

Ukrainian Studies Newsletter At the University of Washington



Issue 2, January 2012

Welcome to the second issue of the Ukrainian Studies Newsletter at the University of Washington. When we began this endeavor in 2009, our goal was to keep you informed on a regular basis about the Ukrainian Studies Endowment at the UW and its efforts to promote the study of all aspects of Ukraine, including language and culture instruction. This goal remains unchanged but in our renewed attempts to reach out to you we will work hard to improve on the Newsletter's regularity. In fact, from this point on, it will be published twice a year, in early June—at the end of an academic year, and in December—at the end of a calendar year. We strongly believe that it is important to increase Ukraine's visibility among faculty and students and that is why each year we invite a number of scholars who present talks on a variety of topics related to Ukrainian culture, literature, and politics. These lectures are always open to the general public. Yet the ultimate mission of the Ukrainian Studies Endowment [USE] is to create an endowed Chair of Ukrainian Studies, which might eventually lead to the establishment of a West Coast Ukrainian Studies Center. We count on your support to keep this vision alive.

To find out more about how you can help please contact Prof. James West of the UW Slavic Dept. (idwest@uw.edu; tel. 206-543-4829) or Dr. Maria Rewakowicz of the UW Slavic Dept. (mrewakow@uw.edu; tel. 206-985-9415). You can also contact the UW Slavic Department at 206-543-6848 or visit the Endowment web page at: http://depts.washington.edu/slavweb/endow/ukrainian-eng/

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Anya Hnateyko, our new Newsletter Editor, for volunteering her time and skills to make this issue available to you.

NEW AFFILIATE FACULTY APPOINTMENTS DEPT. OF SLAVIC LANGAUGES AND LITERATURES

As of July 1, 2009 two scholars joined the Slavic Dept. as affiliate faculty:

Dr. Serhy Yekelchyk is Associate Professor of Slavic Studies and History at the University of Victoria. Born and educated in Ukraine, he obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Alberta in 2000. Dr. Yekelchyk has published extensively on the development of a modern Ukrainian national identity in the Russian Empire, Stalinist culture, and the politics of memory in Soviet and post-Soviet Ukraine. His books include *Stalin's Empire of Memory: Russian-Ukrainian Relations in the Soviet Historical Imagination* (University of Toronto Press, 2004; Ukrainian translation, 2007); *Ukraine: Birth of a Modern Nation* (Oxford University Press, 2007; Polish, Lithuanian, and Russian translations 2009-2010); and



Ukrainophiles: The World of Ukrainian Patriots in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century (KIS Publishers, 2010, in Ukrainian). He has edited a special issue of the Canadian American Slavic Studies on "Ukrainian Culture after Communism" (2010) and co-edited a collection on Europe's Last Frontier & Belarus, Moldova, and Ukraine between the EU and Russia (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008).



Dr. Maria G. Rewakowicz, formerly Shevchenko Society Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Washington, received her Ph.D. from the University of Toronto in 2001. She taught Ukrainian language and literature at the University of Toronto, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Harvard, and Columbia universities. Dr. Rewakowicz published a number of scholarly articles on Ukrainian émigré poetry, feminism and literature and national identity formation. She is also a poet and authored four books of poetry in Ukrainian. Her other books include an anthology of the New York Group's poetry *Half-Century of Half-Silence* (Kyiv: Fakt, 2005, in

Ukrainian) and collection on *Contemporary Ukraine on a Cultural Map of Europe* (M.E. Sharpe, 2009), coedited with Larissa M. L. Zaleska Onyshkevych. Dr. Rewakowicz's collection of essays in Ukrainian translation *Persona non Grata* was released from Krytyka (Kyiv, Ukraine) in January 2012.

UW FACULTY AS FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS IN UKRAINE

Prof. Laada Bilaniuk of Dept. of Anthropology and Dr. Maria G. Rewakowicz of Slavic Dept. were awarded Fulbright grants to do research in Ukraine in 2009 and 2009-11, respectively. Here is how they describe their projects and experiences:

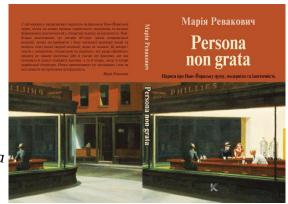
Laada Bilaniuk, Associate Professor of Anthropology

With the support of a Fulbright Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship, I conducted seven months of field research in Ukraine in 2009 on the topic of "Politics in Popular Culture: Music, Activism, and Language in Ukraine." In this research I examine how the sphere of popular culture, particularly music, is politicized, and how popular culture is harnessed for political and cultural activism in Ukraine. I interviewed people involved in music and activism, as well as conducted participant observation at events including concerts, ethnic festivals, press conferences, and planning meetings of the activist group "Ne bud' bajduzhym" ('Don't Be Indifferent,' which supports Ukrainian language use and desovietization). I conducted interviews with both professional and amateur musicians, managers of music groups, concert and festival organizers, activists, music journalists, radio and music television administrators, and concert attendees. I also collected material from print and broadcast media. I was surprised to find that among those who actively promote Ukrainian language and culture and the country's independence, there are many people who grew up as Russophones, including those of ethnic Russian ancestry. This goes against the stereotypical division of Ukraine along Ukrainian vs. Russian ethnic, linguistic, and political lines. The decision to actively construct one's identity as Ukrainian entails a recognition of one's agency in identity construction, while for the most part still resting on an ideology of the naturalness of nationhood. For some, the adoption of the Ukrainian cause is like a religious conversion, while others persist in balancing the purported oppositions and ambiguities. I have presented some of my findings at conferences, and I am currently working on a book titled "Rock Made in Ukraine/Ukraine Made in Rock," in which I hope to illuminate the role of popular music in contemporary cultural politics.

Maria G. Rewakowicz, Affiliate Faculty and Shevchenko Society Fellow

My Fulbright project investigated the connection between literary production and identity construction in present-day Ukraine, and also examined the dynamics behind the canon formation since independence. During my tenure as a Fulbright Scholar, which commenced in Nov. 2009 and ended in Jan. 2011, I devoted much of my time to researching in libraries, guest lecturing, as well as interacting and conducting interviews with literary critics, authors, publishers, and others involved in shaping cultural trends. I also took advantage of direct access to primary sources, such as current literary publications largely unavailable in the US. Attending cultural events, book presentations and literary

readings was invaluable and indispensable to my research project. In addition, I accepted a few invitations to guest lecture. In the spring of 2010 I visited the Lviv Ivan Franko National University and its Center for the Humanities, and in the fall 2010 I lectured at the Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University in Mykolayiv and at the Donetsk National University. Shortly before my departure from Kyiv, I signed a contract with the Krytyka Publishing House to publish my book of literary essays in Ukrainian translation titled, *Persona non Grata: Essays on the New York Group, Modernism and Identity.* The book came out in January 2012.



Anthology, memory, and Lviv: Olena Haleta speaks at UW

On Friday, January 28, 2011, Fulbright-Kennan Scholar Olena Haleta visited the University of Washington and presented a talk on the "Re-invention of Tradition: the Anthology "Twelve" in the Context of a Cultural Development of Contemporary Lviv." Haleta is Associate Professor and Director of Literary Theory and Comparative Studies at Ivan Franko Lviv University, in Lviv, Ukraine.

Olena Haleta's lecture focused on the anthology called "Twelve" written by twelve young Ukrainian writers in the 1930's about the city of Lviv. Although at the time the stories in the collection were written, Lviv was not a predominately ethnically Ukrainian city, it was still a Ukrainian center despite the small number of Ukrainians actually living there. Haleta explained that anthologies are compiled in order to explain or present some phenomena. In this case, the stories in "Twelve" attempt to represent pre-war Lviv in a nostalgic and romantic light, as a lost and dreamed about city.

At the time "Twelve" was published, it did not make a big impression on the public, and responses to the work were often ironic. It was not until after the war that the anthology was held in high regard as a representation of young, literary bohemia. The anthology attempts to create a memory of the city of Lviv using traditional Ukrainian prose. It depicts elements of street life through passages and pictures. The photos in "Twelve" give the effect of presence and authenticity. They provide a glimpse of the past, but only a glimpse, and this fragmented nature hides certain aspects of city life and highlights others.

Post-soviet Lviv, Haleta notes, is searching for a past and a future. Traditional coffee houses around the city are decorated to tell different stories of Lviv history. For example, some are decorated to tell Jewish, Polish, or Ukrainian stories, and highlight Lviv's attempt to be a city of different national communities. This is a contemporary idea to recreate old Ukraine, and old traditions. Haleta explains that contemporary culture strategies now present Lviv with both an aspect of nostalgia, and with irony which can be seen in the commercialization of the city.

"Twelve" strived to give meaning to a city whose past was almost forgotten. Even though after World War II none of the twelve authors stayed in Lviv, the anthology gave Lviv a history that it might have never had. Haleta says that "memory is a dialogue with the past, based on the present." Lviv became a space for life and literature. It is interesting that when the anthology was first published it was barely noticed and now it is regarded as a work that defines a city. It appears to have made a big impact on the city's aspiration to be a place of culture and inter-mingling communities, and I think that is a very impressive thing for an anthology to be able to stake its claim to.

By Andrea Baron, UW senior

Jennifer Carroll Recognized for Research Article

Anthropology graduate student Jennifer Carroll was recognized for her research article titled "Addiction, Gender, and the Limits of Public Health Solutions to IV Drug Use in Ukraine" by awards from two groups of the Society for Medical Anthropology. She received the "Best Graduate Student Paper" prize from the AIDS and Anthropology Research Group, and an "Honorable Mention" from the Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco Study Group. Her paper is based upon pilot dissertation research conducted in central Ukraine in 2010. The primary goal of this research was to explore how harm reduction professionals engage biomedical definitions of addiction. The findings reported in this paper provide evidence that the medicalization of addiction in Ukraine is highly gendered. Male addicts are perceived as ill and in need of medical intervention, whereas female drug users are believed to have turned to drugs simply to deal with personal or marital problems. This hinders women's access to public health and HIV-prevention services for drug users by undercutting the classification of their drug use behavior as a medical disease. This paper, as well as more on Jennifer Carroll's work, can be found online at: http://washington.academia.edu/JenniferCarroll

Anton Shadyrya, anton3@uw.edu President, Ukrainian Students United April 2011

Spring presents a perfect opportunity to reflect on the past. As I enter into the freshman Spring guarter here at UW with a renewed mindset, I've taken some moments to not only reflect on the past academic year, but also on my whole career as a student. I can say with certainty that this journey has changed me. As a student of the philosophy major, I have learned many things, more so about myself rather than the outside world. I entered this journey with ideas and traditions that have been taught to me by my parents, friends and communities. As time progressed, however, some ideas no longer became so cherished and were shed; others became more important and therefore became ever more guarded by me. This is the process of philosophy: putting ideas, beliefs, traditions, values, and so on through the "refining fire of controversy," as my professor said, in order to see which stand the test and which do not deserve to be cherished. I was born in Ukraine and moved to America at a fairly young age of seven. I am now 22 and so have been living in the United States for 15 years. My philosophical journey at UW has resulted in my coming to the conclusion that, although the majority of my life has been spent here, with few visits back to Ukraine, it seems absurd to let the Ukrainian culture dissolve into the past. I have chosen to remain active in the Ukrainian culture and plan on doing so in the future. My goals are to take a formal Ukrainian language course to solidify my Ukrainian, to continue dancing with Barvinok, the Ukrainian Folk Ensemble, to support the Ukrainian community with the knowledge learned at the University. I believe that studying in America has made appealing the Western idea of liberalism. My ultimate dream would be to fly back to Ukraine and maintain a teaching position from which I could influence this pattern of thought in people, i.e. to westernize Ukraine.

News from the UW Ukrainian Studies Endowment Committee (USEC)

DELEGATION FROM DNIPROPETROVSK @ UW Eugene E. Lemcio, Ph.D.

From September 10-15, a four–member delegation from Dnipropetrovsk Oblast (Ukraine's industrial heartland) visited our region, including the University of Washington. The group was comprised of Parliament Speaker Yevhen Udod, Vice-Speaker Andrij Muksimov, Serhij Milyutin (Dir., the Dept. of Information), and Tatyana Shapovalova (Dir., Information Technology for the Oblast).



Their aim was to begin establishing as many relationships as possible between their "state" and ours. They were guests of the Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle, of a group of State Senators and business people at the Rainier Club and the Columbia Tower, and of Tacoma's Mayor and Pierce County Executive. After touring the Legislative Building and Temple of Justice at the Capitol, they were hosted at dinner by Lt. Governor Brad Owen and Dr. Antonio Sanchez (Dir., Economic Development and International Relations).

During his first visit to Seattle, the Hon. Serhiy Alyoshyn, Ukraine's new Consul General in San Francisco, greeted the Delegation. The Government in Kyiv had authorized members to conduct formal discussions with Microsoft and Boeing. Planners and hosts for the three days were Mr. Michael Zhovnir of Auburn (Dir., Alpha Tech [USA]) and Prof. Eugene Lemcio, Co-Chair of the Ukrainian Studies Endowment Fund at the UW.

On Sept. 13, Prof. Lemcio (representing the Fund) and Ms. Diane Adachi (Assistant Vice President and Special Assistant to the Provost, International Relations and Protocols) co-hosted an afternoon forum with UW personnel (faculty, staff, and students) in Gerberding Hall. After commenting on a video presentation about the Oblast, Speaker Udod and his colleagues conducted a Q & A session.

UW participants included (in alphabetical order) Prof. James Augerot

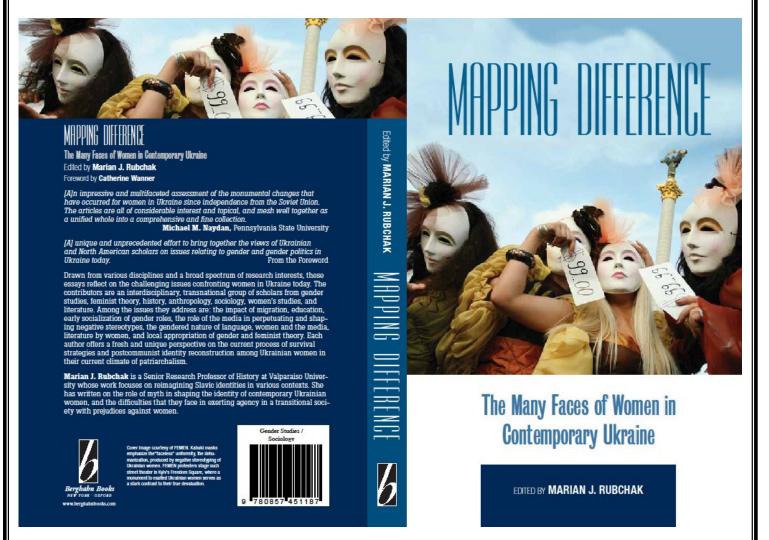


(Dir. and Chair of the Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies Program), Dr. Laada Bilaniuk (Associate Prof. of Anthropology), Dr. Zbigniew Bochniarz (Senior Lecturer, the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs), Julie Garlow (M.D., Prof. of Medical Oncology and Dir., Breast Medical Oncology), Mr. Derek Hom (Ukrainian Students Union), Prof. Christopher Jones (Co-Dir. of the Institute for Global and Regional Safety and Security), Dr. Maria Rewakowicz (Affiliate Faculty in the Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures), and Mr. Anton Shadyrya (Pres., Ukrainian Students United).

During a lively interchange, participants explored various ways of relating the Oblast and Dnipropetrovsk National University to the UW in general and of supporting the Ukrainian Studies Endowment in particular. The precise nature of that support is yet to be defined and realized. Special thanks go to Ms. Diane Adachi and her staff, who demonstrated flexibility and grace as various configurations of personnel and venue emerged during the planning.

Prof. Marian J. Rubchak's Lecture

On Nov. 8 USEC hosted a talk by Prof. Marian J. Rubchak, Senior Research Professor of History at Valparaiso University, titled "Charge of the Pink Brigade: Women's Resistance to Patriarchy in Today's Ukraine." Prof. Rubchak, who has written extensively on the role of myth in shaping the identity of contemporary Ukrainian women and the difficulties they face in exerting agency in a transitional society with prejudices against women, focused in her lecture on FEMEN, an opposition movement of young, university-educated women, founded in 2008. Their youthful protest against patriarchy, endemic corruption and abuses targeting women is often described as the most radical feminist movement in today's Europe, even though its members reject feminism as a self-descriptor. They convey their opposition to the hegemonic male social codes through daringly creative scandalous demonstrations, bizarre street theater, and half-nudity. Prof. Rubchak argued that even though FEMEN's primary target is the rapidly escalating sex industry, their ultimate goal is gender justice and sufficient political power to achieve it. The lecture was followed by a lively discussion, which also included a presentation of Prof. Rubchak's most recent book *Mapping Difference: The Many Faces of Women in Contemporary Ukraine* published by Berghahn Books in 2011. This event was co-sponsored by the Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies Program, the Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies Department, and the Slavic Languages and Literatures Department.



Ukrainian Fulbright Scholars at UW

Following the successful visit of Prof. Olena Haleta of Lviv University at UW in January 2011, this year, in Winter Quarter, USEC will host two Fulbright scholars from Ukraine, Prof. Valentyna Kharkhun of Mykola Hohol State University of Nizhyn and Prof. Victoria Sukovata of Kharkhiv National Karazin University. Prof. Kharkhun who is currently a Fulbright scholar at Columbia University will give a talk on February 28, 2012, at 3:30PM in Thomson Hall, titled "Museumification of the Soviet Past, or Communism in Museum," and Prof. Victoria Sukovata, currently at University of California at Berkeley, will guest lecture in Prof. Laada Bilaniuk's class "The Anthropology of the Post-Soviet States" in early March. Prof. Sukovata's talk on queer and disability images in the popular Soviet and post-Soviet culture will be open to the general public.

Museumification of the Soviet Past, or Communism in Museum

A Talk by Valentyna Kharkhun

This presentation explores the role of the museum in the formation of memory about communism and defines the types of Soviet museumification. The author contends that with respect to the identification projects carried out in different European countries, the reception of communism is determined by strategies ranging from dethronement and condemnation to indirect defense of Soviet communism.

Prof. Valentyna Kharkhun

Dr. Kharkhun is a Fulbright Scholar at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University, for the academic year 2011-12. She is a Professor at the Ukrainian Literature Department, Mykola Hohol State University of Nizhyn and Senior Researcher at the Department of 20th Century Ukrainian Literature, T.H. Shevchenko Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. She has authored two books, *Socialist Realist Canon in Ukrainian Literature: Genesis, Evolution, Modification* (in Ukrainian), Nizhyn: Hidromax Ltd, 2009, 508 pp. (winner of the 2010 Book prize in category of Literary Studies) and *Volodymyr Vynnychenko's Novel* Snub-nosed Mephistopheles' Notes: *Generics, Semantic Sphere and Imagology* (in Ukrainian), Nizhyn, 2011, 200 pp. She has also published four textbooks and over seventy articles and has edited four volumes of *Vynnychenko Reviews* and two volumes of *Studia Sovietica*. Her research focuses on the aesthetic paradigm of Soviet totalitarianism, the socialist realist canon and its reflection in Ukrainian literature, and the Vynnychenko studies.

Queer and Disability Images in the Popular Soviet and post-Soviet Culture A Talk by Viktoriya Sukovata

Viktoriya Sukovata holds a Ph. D. in Cultural Studies and is Doctor of Habilitation in Philosophical Anthropology, professor of Kharkiv National Karazin University, Ukraine. She has published more than 120 articles in the area of Gender and Queer studies, Visual Arts, and post-Holocaust ethics. She is author of the monograph "Face of Other. Body of "Other" in Cultural Anthropology" (2009) and the first Ukrainian methodic manual on queer studies. At Kharkiv National University she teaches courses in Cultural Studies, Ukrainian Culture, Queer Studies, Ethics, and Aesthetics at the Philosophical Faculty. Dr. Sukovata has been a visiting scholar at various European and American academic centers and universities, including Lund University (Sweden), Hamburg University (Germany), Free University of Berlin, Institute of War Documentation (Netherlands), Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies (Washington, D. C), George Washington University, Columbia University, and the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (USA). Currently she is Fulbright visiting scholar at California University at Berkeley.

Upcoming Events:

February 10, 8:00pm, Meany Theater

Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Ensemble will perform at the CulturalFest event. For more information visit http://www.meany.org/tickets/?prod=5302

February 23, 1:30pm, Allen Auditorium, Allen Library, 1st Floor

Prof. Viktoria Sukovata of Kharkiv National Karazin University will be talking about queer and disability images in the popular Soviet and post-Soviet culture.

February 28, 2012, 3:30pm, Thomson Hall 317

Prof. Valentyna Kharkhun, Mykola Hohol State University of Nizhyn Museumification of the Soviet Past, or Communism in Museum

May 23, 2012, 7:30pm, Kane Hall 120

Prof. Timothy Snyder of Yale University will be talking about his recent book, *Bloodlands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin*.

If you wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to the UW USE, here is how you can do it:

Donate online by going to the Slavic Department website:

http://depts.washington.edu/slavweb/

Click on "Make a Gift". You will then be directed to various Slavic Dept. Funds, including two Ukrainian Studies Funds. You can select either **Endowed Fund for Ukrainian Studies**, created to endow a Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the UW, or, **Friends of Ukrainian Studies Fund**, which supports ongoing activities in Ukrainian Studies such as a lectures series or language and culture instruction.

If you prefer, you can mail your contribution (payable to the University of Washington) to:

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures M253 Smith Hall, Box 353580 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195-3580

Please indicate on your check to which Fund you would like to donate, Endowed Fund for Ukrainian Studies, or Friends of Ukrainian Studies Fund.

Pursuant to RCW 19.09, the University of Washington is registered as a charitable organization with the Secretary of State, State of Washington. For information, call the Office of the Secretary of State, 1-800-4483.

MUSEUMIFICATION OF THE SOVIET PAST, OR COMMUNISM IN MUSEUM



A talk by Valentyna Kharkhun

Fulbright Scholar at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University; Professor of Ukrainian Literature, Mykola Hohol State University of Nizhyn, and Senior Researcher at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

Feb. 28, 2012 3:30PM Thomson 317

This presentation explores the role of the museum in the formation of memory about communism and defines the types of Soviet museumification. The author contends that with respect to the identification projects carried out in different European countries, the reception of communism is determined by strategies ranging from dethronement and condemnation to indirect defense of Soviet communism.

This event is co-sponsored by the UW Ukrainian Studies Endowment Committee, the Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies Program, and the Slavic Languages & Literatures Department.



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON INTENSIVE UKIRAINIAN LANGUAGE SUMMER 2012

JUNE 18 - AUGUST 17 DAILY 1:10 - 4:30

REGISTER BEGINNING APRIL 16th FOR UKR 401, 402, 403 FULL TERM SUMMER SERIES

This is an intensive course for students with no previous knowledge of Ukrainian.

The course is designed to facilitate the acquisition of basic vocabulary and grammar through practice in comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Listening comprehension and conversational skills will be practiced through audio sessions during the regular class hours. Students will also learn about the Ukrainian culture and ethnic heritage.

INSTRUCTOR: DR. MARIA REWAKOWICZ EARN ONE YEAR IN NINE WEEKS

For more information contact the UW Slavic Department at slavicll@uw.edu.