

Slavic News: Summer 2019



Happy summer! Although there may be fewer people on campus, we are not slowing down. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), or check out our departmental website, for information about our upcoming events!

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR, KATARZYNA DZIWIREK

Dear Friends of the Slavic Department,



As I write this report, summer weather has yet to arrive in Seattle, but we hope that it eventually will. The past six months have been busy. Our administrator, Chris Dawson-Ripley, left in May for a position in Philosophy and we have a new administrator, Lani Phillips, who is quickly learning the ropes. Lani

came to us from UW's Leon Center, and is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Social & Cultural Foundations Program in the UW College of Education. She is fluent in Spanish, can speak French (and a bit of German and Italian), and is planning on taking Polish in the fall!

Following the recommendations of last year's decennial review, we submitted a proposal to restructure the undergraduate major. It was approved by the Curriculum Committee and as of next year we will be requiring three rather than four years of Russian. This will hopefully allow more students to join our program.

As usual, during the next academic year we will have some visitors to the department. Our new Ukrainian Fulbright FLTA is Yana/Jana Sabliash, who will be teaching first year Ukrainian. Yana lives and works in

Kyiv, but is originally from the Transcarpathian region, and can speak not only Standard Ukrainian but also the Hutsul dialect. She has an M.A. in Ukrainian and English language and literature and has a lot of experience teaching Ukrainian. During the spring quarter, we will host a Polish Fulbright Lecturer, Justyna Zych, who will teach a course entitled Warsaw: A Window into Contemporary Polish History and Culture. Justyna's home institution is the Polonicum Center of Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners at the University of Warsaw. Please let potential students know about these great courses!

I hope everyone reading this has a relaxing and restful summer. Please stay in touch with us, as always.

Kat Dziwirek

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2019 SLAVIC CONVOCATION

On Friday, June 14, faculty and staff gathered with students and their families in the Peterson Room in Allen Library to celebrate our 2019 graduates and award winners. Professor and Chair, Dr. Katarzyna Dziwirek, opened the event by welcoming our guests and introducing the keynote speaker, Dr. Ronald LeBlanc (Ph.D., Slavic Languages & Literatures, University of Washington, 1984).

A professor emeritus at the University of New Hampshire, Dr. LeBlanc shared his own inspirational journey studying Russian, and how his path led him from the military to completing a Ph.D. in Slavic Languages & Literatures at the University of Washington. Stressing the importance of learning about different languages and cultures for any career, Dr. LeBlanc encouraged our students to continue their studies in Slavic languages and literatures, regardless of where their lives may lead them.



Before closing the celebration with a reception, we recognized our 2019 award winners and graduates with a certificate and rose, and asked them to share what studying in the department has meant to them. This year we also presented two special awards—the Slovene Studies Summer Travel Stipend, to help fund participation in the annual Seminar of Slovene Language, Literature, and Culture in Ljubljana (see page 7 for more information), and the UW PSEC Certificate of Recognition, for dedication to learning the Polish language (read more about the 2019 recipient, Mercedes Shereda, on page 4).

We wish the best of luck to our graduating class of 2019, and cannot wait to hear where your lives take you!

Congratulations to our 2019 graduates and award winners!

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Sean Kosick (Honors)
Mary Elizabeth Mayer

AWARDS

Outstanding Students of Russian

1st Year: Joshua Swynenburg

2nd Year: Reilly Bellen

3rd Year: Levi Sy

Outstanding Undergraduate Student

Haley Taylor-Manning

Outstanding Graduate Student

Nathan Marks

Slovene Studies Summer Travel Stipend

Hannah Standley

Polish Studies Endowment Committee

Certificate of Recognition

Mercedes Shereda

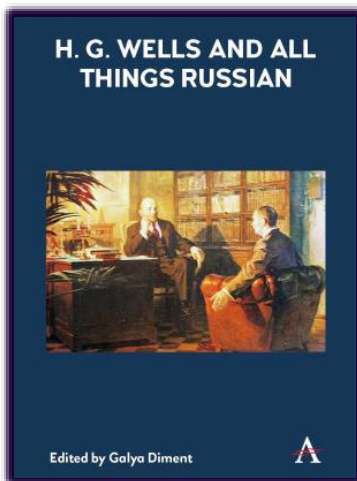
Slavic Undergraduate Excellence Prize

Henry Woods



FACULTY NEWS

Professor Galya Diment has had an exciting 6 months! Not only was she named the Byron W. and Alice L. Lockwood Professor in the Humanities for



2019-22, but she has a new book out! H.G. Wells and All Things Russian, published by Anthem Press (London), is a compilation of essays dedicated to looking at how H.G. Wells influenced, and was influenced by, Russian literary and cultural life. The book, which is the first to devote itself entirely to this

subject, also features translations by our graduate student Veronica Muskheli (Ph.C.), as well as an article written by Richard Boyechko (Ph.C., UW Comparative Literature). Dr. Diment also gave two invited talks on H.G. Wells and early Soviet science fiction—one at the University of British Columbia (March 2019) and the other at Grinnell College (May 2019)—as well as presented papers at AATSEEL in New Orleans (February 2019) and the Canadian Association of Slavists Conference in Vancouver, B.C. (June 2019).

Assistant Professor Sasha Senderovich introduced and taught a new course in Autumn 2018, “Russian Jewish Experience: Culture, Memory, Identity.” The subject and class proved popular not only with undergraduate and ACCESS students alike, but also with the general public, as he gave a three-part university lecture series on the same topic at Seattle’s Temple Beth Am in Spring 2019. Dr. Senderovich also presented on his recent translation of David Bergelson’s Judgment: A Novel at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies in Boston, and on Isaac Bashevis Singer in UW’s team-taught course on Nobel Prize winners in literature. Having become a parent just a year shy of Washington state’s much-anticipated parental and family leave policy (set to take effect in 2020!), this past year has been busy for Dr. Senderovich, as he has continued to research, teach,

and give lectures, all the while making time to hang out and attempting to speak Russian with his new baby!

STAFF NEWS

Get to know our new Administrator, Lani Phillips

As a child, whenever someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I would confidently reply, “A veterinarian!” I loved (and still do love!) animals, and I just *knew* I would dedicate my professional life to taking care of them. Obviously, I was wrong.



As is the case for many people, I signed up for Spanish in my sophomore year of high school because I was told I needed to take three years of a foreign language to get into a good college. Although neither of my parents had graduated from college, they had both impressed upon me the importance of education, so I was quick to follow the advice of my guidance counselor and enroll in a foreign language. I never could have imagined, however, that what started as a mere requirement would determine the course of my life.

As soon as I started studying Spanish I fell in love with it. The sounds, the rhythms and cadences, the different tenses—they were like a puzzle to put together, and I couldn’t get enough! I quickly started devouring anything I could find to help me learn the language, and by the time I graduated 3 years later, not only had I completed all 5 years of Spanish offered by my high school, but I had travelled to Mexico, studied abroad for a summer in Costa Rica, and was headed to Spain.

Through college and in my adult life my passion for languages has only grown, and since high school I’ve studied French, German, and a bit of Portuguese and Italian. When I’m not doing research in the archives or at home with my 2 cats, you’ll probably find me at the

Pilates studio, tap dancing, or walking around the city taking photos.

I feel truly lucky to be part of such a dynamic team of faculty, staff, and students, and I'm looking forward to immersing myself in the traditions and languages of the department!

-Lani Phillips

STUDENT NEWS

Coffee with Access student Mercedes Shereda, our 2019 UW PSEC Certificate of Recognition recipient

You would be hard-pressed to find anyone who loves languages and learning more than our Polish Access student, Mercedes Shereda. Not only has she earned two Master's degrees (one in Sociology and Anthropology from NYU, and the other in Chinese Language and Literature from the UW), but she also is a Ph.C. in Bilingual Education at NYU and has dedicated most of her adult life to the field of education. Despite her accomplishments—and there are many, having taught in the first bilingual school in the Bronx, a community college in Boston where she gave intro to Psychology and Sociology classes in Spanish, and setting up an ESL program in Longview, WA, to name a few—one thing has always been missing, learning Polish.



Having grown up in Michigan in a Polish-American family and attended a Polish Parish

School as a child, Mercedes had always been surrounded by Polish culture and traditions, though had never had the chance to learn the language before taking classes at the UW. "Even though the Parish School I attended was run by Polish nuns," Mercedes explains, "the only Polish we learned was that of the few Christmas carols we sang every year." She then continues with a caveat, telling me that when she was in 3rd grade the school actually did offer Polish as an

extracurricular activity, which she quickly signed up for. "I was excited to learn Polish, but when I got home and my dad saw the book, he wouldn't let me take the class," Mercedes tells me.

When asked why study Polish now, after all these years, she quickly points to two people— Leszek Chudzinski, a librarian at the Seattle Public Library, and Krystyna Untersteiner, part-time lecturer in the department. "I went to the Seattle Library wanting to find the original version of a poem by Adam Mickiewicz," Mercedes tells me, "and Leszek not only found it for me, but read me the passage in Polish. All I could think was how beautiful the Polish language is." With her rekindled interest in learning Polish, Mercedes went to the Polish Bazaar at the Polish Home that same day, where she met Krystyna. Upon hearing that Mercedes wanted to study the language, Krystyna encouraged her to sign up for her class. "Just give yourself a chance," Mercedes recalls Krystyna saying to her.

Despite not having taken the first quarter of Polish, in winter of 2016 Mercedes followed Krystyna's advice and signed up for her POLSH 402 class as an Access student. "I'm so glad I did," Mercedes exclaims. "It has been really nice to learn more about my family history, and it's also allowed me to see parts of my childhood in a whole new light. For example," she continues, "when I was a child my dad would never put up the Christmas tree until Christmas Eve. Later in life, I assumed it was a way to save money, but now, having taken Polish classes, I've learned that it's a real Polish tradition to wait until the day before Christmas."

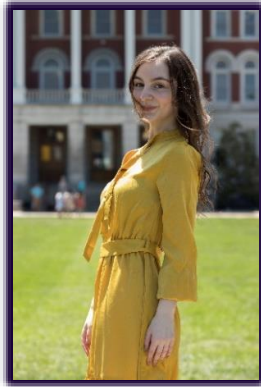
Mercedes plans to continue studying Polish at the Polish Home in the Fall, take classes in history and literature when offered at UW in the future, and would love to visit Poland one day. She also hopes to encourage more people to learn Polish. "The quality of instruction with both Krystyna and Professor Dziwirek is indeed above average and a real joy," she tells me. "Take a chance. Study. It's difficult, but so rewarding!"

For more information about registering in one of our classes as a non-matriculated or Access student, see the UW's [Non-Degree Enrollment](#) or [ACCESS Program](#) pages, respectively.

-Lani Phillips

Meet our new Ph.D. student, Biljana Konatar

Biljana Konatar is from Montenegro, and earned a B.A. in Translation and Interpreting Studies (English and Russian) at the University of Montenegro, as well as the degree of a Specialist with an emphasis on consecutive and simultaneous interpreting. She comes to us most recently from the University



of Missouri in Columbia, where she has just finished her M.A. in Russian and Slavonic Studies.

What is your field of study?

For my M.A. Thesis, I did a transmedia analysis of Soviet war propaganda posters and a documentary prose piece *The Unwomanly Face of War*, published in 1985 by a Belarusian author and journalist, Svetlana Alexievich. The interdisciplinarity of this project made it so thought-provoking to me, and I hope to continue working on it at the University of Washington focusing more on corpus linguistics.

Why did you choose to apply to the UW Slavic Department?

First of all, I chose UW because the specialty areas of the professors in the Slavic Department line up with my research interests. The department offers advanced literature courses which are intertwined with philology/linguistics, film, comic art, culture and identity (especially in the field of gender studies), and that will enrich my interdisciplinary research. The program's research strengths will, therefore, allow me to further my research goals.

Second, I am honored to be a part of such a diverse Slavic department where I can share my own Montenegrin culture and language, as well as teach the Russian language and literature as a teaching assistant.

Last but not least -- Seattle has a lot to offer, and I cannot wait to enjoy the cherry blossoms on my new campus in spring!

Any experience studying abroad?

During my junior year of college (2015/16), I received a Global UGRAD scholarship to spend a year at the University of Missouri in Columbia as an exchange student. This was a life-changing experience for me, as I have been given the opportunity to take courses from various departments, such as Russian, English, and Linguistics. I worked on various literature and linguistics projects, including a field method one examining every linguistic segment of Herero - a Bantu language.

Also, during my specialist studies in 2017, I spent a semester at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland. I studied English, Russian, and Spanish there and enjoyed everything except for the cold weather. However, I don't regret it as I had a true polar experience crowned with Aurora Borealis and a visit to Santa Claus in Lapland.

I have learned a lot from my study abroad experiences, but, most importantly, I have met a lot of people whose continuous support motivated me to go back to the United States, pursue my Master's Degree, and ultimately the Ph.D. one at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Have you ever been to Seattle before? Any "must see" destinations for you?

I have never been to Seattle before, and I cannot wait to come and see the Space Needle and try something delicious at Pike Place Market. Also, even though I know that I'll be spending a lot of time here, I look forward to reading in the majestic Suzzallo Library.

Anything else you would like to share?

I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at UW for the warmest welcome. I really look forward to being a part of your program! I also owe this opportunity to my Alma Mater (University of Missouri) Department of German and Russian Studies that will always stay in my heart!

Meet our new M.A. student, Taylor Wilson



Taylor Wilson is originally from Owensboro, KY, but moved to Canton, GA (a small town outside of Atlanta) when she was 12. She studied in Nashville, TN, and has been living in Vladimir, Russia for the last 2 years. Having lived in so many places, she considers each of them to “represent a small piece of home” for her.

What is your field of study?

My main field of study is Russian language, but I’m also interested in literature, Spanish and Portuguese, and second language acquisition.

Why did you choose to apply to the UW Slavic Department?

I chose the UW Slavic Department because I was impressed by the depth of its Russian classes, the diversity of its offerings in Slavic languages and literatures, and the lectures and cultural events that are offered by the department. Also, I liked the size of the Slavic Department; it’s large enough to have a well-developed graduate program, but, at the same time, it seems small enough to focus on each of its students individually.

What do you hope to study while you are here?

Primarily, I hope to focus on translation because I enjoy comparing the intricacies between languages, which becomes especially apparent in the process of translation. Secondly, I am interested in second language acquisition since I have been working as an ESL teacher for the last two years, and teaching has become an important aspect of my daily life. Also, I’d like to learn more about other Slavic languages because, so far, I have only studied Russian. Finally, I want to take advantage of the literature courses in the department, so I can further explore the

intersectionality between literatures of different cultures.

How does the UW compare to your undergraduate institution?

I haven’t visited UW yet, so I can’t really compare it to my undergraduate institution. However, I have noticed that UW seems to have more diverse and developed foreign language programs than my undergrad. This is exciting because I enjoy learning new languages, so I hope to take advantage of some of these offerings during my time at UW. Also, specifically the Slavic department at UW offers a larger variety of classes and programs, which includes graduate studies.

Any experience studying abroad?

I studied Russian in St. Petersburg for the Spring semester of 2016, but what has impacted me the most is the two years I’ve spent teaching English in Vladimir, Russia. In Vladimir my best Russian teachers and friends are my students (especially the teenagers) who have always been ready to show me something new or simply spend the afternoon or night walking around town with me.

Have you ever been to Seattle before? Any “must see” destinations for you?

I have never been to Seattle or even anywhere in the Northwestern United States before, so I’m honestly excited to see everything. One place in particular is the Chihuly Garden and Glass exhibit because my mom is a big fan of his work and we visited one of his temporary installations at the Biltmore in North Carolina last summer.

Anything else you would like to share?

I’m excited to begin my studies and enjoy all of the opportunities that the UW offers!

POLISH NEWS

The year started with welcoming our 2018/19 Fulbright Lecturer of Polish Studies, Dr. Marcin Jauksz from the University of Poznan. Dr. Jauksz, our tenth Fulbright Scholar, spent autumn and winter quarters teaching,

doing his research, and discovering America. In October, in celebration of Poland's hundred years of Independence, we hosted a screening of *The Promised Land*, one of Andrzej Wajda's cinematographic masterpieces based on Wladyslaw Raymond's, Nobel Prize winner, novel. The next month, Polish Community focused on the festivities related to Poland's centennial and the 100-years anniversary of the Polish Home Association. Year 2019 started with Basia and Leonard Myszynski presenting their documentary *Bridging Urban America: The Story of Ralph Modjeski*, a Polish-born civil engineer who revolutionized bridge designing in the United States. In May, the UW Libraries hosted an exhibit *Code Name Inka: A Schoolgirl in the Polish Resistance, 1944-1946. Condemned, Suppressed, Unbroken, Rediscovered*, about a Polish resistance hero, Danuta Siedzikówna (1928-1946).

This year, our UW Endowment for Polish Studies reached over \$300, 000, for which we are deeply grateful to our donors. In AY 2019/20 we will welcome Dr. Justyna Zych from the University of Warsaw as our Fulbright Lecturer of Polish Studies. We are proud of our continuous Polish – U.S. Fulbright cooperation which, for over a decade, allowed us to enrich Polish curriculum at the UW.

We wish you a beautiful summer and look forward to seeing you at our events next fall!

-Krystyna Untersteiner, UW PSEC Chair



Basia Myszynski (fifth from the right) with a group of *Bridging Urban America* attendees. Photo: L. Myszynski

SLOVENE NEWS

Hannah Standley is an M.A. student in the Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies at the University of Washington, writing her thesis on secularization in Slovenia and other post-communist European societies. During the 2018-19 academic year she was enrolled in the Slavic Department's course sequence in introductory and intermediate Slovene language. With a summer travel stipend from the Slavic Department's Slovene Studies Endowment, Hannah was able to attend the 55th annual [Seminar of Slovene Language, Literature and Culture](#) (or SSJKL, for short), held July 1-13 this year in Ljubljana.



Hanna at Lake Bled, Slovenia, July 2019

Here, in Hannah's own words, are some highlights of that experience:

"The theme of this year's seminar was Slovenia in 1919, when the University of Ljubljana was founded, when the Prekmurje region returned to its motherland, Slovenia, and a period when constructivism and expressionism reigned in Slovenian literature and art (e.g., poet Srečko Kosovel, artist Avgust Černigoj). As a student of the language, I found lectures given by Hotimir Tivadar and Suzana Panker on the Prekmurje Slovene dialect to be especially fascinating—the lectures involved analyzing Prekmurje Slovene in songs and poetry written by songwriter Vlado Kreslin and novelist Feri Lainšček. For one who has been studying Slovene for less than a full calendar year, I was most grateful for the intensive language course that was taught during the seminar. Our classes focused heavily on written and spoken grammar, and our skills were applied in conversation lessons where we spoke about relevant modern day topics (such as politics, religion, health and wellness, etc.) and themes related to the seminar itself... At the seminar I was able to practice daily with native speakers and find confidence to speak Slovene that I had not had before.

I became interested in Slovenia through my previous interest in Slavic languages and culture and my life-long interest in the dialectic between religious belief and secularism. Slovenia is a very unique nation in which classical Western and traditional Slavic cultures meet and meld, and this melding is very obvious in the physical and emotional elements of Slovenian culture. As modern-day Slovenia is the only post-Yugoslav nation to exhibit a significant population of self-reported secular individuals, I am interested in supplementing the already existing state-centric analysis of secularism in Slovenia with an anthropological examination that focuses on how god (name-day celebrations) are celebrated today by both religious and secular individuals and the frequency of use of Christian names in Slovenian society in relation to secularization trends.

The highlight of my visit was meeting with the University of Ljubljana's leading scholar on secularism in Slovenia to discuss my research and share ideas—it was a true privilege for me as a budding academic to speak in earnest on my research interests with one of the leading experts and to receive such valuable feedback on my ideas.”

-Michael Biggins

UKRAINIAN NEWS



We were very happy to have Fulbright scholar Lidiya Oryshchuk with us this year, and to be able to offer second-year Ukrainian for the first time. She also

expanded the Ukrainian studies offerings by designing and teaching a new Spring course: Slavic 490 "Introduction to Ukrainian Culture." There was also a new offering at the graduate level, in response to student interest: a seminar on "Ukrainian sociolinguistics: from standards to surzhyky," taught by Prof. Laada Bilaniuk.

In addition to teaching, Fulbrighter Lidiya Oryshchuk helped organize Ukrainian cultural events at the UW. These included a Ukrainian booth at the FUITS

Culturefest International Expo on February 26, and the popular annual Ukrainian Easter Egg-Pysanka workshop on April 19, where attendees had the opportunity to learn and practice the traditional Ukrainian wax and dye method of egg decorating. We will miss Ms. Oryshchuk's energy and enthusiasm! We do look forward to being able to continue to offer Ukrainian language classes at UW in the 2019-2020 academic year, with a new visiting Fulbright scholar, Yana Sabliash.

On May 25, UW hosted the screening of the film *Human with a Stool*, followed by a discussion with director Yaroslav Popov and film participants. This unique documentary focuses on filmmaker Leonid Kanter, who visited UW to screen his film *Myth* in October 2017. The film traced a journey-game invented in 2004 by Kanter, which



entailed bringing four kitchen stools from Ukraine to four different oceans. The journeyers had little money, only cameras in hand, and songs and street-performances about love and Ukraine. The last expedition lasted for one year and included twenty participants, including Kanter, his wife and his daughter. The crazy adventures were juxtaposed with the war in Ukraine, which Kanter filmed on the front lines. Kanter's life ended prematurely, but this film carries his hopes and dreams, for life as a work of art.

On May 17 the ballet dancers Kateryna Kukhar and Oleksandr Stoianov met with students, faculty, and the public for a discussion in the Allen Auditorium. Kuchar and Stoianov are the principal dancers of the famous Kyiv Opera and Ballet Theater, trained in classical techniques since early childhood, and now highly decorated favorites of worldwide ballet fans. The dancers discussed how they began their careers, how ballet has changed over the last few decades, the attitudes to ballet in Ukraine and in the world, and the future of the art. They explained how the current political situation in Ukraine is intertwined with policies affecting theater and dance in the country. This was a

wonderful opportunity to gain insight into the cultural dynamics taking place in Ukraine.



Kateryna Kukhar and Oleksandr Stoianov

-Laada Bilaniuk

NEWS FROM YOU

Matt Boyd (Ph.D., 2017): “Greetings from the Midwest! Some small updates: I have held the position of Adjunct Professor of Russian at Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois for the past two semesters. In this position I taught both online and in-person courses in First- and Second-year Russian Language and Heritage Russian Literature. Following the mythic journey that is the nationwide employment search, I was very lucky this year to have been interviewed as a finalist by four institutions. These interviews resulted in two job offers and one invitation to further the interview process with a campus visit. After all of this I am pleased to report that I have accepted a Lecturer position for school year 2019-2020 at Ohio State University in Columbus. In that position I will teach a mixture of Russian Language, Film, Literature, and Culture courses.

I pine for the firs of Seattle-Tacoma and the Pacific Northwest, and I am grateful for the help of my friends, professors, and colleagues in the UW Slavic Department in getting to this point. I am very much looking forward to this new opportunity. Take care and stay in touch!”

Ronald LeBlanc (Ph.D., 1984; M.A., 1979; B.A., 1977) has recently published an English-language translation of *Miaso: Roman*. *Meat: A Novel*, as it is called in English, is a Socialist Realist novel about the Soviet meat industry, co-written by Boris Pilnyak and Sergei

Belyaev in 1936. Commissioned by Food Commissar Anastas Mikoyan in 1935 and then serialized in the February, March, and April 1936 issues of *Novyi mir*, it has not yet been published in any separate edition. The English-language version can be read here: https://scholars.unh.edu/faculty_pubs/650.

Don Livingston (Ph.D., 1998): “I continue with a split appointment at ASU as Senior Lecturer in Russian in the School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC) and the Critical Languages Institute (CLI) at Arizona State University’s Melikian Center for Russian, Eurasian & East European Studies. I expect to produce an extravagant Travelogue by summer’s end.”

Rebecca (Tanya) Manring (M.A., 1974): “My biggest news is that I’ve just been promoted to full professor, here at Indiana University!

My epic (literally) translation project, of Rūparāma Cakravartī’s Middle Bengali Dharmamaṅgala, completed in 1650, is under contract with Oxford University Press, and I’ve been spending a couple of weeks each summer for the past few years with the other couple of dozen scholars in the world who work on Middle Bengali literature, trying to get the hang of the epic’s complex grammar and vocabulary. This year the Middle Bengali Reading Retreat will be just outside Marrakech, Morocco.

In sad news, a few weeks ago I attended the memorial service of former Slavic Department classmate Paula Martell (Righi), the ‘noch’ to my ‘dyen,’ as Russkii Dom housemother Liza used to call us. Paula is survived by her remarkable daughter Amelia Righi, who lives in Portland.”

Dwight Roesch (B.A., 1976): “I had worked for two years as the interpreter for the US Embassy in Moscow, and had extended for a third year as of March, 2018, when the US expelled 60 Russian diplomats in late March, 2018 in response to the “Skripal case” in the U.K. The Russians then expelled 60 US diplomats from Russia.

Unfortunately, I was put on the list of ‘expellees,’ although just a lowly interpreter on temporary assignment, and had to depart Russia with my wife and the 59 other people and families who were likewise

being expelled. We packed up in a couple of days and all flew out within a week on a chartered airplane.

The proverbial insult was added to injury when I learned that we had all been 'PNGed'! Declared

Persona non grata, banned from returning to Russia-forever, or until the PNG is lifted, though no one has any answer to that.

Thus ended decades of going back and forth to Russia working as an interpreter.

My wife and I have been hanging out in Tbilisi (she was born here) since last fall. We return to the US in a few weeks [July]."

GIFTS

The following is a list of gifts made to departmental funds since January 1, 2019. Many thanks to all donors for their generous support of Slavic Studies at the University of Washington!

Donors to the *Czech Studies Endowment Fund*:

Lisa A. Frumkes, Ph.D.

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University of Washington
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Seattle, WA 98195-4335

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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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