



# NewsNet

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

## Open Access: Is it a Revolution? Joshua Sanborn, Lafayette College

There can be no doubt that the digital age has deeply affected the landscape of intellectual property rights. Personal computing has allowed creators to become desktop publishers, and the internet provides an instant and extremely cheap form of distribution and marketing. At the same time, the digitization process makes the unauthorized reproduction of these works almost laughably easy. The music industry, the film industry, book publishers, television networks, professional photographers, and a host of others have already had to struggle with these issues, employing a range of methods and producing a wide variety of results.

Many firms in these industries became convinced that they had to engage with digital platforms in order to survive, even as they realized that the structure of the digital environment posed a critical threat to their very existence. Nearly all of them started with attempts to crack down through law enforcement. When that failed, they relied on a combination of shaming and of providing their goods digitally in new ways through authorized channels that made it easy for consumers

to acquire and use their goods on their favorite digital devices. The companies that provided these new platforms - iTunes, Netflix, Hulu, Amazon – profited handsomely; producers and publishers treaded water at best; and old media bricks and mortar stores were gutted. Record stores, book stores, video rental outlets, even the venerable old movie theaters, went into deep downward spirals.

At the same time, quietly and on a small scale, some citizens came to lament the digital products themselves. If some bricks and mortar businesses survive, it is not only because they represent a social context for the consumption of creative and intellectual products that many appreciate, but it is also because they provide goods – vinyl records, hardcover books, a non-digital film on a big screen – that some aficionados believe to be of higher intrinsic quality than their digital brethren.

The same conjuncture of forces affects scholarly journal publishing as well. The stakes have been lower, and many of the participants have come from

### Inside This Issue • June 2013 • v. 53, n. 3

Open Access: Is it a Revolution? Joshua Sanborn, Lafayette College	1	Library and Internet News	14
The Panacea of Open Access? Carolyn Pouncy, <i>Kritika</i>	5	Jane Hedges to Retire from <i>Slavic Review</i>	16
Slavic Studies, Libraries, & the Crisis of Academic Journal Costs Michael Biggins, University of Washington	7	Diane Koenker, U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	16
Open Access: An Argument in Favor Steven Barnes, George Mason University	10	Steinberg to Step Down from SR; Murav to Take Over	17
Class-sourcing Slavic and Eurasian Studies: Teaching Students, Serving the Public and Staying Relevant Gleb Tspursky, The Ohio State University	12	Personages	17
		Publications	18
		In Memoriam	23
		Davis Graduate Student Travel Grant Recipients	25
		Regional Scholar Travel Grant Recipients	26
		Institutional Member News	27
		Affiliate Member News	29
		Calendar	31

the academic world, which is deeply conservative by nature and structure. As a result, the process has been more drawn out. Sean Parker decided to pioneer file sharing using music records rather than articles from *Russian Review*. Nevertheless, our scholarly articles are important intellectual products, and there is real money at stake. We were due to have our Napster moment, and we may now be having it. Make no mistake, discussions about open access and scholarly property rights have been going on for quite some time. Publishers, librarians, and a growing number of scholars have been struggling with these issues for years, and we have fumbled our way to solutions similar to those adopted by the professions mentioned above. Certain branded providers (JSTOR, Project Muse) have served as our iTunes platform, allowing conscientious professors and students to acquire (and assign) digital copies of journal articles relatively easily. But now discussions have become more frequent, the come-ons from certain publishers to publish in their open-access journals arrive with greater regularity, and the rhetoric on all sides has intensified.

There are, I think, three main stimuli for the sudden visibility of open-access questions. Two of them are structural. The first is that higher education budgets are being cut dramatically, not just in the United States, but in many other places as well. This has put research funds in jeopardy and has also deeply affected the ability of college and university libraries – the main purchasers of scholarly journals – to continue their subscriptions. The second stimulus, no less important, is that the digitization of education has been exploding in many other ways. Giddy enthusiasm is now being showered on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) by New York Times columnists, by tech company titans angling for ways to profit from the destruction of the college experience, and by university administrators happy to be rid of quarrelsome professors and the salaries, benefits, and pesky physical spaces they require. Finally, there was the tragic suicide of Aaron Swartz, a prophet of the open web and the would-be liberator of journal articles stuck in the closed-access portions of the online world. Swartz downloaded millions of articles from JSTOR and resolved to make them available free of charge to anyone with an internet connection before being arrested and relentlessly grilled by federal authorities.

“Open access” refers to publications that are provided free of charge to interested readers with internet connections around the world. Enthusiasts promote the open access model with all the fervor of true

believers. In their view, the digital revolution is happening, and a new world will inevitably emerge. Stodgy gatekeepers will be swept aside as the advance guard storms the palace to ensure that everyone has access to the restricted goods inside. Paper journals, peer review, articles without hyperlinks – who knows, perhaps the ivory tower academy itself – will all be relegated to the dustbin of history where they will decay slowly, emitting the faint stench of reaction. The crowd will source a new state of Digitopia. Anyone, anywhere will be able to read anything. We will all be freer, happier, and smarter. Every scholar will write according to his ability, every student will browse according to his needs. Like many revolutions, this one is at heart a moral crusade wrapped in technocratic clothes.

As with all revolutions, there are conservatives who doubt the emancipatory narrative. Some of the conservative resistance is based on tradition. We have a good thing going, why change it? Some of it is aesthetic, held by our own tweed versions of vinyl lovers who like to rip the sheath off their journals and sit down to enjoy the latest issue in an armchair. Some of it is rooted in a seasoned suspicion that change always brings unintended and unwelcomed consequences, especially when that change is heralded as “the future” by massive corporations.

Most of us fall somewhere between these revolutionary and conservative poles. I do, at any rate. Perhaps this is a function of age, I don’t know. I’m old enough to have handwritten or manually typed out my high school term papers and young enough to have written my college senior thesis on a state-of-the-art Mac Classic. The Mac Classic was better. I used the paper volumes of Historical Abstracts when researching my dissertation, but I used the online database when I wrote my books. The online version was MUCH better. I’m no digital native, in other words, but I’ve been a colonist since way back. I was excited enough by new digital initiatives to sign up as a contributor to the *Russian History Blog* that Steve Barnes started a couple of years ago, and I think enterprises such as this are very valuable (more on that below). At the same time, I am growing more concerned with each passing day about the educational agenda currently being advanced by the alliance of high-tech corporations and budget-slashing, anti-academy politicians. As a result, I am wary of any claims that digital change of a particular type is “inevitable,” much less that it will be good.

The other contributors to this discussion will, I trust, go into more detail regarding some of the specific issues of open-access publishing. I'd like to briefly mention a couple of the issues raised by digital open access publication that revolutionaries and conservatives may be able to find some middle ground on. The first has to do with the question of cost. I have written [elsewhere](#) that we should stop talking about open-access publication as "free." Instead, we should recognize that research and its publication inevitably consume resources, both of money and of time. As a result, the debate is not so much about free access as it is about proper mechanisms of compensation and subsidization. This sounds much less sexy, revolutionary, and liberationist than providing enlightenment to the masses does, but it is more accurate. There is plenty to debate here. Open access advocates have a real point when they argue that much of the training and many of the salaries enjoyed by academics have been provided by generous outside support from taxpayers and foundations. It stands to reason that the public deserves a return on that investment by asking for an equally generous sharing of the results of professorial research. There certainly seems to be little cause to argue that outside companies like Elsevier deserve the profits and power of being a scholarly gatekeeper. At the same time, it is justifiable to worry that making all scholarship free will result in the destruction of the academic journal, with its editors, managing editors, pre-publication peer review, and other attributes. Proposals to replace this infrastructure with new forms of post-publication peer-review are intriguing. The model suggested by Dan Cohen and put into beta-testing in his [Press Forward](#) project makes a case for adding this form of scholarship to existing ones, but it would be a tragedy if these aggregator sites were to replace the traditional journal.

This brings me to my second point, which is that it seems unwise at present to think of closed-access and open-access publication as mutually exclusive endeavors, as wiki-anarchists, austerity-minded governments, and perhaps a few hidebound tenure committees do. When the United Kingdom endorsed the [Finch Report](#) and insisted that all scholarship be made open-access (and paid for by scholars themselves), it quite purposely sought to destroy the current mode of academic production and publication. So too did Aaron Swartz want to break down the (pay)walls on the web. On the other hand, those who turn up their noses at all forms of digital scholarship ignore an exciting new venue that deserves respect. I prefer instead to think of writing for the open web and for scholarly journals

as different genres of writing. Pieces that rely on linkable resources on the web or engage in a hyperlinked way with other online writing seem like they should be "native" on the web. But I think that I am not alone in believing that the web is not ideal for lengthy, dense, or particularly complex arguments. More than a few of us (and most of our students) suffer from Hyperlink Activity Disorder. We bounce around on the surface from page to page like a waterbug, moving along quickly even when we encounter a deep, calm portion of the internet. I think the current form of the journal - with its pre-publication peer review, enforced multiple revisions, foul curses hurled at Reviewer #2, and meaty pieces printed on paper - serves those deep wells of thought just fine and ought to remain for the foreseeable future.

This is not to say that there is not room for constructive work here that connects those journals to the open web. For instance, I am unsure why most journals publish their book reviews on the closed web. The 500-1250 word review has serious limitations, and the significant delay between the submission of the review and its publication helps no one. Indeed, publishers, authors, and reviewers all want to get maximum and rapid visibility for these pieces. Reviews that are solicited and vetted by particular journals and posted on the open web would still carry greater weight than those posted on Amazon.com, and the quality of those reviews would speak to the overall quality of those journals, as they do today. To the earlier point, reviews are also particularly well-suited to the browsing experience of the web. It is not difficult to imagine many new versions of the *Review of Reviews* that would aggregate and juxtapose these pieces in productive ways. Journals, authors, and readers, would all benefit.

In sum, open access is an admirable goal, but it is not an absolute and immediate moral imperative. We have the capacity, as an academic community, to take a breath, to experiment, to preserve what we value most, to cast a critical eye on those who insist that all creative work must be both digital and branded by a tech company, and to move forward consciously and deliberately in this Brave New World.

*Joshua Sanborn is a Professor and History Department Head at Lafayette College.*



# Advance your education and career through American Councils

## Fully-Funded Programs for Teachers & Scholars:

- **TITLE VIII RESEARCH SCHOLAR PROGRAM\*** - Full fellowships for research trips to the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern and Southeast Europe
- **TITLE VIII COMBINED RESEARCH & LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAM\* (CRLT)** Full fellowships for research *and* language training in the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern and Southeast Europe
- **SUMMER RUSSIAN LANGUAGE TEACHERS PROGRAM\*\*** - Professional development in Moscow for U.S. pre- and in-service Russian language teachers; K-12 teachers especially encouraged to apply

## Programs for Graduate & Undergraduate Students:

- **ADVANCED RUSSIAN LANGUAGE & AREA STUDIES PROGRAM (RLASP)** Comprehensive Russian language and cultural immersion in Moscow, St. Petersburg, or Vladimir
- **EURASIAN REGIONAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM (ERLP)** - Language and cultural immersion in 10 Eurasian countries featuring more than 20 regional languages
- **BALKAN LANGUAGE INITIATIVE** Language and cultural immersion in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, or Serbia



### Learn More...

ONLINE:  
[www.acStudyAbroad.org](http://www.acStudyAbroad.org)

QUESTIONS?  
[outbound@americancouncils.org](mailto:outbound@americancouncils.org)



\*FELLOWSHIP FUNDING FOR AMERICAN COUNCILS RESEARCH PROGRAMS IS PROVIDED BY THE U.S. DEPT. OF STATE (TITLE VIII). \*\*PENDING U.S. DEPT. OF EDUCATION GRANT APPROVAL (FULBRIGHT-HAYS) FOR SUMMER 2014. ADMIN. FEES MAY APPLY.



## The Panacea of Open Access?

Carolyn J. Pouncy, *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*

“Open access” is the buzz phrase of the moment. It is not difficult to understand why, because it is, in many ways, an appealing idea. To quote the definition given by Peter Suber, director of the Harvard Open Access Project, “Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.” Open access thus means both “free as in ‘free speech’” and “free as in ‘free beer.’”<sup>1</sup>

Content consumers love the idea of the Internet as an open archive of material available free of charge and free of copyright restrictions. Journal editors, too, love this aspect of the Internet. When I need to check a quotation retranslated from Russian, Google Books and Amazon.com’s “Look Inside the Book” feature can save hours of work. Open access maximizes our ability to find anything, anywhere, from the luxury of our offices. (Search engines may return too many results to be useful, but that is a problem for separate discussion.) Last, but not least, universities love the idea of open access. Under the older model, they often fund the costs of research and publication, then pay again for access to the articles produced as a result of that research. In an age of tightening budgets, that model has few friends.

The situation facing content producers—a group that includes most of the people reading this article—is more ambiguous. Certainly, scholars benefit from broader distribution of their work, and the scholarly community benefits from greater interaction among researchers.<sup>2</sup> Because most scholars do not collect royalties for the articles they publish in academic journals, they do not lose money from open access. Instead, they gain additional impact (prestige), which was their sole reward to begin with. Open-access advocates cite this reality as evidence that academic works should be distributed free of charge.

What gets lost in this argument is that open access does not refer to scholars placing the rough draft of their articles on a website. Open-access journals are expected to provide peer-reviewed, edited, published articles to which the copyright holders then waive all or most rights so that readers can access the articles free of charge—no subscriptions, no access fees. Yet even proponents of open access admit that these goods cannot be produced out of thin air. The University of California (UC) Berkeley Library site acknowledges, “While open access is free to readers, open access is not free of production costs.”

Here the bright skies of open access cloud over. The first issue involves copyright. Typically, content producers want to protect their work from unlicensed copying and distribution. Yet “the legal basis of OA is the consent of the copyright holder (for newer literature) or the expiration of copyright (for older literature).”<sup>3</sup> If individual authors choose to waive copyright on their work, that is their right. But increasingly, universities (including the entire university system in the United Kingdom) are *requiring* authors to publish in open-access journals, which renders the concept of consent essentially meaningless in a “publish or perish” environment.<sup>4</sup>

Another problem is the economics of open access. Here it makes a great deal of difference which discipline we have in mind. In the sciences, research grants usually cover the costs of publication, and the annual subscription prices of academic journals are high, even ridiculously high—thousands of dollars per year. In the humanities, however, a different model prevails. Public and private foundations that fund the costs of archival research rarely subsidize publication. Open-access advocates suggest submission fees or publication fees as one alternative funding model, but humanities journals have generally not levied such fees. Introducing them would impose new costs on authors and those who fund them.

The UC Berkeley Library site lists “institutional fees” as another potential funding source. How such institutional fees would differ from the current access charges for JSTOR or Project MUSE remains to be determined.

Nor do journals in our field charge thousands of dollars per subscription. An institution can purchase a print subscription to *Kritika* for \$95 per year. Individuals pay \$40, with a 10 percent discount if they belong to ASEES. Students everywhere and scholars in Russia and Eastern Europe pay even less. When we figure out how to cover the postage on free print subscriptions or to create free subscriptions to MUSE, we intend to make *Kritika* available without cost to selected Russian libraries.

The same holds true for other Slavic studies journals. *The Russian Review* costs \$50 for online-only subscriptions and \$52 for both print and online (\$44 for ASEES members, less for students). *Slavic Review* comes free with ASEES membership and includes

complimentary access to the journal's archived issues on JSTOR.

Meanwhile, the effort that goes into producing a peer-reviewed, edited, nonprofit academic journal is considerably higher than suggested by the casual statement "OA literature is not free to produce or publish."<sup>5</sup> To use the example of *Kritika*, each article submitted to us is first evaluated by all three current editors. If deemed suitable, it goes to two peer reviewers, then back to the authors for revision. Once revised, it may go for additional review and through two or three more rounds of revision before the editors accept it for publication. It then undergoes an additional editing pass by one of the three editors before coming to me, as the managing editor, for final style editing and typesetting. Our associate editors commission and edit our book reviews; our executive editors provide guidance, participate in staffing and policy decisions, and work on generating special issues and forums. Many authors tell us that this process leads to a better final product, and for us this is a compelling argument in favor of the way we do things.

Yet, except for myself and my two assistants, no one gets money for his or her association with *Kritika*. All that editorial work is a labor of love. *Kritika* operates on a shoestring budget. The University of Maryland did—and Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service does—subsidize my position and supply us with space to store books. I provide my own equipment and software. We receive small amounts of funding from other sources. Even so, more than half of my salary comes from the revenues generated by Project MUSE. Those revenues also cover one-time *Kritika* expenses: conferences and workshops, occasional book purchases, the editorial assistants' stipends, and the like. Without MUSE or an equivalent alternative, *Kritika* could not survive.

So what are the options? *Kritika* could, of course, fire its managing editor and operate entirely on the basis of unpaid labor. But in fact, we have already tried that. Our first four volumes were produced by a staff of eight, of whom only the graduate assistant received a minimal sum. The editors, each of whom had full-time teaching commitments in addition to his work on *Kritika*, not only vetted articles and managed the review process but also handled basic copy editing and proofing. *Slavica* typeset the issues in return for a quarterly payment. This is not a model any commercial publisher could adopt or any journal sustain beyond the few years needed to get it up and running. As the journal became established, the editors realized they needed one person to coordinate and manage this international undertaking—someone paid by, and hence primarily responsible to, *Kritika*.

That decision led to the creation of my part-time position. Although it was a plus that I had ten years' experience with copy editing and typesetting, the heart of my job has always been monitoring the many interactions among the editorial staff and with authors located all over the world. I am the "chief nudge," copied on every conversation, e-mailing one reminder and request after another. That coordination ensures that *Kritika* stays on track and appears on time.

The alternatives to MUSE are neither many nor obvious. Georgetown already contributes generously to what is, after all, one small project at a large university. If we were to charge pay-per-view fees, that would not be open access, by definition. If we charged authors, someone would have to cover fees that could run to \$1,000–\$2,500 or more per article. Foreign scholars cannot afford such sums, nor can cash-strapped universities. Moreover, if *Kritika* levied publication fees, we would have to increase our production costs by setting up a new payments system. We would have to hire additional staff to establish and maintain the system and supervise billing and collections. Meanwhile, our authors, who currently share copyright with the journal, would lose their rights to control the distribution of their work.

In short, whatever the benefits of open access, we should think twice before dismantling the current system. It is difficult to envision precisely what would happen if scholarship were produced and distributed according to the open-access model. Manufacturers have recently been discovering the hidden costs of outsourcing. Perhaps there are substantial hidden costs—both material and intellectual—in access that is "open" and "free."

*Carolyn Pouncy is the Managing Editor of [Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History](#).*

(Endnotes)

1 I would like to thank the editors and executive editors of *Kritika* for their comments and suggestions on earlier drafts.

For the full text, which clearly summarizes the principles guiding open access, see Peter Suber, "[Open Access Overview](#)" (accessed June 9, 2013). Suber has also written a book on this subject (*Open Access* [Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2012]).

2 For this argument, see UC Berkeley Library Collections, "[Hot Topics: Open Access](#)" (accessed June 9, 2013).

3 Suber, "[Open Access](#)."

4 For information on the U.K. government decision regarding open access, see Daniel Cleary, "[U.K. Says It Will Move to Open Access for Publicly Funded Research](#)," *Science Insider*, July 15, 2012 (accessed June 9, 2013).

5 Suber, "[Open Access](#)."





# Slavic Studies, Libraries, and the Crisis in Academic Journal Costs

Michael Biggins, University of Washington

As faculty at institutions anywhere in North America, you've heard it a hundred times since the late 1990s: There is a crisis in scholarly communication. The profit-driven commercial model of academic journal publishing as it has evolved over the past twenty years, especially for the sciences, engineering and medicine (STEM), has put severe pressure on library acquisitions budgets and pushed them to the breaking point.

For the most part, at least until recently, these plaintive, persistent pleas on the part of our libraries have gone over most faculty heads. Researchers' paramount concern, particularly in the sciences, has been to get their articles published in whichever vehicles that will gain them the most visibility and recognition. Whether that one journal costs the researcher's home institution \$13,000 per year and keeps inflating in cost at anywhere from 5% to 10% per year (e.g., *Hydrobiologia*, Springer Verlag) has been, and in most cases remains, immaterial to the researcher.

At first glance, such flagrant excesses occurring in far-away disciplines about which Slavacists may care little would appear to be of small concern to us, but they are a concern, and an existential one. Beginning in the mid-1990s with the advent of online journal distribution, Springer and a number of other commercial publishers (Elsevier, Routledge, Taylor and Francis, Sage, Brill, and others) aggressively acquired the publishing rights to thousands of academic journals from the scholarly associations that sponsor them and turned them into exceptionally remunerative properties, with profit margins of 30% to 40% nothing unusual. This would not be a problem, except for the fact that the profit-taking has been massively underwritten on the front end by many billions of dollars in federally- and institutionally-funded research support for the scholars who produce the journals' intellectual content, only to be paid for once again on the back end, and at a premium, by the mostly state-supported research institutions that overwhelmingly constitute the journals' base of subscribers.

Thanks to this dynamic, since 1995 the share of a typical U.S. research library's acquisitions budget devoted to serials (as opposed to monographs) has

ballooned from 50% to 80% - not because libraries have been acquiring that many more journals, but because commercial publishers have so effectively eaten into the stationary target of library budgets through their ongoing acquisitions, outlandish prices and outsized rates of inflation. Considering that the sciences as disciplines are overwhelmingly journal- (as opposed to book-) dependent, and because the lion's share of egregious price increases has been for science journals - and since all disciplines must co-exist within the same library budgetary-ecological system - there has been a concomitant, massive, twenty-year shift in academic libraries' budgets away from the arts, humanities, social sciences and international studies toward STEM disciplines. It is not at all unusual for an academic library in 2013 to be allocating exactly the same budgeted amount in unadjusted dollars - or less - to support a given humanities or social science discipline that it did in 1995. This stasis amounts to a de facto decline in purchasing power of 45%, while pushing millions in new money to meet the demands of inflating STEM journals. This fact alone would account for a tremendous reduction in our libraries' ability to support Slavic and other international studies research, but it's not yet the end of the story.

After their initial successes acquiring science journals, corporate publishers also began acquiring a number of academic social science and humanities titles, whose learned societies were readily seduced by the promise of greatly expanded reach through online access, and sometimes also with various emoluments for the society or editorial board. Some editorial boards have also been swayed by the notion that a particular commercial imprint will lend their journal greater prestige, but given that the entire editorial process remains with the society as ever, and that the corporate publisher's involvement is limited to technical and marketing processes, this presumption is more likely a case of the emperor's new clothes. In contracting with commercial publishers to produce their journals, the societies have generally had to abdicate control over pricing, profit margins, and in many cases even copyright over the journals' contents, in exchange for a web platform, marketing and distribution services, and a very modest share of subscription revenues. Buried in the fine print there may even be a clause giving the publisher exclusive rights and revenues from licensing

journal content (all but the most recent year's) to large journal aggregator databases that are in turn licensed to hundreds or even thousands of colleges, junior colleges and school systems nationwide.

Both the extent of corporate penetration and the price point the companies have been able to press for in the humanities and social sciences are considerably more modest than in the STEM disciplines, and though, as a consequence, the commercial appeal of these journals has not been nearly as great, the process of their corporatization goes on, further increasing the pressure on library budgets and steadily stripping the diversity out of our collections. Some commercially distributed journals in Slavic studies, already expensive by any measure in 2002, have since doubled or tripled in price. During the recession years of 2009 to present some of the journals have rolled back their annual cost increases from 10% to around 5%, but these small concessions to common decency are not likely to continue as the recession eases. It is an unsustainable, not to mention unconscionable trend which, if allowed to continue, will wreak ultimate devastation on library collections and support for international studies, not to mention the social sciences, arts and humanities more generally.

On the hopeful side, recently there have been significant, if not yet numerous exceptions to this trend. Important journals in Slavic studies have bravely chosen to explore creative, sustainable solutions in online journal publishing and in doing so have set an example for others to follow. JSTOR, familiar since 1995 as an aggregator of humanities and social science journal archives, recently launched a subsidiary enterprise called JSTOR Current Scholarship Program, which provides a non-commercial platform from which societies can publish and distribute their journals' online versions, which now include the ASEES flagship journal *Slavic Review*. Project Muse continues to welcome new titles to its e-journal hosting service, including since 2011 the quarterly journal *Kritika* (Slavica Publishers). The *Russian Review's* e-journal venture with commercial publisher Wiley so far appears to be of the economically viable kind that most libraries would be happy to have other journals consider emulating.

The concept of the *open access (OA) journal* that has been advocated as a viable alternative within the STEM disciplines, where the contributors

**Table: Trends in Library/Institution Subscription Price of Academic Journals of Interest to ASEES Members**

Journal Title	2002	2009	2012	2013	Publisher	Association
Europe-Asia Studies (6x yearly)	\$ 740	\$ 1,823	\$ 2,061	\$2,262	Routledge; Taylor/Francis	U. of Glasgow;
Central Asian Survey (4x yearly, ca 600 pages)	\$ 709	\$ 1,265	\$ 1,430	\$1,472	Routledge; Taylor/Francis	Society for C. Asian Studies
Post-communist Economies (4x yearly, ca. 550 pages)	\$ 700	\$ 1,248	\$ 1,411	\$1,452	Routledge; Taylor/Francis	Centre for Res into Post-Comm Economies
Nationalities Papers (6x yearly, ca 1,000 pages)	\$ 500	\$ 1,203	\$ 1,363	\$1,404	Routledge; Taylor/Francis	Assn for Study of Nationalities
Russian Linguistics (3x yearly)	\$ 407	\$ 655	\$ 732	\$770	Elsevier	
Eurasian Geography and Econ (6x yearly, ca. 800 pages)	\$ 499	\$ 733	\$ 699	\$735	Taylor/Francis 2013-	
Journal of Baltic Studies (4x yearly, ca. 500 pages)	\$ 87 (P only)	\$ 490	\$ 556	\$592	Routledge, 2009-	Assn for Adv Baltic Studies (AABS)

NB: prices here for subscriptions to printed copies include 9.5% state sales tax.



themselves are sometimes asked to cover the full costs of publishing their peer-reviewed articles up front, pre-publication in a journal that is then made freely available over the Web, is predicated on the ubiquitous availability to researchers of NIH, NSF, or other mostly federal grant funds to cover that expense, an option that is nearly non-existent for scholars in the social sciences, arts and humanities. Moreover, paid institutional and individual subscriptions – provided as both an incentive to and requisite of society membership – remain the financial lifeblood of most academic societies in the humanities and social sciences. Rather than advocating for open access in the social sciences and humanities, we need more realistically to begin advocating for *reasonable access (RA) journals*. These are journals that remain firmly in the control of the societies that are the source of their intellectual content, and that recognize and respect their symbiotic relationship with their mostly academic library hosts by maintaining stable and affordable institutional subscription rates. *RA journals*, hosted by Project Muse, JSTOR Current Scholarship, or some other reasonable non-commercial or commercial platform, can easily generate a more than adequate revenue stream to cover the costs of the journal's publication and provide additional funds to support the society's greater goals.

As for reversing the trend, Harvard's Faculty Advisory Council on the Library gave that ball a good kick when it issued its April 2012 policy on journal pricing subtitled [Major Periodical Subscriptions Cannot Be Sustained](#). It's well worth the read. Most North American research libraries have an online information corner where scholars can learn more about the issues and options in scholarly publishing (the University of Washington Libraries' page, for instance, is here: <http://www.lib.washington.edu/scholpub>). Editorial boards would do well to consider whether their journal is a good or bad actor in its current publishing arrangement and, if bad, press for change. Let's hope that soon every member of ASEES, whether they sit on an editorial board or submit typescripts for those boards to consider, will be sensitive to the impact that each act of publishing has on their home institutions, and above all on the ecology of the research libraries that they count on continually to provide them with material for new research.

*Michael Biggins is the Slavic, Baltic and East European studies librarian at the University of Washington, Seattle, where he also teaches Slovene and Russian.*

### NEW FROM SLAVICA PUBLISHERS

**REGION: Regional Studies of Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia** (ISSN 216-4307).

Published by Slavica on behalf of the Institute of Russian Studies at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, Korea, *REGION* is a peer-reviewed international journal that explores the history and current political, economic, and social affairs of the entire former Soviet bloc. This journal distinguishes itself by its (g)locally oriented perspective, one that stresses both local adaptation to global phenomena and that adaptation's transnational or even global significance. *REGION* regularly publishes articles on concrete local issues written by local Eurasianist scholars. At the same time, with an editorial board spanning the Eurasian and North American continents, the journal seeks to transcend not only national but also academic and professional boundaries. The current issue (vol. 2, no. 1) features articles by Donald J. Raleigh, Vladimir P. Nekhoroshkov, Edith W. Clowes, Tuulikki Kurki, Gary Guadagnolo, Valentina Marinescu and Ecaterina Balica. *REGION* is included in Project MUSE's Premier Collection.

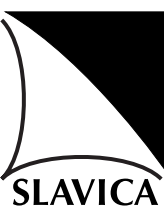
Carol Apollonio and Angela Brintlinger, eds. *Chekhov for the 21st Century*,

382 p., 2012 (ISBN 978-0-89357-392-8), \$34.95.

In this volume, Carol Apollonio and Angela Brintlinger have brought together leading scholars from Russia and the West for a wide-ranging conversation about Chekhov's work and legacy. Considering issues as broad as space and time and as tightly focused as the word, these are 21 exciting new essays for the 21st century.

**Genevra Gerhart, with Eloise M. Boyle.** *The Russian's World, 4th ed.*, 476 p., 2012 (ISBN 978-0-89357-380-5), \$49.95.

A revised, expanded, and updated edition of a book that has become a classic in the field, *The Russian's World* represents an attempt at the impossible: to describe for non-Russians what Russian common knowledge might be. New features include material on computer terminology and Internet resources.



Slavica Publishers  
Indiana University  
1430 N. Willis Dr.  
Bloomington, IN 47404-2146  
[Toll-free] 1-877-SLAVICA  
[Tel.] 1-812-856-4186  
[Fax] 1-812-856-4187  
[Email] [slavica@indiana.edu](mailto:slavica@indiana.edu)  
<http://www.slavica.com/>



# Open Access: An Argument in Favor

## Steven A. Barnes, George Mason University

It is difficult to work at George Mason University and colleagues at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media (RRCHNM) without imbibing something of the spirited belief and relentless activity devoted to promoting open access publishing in the academic world. Fundamentally, open access advances the principles that drew many of us to the academy—the creation and dissemination of knowledge to colleagues, students, and the public. Much of the current organization of our professional publication is built upon a foundation of gift labor. We write articles for journals without the expectation of compensation. We serve as peer reviewers for journals without the expectation of compensation. We write and review books and book manuscripts knowing that for most of us the compensation will be minimal to non-existent. (I almost managed to take my family to dinner from last year's book royalties.) Yet the product of our collective labors is largely walled off from easy access to the broad reading public, sitting on subscription-based journals or in high-priced academic monographs. Granted, some journals have made laudable moves to provide limited (albeit sometimes cumbersome) free access to the public. Yet, this still falls short of the type of open access that would readily bring the academic voice into broader public discussions.

I have tremendous respect for the selfless labor of our colleagues who work to publish academic journals. I read them; I have published in them; and I hope to do so again. I have no doubt that the economic difficulties that they discuss are real and make a shift to open access difficult. Yet, fundamentally, I find the cost of restricted access too great for us not to make significant effort to rethink our publication practices.

I am happy to see a discussion of the issue of open access taking place within the framework of the fields of study that comprise ASEES, and I particularly thank Sean Guillory whose thoughtful post at [Sean's Russia Blog](#) encouraged the discussion. Of course, this is but a small part of a long and ongoing conversation within the digital humanities. I want to emphasize right off the bat that I do not consider myself particularly expert on the subject of open access, nor do I pretend the things I am about to write here are original. Many other scholars have devoted considerable time to studying open access and have impacted my thinking about the subject.<sup>1</sup>

1 For links to some of the writing that I have found most

After a great deal of reading and considering the issues, I find myself to be an almost unreserved supporter of the ideals of open access. This does not mean that I fail to recognize some of the intellectual and practical difficulties such a shift in our current publishing practice entails. However, I want to focus here on the arguments that have most strongly swayed me in favor of open access.

First, I am convinced that open access is more consonant with the ethics of the profession and my own conception of what it should mean to be an academic researcher. I began this essay talking about the gift labor behind academic publishing, but, of course, it is largely not gift but subsidized labor—paid for by universities and governments. I have only recently returned from a research trip to Russia and Kazakhstan for my next book project. The American Councils for International Education paid for the research with funds provided by Title VIII of the U.S. Department of State. Additional support came from George Mason University, a publicly-supported research university in the Commonwealth of Virginia, through provision of a semester's leave from teaching responsibilities. So, in a very real and direct way, my research has been paid for by United States and Virginia taxpayers. Yet, if I choose to limit publication to standard journals with restricted subscription-based access, I have taken money from taxpayers and made it quite difficult and often expensive for them to gain access to the research product. Of course the ethical dilemma is even more profound in many other fields of study where journals are not only restricted access, but often run by for-profit corporations that privatize profits from this publicly-supported research process. Nonetheless, I feel we have an obligation to acknowledge the support we receive for our intellectual mission by making its products as cheaply and easily available as possible.

Second, walling off our research from easy open access on the web removes the academic voice from larger public debates.<sup>2</sup> Granted, for most of us in the academy, our current publishing system does little to hinder our access to the products of colleagues' research. Just with respect to journal articles, either

---

influential, including some of my own previous writings, see my post at [Russian History Blog](#). This article draws heavily from that post.

2 I wrote about this particular issue in an earlier edition of *NewsNet*.

most universities subscribe to the major journals in one's field, or they have access to these materials via a well-established system of interlibrary loan. (We should not, however, ignore the imposition of inequalities of access to academic resources that our current system creates, especially with respect to access to expensive research databases like those marketed by Eastview and others.) Most of these materials, though, are essentially invisible to the broader reading public. Anything on the internet that exists behind a pay wall or even behind any remotely onerous registration system almost effectively ceases to exist. Leaving our materials exclusively in such repositories is to remove ourselves from discussions among a broader public.

Third, the nature of publishing is changing, and we should be proactive rather than reactive in shaping the nature of that change. Maintaining the academic publishing status quo may prove not only undesirable but also impossible. The digital revolution has dramatically reshaped the publishing world. Combined with the reduction of public funding for higher education and academic research, our publishing enterprise will likely be unable to avoid significant change. As my former colleague Dan Cohen, previously director of RRCHNM and now director of the recently-launched Digital Public Library of America, has put it [in one of his many writings](#) on the subject:

...it's a collective failure by historians who believe—contrary to the lessons of our own research—that today will be like yesterday, and tomorrow like today. Article-centric academic journals, a relatively recent development in the history of publishing, apparently have existed, and will exist, forever, in largely the same form and with largely the same business model.

Major change is inevitable, argue Cohen and many others like him who have spent years thinking seriously about the intersections of digital technology and historical/humanities scholarship. If so, shouldn't scholars try to shape the change rather than merely react to that which is imposed upon us.

So, what is to be done? A commitment to open access need not entail a wholesale replacement of our current publication system. However, we should seek opportunities to make our research available whenever and wherever we can. Certainly as a start, we as scholars should request permission from journals to post a copy of all our published articles to an online repository, whether that be our own website or one of the repositories that many university libraries have created for their faculty. (And here, I will admit that I have been lax at going back and seeking permission to do this with previously published articles.) For those who are

particularly devoted to the principles of open access, we could consider only publishing in journals that allow such open online co-publication of articles—a practice that is not uncommon among journals.

However, this may not be enough. While I respect the objections raised by journal publishers with respect to the economic difficulties created by open access, I suggest that we also look at the very foundation of this conversation—something that has been happening in the digital humanities. That is, the question has been posed in terms of the impact of open access on journals *as they are currently published*. Joshua Sanborn has urged us [“to make sure that we don't destroy the funding models of our journals before we have a secure path towards ensuring their viability over the long run.”](#) RRCHNM has been quite active in doing precisely that—experimenting with new ways of conceptualizing the journal, article, peer review, editing, etc. I can't even begin to rehearse all of the interesting discussions and approaches taken, but I urge you to take a look at their [Press Forward](#) project, [Digital Humanities Now](#), the [Journal of Digital Humanities](#), [American History Now](#), etc., to see some of RRCHNM's most recent models of scholarship in the open access realm.

These models, from fields much larger and more digitally-inclined than our own, presume that significant amount of serious scholarly material on the open-access web is already available. I do not believe this is currently the case for us, but it certainly could be. This is something I have thought a lot about but only taken the most timid of steps with the launch of *Russian History Blog*. (The blog was never intended, it should be emphasized, as an attempt to replace the journal. Rather the hope was to make something of our scholarship available on the open access web and to encourage some experimentation with different modes of disseminating our research.) *Russian History Blog* was far from the first attempt at academic blogging in Russian history. I would certainly love to see even more colleagues get involved in blogging whether individually or in group formats like this one. However, these are still but timid steps and hopefully someone in our field will go further following the example perhaps of the Press Forward project or coming up with some other way to make quality scholarship available in an open-access forum.

*Steven A. Barnes is associate professor of Russian history and director of the Center for Eurasian Studies at George Mason University.*





## Class-sourcing Slavic and Eurasian Studies Teaching Students, Serving the Public and Staying Relevant Gleb Tsipursky, The Ohio State University

We search constantly for ways to teach students better, to serve our discipline, profession, and the broader public more fully, and to stay relevant in this digital era. I would like to propose one strategy that has the potential to advance our collective capacity on all of these fronts: a new method of digital humanities-informed teaching and learning that I term class-sourcing. This concept adapts the term crowdsourcing, meaning the outsourcing of tasks to a wide group of volunteers, for instance the organization of information best exemplified by Wikipedia. A related but distinct process, class-sourcing consists of two elements, namely having students and faculty create online digital artifacts that organize knowledge and subsequently publicizing and conglomerating these creations for the benefit of a widely diverse audience.

First, class-sourcing involves having faculty give class assignments where students make publicly-accessible online digital artifacts, such as wikis, websites, blogs, videos, podcasts, visual images, and others. These projects aim to report on class topics, for instance within Slavic and Eurasian studies, to a broad audience in a visually appealing fashion. This component of class-sourcing advances our ability to teach students about Eurasia and eastern Europe while conveying the skills of a liberal art education. Similar to a paper, students conduct independent research on a specific topic they chose, analyze the information they find, and organize and communicate this data, which strengthens research, writing, and critical thinking, as well as understanding of Slavic and Eurasian studies.

However, online digital artifacts provide additional benefits, as they advance our ability to teach students skills relevant to professional and civic life in the modern digital age. They develop digital literacy, such as locating, evaluating, and integrating images, videos, and links; technical abilities related to building the back end of a website, wiki, or blog, and to making and editing videos, podcasts, and visual images; and more broadly, the capacity to organize and communicate information in an online format. These assignments, therefore, position students well for the job market, which values digital abilities highly; moreover, since online digital artifacts have long-lasting lives far beyond the term of a class, students can use these in their employment portfolios. The skills gained also apply well to civic life, assisting students in advanc-

ing social causes and engaging in community activism through digital means, and also in pursuing individual hobbies and interests. Furthermore, through such projects we can advance student understanding of responsible and ethical digital citizenship. All of these contribute to students appreciating the benefit of their education in liberal arts subjects, and in Slavic and Eurasian studies in particular.

A related advantage of such digital artifacts comes from their capacity to improve student engagement and performance. A perennial faculty concern, motivating students to pay attention to class content has grown increasingly difficult in recent years with the growing distractions owing to technological innovations such as smartphones and laptops and the temptation of immediate access to the Internet. Rather than simply fighting a rearguard battle against these inexorable trends, why not use them to our advantage through employing digital technology in our teaching? Having students make digital artifacts promotes student engagement, due to the novel nature of this assignment and the deployment and development of digital skills, which creates a constructive classroom dynamic and enhances comprehension of course content. Additionally, the public nature of the online projects results in improved academic performance, since students know that their creations are accessible to anyone with a connection to the Internet, that these artifacts will be used in teaching subsequent classes, and that they may reference this assignment in their employment portfolio.

My proposals emerge from my own experience asking those in my classes to create websites on Soviet and imperial Russian history based on original primary source research. These students produced websites on a variety of topics, such as “The KGB,” “Bloody Sunday, 1905,” and “Thaw-Era Films.” From the very beginning, students expressed enthusiasm over these assignments. They have impressed me with their commitment and the quality of their final product generally exceeded my expectations. Furthermore, these digital artifacts have a clear impact, as you can see by typing “Soviet History KGB” into Google, where my students’ website currently comes up fourth in the search rankings. For in-depth directions on undertaking this activity and a list of student-created websites, see [my personal webpage](#).

After my students created the websites, I checked them for accuracy and corrected mistakes, as I would do for any assignment. Then, I assigned the best examples among these websites as supplementary readings to students in my subsequent classes.

Drawing on my experience, I contend that this assignment produces content well suited to teaching others, the second essential component of class-sourcing. In fact, these and similar class-sourced artifacts have the potential to satisfy the demand among faculty and high school teachers for free class materials, especially ones available on the internet where our students spend so much of their time. Since faculty guide their creation, these products can be specifically tailored to the needs of teaching and learning, in comparison to crowdsourced sources such as Wikipedia. Moreover, since faculty check and correct their students' assignments, in other words undertake a review of these digital products prior to their public unveiling, class-sourced artifacts deserve more trust than crowdsourced data that lacks such evaluation. Furthermore, there can be many digital artifacts dealing with the same topic: by presenting a diversity of perspectives and interpretations, class-sourced materials can offer a fuller and richer portrayal than the cohesive and unified narrative style of either Wikipedia or textbooks. Faculty members can select and assign those artifacts that best fit their pedagogical needs and preferences, supplementing textbooks or replacing them altogether.

Once enough have been created and compiled together in an organized fashion, class-sourced projects on Eurasia and eastern Europe would serve as a valuable informational resource for the public. Such efforts to organize these artifacts can start at the level of individual faculty, as I did with my personal webpage, and grow to span departments, universities, and eventually the national and even international level. Faculty can collaborate with librarians, IT specialists, and other internal stakeholders to promote class-sourcing within their institutions. They can partner with schools, museums, governments, businesses, non-profit organizations, and other institutions to create digital artifacts that serve the particular needs of such external stakeholders. Class-sourced digital artifacts deserve to join a host of recent digital innovations within Slavic and Eurasian studies, well described in the June 2010, 2011, and 2012 issues of *NewsNet*. In this age of digital technology and tightening budgets, class-sourcing would help ensure that Slavic and Eurasian studies stays relevant and demonstrates actively the value of academic contributions to society as a whole.

## Candidates for ASEES 2013 Board of Directors Election

The candidates for [Vice President/President-Elect](#) are [Catriona Kelly](#) and [Stephanie Sandler](#).

The candidates for the [Board of Directors Members-at-Large](#) are [Eliot Borenstein](#), [Yoshiko Herrera](#), [Valerie Sperling](#) and [Christine Worobec](#).

The candidates for the [Graduate Student Representative](#) are [Melissa Hibbard](#) and [Colleen Lucey](#).

All current members have the right to vote in the election and should have received an online ballot. If you would prefer a print copy of the ballot, or if you are unsure about your membership status, please contact Jonathon Swiderski, membership coordinator, at [asees@pitt.edu](mailto:asees@pitt.edu) or call +1 (412) 648-9911.

## POLICY AND CONFLICT IN THE POST-SOVIET SPACE

Understand the complex history of today's numerous political, ethnic, and religious conflicts in the post-Soviet space. Gain a well-rounded view of the competing local and foreign interests at work within them and discuss possible resolutions with local students, teachers, and experts. For students of history, international relations, domestic governance, or policy making, this course will be a fascinating and resume-building experience.



ALSO FROM  
**SRAS**  
School of Russian and Asian Studies

### STUDY ABROAD

- International Relations
- Central Asia
- Ecology
- Studio Art; Museum Studies
- Russian Far East

### TEACH, LEARN

- Program Advocacy
- Online Testing
- Original Newsletter
- Student Publishing
- Research Materials

### TRAVEL

- Faculty-Led Travel
- Visas
- Housing
- Archive Support

1-650-206-2209 | [study@sras.org](mailto:study@sras.org) | [SRAS.org/PCON](http://SRAS.org/PCON)



# Library and Internet News

Based in Chicago, the [Center for Research Libraries](#), an international consortium of university, college, and independent research libraries, was founded in 1949, in order to support advanced research and teaching in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences through preserving and making available primary source material. More than 260 libraries in the U.S., Canada, and Hong Kong are members of CRL, providing their users with unlimited access to a collection of approximately five million items, including the largest circulating collection of newspapers in North America, more than 38,000 foreign journals and 800,000 foreign dissertations rarely held in U.S. libraries, as well as major microfilm collections.

CRL's **Area Microform Projects** include CAMP (Africana), LAMP (Latin America), MEMP (Middle East), SAMP (South Asia), SEAM (Southeast Asia), and **SEEMP (Slavic and East European Microform Project)**. SEEMP was formed in 1995, with the following mission:

The purpose of the Slavic and East European Microform Project (SEEMP) is to acquire microform copies of unique, scarce, rare and/or unusually bulky and expensive research material pertaining to the field of Slavic and East European studies; and to preserve deteriorating printed and manuscript materials of scholarly value. Geographically its areas of interest include the countries of Eastern and Central Europe, the Baltic States, Mongolia, and the countries that were formerly part of the Soviet Union.

SEEMP now has 30 institutional members and since 1996, its annual meeting is held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES).

In the last 16 years, funded primarily through its membership dues and additional funds from CRL, SEEMP has been able to acquire and preserve a significant number of projects and titles, including:

## Cossack Newspapers During World War II

A collection of newspapers published during World War II for Russian Cossack soldiers that fought on the side of Nazi Germany. The newspapers document the Cossack involvement in the war and with a unique perspective on Germany military victories, Nazi propaganda, and anti-Bolshevik sentiment.

## John Luczkiw Collection of Publications of Ukrainian Displaced Persons and Political Refugees, 1945-1954

Assembled by the late John Luczkiw, a University of Toronto alumnus and a former World War II refugee, this comprehensive collection of books, periodicals, and pamphlets produced and published in the Displaced Persons camps in Austria and Germany during the post-World War II period, provides a record of the life and times of an emigrant community struggling to maintain its cultural heritage under very difficult conditions. 86 reels + an online finding aid.

## Newspapers of the October Revolution

A microfilm copy produced by the Library of Congress from its collection of individual issues, it includes 103 titles from about 20 cities and towns in 1917-1918, with primary emphasis on St. Petersburg papers and secondary emphasis on Moscow.

## Russian Right-Wing Extremist Press

From the collections of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of California Berkeley, and representing monarchist, nationalist, fascist, and conservative Orthodox sentiments from all the regions of Russia, as well as Ukraine and the Baltics, these 260+ newspaper titles represent right-wing extremist views in contemporary Russian politics and society from 1990-2005. 51 microfilm reels + online indexes

## Soviet Central Asian Pamphlets

A copy of the 34 reel collection filmed from the holdings of the Slavic and Baltic Division of the New York Public Library. The Chuvash, Kumyk, and Yakut pamphlets were published in the former Soviet Union from 1925-1940.

In addition, SEEMP has filmed holdings of many other newspapers, including:

- Illustrowany kuryer codzienny (Krakow)
- Kurjer Warszawski (Warszawa)
- Oslobodenje (Sarajevo)
- Srpsko oslobodenje (Beograd)
- Zapoliar'e (Vorkuta)





Current projects include:

- Filming the 1971-1988 issues of the rarely held Zagreb edition of the official Yugoslav daily Party newspaper *Borba*
- Filming and/or digitizing 400-500 periodical titles published by the Ukrainian émigré press, from the holdings of Harvard, University of Toronto and the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences in New York City (in cooperation with Columbia University)

For a more complete picture of SEEMP, its activities and a list of its completed projects, visit its web site at: <http://www.crl.edu/area-studies/seemp>. Questions about SEEMP can be directed to the chairman of the SEEMP Executive Committee, June Pachuta Farris at [jpf3@uchicago.edu](mailto:jpf3@uchicago.edu).

## ASEEES CALL FOR ARTICLES

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

We encourage members, including graduate students, who are interested in proposing a NewsNet article to contact the Communications Coordinator, Mary Arnstein ([newsnet@pitt.edu](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu)) or the Communications advisory committee's chairperson, Sibelan Forrester ([sforres1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:sforres1@swarthmore.edu))



**K**ritika  
критика

Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History

[www1.georgetown.edu/departments/kritika](http://www1.georgetown.edu/departments/kritika)

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

Vol. 14, no. 2 (Spring 2013)

*Forum: Late Soviet Regional Leadership*

SAULIUS GRIBKAUSKAS

The Role of the Second Party Secretary in the "Election" of the First

WILLIAM A. CLARK

Khrushchev's "Second" First Secretaries

YORAM GORLIZKI

Scandal in Riazan

MARC ELIE

Coping with the "Black Dragon"

*History and Historians*

SHEILA FITZPATRICK

T. H. Rigby Remembered

*Review Essays*

ANNA FISHZON

When Music Makes History

RANDALL A. POOLE

Gustav Shpet

JOHN-PAUL HIMKA

Encumbered Memory

KEVIN M. F. PLATT

Writing Avant-Garde and Stalinist Culture

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



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



## Jane Hedges to Retire from *Slavic Review* Diane Koenker, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

After seventeen years as the *Slavic Review's* only full-time staff member, Managing Editor Jane T. Hedges will retire on August 15, 2013. Jane joined the SR staff in August 1996, when the journal moved to the University of Illinois from its previous home at the University of Pennsylvania. She brought with her extensive experience as an academic editor, most recently at Yale University Press, but she quickly assumed new responsibilities: negotiating contracts, dealing with advertisers, managing an office with four other part-time employees (including the editors Diane Koenker [1996-2006] and Mark Steinberg [2006-2013]). The transition from Penn had produced some serious delays in the appearance of the journal. Having unpacked the ancient computers and paper files shipped from Philadelphia, Jane and the editor considered whether to adopt the common practice of producing double-issues to get back on schedule, or to publish at an accelerated pace in order to return to a regular quarterly pattern. Catching up issue by issue would require Jane to edit and publish six issues a year for the next two years. "Let's do it," she said. Three years into her term, producing "only" four issues a year gave Jane more scope to take on new tasks, liaising with the Association office in Cambridge and later Pittsburgh, building up advertising revenue, managing the budget in a way that kept the costs to the Association to a minimum, and handling the web page. Most recently, the agreement to publish electronically with JSTOR's Current Scholarship Program required her to master yet another skill set, coding the journal's copy for digital publication.

For readers of *Slavic Review*, Jane's contributions may not be readily visible, but the consistency and the quality of the published articles and book reviews are the result of her meticulous work: copy editing, proofreading, and proofreading again. Contributors know her work much more intimately. As an editor, Jane's philosophy is to collaborate with authors to help them communicate *in their own words* as clearly as possible. Aside from the occasional disagreements over the application of house style, of which Jane was an ardent defender, she never dictated to authors, and always gently and deftly suggested ways in which they could make their arguments most effectively. The many hundred contributors and book reviewers who published in the journal over the last seventeen years will have their own memories of their collaboration with Jane, of her professionalism, empathy, and dedication to the cause of Slavic studies.

In the *Slavic Review* office, Jane also worked with generations of graduate students who served as editorial assistants. She taught them the intricacies of the FileMaker Pro data base that held the journal's secrets, a data base custom designed for the journal by Chris Cosner,

an early assistant who has gone on to a career of his own in academic publishing. Jane also taught them the basics of academic editing and, by example, the principles of academic etiquette. They will remember her fresh-baked scones for their morning staff meetings, and how she listened to their dissertation woes and triumphs with empathy and compassion, the same way that she served the journal's contributors, composers, printers, auditors, and friends.



### Mark Steinberg to Step Down as *Slavic Review* Editor; Harriet Murav to Take Over

As his spouse Jane Hedges steps down as the Managing Editor, Mark Steinberg will also step down as the Editor of *Slavic Review* as of August 15, 2013. Mark took over the editorship from Diane Koenker in 2006 and has done a remarkable job in putting together issues that displayed the breadth and significance of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian studies.

We are delighted to announce that Harriet Murav agreed to serve as the Editor from August 16, 2013 to August 15, 2016. Harriet is Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; she specializes in 19th century Russian literature and culture, Jewish studies, and women's studies. You can see her bio [here](#).

ASEEES is pleased to be able to keep the editorial office of *Slavic Review* at Illinois and to have such a smooth transition to a new editor. We thank Mark and Jane for their tremendous work and dedication for so many years, and we thank Harriet for her willingness to step into this challenging position. We are also grateful to the U of Illinois administration and the [Russian, East European and Eurasian Center](#) for their continued support of *Slavic Review*.



# Personages

**William C. Brumfield** is the recipient of a 2013 Achievement Award in Russian-American Relations. Arts and Education. The award was given by the Moscow Committee of Chicago Sister Cities on the occasion of their annual Russia Day Gala, June 13, 2013.



From left to right, His Excellency Sergey Kislyak, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the United States, William Brumfield and Prince Piotr Galitzine, co-chair of the Committee and CEO of TMK-IPSCO.

**Heather Coleman** is the new Director of the Research Program on Religion and Culture of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literature at UW-Madison hosted “Literature, Society, and Religion in Modern Russia: Symposium in Honor of **Judith Deutsch Kornblatt**” on April 20, 2013. Invited speakers included UW-Madison Ph.D. alumni, but colleagues and friends of Judith attended both the symposium and a reception in honor of her retirement on April 20.

**Daniel M. Pennell**, bibliographer for Russian, East European, Germanic and Global Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, received the 2013 Association of College and Research Libraries Western European Studies Section De Gruyter European Librarianship Study Grant.

The primary criterion for awarding the grant is the significance and utility of the proposed project as a contribution to the study of the acquisition, organization or use of library resources from or relating to Europe.

“Daniel Pennell’s guide to Romanian studies will be the most comprehensive bibliography of Romanian studies,” said award committee Chair Gail Hueting of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. “Unlike currently available titles, it will be devoted entirely

to Romania and will include Romanian-language titles, not just English-language ones. Like other Eastern European countries, Romania and its publishing industry have changed completely since the fall of Communism. Pennell has done a great deal of groundwork and is well qualified to complete his research in Romanian libraries.” Pennell’s research will result in an annotated reference guide, “Romanian Studies: An Annotated Guide to Reference Sources.”

**Louis Menashe**’s book *Moscow Believes in Tears: Russians and Their Movies* (New Academia), was named an “Outstanding Academic Title, 2011” by “Choice,” the journal of the American Library Association.

**Douglas Smith**’s latest book, *Former People: The Last Days of the Russian Aristocracy*, won the inaugural Pushkin House Russian Book Prize sponsored by London’s Pushkin House and Waterstones, the English bookseller. The award was presented at this year’s Hay Literary Festival. He is now writing a biography of Grigory Rasputin to be published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2016.

The American Academy of Berlin’s sixteenth class of fellows is comprised of twenty-six outstanding scholars, writers, artists, policy experts, and one composer, who have been awarded a Berlin Prize by an independent selection committee. The Berlin Prize affords Academy fellows time to pursue independent study and engage with their German counterparts and with Berlin’s vibrant academic, cultural, and political life. Among the 2013-2014 Class of Fellows are ASEES members:

**Ronald Suny**, Charles Tilly Collegiate Professor of Social and Political History, University of Michigan, and Emeritus Professor of Political Science and History, at the University of Chicago for “Why Genocide? The Fate of the Armenians and Assyrians at the End of the Ottoman Empire.”

**Tara Zahra**, Professor of History at the University of Chicago for “Exodus from the East: Emigration and the Making of the ‘Free World’.”

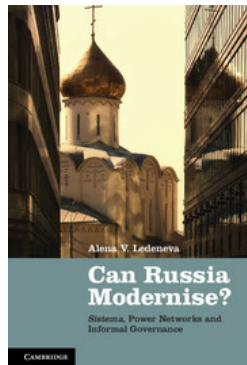
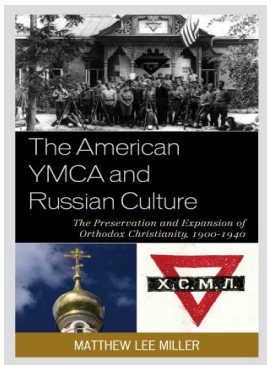
For more information please visit this [website](#). You can also download the [full list](#) of Fellows and their projects and the press release as pdf. The American Academy is currently accepting applications for the academic year 2014-2015. The deadline is September 2nd, 2013. Further information on the Berlin Prize and how to submit an application is available [online](#).





# Publications

Matthew Lee Miller recently published *The American YMCA and Russian Culture: The Preservation and Expansion of Orthodox Christianity, 1900-1940*. (Lexington Books, 2013). This book explores the impact of the philanthropic activities of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) on Russians during the late imperial and early Soviet periods. The YMCA, the largest American service organization, initiated its intense engagement with Russians in 1900. During the First World War, the Association organized assistance for prisoners of war, and after the emigration of many Russians to central and western Europe, founded the YMCA Press and supported the St. Sergius Theological Academy in Paris. The author demonstrates that the YMCA contributed to the preservation, expansion, and enrichment of Eastern Orthodox Christianity. It therefore played a major role in preserving an important part of pre-revolutionary Russian culture in Western Europe during the Soviet period until the repatriation of this culture following the collapse of the USSR. The research is based on the YMCA's archival records, Moscow and Paris archives, and memoirs of both Russian and American participants. This is the first comprehensive discussion of an extraordinary period of interaction between American and Russian cultures. It also presents a rare example of fruitful interconfessional cooperation by Protestant and Orthodox Christians.



Alena V. Ledeneva published *Can Russia Modernise? Sistema, Power Networks and Informal Governance* (Cambridge University Press, 2013). In this original, bottom-up account of the evolution of contemporary Russia, Ledeneva seeks to reveal and decode how informal power operates. Concentrating on Putin's system of governance – referred to as *sistema* – she identifies four key types of networks: his inner circle, useful friends, core contacts and more diffuse ties and connections. These networks serve *sistema* but also serve themselves.

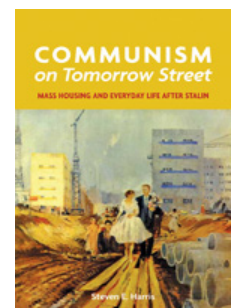
Reliance on networks enables leaders to mobilize and to control, yet they also lock politicians, bureaucrats and businesses into informal deals, mediated interests and personalized loyalty. This is the “modernisation trap of informality”: one cannot use the potential of informal

networks without triggering their negative long-term consequences for institutional development. Ledeneva's perspective on informal power is based on in-depth interviews with *sistema* insiders and enhanced by evidence of its workings brought to light in court cases, enabling her to draw broad conclusions about the prospects for Russia's political institutions.

*Civic and Uncivic Values in Macedonia: Value Transformation, Education, and Media*, edited by Sabrina P. Ramet, Ola Listhaug, and Albert Simkus (all professors at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim, Norway) was published by Palgrave in late January 2013. The book includes chapters on civic virtues, democratic values among the residents of Macedonia, history textbooks, the media, political parties, ethnic minorities, and fiction.

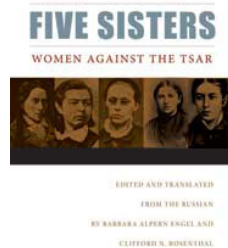
Steven E. Harris' work, *Communism on Tomorrow Street: Mass Housing and Everyday Life after Stalin*, was published by the Woodrow Wilson Center Press and the John Hopkins University Press, 2013. The book examines how, beginning under Khrushchev in 1953, a generation of Soviet citizens moved from the overcrowded communal dwellings of the Stalin era to modern single-family apartments, later dubbed “*khrushchevka*.” Arguing that moving to a separate apartment allowed ordinary urban dwellers to experience Khrushchev's thaw, Harris fundamentally shifts interpretation of the thaw, conventionally understood as an elite phenomenon.

Harris focuses on the many participants eager to benefit from and influence the new way of life embodied by the *khrushchevka*, its furniture, and its associated consumer goods. He examines activities of national and local politicians, planners, enterprise managers, workers, furniture designers and architects, elite organizations (centrally involved in creating cooperative housing), and ordinary urban dwellers. *Communism on Tomorrow Street* also demonstrates the relationship of Soviet mass housing and urban planning to international efforts at resolving the “housing question” that had been studied since the nineteenth century and led to housing developments in Western Europe, the United States, and Latin America as well as the USSR.



Jonathan Larson's book, *Critical Thinking in Slovakia after Socialism* (University of Rochester Press) was published in April. The book interrogates the putative relationship between critical thought and society through an ethnographic study of civic discourse and education in post-1989 Slovakia.

*Five Sisters: Women Against the Tsar*, which Barbara Engel edited and translated with Clifford Rosenthal and which was first published in 1975 has been republished by Northern Illinois University Press, with a new introduction and a greatly expanded and updated bibliography.



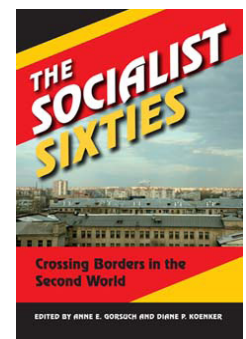
*Samizdat, Tamizdat and Beyond: Transnational Media During and After Socialism*, edited by Friederike Kind-Kovács and Jessie Labov, was published by Berghahn Books in March 2013. In many ways what is identified today as “cultural globalization” in Eastern Europe has its roots in the Cold War phenomena of samizdat (“do-it-yourself” underground publishing) and tamizdat (publishing abroad). This volume offers a new understanding of how information flowed between East and West during the Cold War, as well as the much broader circulation of cultural products instigated and sustained by these practices. By expanding the definitions of samizdat and tamizdat from explicitly political, print publications to include other forms and genres, this volume investigates the wider cultural sphere of alternative and semi-official texts, broadcast media, reproductions of visual art and music, and, in the post-1989 period, new media. The underground circulation of uncensored texts in the Cold War era serves as a useful foundation for comparison when looking at current examples of censorship, independent media and the use of new media in countries like China, Iran, and the former Yugoslavia.

*The Socialist Sixties: Crossing Borders in the Second World*, edited by Anne E. Gorsuch and Diane P. Koenker, was released by Indiana University Press in May 2013.

The 1960s have reemerged in scholarly and popular culture as a protean moment of cultural revolution and social transformation. In this volume socialist societies in the Second World (the Soviet Union, East European countries, and Cuba) are the springboard for exploring global interconnections and cultural cross-pollination between communist and capitalist countries and within the communist world. Themes explored include flows of

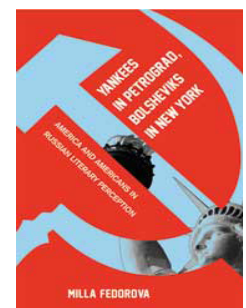
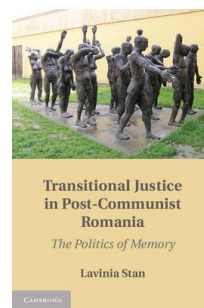
people and media; the emergence of a flourishing youth culture; sharing of songs, films, and personal experiences through tourism and international festivals; and the rise of a socialist consumer culture and an esthetics of modernity. Challenging traditional categories of analysis and periodization, this book brings the sixties problematic to Soviet studies while introducing the socialist experience into scholarly conversations traditionally dominated by First World perspectives.

Susan E. Reid, Lewis H. Siegelbaum and João Filipe Gonçalves contributed to the discussion of “Socialist Modern” while Polly Jones, Rossen Djagalov, Christian Noack, Nicholas Rutter, and Rachel Applebaum authored sections on literature, music and tourism. Popular Culture and Media was handled by Lilya Kaganovsky, Sabina Mihelj, Robert Edelman, Anne Luke and Stephen Lovell.



Lavinia Stan has published *Transitional Justice in Post-communist Romania: The Politics of Memory* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), which discusses the way in which Romanian state and non-state actors have addressed and redressed the legacy of the communist past. The preface is written by Mark Kramer (Harvard University). Additionally, Ms. Stan and Nadya Nedelsky have co-edited the *Encyclopedia of Transitional Justice* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), which includes almost 300 entries on country studies, profile of institutions and organizations, transitional justice debates, methods, and concepts. Many of the entries relate to former and current communist countries.

Northern Illinois University Press recently published *Yankees in Petrograd, Bolsheviks in New York: America and Americans in Russian Literary Perception*, by Milla Fedorova.





# 2013 ACLS FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS



We are very pleased to announce the 2013 cohort of ACLS fellowship recipients in our field.

## ACLS Fellowships

Michael Gorham, Associate Professor, Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, U of Florida  
Lenore A. Grenoble, Professor, Slavic Languages & Literatures; Linguistics, U of Chicago  
Vladimir Kulic, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, Florida Atlantic U  
Georg B. Michels, Professor, History, UC, Riverside

## ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

Robert O. Beahrs, Doctoral Candidate, Music, UC, Berkeley  
Scott Grant Feinstein, Doctoral Candidate, Political Science, U of Florida  
Kristy Lynn Ironside, Doctoral Candidate, History, U of Chicago

## Frederick Burkhardt Residential Fellowship

Edyta Bojanowska, Assoc. Professor, Germanic, Russian, & East European Languages & Literatures, Rutgers U

## ACLS New Faculty Fellows Program

Emma Lieber, Germanic, Russian, and East European Languages and Literatures, Rutgers U  
Rad S. Borislavov, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Columbia U

## ACLS Collaborative Research Fellowship

Jeffrey J. Rossman, Associate Professor, History, U of Virginia and Lynne A. Viola, Professor, U of Toronto.

For a complete listing of all [ACLS fellowship recipients](#). The [application materials](#) for the upcoming 2013-14 competitions will be available in early August.

# RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Title VIII Fellowships for Scholars & Graduate Students | [www.acStudyAbroad.org/research](http://www.acStudyAbroad.org/research)

## Title VIII Funding

Full fellowships with the option of advanced language training for research trips to:

- the Caucasus
- Central Asia
- Eastern Europe
- Southeast Europe

## Apply Today

Applications and full program details are available online at:

[acStudyAbroad.org/research](http://acStudyAbroad.org/research)

*Application Deadline: October 1*

AMERICAN COUNCILS  
ACTR ▲ ACCELS



# 2013 ACTR NATIONAL POST-SECONDARY RUSSIAN ESSAY CONTEST

Congratulations to the winners of the 14th Annual ACTR National Post-Secondary Russian Essay Contest. In this year's contest, there were 946 essays submitted from 55 universities, colleges, and institutions across the nation. Each essay was ranked by three judges in Russia, and often the results were simply too close to call.

More complete results, including those earning Honorable mention, and excerpts from some essays are published in the ACTR Letter.

NON-HERITAGE LEARNERS	Jonathan Mahoney, BYU	3rd Place (Level 1)
1st Place (Level 1)	Moe Nakayama, U of Chicago	Inna Pinkhasova, UCLA
Jovan Damjanovic, Amherst College		Elena Volokho, U of Maryland
Naoki Tokoro, Swarthmore College	3rd Place (Level 3)	
	Garrett McClintock, BYU	1st Place (Level 2)
2nd Place (Level 1)	Emily Ziffer, Tufts U	Ecaterina Toutok, U of Rochester
Grace Mitchell, U of Chicago		Serhiy Plaksin, Temple U
Christian Millian, Harvard U	1st Place (Level 4)	
Michelle Schulte, Kenyon College	Ed Hicks, Harvard U	2nd Place (Level 2)
	Aliya Candeloro, U of Maryland	Ivan Ivashchenko, USMA
1st Place (Level 2)		Anna Tropnikova, U of Chicago
Nathan Evans, Defense Lang. Inst.	2nd Place (Level 4)	Timur Brodskiy, U of Mississippi
Alexander Turpin, U of Rochester	Eleanor Nurmi, U of Chicago	
	Claire Atwood, Harvard U	3rd Place (Level 2)
2nd Place (Level 2)	Daniele Leonetti, UIUC	Ruslan Lobov, Defense Lang. Institute
Dakota Whistler, U of Montana, Missoula	3rd Place (Level 4)	Alexander Savchuk, U of Maryland
Mariana Irby, Bryn Mawr College	Adam Gardner, BYU	
Sara Crawford, Sewanee-The U of the South	Kurt Van Wagenen, BYU	1st Place (Level 3)
		Georgy Shatskiy, UCLA
		Arpi Grigoryan, U of Mississippi
	HERITAGE LEARNERS	
3rd Place (Level 2)	1st Place (Level 1)	2nd Place (Level 3)
Linda Kleinfeld, Sewanee-The U of the South	Helen Sdvizhkov, U of Chicago	Katerina Solomanjuk, Lewis & Clark College
Jillian Wuorenma, Mt. Holyoke College	Maria Stoianova, Georgetown U	Vasilii Nam, College of Charleston
	2nd Place (Level 1)	Tatyana Avilova, Harvard U
1st Place (Level 3)	Tatiana Denisova, Pomona College	
David Smythe, Tufts U	Margret Kvach, Portland State U	3rd Place (Level 3)
	Anna Volski, Rutgers U	Tatiana Galushkina, UCLA
2nd Place (Level 3)		Kenan Seyidov, UPenn
Jordan Callister, BYU		

## EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY AT ST. PETERSBURG

### "TAIF" Professorship in the History of the Islamic Peoples of Russia

The History Department of the European University at St. Petersburg (EUSP) invites applications for a three-year professorship in the History of the Islamic Peoples of Russia (nineteenth or twentieth century). Applications are welcome for appointment at all ranks. The appointment may be renewable and carry the possibility of tenure.

Responsibilities include two graduate-level courses, dissertation advising, participation in departmental seminars, engagement in shaping the department's future growth, and the organization of events to set the groundwork for the creation of an interdisciplinary research center in Islamic studies. We particularly welcome applications from candidates able to situate the history of Islamic peoples of Russia and the Soviet Union in an interdisciplinary or comparative context. The candidate should have a Ph.D. or its equivalent, teaching experience, and competency in relevant languages in addition English and Russian. Publication in peer-reviewed journals is also highly desirable.

Application materials should include a cover letter, a CV, writing samples, a three-year plan of research and teaching activity, relevant syllabi, and contact information for three references. Salary is competitive. Review of applications will begin on April 25, 2013 and will continue until an appointment is made.

Please submit materials by e-mail to [history@eu.spb.ru](mailto:history@eu.spb.ru) or by FedEx or other express courier to the History Department, European University at St. Petersburg, 3, Gagarinskaia Street, 191187 St. Petersburg, Russia.

For inquiries about the position or the European University, please contact Alexandra Bekasova ([abekasova@eu.spb.ru](mailto:abekasova@eu.spb.ru)) or Bill Rosenberg ([wgr@umich.edu](mailto:wgr@umich.edu)). The European University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# ASEEES 45th Annual Convention

## November 21-24, 2013

### Boston Marriott Copley Place • Boston, MA

#### Presidential Plenary

“Thinking Revolution: The Wider Work of 1917, 1989, and the Colored Revolutions”

Thursday, November 21, 6:00 p.m. – Grand Ballroom Salon G

**Chair:** Diane Koenker, President, ASEEES; U of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Speakers:** Sheila Fitzpatrick, U of Chicago & U of Sydney (Australia)

Padraic Kenney, Indiana U

Henry Hale, George Washington U

#### Opening Reception & Tour of the Exhibit Hall

Thursday, November 21, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Gloucester

#### ASEEES Annual Meeting of Members

Saturday, November 23, 5:00 p.m. – Grand Ballroom Salon F

#### ASEEES Awards Buffet

Saturday, November 23, 5:30 p.m. – Grand Ballroom Salon E (by ticket only)

#### ASEEES Awards Presentation and President’s Address

Saturday, November 23, 6:30 p.m. – Grand Ballroom Salon F (open to all)

[Register for the Convention | Purchase Awards Buffet Ticket](#)

[Make Your Hotel Reservation Now](#)

[View the Convention Program](#)

[Sponsor | Exhibit | Advertise](#)



Join the [ASEEES 2013 Facebook group](#)



[#aseees13](#)

Convention Program Committee Chairs: Valerie Sperling, Clark U, and Kristen Ghodsee, Bowdoin College

For any assistance regarding the convention, please contact Wendy Walker, convention coordinator, at [wwalker@pitt.edu](mailto:wwalker@pitt.edu)

[www.aseees.org/convention.html](http://www.aseees.org/convention.html)



## In Memoriam

**Daniel Balmuth** (b. June 20, 1929) of Saratoga Springs, New York, died on March 8, 2013 following a long illness. Loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, accomplished scholar, he will be forever missed by his family, friends, and those in the Saratoga, Skidmore College, and Temple Sinai communities whose lives he touched.

The second of four children born to Mortimer and Betty (Levin) Balmuth, he was born and raised in the Borough Park neighborhood of Brooklyn. After graduating from City College of New York in 1950, Balmuth began his post-graduate studies at Cornell University, receiving his Ph.D. in Russian history in 1959. Balmuth began teaching at State University Teachers College at Plattsburgh in 1956 but moved to Saratoga Springs in 1958, where he served as a professor of history at Skidmore College, teaching there until his retirement in 1998.

Balmuth was known for his deep reverence for history as a discipline, his extraordinary memory, as well as his detailed and painstaking scholarship. He won several awards at Cornell, including the Andrew White fellowship. In 1962, he was awarded a Fulbright scholarship, which enabled him and his family to live in Helsinki, Finland for a year while he conducted research. He also authored two academic books on his special subjects of interest, "Censorship in Russia, 1865-1905" and "The Russian Bulletin, 1863-1917."

In addition to the countless Skidmore students who benefited from his teaching, many in the Saratoga community gained historical knowledge and perspective through his informal instruction and discussion. His commitment to teaching and scholarship, however, was not limited just to academia; it pervaded his faith. He was among a handful of local families who pioneered the establishment of Temple Sinai in Saratoga Springs in 1965 and who kept the temple afloat in its early years.

*Contributed by Theodore H. Friedgut, Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

**Clayton Leroy Dawson**, 91, passed away at home in Atlantic Beach, Florida surrounded by his immediate family on February 19, 2013. Born in Seattle, WA on March 25, 1921, his life centered on teaching, writing, reading and his love of movies, gardening, and music. During World War II he enlisted in the Army Signal Corps and served from 1942-1945 in a unit stationed in Alaska. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University after graduating from the University of Washington.

Dawson was a specialist in Slavic Languages and Literature, who studied with the well-known linguist Roman Jakobson while at Harvard. After receiving his doctoral degree there, he first taught at Syracuse University

where he became chairman of the Slavic Language Department and associate director of the Eastern European Language Program. He also served as the language advisor to the U.S. Air Force and quality control officer of all languages taught in intensive language training courses for military personnel.

The majority of his career was spent at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was Head of the Slavic Languages and Literature Department (1966-1976) and a professor of Russian until his retirement in 1988. Dawson wrote several books on Russian language instruction including a widely-used audio-lingual textbook. His best known contribution was as senior author of the textbooks *Modern Russian I* and *Modern Russian II*. As an Emeritus Professor, his work centered on the writing of a dictionary of Old Church Slavic.

At the University of Illinois, Dawson was a founding member of the local Film Society. He possessed an intimate knowledge of all things movie-related, and he was an able pianist who enjoyed playing and collecting the works of Ira Berlin, Rogers & Hammerstein, and other popular composers.

*Contributed by Michael Finke, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

**Kathryn Wasserman Davis** died peacefully at home on April 23, 2013 at the age of 106 surrounded by her family and devoted caregivers.

Born in Philadelphia on February 25, 1907, Mrs. Davis was educated at The Madeira School in Washington, D.C. She received a B.A. from Wellesley College, an M.A. in international relations from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Geneva in Switzerland. She also held honorary doctorates from Columbia University, Wheaton College and Middlebury College.

In 1934, her doctoral dissertation, *The Soviets in Geneva*, was published and became a best seller in Europe when her controversial prediction that the Soviet Union would join the League of Nations proved both timely and correct. She went on to author numerous articles on foreign affairs and was a frequent and engaging lecturer to educational and civic groups. Although she wrote and lectured throughout the world, Russia and the Soviet Union remained her lifelong passion. In 1996, this passion was memorialized when Harvard's Russian Research Center was renamed in honor of her and her late husband, Ambassador Shelby Cullom Davis.

Mrs. Davis first visited Russia in 1929; During her lifetime, she returned to Russia more than 30 times, deepening her passion for its people, history and culture and developing friendships that included former Soviet



President Mikhail Gorbachev, who was her dinner partner at her 95th birthday party.

A shared interest in world affairs first drew her to her husband. Throughout 60 years of marriage, they traveled extensively throughout Europe and Asia, often pairing his interest in global investment opportunities with her interest in international affairs.

After the death of Ambassador Davis, Mrs. Davis dedicated herself to philanthropy, initially focusing her efforts on education and international affairs and medical research. In particular, she was devoted to Wellesley College where she served as a trustee for 18 years and created the Davis Museum and Cultural Center. In 1998, at the age of 91, she took up kayaking; As a result, she became a significant supporter of environmental organizations including Scenic Hudson, Friends of Acadia, and the Maine Coast Heritage Trust.

Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Mrs. Davis turned her philanthropic mission to a vision for world peace. For her 100th birthday, she created Davis Projects for Peace, which funds 100 student summer projects each year aimed at increasing global understanding. She urged every student she met “to prepare for peace, not war.”

*Excerpt taken from the [Diana Davis Spencer Foundation](#)*

**Joseph Frank**, a professor emeritus of Slavic languages and literatures at Stanford, died February 27, 2013 at his home in Palo Alto at the age of 94.

A world-renowned literary scholar, Frank was the leading expert on famed Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoevsky. His five-volume biography (1976-2002) on Dostoevsky has become known not only as the preeminent chronicle of the novelist’s life, but as one of the most important literary biographies of the modern era.

Frank earned the highest honors in his field, including the Modern Language Association’s James Russell Lowell Prize (1977 and 1986) and the ASEES Distinguished Contributions Award (2008).

Frank began his teaching career at the University of Minnesota, Rutgers and Harvard. In 1966 he accepted a position as a professor of comparative literature at Princeton, where he was named emeritus in 1983. The following year, he became a fellow at the Stanford Humanities Center. Frank remained an active member of the intellectual community for more than two decades. His dedication as a mentor is evident in the number of students who are now leading their own programs at universities around the country. As a teacher, Frank was exceptionally responsive to the input of his students.

Outside of Slavic studies circles, Frank is known for his seminal essay on a concept that he dubbed “spatial form.” This important theoretical work suggests that modern writers such as Flaubert, Proust and Pound developed their own characteristic way of representing time. After its initial appearance in the *Sewanee Review* in 1945, the essay sparked a critical debate that contin-

ued for several decades. In 1991, Frank published a book titled *The Idea of Spatial Form* to discuss the many issues that other scholars had asked him to consider. This willingness to engage with others and to give all ideas full consideration was one of his many admirable qualities as an intellectual. Perhaps what is most remarkable about his contributions to critical theory is how accessible his essays are to lovers of literature outside academia.

Frank’s last book, *Responses to Modernity: Essays in the Politics of Culture*, published in June 2012, is a collection of critical writings that span his career. It addresses literature from a perspective informed by the political landscape of the 20th century, from the Russian Revolution to the problems of postwar Europe.

*Excerpt taken from the [Stanford News](#)*

## ASEEES Now Offers Webinars

ASEEES will offer programming throughout the year to help members keep up with trends and more easily gather information. Specifically, ASEES is slated to provide members access to information on fellowships, resume writing, and research methodologies.

We’ve listed a few of our planned webinars below; however, if you have ideas for a webinar or would like to present content, please contact: [newsnet@pitt.edu](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu)

For additional details, [click here](#)

Upcoming sessions:

Resume and Cover Letter Writing: The Basics  
July 18th at noon ET. [Click here to register](#)  
(ASEEES member login).

Marketing Yourself for Employment Outside Academia (Advanced professional writing for applicants seeking nonprofit leadership positions)  
August 14th at 3:00pm ET

Securing Federal Employment Abroad  
April 2014 (Exact date and time TBA)



## 2013 DAVIS GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

Kathryn W. Davis's generous donation to our organization, combined with matching donations from ASEEEES members, enables us to help subsidize travel costs for graduate students presenting papers at the 2013 Convention. Congratulations to:

Janetta Azarieva, (Political Science) The Hebrew U (Israel); "Grain and Power in Russia 2001-2011"

Andras Becker, (History) U of Southampton (UK); "Failure of a 'Revolutionary' Diplomat, György Barcza, Hungarian Minister in London: An Analysis of his Diaries"

Olga Bertelsen, (History) at U of Nottingham (UK) (Alternate); "The Revolution of Poets' and its Aftermath: Robert Tretyakov and the Ukrainian National Renaissance in the 1960s"

Laura Brade, (History) at UNC, Chapel Hill; "Send the Children Away: Saving Jewish Children through Emigration Actions from the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia"

Andru Chiorean, (History) U of Nottingham (UK); "Comrades, We Are Well on Our Way to Take Censorship at a Superior Level" or Perhaps Not: The Ambiguities of Early Communist Censorship in Postwar Romania, 1945-1953"

Michael Dean, (History) at UC Berkeley; "'What the Heart Unites, the Sea Shall not Divide': Claiming Overseas Czechs for the Nation"

Agata Drelova, (History) U of Exeter (UK); "Supportive Bystanders (Slovak Catholic Activists in the Czechoslovakia's Velvet Revolution)"

Trevor Erlacher, (History) UNC, Chapel Hill; "Foundations of Ukrainian 'Active Nationalism:' Wartime Political Thought of Dmytro Dontsov, 1914-1922"

John Etty, (Modern Languages & Cultures) U of Leeds (UK); "Krokodil: A Soviet Transmedia Phenomenon"

George Gilbert, (History) U of East Anglia (UK); "Rightist Death Rituals & Memory in Late Imperial Russia, 1900-1914"

Cassandra Hartblay, (Anthropology) UNC, Chapel Hill; "'I'll Gender You': Performing Analytic Categories, Detransitioning Russia"

Veneta Ivanova, (History) U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; "Zhivkova's Laboratory: Bulgaria's Experiment with Occult Communism, 1970s-1980s"

Joanna Matuszak, (Art History) Indiana U, Bloomington; "The Body & the Text in Aleksandr Brener's Performances in Moscow in the 1990s"

Brendan McGeever, (Central and East European Studies) U of Glasgow (UK); "The Theory and Practice of Bolshevik Approaches to Antisemitism during the Civil War, 1917-1921"

Mariya Melentyeva, (History & Classics) U of Alberta (Canada); "Jews during the Preparation for the Elections to the First and Second Russian Dumas, 1905-1907"

Antje Postema, (Slavic Languages & Literatures) U of Chicago; "Screening Injury, Choreographing Grief: Public Memory and Private Meaning on Display at the Sarajevo Film Festival and Srebrenica Commemorations"

Rachel Rothstein, (History) U of Florida; "'Something New, Something Sexy': The New Polish Jewishness after 1968"

Alex Tipei, (History) Indiana U, Bloomington; "On the Edge of Civilization: Lancastrian Schools and the Transition from an Orthodox Commonwealth to Balkan Nationalisms"

Michał Wilczewski, (History) U of Illinois, Chicago; "My Land, My Poland: The Problem of Rural Polish National Identity after World War I"



## 2013 REGIONAL SCHOLAR TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

ASEEES launched the new Regional Scholar Travel Grant program this year to provide financial support for scholars from Eurasia, Russia and Eastern Europe to participate in the annual ASEEES convention. We are pleased to announce the 2013 grant recipients:

Anna Arustamova, (Russian Literature) Perm State University (Russia); "The USA and American Literature in Russian Criticism, 1850-1860"

Jana Bacevic, (Public Policy) Central European University (Hungary); "Education, Conflict and Class Reproduction in Socialist Yugoslavia"

Ana Devic, (Law European Studies) Singidunum University Novi Sad (Serbia); "What Nationalist Amnesia Buries: Discontent, Powerlessness and Collective Identity in Socialist Yugoslavia"

Lyudmila Kuznetsova, (History) Perm State University (Russia); "Care as Enticement: Social Policy in the Leisure Sphere"

Toader Popescu, (History & Theory of Architecture & Heritage Conservation) Ion Mincu U (Romania); "On the Right Side of the Tracks: Urban and Railway Planning in Romania before World War I"

Olga Rosenblum, (Philology and History) Russian State U for the Humanities (Russia) (Alternate); "Trial of Joseph Brodsky & Other Processes in Transcripts of F. Vigdorova: Defense in the Predissidential Period"

Tamas Scheibner, (Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies) Eötvös Loránd University (Hungary); "The Hungarian-Soviet Cultural Society and the Introduction of Socialist Realism in Hungary"

Petr Stefanovich, (History) Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia); "Political Organization of Rus' in the 10th Century and the 'Norman Question'"

Petra Svoljšak, (History) Scientific Research Centre of Sasa (Slovenia); "Austro-Hungarian and Slovenian Children in the Great War"

Irina Yukina, (Gender Studies) Nevsky Institute of Language & Culture (Russia); "Mobilization of Feminist Organizations during the First World War: Rethinking Women's Citizenship"

### SUPPORT ASEEEES

Please consider supporting ASEEEES by making a contribution. ASEEEES is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. We thank you for your support.

You can contribute to:

- Regional Scholar Travel Grant Fund (New Program)
- Kathryn Davis Student Travel Grant Fund
- ASEEEES General Endowment Fund

### WAYS TO GIVE:

- [Donate Online](#)
- Send a check, payable to "ASEEEES", to: ASEEEES 203C Bellefield Hall, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260-6424
- Call with your credit card information at (412) 648-9911 or fax at (412) 648-9815.

### PLANNED GIVING:

Consider making a bequest to ASEEEES. For more information, contact Lynda Park at [lypark@pitt.edu](mailto:lypark@pitt.edu) or (412) 648-9788.

Correction: ASEEEES thanks our generous donors; their commitment to supporting ASEEEES' work is sincerely appreciated. And we apologize to one of our donors, Dr. Laurie Bernstein, for our misspelling of her name in our March 2013 edition.





# Institutional Member News



## New Staff at the Kennan Institute

The Kennan Institute is pleased to welcome a new Program Assistant, Mattison Brady. He comes to us from Peace Corps Ukraine, where he served for three years near Donetsk as a secondary school English teacher. He is a University of Michigan alumnus and a transplant from Baltimore, MD.

## New Publications

The 7th volume in the Eurasian Migration Papers series was published in May 2013: "A Wary Welcome: Varying Reception of Migrants in Russian Cities" by Kennan Institute Program Associate Mary Elizabeth Malinkin.

The next issue in the Kennan Institute Occasional Paper Series, #308, was also published in May: "Education in Post-Soviet Russia: Does the Federal Government Have a Regional Policy for Higher Education?" by Ildar Zulkarnay and Ellen Rosskam.

Both publications are available for download on our website, [www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan).

## Grant Opportunities

Please note, **all grant opportunities listed below are contingent on continued funding** by the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the former Soviet Union (Title VIII) of the U.S. Department of State. Please check the Kennan Institute website for the most updated information when applying: [www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan)

## **KI TITLE VIII SHORT-TERM GRANTS**

### ***Up to one month's duration (Pending Funding)***

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

Short-Term Grants provide a stipend of \$3,200

for 31 days. While the Kennan Institute cannot provide office space for Short-Term scholars, we do provide a carrel with a computer and internet access. Travel and accommodation expenses are not directly covered by this grant. There is no official application form for Short-Term Grants. The applicant is requested to submit a concise description (700-800 words) of his or her research project, curriculum vitae, a statement on preferred dates of residence in Washington, D.C., and two letters of recommendation specifically in support of the research to be conducted at the Kennan Institute. Please note, the recommendation letters must be signed. Applicants should also state their citizenship status in their materials. Applications may be submitted via e-mail, fax or post. Please see address and contact information on our website. If sending a hard copy, the application must be in clear, dark type, printed on one side only, without staples.

Grant recipients are required to be in residence in Washington, D.C. for the duration of their grant. Four rounds of competitive selection for Short-Term Grants are held each year. The next closing date is **September 1, 2013**. Applicants are notified of the competition results roughly seven weeks after the closing date. **Only U.S. citizens are currently eligible for Short-Term Grants.**

## **KI TITLE VIII RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS**

### ***3-9 months duration (Pending Funding)***

Title VIII Research Scholarships lasting three to nine months are available to academic participants in the early stages of their career (before tenure) or scholars whose careers have been interrupted or delayed. For non-academics, an equivalent degree of professional achievement is expected. Eligibility is limited to the postdoctoral level for academic participants, although doctoral candidates in the process of completing a dissertation may apply (the dissertation must be successfully defended before taking residence at the Kennan Institute). **Applicants must be U.S. citizens.** Research proposals examining the countries of Central Eurasia are eligible. Those proposals related to regional Russia, Ukraine, Central Asia, Belarus, the Caucasus, and contemporary issues are particularly welcome. The Title VIII Research Scholar grant offers a stipend of \$3,300 per month, research facilities, computer support, and some research assistance. **Grant recipients are required to be in residence at the Institute in Washington, D.C. for the duration of their grant.**

One round of competitive Title VIII Research Scholar selection is held per year. **The deadline for receipt of applications and supporting materials is December 1, 2013.** Application materials must be submitted by mail; materials sent by electronic mail or facsimile will not be considered. Please see address and contact information on our website. Decisions on

appointment will be made in mid-February; grantees are able to commence their appointments as early as July.

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

## **KI TITLE VIII SUMMER RESEARCH GRANTS**

### ***2 months duration (Pending Funding)***

Scholars who conduct research in the social sciences or humanities focusing on the former Soviet Union (excluding the Baltic States), and who demonstrate a particular need to utilize the library, archival, and other specialized resources of the Washington, D.C. area should consider applying for the summer research grants. The summer grants must be used between May-September 2014, and grant applicants are required to hold an MA degree or higher. The Summer Research Scholarships will provide a stipend of \$6,400 for 62 days (\$103.22/day), research facilities, computer support, and some research assistance. Travel and accommodation expenses are not directly covered by this grant.

Applicants are required to submit a concise description (700-800 words) of his or her research project, curriculum vitae, a statement on preferred dates of residence in Washington, D.C., and two letters of recommendation specifically in support of the research to be conducted at the Institute. All of these materials may be submitted via e-mail except for the letters of recommendation. The letters should be sent, with signature, either by fax or post. Please see address and contact information on our website. **Applicants must be U.S. Citizens.** Applications should be submitted in clear dark type, printed on one side only, without staples. Closing date is **December 1, 2013.**

### **Scholars in Residence**

Each year, the Kennan Institute sponsors between 35-40 scholars to conduct humanities, social science, and policy research in Washington, D.C. The Kennan Institute welcomes the following scholars this summer:

### **Title VIII-Supported Research Scholar**

**Sarah Garding**, independent scholar. "Courting the Nation Abroad: Diaspora Political Incorporation Policies in Postcommunist Europe and Eurasia."

### **Galina Starovoitova Fellow on Human Rights and Conflict Resolution**

**Irina Dezhina**, Head of Economics of Science and Innovation Policy Division, Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences. "Emerging Civil Society in Russian Science: Parallels with and Impact of the United States."

### **Public Policy Scholar**

**John W. Parker**, Adjunct Research Fellow, INSS-NDU. "Moscow and the Middle East: The Search for Balance."

### **Title VIII-Supported Summer Research Scholars**

**Austin Carson**, independent scholar. "Covert Competition: Escalation Management and Rollback in the Cold War."

**Adam Leeds**, PhD candidate, Dept. of Anthropology, U of Pennsylvania. "On the subjects of political economy: Moscow economists assemble future, 1956-2012."

**Paul du Quenoy**, Assoc. Prof. of History, American U of Beirut. "Imperial Russia and the Middle East."

### **Short-Term Scholars**

**James Andrews**, Prof. of History, Iowa State U. "Subterranean Metropolitans: Mass Mobility, Iconographic Architecture, and the Politics of Public Space in Modern Russia."

**Stephen Bittner**, Prof. of History, Sonoma State U "Whites and Reds: Wine in Lands of Tsar and Commissar."

**George Liber**, Prof. of History, U of Alabama at Birmingham, "De-Stalinization and Culture Shift: Soviet Ukraine, 1953-1956."

**Stephen Riegg**, PhD Candidate, Dept of History, UNC, Chapel Hill. "Claiming the Caucasus: The Evolution of Russian Imperialism in Armenia, 1801-1894."

## 11TH GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM ON SLAVIC LINGUISTICS

The Slavic Linguistics Forum and the Ohio State University Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures are pleased to announce the Eleventh Graduate Colloquium on Slavic Linguistics. The colloquium will take place on October 12, 2013, at the Ohio State University campus in Columbus, OH.

Our keynote speaker will be Vsevolod Kapatsinski from the University of Oregon. Dr. Kapatsinski's research areas include psycholinguistics and corpus linguistics with a focus on morphophonology and the mental lexicon. His primary languages of research are Russian, English and artificial languages.

We invite students and recent graduates working in all areas of Slavic, Balkan, and East-European linguistics to submit abstracts. We encourage students working in both formal and functional frameworks to participate in this event. Interdisciplinary projects from the students in related fields such as anthropology, sociology, psychology, and comparative studies are welcome, as far as they are related to Slavic and East-European languages.

Please send abstracts (maximum 500 words) to Michael Furman (Furman.25@osu.edu). The abstracts should be anonymous. Please include your name, affiliation, mailing address, and email address in the body of the email. The deadline for submission is August 15th 2013 Accommodation with local graduate students will be available. If you have any questions, please contact the organizers. [Michael Furman](#); [Jeff Parker](#); [Katya Rouzina](#).



# Affiliate Member News



## AWSS IS NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2013 GRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE

The Graduate Essay Prize is awarded to a chapter or article-length essay on any topic in any field or area of Slavic/East European/Central Asian Studies written by a woman, or on a topic in Slavic/East European/Central Asian Women's/Gender Studies written by a woman or a man. This competition is open to current doctoral students and to those who defended a doctoral dissertation in 2012-2013. If the essay is a seminar paper, it must have been written during the academic year 2012-2013. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Previous submissions and published materials are ineligible. Essays should be no longer than 50 double-spaced pages, including reference matter, and in English. The deadline for submissions is September, 1 2013. Complete instructions on how to submit an essay for consideration may be found on the AWSS website, [www.awsshome.org](http://www.awsshome.org).

## AWSS GRADUATE RESEARCH PRIZE

AWSS is currently seeking nominations for the 2013 Graduate Research Prize. The Prize is awarded biennially to fund promising graduate level research in any field of Slavic/East European/Central Asian studies by a woman or on a topic in S/EE/CA Women's or Gender Studies by either a woman or a man. Graduate students who are at any stage of master's or doctoral level research are eligible.

The grant can be used to support expenses related to completion of a dissertation, as well as travel, services, and/or materials. The award carries a cash prize of \$1,000. Nominations and self-nominations are welcome. In addition to two letters of recommendation, please send a CV, a letter of application in which you outline how the money will be used, why it is necessary for progress on the project and, if appropriate, a list of archives and/or libraries or other research resources that you plan to use.

Completed submissions must be received by September 1st, 2013 by the committee chairperson, Nicole Monnier (recommenders may send their letters as emails OR as email attachments) at [monniern@missouri.edu](mailto:monniern@missouri.edu).

## CENTRAL SLAVIC CONFERENCE

November 7-10, 2013, The Hilton at the Ballpark  
St. Louis, Missouri

The Central Slavic Conference is pleased to invite scholars of all disciplines working in Slavic, Eurasian, and East European studies to submit proposals for panels, individual papers, roundtables, and poster presentations at its annual meeting, to be held in conjunction with the 2013 International Studies Association Midwest Conference (see link below).

Founded in 1962 as the Bi-State Slavic Conference, the Central Slavic Conference now encompasses seven states and is the oldest of the regional affiliates of ASEES (Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies). Scholars from outside the region and from around the world are welcome.

Proposals should be submitted by email to CSC President Dr. David Borgmeyer ([dborgmey@slu.edu](mailto:dborgmey@slu.edu)) no later than July 15th, 2013. Other proposals will be accepted until September 1, 2013. All proposals should include:

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

Limited funding is available to provide graduate students with travel stipends. General information regarding hotel and conference registration can be found on the ISA Midwest Conference web page at: <http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=isamw&p>

## Charles Timberlake Memorial Symposium

Now a regular part of the CSC program, the symposium is dedicated to the scholarship of longtime CSC member Charles Timberlake. Those interested in participating should contact symposium coordinator Dr. Nicole Monnier at [monniern@missouri.edu](mailto:monniern@missouri.edu).

## Timberlake Memorial Graduate Paper Prize

Graduate students who present at the CSC Annual Meeting are invited to participate in the Charles Timberlake Graduate Paper Prize competition. Dedicated to the memory of Professor Timberlake as teacher and mentor, the prize carries a cash award. Submissions should be sent electronically to prize coordinator [Dr. Nicole Monnier](mailto:Dr.Nicole.Monnier) no later than October 25th, 2013.



SOCIETY FOR ROMANIAN STUDIES  
2013 GRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE  
DEADLINE: JULY 1, 2013

The Society for Romanian Studies is pleased to announce the Fifth Annual Graduate Student Essay Prize competition for an outstanding unpublished essay or thesis chapter written in English by a graduate student in any social science or humanities discipline on a Romanian subject. The 2013 prize, consisting of \$300, will be presented at the ASEES National Convention in Boston. The competition is open to current M.A. and doctoral students or to those who defended dissertations in the academic year 2012-2013. If the essay is a seminar paper, it must have been written in 2012-2013. If the essay is a dissertation chapter, it should be accompanied by the dissertation abstract and table of contents. Essays/chapters should be between 25 and 50 pages double spaced, including reference matter. Expanded versions of conference papers are also acceptable if accompanied by a description of the panel and the candidate's conference paper proposal. Candidates should clearly indicate the format of the essay submitted. If you have questions, contact [Roland Clark](#). Please send a copy of the essay and an updated CV to each member of the Prize Committee below. Submissions must be sent no later than July 1, 2013.

Dr. Roland Clark, [clarkrol@easternct.edu](mailto:clarkrol@easternct.edu)  
Prof. Margaret Beissinger, [mhbeissi@Princeton.edu](mailto:mhbeissi@Princeton.edu)  
Dr. Oana Armeanu, [oiarmeanu@usi.edu](mailto:oiarmeanu@usi.edu)

### Technical Translator Position Available

RussTech Language Services, Inc. (Tallahassee, FL) is seeking candidates for a full-time staff (W-2) Russian > English translator of complex, highly technical documents. This is a permanent professional employment opportunity.

The successful candidate will possess the following attributes: a solid grasp of Russian grammar, syntax, and word formation as represented in professional writing; excellent writing skills in English; cheerfulness, dependability, and a good work ethic; the ability to work independently and to complete assignments on schedule. A background in math and science is helpful, but not required. Minimum educational requirement: a Master's degree in a related discipline.

The starting salary is negotiable depending on experience, but at a minimum, \$30,000 per year. In addition, RussTech offers a full range of fringe benefits.

Send a letter of interest, a resume, 3 references, and a writing sample to:

[russtech@russtechinc.com](mailto:russtech@russtechinc.com)

[www.russtechinc.com](http://www.russtechinc.com)

RussTech is an equal opportunity employer.  
We maintain a strict drug-free environment.

SOCIETY OF HISTORIANS OF EAST EUROPEAN,  
EURASIAN, AND RUSSIAN ART AND ARCHITECTURE  
(SHERA)

In response to increasing interest in the fields of art and architecture history, SHERA is extending its activities with renewed vigor under new leadership.

After voting in January, Margaret Samu was elected President, Natasha Kurchanova was elected Vice-President and will serve as President-Elect, while Yelena Kalinsky is the new Secretary-Treasurer. Joining them on the Board of Directors are members-at-large Danilo Udovicki and Alla Vronskaya.

SHERA sponsors sessions and holds regular meetings at both ASEES and the College Art Association annual conferences, maintains an active listserv and Facebook page, and is creating a new website to launch in July 2013. New individual and institutional members are welcome. Inquiries may be directed to [SHERA.artarchitecture@gmail.com](mailto:SHERA.artarchitecture@gmail.com) for more information.

Nominations are open for the ASEES CLIR Distinguished Service Award for 2013. Established in 2010, this occasional award is intended to recognize ASEES member librarians, archivists or curators whose contributions to the field of Slavic, East European and Eurasian studies librarianship have been especially noteworthy or influential. The effect of these contributions may be the result of continuous or distinguished service to the profession, but may also be the result of extraordinarily active, innovative or collaborative work that deserves national recognition.

The nomination form is available [here](#).

If you wish to submit a nomination, please fill out the form and submit it directly to [janice.pilch@rutgers.edu](mailto:janice.pilch@rutgers.edu). The deadline for nominations is **July 26, 2013**. After the July 26 deadline, the CLIR Distinguished Service Award Selection Subcommittee will conduct the decision-making process, and an announcement of the award recipient will be made in August.

For more information on the award and criteria that will be considered for making the award, see: <http://intranet.library.arizona.edu/users/brewerm/bd/award.html>. Please provide as much information supporting your nomination as possible.



# Calendar

## 2013 . . . . .

**August 28-30.** 42nd International ABDOS Conference: “Towards a new self-conception – Libraries as cultural and social centres” National Library of Belarus in Minsk immediately after the International Congress of Slavists in the capital of Belarus. It will be organized by the Association of Libraries and Documentation Units for Research on Eastern, East Central and South Eastern Europe (ABDOS). The National Library of Belarus and MIPP International will support the conference. <http://www.abdos.de>

**September 2-4.** UACES 43rd Annual Conference, Leeds, UK, hosted by the School of Politics & International Studies at the University of Leeds. To find out more, visit [www.uaces.org/leeds](http://www.uaces.org/leeds).

**September 4-6.** CRESC Annual Conference 2013: In/vulnerabilities and Social Change: Precarious Lives and Experimental Knowledge (In association with the Journal of Cultural Economy), School of Oriental and African Studies, London. The conference will explore the vulnerabilities of the majority and the in/vulnerabilities of elites and their ways of knowing. Professional and elite knowledge sensitizes itself to specific phenomena by discounting other kinds of experience. Claiming competence in key areas, expert knowledge becomes invulnerable by ignoring dissident and dissonant forms of understanding. <http://www.cresc.ac.uk/events/cresc-annual-conference>

**September 20-22.** Post-Dissident Studies: Between Collaboration and Dissent in Central Europe  
A Graduate Student Conference, Sponsored by the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University

**September 20-21.** CREES and Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan will host “Ann Arbor in Russian Literature: Revisiting the Carl R. Proffer and Ardis Legacies.” <http://www.i.umich.edu/crees>

**September 26-28.** The Russian department of the language centre at the European University Viadrina is inviting all colleagues interested in Russian as a foreign language to our workshop on “Interactive Methods and New Materials for Russian as a Foreign Language in Higher Education”. [www.sz.europa-uni.de/russisch](http://www.sz.europa-uni.de/russisch)

**October 2-5.** Inter-Asian Connections IV: Istanbul. This conference aims to effect a paradigm shift in the study of the Asian expanse, re-conceptualized as a dynamic and interconnected historical, geographical, and cultural formation stretching from the Middle East through Eurasia, South Asia and Southeast Asia, to East Asia. Organized by SSRC, Yale U, the National U of Singapore (NUS), the Hong Kong Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (HKIHSS) and Koç U. <http://www.ssrc.org/programs/interasia-program/>.

**October 18-19.** Conceptualizing the Human in Slavic and Eurasian Culture, An Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference  
Princeton University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

**October 27-30.** International Silk Road Congress and ACTR Conference. The recent academic efforts to re-evaluate and rejuvenate the Silk Road in all of its various facets have culminated in the idea to organize an international conference on the subject. “The International Silk Road Congress: To Rethink a Region of Commerce, Cooperation and Peace”, is being organized in collaboration with various institutions and universities, and under the coordination of the Ankara Centre for Thought and Research and Istanbul Commerce University. It is planned to be held in Istanbul, Turkey. <http://silkroadcongress.org>

**November 7-10.** Central Slavic Conference and Charles Timberlake Memorial Symposium, St. Louis, Missouri <http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=isamw&p>

**Nov. 21-24.** ASEEEES 45th Annual Convention at Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, MA <http://aseees.org/convention.html>

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

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

tel.: 412-648-9911 • fax: 412-648-9815 • e-mail: [aseees@pitt.edu](mailto:aseees@pitt.edu)  
[www.aseees.org](http://www.aseees.org)

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

**ASEEES Staff**

Executive Director:

Lynda Park, 412-648-9788, [lypark@pitt.edu](mailto:lypark@pitt.edu)

Communications Coordinator & NewsNet Editor:

Mary Arnstein, 412-648-9809, [newsnet@pitt.edu](mailto:newsnet@pitt.edu)

Membership & Subscriptions Coordinator:

Jonathon Swiderski, 412-648-9911, [aseees@pitt.edu](mailto:aseees@pitt.edu)

Convention Coordinator:

Wendy Walker, 781-235-2408, [wwalker@pitt.edu](mailto:wwalker@pitt.edu)

Financial Support:

Maureen Ryczaj, 412-648-9911, [aseeesfn@pitt.edu](mailto:aseeesfn@pitt.edu)

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

Subscription to NewsNet is \$28.00 for U.S. subscribers and \$44 for non-U.S. subscribers. Single copies are \$7.00 each. To subscribe or order back issues, contact Jonathon Swiderski. Back issues are available up to two years only.

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

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

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

**Submission of materials**

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

**Deadlines for submissions (ads, articles, announcements)**

**January issue—1 Dec;**

**March issue—1 Feb;**

**June issue—1 May;**

**Aug issue—5 July;**

**October issue—1 Sept**

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

ACTR/American Councils	4, 20
European University, St. Petersburg Employment Opportunity	21
Kritika	15
Russ Tech Language Services Employment Opportunity	30
Slavica	9
SRAS Study Abroad	13

**ADVERTISING**

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

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

**ONLINE ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE VIA JSTOR**

ASEEES is offering a new opportunity for online advertising on [JSTOR's Slavic Review page](#). It is a great way to announce publications, products, services, or opportunities of interest to those in the Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European fields.

**Introductory Offer!**

To promote our new online advertising opportunity, we are offering an introductory rate of \$500 for three-month display (timed to coincide with Slavic Review issue upload).

You can specify the exact dates and duration during which you would like your ad to run.

Please click [here](#) for ad specs and contact information

STOR