REECAS NW
The 25th Annual Northwest Regional Conference for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies
The 25th Annual Northwest Conference for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies

PELLISON CENTER FOR RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN AND CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies

April 26-27, 2019

The University of Washington, Seattle
The Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies (REECAS) is honored to host the 25th annual REECAS Northwest conference at the University of Washington. Now the northwest affiliate conference of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), REECAS NW has become a fixture in the academic landscape of the Pacific Northwest during the past quarter century. In addition to its frequent home at the University of Washington, in recent years the conference has been held at Reed College and Portland State University in Oregon, and at the University of Puget Sound and Western Washington University in Washington state. We are pleased to welcome scholars and students from overseas, the East Coast, and up and down the West Coast.

The Ellison Center carries on the legacy of Dr. Herbert J. Ellison, who was one of the preeminent scholars of Soviet studies in the U.S. for half a century, and worked for most of his career at the UW’s Jackson School of International Studies. He devoted his life to not only scholarly pursuits, but also to building institutions to develop the next generation of experts.

This year’s conference has a record number of attendees, and it would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the Ellison Center’s staff: Managing Director Philip Lyon, Outreach Coordinator Jessica Meyerzon, and Program Assistant Lacey Whitwer.

Seattle is a global and vibrant city, and its values represent the best of America. It is the ideal place for the open exchange of ideas and production of new knowledge. We welcome you to Seattle and we wish you a successful conference!

Scott Radnitz
Director, Ellison Center for Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies
Associate Professor, Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington
Free wi-fi is available for 2019 conference attendees. To access wi-fi, please log into the University of Washington network using UW Net ID: "event0546" and password "27CR+93YB+43RL".

Stay up to date with REECAS NW and share your stories on Facebook at facebook.com/EllisonCenter.

Join the conference debate and share your photos and updates on Twitter using #REECASNW.

LEARN MORE

ABOUT THE ELLISON CENTER FOR RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN AND CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES

AT

JSIS.WASHINGTON.EDU/ELLISONCENTER
KNOW THE WORLD TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Why the Jackson School:

- Undergraduate and graduate degrees in international and area-focused studies
- Client-based consultancies and internships that take advantage of our location in Seattle as a global hub of innovation, technology, security, business, philanthropy, trade and more
- Six federally-funded National Resources Centers and Foreign Language & Area Studies fellowships
- 95% of our Class of 2017 were employed or in further education within six months of graduation

Our academic offering:

- Four-year bachelor’s degree in international studies
- 2-year master’s degree in international studies with nine different track options
- 10-month full time or 2-year part time mid-career master’s degree in applied international studies
- Three-year accelerated option for a doctoral degree in international studies

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CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

4:00  Registration Opens
4:45 – 6:15  Session F-1
6:15-6:30  Break
6:30  Keynote Speech

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

8:00  Registration Opens
9:00 – 10:30  Session S-1
10:30 – 10:45  Break
10:45 – 12:15  Session S-2
12:15 – 1:45  Light Lunch, CMU 204
1:45 – 3:15  Session S-3
3:15 – 3:30  Break
3:30 – 5:00  Session S-4
5:00 – 5:15  Break
5:15-6:30  Plenary
6:30  Reception

ALL EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SIMPSON CENTER, LOCATED ON THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS OF THE UW COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING (CMU).
Raised in southern Russia during the twilight years of the Soviet Union, Anastasia Edel graduated with a degree in English and German studies from Kubansky State University and worked as a fiction translator. A recipient of the British Government Chevening Award, she moved to England for postgraduate studies, and then to the US, earning her MFA in Writing from Pacific University. She is the author of *Russia, Putin’s Playground: Empire, Revolution and the New Tsar* (Callisto Media, 2016). Her prose has appeared in *the New York Times*, *the New York Review of Books*, *Project Syndicate*, *Quartz*, and *World Literature Today*. She lives in San Francisco and teaches Russian culture and history at UC Berkeley OLLI.
Panel F-1A ♦ Russia, Treaties and Territory in International Security
Location: CMU 104
Chair: Christopher Jones, University of Washington
♦ Christopher Jones, University of Washington
“The INF Treaty in Perspective from the Peace of Reykjavik to the Peace of the NPT”
♦ Elizabeth Mayer, University of Washington
“Computational Propaganda in Action: How the Russian-Backed Internet Research Agency Interacted with the Black Lives Matter Community on Twitter”
♦ Robert Nikolaev, University of Washington
“Interpreting the Northern Sea Route in International Context”
♦ Spencer Washom, University of Washington
“Projections for Security In Post-INF Treaty Eurasia”
♦ Lacey Whitwer, University of Washington
“Soft Power: Human Rights During the Cold War”

Panel F-1B ♦ New Approaches to History in Russia and Eastern Europe
Location: CMU 218
Chair: James Felak, University of Washington
♦ Susan Baker, Independent Scholar
♦ Jessica Doscher, University of Washington
“Schisms and the Church in Russia and Ukraine”

♦ Sarah Goldwasser, University of California, Berkeley
“The Rhetoric of Buried Testimony: Memory and Absence from the Warsaw Ghetto”

Panel F-1C ♦ Language, People and Public Space in the Baltic
Location: CMU 120
Chair: Iveta Grinberga, Riga Graduate School of Law, Latvia
♦ Matthew Ellett, University of Washington
“Language Use and Attitudes in the Post-Soviet Sphere: Daugavpils, Latvia”
♦ Solvita Pošeiko, University of Washington, University of Latvia
“All foreign languages are equal, but some foreign languages are more equal than others”: Languages in the Linguistic Landscape of the Baltic states
♦ Egle Zurauskaite, University of Washington
“How to Be Impolite While Pretending to Be Polite? A Case Study in Lithuania”

Coffee will be served on Saturday morning in CMU 204.
Panel S-1A ✦ Contest and Corruption in Contemporary Ukraine
Location: CMU 120
Chair: Laada Bilaniuk, University of Washington
✦ Eugene Lemcio, Seattle Pacific University/University of Washington
“Questions About the Role of Ukraine’s Government in the Granting of Autocephaly to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine: Sources of Authority”
✦ Svetlana L’nyavskiy, Lund University
“Language Policy and Social Dynamics in Public Space: A Diachronic Study of Ukrainian Linguistic Landscapes in Four Regions”
✦ Emma Murray, University of Victoria, Canada
“Fighters for Civil Society or Insidious Symbols of Nationalism?: The Struggle for the Legacy of Ukraine’s Heavenly Hundred Heroes”
✦ Ararat Osipian, George Mason University
“Economics of Corruption in Doctoral Education in Ukraine”

Panel S-1B ✦ Baltic Music, 20th Century and Beyond
Location: CMU 226
Chair: Kristin Kuutma, University of Tartu, Estonia
✦ Liina-Ly Roos, University of Washington
“It Is So Bad To Be Estonian:” Collective Memory, Space and Carnival in Estonian Satirical Music Videos
✦ Guntis Smidchens, University of Washington
“Disunity in Unity: Contested Traditions in Baltic Song Celebrations, 2013-2019”
✦ Johann Van Niekerk, Centre College
“On the Cusp of Identity: Towards an Approach Regarding the Creative Works of Mikolajus Konstantinas Čiurlionis”

Panel S-1C ✦ Teaching in Translation Roundtable
Location: CMU 202
Chair: Jose Alaniz, University of Washington
✦ Jamie Olson, Saint Martin’s University
“Translation, Adaptation, and Cultural Mediation in the Classroom: Teaching Russian Film and Literature” (co-presenter)
✦ Igor Krasnov, Fulbright Scholar, Petrozavodsk, Russia
“Translation, Adaptation, and Cultural Mediation in the Classroom: Teaching Russian Film and Literature” (co-presenter)
✦ Shelley Fairweather-Vega, Fairweather-Vega
“Learning Central Asian Languages through Translation, In and Out of the Classroom”
✦ Katie King, University of Washington
“Creating a Translation Studies Community on Campus”
✦ Veronica Muskeli, University of Washington
"Close Reading Approach for Teaching Russian Literature in Translation"

Please join us following Panel S-2 for a light lunch in CMU 204.
Panel S-2A ♦ Prospects and Pitfalls of US-Russia Pacific Connections
Location: CMU 120
Chair: Tony Allison
♦ Tony Allison, EarthCorps
“Prospects and Pitfalls of US-Russia Pacific Connections: Ties between Eastern Russia and the US Pacific Northwest”
♦ Mark Dudley, Air Russia
“Perspective of a Practitioner”
♦ Ben Fitzhugh, University of Washington
“A Quarter Century of Collaboration in the Russian Far East”
♦ Stowe Talbot, The Talbot Company
“Perspective of a Practitioner”

Panel S-2B ♦ Constructing and Deconstructing Contemporary Belarus and Ukraine
Location: CMU 202
Co-Chairs: Kevin Aslett, University of Washington and Bradley Murg, Seattle Pacific University
♦ Liubou Uladykouskaja, Institution “Intercultural Dialogue” (Minsk, Belarus)
“Contemporary Belarus: 9 Theses On Cultural Transformation”
♦ Lukas Werner, Free University Berlin
“Revisiting Decentralization after Maidan: Tracing the Impact of Ukraine’s Local Governance Reform”

Panel S-2C ♦ Translating Lithuanian Lives
Location: CMU 226
Chair: Thomas A. DuBois, University of Wisconsin
♦ Jura Avizienis, Boston University
“The Enemy of my Enemy . . . Translating the Story of Bronius Michelevičius, Lithuanian Patriot, Activist and German Wehrmacht Intelligence Officer”
♦ Irena Blekys, Independent Scholar
“Exploring the Challenges of Translating Personal Documents from Lithuanian into English”
♦ Violeta Kelertas, University of Washington
“The Difficulties and Satisfactions of Translating a 19th c. Lithuanian Feminist Writer”

Organic Sovereignties
Struggles over Farming in an Age of Free Trade
GUNTIRA AISTARA
CULTURE, PLACE, AND NATURE
272 PP., 21 ILLU., $30.00 PB

The Power of Song
Nonviolent National Culture in the Baltic Singing Revolution
GUNTIS SMIDCHENS
NEW DIRECTIONS IN SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES
2016 AABS BOOK PRIZE WINNER
416 PP., 18 ILLU., $30.00 PB

Xinjiang and the Modern Chinese State
JUSTIN M. JACOBS
STUDIES ON ETHNIC GROUPS IN CHINA
320 PP., 9 ILLU., $30.00 PB

Empire Maker
Aleksandr Baranov and Russian Colonial Expansion into Alaska and Northern California
KENNETH N. OWENS
WITH ALEXANDER YU. PETROV
360 PP., 8 ILLU., $30.00 PB

Cities of the Dead
The Ancestral Cemeteries of Kyrgyzstan
MARGARET W. MORTON
WITH CONTRIBUTIONS BY NASSER RABBAT, ALTYN KAPALOVA, AND ELMIRA KOCHKUKULOVA
128 PP., 75 DUOTONES, $39.95 HC
Panel S-3A  ♦  Faces of Literature in Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia  
Location: CMU 202  
Chair: Maria Hristova, Lewis & Clark College  
♦ Jose Alaniz, University of Washington  
“Historical Trauma and Disability in Baban and Mašek’s Fred Brunold’s Monster-Cabaret Presents”  
♦ Nina Beguš, Harvard University  
“Artificial Humans from Slovenia to China”  
♦ Veronica Muskheli, University of Washington  
“(Re)reading relationships: The Primacy of Mother-Daughter Theme in Russian Cinderella-Type Folktales”  
♦ Miroslava Nikolova, Brown University  
“Faces (and Spaces) of Exile: Parallel Case Study of the Late Poetry of Joseph Brodsky and Anna Akhmatova”  

Panel S-3B  ♦  Interview with Kennan Institute Deputy Director William Pomeranz  
Location CMU 120  
♦ On his new book Law and the Russian State, Russia’s Legal Evolution from Peter the Great to Vladimir Putin  

Panel S-3C  ♦  New Directions in 20th Century Baltic History  
Location: CMU 226  
Chair: Amanda Swain, University of California, Irvine  
♦ Glenn Kranking, Gustavus Adolphus College  
“Be Swedish!”: Kustbon and the Changing Status of Estonia’s Swedish Minority, 1920s and 1930s  
♦ Ausra Park, Siena College, NY  
“Giving Face to Baltic Foreign Policies: Baltic ‘Founding Fathers,’ Their Legacies, and Leadership Impact”  
♦ Aldis Purs, University of Washington  
‘This Ugly Matter’: The Curious History of the Committee to Protect the Youth from Harmful Literature, Latvia 1926-1937
Russia is often portrayed as a regressive, even lawless country, and yet the Russian state has played a major role in shaping and experimenting with law as an instrument of power. In Law and the Russian State, William E. Pomeranz examines Russia’s legal evolution from Peter the Great to Vladimir Putin, addressing the continuities and disruptions of Russian law during the imperial, Soviet, and post-Soviet. The book covers key themes, including:

♦ Law and empire
♦ Law and modernization
♦ The politicization of law
♦ The role of intellectuals and dissidents in mobilizing the law
♦ The evolution of Russian legal institutions
♦ The struggle for human rights
♦ The rule-of-law
♦ The quest to establish the law-based state

Mr. Pomeranz’s book also analyzes legal culture and how Russians understand and use the law. With a detailed bibliography, this is an important text for anyone seeking a sophisticated understanding of how Russian society and the Russian state have developed in the last 350 years. (Bloomsbury.com)
Panel S-4A ◆ Designing, Dissenting, and Disintegrating in the USSR and Beyond
Location: CMU 120
Chair: Ben Tromly, University of Puget Sound
◆ Nadezda Iermakov, Ariel University, Israel
“Human Rights and Dissident Periodicals in the Campaign for Freedom of Soviet Jews”
◆ Asya Karaseva, European University at Saint Petersburg
“Sensing Perestroika: The Sensory Landscape of Socialist Modernity and the Failure of Public Utilities in a Russian Northern town”
◆ Ekaterina V. Klimenko, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences
“The Russian Revolutions and the Pendulum of Russian History: Church, State and Memory in Present-Day Russia”
◆ Maria Taylor, University of Michigan
“A Most Authentic Productive Necessity”: Designing Fountains at factories and the City-Industry Question under Stalin

Panel S-4B ◆ Theory and Practice in Heritage Language Acquisition and Learning
Location: CMU 202
Chair: Veronica Muskheli, University of Washington
◆ Svetlana Abramova, University of Washington
“Getting Russian Heritage Students to Advanced Proficiency Level”
◆ Otilia Baraboi, University of Washington
“Community Dreams: Heritage Education in Romanian”
◆ Lilit Ghazaryan, University of California, Los Angeles
“Multilingualism among the Armenian-American Children Growing Up in Los Angeles”
◆ Anahit Pogossian, University of California, Los Angeles
“How Post-Soviet Armenian Comedy Influences Heritage Language Maintenance”

Panel S-4C ◆ Public Governance and Society in the Baltic
Location: CMU 226
Chair: Kristi Magee, Independent Scholar
◆ Viktorija Benaityte, University of Washington
◆ Laura Dean, Millikin University
“Human Trafficking Governance through Networks and Institutions in the Baltics”
◆ Indra Ekmanis, Foreign Policy Research Institute
“Latvia’s Montagues & Capulets? Ethnic integration strategies that miss the real story”

Please join us following the Plenary for a reception for conference participants in CMU 204.
Plenary Session

Saturday, April 27
5:15 - 6:30
CMU 120

Brief remarks by

Scott Radnitz
Director, The Ellison Center

State of Corruption: Russia and Eastern Europe

featuring

William Pomeranz, Kennan Institute
Mark Gitenstein, Former U.S. Ambassador to Romania
Scott Fritzen, University of Washington
Scott Radnitz, University of Washington
Situated in the Pacific Northwest, the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies offers unique access to a major hub of innovation and activity in the Pacific Rim, U.S., and globally.

The School is named for the late Senator Henry M. Jackson, in recognition of his interest and support for the School and the field of international affairs. Alumni have graduated to work in a range of fields, including the U.S. government; The White House; major corporations such as Boeing, Microsoft, Starbucks, and CNN; international agencies including The World Bank, United Nations, and the biggest foundation in the world, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; think tanks; universities, and diplomatic missions of foreign governments.

Jackson School faculty represent a broad spectrum of social science disciplines. They are also associated with other departments in the College of Arts and Sciences and other schools and colleges at UW, including the College of the Environment, School of Law, and the Michael G. Foster School of Business. Jackson School Director Dr. Reşat Kasaba is the current President of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA).

The Jackson School offers leading-edge research in global and area studies. Our internationally prominent faculty represent a range of fields in the social sciences and humanities, including anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, religion, sociology, and gender, women & sexuality studies. Some notable research projects include: the effects of free-trade agreements on human rights; public health and environmental security; nuclear non-proliferation in Asia; civil society in Asia; Latin America and Europe; defense industrialization in China; the relationship between religion and violence; U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East; history of U.S. foreign policy; the Mexican Revolution; political economy of India, post-Soviet politics; and, politics of indigenous communities.
The Ellison Center is a leading U.S. center for the study of Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Housed in the University of Washington’s Jackson School of International Studies, the center works to advance scholarship and educate students about Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia through historical understanding, innovative teaching, and interdisciplinary research. This mission flows out of Professor Herbert Ellison’s commitment to building connections with the diverse peoples of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Long known only as the REECAS Center, the Herbert J. Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies was christened as such in 2004 to honor Dr. Ellison’s legacy with the generous financial support of the Ellison family and other program supporters.

As its long name indicates, the Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies region is expansive and diverse, counting 29 countries. REECAS countries include the following: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

The Ellison Center offers a Master’s Degree in Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies as well as an undergraduate minor. We also offer an Accelerated REECAS MA to US Military Foreign Area Officers (FAOs). We sponsor lectures, conferences and exchanges covering the entirety of Eastern Europe and Eurasia; and we sustain a dynamic program of outreach to local schools, colleges and community organizations interested in our region. With over 60 participating UW faculty, the Ellison Center represents a unique intellectual resource for faculty, students, and professionals living in the Pacific Northwest and beyond.

Professor Ellison served as a mentor to thousands of undergraduate and graduate students over 40 years. Instilling in them a love for the people and regions of the former Soviet Union and communist Europe, he devoted his career to the belief that educational exchange programs open doors and minds for all citizens of the world, and especially for those who long suffered behind the Iron Curtain.

Now, with public interest in Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia higher than any time since the Soviet Union’s demise, the Ellison Center supports innovative research, student programs and community outreach to promote learning about this region of the world and carry on Herbert Ellison’s legacy.
### TIMETABLE ◆ PANEL GRID

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**PLEASE JOIN US IN SPRING 2020 FOR THE**

**26TH ANNUAL REECAS NW CONFERENCE**

**TO BE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

*AN ASEEES REGIONAL AFFILIATE CONFERENCE*
ABOUT ASEES

The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) is the leading international scholarly society dedicated to the study of Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. We support our members by:

- Holding annual conventions and other international conferences
- Publishing the prestigious journal Slavic Review
- Presenting awards to acknowledge significant contributions to the field
- Offering financial support to members for conducting and sharing research
- Providing professional development, mentoring, and networking opportunities
- Publicizing members’ work and news
- Disseminating information and resources
- Engaging the general public and the media
- Advocating for support of international studies & foreign language education

MEMBERSHIP

ASEEES has approximately 3,200 individual members in the US and abroad. Membership is open to anyone interested in furthering ASEEES’ scholarly objectives.

To join, aseees.org/membership/individual

51st ANNUAL CONVENTION

One of ASEEES’ core activities is our annual convention, which makes possible a broad exchange of ideas, stimulating further work and sustaining the field’s scholarly excellence.

San Francisco, CA
November 23–26, 2019
aseees.org/convention

3rd BIENNIAL SUMMER CONVENTION

The 2019 ASEEES Summer Convention theme is “Culture Wars” and will be held in Zagreb, Croatia
June 14-16, 2019
aseees.org/summer-convention