



University of Pittsburgh

**European and Eurasian**

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH  
**SYMPOSIUM**



**Friday, April 7, 2017**

# Schedule of Events

## CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Room 5604, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

8:30 – 9:00 A.M.

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### PANEL 1 – RUSSIAN FOREIGN POLICY

Room 3610, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

9:00 – 10:25 A.M.

- “Putin’s Foreign Policy Capitalizes on Russia’s Inherent Strengths”  
**Khongorzul Khosbayar**, University of Virginia
- “Russia’s Neo-Imperialism through Economic Means and Coercion”  
**Joshua Kohnstam**, Muhlenberg College
- “Perceptions and Realities: Russian-American Foreign Policy and Popular Perception Since Vladimir Putin’s 2012 Reelection”  
**Jason Port**, East Carolina University

Discussant: **Dr. Lena Surzhko-Harned**, Department of Political Science,  
University of Pittsburgh

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### PANEL 2 – LITERARY STUDIES

Room 5604, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

9:00 – 10:25 A.M.

- “The Inside Out and the Upside Down’: Shakespeare’s Liberated World through the Lens of Bakhtinian Carnavalesque”  
**Nancy Conroy**, University of Pittsburgh
- “D. H. Lawrence’s ‘Things’: Serious Satire and Comic Introspection”  
**Roman Druzdel**, University of Pittsburgh
- “Grammatical Seeing’ in Thomas Pynchon’s *The Crying of Lot 49* and Anatoly Gladilin’s *Tomorrow Forecast*”  
**Joy Zhu**, Middlebury College

Discussants: **Dr. Carol Bove**, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh;  
**Trevor Wilson**, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures,  
University of Pittsburgh

## Schedule of Events (continued)

### **PANEL 3 – TUMULTUOUS TIMES**

Room 5702, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

9:25 – 10:25 A.M.

- “Attitudes on Conscription: A Comparison of French and British Trends Leading to WWI”  
**Emma Schroeder**, George Washington University
- “Success and Implications of Nazi Propaganda for the Middle East and North Africa”  
**Falon Weidman**, Wheeling Jesuit University

Discussant: **Dr. Andrew Behrendt**, Department of History / Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh

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### **PANEL 4 – LANGUAGE AND IDENTITY**

Room 3610, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

10:35 – 11:35 A.M.

- “Policy versus Reality and the Challenges of Minority Language Groups in the Post-Socialist Sphere”  
**Solookhuu Bat-Erdene**, University of Pittsburgh
- “Sorbian Language and Its Role in Maintaining Contemporary Sorbian Identity: A Study in the Relationship of Sorbs to Their National Language”  
**Maria Travnitskaya**, Charles University in Prague

Discussant: **Dr. Abdesalam Souidi**, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh

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### **PANEL 5 – THE MEDIEVAL/EARLY MODERN PERIOD**

Room 5604, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

10:35 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

- “The Nun of Watton: Sex, Mercy, and Miracle in Medieval England”  
**Joshua Hanley**, University of Pittsburgh
- “More than a Mistress: Political Agency and Representation of Mistresses in Early Modern Italy”  
**Victoria Maatta**, University of Pittsburgh
- “The Succession Struggle of Philip I of Castile”  
**McKenna Williamson**, West Virginia University

Discussant: **Dr. Elizabeth Archibald**, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh

## Schedule of Events (continued)

### **PANEL 6 – EUROPEAN POLITICS**

Room 5702, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

10:35 – 11:35 A.M.

- “Changing Allegiances: Policy Incongruence in the European Parliament”  
**Joseph Bebel**, Brigham Young University
- “Radical Right-Wing Populism in Finland: A Case Study of the Finns Party”  
**Sonam Kotadia**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Discussant: **Dr. Bob Donnorummo**, Department of History / Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh

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### **LUNCH FOR PRESENTERS, DISCUSSANTS, AND FACULTY SPONSORS**

Room 4130, Wesley W. Posvar Hall, 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.

Remarks by **Katherine Pompeani**, PhD Candidate,  
Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh

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### **PANEL 7 – POST-SOVIET IDENTITIES**

Room 3610, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

1:10 – 2:10 P.M.

- “Cultural Educational Trends in Kyrgyzstan”  
**Austen Dowell**, Dickinson College
- “Ascetics in Vogue: Religiosity in Contemporary Russia”  
**Kirill Tighe**, Muhlenberg College

Discussant: **Dr. Ainur Begim**, Department of Anthropology / Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh

## Schedule of Events (continued)

### **PANEL 8 – RUSSIAN POWER IN EURASIA**

Room 5702, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

1:10 – 2:10 P.M.

- “Transcending Paradigms: The Sino-Russian Relationship in Central Asia”  
**Ryan Donovan**, Portland State University
- “Democratization and Wars on Ethnic Targets: Examining the Intersection between Diversionary War Theory and Democratization in the Context of the Second Chechen War”  
**Joseph Millman**, Swarthmore College

Discussant: **Dr. Jonathan Harris**, Department of Political Science,  
University of Pittsburgh

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### **PANEL 9 – SOVIET AND RUSSIAN INFRASTRUCTURE**

Room 5604, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

1:10 – 2:10 P.M.

- “Mechanisms and Problems of Waste Management in Post-Soviet Russia”  
**Philip Krasovsky Decker**, Swarthmore College
- “The Underground Soviet: State Narratives in the Leningrad Metro”  
**Ian Gilchrist**, Oberlin College

Discussant: **Dr. Patryk Reid**, Department of History / Center for Russian and East  
European Studies, University of Pittsburgh

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### **PANEL 10 – NATIONALISM AND NATIONAL IDENTITY**

Room 5604, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

2:20 – 3:45 P.M.

- “The Resurgence of Ukrainian Nationalism”  
**Nina Cairns**, University of Pittsburgh
- “A Muslim Pole? The Lipka Tatars as a Model of Assimilation”  
**Mark Neuhengen**, Loyola University Chicago
- “Making Germans: The Failure of ‘Germanization’ in German Ruled Alsace-Lorraine”  
**Kieran Coffey**, University of Pittsburgh

Discussants: **Dr. Irina Livezeanu**, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh;  
**Barry Bookheimer**, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh

## Schedule of Events (continued)

### PANEL 11 – HISTORY AND MEMORY

Room 3610, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

2:20 – 3:45 P.M.

- “Soviet Perceptions of World War II”  
**Stacie Hestand**, Wheeling Jesuit University
- “Reimagining Amir Timur in Post-Soviet Uzbekistan: Visions of the State in Regime Historiography”  
**Pablo Lindsay**, University of Pittsburgh
- “Polish-Jewish Relations and the Memory of the Second World War”  
**Rebekah Valentine**, Wheeling Jesuit University

Discussant: **Dr. Katja Wezel**, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh

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### CLOSING RECEPTION, AWARDING OF CERTIFICATES, AND GROUP PHOTOGRAPH

Room 5604, Wesley W. Posvar Hall

3:45 – 5:00 P.M.



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