MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

These are difficult times for the relationship between the US and Russia. Our foreign and economic policies are in conflict, our regional interests collide. Nevertheless, we continue to have more in common than what divides us: climate change, terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and world health issues impact us equally, and we are stronger in cooperation than in conflict. As world opinion and policy continues to isolate Russia and its institutions, there is a tremendous opportunity, indeed a serious imperative, that we continue to work as closely together with our Russian colleagues as ever. And we can. The Russian government is investing in internationalization in research and education, even as institutions are losing long-standing partnerships. Reception of our initiatives is at a high point. RPN is ideally situated to be at the forefront of the all-important relationships with Russian educational institutions in the future, as we develop new student and faculty programs, dual degrees, joint research and innovative curricular activities.

John Frederick Bailyn
Professor of Linguistics, Stony Brook University
Director, Russia Programs Network
Ulises Mejias
Associate Professor
Communication
SUNY Oswego
Prof. Ulises Mejias taught Digital Media Studies through the RPN award at the SUNY-St. Petersburg summer Institute in 2013, returning voluntarily on three subsequent occasions in the summers of 2014-2016, and is now developing a Study Abroad opportunity to Russia for Oswego students.

Steven M. Schneider
Chair, Humanities and Communication
SUNY Institute of Technology
Prof. Steven Schneider’s Spring 2014 RPN award brought him to the Schools of Philology, International Relations, Journalism, and Sociology at St. Petersburg State University and to the Higher School of Economics, where he lectured on hypertextual reading and writing in the 21st century.

Derek Craig Maus
Associate Professor
English and Communication
SUNY Potsdam
Prof. Derek Maus gave RPN Award lectures on comparative aspects of satirical literature at the Dept. of Foreign Literature at St. Petersburg State University in spring 2014, as well as at the Higher School of Economics and the European University. He taught twice at the NYI summer Institute.

Barbara LeSavoy
Director
Women and Gender Studies
SUNY Brockport
Using examples from history, art, film, and literature, Le Savoy’s RPN sponsored 2014 summer Institute seminar cross-culturally examined social constructions of sex and gender. She later brought eight Women’s and Gender Studies majors from Brockport to interact with Russian peers.

Kathleen O’Connor-Bater
Chair, Modern Languages
SUNY Old Westbury
During her RPN Award visit, Prof. Kathleen O’Connor-Bater created a highly popular interdisciplinary seminar at the 2014 summer Institute on the nature of cognitive processing of metaphor in the communication of ideas. She also explored roles the sound of words play in sensory perception and poetic language.

Michaela Porubanova
Assistant Professor, Psychology
SUNY Farmingdale
Prof. Michaela Porubanova lectured in spring 2015 at an international conference and at the St. Petersburg State University Department of Psychology through RPN, discussing the effects of short and long term deprivation on visual cognition. She then launched a series of visual cognition experiments with her new-found Russian colleagues.
Prof. James Castracane's spring 2015 RPN Award focused on the emergence of nanotechnology as a major engine driving global research, education, and economic development. Dr. Castracane lectured at St. Petersburg State University and met with students and colleagues at the St. Petersburg Nanotechnology Research Center.

Heather DeHaan
Associate Professor, History
Binghamton University
In addition to the “Modern Cities, Modern Selves” seminar offered through an RPN Award at the 2015 summer Institute, Professor Heather De Haan continues her research on Russian and Soviet cities. She has recently published a monograph about the politics of urban planning in Stalin’s Russia and has conducted a study of neighborhood life in Baku, Azerbaijan, in the Soviet period.

Jonathan Titus
Professor, Biology
SUNY Fredonia
Prof. Jonathan Titus spent 10 days on an RPN Visiting Scholar Award at new RPN partner institution, Astrakhan State University in Fall, 2015, lecturing on Botany in both University and public forums, meeting with students and colleagues, and being featured in local media. SUNY and ASU are pursuing continued joint programs.

Thomas Graf
Assistant Professor, Linguistics
Stony Brook University
Prof. Thomas Graf went to the Mathematical Linguistics Dept. at Moscow State as well as the Theoretical Linguistics Dept. at St. Petersburg State University. He lectured on his recent Computational Linguistics research. He also launched discussions of a joint degree in Computational Linguistics between Stony Brook and St. Petersburg universities.

Robert Muhlnickel
Associate Professor, Philosophy
Monroe Community College
Prof. Robert Muhlnickel’s RPN Award was the first to bring a SUNY scholar to the School of Philosophy at St. Petersburg State University. Muhlnickel gave three open lectures at the Department of Ethics and discussed development of joint SUNY – St. Petersburg courses in the future.
Prof. Nikolay Karkov, a member of New Left Perspectives, a group of radical intellectuals and activists in Eastern Europe, taught Decolonial Theory in the 2016 summer Institute through an RPN Award. His current work is at the intersection of radical European Marxism and decolonial thought.

RPN sponsored participation of two keynote speakers at the bi-annual Anglistika Conference held at the School of Philology and Arts in St Petersburg in January, 2016. Prof. John Payne, from the University of Manchester (UK), and Prof. David Fertig, Professor of Linguistics of the University of Buffalo. Prof. Fertig’s key note address was entitled “Spreading like Wildfire: Morphological Variation and the Dynamics of the Great English Verb Regularization”

RPN co-sponsored a two day Colloquium April 17-18, 2015, with Stony Brook’s Post-Socialism Research Institute, “The Future(s) of Post-Socialism”, that brought together scholars in anthropology, sociology, literary studies, cultural and cinema studies, economics, political science and history, to engage in a series of conversations on the future(s) of Post-Socialist societies and of Post-Socialism as a paradigm of scholarly inquiry. RPN sponsored the participation in the Symposium of Prof. Heather DeHaan of Binghamton University (“Baku’s Spatial Imaginaries: The Many Futures of a Contested Past”) and Prof. Robert Saunders of SUNY Farmingdale (“Brand’ New States: Post-Socialist Europe/Eurasia, Country Branding, and the Challenges of National Differentiation”). A volume of papers emerging from the symposium will be published in 2017-18.
RPN has collaborated with the Stony Brook Russian Studies Program to create a SUNY-wide offering of Russian for Heritage Speakers. This course, developed by Dr. Anna Geisherik, is a specialized language class for students from Russian-speaking families who were either born in America or came to the country at a young age and grew up speaking the language. When the Russian language program realized that only a few SUNY campuses offered a Russian heritage course, RPN helped Stony Brook develop the distance-learning component of the class to offer it to other campuses. That is how SUNY New Paltz student Jessica Gubankova became a part of Geisherik's class in Spring 2014. With parents who were born in Russia, Gubankova grew up speaking the language, and when her previous Russian professor suggested she further her skills with this course she jumped at the opportunity. The course is now available every year, and is running in in 2016-17 with a distance student from SUNY Geneseo.

“Although I do know how to speak [Russian] pretty well, I wanted to become proficient in the language so I can better communicate with my grandmother.”
- Jessica Gubankova, Distance Learner

Coming Fall 2017!
HUR 249
"Russia Today"
Introductory Russian culture course to be made available SUNY-wide!

Brockport Women’s and Gender Studies students in St. Petersburg
Summer Intensive Russian Language and Culture Studies Program at Moscow State University
Tentative Dates: TBA
Application deadline: March 15, 2017
Russian language courses at all levels as well as a Russian Studies seminar taught in English with incorporated excursions. [LINK]

Summer Internship Program in Russia for Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Russian Language Students at the Russian Presidential Academy of Public Administration and National Economy in Moscow
Dates: TBA
Application deadline: April 1, 2017
Intensive Russian language courses at all levels. Students participate in a weekly seminar taught in English on topics about contemporary Russian society. Internship opportunities are available for participants with intermediate or advanced level Russian. [LINK]

Academic Year Exchange to Moscow State University
Application Deadline: April 15 (rolling admission)
Russian language at all levels. Russian Studies courses taught in English. Intended for students who are interested in developing their Russian language skills and in pursuing in-depth study of subjects related to Russia. [LINK]

Russian History & Culture
Dates: May/June 2017 (exact dates TBA)
Application deadline: February 20, 2017
Instructor-led program where students will learn about Russian history and culture through excursions in St. Petersburg and Russia. The program is open to all majors. All instruction is in English. [LINK]

Academic Year and Fall Student Exchange Program - State University of Management
Application Deadline(s): March 15th; Sept. 15th
Students can study in fields such as management, investment management, marketing, human resource management, state and municipal management, economics and production management in national economy. Courses are taught in English. [LINK]

Advanced Critical Language Institute for Russian Immersion
Dates: 4 week: July 9 – August 7, 2017
6 week: July 4 – August 19, 2017
Application Deadline: March 15, 2017
Russian immersion program in St. Petersburg. Beginners through advanced. Russian-only pledge and family stays for advanced students. [LINK]

Explore St. Petersburg!: Russia Cultural Studies with Internship; or Linguistics Intensive
Dates: July 9-August 7
Application Deadline: March 15
Interdisciplinary curriculum and internship with a focus on exploring the city through excursions, films, lectures, and other participatory events. Courses in English. [LINK]

Academic Year and Fall Student Exchange to St. Petersburg State University
Application Deadline: Feb 15
Specialization Open. Full-time local study for Russian speakers. Intensive Russian available for others. Select between dormitory housing or family homestay. [LINK]
NYI MISSION:
Create the genuine transnational classroom with students in face-to-face dialogue from multiple countries (esp. the US, Russia and other former parts of the USSR)
Expose students to academic topics not represented in their home curricula, such as Critical Cultural and Media Studies, Generative Linguistics and Cognitive Psychology, Performance Studies and others. Provide a unique academic opportunity for Russian/CIS students without the means to study abroad (NYI brings to Russia first-tier scholars from leading US institutions, as volunteers)

Since 2003, over 1000 participants from 40 countries and 50 Russian cities have received NYI completion Certificates. 20+ faculty from the following SUNY campuses have taught at the Institute: Albany, Binghamton, Brockport, Buffalo, Cortland, Morrisville, Old Westbury, Oswego, Potsdam, Purchase, Stony Brook

The NY-St. Petersburg Institute integrates a diversity of disciplines into a single, cohesive learning environment that offers both sustained study of topics that are unusual in the Russian academy, and the opportunity for students to explore parallel fields with their peers from other countries. The intensiveness of the environment makes this institute ideal for fostering transnational learning and research.
-Prof. Gregory Garvey, SUNY Brockport

Stony Brook ViceProvost for Global Affairs Jun Liu and St. Petersburg State University’s Vice-Rector for International Programs Alexander Gogolevsky at the Opening Ceremony of NYI 14 at the St. Petersburg State University Faculty of Liberal Arts, July 10, 2016.
CALL FOR APPLICANTS: RPN SPRING TRAVEL AWARD

The SUNY Russian Programs Network (RPN) announces our annual Spring Lecturer’s Travel Award to St. Petersburg, Russia for SUNY faculty. The 2017 Spring Award winner will spend May 19-28, 2017 in St. Petersburg, giving 2-3 lectures at St. Petersburg State University, and a conference presentation at the “On the other side” Cultural Studies conference, sponsored by the Centre for Independent Social Research, while also engaging in discussion of future SUNY-Russia linkages. This year’s themes are Sociology and Critical Cultural Studies, with focus on Sexuality, Gender and Film. Full-time SUNY Faculty in all Humanities and Social Science fields may apply, but in order to be competitive, applicants should demonstrate, explicitly, how they will contribute to this year’s designated focus. Past awardees are not eligible.

Lectures will be in English. The Award covers international and local travel, visa and registration expenses, accommodation in St. Petersburg, and a cultural program organized by RPN staff.

Applicants should send the following materials, electronically, to:
Alecia Barbour, Program Coordinator
SUNY Russia Programs Network (RPN)
Russia.programs@suny.edu Application

We will begin review of applications NOVEMBER 17, 2016 but position will be open until filled.
Please use SUBJECT LINE: Last Name, First Name RPN 2017 Spring Travel Award

Please send the following as PDF attachments to your application:
• Cover letter and CV describing relevant international experience, interest in lecturing in Russia, and proposal for possible future linkages between your SUNY campus and Russian partner institutions
• Titles of 2 general lectures and 1 specialized lecture with short abstracts (proposed lecture topics should be interdisciplinary in nature and international in their scope, wherever possible. General lectures should be accessible to non-specialist audiences)
• Title and short abstract of proposed Conference presentation
• 2 possible pro-seminar topics with short description (pro-seminars meet twice for 80 minutes each meeting)
• Support letter from Department Chair
• Scanned copy of passport (and green card or work authorization if not US citizen)

Please arrange to have sent separately:
• 1 recommendation from a colleague familiar with applicant’s research and teaching

Inquiries should be addressed to Alecia Barbour at: russia.programs@suny.edu

THANKS TO...
- SUNY Office of Global Affairs
- Office of International Academic Programs and Services, Stony Brook University
- St. Petersburg State University
- Astrakhan State University
- Moscow State University
- Dept. of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Dept of State

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FIND OUT MORE
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