

NewsNet

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

Betraying the Revolutions? Anna Grzymala-Busse, Stanford University

The following Presidential Address was given on November 11, 2017 at the 49th Annual ASEES Convention.

Since this year's conference theme invited them, I will indulge in some transgressions. Comparing the incomparable and exploiting the centenary of the Russian Revolution, I will take a look at two very different upheavals—1917 and 1989—and examine the paradoxical results of both.

If we compare these two revolutions, two striking aspects are the ideological novelty each project represented—and the degree of elite consensus or conflict that followed. The regime project of 1917 was innovative, unprecedented, and highly contested. 1989, in contrast, with its tropes of a “Return to Europe,” was an attempt to rejoin and to follow an existing template. Subsequently, the result of these revolutions was that the innovation of 1917 produced enormous conflict—and 1989 resulted in a surprising degree of elite consensus, one that would prove self-cannibalizing.

Thus, 1917 was a radical ideological, economic, social, and political transformation. The entire revolutionary regime project was unprecedented, unique, and novel. The promises of peace, land, and bread may

have been familiar—but the commitment to a radical new organization of political, social, and economic life was not. The Revolution itself was one where conflict and violence were frequent on both the mass and elite level, and complex and contingent episodes left politicians, soldiers, and workers careening from one unexpected turn to another.

The outcomes, of course, are depressingly familiar: war, collectivization, and authoritarian repression, rather than the promised redistribution and empowerment of the people. Yet precisely because the Revolution was such a radically new project, there was enormous conflict and disagreement over both its direction and how to achieve it. The conflict raged over the nature of the project, and who would execute it; over land and collectivization; over the state and its reconsolidation; over the party and its direction; over industrialization and economic policy; over civil society and its reassertion; over nascent forms of civic self-organization and how they could navigate the new environment. And as a result, commissars vanished, as did millions of others, in fits of revolutionary violence and subsequent authoritarian terror. Innovation begat conflict, which led to the annihilation of the involved elites, and the insane persecutions of the masses over whom they would exert control.

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The collapse of communism in 1989, in contrast, was a rejection of the very Soviet imperial project that 1917 generated. It was neither an innovative nor a particularly violent revolutionary episode. Instead, it was dominated by a nostalgia for a past that never was: the counterfactual of a region that did not experience the four decades of murderous imperial communism. The “Return to Europe” became a dominant trope, established through elite negotiations, mass mobilization, and the stirring images not only of a rising civil society, but of leaders across the generations and regimes calling for freedom and reform.

The “return to Europe,” as articulated by Havel, Michnik, and others, was not an ideological innovation, but a rejoining of a community of existing social democracies and modern economies. It had diverse but familiar meanings to its advocates: a rejection of the communist era; a reassertion of European practices and norms; the adoption of liberal democracy and market economies; and above all, a reversion to a *status quo ante*—an irretrievable alternative history of a Europe undivided, where the postwar trajectories of these countries were not warped by the imposition of an alien and authoritarian regime.

The result was an ideological consensus among the political and cultural elites. First, the consensus on the return to Europe meant the widespread adoption of liberal democratic institutions (if not always practices). Parliaments, constitutions, anti-corruption bureaus, and regional governments were all duly established and empowered. Second, it meant the implementation of free-market policies, by governments that were nominally both Left and Right, in the absence of any possible ideological alternative. International organizations, whether the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, or the European Union itself, played a role in generating this consensus, by offering rewards to those who succeeded in the reform process and incentives to those who lagged behind.

The crowning moment of the elite consensus was the accession to the European Union. Here, over the course of several years, mainstream political elites articulated an unwavering commitment: there was no alternative but joining the European Union, an unalloyed good that would benefit these countries enormously—not least because it would finally confirm their status as returnees to Europe.

Yet this mainstream agreement on liberal desiderata had a paradoxical effect. The one set of critics to emerge during the 1990s and early 2000s was made up of illiberal parties, which were often populist and frequently extremist. We saw the rise of several parties that criticize the elite consensus and view it as a corrupt and tacit conspiracy between the governing elites on the one hand, and the international forces that would rob these countries of sovereignty on the other. Such parties, whether Samoobrona in Poland or MIÉP in Hungary, were often dismissed by the mainstream elite parties as marginal extremes, protest parties that could not possibly represent the broader populace. Yet even as these parties articulated otherwise unspoken grievances and concerns, other political parties began to co-opt their message—actors such as the Party of Young Democrats (Fidesz) in Hungary, or the fragmented right-wing forces that eventually coalesced to form the Law and Justice Party (PiS) in Poland. In other words, the liberal consensus generated an illiberal—and fundamentally destructive—backlash.



The resulting irony is that the early “poster children” of reform—places like Hungary, Poland, or the Czech Republic—are precisely where we see the the populists move from the margins of political life to the center of government. Fidesz, PiS, and their counterparts fulfill the two criteria of populist movements: first, that they harbor a deep skepticism regarding the corrupt elite cartel; second, that their primary political category is “the people,” who are pure and good, in contrast to the elites that have failed them.

The problem with the populist conception of politics is two-fold: a) an anti-institutional stance, since political and economic institutions are the product of degenerate elite cartels (here, often between communist and “opposition” elites), and b) the desire for an unmediated expression of the will of the people—which all too often translates into the politicization and colonization of state institutions to comport with the “general will”—understood by their party proponents to be identical with a partisan mandate.

So how did we get here? The scruffy young revolutionary, Viktor Orbán, who so charmed international observers in 1989, gradually coopted his erstwhile competitors, such as the Christian Democratic or Smallholders’ Parties. Over the course of the 1990s, he transformed Fidesz from a party of young liberals to one of committed nationalists and populists. As Hungary steadily moved towards the EU, Fidesz called for the defense of

Hungarian culture and traditions in the face of European hegemony and democratic formalism. It made steady electoral gains, and achieved the two-thirds supermajority of seats in the Hungarian Parliament in 2010 and again in 2014. Meanwhile, PiS in Poland was conservative and populist from the start. It viewed the post-1989 changes in Poland as an illegitimate compromise between communist and liberals that sold out Poland's interests. Its chair, Jarosław Kaczyński, openly denounced the post-communist elite "układ" (arrangement, or cartel) and divided Poland into the better kind of party loyalists and the "worse sort of Poles" who had the temerity to criticize him. After a brief and disastrous stay in government in 2005-2007 (PiS succumbed to the coalition infighting that had been prevalent in Poland), the party won the 2015 elections with 38% of the votes and 52% of the seats—an unprecedented parliamentary majority that allowed the party to govern alone, with no cumbersome coalition partners.

In both cases, the parties had come to power thanks to the faults of the mainstream parties that had preceded them: parties that articulated the pro-European, pro-liberal policy consensus but also had succumbed to deceiving voters, encountering economic difficulties, and simply exhausting the political formulas that kept them in power. The result was that Fidesz and PiS could come to power with few credible opponents that could take votes away from them—and with the parliamentary authority to remake the institutions in their respective countries.

In both Poland and Hungary, accordingly, Fidesz and PiS have made full use of this newfound discretion to erode the policies and institutions that the earlier elite "cartel" had imposed, and to remake political and economic institutions to reflect the "popular will"—understood to be identical to the partisan interests of the governing parties. In keeping with the critique of an elite establishment cartel and the degenerate institutions that this elite consensus produced, Fidesz and PiS began to systematically dismantle the formal institutions of liberal democracy.

For both Fidesz and PiS, the first targets were the courts, and judicial autonomy. The number of the supreme court judges, their terms and retirement ages, and the very domains over which they would exercise judicial review were all reviewed and duly curtailed in ways that brought the judiciary firmly under the political control of the governing parties. Monitoring and oversight institutions were weakened and politicized. Non-state actors, such as the public media, non-governmental institutions,

and universities were the next targets. Journalists and program directors were summarily fired for their political unreliability, news programming came under renewed scrutiny, new registration requirements were imposed in Hungary for civil society and religious organizations, and the Central European University became the target of a new set of educational laws that were designed to register it out of existence. Fidesz used its supermajority to introduce a new constitution in 2011, one that skewed the playing field towards Fidesz whether in or out of office. New supermajority requirements for ordinary legislation, such as government budgets, mean that even if Fidesz is not the governing party, it effectively retains a legislative veto for the foreseeable future. As befits a party of lawyers, each of these steps was done with exquisite care and the requisite enabling laws. As is less fitting, these steps also

CfP: THIRD ANNUAL TARTU CONFERENCE
ON RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES
Reflecting on Nation-Statehood in Eastern Europe,
Russia and Eurasia
Tartu, Estonia, 10–12 June 2018

The Tartu Conference is a venue for academic discussion of the fundamental cultural, social, economic and political trends affecting all aspects of people's life in Russia and Eastern Europe. Inaugurated in June 2016, this forum brings together scholars from across multiple disciplines, from the region and beyond. The theme of 2018 conference is an invitation to address the intellectual challenges associated with such concepts as popular sovereignty and national culture one hundred years since the introduction of nation-statehood as the main frame for political, cultural and economic life throughout the region. Keynote presentations will be delivered by Grzegorz Ekiert, Laurence A. Tisch Professor of Government and Director of the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University; and Catriona Kelly, Professor of Russian at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of the British Academy.

The Programme Committee will consider proposals addressing the theme of the conference as well as other issues relevant to the development of Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and Eurasia from any disciplinary angle. Interdisciplinary perspectives are particularly welcome. Deadline for submissions is 20 February 2018. Additional information and submission forms: <http://tartuconference.ut.ee/>.



Funded by
the European Union

introduced targeted, retroactive, and *ad personam* laws, in violation of basic norms of liberal democratic rule of law. The nationalization of sensitive economic sectors in Hungary, from pharmacies to energy, served the needs of the governing party and enriched its extensive network of elites, activists, and hangers-on.

All these formal steps had their counterparts in the repeated violations of the informal norms of liberal democracy—the opposition was no longer included in sensitive parliamentary committees, the governments now made its massive advertising buys exclusively with allied media and ad agencies, new “astroturf” organizations arose with government funding to replace the “degenerate” grassroots ones, and conflict of interests norms came under fire.

As if this depressing catalog were not enough, there is evidence of coordination between Fidesz and PiS. Their leaders have held multiple meetings, their strategies follow an identical sequencing and targets (a populist template, as it were), and they have repeatedly stated that they will support their shared vision in the European Parliament and other international forums, committing to mutually veto any potential sanctions by the European Union. The EU, for its part, has shaken its fist but never gone as far as the second step of Article 7 sanctioning procedures, which would have invoked the unanimity rule—and its effective veto by Poland or by Hungary. Moreover, there is a recent addition to the Polish-Hungarian axis, in the person of Andrej Babiš and his ANO party in the Czech Republic. A figure like Trump or Berlusconi, Babiš is a successful businessman who nonetheless credibly portrays himself

as an outsider. As minister, he denounced the European Union as “meddling” in Czech politics, and the Czech parliament as a mere “talking shop.” One wonders what he will do as premier.

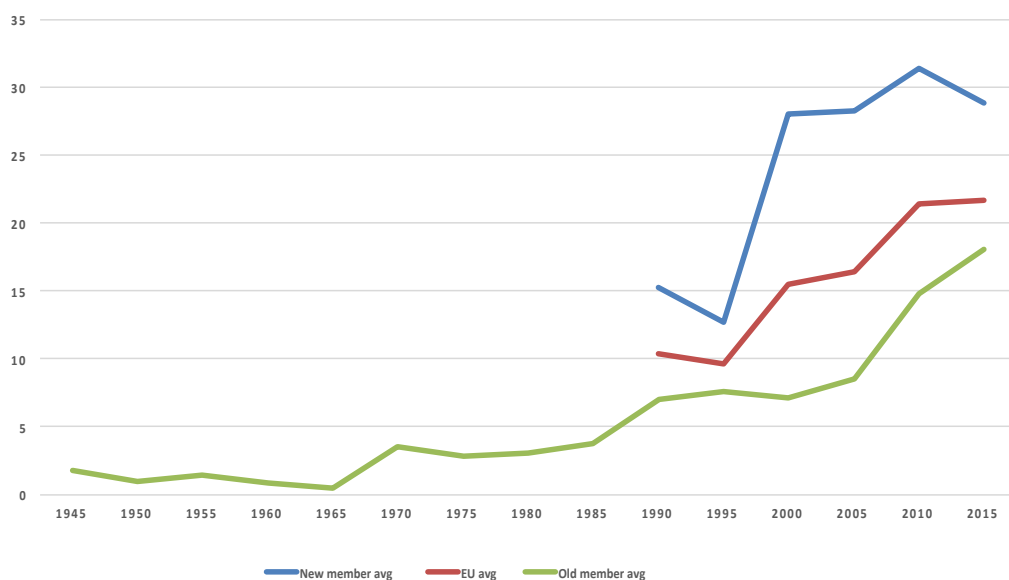
In the end, then, the 1989 consensus over the “return to Europe” has generated its own backlash—a highly corrosive set of political forces that eroded liberal democracy in the region and systematically began to dismantle the institutional achievements of the post-communist era. It has produced a spate of illiberal parties in the region, who are busy undermining the institutions of democracy that were built by this earlier consensus. One would not wish the violence that followed the 1917 revolutions on any country—but some of the vibrant debates and elite clashes may have been useful.

The final irony is that the populist turn in East Central Europe has now become a “return to Europe” of a different sort. In the rest of Europe, similar dissatisfactions have been brewing with what is widely regarded as the depoliticized agreements of complacent elites. Popular grievances include immigration, a straining welfare state, and the technocratic attacks on national sovereignty by European Union directives. As a result, support for populist parties *everywhere* in Europe is growing. In the old member countries, it has more than tripled since 1990 and the 5% that these parties then commanded. In the new member countries, it started off at higher levels, at around 15%, and has more than doubled (See Figure 1.)

In the end, then, the region is “returning to Europe”—or perhaps Europe itself is returning to an earlier time, when polarization and illiberal critiques of democracy held sway. This is not the first or last set of revolutionary promises that have been betrayed. But the irony is that a return to the familiar and the democratic should produce a backlash that is new, illiberal—and returns the region to the very authoritarian rule it had rejected in 1989. An unhappy transgression, indeed.

Anna Grzymala-Busse is the Michelle and Kevin Douglas Professor of International Studies and Senior Fellow at Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University.

Votes for Populist Parties in Europe



NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

David Wolff, Yokote Shinji, and Willard Sunderland, eds. *Russia's Great War and Revolution in the Far East: Re-imagining the Northeast Asian Theater, 1914–22*, c. 420 p., 2017 (ISBN 978-0-89357-430-7), \$44.95.

This volume features new research on the critical effects of World War I and the Russian Revolution and Civil War in Northeast Asia, a broad region that has historically included the Russian Far East, Mongolia, China, Korea, and Japan. Drawing together noted international specialists, the chapters break new ground, bringing unused or understudied sources into the historical record and posing new questions about the causes, consequences, and dynamics of the war and revolutionary upheavals in the region. These titanic events convulsed the entire empire, including Russia's faraway world on the Pacific, reshaping Northeast

Asia towards its central involvement in the 20th century's bloodiest wars. The Northeast Asian theater was not peripheral to the developments of the era but rather an integral part of an international and transnational history of conflict, destruction, and transformation. The essays in *Russia's Great War and Revolution in the Far East* help us appreciate a number of the lesser-known complexities of this story, offering scholars valuable new perspectives in the process.

Edward Alsworth Ross. *Russia in Upheaval*, ed. Rex A. Wade, xx + 166 p., 2017 (ISBN 978-0-89357-470-3), \$24.95.

Sociologist Edward Alsworth Ross spent July–December 1917 traveling across the Russian Empire and talking to representatives of its kaleidoscope of social classes and nationalities. This is his eyewitness account of that time.



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SLAVICA



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MORITZ FLORIN

Beyond Colonialism?

Kritika is dedicated to critical inquiry into the history of Russia and Eurasia. The quarterly journal features research articles as well as analytical review essays and extensive book reviews, especially of works in languages other than English. Subscriptions and previously published volumes available from Slavica—including, as of 16, no. 1, e-book editions (ePub, MOBI). Contact our business manager at slavica@indiana.com for all questions regarding subscriptions and eligibility for discounts.

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.

Jan Novák. *So Far So Good: The Mašín Family and the Greatest Story of the Cold War*, xvi + 453 p., 2017 (ISBN 978-089357-458-9), \$19.95.

Voted Book of the Year by the Czech Republic's Magnesia Litera when published in Czech translation in 2004, *So Far So Good: The Mašín Family and The Greatest Story of the Cold War* by Jan Novák is now published by Slavica in the original English. Although it reads like a thriller, this “novel-document” is based on the true story of three young Czech men, Radek and Ctirad Mašín and Milan Paumer, whose daring exploits of anti-Communist resistance and flight through the Iron Curtain to West Berlin set off the *Tschechenkrieg*, a massive manhunt by 27,000 East German police and Red Army regulars.



Three Magdalena
String Books
Julia Sherwood, eds.
Into the
Spotlight:

New Writing
from Slovakia,
trans. Magdalena Mullek & Julia

& Peter Sherwood, viii +

193 p., 2017 (ISBN 978-089357-466-6), \$19.95.

Though *Into the Spotlight* is drawn from the work of writers from one of Europe's smallest countries, this source reveals itself to be something like a magic lamp out of which comes a multitude of subjects, themes, and styles well out of proportion to its size. Like the best writers, this anthology brilliantly balances the specific and the universal. There are stories that could have taken place anywhere—of love and hate, beauty and ugliness, illness and music—stories distinctly and intriguingly Slovak—of a devout Slovak's imprisonment in the Russian Gulag, the rough and tumble world of the country's Roma—stories from other countries and continents, and stories that seem to come from other worlds entirely—of real or imaginary doubles and surreal nocturnal circuses.



2017 Executive Director's Report

Lynda Park

I am delighted to report that ASEEEES experienced a remarkably successful year in 2017. The programs that we launched in 2015 and 2016, after a strategic planning process of 2013-2014, continued to provide additional benefits for our members. We added more travel grant and mentoring programs in 2017. The annual convention in Chicago was a well-attended, dynamic event. We launched the ASEEEES Commons, a new online discussion and repository platform. Finally, we forcefully advocated not only for our field but for higher education and academic freedom.

Membership The Association's individual membership continued to increase in 2017, after a dramatic 8% increase in 2016 from 2015. For 2017, we had **3,330** members: 665 student members (20%); 312 affiliate members (9.3%); 994 international members (30%) from 50 countries, of which 251 (7.6%) were from the 18 countries in Eastern Europe and Eurasia. The top five countries outside the US with most members were the UK (153), Russia (142), Canada (141), Germany (105), and Poland (51). In 2016, we had 3,268 members: 641 students, 930 international members from 47 countries. For trends in membership over the last decade, please see the table below. In terms of institutional members in 2017, we had 56 members (4 new): 20 premium members and 36 regular members.

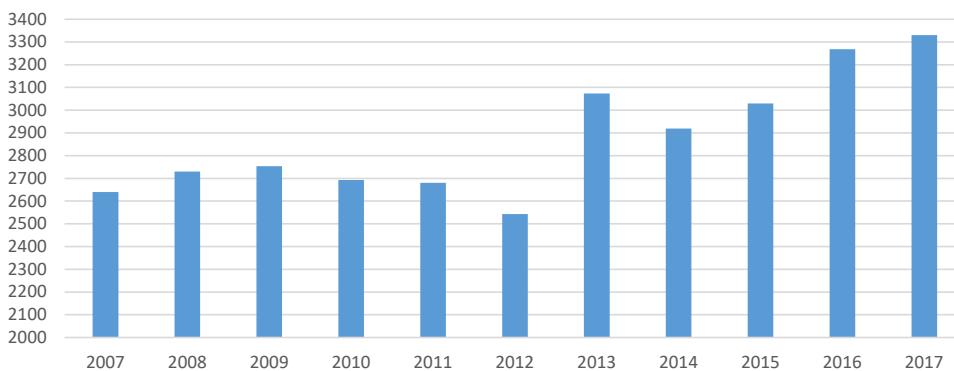
Convention The 49th Annual Convention at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile on November 9-12, 2017, was an exceptional event. The Convention program featured 657 sessions (48 more than the 2016 DC convention), a presidential plenary, 6 film screenings, and 40 meetings. The theme of "Transgressions" resulted in many innovative sessions and papers. The presidential plenary

on "1917 and Its Implications" featured presentations by Gerald Easter, Laura Engelstein, Sergey Glebov, Serguei Oushakine, and Andrei Soldatov. The 2017 ASEEEES President Anna Grzymala-Busse gave her presidential address on "Betraying the Revolutions?" at the award ceremony. Thirteen institutions provided sponsorship at various levels. We especially thank our Platinum Sponsors: Cambridge University Press and Williams College, and the Mobile App Sponsor - the American Councils for International Education. The Exhibit Hall featured 61 exhibit booths set up by 58 companies/organizations. We thank the Program Committee, especially the chair Keely Stauter-Halsted and the associate chairs, for their tremendous work.

The Convention was well-attended, with 2,488 registrants (783 international from 45 countries); 2,227 members; 261 non-members; 485 students (412 members; 117 international); 442 first-time attendees (228 international; 198 students). Of the 783 international registrants, the largest contingents were from Russia (118), the UK (112), Canada (109), and Germany (77). In total, we had 2,620 attendees, including the exhibitors. We faced an unexpected problem when the US embassy in Russia announced in late August that it would not schedule non-immigrant visa interviews outside of Moscow due to massive staffing shortages. We sent a letter to the US embassy requesting assistance for Russian participants impacted by this decision. While the embassy contacted us with advice and willingness to assist, we heard from a number of Russian participants who failed to get visas. We are still trying to determine the details of this impact.

To mark the centenary of 1917, we had a wide array of activities and exhibits outside the convention sessions. The planning committee, made up of Robert Bird, Christina Kiaer, Harriet Murav, Kristin Romberg, Mark Steinberg, and Padraic Kenney, worked to set up exhibits and other events around the time of the convention in Chicago. The Smart Museum at the University of Chicago held an exhibit called "Revolution Every Day," for which they offered a reception and tour for the convention attendees followed by

Membership by Year



a film screening of Vertov's "Three Heroines" in 35 mm. The Art Institute of Chicago had a major exhibit called "Revoliutsiia! Demonstratsiia! Soviet Art Put to the Test," for which a walking roundtable as part of the convention program was held. The Art Institute also offered free admission for the convention attendees, for which we were very thankful. We also set up a website on 1917 resources on the ASEES Commons. Not related to the theme of 1917, we sponsored a talk by Andrei Soldatov on "Russia's Cyber Offensive" as part of the Chicago Humanities Festival. Finally, the convention featured a photo exhibit, "High Stakes of Macedonia's Colorful Revolution," sponsored by U of Chicago CEERES, at the convention venue.

The 2018 Convention, which will be the 50th convention and 70th anniversary for ASEES, will be held at the Boston Marriott Copley Place on December 6-9. This is later than our usual dates. We hope to organize a variety of special events to celebrate the anniversaries. Peter Rutland will serve as the program committee chair. The convention theme is "Performance."

2019 ASEES Summer Convention We plan to organize the next summer convention in the region in 2019, in Zagreb, Croatia, working with the University of Zagreb. The tentative dates are June 14-16, 2019.

Convention Travel Grants In general, we offer three convention travel grants – the Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant, the Regional Scholar Travel Grant, and the Convention Opportunity Travel Grant. For 2017, we awarded 41 grants for a total of \$21,445. For the Davis Travel Grant, we awarded grants to 19 graduate students (12 to students at US institutions and 7 at non-US institutions, including citizens of 8 different countries);

for the Regional Scholar Travel Grant, we gave out 12 grants to scholars from 8 different countries; and for the Convention Opportunity Travel Grant, we awarded 10 grants to scholars from 7 countries.

New for this year, we received a two-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to provide travel grants to the convention participants from Russia for 2017 and 2018. For 2017, we awarded 26 grants of varying amounts. We will offer this program again in 2018.

Slavic Review *Slavic Review's* partnership with Cambridge University Press was launched in 2017, after a year of transition work. *Slavic Review* is now available online on Cambridge Core. ASEES members have access to the entire collection on Cambridge Core. JSTOR will still maintain an archive but with a wall of three years. In terms of subscriptions and global access, we saw a dramatic increase due to CUP's consortia arrangements around the world.

The editorial office at the U of Illinois, under the leadership of Harriet Murav, continues to handle all content and editorial work on the journal. For the first time, we published a special online-only issue, on "Global Populisms" and "Russian Influence in 2016 US Presidential Election," with free access until the end of 2017, which was well-received. The fall issue was on "1917-2017, The Russian Revolution a Hundred Years Later," featuring 18 articles that were shorter than the usual format.

Fellowships and Grants In its second year, the Cohen-Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship (CTDRF) Program awarded four \$22,000 fellowships to: Simon Belokowsky (History, Georgetown U), Gabrielle Cornish (Musicology, Eastman School of Music), Kathryn David (History, NYU), and Joy Neumeyer (History, UC Berkeley). We thank the KAT Charitable Foundation for its continued support for the program. Also in its second year, the ASEES Dissertation Grant program awarded 11 grants up to \$5,000 to PhD students in diverse disciplines, from linguistics to sociology, at 10 US universities; 4 being international students studying at US universities. Finally, in its third year, we disbursed \$10,000 in total to award first book subventions for seven books in 2017.

**CFP: INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE HUMANITIES
MAG 2018 ANNUAL CONVENTION
Lviv, Ukraine • June 27-29, 2018
mag.ucu.edu.ua/en**

**The convention theme, Image of the Self, follows the previous convention's "Image of the Other."
Proposals for complete panel sessions and roundtables will be given priority; individuals may also apply. Applicants from Eurasia and Eastern Europe (non-EU) are eligible for travel grants.**

**Deadline for all applications:
January 30, 2018**

**SAVE THE DATE:
2019 ASEES SUMMER CONVENTION**

We are partnering with the University of Zagreb to plan a summer convention to be held June 14-16, 2019 in Zagreb, Croatia.

Mentoring The mentoring program continues to be well received by our members. For the 2017 program, we matched 31 pairs of mentors and mentees. The program is intentionally designed to be low-key and informal. We also launched a new program this year called “Exploring Career Diversity” modelled on a similar program offered by the American Historical Association. The program provides informational interviews for those graduate students and junior scholars interested in non-academic careers to speak with non-academic professionals with post-baccalaureate degrees in our field.

ASEEES Commons & Online Presence As a pilot project partner with the Modern Language Association (MLA), we launched the beta version of the ASEEES Commons at the 2016 Convention. Built by the MLA as part of the Humanities Commons, the ASEEES Commons offers a platform for members to create their own professional profile (rather than on the for-profit academia.edu) and website, create and join discussion groups, and deposit their work in the CORE repository, which provides a DOI for each upload. MLA is still adding on new functions and improving the site’s usability. We plan to make a concerted effort in 2018 to improve the ASEEES Commons and increase its use. In addition, we continue to be active on social media—Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn—pushing out information and promoting ASEEES. As of Dec 8, 2017, we have 6,834 Facebook fans, 3,208 Twitter followers, and 3,408 LinkedIn group members. We are phasing out our use of LinkedIn to promote the usage of the ASEEES Commons.

Development/Investment We received \$175,683 in contributions for FY 2017 (July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017), most of it from the KAT Charitable Foundation for the Cohen-Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship program. Members’ contribution of \$18,062 for the General Investment Fund was deposited into the ASEEES fund at Northern Trust. Contributions to the Davis Grant Fund and the Regional Scholar Grant Fund of \$825 and \$771 respectively were disbursed for convention travel grants. As of Nov 30, 2017, the market value of the ASEEES General Investment Fund at Northern Trust is \$2,691,526. The ASEEES Investment Committee reviews the fund on a quarterly basis.

Advocacy/Committee on Academic Freedom and Advocacy For many years we have been diligent about advocating for the field and for international studies. Since January 2017, however, we have been receiving many more advocacy requests concerning issues that we had not previously had to address. It started with a statement

expressing serious concern over the White House’s so-called “Muslim ban” Executive Order. We signed an amicus brief for a case filed by Howard University and the Middle East Studies Association challenging the ban in court. In August, we issued a statement against racism and intolerance, arising in part from a request by Q*ASEEES and ADSEEES. Just recently we issued a statement and a call for action opposing the proposal to tax graduate student tuition waivers as income in the new US tax bill. We are also seeing more institutions and scholars under threat in the region. We issued a letter in support of the European University at St. Petersburg and Central European University. We joined the Scholars at Risk Network in January, and SAR sent a scholar from our world region to speak on the Vice President-organized roundtable on academic freedom and advocacy at the Chicago convention. Due to the influx of such advocacy requests, the ASEEES Executive Committee restructured the Advocacy and Public Outreach Committee, creating a new Committee on Academic Freedom and Advocacy to address these requests in a more structured process. The eight-member committee, consisting of Julie Cassiday (chair), Steven Fish, Anne Gorsuch, Bruce Grant, Emily Johnson, Brian Porter-Szucs, Mark von Hagen, and Amanda Wooden, was created in August. The process for

Join ASEEES Commons

ASEEES Commons

- Serves as an alternative to other publishing and collaboration channels
- Is dedicated to conversation among scholarly groups; it is a virtual campus that has unified scholars worldwide
- Supports the open exchange of ideas
- Plays a role in building digital infrastructures that allow for fair access to intellectual work
- Contributes to members’ ability to conduct research, particularly secondary sources and teaching materials
- Can be used as a teaching tool
- Serves as an outlet for scholarship, including “grey” literature: white papers, blog posts, reports, digital work, translations, annotated editions, convention proceedings, and pedagogical materials via CORE.
- Provides a way for members to raise the profile of all of their professional work

ASEEES Commons facilitates ongoing discovery of SEEES research. Get started at aseees.hcommons.org

advocacy request will be published on the ASEEEES website. The advocacy work on federal funding for the field will continue to be handled by the Executive Committee with the assistance of select members and consultants.

Regarding federal funding, the US State Department increased the funding for Title VIII in 2017 from \$1.5 million to \$2 million. The competition results were announced in June with the following grantees: Indiana University; American Councils for International Education; Woodrow Wilson Center Kennan Institute; University of Wisconsin; Arizona State University; National Council for Eurasian and East European Research; Center for European Policy Analysis; and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Barring a major change, we anticipate the 2018 grant competition to be held on schedule as well, but it is difficult to guess what the program allocation will be. Regarding Title VI/Fulbright-Hays, which funds the National Resource Centers and FLAS Fellowship, among other programs, flat funding and annual threat of cuts continue. As of submission of this report, Congress is debating the FY2018 budget (current year, which began on Oct 1).

Board Election/Incoming and Outgoing Members The 2017 annual election for the Board of Directors was held from June-Sept, and the results were the following: Mark Steinberg (History, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) was elected vice-president/ president-elect for 2018; Janet Johnson (Political Science, CUNY Brooklyn College) and James Krapfl (History, McGill U) were elected members-at-large for 2018-2020; and Tetyana Dzyadevych (Slavic, U of Illinois at Chicago) was elected graduate student representative, 2018-2019. We sent out 3203 ballots to eligible members, and 1114 cast their votes. The other incoming Board members in 2018 are: Daniel Peris (Federated Investors) as Treasurer; Kristen Ghodsee (U Penn) as the AAA representative; Juliet Johnson (McGill U) as the APSA representative; and Robert Niebuhr (Arizona State U) as the representative of the Council of Regional Affiliates. Will Pyle agreed to serve one more year through 2018 as the Economics representative.

I thank the outgoing Board members – Padraic Kenney, Susan Linz, Mary Neuburger, Sarah Phillips, Michael Polczyński, David Borgmeyer, Erin Koch, and Scott Radnitz. I would like to express personal gratitude to Susan Linz, who served as the Treasurer since 2009, through the difficult years of the financial crisis and the association's move from Harvard to Pittsburgh. She did yeoman's work making sure that the ASEEEES' finances are in good shape and the reporting is transparent.

New Regional Affiliate At the November 2017 Board meeting, the Board approved a new regional affiliate – REECAS Northwest, an annual conference organized since 1994 by the Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies at the University of Washington, in conjunction with other colleges and universities in the Northwest. More information on the conference can be found on the ASEEEES website.

I thank our members for their participation and commitment in making 2017 a great year for ASEEEES. I especially thank the members of the ASEEEES Board and committees, especially outgoing Board members – Susan Linz, who served as Treasurer since 2009. The Association and our scholarly community benefit enormously from their efforts. I thank the staff at our main office and the *Slavic Review* editorial office for their hard work. Finally, I thank the University of Illinois for hosting the *Slavic Review* office and the University of Pittsburgh for hosting the ASEEEES main office and offer special thanks to Pitt's University Center for International Studies for its support.

NEW WEBINAR SERIES

We are excited to announce the launch of professional development webinars offered by the Herder Institute for Historical Research on East-Central Europe. Are you a scholar or academic professional curious about European higher education and research? Discover opportunities to enhance your career mobility and research. This series is sponsored by ASEEEES, EUSA, the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Russian and East European Studies and the ESC.

February: German-speaking Academia: A Road Map to Navigating Research Institutions Beyond Universities

March: Introducing the Herder Institute: Collections, Funding Opportunities, and Higher Education Partnerships

April: Doing Research on Eastern Europe in the EU: Research Infrastructures, Grant Models, and Career Mobility

August: How to Work in Archives in Eastern Europe and Germany

September: Archival Skills

October: Strategies for Career Building and Publishing in the EU versus the US



From Slavic Languages and Literatures to Russian and East European Studies at Penn

Mitchell A Orenstein, University of Pennsylvania

In 2017-18, University of Pennsylvania's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures took a bold step by renaming itself the Department of Russian and East European Studies. This change signified the Department's desire to bolster area studies at Penn and embrace a more multidisciplinary and multicultural definition of the field. While some reasons for this move may be specific to Penn, to some extent the name change reflected a response to common realities in the field, making our experience of relevance to other SEES departments.

Penn occupies a distinct position in the SEES field. As an elite undergraduate institution, Penn has long provided area studies training, including in Russian and a handful of East European languages, to its undergraduates across a wide variety of fields. Yet unlike a number of its Ivy League plus peers, Penn has neither a masters' program nor an interdisciplinary area studies center, and produces only a small number of highly-performing PhD students. It has remained devoted to area studies for many decades, but to a more limited extent than Harvard, Columbia, and Stanford, not to mention large state universities such as Indiana, Wisconsin, and Illinois.

Penn's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures has gone through a number of iterations. It began as a thriving program that was the seat of *Slavic Review* for many years. Then a period of personnel disputes in the early 1990s drove the department into receivership and a formal merger with Germanic Languages. In 2002, it regained its independence under the leadership of Kevin Platt. Penn's decision to change the name and focus of the department was an outgrowth of its positive trajectory since 2002, not a vicissitude forced from above. It reflected the unanimous decision of faculty in the department, seeking to further strengthen a department that was already forging an upward path with new opportunities for growth.

In essence, lacking an interdisciplinary area studies center at Penn, the department felt that it could advance its mission by transforming itself into a hub of interdisciplinary area studies. During the past several decades, social science departments had shed faculty and courses devoted to Russian and East European Studies. Since Slavic Languages and Literatures saw itself

as reliant on the health of the broader area studies field, the department over time began to take on the role of an area studies program, for instance adopting courses such as Soviet and Post-Soviet Economics, which had been abandoned by the social sciences. In 2015-16, I was hired to diversify political science and political economy training at Penn, in partnership with the Department of Political Science. At that time, Rudra Sil's Russian Politics had become the only regional social science course offered at Penn. In 2017-18, concurrent with the roll-out of the Department's name change, the department hired Kristen Ghodsee, an anthropologist working on gender and post-communism, social policy, and international communism.

The courses initiated by these new hires, together with popular existing courses taught by historians Peter Holquist and Benjamin Nathans and political scientist Rudra Sil, have re-established a social science presence in the field at Penn. At the same time, the Department has continued and even expanded its commitment to Russian and East European language and literature. It is in the process of hiring a 19th century Russian literature specialist and has revised its undergraduate major to include the possibility of advanced training in East European languages as well as Russian. Previously, the department focused solely on Russian, which is taught to the advanced level, including content courses taught in Russian, though a variety of East European languages had been taught through the intermediate level. Adding, rather than replacing, has been made possible by the School of Arts and Sciences at Penn, which has expanded the faculty ranks back to the levels that existed prior to the department's crisis in the 1990s.

Throughout the 2000s, enrollments in Russian and East European Studies courses at Penn have gradually increased overall. Language enrollments have gone up and (most recently) down in conjunction with national trends. And in the last three years, the number of majors has dramatically grown, from 12 in 2014 to 24 in Spring 2017. This reflects more active recruitment, regional trends, and the broadening of the Department's focus. Essentially, the Slavic Department at Penn acted to strengthen area studies with this name change – and it worked.

There are some challenges for the future. Now that the department has proven successful, Penn is considering development of graduate programs in REES. The department needs more resources to support interdisciplinary PhD training, in the manner that at most institutions might be done through an interdisciplinary area studies center, with fellowships and courses and programs. There remains the question of whether Penn should found a masters' program, which it would be well qualified to do, but would plunge it into considerable competition over a not-particularly-fast-growing student population.

Whatever the future holds, the department is pleased with the results of its renaming so far. It will probably help to maintain growth in enrolments and majors into the future. It has enhanced area studies training at Penn and helped to counter declining enrolments in Russian language and literature courses, while enabling a

possible expansion into advanced training in other East European languages and literatures.

What lessons does the Penn experience hold for others? Penn's experience seems to me to be most relevant to universities that lack an established, thriving, interdisciplinary area studies center that promotes the study of the ASEES region across multiple departments. Since Languages and Literatures sits at the center of the field, in some settings it may become incumbent upon that department to take over area studies training for the university as a whole and to, in essence, become the interdisciplinary area studies center and adopt or replace courses shed by the social science disciplines. That is what happened at Penn. And, for the present, it appears to be a structure that works.

Mitchell Orenstein is Professor and Chair of Russian and East European Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Call for Proposals: ASEES 50th Annual Convention

December 6–9, 2018 • Boston, MA
Boston Marriott Copley Place

Convention Theme: Performance

www.aseees.org/convention

ASEES members are invited to develop papers, panels, lightning round presentations, and roundtables for the association's 50th Annual Convention that explore the meanings of performance in and for the regions we study. Presentations that consider performance and performativity from an interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary perspective are especially welcome.



In addition to the organization's 50th Annual Convention, 2018 will mark 70 years since the founding of ASEES as a scholarly society. This anniversary invites us to consider our past performance, as individual scholars and an organization devoted to Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, as well as the roles we can and should perform in the future. Accordingly, proposals from all perspectives and historical periods are welcome, as are those that reflect on our scholarly responsibilities and offer performances of their own.

The deadline for ALL submissions is February 28, 2018.

Accepting submissions for:

- Individual papers
- Panels
- Roundtables, including Book Discussion Roundtables
- Lightning Round Presentations

For more information on the Call for Proposals see: www.aseees.org/convention/cfp



ASEEES CONGRATULATES AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS' 2017 PRIZE WINNERS

The Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) AWSS Outstanding Achievement Award

Natalia Lvovna Pushkareva is the winner of the **2017 Outstanding Achievement Award**. Pushkareva is the head of the Department of Gender and Ethnic Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences and has been a leader in the modern Russian women's movement, as well as a prominent contributor to scholarship on women in Russian history.

AWSS 2107 Heldt Prizes

Best book by a Woman in Any Area of Slavic/East European/Eurasian Studies

Rebecca Gould, *Writers and Rebels: The Literature of Insurgency in the Caucasus* (Yale University Press, 2016)

Honorable Mention: **Nancy Shields Kollmann**, *The Russian Empire, 1450-1801* (Oxford University Press, 2016)

Honorable Mention: **Rosalind P. Blakesley**, *The Russian Canvas: Painting in Imperial Russia, 1757-1881* (Yale University Press, 2016)

Best book in Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian Women's and Gender Studies

Iveta Jusová & Jirina Šiklová, *Czech Feminisms: Perspectives on Gender in East Central Europe* (Indiana University Press, 2016)

Best translation in Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian Women's and Gender Studies

Diane Nemeč Ignashev, trans. *The Kukotsky Enigma*, by Ludmila Ulitskaya (Northwestern University Press, 2016)

Best article in Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian Women's and Gender studies

Jennifer A. Zenovich, "Willing the Property of Gender: A Feminist Autoethnography of Inheritance in Montenegro," *Women's Studies in Communication* 39, no. 1 (2016): 28-46.

AWSS Graduate Research Award for 2017

Tatiana Rabinovich, PhD Candidate in Critical Studies in Modern Middle Eastern Culture and Society at the University of Arizona, for her dissertation "Laboring on the Margins: Muslim Women, Precarity, and Potentiality in Russia."

AWSS Graduate Essay Prize

Ania Aizman, a PhD student in Comparative Literature at Harvard University, for her essay "The Considerable Anarchism of the Present Moment: Post-Soviet Russian Philosophy in Search of a New (Old?) Avant-Garde."

Mary Zirin Prize

Olga Bukhina was the 2017 recipient of the Mary Zirin Prize for independent scholarship.

The Bulgarian Studies Association

2017 John D Bell Book Prize

The Bulgarian Studies Association awarded the 2017 John D Bell Book Prize to *Vis et sapient: Studia in honorem Anisavae Miltenova. Novi izvori, interpretacii i podxodi v medievistikata*, eds. **Adelina Anguševa, Margaret Dimitrova, Maria Jovčeva, Maja Petrova-Taneva, and Diljana Radoslavova** (BAN, 2016).

Czechoslovak Studies Association

The Czechoslovak Studies Association Book Prize was awarded to **Rudolf Kučera** for *Rationed Life: Science, Everyday Life, and Working-Class Politics in the Bohemian Lands, 1914-1918* (Berghahn, 2016).

Honorable Mention was given to **Alice Lovejoy** for *Army Film and the Avant Garde: Cinema and Experiment in*

Global Education Outreach Program supports Polish-Jewish studies worldwide.

lectures, conferences, workshops, fellowships

Call for applications at POLIN Museum: polin.pl/en/geop



The program is made possible thanks to the support of the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture, the William K. Bowes, Jr. Foundation, and the Association of the Jewish Historical Institute of Poland.



the Czechoslovak Military (Indiana University Press, 2015) and to **Eagle Glassheim** for *Cleansing the Czechoslovak Borderlands. Migration, Environment and Health in the Former Sudetenland* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2016).

The Early Slavic Studies Association (ESSA)

ESSA 2017 Book Prize

The ESSA 2017 Book Prize for most outstanding recent scholarly monograph on pre-modern Slavdom was awarded to **Jan Hennings**, *Russia and Courtly Europe: Ritual and the Culture of Diplomacy, 1648-1725* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

Honorable Mention was awarded to **Nancy Shields Kollman**, *The Russian Empire, 1450-1801* (Oxford University Press, 2017).

ESSA 2017 Article Prize

The ESSA 2017 Article Prize for most outstanding recent scholarly article on pre-modern Slavdom was awarded to **Maria Grazia Bartolini**, “Judging a Book by its Cover: Meditation, Memory, and Invention in Seventeenth-Century Ukrainian Title Pages,” *Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes* 59, no. 1-2 (March-June 2017): 21-55.

Honorable Mention was awarded to **Sergei Bogatyrev**, “The Patronage of Early Printing in Moscow,” *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 51, no. 2-3 (2017): 249-88.

Hungarian Studies Association

The 2017 HSA book prize was awarded to **Mary Gluck**, for *The Invisible Jewish Budapest: Metropolitan Culture at the Fin de Siècle* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2016).

Robert Nemes received an Honorable Mention for his book *Another Hungary: The Nineteenth-Century Provinces in Eight Lives* (Stanford University Press, 2016).

The Society of Historians of Eastern European, Eurasian, and Russian Art and Architecture

SHERA is pleased to announce that Christina E. Crawford of Emory University was selected to receive the first annual SHERA Emerging Scholar Prize for her essay “From Tractors to Territory: Socialist Urbanization through Standardization.”

Society for Romanian Studies

SRS Fourth Biennial Book Prize

The SRS Fourth Biennial Book Prize was awarded to the best new academic book on a Romanian topic published in English between 2015 and 2016. Finalists included: Virginia Hill and Gabriela Alboiu, *Verb Movement and Clause Structure in Old Romanian* (Oxford UP, 2016); Dennis Deletant’s *British Clandestine Activities in Romania During the Second World War* (Palgrave, 2016); Ștefan Ionescu’s *Jewish Resistance to Romanianization* (Palgrave, 2016). The prize was awarded to **Roland Clark**, *Holy Legionary Youth: Fascist Activism in Interwar Romania* (Cornell UP, 2015).

SRS 2017 Graduate Student Essay Prize

The Ninth Annual SRS Graduate Student Essay Prize was awarded to the most outstanding unpublished essay or thesis chapter written in English by a graduate student in any social science or humanities discipline on a Romanian subject during AY 2016–17. The committee awarded this year’s Graduate Student Essay Prize to **Dana Muresan** for her essay “Brancusi: The Construction of a Romanian National Hero.”

The committee felt three other finalists from this year’s competition deserved special mention: Kathryn Grow Allen’s “Migration, Conversion and the Creation of an Identity in Southeast Europe: A Biological Distance and Strontium Isotope Analysis of Ottoman Communities in Romania, Hungary and Croatia”; Alin Rus’s “‘Building’ Cultural Patrimony in Ceaușescu’s Neopatrimonial Romania”; and Karin Steinbrueck’s “Aftershocks: Nicolae Ceaușescu and the Romanian Communist Regime’s Responses to the 1977 Earthquake.”

Karen Rondestvedt, Curator for Slavic and Eastern European Collections at Stanford University Libraries (retired), received the ASEES CLIR Distinguished Service Award.

2018 ASEES DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS AWARD Call for Nominations

Established in 1970, the Distinguished Contributions Award honors eminent members of the profession who have made major contributions to the field through scholarship of the highest quality, mentoring, leadership, and/or service to the profession. The prize is intended to recognize diverse contributions across the Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies field.

NOMINATING INSTRUCTIONS

- The Committee accepts nominations in writing or via e-mail from any member of ASEES.
- Submit nomination letter(s) to the Committee Chair. The nomination letter should include: biography focusing on the individual’s distinguished achievements in Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies; a list of publications and editorships; a list of awards and prizes; and his or her involvement in and service to ASEES, if any.
- Self-nomination is not accepted.

The deadline for nominations is April 1

The Distinguished Contributions Award Committee:

- [Amy Nelson, Virginia Tech, Chair](#)
- Kristen Ghodsee, U of Pennsylvania
- Lauren Kaminsky, Harvard U
- Jan Kubik, U College London (UK)
- Eric Naiman, UC Berkeley



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Short-Term Summer Area Studies Programs:

- **POLITICS & PUBLIC DIPLOMACY IN CONTEMPORARY RUSSIA** Explore regional developments and conflict, economic and political reforms under Vladimir Putin, the role of mass media in society, and new cultural phenomena shaping today's Russia. Russian language instruction is offered at any level.
- **PEACE & SECURITY IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS** Discover the diverse cultures and complex politics that shape the region, while spending five weeks in Tbilisi, Georgia. Russian, Georgian, Chechen, and Azeri language instruction are offered at all levels.
- **OVERSEAS PROFESSIONAL & INTERCULTURAL TRAINING (OPIT) PROGRAM** Spend 6 weeks this summer interning in such fields as democracy-building and human rights, business and law, economics, public health, or ecology, in one of 15 countries across Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

Intensive Language & Cultural Immersion Programs:

- ***ADVANCED RUSSIAN LANGUAGE & AREA STUDIES PROGRAM (RLASP)** RLASP combines intensive classroom instruction with a wide range of extracurricular activities, including internships and volunteer opportunities, cultural excursions, and regional field studies. The program is available

in Moscow, Vladimir, and St. Petersburg, as well as Almaty, Kazakhstan.

- ***BALKAN LANGUAGE INITIATIVE** Combining highly-individualized academic programming with structured overseas immersion, BLI enables students to make rapid gains in language proficiency and cultural knowledge while living and studying in Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Montenegro, or Serbia.
- ***EURASIAN REGIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM** Providing high-quality language instruction, specially-designed cultural programs, and expert logistical support, ERLP offers participants the opportunity to study one of more than 20 less commonly taught languages in 9 Eurasian Countries. Languages include: Armenian, Azeri, Chechen, Georgian, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Pashto, Persian (Dari, Farsi, Tajiki), Romanian, Tatar, Ukrainian, and Uzbek.

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*Funding for select American Councils Study Abroad programs is provided by the U.S. Department of Education, Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad, and the U.S. Department of State's Title VIII program. For more information on financial aid visit:  www.acstudyabroad.org/financialaid



2018 ASEES Board of Directors & Committees

2018 ASEES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Julie Cassidy, President; Williams College
Mark Steinberg, President-Elect/Vice President, U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Anna Grzymala-Busse, Immediate Past President; Stanford U
Daniel Peris, Treasurer, 2018-2020; Federated Investors
Eric Naiman, Member-at-large, 2016-2018; UC Berkeley
Harriet Murav, Editor, Slavic Review; U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Lynda Park, Executive Director (ex officio); U of Pittsburgh

Tetyana Dzyadevych, Grad student rep., 2018-2019; U of Illinois at Chicago
Adrienne Edgar, Member-at-large, 2016-2018; UC Santa Barbara
Ted Gerber, Sociology rep., 2017-2019; U of Wisconsin-Madison
Jon Giullian, CLIR representative, 2017-2019; U of Kansas
Kristen Ghodsee, AAA rep., 2018-2020; U of Pennsylvania
Jessica Graybill, AAG rep., 2016-2018; Colgate U
Janet Johnson, Member-at-large, 2018-2020; CUNY Brooklyn College
Juliet Johnson, APSA rep., 2018-2020; McGill U (Canada)
James Krapfl, Member-at-large, 2018-2020; McGill U (Canada)
Tim Langen, AATSEEL rep., 2016-2018; U of Missouri
Anne Lounsbury, Member-at-large, 2017-2019; New York U
Robert Niebuhr, Council of Regional Affiliates rep., 2018-2020; Arizona State U
David Patton, Council of Institutional Members rep., 2016-2018; American Councils for International Education/NCEEER
William Pyle, Economics rep., 2015-2018; Middlebury College
Kristin Roth-Ey, Member-at-large, 2017-2019; U College London (UK)
Paul Werth, AHA rep., 2017-2019; U of Nevada, Las Vegas

2018 ASEES COMMITTEES

Names in bold indicate new additions

Nominating Committee

Anna Grzymala-Busse, Stanford U, Chair
Beth Holmgren, Duke U
Grigore Pop-Eleches, Princeton U

ASEES/AATSEEL Committee on Language

Alla Nedashkivska, U of Alberta (Canada), Chair, 2014-2018
Tim Langen, U of Missouri, 2016-2018 (*ex officio* as ATSEEL rep to ASEES Board)
Maria Shardakova, Indiana U, 2017-2019

Committee on Academic Freedom and Advocacy

Julie Cassidy, Williams College, Chair, 2017-2020

Steve Fish, UC Berkeley, 2017-2019
Anne Gorsuch, U of British Columbia, 2017-2019
Bruce Grant, NYU, 2017-2020
Emily Johnson, U of Oklahoma, 2017-2019
Brian Porter-Szucs, U of Michigan, 2017-2020
Mark von Hagen, Arizona State U, 2017-2019
Amanda Wooden, Bucknell U, 2017-2020

Committee on Libraries and Information Resources (CLIR)

Jon Giullian, U of Kansas, Chair, 2017-2019
Christopher Condill, U of Illinois, Chair of Subcommittee on Collection Development, 2017-2019
Joseph Lenkart, U of Illinois, Chair of Subcommittee on Education and Access, 2017-2019
Natasha Lyandres, Notre Dame U, Chair of Slavic & East European Materials Project, 2016-2018
Liladhar Pendse, UC Berkeley, Member at Large, 2017-2019
Janice Pilch, Rutgers U, Chair of Subcommittee on Copyright Issues, 2018-2020
Jon Giullian, U of Kansas, and Liladhar Pendse, UC Berkeley, Website Administrators, *ex officio*
Erik Scott, U of Kansas, Faculty Liaison, 2017-2019

Committee on Mentoring

Anne Lounsbury, NYU, Chair, 2017-2019
Monika Nalepa, U of Chicago, 2017-2019
Joshua Sanborn, Lafayette College, 2016-2018
Kimberly Elman Zarecor, Iowa State U, 2018-2020

Committee on Non-Academic Careers

Amanda Swain, UC Irvine, Chair, 2017-2019
Laura Adams, USAID, 2016-2018
Samuel Charap, RAND Corporation, 2018-2020
Claire Kaiser, McLarty Associates, 2017-2019
Dan Peris, Federated Investors, 2018-2020
Sarah Radomsky, Georgetown U, 2018-2020
Mary Werden, US House of Representatives, 2018-2020

Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession

Noor Borbieva, Indiana U Purdue U Fort Wayne, Chair, 2017-2019
Betsy Hemenway, Loyola U Chicago, 2017-2018 (*ex officio* as president of AWSS)
Natalie McCauley, U of Michigan, 2016-2018 (graduate student rep)
Elizabeth Skomp, Sewanee: The U of the South, 2018-2020

Communications Advisory Committee

Christine Worobec, Northern Illinois U, Chair, 2018-2019
Robert Hayden, U of Pittsburgh, 2015-2018
Edward Kasinec, Columbia U/Hoover Institution, 2018-2020
Alla Nedashkivska, U of Alberta (Canada), 2017-2018
Michael Polczynski, Georgetown U, 2017-2018

Investment Sub-Committee of the Executive Committee

Daniel Peris, Federated Investors, Chair, 2015-2020

Juliet Johnson, McGill U (Canada), 2018-2020

Craig Kennedy, Bank of America Merrill Lynch (retired),
2017-2019

PRIZE COMMITTEES

Distinguished Contributions Award Committee

Amy Nelson, Virginia Tech, Chair, 2017-2018

Kristen Ghodsee, U of Pennsylvania, 2017-2019

Lauren Kaminsky, Harvard U, 2018-2020

Jan Kubik, U College London (UK), 2016-2018

Eric Naiman, UC Berkeley, 2017-2019

Wayne S. Vucinich Book Prize Committee

Jason Wittenberg, UC Berkeley, Chair, 2017-2018

Maria Bucur-Deckard, Indiana U Bloomington, 2017-2018

Barbara Henry, U of Washington, 2018-2019

Genevieve Zubrzycki, U of Michigan, 2018-2019

Davis Center Book Prize Committee

Jelena Subotic, Georgia State U, Chair, 2017-2019

Morgan Liu, Ohio State U, 2017-2019

Lucan Way, U of Toronto (Canada), 2018-2020

USC Book Prize Committee

Cristina Vatulescu, New York U, Chair, 2016-2018

Jeremy Hicks, Queens Mary, U of London (UK), 2017-2019

Liisa Wakamiya, Florida State U, 2018-2020

Reginald Zelnik Book Prize Committee

Norman Naimark, Stanford U, Chair, 2016-2018

Christine Ruane, U of Tulsa, 2017-2019

Jeff Sahadeo, Carleton U (Canada), 2018-2020

Marshall Shulman Book Prize Committee

Rachel Epstein, U of Denver, Chair, 2017-2019

Jeff Hass, U of Richmond, 2018-2020

Rinna Kullaa, U of Tampere (Finland), 2018-2020

Ed A Hewett Book Prize Committee

Jessica Pisano, The New School, Chair, 2016-2018

Hilary Appel, Claremont-McKenna College, 2018-2020

Dinissa Duvanova, Lehigh U, 2017-2019

Barbara Jelavich Book Prize Committee

James Mark, U of Exeter (UK), Chair, 2017-2019

Mark Cornwall, U of Southampton (UK), 2018-2020

Stella Ghervas, U of Alabama at Birmingham, 2018-2020

Kulczycki Book Prize Committee

Brian Porter-Szucs, U of Michigan, Chair, 2018-2020

Bozena Karwowska, U of British Columbia (Canada), 2018-
2020

Jessie Labov, Central European U (Hungary), 2017-2019

Lincoln Book Prize Committee

Rebecca Mitchell, Middlebury College, Chair

Edith Clowes, U of Virginia

Sergei Zhuk, Ball State U

Graduate Student Essay Prize Committee

Victoria Smolkin, Wesleyan U, Chair, 2016-2018

Eric Gordy, U College London (UK), 2017-2019

Laura Olson Osterman, U of Colorado, 2018-2020

Tucker/Cohen Dissertation Prize

Andrew Jenks, California State U, Long Beach, Chair, 2016-
2018

Robert English, U of Southern California, 2017-2019

Yoshiko Herrera, U of Wisconsin-Madison, 2018-2020

GRANT/FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEES

ASEEES Dissertation Grant Committee

Jessie Labov, Central European U (Hungary), Chair, 2015-2018

Venelin Ganev, Miami U of Ohio, 2017-2019

Sergey Glebov, Smith College, 2018-2020

Cohen-Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship Committee

Catriona Kelly, U of Oxford (UK), Chair, 2017-2018

Anna Krylova, Duke U, 2018

Bill Wagner, Williams College, 2018

Convention Opportunity Travel Grant Committee

Polly Jones, U of Oxford (UK), Chair, 2015-2018

Rossen Djagalov, NYU, 2018-2020

Emanuela Grama, Carnegie Mellon U, 2017-2019

Davis Student Travel Grant Committee

Hilde Hoogenboom, Arizona State U, Chair, 2017-2019

David Fisher, U of Texas at Brownsville, 2016-2018

Jacek Lubecki, Georgia Southern U, 2017-2019

First Book Subvention Committee

Joachim von Puttkamer, U Jena (Germany), Chair, 2017-2018

Alice Freifeld, U of Florida, 2018-2020

Oxana Shevel, Tufts U, 2017-2019

Janet Rabinowitch, IU Press (retired), 2018-2020 (non-voting
member)

Regional Scholar Travel Grant Committee

Marko Dumancic, Western Kentucky U, Chair, 2018-2020

Mark Lipovetsky, U of Colorado, 2017-2019

Madeleine Reeves, U of Manchester (UK), 2016-2018

Russian Scholar Travel Grant Committee

Sibelan Forrester, Swarthmore College, Chair, 2017-2018

Paul Werth, U of Nevada, Las Vegas, 2017-2018

Don Raleigh, U of North Carolina, 2018



Publications

Cherepovets: Architectural Heritage of the Cherepovets Region, by William Brumfield (Tri Quadrata Publishing House) is the seventh volume in a series devoted to the architectural heritage of the Vologda territory. The text begins by examining prerevolutionary Cherepovets, a largely merchant environment with a commercial and residential district. The book comments on Soviet-era architectural projects developed in conjunction with the creation of one of Russia's largest steel mills. Additionally, the text surveys the architectural heritage of the region's surrounding villages. Of special significance are parish churches, including wooden churches dating to the late seventeenth-century and masonry churches, many of which were severely damaged during the Soviet period and now being restored for active parish use.

The book's photographs comprise a selection of the author's photographs, beginning with exterior and interior views of the city's churches. The photographic section also contains the most comprehensive published survey of the prerevolutionary commercial district, as well as Soviet developments from the 1950s and early 1960s. The second part of the photographic section focuses on the architectural heritage of region's villages, with detailed attention to religious architecture.

Stephanie Weismann authored *Das Potenzial der Peripherie Leopold von Sacher-Masoch (1836–1895) und Galizien*, which was published by Vienna University Press in late 2017.

The volume dedicates itself to the Austrian poet and writer and involuntary namesake of the condition of masochism: Leopold von Sacher-Masoch (1836–1895) and his Galician references. The author's goal is to free Sacher-Masoch from the shadow of Slavic obsessions and mythifications. In doing so, she pursues Galicia's market strategy and socio-political potential for Sacher-Masoch, also allowing the Galician side – including Poland and Ukraine – to have its say. In addition, Weismann uses new sources and old statements to examine Sacher-Masoch's connections to Galicia and the Galician-specific focuses of his literary work, aside from eastern steppe romanticism.

Found Life: Poems, Stories, Comics, a Play, and an Interview, authored by Linor Goralik and edited by Ainsley Morse, Maria Vassileva, and Maya Vinokour, was published by Columbia University Press in November 2017. One of the first Russian writers to make a name for herself on the Internet, Goralik writes short works that conjure the absurd in all its forms, reflecting post-Soviet life and daily universals. Her mastery of the minimal, including experiments in micro-prose, is on full display in this collection of poems, stories, comics, a play, and an interview, here translated for the first time.

Jelena Bogdanović's book, *The Framing of Sacred Space: The Canopy and the Byzantine Church*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2017.



UNDERTAKE A RESEARCH PROJECT IN AUSTRALIA

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The deadline for applications is **March 26, 2018**.

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Most studies of church architecture in the world of Slavia Orthodoxa and Byzantium have said little about these micro-architectural structures, concentrating instead on discussion of the plan and architecture of the buildings in which they were contained. And the theological, philosophical and ritual aspects of what they represented has then naturally also received too little attention. One of the important emphases in the book is how the canopied installations relate not just to scripture but to liturgical performance, a subject that, as the author points out, is a focus of the prolific writing of Aleksei Lidov about sacred space under the term hierotopy. Her book argues for a fundamentally new approach to understanding the development of Byzantine architecture. Canopies in both their physical and abstract senses in effect became modular elements in the way the buildings were conceived and constructed.

Maria Bucur recently published *Gendering Modernism. A Historical Reappraisal of the Canon* (Bloomsbury, 2017), which offers a critical reappraisal of the modernist movement, asking how gender norms of the time shaped the rebellion of the self-avowed modernists and examining the impact of radical gender reformers on modernism. Focusing primarily on the connections between North American and European modernists, Bucur explains why it is imperative that we consider the gender angles of modernism as a way to understand the legacies of the movement. She provides an overview of the scholarship on modernism and an analysis of how definitions of modernism have evolved with that scholarship. Interweaving case studies from before the Great War to the interwar period - looking at individual modernists - she covers art, literature, theatre and film, whilst also demonstrating how modernism manifested itself in the major social-political and cultural shifts of the 20th century, including feminism, psychology, sexology, eugenics, nudism, anarchism, communism and fascism. This investigation of modernism expands our definition of the movement, integrating gender analysis and thereby opening up new lines of enquiry.

The Global West: Connections and Identities (Cengage, 2017) was co-authored by Maria Bucur, Frank Kidner, Ralph Mathiesen, Sally McKee, and Theodore Weeks.

The Global West isn't a traditional Western Civ textbook. Instead, it paints a globally-connected portrait of the West through the lenses of politics, religion, social history, biography, and cultural identity. The book excels at teaching students the Who, What, and How of the subject: how to read primary documents, compare and contrast Western and non-Western sources and draw connections across time and geographic regions. Western Civilization is the most difficult history course for many students. With a clear message that helps them grasp the origins of today's interconnected world, *The Global West* aims to change that.

Information and Empire: Mechanisms of Communication in Russia, 1600-1850, edited by Simon Franklin and Katherine Bowers, was published by Open Book Publishers.

[Free to read](#), this new title casts a fresh look at Russia's

communication networks in the early modern period. On the anniversary of the Russian Revolution, when the country's history and communication practices are being interrogated as never before, *Information and Empire* brings together scholars who take us back to the origins of Russia's systems of information. They unveil the role played by State, Church, and civic society in the country's modes and patterns of communication.

From the mid-sixteenth to the mid-nineteenth century Russia was transformed from a moderate-sized, land-locked principality into the largest empire on earth. Communication networks shaped and reflected this extraordinary change: the postal service and the gathering and circulation of news are examined alongside the growth of a bureaucratic apparatus that informed the government about its country and its people. The inscription of space is considered from the point of view of mapping and the changing public "graphosphere" of signs and monuments. The collection breaks new ground in its approach to communication and information as a field of study in Russia. It is an accessible contribution to pre-modern information studies, taking as its basis a country whose history often serves to challenge habitual Western models of development.

ASU POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP JOB#: 12232

Arizona State University's Melikian Center for Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies invites applications for a postdoctoral fellowship to begin in July 2018. The one-year fellowship is open to early-career scholars who received their PhD in or after June 2016, whose work combines regional focus with global relevance. As well as conducting their own research, the fellow will teach two seminar classes at ASU's nationally-recognized Barrett Honors College; participate in Melikian Center workshops and events; and contribute to the Center's public profile through community programming, grant-writing, and/or generating content for the Center's online presence. Post-doctoral appointments at ASU do not offer tenure, but may be renewed annually, subject to funding.

Applications are welcomed from scholars in any academic discipline. Applicants with demonstrated interest in public-facing or engaged scholarship, and willingness to contribute to grant development and proposal preparation at the Center are especially encouraged.

For further details, and guidance on how to apply, please visit (<https://melikian.asu.edu/jobs/post-doctoral-fellow>). Applications will be reviewed beginning February 1st, 2018. Background check is required for employment.

ASU is a VEVRAA Federal Contractor and an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Visit - <https://www.asu.edu/aad/manuals/acd/acd401.html> & <https://www.asu.edu/titleIX>

Application Deadline: Thursday, February 1, 2018 – midnight East Coast time

Mikhail Epstein's volume *The Irony of the Ideal: Paradoxes of Russian Literature* (Academic Studies Press, 2017) explores the major paradoxes of Russian literature as a manifestation of both tragic and ironic contradictions of human nature and national character. Russian literature, from Pushkin and Gogol to Chekhov, Nabokov and to postmodernist writers, is studied as a holistic text that plays on the reversal of such opposites as being and nothingness, reality and simulation, and rationality and absurdity. The glorification of Mother Russia exposes her character as a witch; a little man is transformed into a Christ figure; consistent rationality betrays its inherent madness; and extreme verbosity produces the effect of silence. The greatest Russian writers were masters of spiritual self-denial and artistic self-destruction, which explains many paradoxes and unpredictable twists of Russian history up to our time.

Eastview Press recently published a Russian version of *Jewish Intellectuals of the Russian Empire: from the 19th to the Early 20th Century*, by Brian Horowitz. In this book, Horowitz gathered biographical articles and research on the most significant figures in Russian Judaism during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: lawyers and historians, poets and writers, nationalists and philosophers. He writes not only of their influence on the development of Jewish consciousness, but also about their contributions to the social history of Russia. The author comprehensively examines the theoretical and practical aspects of cultural life, as well as the epoch's contemporary problems of integration, of Russification or assimilation of Jews, of professional cooperation (or confrontation) with institutions and colleagues/fellow intellectuals beyond the confines of the diaspora. The book includes a foreword by William Brumfield.

In September 2017, Edward Elgar published *Liquid Nationalism and State Partitions in Europe* by Stefano Bianchini. This book offers explores state partitions and the history of nationalism in Europe from the Enlightenment onwards. Bianchini compares traditional national democratic development to the growing transnational demands of representation with a focus on transnational mobility and empathy versus national localism against the EU project. In an era of multilevel identity and global economic and asylum seeker crises, nationalism is becoming more liquid, which in turn affects state partitions and the nature of national democracy in Europe. The result may be exposure to the risk of new wars, rather than enhanced guarantees of peace. Included is a rare and insightful comparative assessment of the lessons not learned from the Yugoslav demise, the Czechoslovak partition, the Baltic trajectory from USSR incorporation to EU integration, and the impact of ethnicity in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Beyond their peculiarities, these examples are used to critically assess the growing liquidity of national identities and their relationship with democracy. Those seeking a deeper understanding of the European partition experience will find this a valuable resource.

Nikolai Bolkhovitinov and American Studies in the USSR: People's Diplomacy in the Cold War, by Sergei I. Zhuk, was published by Rowman Littlefield in July 2017.

Congratulations to the Fall 2017 ASEEES First Book Subvention Recipients

Cornell University Press, for
Sarah I. Cameron (University of Maryland, College Park), *The Hungry Steppe: Famine, Violence, and the Making of Soviet Kazakhstan*

Northwestern University Press, for
Ewa Wampuszyc (UNC at Chapel Hill), *Mapping Warsaw: The Spatial Poetics of a Postwar City*

University of California Press, for
Kristin Romberg (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), *Gan's Constructivism: Aesthetic Theory for an Embedded Modernism*

University of Toronto Press, for
Caress Schenk (Nazarbayev University), *Why Control Immigration? Strategic Uses of Migration Management in Russia*

ASEEES is accepting applications for dedicated funds for subvention of books by first-time authors who have secured a publishing contract. Awards will be made on a competitive basis, with funds paid directly to the press. Applications are invited from all disciplines & geographical fields in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies.

The next deadline for the ASEEES First Book Subvention is February 1, 2018. For more information on the program, visit: www.aseees.org/programs/firstbook-subvention

This study is an intellectual biography of Nikolai Bolkhovitinov (1930–2008), a prominent Soviet historian who was a pioneering scholar of US history and US–Russian relations. Alongside the personal history of Bolkhovitinov, this study examines the broader social, cultural, and intellectual developments within the Americanist scholarly community in Soviet and post-Soviet Russia. Using archival documents, studies by Russian and Ukrainian Americanists, various periodicals, personal correspondence, diaries, and more than one hundred interviews, the book demonstrates how concepts, genealogies, and images of modernity shaped a national self-perception of the intellectual elites in both nations during the Cold War.

The catalogue for the exhibition *Revolution Every Day* at the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago, edited by the exhibition's curators Robert Bird, Christina Kiaer and Zachary Cahill, is now available. Inspired by the tradition of Soviet tear-off calendars, this small-format and inexpensive book has 365 calendar pages with daily entries featuring images and texts drawn from primary and archival source materials that explore the historical, artistic and experiential dimensions

of revolution. It presents multiple short essays and other original contributions from the curators, artists and scholars, accompanied by full color illustrations of all of the works in the exhibition and many other images.

Seeing Muscovy Anew: Politics-Institutions-Culture: Essays in Honor of Nancy Shields Kollmann, edited by Michael S. Flier, Valerie Kivelson, Erika Monahan, and Daniel Rowland, was published by Slavica Publishers in 2017.

Seeing Muscovy Anew brings together nineteen essays from specialists in medieval and early modern Russian and Ukrainian studies to honor the inspiring scholarship of Nancy Shields Kollmann. The contributions are grouped into thematic categories that reflect Kollmann's interests: the politics of rule, conflicted belief, testimony of the visual, institutions outside the box, and empire and outer spaces. This collection will be an invaluable resource for scholars concerned with the dynamics of Muscovite politics and culture broadly construed.

Lynne Viola recently published *Stalinist Perpetrators on Trial: Scenes from the Great Terror in Soviet Ukraine* (Oxford University Press, 2017). Based on new archival documents from the Ukrainian secret police archives, *Stalinist Perpetrators on Trial* sheds new light on those who carried out the Great Terror. While we now know about the experience of victims of the Great Terror, we know almost nothing about the lower- and middle-level Narodnyi Komissariat Vnutrennikh Del (NKVD), or secret police, cadres who carried out Stalin's murderous policies. Unlike the postwar public trials of Nazi war criminals, NKVD operatives were tried secretly. Almost one thousand NKVD officers were prosecuted by Soviet military courts.

Scapegoated for violating Soviet law, they were charged with multiple counts of fabrication of evidence, falsification of interrogation protocols, use of torture to secure "confessions," and murder during pre-trial detention of "suspects" - and many were sentenced to execution themselves. The documentation generated by these trials provides a glimpse behind the curtains of the terror. It depicts how the terror was implemented, what happened, and who was responsible, demonstrating that orders from above worked in conjunction with a series of situational factors to shape the contours of state violence.

Olena Nikolayenko published *Youth Movements and Elections in Eastern Europe* (Cambridge University Press) in October 2017. At the turn of the twenty-first century, a tide of nonviolent youth movements swept across Eastern Europe. Young people demanded political change in repressive political regimes that emerged since the collapse of communism. The Serbian social movement Otpor (Resistance) played a vital role in bringing down Slobodan Milosevic in 2000. Inspired by Otpor's example, similar challenger organizations were formed in the former Soviet republics. The youth movements, however, differed in the extent to which they could mobilize citizens against the authoritarian governments on the eve of national elections. This book argues that the movement's tactics and state countermoves explain, in no small degree, divergent social movement outcomes. Using data from semi-structured interviews with former movement participants, public opinion polls, government publications, non-governmental organization (NGO) reports, and newspaper articles, the book traces state-movement interactions in five post-communist societies: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Serbia, and Ukraine.

FELLOWSHIPS WITH AMERICAN COUNCILS

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Provided by the U.S. Department of Education, Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad fellowships are available to advanced-level students of Russian and Persian language who plan to participate in the American Councils Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program in Moscow, and the Eurasian Regional Language Program in Dushanbe. For more information, visit: www.acstudyabroad.org/fulbright-hays



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Institutional Member News

**BARD-AUCA SUMMER PRACTICUM:
DEVELOPMENT & SOCIAL CHANGE IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Bard College is accepting applications for the Bard-AUCA Summer Practicum in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. This four-credit program offers students the opportunity to explore a fascinating country at the crossroads of powerful historical, political, economic, and cultural forces. The program combines exposure to and interaction with key Government, Civil Society, and International Development Partners in Kyrgyzstan with an overarching seminar-style course. Cultural activities include a day trip to the alpine lake of Issyk-Kul, a visit with nomadic shepherders in a yurt village, and expeditions to sites of falconry, folklore, and traditional horse games. The program runs from June 6th through July 7th, 2018. Scholarship and application information is available at www.bard.edu/bardabroad/auca or by contacting Quinton Scribner qscribner@bard.edu.

BARD COLLEGE VII ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONFERENCE

Bard College announces the VII Annual International Student Conference on the theme of “Multidisciplinarity in Science and the Arts: Challenges of the Future” located at St. Petersburg State University’s Smolny Campus. As part of the Bard Network of Partner Institutions, the event brings students from the US, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Germany, Hungary, and the Palestinian Territories together for a series of panels, roundtables, workshops, lectures by leading scholars, film screenings, public debate and other events. The conference will be held April 19-21, 2018 at the Bobrinskiy Palace, Saint Petersburg, Russia. US faculty members and students in St. Petersburg are welcome to attend. Please contact Quinton Scribner (qscribner@bard.edu) for more information. Information regarding study abroad at Smolny College is available at www.bard.edu/bardabroad/smolny.

CENTRAL EURASIAN STUDIES SUMMER INSTITUTE June 18 - August 10, 2018

The Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute (CESSI) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is now accepting applications for courses in elementary and intermediate Kazakh, Tajik, Uyghur, and Uzbek. Additional levels and languages (such as Kyrgyz or Azeri) may be added with sufficient student interest. Graduate students, researchers, and professionals who are U.S. citizens are especially encouraged to apply for the Title VIII fellowship, which covers full tuition plus a stipend of \$2,500 for the summer. FLAS fellowships are also available for eligible undergraduate and graduate students.

CESSI is an intensive, eight-week language program held each summer in Madison, Wisconsin. Students receive the equivalent of one year of language study during this time, and earn eight credits upon completion of the program. In addition

to language classes, CESSI students have the opportunity to attend weekly lectures on Central Eurasia; participate in cultural events, including traditional cooking demonstrations; engage with local Central Eurasian communities; and network with other scholars of Central Eurasia. CESSI is a great way for students to gain language skills before studying abroad, applying for internships, or conducting fieldwork in the region. Students of all disciplines and academic programs are welcome!

The priority application deadline is February 1, 2018. For more information, visit cessi.wisc.edu.

ANNUAL YOUNG RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE HAVIGHURST CENTER FOR RUSSIAN AND POST- SOVIET STUDIES, MIAMI U February 15-17, 2018

This year’s theme is “Populism in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: Conceptual, Empirical and Comparative Perspectives.” “Populism” is a term often used in the scholarly literature on postcommunism, and yet its meaning and explanatory potential remain elusive. The consensus that populist discourses, tropes, rituals, ideas and practices should be counted among the most important factors that propelled transformative processes in the former “second world” does not extend to questions such as: what is the proper way to conceptualize and contextualize the notion of populism? What are the historical roots of the populist phenomenon and the traditions that sustain it? How did populist rhetoric and appeal change over time? What are the cultural resources that populists are able to mobilize, and in what repertoires of contention are such resources invested? How are populist actors and constituencies situated in evolving configurations of power? What is their impact on mainstream politics and established institutional landscapes? And how do populist demands shape oppositional tactics and governmental priorities?

This [Young Researchers Conference](#) seeks to tap into the new wave of research that sheds light on postcommunist populism. The Havighurst Center will provide meals, hotel accommodation, and ground transportation. Partial travel funding might also be available.

HOOVER INSTITUTION LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES TO HOST “THE CROWN UNDER THE HAMMER: RUSSIA, ROMANOVS, REVOLUTION”

Marking the centenary of the Russian Revolution of 1917 this exhibition examines the political, social, and cultural upheavals that transformed Russia in the final decades of the Romanov dynasty and the first years of Soviet Communism. Jointly organized by the Hoover Institution Library & Archives and the Cantor Arts Center, this dual-site exhibition features a wide variety of art objects and documentary material. Paintings and posters, photographs and films, rare books and decorative

art objects alternately evoke the lost world of Russia's old regime and hint at the utopian future imagined by the nation's revolutionaries.

"The Crown under the Hammer" runs through March 4, 2018 at Ruth Levison Halperin Gallery, Lynn Krywick Gibbons Gallery at the Cantor Arts Center and the Herbert Hoover Memorial Exhibit Pavilion, Stanford University.

CfA: OPEN RESEARCH LABORATORY AT ILLINOIS / THE SUMMER RESEARCH LABORATORY

UIUC will be holding the Summer Research Laboratory from June 11 to August 3, 2018. In addition, they are piloting a new program for scholars interested in visiting the campus from November 2017 to May 2018, called the Open Research Laboratory.

With hundreds of thousands of volumes in Russian, East European, and Eurasian languages, alongside extensive microfilm collections of rare and archival materials, the University Library at Illinois ranks among the best research collections in the world. The Research Laboratory programs provide scholars with the opportunity to work extensively with these resources, at any stage of their work. Graduate students find a trip to Illinois an excellent way to plan their research and begin work on their dissertations.

Both the Open Research Lab and the Summer Research Lab offer: full access to the Library and its physical and electronic collections; one-on-one research consultations with the experienced SRS bibliographers; access to scholarly programming and discussion groups on campus throughout

their stay, to help them meet other scholars and learn about new research in progress.

Graduate students, academics, independent scholars, librarians, and government employees are encouraged to apply. Both programs offer financial aid in the form of housing and travel stipends. They are made possible by a generous grant from the US Department of State's Title VIII Grant Program. Stipends are available only to US citizens, and are intended to support projects that are relevant to contemporary policy questions.

The Open Research Laboratory is aimed at scholars who wish to visit Illinois between November 2017 and May 2018. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Priority will be given to applications received by January 15, 2018. Scholars participating in the Open Research Laboratory may apply for: housing and travel stipends. They are also welcome to attend all campus programming and public talks at the Center during their stay. To apply: <https://reeec.illinois.edu/programming-and-events/open-research-laboratory/>

The Summer Research Laboratory: The SRL is open to all scholars with research interests in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies for eight weeks this coming summer, from June 11 until August 3, 2018. Each year during the SRL we host research workshops and training sessions that may be of interest to visitors. Scholars participating in the Summer Research Laboratory may apply for housing and travel stipends. Applications for grant funding will be accepted until March 15, 2018. For further information: <https://reeec.illinois.edu/programming-and-events/summer-research-laboratory/>



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- Program located near historic Philadelphia
- Scholarships available

8 WEEKS • JUNE 6 - AUGUST 1, 2018

"The intensive atmosphere definitely helped me advance linguistically. Burying my summer in Bryn Mawr's immersion program allowed me to grow as well as build relationships in cross-cultural experiences."
Bella Huang, RU '14 & '15 Participant

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APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 19, 2018

KU TO SPONSOR TRAVEL GRANTS

Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas is pleased to announce the [Alexander and Valentine Janta Endowment travel grant](#) for research focusing on the 16th and 17th centuries in Poland. The travel grant is made possible through a generous endowment from Alexander and Valentine Janta.

Polish (and Polish-related) manuscript holdings in Spencer Library include the Graziani-Commendone collection of 16th and 17th century correspondence and other papers about Catholic Church affairs and the Graziani and Commendone families. The holdings also include early printed books of the 16th and 17th centuries about Poland and its history in the Summerfield Collection of Continental European books printed before 1701.

Janta Endowment travel grants are available to faculty members, students, and independent researchers. Applicants must live outside a 100-mile radius of Lawrence, Kansas, and must show evidence of a research project that requires the use of Spencer Research Library's Polish materials from the 16th and 17th centuries. Grant money may be used for travel, photoduplication, and living expenses while conducting research at Spencer Research Library. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

KENNAN INSTITUTE NEWS

Title VIII Fellowships

The Kennan Institute offers 3-9 month research fellowships for post-doctoral, early-stage scholars. They also offer two-month summer research fellowships. The deadline for the next research and summer research fellowship competitions is January 31, 2018.

Title VIII-Supported Short-Term Grants allow US citizens whose policy-relevant research in the social sciences or humanities focused on the countries of Eurasia, to spend up to one month using the library, archival, and other specialized resources of the DC area, while in residence at the Kennan Institute. The next deadline for these grants is February 15, 2018. <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/fellowship-opportunities-and-internships>.

George F. Kennan Fellowships

George F. Kennan Fellows will be based at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC for three-month residencies. Fellows will receive access to the Library of Congress, National Archives, and policy research centers in DC, as well as the opportunity to meet with key experts and officials. 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 DC, 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. There are no citizenship requirements for this grant. 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 US, Russian, and Ukrainian experts.

George F. Kennan Fellowship Teams will: produce joint paper(s) for policy-relevant publications; present work at DC, Russia, and/or Ukraine events; conduct meetings and engage with policymakers in DC. Competitions for the fellowships will be held twice yearly with the following application deadlines: March 1 and September 1. Application: <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/opportunity/george-f-kennan-fellowship>.

The Kennan Institute welcomes its incoming scholars:

Title VIII Research Scholars

Indra Ekmanis, Doctoral Candidate, University of Washington: "Signal strength: Lessons from Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Latvian Service"

Krista Goff, Assistant Professor, University of Miami: "Nested Nationalism: Slow Violence and Ethnic Conflict in the (post-) Soviet Caucasus"

Galina Starovoitova Fellows on Human Rights and Conflict Resolution

Raisa Borshchigova, Project Coordinator, Center for Peacebuilding and Community Development: "Women's Fluctuating Status in Society and Role in the Social and Political Life of the Chechen Republic"

Alla Yaroshinskaya, writer and journalist: "Freedom of Speech: from Brezhnev to Putin. My Struggle for an Independent Press."

George F. Kennan Fellows

Valerie Anishchenkova, Associate Professor, University of Maryland: "War and Identity in Contemporary Popular Culture: Russia, the United States and the Middle East after the Cold War"

Nina Jankowicz, Fulbright-Clinton Public Policy Fellow, Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; US Department of State, "Bridging the Trust Gap: How the West Can Learn from Eastern Europe's Experience Battling Russian Disinformation"

Balihar Sanghera, Associate Professor, University of Kent: "Contesting Visions in Central Asia: the Rise of Alternative Models of Development and Finance and its Implications"

James Billington Fellow

Natalie Rouland, independent scholar: "Power on Pointe: Russian Ballet and the Body Politic"

MONASH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
ADA BOOTH RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN
SLAVIC STUDIES

Monash University is pleased to announce the inaugural Ada Booth Research Fellowship in Slavic Studies based at Monash University Library in Melbourne, Australia.

Monash University Library is one of Australia's leading academic libraries, inspiring and enabling scholars through exceptional expertise, resources, spaces and technologies, and collaboration. The Ada Booth Slavic Collection is home to the Library's extensive holdings in Ukrainian, Russian, and other Slavic languages. The collection also has a strong focus on Slavic Australiana, Soviet studies, migrant and diaspora literature and culture. More detailed information about the Library's Slavic collections is available at monash.edu/library/collections/special/ada-booth.

We invite applications from researchers, postgraduate students and independent scholars from Australia and abroad. The fellowship will award up to AUD 20,000 in non-salary funding for project-related costs to work on projects that will benefit from concentrated access to the Library's Slavic collections and to promote Slavic studies and related fields. Costs could include project, travel, accommodation and living expenses. More than one fellowship may be awarded in 2018.

The fellowship is intended for a length of 3-6 months, and fellows are required to be in residence at the Sir Louis Monash Library, Monash University Clayton campus for the duration of the fellowship. Please visit monash.edu/library/ada-booth-fellowship to find more information. The deadline for applications is March 26, 2018.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH REES NOW HOSTS
SEAN'S RUSSIA BLOG

The Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) at the University of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce that Sean's Russia Blog (seansrussiablog.org) has become a major addition to the center's resources and electronic presence. Hosted by Sean Guillory, Digital Scholarship Curator at REES, Sean's Russia Blog is an invaluable web source that features interviews with writers, filmmakers, academics, and policy figures from Russia, the US, and elsewhere. It joins such US web resources as NYU Jordan Center's All the Russias blog (jordanrussiacenter.org/all-the-russias), David Johnson's Johnson's Russia List (russialist.org) at GWU's Elliott School, or Maxim Trudolyubov's The Russia File (wilsoncenter.org/blogs/the-russia-file) at Kennan Institute (Wilson Center). Sean's Russia Blog provides hour-long interviews that have ranged from "Russian LGBTQ and New Left Activism" to "The Early Russian Empire" and "Reforging Roma into New Soviet Gypsies." Subscribers will find something for any vector of curiosity: interested in Russian Punk Rock? The Stillbirth of the Soviet Internet? The Political Life of Vodka? Gangs in Russia? To subscribe, search Sean's Russia Blog in your favorite podcast app or go directly to seansrussiablog.org.

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

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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.

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In Memoriam

Elizabeth Cheresh Allen, Emeritus Professor of Russian and Comparative Literature at Bryn Mawr College, passed away, September 18, 2017 after a long struggle with illness.

Allen grew up in the Chicago area. After receiving her BA from Harvard University in 1973, she went on to Yale University for her doctorate in Slavic Languages and Literatures. In 1984 she received her PhD from Yale, where she remained for seven years as an assistant professor in the Slavic Department. In 1991 Allen came to Bryn Mawr, where she received tenure in 1994 and was promoted to full professor in 2004. In May of 2017 she was granted emeritus status.

Allen was a formidable scholar. Her first book, *Beyond Realism: Turgenev's Poetics of Secular Salvation* (Stanford University Press, 1992), explored the narrative and ethical underpinnings of Turgenev's prose, while her second book, *A Fallen Idol is Still a God: Lermontov and the Quandaries of Cultural Transition* (Stanford University Press, 2007), offered an original look at Lermontov's work and its place in the transitional post-Romantic era. Allen also served as co-editor of (and contributor to) *Freedom and Responsibility in Russian Literature: Essays in Honor of Robert Louis Jackson* (with Gary Saul Morson; Northwestern University Press, 1995), and more recently she was editor of *Before They Were Titans: Essays on The Early Works of Dostoevsky and Tolstoy* (Academic Studies Press, 2015). She also edited and translated a volume of Turgenev's works *The Essential Turgenev* (Northwestern University Press, 1994), and at the very end of her career she produced a translation of *Lermontov's Hero of Our Time* (Northwestern University Press, 2016).

At Bryn Mawr, Allen taught a wide range of Russian literature and comparative literature courses. In addition, Allen devoted countless hours to editing others' work, for she was a masterful writer with a knack for cogent argumentation and clear, rigorous prose. Many in the Slavic field have benefited from Allen's discerning edits and selfless mentoring.

Not only did Allen chair Bryn Mawr's Department of Russian for many years, but she also served as the director of the Bi-College (Bryn Mawr & Haverford College) Program in Comparative Literature between 2004-2007.

Text provided by Tim Harte, Dept. of Russian, Bryn Mawr College

It is with regret that the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures at the Ohio State University announces the death on October 7, 2017 of emeritus professor **Jerzy R. Krzyzanowski**.

Born in 1922 in Lublin, Poland, Krzyzanowski served in the Polish Armia Krajowa during World War II. Krzyzanowski spent several years in a Soviet POW camp in Central Europe after the second World War. He emigrated to the United States in 1959 and earned his PhD at the University of Michigan in 1965.

Before arriving at Ohio State University in 1967, Krzyzanowski taught at the University of California, Berkeley, University of Colorado, and the University of Kansas. He spent the bulk of his career in Columbus, Ohio, where he influenced generations of students, teaching both Polish and Russian.

In addition to his service to Ohio State, Krzyzanowski served numerous associations including the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America (PIASA), where he was a board member from 1980-86. Author of many materials for studying Polish, Krzyzanowski also wrote the biography of Władysław Reymont (Twayne, 1972) and a companion to Sienkiewicz's famous trilogy as well as novels, books, and memoirs in Polish, many of which have been published over the past two decades.

Krzyzanowski was a consummate professional and gentleman who continued to attend university events well into his retirement.

Text provided by Angela Brintlinger, Professor of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures at OSU

UCLA Distinguished Research Professor **Vyacheslav Vsevolodovich Ivanov** passed away on October 7, 2017. He was a member of the UCLA community for the past quarter century. Over a prolific academic career that began with his studies at Moscow State University in the 1950s, he established himself as an authority in fields as diverse as Indo-European studies, Balto-Slavic linguistics, machine translation, psycholinguistics, cultural anthropology, mathematical linguistics, semiotics and literary studies. At the same time, Ivanov occupied administrative positions, among them Chair of the Structural Typology Department of Moscow's Institute of Slavic Studies, Director of the Library of Foreign Literature, Director of Moscow State University's Institute of World Culture and Director the Russian Anthropological School of the Russian State University of the Humanities. He was expelled from Moscow State University early in his career for defending Boris Pasternak's art and Roman Jakobson's scholarship, and forty years later was made a full member of the Russian Academy of Sciences (as well as other national academies, among them the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and British Academy). He engaged actively in academic, political and cultural discourse until the very end of his life; he was to have taught two seminars on recall this winter at UCLA. His passing affords the opportunity to reflect on his life. The documentary series "Vselennaia Vyacheslava Ivanova" ("The Universe of Vyacheslav Ivanov"), produced on the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday, shows a man who has confronted his own age and the age in which he lived, and mastered both.

Text provided by Ronald Vroon, UCLA Dept. of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Languages and Cultures



Affiliate Group News

AATSEEL CONFERENCE

The annual conference of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) will be held in downtown Washington, DC, February 1-4, 2018.

The conference program includes a variety of dynamic panels and roundtables on topics of interest to Slavists in many areas including literature, linguistics, pedagogy, film, and culture. The program may be viewed online at: https://www.aatseel.org/cfp_program_2018

AATSEEL is also planning a variety of special events at the conference which may be viewed here: <http://www.aatseel.org/program/2018-conference-special-events/>

On-site registration at higher rates will begin on Thursday, February 1 at 3:00pm.

Conference registration includes access to all conference panels and events including complimentary breakfast on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the conference, complimentary coffee breaks and snack breaks, and complimentary refreshments at the President's Reception and Awards Ceremony on Friday night of the conference. The conference exhibit hall is also a wonderful place to network with colleagues in publishing, higher education, and education abroad.

Please do not hesitate to write with any questions to AATSEEL's Conference Manager, Dr. Rachel Stauffer: aatseelconference@usc.edu

2018 MIDWEST SLAVIC CONFERENCE

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

March 23-25, 2018

The Midwest Slavic Association and The Ohio State University (OSU) Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES) are pleased to announce the 2018 Midwest Slavic Conference to be held at OSU March 23-25, 2018. Conference organizers invite proposals for panels or individual papers addressing all topics related to Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Eurasia, and Southeastern Europe. The conference will open with a keynote address by Tara Zahra based on her latest book *The Great Departure: Mass Migration from Eastern Europe and the Making of the Free World*, on Friday, March 23rd. Two days of panels will follow the keynote address.

Building on the title of the keynote address, this year MSC also invites interdisciplinary papers or panels that focus on migration from historical or contemporary perspectives. The Conference will open with a plenary panel "Borders, Barriers, and Belonging: A Spotlight on Global Migration" on Saturday morning that will feature five migration experts who will discuss mobility in five world regions. There will also be a lunchtime lecture sponsored by the Slovene Research Initiative featuring Michael Biggins on Slavic literary translation.

Please send a one-paragraph abstract and a brief C.V. in a single PDF format to csees@osu.edu by January 16th. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to participate. Prepaid lodging is available for undergraduate and graduate students presenters. A block of rooms is available at a discounted rate for all other participants. More information is available at the Conference website: <https://slaviccenter.osu.edu/about/conferences/midwest-slavic>. For more information, email csees@osu.edu slaviccenter.osu.edu

NEW AFFILIATE GROUP: Q*ASEEES

Q*ASEEES was created to promote all forms of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) studies in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian societies, including but not limited to history, literary and cultural studies, social sciences, and interdisciplinary studies. The group hopes to support collaborative work between different disciplines with an interest in our regions. It wants to serve as a voice for LGBTQ studies in Central & Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union. The group will also promote professional mentoring for early-career scholars who identify as LGBTQ, and work with the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) toward this goal.

The Q*ASEEES affiliate group focuses on:

- Networking among scholars of LGBTQ studies
- Mentoring and advising students and junior scholars of LGBTQ studies

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- Collecting resources and bibliographies on LGBTQ topics for use by scholars, activists, and advocates
- Supporting scholars of LGBTQ topics in regions that may be less open to such topics
- Facilitating organization of panels at ASEES and regional conferences, where possible

CfP: 56th ANNUAL MEETING SOUTHERN CONFERENCE ON SLAVIC STUDIES

UNC-Charlotte, March 22-24, 2018

The SCSS is the largest of the regional Slavic and Eurasian Studies associations and its programs attract national and international scholarly participation. The purpose of SCSS is to promote scholarship, education, and in all other ways to advance scholarly interest in Russian, Soviet, and East European studies in the Southern region of the United States and nationwide. Membership in SCSS is open to all persons interested in furthering these goals.

Papers from all humanities and social science disciplines are welcome, as is a focus on countries other than Russia/USSR. We encourage participation from scholars of all Slavic, East European, and Eurasian regions. Papers can be on any time period and any topic relevant to these regions.

The program committee is accepting panel and paper proposals until January 15, 2018. Whole panel proposals or roundtables are preferred, but proposals for individual papers will also be accepted. Whole panel proposals should include the titles of each individual paper as well as a title for the panel itself and identifying information (email address and institutional affiliation) for all participants. Roundtable proposals should include a title and identifying information for all participants. Proposals for individual papers should include paper title, identifying information, and a one-paragraph abstract to guide the program committee in the assembly of panels. If any AV equipment will be needed, proposals must indicate so when they are submitted. AV will be of limited availability and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Email your proposals to Emily Baran at scssprogram@gmail.com.

For local arrangements or conference information other than the program, please contact Steve Sobol at sosabol@uncc.edu. For questions regarding the program, please contact Emily Baran at scssprogram@gmail.com.

NEW ASEES REGIONAL AFFILIATE, REECAS NW

The Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (then known only as REECAS) organized the first REECAS NW conference in 1994 at the University of Washington. REECAS NW was intended as a regional venue at which scholars in the Pacific Northwest could present mature research. Founders also established the conference as a stage on which to debut new scholarly contributions and as an outlet for graduate students to experience an academic conference in preparation for more national conferences such as ASEES or the Central Eurasian Studies Society conference (CESS).

Now in its 24th year, REECAS NW has established itself as an important annual event for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies in the Pacific Northwest. The event is often held at the University of Washington, but other colleges and universities also regularly partner with the Ellison Center to host the event. Recent partner hosts have included Reed College, Portland State University, and the University of Puget Sound. In addition to Washington State participants, presenting faculty and graduate students come from as far away as the University of Oregon, the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria.

Papers are peer-reviewed and panels are assembled by PhDs at the University of Washington. Annual themes are topical and chosen by UW and partner university faculty. The REECAS NW conference overview website is available <https://jsis.washington.edu/ellisoncenter/events/reecas-nw/>



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Member Spotlight: Julia Mickenberg

Julia Mickenberg is an Associate Professor of American Studies at University of Texas at Austin

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

I became interested in Russia at a very young age, like many who grew up during the Cold War (I graduated from college in 1990). Russia had for me a kind of forbidden mystique. My grandfather took my sister and me to the Russian circus when we were children; and I also recall my grandparents visiting the Soviet Union in the mid-1970s, bringing our family a balalaika and matrushka dolls for my sister and me. I remember trying to pry the smallest one open, feeling like there was some important secret to be revealed in that tiny, unyielding wooden doll. In high school an especially open-minded history teacher had us read *The Communist Manifesto*, and my AP English teacher assigned Gogol, Dostoevsky, and Chekhov. It seemed natural that I would take Russian history and literature in college and study Russian, but my initial inclination to major in Russian Studies was dampened by my difficulty in learning the language (French had come so easily to me) as well as a Russian literature class that was less than inspiring. Plus, too many other things that caught my attention. I gave up Russian after the second year and majored in American Civilization.

How have your interests changed since then?

I went on to get a Ph.D. in American Studies, and became an American Studies professor, starting my current job at UT in 2001. My first book was on *Children's Literature and the Left*. Studying the American communist milieu, however, inevitably raised the specter of the Soviet Union, which I began to see as the elephant in the room in many scholarly accounts of the American Left. My second single-authored book, *American Girls in Red Russia: Chasing the Soviet Dream*, explores the fascination with Russia and the Soviet Union among US women, many of whom



traveled to the USSR in the 1920s and 1930s to see a society being born anew--especially one that promised to transform women's lives. Work on this project brought me back to the Russian language classroom, where I once again struggled, this time as a tenured professor among much younger and seemingly much smarter undergraduates. However, I wasn't getting graded, and this time I persisted and managed to learn enough to do research in a number of Moscow archives (a considerable feat). Although the book took me more than ten

years to complete, I'm proud to say it was published this past spring by the University of Chicago Press.

What is your current research/work project?

I'm currently finishing an edited edition of the American feminist Madeleine Z. Doty's account of the Bolshevik Revolution, which is contained in her 1919 book *Behind the Battle Lines* but has never been published on its own. I am currently writing an introduction and footnoting the relevant chapters, doing so as part of a series that Ben Whisenhunt and Norman Saul are editing for Slavica Press on "Americans in Revolutionary Russia."

What do you value about your ASEES membership?

I like being exposed to interdisciplinary scholarship on Russia and Eastern Europe, and being able to forge connections with scholars whose work is exciting and innovative. Despite my own home in American Studies I always find articles that interest me in *The Slavic Review* and I've really enjoyed panels at the ASEES conventions I've been able to attend.

Conquest Prize for Contribution to Holodomor Studies

Submission deadline: June 30, 2018

The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (HREC), a project of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, is pleased to announce the establishment of the Conquest Prize for Contribution to Holodomor Studies. The \$2,500 CAD prize will be awarded on a biennial basis to the author of an outstanding article that contributes to a fuller understanding of the Famine in Ukraine of 1932-33.

HREC has assembled a jury of eminent specialists to determine the winner of the first prize: Olga Andriewsky (Trent University), Andrea Graziosi (Università di Napoli Federico II), Norman Naimark (Stanford University), and Lynne Viola (University of Toronto).

Nominated articles will have been published in English, in print or in an online publication, between June 30, 2016, and the submission deadline, which is June 30, 2018. Nominations may be submitted by the author, editor, publisher, or colleagues.

The entry form may be found on the HREC website: www.holodomor.ca





Personages

Max Bergholz's *Violence as a Generative Force* has just been announced as the 2017 winner of the AHA's Herbert Baxter Adams prize as best first book in European history. The book had also won the best book prize of the Canadian Association of Slavists and the Rothschild award from the Association for the Study of Nationalities. It was named one of five finalists for the Lemkin Prize from the Institute for the Study of Genocide.

Keith Brown has joined Arizona State University as Professor of Global Studies and Director of the Melikian Center: Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies.

In October 2017, **William Brumfield** was a featured lecturer for the Festival of Science at Moscow State University and Samara State University. Additionally, the exhibit "Architecture at the End of the Earth: William Brumfield's Photographs of the Russian North" was on display at Vollum Gallery at Reed College from October 22 to December 18.

Thaddeus V. Gromada participated in the V Congress of Polish Learned Societies in the World, organized by the Polish Academy of Arts & Sciences. Gromada, who last year was elected foreign member of the Kraków academy, was invited to present a lecture for the opening session that focused on Polish family histories. Gromada also spoke on the "Future of Polonia, the Polish American Community" at a seminar of the Academy's Commission on the Study of the Polish Diaspora. He is a member of this commission.

As of January 1, 2018, **Diane P. Koenker** will be Professor of Russian and Soviet History, and Director of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London.

The Modern Language Association of America announced it is awarding its twelfth Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures to **Alice Lovejoy** for her book *Army Film and the Avant Garde: Cinema and Experiment in the Czechoslovak Military* (Indiana University Press), and to **Emily Van Buskirk** for *Lydia Ginzburg's Prose: Reality in Search of Literature* (Princeton University Press). **Liza Knapp** received honorable mention for *Anna Karenina and Others: Tolstoy's Labyrinth of Plots* (University of Wisconsin Press).

Lauren A. McCarthy was promoted to Associate Professor of Political Science and Legal Studies at University of Massachusetts Amherst. Additionally, she received the best book award from the International Association for the Study of Organized Crime for the book *Trafficking Justice: How Russian Police Enforce New Laws, from Crime to Courtroom* (Cornell University Press).

Benjamin Peters recently received tenure and was promoted Associate Professor at the University of Tulsa and affiliated faculty at the Information Society Project at Yale Law School.

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2018 HREC Research Grants Competition

Submission deadline: March 1, 2018

The Holodomor Research and Education Consortium (HREC), a project of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, announces its 2018 Research Grants Competition. Applications will be considered that focus on Holodomor research, publishing of research results, preservation of materials, and organization of and participation in conference sessions and workshops dealing with the Holodomor. Grants for individuals will not exceed \$6,000 Canadian. The majority of grants in past years have ranged from \$1,000 to \$3,000. HREC is also accepting proposals for collaborative projects that engage scholars and institutions from both in and outside Ukraine. Collaborative grants may be awarded for a maximum of \$15,000 Canadian.

Applications are due March 1, 2018, and will be accepted in English, French, or Ukrainian. Applicants will be informed of the outcome of the competition by March 31, 2018.

For more information visit www.holodomor.ca.



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