjamin to Foucault and “new historicism” in order to contribute to a broader discussion of early modern “poetics of culture.”

*Thanksgiving All Year Round: A Memoir*, by Gavriel Shapiro, was published by Academic Studies Press as part of the Jews of Russia & Eastern Europe and Their Legacy Series (June 2016).

This book first delves into the author’s ancestry, thereby providing a partial slice of Russian Jewish history. It offers a personal perspective on growing up in the Soviet Union in the aftermath of WWII and developing Jewish national awareness. In his struggle to immigrate to Israel in the early 70s, Shapiro describes the persecution, arrests, imprisonment and trial that he faced. The memoir concludes with his work and life in Israel and the US.

## CALL FOR ARTICLES

Please consider submitting articles to be published in future NewsNets. Articles are typically brief essays on contemporary issues or matters of broad professional interest. They can include discussions of new research, institutions, resources etc. NewsNet is not a venue for extensive research essays; most cover articles are 2,500 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](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu)) or the Chair of the ASEES Communications Advisory Committee, Karen Petrone ([petrone@uky.edu](mailto:petrone@uky.edu)).

*The views expressed in NewsNet articles are solely the views of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of ASEES or its staff.*

## NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

**Anna Lisa Crone.** *Collected Writings, 1: Poetry*, 319 p., 2016 (ISBN 978-0-89357-401-7), \$44.95.

Lisa Crone had a 30-year career as a scholar and teacher of Russian literature, mentoring dozens of graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Chicago and leaving an indelible mark on the field of Russian literary studies in the United States. Her analytical method was based on close interpretation supported both by impeccable philological grounding and rich intercultural awareness.

**Adele Lindenmeyr, Christopher Read, and Peter Waldron, eds.** *Russia's Home Front in War and Revolution, 1914–22, 1: The Experience of War and Revolution*, 511 p., 2016 (ISBN 978-0-89357-426-0), \$44.95.

The editors hope that these essays will encourage study of the social impact

of total war and revolution, the grassroots mobilization of Russian society during this period, and the methods of adaptation and self-reinvention adopted by ordinary men and women in response to prolonged crisis.

### Slavica Publishers' 50th Anniversary

In honor of Slavica's 50th anniversary (1966–2016), we are offering a series of reprints of notable books published by Slavica but now long out of print. We are restoring these titles to print and making them available free of charge in .pdf format on our website, <https://slavica.indiana.edu/series/slavica-50th-anniversary-reissues>. Six books have been released so far out of a total of twelve anticipated, one for each month of our anniversary year. Enjoy these books, tell your friends, and feel free to share with colleagues and students.



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### Forum: Soviet Central Asia in and after World War II

MORITZ FLORIN  
Becoming Soviet through War

CHARLES SHAW  
Letters to Inobod and Ogulkhon

TIMOTHY NUNAN  
A Union Reframed

ARTEMY M. KALINOVSKY  
Central Planning, Local Knowledge?

Reaction by ADRIENNE EDGAR

### Review Essays

JULIA LEIKIN  
Across the Seven Seas

JARED MCBRIDE  
Who's Afraid of Ukrainian Nationalism?

ANNA IVANOVA  
Socialist Consumption and Brezhnev's Stagnation

Three String Books is an imprint of Slavica Publishers devoted to translations of literary works and belles-lettres from Central and Eastern Europe, including Russia and the other successor states of the former Soviet Union.

**Valentin Rasputin.** *Ivan's Daughter: Stories and a Novella*, trans. Margaret Winchell, viii + 308 p., 2016 (ISBN 978-089357-454-3), \$19.95.

The stories and novella in this collection of work by the late Valentin Rasputin (1937–2015), leading representative of the village prose movement and one of Russia's greatest contemporary writers, depict life in Russia during the traumatic years following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. By bringing a variety of characters to life—from young children, teen-agers, and middle-aged adults to old peasants and new Russians—Rasputin delves into the burning issues of that time, including questions of morality as well as sheer survival, and allows readers to experience the immediate post-Soviet past together with the “ordinary

folks” who were fated to live it. In addition to shedding light on the present, these works offer an armchair trip to Siberia along with the aesthetic pleasures that flow from the pen of a master storyteller.

**Boris Poplavsky, Apollon Bezobrazov,** trans. John Kopper, xxvi + 172 p., 2015 (ISBN 978-089357-453-6), \$19.95.

This novel by “recovered Surrealist” Russian émigré poet Boris Poplavsky describes in colorful, poetic detail the hand-to-mouth existence of a small band of displaced Russians in Paris and Italy, chronicling their poverty, their diversions, their intensely played out love affairs, and its namesake's gradual transformation in the eyes of his admiring followers. Abounding in allusions to Eastern religion, Western philosophy, and 19th-century Russian literature, the work echoes Joyce's *Ulysses* in its experimental mixing of genres, while its use of extended metaphors reveals the stylistic impact of Marcel Proust. Not published in complete form in Russian until 1993, *Apollon Bezobrazov* significantly broadens our understanding of Russian prose produced in the interwar emigration.



Three  
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Books



# Institutional Member News

## ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY MELIKIAN CENTER CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP

Stephen Batalden stepped down as the director of the Melikian Center: Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies at Arizona State University after serving for many years. The interim director is Mark von Hagen.

## THE KENNAN INSTITUTE AT THE WILSON CENTER George F. Kennan Fellowships

George F. Kennan Fellows will be based at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. for three-month residencies. Fellows will receive access to the Library of Congress, National Archives, and policy research centers in Washington, D.C., as well as the opportunity to meet with key experts and officials at the State Department, USAID, Department of Defense, and Congress. While conducting research, the George F. Kennan Fellows are expected to actively participate in discussions with the policy and academic communities, including speaking engagements at the Wilson Center as well as potentially outside of Washington D.C., and attending meetings, conferences, and other activities organized by the Kennan Institute and Wilson Center. Upon completion of the fellowships, the grantees become alumni, for whom Kennan will continue to offer opportunities for collaboration and engagement. U.S., Russian, and Ukrainian citizens are eligible to apply.

Please note applicants have an option to apply for the fellowship as individuals or as part of a team. If applying as a team of two (or three) applicants, the applicants must be citizens of at least two different countries. The goal of such joint fellowships is to promote collaborative research projects among U.S., Russian, and Ukrainian experts.

George F. Kennan Fellowship Teams will:

- Produce joint paper(s) for policy-relevant publications.
- Present work at D.C., Russia, and/or Ukraine events.
- Conduct meetings and engage with policymakers in D.C.

Competitions for the fellowships will be held twice yearly with the following application deadlines: September 1 and March 1. Applicants must submit a completed application – please see our website for more details: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/grant-opportunities-and-internships-0>

The George F. Kennan Fellowship offers a monthly stipend of \$3,200, research facilities, and computer access. Fellows are required to be in residence at the Kennan Institute, Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. for the duration of the grant. Awardees are expected to commence their three-month appointments within one year of accepting the fellowship.

The Kennan Institute welcomes the following Scholars in Residence:

Distinguished Fellows

- Andrei Kozyrev, Former Foreign Minister of Russia, “Inside

the Russian Revolution: A Missed Chance for Change”  
Title VIII Short-term Scholars

- Matthew Derrick, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Humboldt State University (CA), “From the Post-Soviet to Eurasia: Regional Constructs a Quarter-Century after Independence”
- Edward Holland, Postdoctoral Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor of International Studies, Havighurst Center for Russian & Post-Soviet Studies, Miami University (OH), “From the Post-Soviet to Eurasia: Regional Constructs a Quarter-Century after Independence”

Title VIII Research Fellows

- Victoria Clement, Analyst and Founder, Central Asian Insights, “Learning to Become Turkmen: Literacy, Language and Power, 1914-2004”
- Liliya Karimova, Professorial Lecturer, Department of Organizational Sciences and Communication, George Washington University. “By the Grace of God: Women, Islam, and Transformation in Tatarstan, Russia.”

George F. Kennan Fellows

- Mikhail Antonov, Associate Professor of Legal Theory, Higher School of Economics, “Philosophical Aspects of Modernization of Russian Law”
- Jason E. Bruder, Chief of Staff, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of State, “The Influence of the US Congress on US-Russian Relations 1990-2005”
- Maryna Rudenko, Civil Society Specialist, FAIR Justice Project, “Improving Women’s Access to Justice during War: Best Practices and Lessons for Ukraine”

Wilson Center Fellows

- Stephen Crowley, Professor of Politics, Oberlin College, “The Other Russia: Labor Politics and the Putin Regime in Challenging Economic Times”
- Igor Zevelev, Former Director, MacArthur Foundation, Moscow Office, “Russia Before and After the Annexation of Crimea: National Identity and Foreign Policy Change”

Public Policy Scholars

- Sergey Parkhomenko, Journalist, Ekho Moskvyy Radio, “Creation of an Independent Media Platform in Russia”

Kennan-Fulbright Scholars

- Volodymyr Kulikov, Docent, Department of History, Y.N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine. “Corporations, Community, and Control: Company Towns in Ukraine and the United States”

## UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN WEISER CENTER WELCOMES NEW LEADERS

The Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia (WCEE) is pleased to announce new leadership effective July 1, 2016. Geneviève Zubrzycki, associate professor of sociology, has been appointed as director of the Weiser Center for Europe

and Eurasia, which includes the Center for European Studies; Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies; and Copernicus Program in Polish Studies. Zubrzycki examines politics and religion, nationalism, as well as national mythology and the politics of commemorations. Her book, *The Crosses of Auschwitz: Nationalism and Religion in Post-Communist Poland* (University of Chicago Press, 2006) received a number of awards and was recently published in Polish (Nomos, 2014). She is also the author of *Beheading the Saint: Nationalism, Religion and Secularism in Quebec* (University of Chicago Press, Nov. 2016) and the editor of *National Matters: Culture, Materiality and Nationalism*, forthcoming in June 2017 from Stanford University Press. Zubrzycki is a long-time faculty associate and former director of the Copernicus Program in Polish Studies

and Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.

WCEE is also happy to welcome Tatjana Aleksić, associate professor of Slavic languages and literatures and comparative literature, as the new associate director. Professor Aleksić, an expert on contemporary Balkan literature and literary theory, will be responsible for curriculum and pedagogy at WCEE.

#### UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR OF CREES

Nancy Condee is the new director of Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. She will start her position in January 2017. Dawn Seckler, its associate director, will serve as the interim director in the fall.

### ASEEES COMMONS TO LAUNCH NOVEMBER 2016

Since 2015, ASEEES has been collaborating with the Modern Language Association to be part of the new Humanities Commons - an integrated online discussion platform. We'll be launching ASEEES Commons in November, to coincide with the Convention. Here's what you can expect:

#### Share and store your work with CORE

All ASEEES members can upload materials to CORE, the open access, library quality repository for the humanities. An NEH-funded project developed in collaboration with Columbia University Libraries, CORE accepts all forms of scholarly communication, from your pre-prints to presentations, data sets to dissertations, course materials to code. Members will be able to promote their work, track its use, and share it instantly with the world.

#### Create and promote a professional profile

Create a modern, shareable profile on ASEEES Commons and share it with colleagues or potential employers. Promote your publications (including work uploaded to CORE), link to your existing web sites, list your upcoming events, and connect with others who share your academic interests.

#### Join and form online discussion forums

ASEEES members will be able to create or join discussion forums on any scholarly topic relevant to our region of study and connect with others attending upcoming conventions. ASEEES members will be able create and join group within ASEEES Commons and across the Humanities Commons (which will include the MLA Commons, AJS Commons and CCA Commons in the first phase). ASEEES affiliate groups are especially encouraged to create discussion forums.

#### Build a Web site to showcase your work

If you're interested in connecting with a broader public, promoting a conference, or showcasing your professional work, you can create your own free WordPress site on the Humanities Commons network. With a rich variety of themes and options to embed video and audio files, presentations, events calendars, and more, Humanities Commons enables even the most technophobic users to have a Web site up and running in no time.



For more information on this project, please visit: <http://bit.ly/1FFhzxz>. If you are interested in helping us beta-test the Commons, creating/moderating discussion forums, or providing content for the Commons, email [newsnet@pitt.edu](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu)





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- **EURASIAN REGIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM (ERLP)** ERLP provides highly-individualized language instruction, homestays, cultural activities, and expert logistical support to participants studying less commonly taught languages in 10 Eurasian countries.
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 [www.acStudyAbroad.org](http://www.acStudyAbroad.org)



## In Memoriam

**J. Michael Holquist**, professor of comparative literature emeritus and former chair of the Yale University Department of Comparative Literature, died on June 26 at the age of 80.

Throughout his career, Holquist published articles on topics including utopian fiction, detective stories, and many Russian writers. In 1977, he released his first book, *Dostoevsky and the Novel*. Holquist then devoted many years to studying the work of Russian philosopher and literary critic Mikhail Bakhtin, earning critical acclaim as a pioneer in that field. Holquist translated and edited four volumes of Bakhtin's work and co-wrote, with Yale colleague Katerina Clark, the biography *Mikhail Bakhtin*. He is also the author of *Dialogism: Bakhtin and his World*, which is widely acknowledged as an important guide to Bakhtin's extensive work in literary theory.

Holquist was born on December 20, 1935, in Rockford, Illinois. He learned Russian when he served in the U.S. Army, after which he received a B.A. from the University of Illinois (Urbana campus). He then won a Woodrow Wilson scholarship to the Slavic department at Yale, receiving his Ph.D. in 1968. Holquist taught at Yale until 1975, during which he was instrumental in establishing the popular literature major. Between 1975 and 1986, he served as chair of the Slavic department at the University of Texas at Austin and at the Indiana University. He returned to Yale in 1986, where he taught until his retirement in 2005. In retirement, Holquist continued to teach at universities around New York City, where he was a member of the Society of Senior Scholars at Columbia University.

A memorial service will be held at the Riverside Memorial Chapel, NYC on Sunday, September 25.

*Provided by Yale News.*

**Madhu Malik**, passed away on May 20, at home in Delhi, surrounded by close friends and family. She was 69. Malik joined the Bucknell Faculty in 1983. She retired in 2009, after 26 years of teaching. A native of India, Malik received her BA and MA in Russian Language and Literature from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and her PhD in Slavic Folklore from the University of Virginia in 1982. From 1974 to 1976, she studied at Patrice Lumumba University, where she co-authored a monograph in Russian, *Translation as an Aspect of Foreign Language Study*. She also worked for Radio Moscow and as a translator and announcer for the Russian service of the All India Radio. Malik published articles on Nikolai Gogol, Vladimir Vysotsky (whom she knew personally), and *The Wizard of Oz*, and delivered many talks on folklore and Russian culture at professional meetings around the world. Most recently, she published a book-length translation of the 19th-century Russian Indologist Ivan Minayev's *Clever Wives and Happy Idiots: Folktales from the Kumaon Himalayas* (2015).

While at Bucknell, Malik taught Russian language and culture, folklore and ritual, women in Russian culture, pop cul-

ture, and guitar poetry. In addition to past service as director of the Bucknell Russian Studies Program, Malik was a founding member of Bucknell's Race & Gender Resource Center, and served as its co-director for many years.

Students flocked to her and found in her a role model and mentor. Malik was a beloved member of the Bucknell community and of Lewisburg, PA.

*Excerpted from text provided by Ludmila Shleyfer Lavine, Associate Professor of Russian, Bucknell University*

It is with great sadness that the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University announces the death of **Jurij Striedter**, Curt Hugo Reisinger Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Professor of Comparative Literature, Emeritus. Striedter passed away at his home in Florida on June 21.

Striedter was born in Novgorod, Russia, but lived and was educated largely in Germany. In 1953 he received his Dr. phil. from the University of Heidelberg. He then accepted a post-doctoral fellowship with the German Research Society at the Free University in West Berlin, where he earned his Habilitation, *pro venia legendi*, in Slavic Literatures. He was Professor of Literature at the Free University and at the University of Konstanz. At Konstanz he was a member of the influential group of scholars that came to be known as the "Konstanz School" of reception aesthetics. In 1977 he accepted a position at Harvard, where he remained until his retirement in 1995.

He was a prolific and influential scholar: Among his German-language monographs were *Die Fragmente des Novallis als "Präfigurationen" seiner Dichtung*, *Der Schelmenroman in Russland*, and *Dichtung und Geschichte bei Pushkin*. His role as a scholar of Russian Formalism and Czech Structuralism is well known. He edited and introduced the key volumes: *Texte der russischen Formalisten* and *Felix Vodicka. Strukturen literarischer Entwicklung*. His English-language work, *Literary Structure, Evolution, and Value: Russian Formalism and Czech Structuralism Reconsidered*, was for many the best work written on the subject.

At Harvard, Striedter was a key faculty member not just in Slavic and Comparative Literature but also in the undergraduate Literature concentration. For many years a Senior Fellow in the Harvard Society of Fellows, Striedter was known for his capacious intellect and his willingness to share his time with young scholars.

In retirement Striedter continued to write and conduct research. Both his book on the Russian picaresque and his memoirs, 1926-1945, appeared in Russian translation in the last decade.

*Excerpted from text provided by Justin Weir, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature, Harvard University.*



# Affiliate Group News

AATSEEL-WISCONSIN CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 7-8, 2016

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Abstracts for 20-minute papers on any aspect of Slavic literatures, cultures (including film, music, and the visual arts), linguistics, and history are invited for the annual conference of the Wisconsin chapter of AATSEEL (The American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages). Comparative topics and interdisciplinary approaches are welcome and encouraged. The conference will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8, 2016.

Recent conference programs are available on the AATSEEL-WI website at <http://bit.ly/2aekSh0>. This year's keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Olga Maiorova (University of Michigan).

To present a paper at the AATSEEL-WI conference, please submit a proposal by August 31, 2016. A complete proposal consists of: Author's contact information; Paper title; 300-500 word abstract; Equipment request (if necessary). Please send proposals by email to: Melissa Warner, [mmwarner@wisc.edu](mailto:mmwarner@wisc.edu). Please include "AATSEEL-WI" in the subject line of your email. All submissions will be acknowledged and considered, and all applicants will be informed of the status of their proposals no later than September 15.

## ASSOCIATION FOR DIVERSITY IN SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES (ADSEEEES) TRAVEL GRANTS

ADSEEEES announces Convention Attendance Grants for Undergraduates from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving-Institutions (MSIs) aimed at subsidizing attendance of the 2016 ASEEEES Convention in Washington, DC (November 17-20, 2016).

This grant covers the registration and membership fees necessary to attend the 2016 ASEEEES Convention. Please submit a short essay (250 words maximum) explaining how your academic work in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies will help you in your future career and/or studies. Explain how your future plans align with the values and principles outlined in the ADSEEEES mission statement. Students from any subfield (language, literature, history, social science, and other relevant disciplines) are eligible to apply. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a historically black college and university (HBCU) or a Minority-Serving Institution (MSI). To see if your college or university applies, see the Department of Education website listing here. Please email your essay to [adseees.diversity@gmail.com](mailto:adseees.diversity@gmail.com) by September 15, 2016.

To learn more about ADSEEEES, please visit our website at <http://www.adseees.org>.

Through its grant competition, ADSEEEES seeks to foster diversity and inclusion within the field of Slavic,

East European, and Eurasian Studies. Applicants from all backgrounds who have shown a demonstrated commitment to the principles outlined in the ADSEEEES Mission Statement, either through their research, teaching, and/or service to the profession are encouraged to apply.

These grants have been made possible through generous funding from ASEEEES, the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies at the University of California-Berkeley, and the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University.

Please address any questions or concerns about the application process to [adseees.diversity@gmail.com](mailto:adseees.diversity@gmail.com).

## ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN SLAVIC STUDIES CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

2016 Mary Zirin Prize

AWSS is pleased to announce a call for nominations for the Mary Zirin Prize in recognition of an independent scholar in the field of Slavic Studies. The award of \$500 is named for Mary Zirin, the founder of Women East-West.

Working as an independent scholar, Zirin produced and encouraged fundamental works in Slavic/East European Women's Studies and has been instrumental in the development of the AWSS. 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 Committee encourages the nomination of candidates at all career stages. For the purpose of this award, an independent scholar is defined as a scholar who is not employed at an institution of higher learning, or an employee of a university or college who is not eligible to compete for

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institutional support for research (for example, those teaching under short-term contracts or working in administrative posts). We welcome nominations from CIS and Central and Eastern Europe.

The Zirin Prize Committee will accept nominations (including self-nominations) until September 1, 2016. Nominations must include: (1) a nomination letter of no more than two-pages double-spaced; (2) the nominee's current curriculum vitae; 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.

Nominations should be sent to Marilyn Smith at [msmith@fivecolleges.edu](mailto:msmith@fivecolleges.edu), or by postal mail to Marilyn Schwinn Smith, 14 Allen Street, Amherst, MA 01002.

#### 2016 AWSS Graduate Research Prize

AWSS Graduate Research Prize is awarded annually to fund promising graduate level research in any field of Slavic/East European/Central Asian studies by a woman or on a topic in Women's or Gender Studies related to Slavic Studies/East Europe/Central Asia by either a woman or a man. Graduate students who are at any stage of master's or doctoral level research are eligible.

The grant can be used to support expenses related to completion of a thesis or dissertation, as well as travel, services, and/or materials. The award carries a cash prize of \$1000.00. Nominations and self-nominations are welcome. In addition to two letters of recommendation, please send a CV, a letter of application in which you outline how the money will be

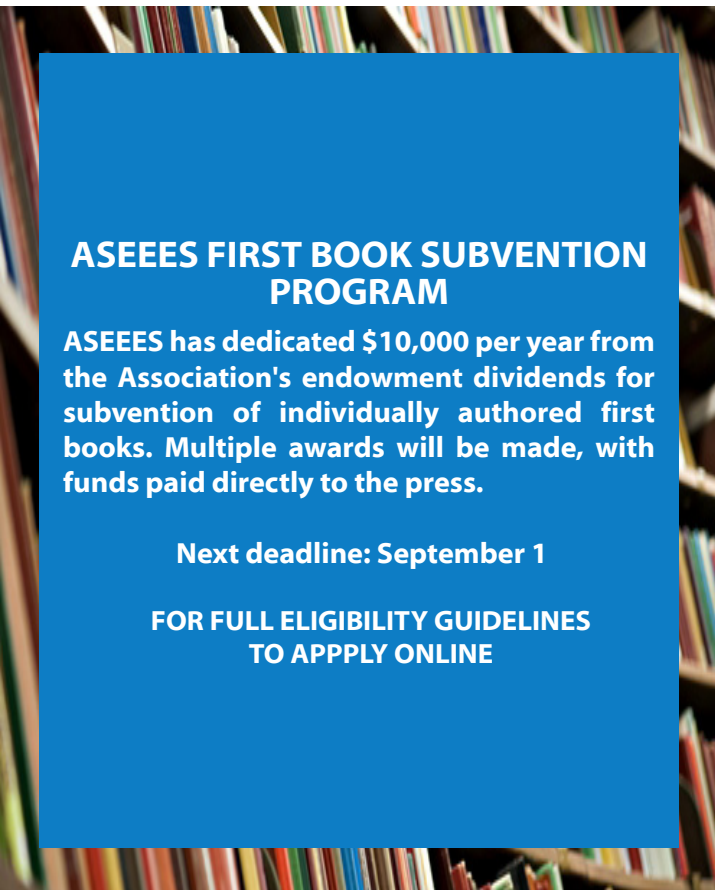
used and why it is necessary for progress on the project and, if appropriate, a list of archives and/or libraries or other research resources that you plan to use.

Completed submissions must be received by September 1, 2016. Please send them to Committee Chair, Sharon Kowalsky, Associate Professor of History, Texas A&M, Commerce: [Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu](mailto:Sharon.Kowalsky@tamuc.edu).

#### 2016 AWSS Graduate Essay Prize

The prize is awarded to the author of a chapter or article-length essay on any topic in any field or area of Slavic/East European/Central Asian Studies written by a woman, or on a topic in Slavic/East European/Central Asian Women's/Gender Studies written by a woman or a man. This competition is open to current doctoral students and to those who defended a doctoral dissertation in 2015-2016. If the essay is a seminar paper, it must have been written during the academic year 2015-2016. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Previous submissions and published materials are ineligible. Essays should be no longer than 50 double-spaced pages, including reference matter, and in English (quoted text in any other language should be translated). Completed submissions must be received by September 1, 2016. Please send a copy of the essay and an updated CV to each of the three members of the Prize Committee as email attachments. Please address any questions to the chair of the prize committee.

Karen Petrone, Committee Chair, U of Kentucky, [petrone@uky.edu](mailto:petrone@uky.edu)




**ASEEES FIRST BOOK SUBVENTION PROGRAM**

ASEEES has dedicated \$10,000 per year from the Association's endowment dividends for subvention of individually authored first books. Multiple awards will be made, with funds paid directly to the press.

**Next deadline: September 1**

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Adrienne Harris, Baylor U, Adrienne\_Harris@baylor.edu

Amy Randall, Santa Clara U, arandall@scu.edu

### 2016 AWSS 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 Outstanding Achievement Award recipients is available here.

Please email your letter and list by September 1, 2016 to Choi Chatterjee (Chair) at: cchatte@calstatela.edu, Elizabeth Hemenway at: ehemenway@luc.edu and Karen Petrone at: petrone@uky.edu.

### CENTRAL SLAVIC CONFERENCE

October 21-23, 2016, St. Louis, Missouri

The Central Slavic Conference is pleased to invite scholars of all disciplines working in Slavic, Eurasian, and East European studies to submit proposals for panels, individual papers, and

roundtables at its annual meeting to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, October 21-23, 2016.

Founded in 1962 as the Bi-State Slavic Conference, the Central Slavic Conference now encompasses seven states and is the oldest of the regional affiliates of ASEEEES. Scholars from outside the region and from around the world are welcome. A section of the conference will be devoted to marking the 60th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, and we are pleased to announce the conference keynote address: "Hungary, 1956: Revolution or Counterrevolution? The Continuing Relevance of the Debate" Nyirkos Tamas, Pazmany Peter Catholic University, Budapest

Proposals for papers, panels, and roundtables should be submitted by email to CSC President Dr. David Borgmeyer at CentralSlavic@outlook.com no later than September 1, 2016. Early proposals are encouraged. All proposals should include:

- Participant name, affiliation, and email contact information;
- For individual paper presentation: title and brief description (limit 50 words);
- For panels: panel title + above information for each participant and discussant (if applicable);
- For roundtables: roundtable title and participant information.

For the first time ever, the CSC will dedicate a separate portion of the conference to undergraduate research presentations. Faculty are encouraged to support conference proposals from undergraduate students for this new section of the conference.

## 2017 ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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### SUMMER ABROAD

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cli.asu.edu/apply

Limited funding is available to provide graduate and undergraduate students with travel stipends.

#### Charles Timberlake Memorial Symposium

The symposium is dedicated to the memory and scholarly interests of longtime CSC member Charles Timberlake. Those interested in participating should contact symposium coordinator Dr. Nicole Monnier at [CentralSlavic@outlook.com](mailto:CentralSlavic@outlook.com).

#### Timberlake Memorial Graduate Paper Prize

Students who present at the CSC Annual Meeting are invited to participate in the Timberlake Graduate Paper Prize competition. Dedicated to the memory of Professor Timberlake as a teacher and mentor, the prize carries a cash award.

#### POLISH STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Brian Porter-Szucs' term as president of the Polish Studies Association has ended. Dr. Agnieszka Pasieka was elected to succeed him.

#### THATCAMP AT ASEEEES 2016

Thursday, November 17, 9am-12pm

Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington D.C.

The newly formed Slavic Digital Humanities Affiliate Group will hold a THATCamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp) on the site of the 2016 ASEEEES Convention. This is a one-day informal workshop that will bring together Slavists and other scholars working in all different areas of the digital humanities, as well as those who are curious to learn more about these methodologies. There will be a very basic introduction session for those completely new to DH, as well as more advanced breakout sessions in specific areas. As a THATCamp, the event has no formal schedule or set agenda. We will have a poll to gauge interest in workshops on specific topics before the conference or during the first session. Participants are free to

move between panels (per the "law of two feet") and to make the most of their time and the potential for collaboration and learning.

Registration fee: \$20; however, graduate students and adjunct faculty can request to be exempt from the fee.)

Topics for breakout session can include: What is DH anyway? Intro to DH - 2 hour session; Problems with Working with Slavic and East European languages: Diacritics and Cyrillic Script; Text Encoding/TEI; Networks; Digital Public Scholarship; GIS & mapping; Topic Modeling; Digital Publishing Platforms; Digital Pedagogy; DH Course Development; Programming for Humanists; Blogging & public scholarship; Digital Archives & Databases

You can register for the workshop by visiting <http://aseees2016.thatcamp.org/register/> by September 15, 2016. DH encourages you to join the series of seven panels (<http://www.slavic-dh.org/panels2016>) that were organized as part of the annual ASEEEES convention. These panels are marked in the schedule with DH and the topic.

#### SOCIETY OF HISTORIANS OF EAST EUROPEAN, EURASIAN, AND RUSSIAN ART AND ARCHITECTURE NEWS

SHERA is pleased to welcome St. Petersburg Arts Project, Inc. as its new institutional member. St. Petersburg Arts Project is a New York based non-for-profit foundation, originally established in 1999 to promote cultural exchange between American and Russian art communities.

SHERA continues to facilitate international exchange of students by arranging research collaboration between American scholars and Russian institutions. This year, SHERA member Mary Ann Ginsberg traveled to St. Petersburg and Moscow to conduct research on her dissertation on a visa arranged by SHERA.

## 2016 ASEEEES BOARD ELECTION

We are pleased to announce the slate of candidates for the 2016 election for three (3) positions on the ASEEEES Board of Directors, all serving three-year terms from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019. We thank them for their willingness to stand as candidates to serve on the ASEEEES Board.

#### Candidates for Vice President / President-Elect

- **Julie Cassidy**, Professor of Russian, Williams College
- **Jane Costlow**, Clark A. Griffith Professor of Environmental Studies, Bates College

#### Candidates for Members-at-Large

- **Rosalind Polly Blakesley**, Reader in Russian and European Art, University of Cambridge (UK)
- **Anne Lounsbery**, Associate Professor and Chair of Russian and Slavic Studies, New York University
- **Kristin Roth-Ey**, Lecturer in Modern Russian History, University College London (UK)
- **Dirk Uffelmann**, Professor of Slavic Literatures and Cultures, University of Passau (Germany)

For more information on the election including the candidate bios go to: [www.aseees.org/about/board-elections](http://www.aseees.org/about/board-elections)



## Personages

**Karen Chilstrom** successfully defended her dissertation on, “A Nation in Transition: Language Policy and Its Impact on Russian-Language Education in Ukraine” at the University of Texas at Austin.

**Joanna Epstein** retired from her position as Slavic Librarian (Polish collection) as of early July. Some 23 years ago Epstein left University of Chicago Library and came to the Harvard College Library as a librarian for Russian collection and then switched to Polish.

**Masako Ueda Fidler** was awarded AATSEEL’s “Best Contribution to Slavic Linguistics” for her book, *Onomatopoeia in Czech*, published by Slavica. Fidler’s book is the first systematic view of the relationship between onomatopoeia and grammar in Czech.

The National Humanities Center appointed 37 Fellows for the academic year 2016–2017. Chosen from 449 applicants, ASEEES member **Ilya Kliger** received a Benjamin N. Duke Fellowship of the Research Triangle Foundation for “Untimely Community: The Tragic Imagination in the Age of Russian Realism.”

**Dominic Lieven**, senior research fellow at Trinity College, Cambridge University has won the fourth annual Pushkin House Russian book prize for his work *Towards the Flame: Empire, War and the end of Tsarist Russia* (Penguin). His book, was selected by a panel a five distinguished judges from a shortlist of six.

**Jessica Mason** was named a Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow; Mason was selected from a pool of nearly 1,100 applicants through a rigorous, multi-stage peer review process. Mason, who has a PhD, Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, will take up a two-year, full-time position at the Workplace Programs Federal Policy Analyst, National Partnership for Women & Families.

**Emilia Zankina**, who teaches politics at American University in Bulgaria and served as the Politics and European Studies Department Chair, has been appointed the new Provost at the university. The AUBG Board of Trustees approved her nomination May 21 and she assumed office on July 1 2016. The position of the Provost oversees all policies, processes, and activities related to the academic and student life of AUBG and Zankina has outlined several strategic priorities for when she begins work as Provost.

**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](mailto:aseees@pitt.edu) [www.aseees.org](http://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

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Subscription to NewsNet is \$28.00 for U.S. subscribers and \$44 for non-U.S. subscribers. Prices include shipping. Single copies are \$7.00 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.

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

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](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu). **Deadlines for submissions (ads, articles, announcements)**

**January issue—1 Dec; March issue—1 Feb; June issue— 1 May; Aug issue—5 July; October issue—1 Sept**



## Calendar

**Sept 30-Oct 1.** Community-Based Heritage Language Schools: Promoting Collaboration and Advocacy Among Educators, Families, and Researchers, American University, Washington DC. <http://www.american.edu/cas/education/bilingual/Community-Based-Heritage-Language-Schools-Conference.cfm>

**Oct. 7-8.** AATSEEL-Wisconsin Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison. [http://slavic.lss.wisc.edu/new\\_web/?q=node/7](http://slavic.lss.wisc.edu/new_web/?q=node/7)

**Oct. 20-22.** In Media Res: Intermediality and the Borders of 20th Century Culture; Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference organized by Princeton University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Keynote Speaker: Cristina Vatulescu (New York University)

**Oct. 21-23.** The Central Slavic Conference annual meeting to be held in St. Louis, Missouri. The conference keynote address, "Hungary, 1956: Revolution or Counterrevolution? The Continuing Relevance of the Debate," will be delivered by Nyirkos Tamás, Pazmany Peter Catholic University, Budapest <http://www.slu.edu/international-studies-program/central-slavic-conference/2016-conference>

**Oct. 28.** The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (HREC) announces its conference Empire, Colonialism, and Famine in Comparative Historical Perspective, to be held at the University of Toronto. [www.holodomor.ca](http://www.holodomor.ca)

**Nov 17-20.** The 48th Annual ASEES Convention will be held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park. <http://asees.org/convention>