European and Eurasian Undergraduate Research Symposium 2023

FRIDAY | March 31, 2023
Wesley W. Posvar Hall | 230 S. Bouquet Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

SPONSORS:
Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies
European Studies Center
University Center for International Studies
Consortium for Educational Resources on Islamic Studies
Graduate Organization for the Study of Europe and Central Asia
Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

GLOBAL HUB (1st FLOOR WWPHE)
7:30 - 8:00 am REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

5206 WWPHE
8:00 am OPENING REMARKS
Professor Nancy Condee
Director, Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

8:15 am KEYNOTE ADDRESS
“Urban Tissue Typology in Habsburg Central Europe (1867-1918)”
Dr. Éva Lovra
Fulbright Visiting Professor

In this presentation, Dr. Lovra will bring the urban fabric and urban heritage of Habsburg Central Europe (1867-1918) into closeup. The relevance of the topic is deeply embedded in our theoretical and practical knowledge, even though Western Europe's traditions and urban planning principles are generally the focus of the academic study of urban design and planning. These Western traditions and principles, though fundamentally important to know and thoroughly understand, should not obscure the knowledge of our own close environment: the Central and East-Central European urban heritage, its structure, the towns and their characteristic urban fabrics, the urban fabric types, and urban taxonomy in general.

Dr. Éva Lovra holds a Ph.D. in Architectural Sciences and has conducted postdoctoral research at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, and at the University of Novi Sad. She is a senior lecturer/adjunct professor at the University of Debrecen's Department of Civil Engineering, teaches in the English-language Urban Systems Engineering M.Sc. program, and serves as a lecturer and doctoral supervisor at the Doctoral School of Earth Sciences.
PANEL PRESENTATIONS | 9:30 AM – 12 PM

4318 WWPH

9:30 AM

SOFT POWER | HARD POWER

“The Power of Education: The Role of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education in Russian Foreign Policy”

Polina Protozanova
St. Mary's University

“Russia-Syria ‘Special’ Relations: Modern-day Realpolitik”

Chirag Bansal
Science Po (France)
George Washington University

“Thieves and Law: How Russian Organized Criminal Networks Took Over the International Underground”

Jack Gallick
University of Pittsburgh

DISCUSSANT:

Melinda Szabo
University of Pittsburgh

5206 WWPH

9:30 AM

DEMOCRACY’S DECLINE: RIGHTS AT RISK

“Russian Music in the 2000s: Censorship of Alternative Genres”

Alisha Mithani
Howard University

“Independent Romanian Journalism: Negotiating a Post-Communist Identity”

Irina Bucur
Chatham University

“Don’t Display the Gay: Reframing Queerness, Reclaiming Agency, and Resisting the Russian State in Children - 404”

Max Heimowitz
Yale University

DISCUSSANT:

Dr. Olga Kuchinskaya
University of Pittsburgh
**4318 WWPH**

**10:45 AM**  **SOCIALIST UTOPIAS, DYSTOPIAS, AND REALITIES**

“Discovering Socialist Realism along the Volga”

Zain Adamo  
*University of Pittsburgh*

“Soviet Bloc Dystopia: Cross-cultural Comparative Analysis”

Karim Abouelenein  
*University of Pittsburgh*

“The Establishment, Expansion, and Undermining of the Proletariat and Communism in Czechoslovakia”

Griffin Emory Meckler-Culbertson  
*University of Pittsburgh*

**DISCUSSANT:**  
Eve Barden  
*University of Pittsburgh*

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**5206 WWPH**

**10:45 AM**  **GENDER IN FOCUS**


Kirsten Rose Bell  
*University of Rochester*

“She Ruled Our King’: Artemisia Gentileschi’s *Madonna of the Svezzamento* and the Humanity of Jesus”

Margaret M. Barnes  
*University of Pittsburgh*

“The Experiences of Women Living in the Soviet Union and in a Post-Soviet Country”

Anipa Almazbek kyzy  
*American University of Central Asia*

**DISCUSSANT:**  
Dr. Misha Appeltova  
*University of Pittsburgh*

(Concurrently lunch and networking opportunity in the Global Hub on the 1st floor)

PANEL PRESENTATIONS | 1:35 PM – 4:35 PM

4318 WWPH
1:35 PM
INTERNATIONAL LAW
PERSPECTIVES ON THE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE

“The Limits of International Law in the Russia-Ukraine Conflict and their Impact on Future Conflict Resolution”
Tudor Boanda
CUNY – Hunter College

“Russia-Ukraine War as a Commitment Problem: How it Starts and What is the Prospect to its End”
Yijin Qu
University of Rochester

“War-Inflicted Damages to Transport Infrastructure in Ukraine: Damage Analysis and Roadmap to Reconstruction”
Victoria Piontkivska
University of Pittsburgh

DISCUSSANT:
Tymur Mykhailov
University of Pittsburgh

CHAIR:
Professor Nancy Condee
University of Pittsburgh

5206 WWPH
1:35 PM
LIMINALITY, BORDERLAND, AND THE OTHER

“The Misrepresentation of Makar (other Gamefowl and Aliens)”
Isabella Mason
Howard University

Sam Heimowitz
Yale University

DISCUSSANT:
Dijana Mujkanovic
University of Pittsburgh

CHAIR:
Professor Nancy Condee
University of Pittsburgh
TRAUMA IN CENTRAL EUROPEAN HISTORY AND STORY-TELLING

“Famous Fairytales and their Slovak Counterparts”
Alexis Waksmunski
University of Pittsburgh

“Analyzing Obchod na korze (1965) and Všichni moji blízi (1999) In Understanding Nazi Aryanization and the Relationship between Nazi Germany and the First Slovak Republic”
Benjamin Sommer
University of Pittsburgh

DISCUSSANT:
Eve Barden
University of Pittsburgh

CLOSING CEREMONY—RECEPTION

CLOSING REMARKS
Professor Josephine Olson
Director, European Studies Center

STUDENT ART EXHIBIT: COMMEMORATING THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER THROUGH ART AND CULTURE
Exhibit curated and presented by Dr. Olga Klimova, University of Pittsburgh