“EUROPE: EAST AND WEST” UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
Sponsored by the Center for Russian and East European Studies, European Studies Center/
European Union Center of Excellence, and International Business Center,
University of Pittsburgh
Friday, April 11, 2014

Schedule of Events

Continental Breakfast
Room 548, William Pitt Union
8:30 – 9:00 A.M.

Panel A: Historical Perspectives
Room 837, William Pitt Union
9:00 – 10:50 A.M.

“Racing Through Critical Theory: In Pursuit of Opening the Darkest Doors”
• Amrit Trewn, Northwestern University

“Reaping What Was Sown: 90 Years of Russian Agricultural History through a Libertarian Property Rights-Centric Lens”
• Zachary Yost, Mercyhurst University

“Russian Jews and the 1917 Revolution”
• Aaron Levine, Northwestern University

Discussants: Dr. Tony Novosel, Dept. of History; Andrew Behrendt, Dept. of History, University of Pittsburgh

Panel B: Religion and Social Issues
Room 527, William Pitt Union
9:00 – 10:50 A.M.

“Orthodox, Soviet, or Anti-Western? Examining the Roots of Russia’s Anti-Gay Legislation”
• Abby Preston, Dickinson College

“The Dima Yakovlev Law: The Ethical Implications of the Russian Adoption Ban”
• Abigail Stowe-Thurston, Macalester College

“Christianity and Marxism: Reconciling the Irreconcilable?”
• Kevin Doyle, Dickinson College

“Russian State and the Orthodox Church: An Attempt at Constructing Russian Nationalism”
• Nicholas Farmer, Muhlenberg College

Discussants: Dr. Michael Bobick, Dept. of Anthropology/REES Postdoctoral Fellow; Dr. Joel Brady, Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh
Panel C: Identities in Europe and Eurasia  
Room 548, William Pitt Union  
9:00 – 10:50 A.M.

“Language Maintenance and Shift among the Polish Community in Georgia”  
- Simone Romuzga, Occidental College

“The Charismatic Appeal of the Grand Inquisitor and Vladimir Putin”  
- Daniel Goulden, Brandeis University

“Whose Land Is It Anyway?”  
- Michael Klamo, Muskingum University

“Discourses of White Slavic Nationalism in Dnepropetrovsk's ‘Healthy Lifestyle Rap’”  
- Kristina Miller, University of Pittsburgh

Discussants: Dr. Adriana Helbig, Dept. of Music; Cengiz Haksöz, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh

Panel D: Central Asia and the Caucasus  
Room 837, William Pitt Union  
11:00 A.M. – 12:25 P.M.

“Colonies, Cotton, and the Global Economy: How Uzbekistan Became Dependent on Cotton in the Imperial Era”  
- Erin Harrington, University of Pittsburgh

“Islam in Chechnya: Political or Religious?”  
- Victoria Reid, Dickinson College

“Karimov, Wahhabism, and Muhammad-Sodiq Muhammad Yusuf: Islamic Transition in Post-Soviet Uzbekistan”  
- Chase Philpot, Dickinson College

Discussants: Dr. David Montgomery, Dept. of Anthropology; Dr. Susan Hicks, Program Manager/Undergraduate Advisor, REES, University of Pittsburgh
Panel E: Finance and the European Union
Room 527, William Pitt Union
11:00 A.M. – 12:25 P.M.

“The Impact of the Eurozone Debt Crisis on European Foreign Policy”
  • Harry Alexander Clapsis, University of Pittsburgh

“The EU Data Directive: Uniting Europe and Dividing Privacy”
  • Julia Morriss, American University

“The European Central Bank: Past, Present, Future”
  • Paul Bouvet, Dickinson College

Discussants: Dr. James Maloy, Dept. of Economics; Evgeny Postnikov, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs/Dept. of Political Science/EUCE/ESC

Lunch for Presenters, Discussants, and Faculty Sponsors
Room 548, William Pitt Union, 12:30 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.
Remarks by: Dr. Andrew Konitzer, Adjunct Associate Professor of Political Science and Associate Director of Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh

Panel F: European Literature
Room 837, William Pitt Union
1:40 – 3:30 P.M.

“Where Benya Begins: The Transformation of Babel’s Odessa in Sunset”
  • Lysander Jaffe, Williams College

“Platonov and His Communist Critiques: Not Invited to the Party”
  • Barrett Ziegler, Dickinson College

“Driven by Fear of It All: Familial Ties Defy the Death Camp”
  • Jillian Kluss, University of Pittsburgh

“The Artist in Exile: The Figure of the Exile in the Works of Vladimir Nabokov”
  • Erica Hom, University of Pittsburgh

Discussants: Dr. Kathleen Manukyan, Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures; Dr. Irina Anisimova, Dept. of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh
Panel G: Accession to the European Union  
Room 527, William Pitt Union  
1:40 – 3:30 P.M.

“Foreign Policy Goals of Kosovo”  
- Brian Nelson Sproat, University of Pittsburgh

“EU Enlargement Policy: Problematizing the Efficacy of EU Conditionality Policy”  
- Kai Stern, University of Washington

“Incentive, Shock, or Neither? The Impact of Croatian Accession on Bosnia’s EU Negotiations”  
- Ryan Rosenberg, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“Moldova: Future External Challenges and Potential Responses”  
- Mary Mallampalli, University of Pittsburgh

Discussants: Dr. Bernard Hagerty, Dept. of History; Sarah Patton, Dept. of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh

Panel H: Contemporary Politics of the Former USSR  
Room 548, William Pitt Union  
1:40 – 3:30 P.M.

“Overview of Russian Power: An Assessment and Analysis of the Nature of the Russian Federation as a World Superpower”  
- Thuy Tien Truong, Science Po Paris (Paris Institute of Political Science), Euro-American Campus in Reims

“The Influence of Demographic Factors on Political Party Identification in Ukraine”  
- Andriy Shymonyak, North Carolina State University

- Meghan McCaffrey Gillie, Washington & Jefferson College

“Non-Governmental Organizations in Russia: Adapting for Success”  
- Jacqueline Dufalla, University of Pittsburgh

Discussants: Dr. Jonathan Harris, Dept. of Political Science; Dr. Bob Donnorummo, Dept. of History/REES Research Associate, University of Pittsburgh

Closing Remarks, Awarding of Certificates, and Group Photograph  
Room 548, William Pitt Union  
3:45 – 4:00 P.M.