

The NEWSLETTER of the Early Slavic Studies Association



Vol. 34, No. 2 (Fall 2021)

From the ESSA President

As we reach the upcoming ASEES convention and the close of 2021, my final president's letter focuses on thanking all the ESSA members, and particularly the ESSA officers, for their confidence and support. In stepping down at the end of my term as president, I am concluding, mind-bogglingly, 12 consecutive years as an officer in one or another of all the ESSA positions: Secretary/Treasurer (later becoming Treasurer alone), Vice-President, and President. It began when I was strong-armed at the 2009 ESSA meeting into running for Secretary/Treasurer to succeed Isolde Thyr t, after her long and distinguished service in that position. Isolde was a very hard act to follow, and an invaluable mentor. The idea of being a treasurer was horrifying, because I am terrible at arithmetic, but when I demurred on that ground, everyone at the meeting was confident that I could pull through nevertheless. Luckily, it turned out that the Treasury position actually didn't require much real arithmetic after all, but the responsibility, and the trust of those who elected me, did a lot to improve my self-confidence with figures and, consequently, even my arithmetical skills, which had seemed to be beyond hope before.

Over the past 12 years, I've had the pleasure of working with a number of different ESSA presidents. As president myself, I have truly enjoyed working with our current officers, Treasurer Justin Willson, Secretary Ashley Morse, Newsletter Editor Russ Martin, and Vice-President/President-Elect Cornelia Soldat, and I'm especially grateful for their outstanding work and collegiality. I look forward to passing the presidency on to Cornelia at the 2021 ESSA Annual Business Meeting, which will be held virtually on Friday, December 3. I hope as many members as possible will be able to attend to welcome Cornelia to the position.

I would like to give a special tribute to the ESSA webmaster, Martin Podolak, who has been managing our website at <https://earlyslavicstudies.org> voluntarily since 2019. We originally hired Martin, whose IT skills are very impressive, just to set up a new website for us that would be independent from H-Net's, and after doing that, he very generously offered to maintain the website

gratis, which he has been doing ever since, in addition to serving as the Bulgarian Studies Association's webmaster at the same time. Martin created the current design and look of the ESSA website, transferred it to a new server, and set up the member password and log-in system for those pages at the website that are available to members only. He updates announcements, adds links to related websites, and answers e-mails from members who have misplaced their website passwords, always very swiftly. Martin is a wonderful colleague, and while I have never met him in person, since he has been based in Denmark and then Germany, working with him has been a joy. He is a Slavist himself, with an M.A. in Russian Studies. Of particular interest to medieval Slavists, he is the editor of the Slavic Diachronic Dictionary Server, on historical linguistics, which contains c. 140,000 headwords

([https://urldefense.com/v3/https://ordbog.oesteuropastudier.dk_!!C5qS4YX3!XCYAqPULflq4PnOUx4rInbTyutf3zISySLrSGxIhuhIXFo99bvTtvWSzbTAqsGPiIw\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://ordbog.oesteuropastudier.dk_!!C5qS4YX3!XCYAqPULflq4PnOUx4rInbTyutf3zISySLrSGxIhuhIXFo99bvTtvWSzbTAqsGPiIw$)). For the past ten years he also has been managing the site Østeuropastudier - Danish Portal for Slavonic, Balkan and East European Studies

([https://urldefense.com/v3/https://oesteuropastudier.dk_!!C5qS4YX3!XCYAqPULflq4PnOUx4rInbTyutf3zISySLrSGxIhuhIXFo99bvTtvWSzbTAxjbMt8w\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://oesteuropastudier.dk_!!C5qS4YX3!XCYAqPULflq4PnOUx4rInbTyutf3zISySLrSGxIhuhIXFo99bvTtvWSzbTAxjbMt8w$)) .

If you are curious about Martin's scholarly work in Slavic studies, you can access his publications at his personal webpage (<https://podolak.net/en/studies/publications>) and his CV at <https://podolak.net/de/lebenslauf>. You may also be interested in the story of his Scandinavian great-grandparents' immigration to Brooklyn, New York in 1916, and then from the U.S. back to Denmark after the 1929 U.S. stock market crash, at <https://podolak.net/en/a-brooklyn-tale> (written in German).

It saddens me greatly to report, as many of you have already read in ESSA Secretary Ashley Morse's recent e-mail, that we have lost our dear friend and colleague George Majeska, who was one of the founders of the ESSA and served as its first Secretary-Treasurer. It was George who nominated me to run for Secretary-Treasurer in 2009 (as the sole candidate, characteristically for the ESSA). George was a very kind and supportive person, and one of my all-time favorite people. I miss him very much, as I know that those of you who also knew him do.

In addition to a commemorative piece in honor of George, this issue contains details of the times and locations of the ESSA sponsored panel and annual meeting, both of which will be held virtually, back-to-back, on December 3. I look forward to seeing as many of you as can make it on the computer screen then!

With all best wishes,

Cynthia Vakareliyska
President, Early Slavic Studies Association

Webpage:

<https://earlyslavicstudies.org>

ESSA on H-Early Slavic:

<https://networks.h-net.org/node/3076/pages/55813/early-slavic-studies-association>

Spotlight

Memories of George Majeska Eve Levin (U of Kansas)

George Majeska passed away on October 29, 2021, at the age of 85, of vocal cord cancer. For many years, he was a leader of the Early Slavic field, much admired for his perceptive scholarship and his genial presence in our midst. He inspired and encouraged many of us, including me. These are some of my memories.

I first heard about George as a beginning graduate student at Indiana University. George had received the PhD from the same program some years earlier, as a student of Prof. George Soulis. Like his advisor, George straddled the Byzantine and medieval Slavic areas—an exceptionally broad field of expertise, comprising over a millennium of history, a huge geographical area, and a daunting array of languages. I was told firmly that nobody except George Majeska could master such an extensive graduate field of study. George was able to produce scholarship in both the Byzantine and the early Slavic fields, and to trace the ecclesiastical and cultural contacts between the two.

George was a regular, engaged participant in the annual conventions of ASEEEES (then named AAASS). He welcomed newcomers enthusiastically. When I and my fellow graduate student Sandra Levy (later, a Slavic librarian at the University of Chicago) started attending the annual conferences, George greeted us heartily and made sure to include us. He listened eagerly to our research interests. He became an informal mentor to me in the early stages of my career, helping me to navigate the profession, writing letters of recommendation on my behalf, and offering generous reassurance.

In 1986, the early Slavic field was in a period of doldrums. All too often, the AAASS leadership rejected panels focused around early Slavic topics as being “not of general interest.” Out of this situation, the idea of forming the Early Slavic Studies Association arose, and George became the chief organizer. He drafted a small group to come up with a plan. I recall a meeting in a hotel room at the 1987 AAASS convention, in which George, Don Ostrowski and I—and a couple of others, as I recall—came up with a plan to realize the creation of ESSA. We agreed upon a name for the organization and wrote a constitution in the best medieval manner: we plagiarized it verbatim from the Bulgarian Studies Association. At the first official meeting of ESSA on November 5, 1987, George was acclaimed Secretary-Treasurer.

In his role of Secretary-Treasurer, George managed ESSA’s growing membership roster and its modest bank account. He convinced his home institution, the University of Maryland, to cover some of the costs of mailing notices and the newsletter, this being a time before email. I suspect that George had to do the photocopying himself. I was the first newsletter editor, and George proofread each issue before duplicating it. As I recall, he found an egregious typo or two, but nonetheless he complimented me on my editorial skills. This happened just when I was beginning editorial duties at *The Russian Review*, and I greatly appreciated George’s expression of confidence in me.

Some months later, I found myself in Maryland for a family visit, and George suggested that he and I could get together to talk about ESSA business. Sensing my reluctance to take so much time away

from my family, George proposed that I bring them along; we could walk among the spring cherry blossoms in Washington. My four-year-old niece took an instant liking to George, and proceeded to pepper him with impertinent questions. “How old are you?” she asked multiple times. “Are you a he or a she?” George took it all in good humor. In between, George and I talked about plans for ESSA, and about how the Early Slavic field was becoming energized.

George was also one of the initiators of the famed Early Slavic dinners at the annual ASEES conventions. When the ASEES conferences were in Washington, he’d set up the dinners at his favorite, somewhat downscale, Middle Eastern restaurant. At a beachside ESSA dinner in Hawaii, the service was so slow that many attendees departed before the bill arrived, leaving with George some cash to cover their share. But they had underestimated the cost, so those few of us who remained until the end had to put in more money. George ended up making up the difference out of his own pocket. When I took on the task of organizing the Early Slavic dinner at the Los Angeles convention, George wisely advised me to negotiate a fixed, all-inclusive price with the restaurant and to collect the payment as attendees arrived.

Sometime in this same period, I read George’s book, *Russian Travelers to Constantinople in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries* (Washington DC: Dumbarton Oaks, 1984). In it, he displayed his deep knowledge of Rus’-Byzantine cultural relations, and drew renewed attention to travelers’ reports as a source. This book inspired me to translate the vita of St. Evfrosinia Polotskaia as a primary source for my undergraduate students to read; I wanted them to notice a Rus’ woman’s connection to the larger Eastern Christian world.

At the end of the millennium, George became one of the organizers of a pathbreaking project: to introduce Russian colleagues to the most innovative scholarship on Russian history arising in the United States. George took over editorship of the first volume of *Amerikanskaia rusistika: vekhi istoriografii poslednykh let* (Samara: Izd. “Samarskii universitet,” 2001). It featured articles by American scholars of Rus’ and Muscovy; my article on *dvoeverie* was among those chosen for inclusion. George authored a short introduction, orienting readers to the major developments of the historiography in the West and the scholars who produced the milestone works. He emphasized the richness and diversity of vision among American scholars of the premodern East Slavic world. George oversaw obtaining copies of the book for the contributors to it. The letter accompanying the book was dated “St. George (N.S.) 2002.” It began in quintessential George style, “A minor triumph over the Russian Federation bureaucracy!”

George was ever sardonic, although not bitter, about bureaucracy, whether governmental or academic. When he decided to retire while still quite young and very active, he explained to me that he took the university’s proffered retirement incentive because he was tired of wrangling the administration to provide necessary programmatic support. When my institution offered a similar retirement incentive, I thought of George, and followed his example.

Vechnaia pamiat’, George!

Chronicle of Publications

Maria Grazia Bartolini (Università degli Studi di Milano), “‘A Sight never Seen even in Roman Amphitheatres’: The Spectacle of the Passion, Visual Meditation, and the Shaping of Religious Emotions in Early Modern Ukraine,” *Zeitschrift für Slavische Philologie* 77 (2021) 2 (forthcoming).’

Francis Butler (Independent Scholar) published “Успенский сборник XII (не XIII) в.” *Palaeoslavica* 29, no. 1 (2021): 211–60.

Clare Griffin (Nazarbayev University), published the book chapter “Immateriality and Intermateriality: The Vanishing Centrality of Apothecary Ware in Russian Medicine,” in **Matthew P. Romaniello**, ed., *The Life Cycle of Russian Things: From Fish Guts to Faberge, 1600-Present* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021), 17–31.

Charles J. Halperin (Independent Scholar) published “Josephans and Non-Possessors (Trans-Volga Elders) during the Reign of Ivan IV,” *Russian History* 47, no. 3 (2020): 173–85; “Ivan the Terrible and the Tatars,” *Zolotoordynskoe obozrenie* 9, no. 1 (2021): 188–200; “Seeing the Future in Muscovy in 1584,” in Susan J. Martin, ed., *In Honor of Sandra L. Levy* (Chicago: University of Chicago Library, 2021): 29–35 (see <https://openjournals.lib.uchicago.edu/index.php/slevy/issue/view/12>); *Ivan the Terrible in Russian Historical Memory since 1991* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2021); an interview on ASP blog: see <https://www.academicstudiespress.com/asp-blog/2021/6/30/an-interview-with-charles-j-halperin-author-of-ivan-the-terrible-in-russian-historical-memory-since-1991>; (Editor), Cherie Kartchner Woodworth, “Politics, Pastoralism, and Current World History on the Central Eurasian Steppe,” *Archivum Eurasiae Medii Aevi* 25 (2019-2020): 65–138; and “An Artifact of Soviet Historiography: *Očerki istorii istoricheskoi nauki v SSSR*,” *Studia Slavica et Balcanica Petropolitana*, 2021: 1 (29) (January-June): 205-18.

Viacheslav Lytvynenko (Charles University) published *Athanasius of Alexandria, Oratio III contra Arianos: Old Slavonic Version and English Translation*, in *Patrologia Orientalis* 253, 58.1 (Turnhout: Brepols, 2021); and “Pseudo-Athanasian Homily on the Man Born Blind: Slavonic Sermon from an Unknown Greek Original” [“Slovo o ezhe ot rozhdeniya slepom Psevdo-Afanasiya – Slavyanskaya perevodnaya gomiliya s neizvestnym grecheskim originalom”], *Scrinium: Journal of Philological, Historical and Cultural Studies* 1 (2021): 7–29 [in co-authorship with **Irina Gritsevskaya**].

Erika Monahan (University of New Mexico) published the book chapter “Binding Siberia: Semen Remezov’s *Khorograficheskaia Kniga* in Time and Through Time” in **Matthew P. Romaniello**, ed., *The Life Cycle of Russian Things: From Fish Guts to Faberge, 1600-Present* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021), 171–90.

Iulia Nițescu (U of Bucharest) published two articles: “Marrying an Orthodox Tsarevna from Rome: Sofia Palaiologina’s Religious Identity in Moscow,” *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 55, no. 1 (2021): 1–23; and “Late-Fifteenth-Century Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and the Emergence of a Muscovite Dynastic Consciousness,” *Slavonic and East European Review* 99, no. 3 (2021): 464–83.

Matthew P. Romaniello (Weber State University) edited *The Life Cycle of Russian Things: From Fish Guts to Faberge, 1600-Present* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021), co-edited with **Alison K. Smith** and **Tricia Starks**. Romaniello contributed one of the chapters in the volume, entitled: “Making

Fish Guts into Isinglass and Glue” (pp. 71-85). He also edited and wrote an introduction to a special collection of previously published articles from the *Journal of World History*, on “Health, Globally,” available online at: <https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/44605>.

Maria Alessia Rossi (Princeton University) and **Alice Isabella Sullivan** (University of Michigan) have published *Eclecticism in Late Medieval Visual Culture at the Crossroads of the Latin, Greek, and Slavic Traditions* (in the series *Sense, Matter and Medium: New Approaches to Medieval Material and Literary Culture*, 6) (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2021). This volume builds upon the new worldwide interest in the global Middle Ages. It investigates the prismatic heritage and eclectic artistic production of Eastern Europe between the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries, while challenging the temporal and geographical parameters of the study of medieval, Byzantine, post-Byzantine, and early-modern art. Contact and interchange between primarily the Latin, Greek, and Slavic cultural spheres resulted in local assimilations of select elements that reshaped the artistic landscapes of regions of the Balkan Peninsula, the Carpathian Mountains, and further north. The specificities of each region, and, in modern times, politics and nationalistic approaches, have reinforced the tendency to treat them separately, preventing scholars from questioning whether the visual output could be considered as an expression of a shared history. The comparative and interdisciplinary framework of this volume provides a holistic view of the visual culture of these regions by addressing issues of transmission and appropriation, as well as notions of cross-cultural contact, while putting on the global map of art history the eclectic artistic production of Eastern Europe.

Maria Alessia Rossi (Princeton University) has the chapter “Monumental Art” ” to be published in **Florin Curta**, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 500–1300* (2002).

Alice Isabella Sullivan (University of Michigan) has the chapter “Monumental Architecture” to be published in **Florin Curta**, ed., *The Routledge Handbook of East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 500–1300* (2002).

Cornelia Soldat (U of Cologne) published “Looking Up What Others Wrote: Eyewitnesses and the Literary Framework of 16th-Century German Pamphlets about Ivan the Terrible’s Oprichnina,” *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 55, no. 2 (2021): 111–35.

Res gestae

A journal article recently published by **Maria Grazia Bartolini** (Università degli Studi di Milano), ““Engrave this memory in your heart as if on a tablet...”: Memory, Meditation, and Visual Imagery in Seventeenth-Century Ukrainian Preaching,” *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, 62, no. 2 (2020): 154–81, has been selected as the recipient of an Honorable Mention in the American Association for Ukrainian Studies 2021 prize competition.

The ESSA is delighted to extend congratulations to **Patrice Dabrowski** on receiving the Association for Women in Slavic Studies book award for her *The Carpathians: Discovering the Highlands of Poland and Ukraine* (Cornell, 2021).

It is with considerable regret that **Russell E. Martin** (Westminster College) announces that he has assumed the duty of Chair of the Department of History after more than 20 years of artfully dodging the job.

Iulia Nițescu (U of Bucharest) been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship at the New Europe College, Institute for Advanced Study (Bucharest, Romania) for the year 2021-2022. Her project focuses on the correspondence of Ivan III of Moscow and his daughter Elena, wife of Alexander Jagiellon of Lithuania, aiming to map the fashioning of Elena's public Orthodox identity at the Latin Lithuanian court.

Matthew P. Romaniello (Weber State University) presented "The Bad Sort? G. N. Teplov's Plan for Ukrainian Tobacco in the Eighteenth Century," at *Intoxicating Spaces: Global and Comparative Perspectives*, hosted by the University of Sheffield.

Jennifer B. Spock (Eastern Kentucky University) has been dealing primarily with random medical issues this past year (NOT COVID-19, thankfully), but she was delighted this past spring to be named a Foundation Professor. That is the highest award that can be given to faculty at Eastern Kentucky U., and is based on accomplishments and dedication to teaching in addition to scholarship and service. For research, she is currently starting work on a massive database that she hopes will, in future, provide much fodder for information regarding northern monasticism. Teaching, as for everyone, has been fraught with new adventures, but more students have crossed the semester finish lines than not, which is a win!

Ludwig Steindorff (Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany) took part in a panel "Deutungskämpfe um die Rus'. Erinnerungsorte der Frühen Neuzeit" [Struggles for interpretation around the Rus'. Places of Memory in the Early Modern Era] at the 53th Convention of German Historians, 5-8 October 2021. The Convention should have had taken place in September 2020, but due to the COVID pandemic it was postponed to 2021 and consisted exclusively of online panels. The panel was initiated by the German Historical Institute at Moscow and chaired by **Sandra Dahlke**, Director of the Institute. All papers were presented in German. **Natalia A. Sinkevych** (Munich) spoke about "The Baptism of Rus' as a controversial East Slavic Place of Memory." **Petr S. Stefanovich** (Moscow) asked "'Moscow' as a topos of common memory of Rus'?" **Ludwig Steindorff** (Kiel) discussed "The History Book 'Sinopsis' from 1674 and 1671 – a Common Place of Memory in the Russian and Ukrainian Historical Consciousness." **Andrei Doronin** (Moscow) presented a paper on "Early Modern Rus' in Search of Its 'Forefathers'." All panelists are participants in the international research project "Die Ostslaven auf der Suche nach überregionalen Identitäten (vom Ende des 15. bis zur Mitte des 18. Jahrhunderts) im Kontext der modernen Nationenbildung. Vostochnye slaviane v poiske nadregional'nykh identichnostei (kon. XV – sers. XVIII v.) v kontekste modernogo natsiogeneza." See <https://www.dhi-moskau.org/ru/issledovaniia/ot-srednevekovja-do-rannego-novogo-vremeni/vostochnye-slavjane-v-kontekste-modernogo-naciogeneza.html#c35998>.

Daniel C. Waugh (University of Washington, Seattle). At an advancing age, one never knows whether it will be possible to report more concretely on publications a year from now. So I list here (most lacking concrete bibliographic citation) several conference presentations or works in production, which I can reasonably assume will in fact appear in one form or another: 1) «Юсрус Филмонатус» и «Лев Шлаковский»: переоценка роли двух обманщиков в истории

московских «вестей-курантов» (a paper for the Sixth Likhachev Readings [St. Petersburg, 27-30 September 2021], the full article version of which presumably will be published in *TODRL* (Russian translation by Mariana Markova). Gail Lenhoff and I are the only American representatives on a program which is a truly international array of Early Slavists. **2)** Уо, Д., “Новые сведения о русских переводах иностранного репортажа о битве при Зенте (1697 г.)” (перевод с англ.: Станков, К.Н.) (international conference, Moscow, 29-30 September 2021, the papers already in page proof in *Переводчики и переводы в России конца XVI — начала XVIII столетия*. Ред. коллегия: Беляков А.В., Гуськов А.Г., Лисейцев Д.В. [отв. ред.], Шамин С.М. [отв. ред.]. Вып. 2 [Москва: Институт российской истории Российской академии наук, 2021]: с. 200-210). **3)** “The signs in the heavens over Košice in 1672: a re-examination of the evidence” (paper for the third international scholarly seminar, «Источниковедение древнерусской литературы и языка [археография, текстология, поэтика]» [Novosibirsk], 27-29 October 2021). **4)** «Вклад Дмитрия Букинича в археологию Монголии в 1930-х годах» (paper to be delivered in the plenary session of the conference, “Историческое наследие и кросс-культурные связи на Великом Шелковом Пути» [Novosibirsk], 1-3 November 2021; based on a long article in English forthcoming in a Festschrift). **5)** “Perustration: the Opening of Foreigners’ Mail in Muscovy” (forthcoming in the papers from the workshop “Foreign Communities in Early Modern Muscovite Cities [c. 1500-1725]” [Vienna, 13-14 December 2019], ed. by Simon Dreher and Wolfgang Müller). **6)** Olena Jansson and Daniel Waugh, “Muscovite Acquisition of Books from Poland in the Late 1640s–Early 1650s” (forthcoming in a Festschrift whose details must remain secret). **7)** “Archaeology and the Material Culture of the Ulus Jöchi (Golden Horde)” (forthcoming in *The Mongol World*, ed. by Michael Hope and Timothy May [Routledge]). In addition, photographs from my archive have been published in several recent scholarly contributions pertaining to the “Silk Roads” (broadly conceived), were featured in a recent keynote address for a conference on Islamic ceramics at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and are being added to the open-access HEIR (Historic Environment Image Resource) database at Oxford (<http://heir.arch.ox.ac.uk/pages/home.php?login=true>). To date, nearly 400 of my images taken at Palmyra and in collections of Palmyra sculptures have been made available; a batch of several hundred from Ephesus is in process; Istanbul is to follow, starting with nearly 200 images from the Kariye Camii (Church of the Chora).

Announcements

The ESSA annual meeting will be held online on Friday, December 3, from 12:00–1:45 p.m. Central Standard Time (1:00–2:45 p.m. Eastern Standard time, 19:00–20:45 Central European Time), in Virtual Room 1.

The ESSA’s sponsored panel has been moved online and will also take place on Friday, December 3, immediately after the annual meeting, from 2:00–3:45 CST (3:00–4:45 EST, 21:00–22:45 CET), in Virtual Room 27.

Gyula Szvák (Eötvös Loránd University) is pleased to announce that the latest issue of *RussianStudiesHU*, “Historiography of Moscovia,” contains 8 surveys of 21st century scholarship on Muscovy. These surveys include: **Charles J. Halperin** on US scholarship, **Pierre Gonneau** on French and French-language scholarship, **Ludwig Steindorff** on German and German-language scholarship, **Gabor Gyoni** on Hungarian scholarship, **Viacheslav Kozliakov** and **Andrei Pavlov** on Russian scholarship (one article on 16th-century works, and a second on 17th-century works), and **Jinhua Zhang** on Chinese scholarship. The collection is available online

at https://russianstudies.hu/docs/RussianStudies_2021-1.pdf#toolbar=0&navpanes=0&statusbar=0)

Mitko Panov (Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje) announces the 9th International Symposium on Byzantine and Medieval Studies “Days of Justinian I,” to be held in Skopje, 12-14 November, 2021. The two deadlines for paper proposals (15 August and 15 October) have passed by the time of the ESSA’s *Newsletter*, but members may wish to contact the conference organizers in any case (days.justinian@gmail.com or mitko.panov@gmail.com).

Maria Alessia Rossi (Princeton University) and **Alice Isabella Sullivan** (University of Michigan) have launched their new “Mapping Eastern Europe” website (<https://mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/>). This is a new digital and interactive platform intended to promote study, research, and teaching about the history, art, and culture of Eastern Europe between the 13th and 17th centuries among students, teachers, scholars, and the wider public. Users can access content written by specialists in the form of historical and thematic overviews, art historical case studies and videos, short notices about ongoing research projects, and reviews of recent books and exhibitions. The historical overviews offer concise accounts of key regions of Eastern Europe and their interactions with neighbors during the period in question, offering historical details related to political, economic, military, social, and religious matters that would supplement the material presented on the site. The thematic overviews explore topics and themes related to theology, liturgy, iconographies, key historical figures and events, etc., creating connections between different regions across Eastern Europe and offering a comparative approach. The case studies and videos focus on the visual and material culture of the regions set against the backdrop of the historical context, and also introduce methodological and theoretical questions that could be pursued further in classes, teaching, or research. The ongoing projects allow scholars to present and disseminate in brief their ideas and work. Finally, the reviews of recent books and exhibitions enable readers to learn more about current scholarship and exhibitions that may not be easily accessible otherwise. The content on the site is regularly updated with new scholarship and contributions.

Early Slavic Panels at the 2021 ASEES Convention

The list below includes panels listed on the latest online version of the schedule for the 2021 ASEES Convention (virtual and in-person).

Please check the running updates (at <https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/asees/asees21/index.php>) for changes to the times and list of presenters of all panels.

Saturday, November 20, 2021

The Diversity of Medieval Croatian Glagolithic Culture in Istria and the Kvarner
10:30am to 12:15pm CST (11:30am to 1:15pm EST), Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Floor: 1st Floor, Grand Salon B

The Glagolithic script represents one of the most recognizable aspects of medieval Croatian culture. Its richness can be seen by its diverse application to various written works, whether religious, legal and personal, as well as in the differing styles of the script itself. This panel will examine aspects of this diversity, focusing on the Istria and Kvarner regions of Croatia.

Chair: Ivo Soljan (Grand Valley State U)

Papers: **Tomislav Galovic** (U of Zagreb, Croatia), Interdisciplinarity in the Research of Croatian Glagolitic Culture in the Middle Ages: The Example of Beram in Istria (Croatia); **Elvis Orbanic** (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Croatia), Glagolitic and Latin Culture in the Diocese of Pićan: Diversity in Unity; **Željko Bartulovic** (U of Rijeka, Croatia), Medieval Legal Texts in the Kvarner: Diversity and Co-existence
Discussant: **Ivo Soljan** (Grand Valley State U)

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

New Wine and Old Bottles: Innovative Approaches to Old Russian Sources

8:00am CST (Wednesday, December 1, 9:00am EST), Virtual Convention, VR36

History writing is never over. Histories that were and are written are different from each other. This is because events and their sources are surveyed in diverse times and sometimes with a new idea in mind of the historians that are going to write the about them. This panel is designed to review long-known sources about 16th and 17th century Muscovy. Looking at this sources from a new or different angle gives the histories to write about events told in the sources sometimes a new and fresh look, the panelists will survey sources for “great” events of Muscovite history like the Livonian war (1558-1582), Ivan the Terrible’s “Oprichnina” (1564-1572), and the church schism “Raskol” (1666). Cornelia Soldat will talk about the conquest plan for Muscovy that Heinrich von Staden sent to the German Emperor sometimes after January, 1579 and show that it is modelled after the Conquest of Mexico described in letters in 1520/21 by Hernán Cortes to the Spanish King. It will be shown how this makes the conquest plan of Muscovy a colonial conquest. Brian Boeck will show how Saint Nikita was used by the Novgorod archbishop Pimen to gain political power in the Livonian war as far as the saint could be claimed to be the miraculous guarantor of victories. Evgeny Grishin’s paper examines the notion of “miatezh” as one of the central concepts in the officials’ discourse religion in late seventeenth-century Viatka. Ultimately, the documents he analyzes demonstrate conceptual perplexity surrounding the so-called “Schism” in the Russian Church.

Chair: **Gwyn M Bourlakov** (US Air Force)

Papers: **Cornelia Soldat** (U of Cologne, Germany), Heinrich von Staden and the Conquest of Mexico; **Brian James Boeck** (DePaul U), The Rise and Fall of an All-Russian Saint: Nikita and His Patron, Pimen of Novgorod, 1553-1570; **Evgeny Grishin** (St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth), ‘Miatezh’ in the Church: Religious Dissent in the Documents from Late Seventeenth-century Viatka

Discussant: **Elena Boeck** (DePaul U)

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Imagining and Exercising Power in Pre-Modern Russia

12:00 to 1:45pm CST (1:00 to 2:45pm EST), Virtual Convention, VR 10

Our panel focuses on new approaches to traditional understandings of how power was imagined and exercised in Pre-Modern Russia. Several loci communes are repeated in academia without necessarily being supported by all available evidence because they have become academic truisms, or myths. The role of the veche in Novgorod, the model of emperors from Byzantium in Kievan Rus’, as well as models assumed in Muscovy have been unquestionably repeated without being properly appraised. This panel aims at presenting new insights into forms of either conceptually imagining or practically applying political power in Pre-Modern Russia.

Chair: **Michael S. Flier** (Harvard University)

Papers: **Pavel Vladimirovich Lukin** (Inst of Russian History, RAN, Russia), “All Novgorod the Great” and Novgorodian Republican Rhetoric; **Susana Torres Prieto** (IE U, Spain), Panel Organizer, Political Theology in Kievan Rus’: A Reassessment of Sources; **Russell Edward**

Martin (Westminster College), *Through the Lens of Semen Shakhovskoi: Reimagining Power in Muscovy*

Discussant: **Donald Ostrowski** (Harvard University)

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Language, Textual Tradition, and Interpretation in Medieval Slavic Culture

10:00 to 11:45am CST (11:00am to 12:45pm EST), Virtual Convention, VR 3

The panel deals with issues of language, liturgy, as well as textual tradition and interpretation in medieval Slavic culture. The beginnings of textual tradition in connection with the creation of writing is sought in parallel narratives extant from prehistoric times (Thietmar, al-Mas'ūdī). Emphasis is placed on the interpretation of Latin and Byzantine liturgical traditions in the *Vita Constantini*, and the Muscovite traditions of *Digenis Akritis* and *Buovo d'Antona*.

Chair: **Jan Ivar Bjørnflaten** (U of Oslo, Norway)

Papers: **Andriy Danylenko** (Pace U), Thietmar and al-Mas'ūdī on Slavic Gods, Temples, and Writing; **Marcello Garzaniti** (U of Florence, Italy), Glossolalia and Liturgy in *Vita Constantini-Cyrilli* (VC XV:2); **Thomas Karl Daiber** (U of Giessen, Germany), Accepted or Translated?: The Church Offices in *Vita Constantini-Cyrilli* (VC V:2); **Robert Romanchuk** (Florida State U), The Muscovite Traditions of *Digenis Akritis* and *Buovo d'Antona*

Discussant: **Ivan N Petrov** (U of Lodz, Poland)

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Jerusalems here, Jerusalems there....: The Current State of Research on the Theme of Jerusalem in Early Modern Russia

12:00 to 1:45pm CST (1:00 to 2:45pm EST), Virtual Convention, VR 2

This roundtable will address the current state of research on the theme of Jerusalem, both old and new, in Russian culture and government. It will reflect upon the distribution and meaning of the Jerusalem image during Muscovite and early Imperial periods, considering subjects such as geography, iconography, sovereignty, legitimacy and power. Presenters will consider the theological basis of constructing New Jerusalems, including the Areopagitan principle of unsimilar similarity, as well as their political significance. Tracking the significance of Jerusalem themes through the 18th century reign of Catherine II will question the previously accepted chronological limits of the concept and its representation in Russia and point to new avenues of future investigation. The roundtable format is justified because, rather than reporting on specific research findings, panelist will share their broader expertise in a program designed promote audience engagement in what we anticipate will be a lively debate among the presenters and the attendees.

Chair: **Eve Levin** (U of Kansas)

Presenters: **Kevin Michael Kain** (U of Wisconsin-Green Bay); **Daniel B. Rowland** (U of Kentucky); **Cornelia Soldat** (U of Cologne, Germany)

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Book Discussion: Writing a Documentary History – *Jews in Old Rus'*, by Alexander Kulik and *History of Rus' Metropolitanate*, by Andrei Pliguzov

8:00 to 9:45am CST (9:00 to 10:45am EST), Virtual Convention, VR27

Alexander Kulik's *Jews in Old Rus': A Documentary History* (Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute with the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University, 2021) makes available for the first time a selection of documents on the history of Jews in Old Rus' that provide a unique insight into Slavic-Jewish relations, offering both the original texts of the documents in Latin, Hebrew, Church Slavonic, and Arabic, and their English translations. Andrei Pliguzov's *Documentary Sources on the*

History of Rus' Metropolitanate: The Fourteenth to the Early Sixteenth Century (Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, 2021) includes acts, edicts and decrees regarding the lands in the metropolitanate's jurisdiction, reports prepared for the metropolitans by their secretariat, and the letters of the hierarchs themselves. The published documents pertain to all aspects of the metropolitanate's activity and reflect the various concerns and debates that defined the life of the Church and its relations with other religious entities and the secular leaders. In this roundtable, we will discuss both books and the challenges and rewards that writing documentary history offers.

Chair: **Antony Polonsky** (Brandeis U)

Presenters: **Alexander Kulik** (Hebrew U of Jerusalem, Israel); **Hugh M. Olmsted** (Harvard U); **Robert Romanchuk** (Florida State U); **Michelle Ruth Viise** (Harvard U)

Thursday, December 2, 2021

Questions about the Legacies of Nikon's Patriarchate

12:00 to 1:45pm CST (1:00 to 2:45pm EST), Virtual Convention, VR29

While the patriarchate of Nikon (1652-1666) is the subject of intensive recent investigation, its consequences in the subsequent period have received much less attention. This panel will raise and address new questions concerning the legacies of Nikon's Patriarchate in the Russian Church, state and society during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth-century. The first paper will address the patriarchate left in Nikon's wake, focusing on Patriarch Adrian and stressing the dilemmas of the office prior to its abolition. The second will explore why and how the apocalyptic-based polemics initially leveled by Old Believers against Patriarch Nikon and "his" reforms of the Russian Church were modified in order to attack Tsar Peter I and his reforms of the secular state. The third will systematically investigate the mass suicides resulting from the enforcement of the Nikonian reforms in Russian society for the first time. In sum, the panel aims to introduce a new research agendas which balances the achievements of Nikon's patriarchate with its lesser known consequences.

Chair: **Jennifer B. Spock** (Eastern Kentucky U)

Papers: **David Goldfrank** (Georgetown U), *Legacy Shmlegacy?: Nikon's Impact and the Pathos of Patriarch Adrian, 1691-1700*; **Kevin Michael Kain** (U of Wisconsin-Green Bay), *The Legacy of the Nikonian-influenced Profectio and Adventus in the Reign of Peter I*; **Georg B. Michels** (UC Riverside), *Mass Suicides in 17th Century Muscovy: How Can We Make Sense of Them?*

Discussant: **Ovidiu Olar** (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria)

Thursday, December 2, 2021

New Approaches for Investigating Overlord and Servile Classes: Inheritance, Land Markets, and Agrarian Terminology across the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and Ukraine

2:00 to 3:45pm CST (3:00 to 4:45pm EST), Virtual Convention, VR27

Perceptions of peasant life and agrarian relations in Early Modern Eastern Europe and Russia traditionally have visualized overlord classes (landlords, nobility) and their servile peasant laborers caught up in a mutually-reinforcing framework of sheer dominance and abject submission. Such depiction is simplistic and strawman-like and has long been subject to investigations pointing out continuums of everyday-life and of actors' interactions with one another. These studies qualify the conception of a stark, Manichean lord-peasant universe. Newer research continues to refine our comprehension of the multiplicity of situations existing in the Early Modern Eastern European countryside and the permeability of noble groups and of peasant forced labor there. Our three presentations not only align with this scholarly trend, but propel it even further with their synchronic and diachronic approaches towards over-looked subjects and their skepticism towards historiographical tropes. Our panel nests well within this year's ASEES theme of "Diversity, Intersectionality, Interdisciplinarity" and its attendant description. The caste-like social structures of

the societies and their impact upon individuals our studies treat automatically conform to standard definitions of intersectionality. The three papers explicitly- and implicitly will -raise issues of ethnicity, language, sexuality, and suppositional race (Polish Sarmatianism). Interdisciplinary- and diversity-methodological knowledge and techniques have long infused the scholarship of our three presenters and of our Chair and Discussant.

Chair: **Karin Friedrich** (U of Aberdeen, UK)

Papers: **Robert Ian Frost** (U of Aberdeen, UK), Defying Economic Rationality?: Partible Inheritance, Downward Social Mobility and the Polish-Lithuanian Szlachta; **Piotr Guzowski** (U of Bialystok), The Peasant Inheritance System and the Land Market in Poland in the Late Medieval and Early Modern Period; **Peter B. Brown** (Rhode Island College), Terminology, Status, and Condition: Looking at Early Modern Polish, Lithuanian, Belorussian, and Ukrainian Agricultural Niches

Discussant: **David Goldfrank** (Georgetown U)

Friday, December 3, 2021

Russia's Eighteenth Century: Interdisciplinary Approaches

8:00 to 9:45am CST (9:00 to 10:45am EST), Virtual Convention, VR 1

The history of Russia's eighteenth century has long been informed by a cluster of rather rigid oppositional binaries that drew clear demarcation lines between modernity and tradition, secularity and religion, church and state, and Russia and the West. As seen from the papers presented in this panel, these delineations are not as impenetrable as they seem. The papers analyze complex interplay of the tropes of Orthodox church eloquence and the political language of common weal; the intersection of the sacramental language of penance and terminology of criminal punishment in the evolution of the practice of monastery confinement; the confluence of Orthodox values, Enlightenment jurisprudence, and Pietism that led to the de facto abolition of death penalty in Russia; and the complexities of the eighteenth-century language of conversion.

Chair: Alexander M. Martin (U of Notre Dame)

Papers: **Guzel Ibneyeva** (Kazan Federal U, Russia), The Concepts of Common Good and Public Welfare in the Ceremonials of Journeys of Catherine II; **Ekaterina Makhotina** (U of Bonn, Germany), "Labor That Heals the Soul": The Protestant Context of the Transformation of Monastery Confinement in Early Modern Russia; **Elena Marasino** (Institute of Russian History, RAS / NRU Higher School of Economics, Russia); Olga Tsapina (The Huntington Library), From Williamsburg to St. Petersburg: Trans-Atlantic Orthodoxy and the Early Modern Language of Conversion

Discussant: **Erica Camisa Morale** (U of Southern California)

Fri, December 3, 2021

Seeing the Unseen: Visual Narratives in Early Modern Muscovy and Poland-Lithuania

2:00 to 3:45pm CST (3:00 to 4:45pm EST), Virtual Convention, VR27

The panel explores the various ways of constructing visual narratives in early modern Muscovite and Ruthenian contexts. By analyzing the strategies for representing a historical city (Troy), a liberal art (grammar), and a religious authority (earthly head of the Orthodox church), we demonstrate their connection to the political and cultural climate in which they were created and examine the influence of these visual representations on shaping the social, religious, educational and philosophical narratives of the epoch.

Chair: **Simon Franklin** (U of Cambridge, UK)

Papers: **Elena Boeck** (DePaul U), Confronting Troy in Sixteenth-Century Muscovy: Tall Tales, Edifying Models, and the *Litsevoi Letopisnyi Svod*; **Maria Ivanova** (McGill, Canada), Who Holds

the Keys?: Early Modern Iconography of Grammar; **Olenka Z. Pevny** (U of Cambridge, UK),
Visual Representations of the Earthly Head of the Orthodox Church in the Polish-Lithuanian
Commonwealth

Discussant: **Michael S. Flier** (Harvard U)

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