

# Slavic News: Summer 2020



## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR, KATARZYNA DZIWIWREK

Dear Friends of the Slavic Department,

As we all know, 2020 has so far been a momentous year. The unprecedented pandemic, its consequent economic hardships, and the extensive protests against police violence and racism have made it a year like no other. Our faculty, students, and staff had to adapt quickly to new remote teaching, learning, and working environments. I am very proud of my colleagues and our students who managed to pull it off despite the altered circumstances.



Even with the pandemic, during the past academic year we hosted two visitors. Yana Sabliash was our Ukrainian FLTA. Yana taught first year Ukrainian, which had a record 8 students. She also led the Ukrainian conversation table, gave a talk about Malanka—the Ukrainian goodbye to winter—and organized other Ukrainian events. Justyna Zych, our Polish Fulbright lecturer, had the misfortune of arriving on March 1<sup>st</sup>, just before spring quarter was moved online. She persevered, however, and taught her class about Warsaw remotely to much acclaim.

The lockdown and moving to an online environment were not all together bad. They allowed us to participate in many events as a department. We held a number of graduate colloquia, a very successful convocation, and Justyna Zych gave a very well “attended” talk *Warsaw - Heritage, Tradition, and Urban Myths with a (very) Modern Twist*. Most recently, Western Washington University professor Sarah Zarrow gave a

lecture entitled *Forging a New Polish Jewish Woman: The Jewish Girls' Vocational School of Lwów*.

Looking to next year, it looks as though fall quarter will be taught mostly online, with only those courses which require direct, hands-on learning (labs, studios, etc.) taking place in person. Should circumstances allow, we're looking forward to welcoming two new visitors to the department in the next academic year. Our new Ukrainian Fulbright FLTA, Marta Tomakhiv, will teach second year Ukrainian. Marta lives and works in Kyiv but is originally from Ternopil in western Ukraine. During the spring quarter, we will also host a Polish Fulbright Lecturer, Dawid Junke, who will teach a course entitled *Cinematic Metamorphoses: Polish and American Cinema after 1989*. Dawid's home institution is the University of Wrocław.

July 1<sup>st</sup> also brought changes to undergraduate advising. Our students no longer have the services of an in-house advisor, the wonderful Gina Gould, whom we miss already, but instead are to be guided by the staff of a newly created Humanities Academic Services Center.

I hope everyone reading this has a relaxing and restful summer despite all that is going on. Please stay in touch with us, as always.

*Kat Dziwinski*

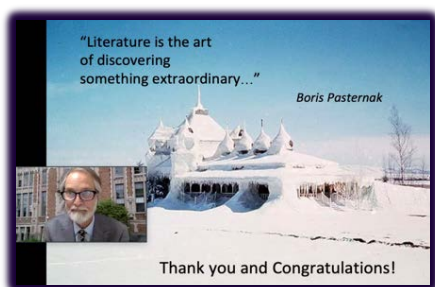
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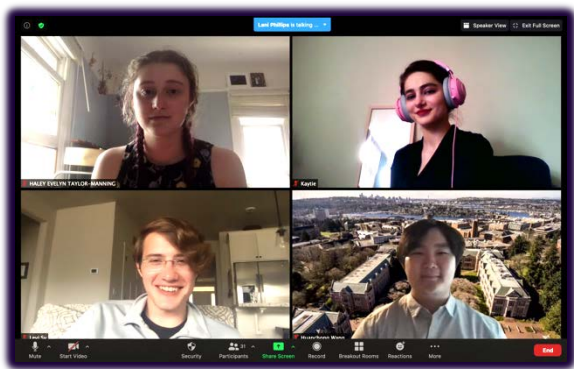
## 2020 SLAVIC CONVOCATION

Although life is unusual right now, one thing has remained the same—how proud we are of our students! On June 19, 2020, faculty, staff, students, and guests gathered online on Zoom to celebrate the accomplishments of our 2020 graduates and award winners.

Chair and Professor, Dr. Katarzyna Dziwirek, opened the ceremony with a warm welcome and introduction of this year's keynote speaker, scholar and alum David Fenner (M.A., Slavic Languages & Literatures, University of Washington, 1979). Fenner, affiliate faculty in the Jackson School of International Studies and former Assistant Vice Provost for International Education at the UW, impressed upon our graduates that even in unexpected times the world is their oyster, and encouraged them to make the most of life after graduation, wherever it may take them.



The ceremony concluded with recognition of the 2020 award winners and graduates. Although we could not give them the traditional rose this year, each graduating student took a moment to share what studying in the department has meant for them. In all, it was a special afternoon, even if we could not be with each other in person.



*Congratulations to the Class of 2020, and we cannot wait to hear what adventures await you!*

## 2020 Graduates and Award Winners

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Adam Fink  
Kaytie Kimble  
Levi Jonathan Sy (Honors)  
Haley Evelyn Taylor-Manning (Honors)  
Huanchong Wang

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Matthew H. Ellet, LTC, U.S. Army

### AWARDS

#### Slavic Undergraduate Excellence Prize

Wendi Zhou

#### Outstanding Student of Polish

Lani Phillips

#### Outstanding Students of Russian

1<sup>st</sup> Year: Raj Kumar  
2<sup>nd</sup> Year: Joshua Swynenburg  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year: Adam Fink  
4<sup>th</sup> Year: Kate Peterson

#### Outstanding Student of Slovene

Hannah Standley

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Before the pandemic, Assistant Professor Dr. Sasha Senderovich organized two important talks. Here he writes about them.*

### **Katja Petrowskaja: A Family Story Between Memory and Forgetting**

The writer Katja Petrowskaja, who was born in Kyiv in 1970 and has lived in Berlin for the last two decades, wanted to create a kind of family tree, charting relatives who had scattered across multiple countries and continents, some of whom lived through and others died in the 20th century's many calamities, including Stalinism and the Holocaust. She visited UW in October 2019, to discuss her book *Maybe Esther*--a work about her travels to Russia, Ukraine, Germany, Poland, and the United States, in which the writer





reflects on a fragmented and traumatized century and brings to light family figures who threaten to drift into obscurity. Petrowskaja's visit was jointly hosted with the Department of Germanics and the Simpson Center

for the Humanities; Lee Scheingold—a generous friend of the Slavic Department and other Humanities initiatives at UW—underwrote the acquisition of twenty copies of *Maybe Esther* for the writer's seminar with faculty and students, as well as lunch for the event.

### Amelia Glaser: No Pasaran! Jewish Collective Memory in the Spanish Civil War

Dr. Amelia Glaser of the University of California, San Diego, where she directs the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Program, visited UW at the end of October 2019. She gave a talk about how three Jewish poets who wrote in Yiddish, Soviet poet Peretz Markish, American poet Aaron Kurtz, and Mexican poet Jacobo Glantz, addressed the fight against fascism in 1930s Spain, and merged collective Jewish memory of the Spanish Inquisition with descriptions of the Spanish Civil War to yield visions of a collective

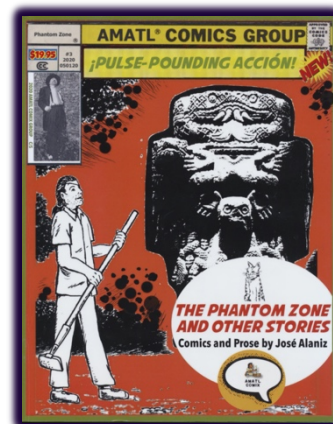
future for Spain that Jews were participating in creating. This lecture was co-hosted jointly with the Stroum Center for Jewish Studies and the

Department of Spanish and Portuguese. A scholar of literary translation and a translator herself, Dr. Glaser also presented on "Teaching Translation Studies: A Literary Science for a STEM Campus" to UW's Translation Studies Hub at the Simpson Center for the Humanities.

## FACULTY NEWS

**Professor José Alaniz** released his first comics collection, *The Phantom Zone and Other Stories: Comics*

and *Prose* (Amatl Comix, an imprint of San Diego State University Press), in June. The book collects the title story, which first appeared as a comic strip in the *Daily Texan*, the student newspaper of the University of Texas, Austin in the 1990s, along with more recent material. *The Phantom Zone and Other Stories* will appeal to readers with an interest in the comics representation of disability, Mexican-American identity, and talking cats.



**Professor Galya Diment** had another productive sabbatical quarter, despite not being able to travel, as she had planned. Her article on Vera Inber's children's book, *When I Was Small*, was published in June in *Detskie Chteniia*, the leading publication for Russian children's literature.

**Affiliate Professor and Alum Ronald LeBlanc** has recently completed a translation of four essays written by the renowned Pasternak scholar, Professor Lazar Fleishman (Stanford University). The translated essays look at different episodes in the history of American-Soviet cultural relations, and finally make them available to Americanists (especially those interested in key figures in the Communist movement in the U.S. during the late 1920s and early 1930s, such as Joseph Freeman, Max Eastman, and Upton Sinclair) who cannot read Russian. The translations can be found in the [UNH Scholars Repository](#).

**Assistant Professor Sasha Senderovich** published an article entitled "Teaching with Things: The Clutter of Russian Jewish American Literature" in *Teaching Jewish American Literature*, edited by Roberta Rosenberg and Rachel Rubenstein (The Modern Language Association of America, 2020). He also presented his research at a roundtable on "Contemporary Russian-Jewish Literature Across Borders" at the annual meeting of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies in San Francisco in November 2019.

## STAFF NEWS

*The College's decision to implement a central advising office for all Humanities departments means that we unfortunately had to say goodbye to our undergraduate adviser, Gina Gould, on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Gina's dedication to our students and the department are already greatly missed. Here are her parting words.*



Back in January 2018 my life was pretty good. I was content with my part time job in the Philosophy department, looking forward to spending time doing some overdue projects at my house, and, most importantly, I had Hamilton tickets! Good seats too.

About a week later, my life was a little less content because I was wondering if I'd have to take out a second mortgage to actually pay for those Hamilton tickets. Fortunately a friend in the Dean's office called. She mentioned that the Slavic department needed an adviser to fill in for a few weeks. I'd have put off those projects but I could pay for the Hamilton tickets. It was only for a few weeks, right?

It really has only been 10 weeks, but those 10 weeks have been stretched out over 2 ½ years. (Yeah, I actually did the math, five hours a week for nine months a year is about 400 hours).

One of my personal regrets about leaving is I feel like I was only just getting started.

Thank you all very much for your kind words, and most importantly **thank you** for letting me be part of your community. I'll miss you all. I can't say the same for Padelford.

-Gina Gould

P.S. Hamilton was so worth it!

## STUDENT NEWS

Two of our students were awarded scholarships by the College of Arts & Sciences for the next academic year! Ph.D. candidate **Nathan Marks** won the 2020-21 Antoinette Wills Endowed Scholarship for Graduate Students. This scholarship, designed to provide research and travel assistance for graduate students, will help Nathan collect data for his dissertation. Undergraduate major **Joshua Swynenburg** won a 2020-21 Chester William Fritz Scholarship, which provides financial support to highly deserving students in the Humanities.

Two undergraduate Slavic majors—Haley Taylor-Manning and Levi Sy—completed senior thesis projects, which were required for the Honors designation of their Bachelor of Arts degree; both projects were advised by Assistant Professor Sasha Senderovich.

**Haley Taylor-Manning's** thesis project, "Narrative and the Search for Meaning in Ludmila Petrushevskaya's *The Time: Night* and Margarita Khemlin's *Klotsvog*" examines two novels by the contemporary Russian writers Ludmila Petrushevskaya (b. 1938) and Margarita Khemlin (1960-2015). The paper

compellingly argues that the first-person female protagonists of each work sublimate their unfulfilled vocational aspirations as a writer and teacher, respectively, to treat their small Soviet apartments and their families as a sort of distorted set of canvases that break their aspirations and their personal and familial relationships in the process.

**Levi Sy's** thesis project, "Film, Medicine, and Moscow: Translations of Maxim Osipov's 'Little Lord Fauntleroy' and 'Fantasy'" is an original translation of two short stories by the contemporary Russian author Maxim Osipov (b. 1963).

The stories, translated and expertly introduced by Sy,



tackle, in their plots set in and around the present-day Moscow, the questions of ethics—medical and artistic, in each story respectively—by members of the Russian professional and creative intelligentsia living in Putin’s Russia.

Both students jointly presented their work to faculty members, students, and friends of the Slavic department in an online Zoom session on May 29,



2020. Renowned literary translators of Russian prose and poetry, Lisa Hayden (based in Maine) and Boris Dralyuk (based in California), were invited to read and comment on the students’ works in advance and participated in the presentation of these projects online.

*-Sasha Senderovich*

## FULBRIGHT NEWS

*Yana Sabliash, our FLTA from Ukraine, writes about her experience in Seattle this year.*



The 2019-20 academic year at the University of Washington as a Fulbright FLTA became a crucial stage in my professional and personal growth. I highly appreciate the opportunities that working at the Slavic Department provided me as a Ukrainian language instructor, culture enthusiast, and graduate student.

Teaching Ukrainian at UW was the first-hand and first-class experience I was looking for from the Fulbright

FLTA program. Rich practice in communicative and task-based approaches to USL teaching, a mixed class with heritage and foreign language students in one group, remote learning and online teaching practice in the Spring quarter – these and many other skills I will take with me on my future teaching career.

The Fulbright FLTA program at UW was not limited to teaching duties – it also encouraged my desire to share Ukrainian traditions and culture with the UW and Seattle



community. I’m happy that Ukrainian Language Day, Malanka Party, Movie Club, and Ukrainian table at FUIITS CulturalFest exposed UW students to a better understanding of Ukrainian culture and people. I hope these events were as much fun and as enriching to students and colleagues as it was to me.

As a graduate student, I improved my skills in each class in SLA, teaching methods, language politics, and American studies. I was lucky to learn from the best experts and gain a “both-sides” experience—as a student as well – due to taking courses to enhance my teaching of the Ukrainian language.

I had a chance to teach more students, meet more people interested in Ukraine, and participate in more events than I could expect when my Fulbright journey started.

I am very thankful to Katarzyna Dziwirek, Laada Bilaniuk, Lani Phillips, Nathan Marks, and the whole Slavic Department for the warm welcome and true support during my entire stay at the University of Washington. Working from home in Spring quarter, as well as limited in-person communication, showed me how much on-campus life enriched my experience as an FLTA at UW.

The 2019-20 academic year at UW enhanced my knowledge of American culture and gave me first-hand knowledge of the U.S., its academic culture, and its people.

*-Yana Sabliash*



*Dr. Justyna Zych, our Visiting Fulbright Scholar from Poland, arrived just before the lockdown. Here she writes about her experience.*

### **From UW to... UW**



Back in Poland, I am an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Polish Studies at the University of Warsaw (the acronym is also UW). I received a Fulbright Slavic Award, which is a scholarship to teach a culture course

and conduct research at a chosen American university for one semester. University of Washington in Seattle was my first and only choice.

I taught an introductory course on Polish history and culture entitled *Warsaw: A Window to Contemporary Polish History and Culture*. As its title indicates, the idea of my course was to use Varsovian art and architecture, as well as literary and film portrayals of the Polish capital city (in English translation), as a starting point to present important historical events and significant cultural phenomena in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-century Poland.

Among the course participants, there were both members of the Polish community in the Seattle area and students who did not have any Polish roots but were interested in Polish culture or planned to visit Poland.

Since my stay in Seattle happened to take place during the “stay at home” order due to the coronavirus pandemic, I delivered my course online, as every other professor at UW. It was a very interesting and inspiring teaching experience that pushed me to discover new teaching tools. I attended different workshops and trainings offered by the UW, thanks to which I became familiar with many engaging ways of presenting course content online.

I greatly enjoyed designing and teaching my course in an online format. I consider my biggest success to be the fact that my students participated in it actively in spite of it being delivered remotely. I am also glad that

some of them got interested in Warsaw and in Poland to the point that they plan to go there soon. I hope that the coronavirus-related restrictions will not forbid these travel plans for too long and that I will be able to meet some of my students in person in my home city.

Without a doubt my stay in Seattle would have been different if the pandemic had not happened. I arrived on March 1<sup>st</sup>. I enjoyed Seattle’s normality for two weeks and then suddenly found myself in the U.S. epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak. At the beginning, I was persuaded that I would not be able to see anything at all and that I would spend the entire four months in my rented apartment self-quarantining, teaching and taking courses on Zoom. That would have been a quite peculiar Fulbright experience but fortunately it was not the case.

The introduction of phase 1.5 brought some hope for my social life, community engagement, and sightseeing plans. It is great that I got to know in person at least some colleagues from the Slavic Department, as well as several members of the Polish community in Seattle. I am also glad that I could contribute to cultural and educational events organized by the latter by delivering an online public lecture, *Warsaw – Heritage, Tradition, and Urban Myths With a (Very) Modern Twist*, and by giving an online



Polish language class for intermediate and advanced students of the Polish School in Seattle. When it comes to promoting Poland, I gave a guest talk (online, obviously!) on the Polish education system for the UW College of Education.

As far as the tourist aspect of my stay is concerned, I had to come to terms with not being able to visit any of museums in Seattle or to admire its panoramic view from the top of the Space Needle. However, I greatly enjoyed strolling in its numerous scenic parks and exploring its original neighborhoods. I cannot claim that I got to know the city well but my understanding of it definitely goes beyond a European cliché which basically comes down to a list of companies: Starbucks, Boeing, Amazon, Microsoft... I also did check some of

the boxes from my “Must see” list: I went to Bainbridge Island, to Hurricane Ridge, and to Mount Rainier National Park. I was really impressed by the beauty of nature in the Evergreen State. I was satisfied as a fan of *Twin Peaks* and *Northern Exposure* too: I went to Snoqualmie Falls, North Bend, and Roslyn. Therefore, I got to see quite a lot given the unusual circumstances. And not having seen everything that Seattle has to offer gives me a pretext to come back one day if I have a chance.



Overall, my Fulbright stay in Seattle was a great experience in spite of some limitations and complications brought on by the pandemic. I met fantastic people and I made friends, I saw interesting and beautiful places, I learned a lot, I gained valuable experience as a professor, I discovered American academia and its organizational culture. It was a very enriching experience both personally and professionally.

-Justyna Zych

## POLISH NEWS

Despite the unforeseen challenges we all have been dealing with during these past few months, we are pleased to share some positive news.

In March, we welcomed **Dr. Justyna Zych**, Fulbright Lecturer of Polish Studies. Dr. Zych is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Polish Studies at the University of Warsaw. She spent two years as a Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto, and she lectured in many countries in Europe and Asia. Her research focuses on contemporary Polish literature, especially on literary portraits of Warsaw and on Cultural Otherness, as well as on teaching Polish culture to foreigners. During Spring quarter, Dr. Zych taught a great course *Warsaw: A Window to Contemporary Polish History and Culture*.

**On June 9, 2020, Dr. Zych** gave a well-received and highly appreciated public lecture on ZOOM *Warsaw - Heritage, Tradition, and Urban Myths with a (very) Modern Twist*.

On July 14, 2020, **Dr. Sarah E. Zarrow** gave a public lecture on ZOOM *Forging a New Polish Jewish Woman: The Jewish Girls' Vocational School of Lwów (Lviv)*. Sarah E. Zarrow is an assistant professor of history at Western Washington University, and holds the Endowed



Professorship in Jewish History. Her ongoing research focuses on Jewish life in modern Eastern Europe, particularly in Poland. She was previously an International Fellow at New Europe College in Bucharest, Romania.

We wish everybody a healthy and relaxing summer and look forward to resuming regular activities in fall.

-Krystyna Untersteiner

## ROMANIAN NEWS

After a very hopeful beginning of 2020, when the American Romanian Cultural Society in collaboration with the specialist in STARTALK Student Program Michele Anciaux Aoki and the UW Language Teaching Center, planned the summer camp *Romanian in the Sky and Outer Space*, we had to cancel because of the pandemic. Even though the camp could not be organized, Otilia Baraboi, Ileana Marin, and Elizabeta Iliescu, Romanian language instructors for ARCS, attended the workshop dedicated to STARTALK principles, approaches, and methodologies, run by Michele Aoki. Grateful for Michele's generosity to offer the workshop and for the UW LLC for hosting it, the three Romanian language instructors have added new expertise to their teaching portfolios. While the camp was cancelled, the instructors' newly added skills bear

fruit in diversifying their online teaching of Romanian. Otilia Baraboi, the ARCS Executive Director and UW lecturer, succeeded in transferring online all the ARCS education programs. Baraboi is also a Board Member of the [Ethnic Heritage Council](#) that organized a series of community roundtables via Zoom, entitled *Preserving and Teaching Our Heritage Languages- What are the challenges? Has the pandemic impacted your language program?* Together with Michele Aoki, who was the special guest of the series, Baraboi shared from her experience of transitioning online abruptly in March, as well as the challenges and opportunities of running a community-based heritage language school during these dire times.

*The Romanians - 30 Years of Cinema Revolution* had a very promising start in December 2019 and continued through February 2020 at SIFF Film Center and NWFF. Meant to be a retrospective of the best films produced in each decade since the fall of communism, *The Romanians* series, in collaboration with Making Waves from New York, ran only seven films made during 1990s and 2000s, out of the ten programmed. The screenings were cancelled due to the pandemic. Nonetheless, the audience's participation in the Q&As proved that there is an interest in finding out more about the confusing transition from a totalitarian to a democratic regime, as shown in Radu Mihaileanu's *Train of Life* (1998), Mircea Daniliuc's *Snails' Senator* (1995), Cristian Nemescu's *California Dreamin'* (2007), etc.

Once the largest film festival in the world – SIFF – also cancelled, no Romanian films, which were to be selected after their success in Berlin, came to Seattle. This year, the Romanian presence at the film festival in Berlin was quite impressive: Cristi Puiu's *Malmkrog* won the Best Director award in the Encounters section; Radu Jude's films *Uppercase Print* and *The Exit of the Trains* had their international and world premieres in the Forum section. For the first time in Romanian film history, two films by the same director were selected for the same section. Furthermore, Radu Jude's feature film *The Sleepwalkers* and Ana-Felicia Scutelnicu's *Transit Times* were presented in the Berlinale Co-Production Market for international producers, sale agents, and distributors. Adina Pintilie's *Death and the Maiden*, the winner of a Golden Bear in 2018, was also selected at the Berlinale Directors Projects. Unfortunately, none of these great

productions have made their way to the Pacific Northwest yet.

As in all misfortunes there is a silver lining, however. ARCS launched [Virtual Cinema of Eastern Europe](#), an online retrospective of the best films presented at the Romanian Film Festival in the past six years, together



with a few other Eastern European film gems. This project was made in partnership with Bogdan Darev, local film director, writer, and producer born in Bulgaria. Bogdan designed and curated the platform Filmabee that hosts [ARCS page for the Romanian Film Festival](#). Filmabee offers a boutique experience of watching carefully curated films, as opposed to the more popular sites such as Netflix.

ARCS is very happy to have strengthened their collaboration with the Bulgarian community. In addition to bringing films from Romania and Eastern Europe, *Virtual Cinema of Eastern Europe* is complemented by the series of discussions on Zoom, "Morning Coffee and Films", with various special guests from the local community of film critics and professionals, as well as from Romania, Bulgaria, and the US: Tudor Giurgiu (film director, president of Transylvania Film Festival), Robert Horton (Seattle-based film critic), Oana Giurgiu (film director and producer from Romania), Maya Vitkova (film director from Bulgaria), Magda Matache (Roma rights activist and scholar, director of the [Roma Program](#) at Harvard FXB) and Cristiana Grigore (research scholar and founder of the [Roma Peoples Project at Columbia University](#)), Bogdan Darev, and Maryna Ajaja (local poet and SIFF film programmer). The series has been curated and moderated by Otilia Baraboi.

On June 11<sup>th</sup>, Otilia Baraboi and Ileana Marin participated in the Second Conference of Romanian



American Professionals organized on Zoom by the Immigration Research Forum in Washington, D.C., a nonprofit founded by Teodor Stan. Among the highlights of the conference were the Romanian Ambassador to the US, His Excellency George Maior's survey of the 140 years of diplomatic relations between Romania and the US; the Connecticut Honorary Consul, Attorney Dana R. Bucin's work on the new bi-partisan legislation proposal regarding immigration; Professor Adrian Bejan's presentation of human life from a physics and data collection point of view; and the Romania - US medical collaboration supervised by the New Orleans LSU Healthcare Network Clinic neurosurgeon Dr. Gabriel C. Tender. Baraboi presented the ARCS experience with teaching online heritage language courses; Marin was the rapporteur for the panel of specialists in teaching Romanian to heritage and non-heritage speakers.

Another ongoing project launched by ARCS in response to the new restrictions of the pandemic is [Stories OFF the Wall: Quarantine Writings and Interviews](#).



In 2019, the 6th edition of the Romanian Film Festival in Seattle commemorated 30 years since the Fall of the Berlin Wall. Echoing the title of last year's edition, ARCS blog brings together inspiring articles and interviews with supporters and collaborators over the years. Bounced OFF the walls of home isolation, these stories engage ARCS readers across the globe in a quest for shared meaning.

-Otilia Baraboi and Ileana Marin

## SLOVENE NEWS

During spring quarter the instructor and students of our course in advanced Slovenian language made lemonade out of lockdown lemons by scheduling an

additional hour's meeting per week, over lunchtime each Tuesday on Zoom, to which we also invited members of the Seattle area Slovene-American community to chat with our students in Slovene on a variety of current affairs and general interest topics, many - of course - having to do with efforts to gain control of the pandemic in Slovenia. Billing the recurring event as Slovenska miza (Slovene Table), each week we welcomed a number of local Slovene speakers who generously donated their time, interest, and native or near-native proficiency in Slovene to the cause of engaging our advanced level students in genuine conversation and helping them clear the hurdles toward the next higher level level of language proficiency. Our heartfelt thanks to everyone in the community who participated!

-Michael Biggins

## NEWS FROM YOU

In addition to working on her Ed.D. at the University of Arkansas, **Gray Carpenter Church** (B.A., 1977) is now an online course instructor in the College of I.T. at Western Governors University. She is preparing a paper on adult education in Norway for submission later this year to the journal *Adult Learning*. Meanwhile, her husband, Al Church, enjoys fishing and "lakeside life" in beautiful Northwest Arkansas.

**Serge Gregory** (Ph.D., 1977) has been contracted to write the chapter "Chekhov and the Arts" for the forthcoming *Chekhov in Context*, to be published by Cambridge University Press. An audio drama version of Serge's two-act play *Sweet Lika*, based on the letters of Anton Chekhov and Lidia Mizinova, can now be streamed or downloaded from [sergeggregory.com](http://sergeggregory.com). A staged reading of the play premiered at Seattle's ACT Theater in 2017.

**Don Livingston** (Ph.D., 1998) continues working as the Curriculum Coordinator and Faculty Lead for the Critical Languages Institute (CLI) at Arizona State University's Melikian Center. In spring and summer of 2020, he helped the CLI make the transition from in-person classes to emergency remote teaching for twelve critical languages.



*From all of us to you, we wish you a peaceful, restful summer. Please take care of yourselves during these difficult times and stay safe!*

## GIFTS

The following is a list of gifts made to departmental funds since February 16, 2020. Many thanks to all donors for their generous support of Slavic Studies at the University of Washington!

### **Donors to the *Friends of Slavic Languages & Literatures Fund*:**

Marian Blue

### **Donors to the *Friends of Polish Studies Fund*:**

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### **Donors to the *Polish Studies Endowment Fund*:**

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### **Donors to the *Institutional Allowance Fund*:**

Anna Tolan

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- ( ) CZECHS Czech Studies Endowment Fund – Support for students studying Czech
- ( ) POLISS Friends of Polish Studies Fund – General support for Polish studies
- ( ) SLADIS Friends of Slavic Languages & Literatures – Gifts may be expended at the discretion of the Chair
- ( ) SLAVIC Institutional Allowance – General support for the department, including undergraduate and graduate student awards
- ( ) MICKLE Micklesen Graduate Fund – General support for graduate program
- ( ) POLDIS Polish Distinguished Speakers Fund – Showcase achievements of Poles by bringing speakers to campus
- ( ) POLFUL Polish Fulbright Fund – Increase Polish-specific course offerings by bringing Polish Fulbright scholars to the UW
- ( ) POLEND Polish Studies Endowment Fund – Promote permanence and expansion of program to include more levels of Polish language, history and culture
- ( ) ROMANI Romanian Studies Fund – Support Romanian Studies, including but not limited to support for a Romanian Fulbright
- ( ) RBCEND Slovene Studies Endowment Fund – Provide Support for Slovene Studies
- ( ) SWAYZE Swayze Fellowship Fund – Fellowship support for graduate students
- ( ) UKRANI Ukrainian Endowment Fund – Provide Ukrainian language and culture instruction
- ( ) PAHNSC Vadim Pahn Scholarship Fund – Russian language scholarship for undergraduates

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