CENTRIFUGAL FORCES:
READING RUSSIA’S REGIONAL IDENTITIES AND INITIATIVES

Thursday, March 26-Saturday, March 28, 2015

All talks and panels will take place in the South Meeting Room, 3rd floor, Newcomb Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia

Thursday, March 26, 2015, South Meeting Room, 3rd floor, Newcomb Hall
8:30—light breakfast pastries, fruit, coffee, tea
9:00—Conference opening
Welcome from President Teresa Sullivan and Vice Provost Jeffrey Legro

9:30-10:15—Keynote speech (South Meeting Room, 3rd Floor, Newcomb Hall):
Susan Smith Peter (History, CUNY-Staten Island), “The Six Waves of European Regionalism, 1830s-2000s”

10:30-12:00—Panel I: Conceptualizing Russia’s Regions
Moderator: Harley Balzer (History, Georgetown U.)
Dmitry Zamyatin (Human Geography, Institute for Cultural and Natural Heritage, Moscow, Russia), “Центробежность центробежности: пространство, идентичность и Россия” (“The Centrifugality of the Centripetal: Space, Identity, and Russia”)
Madina Tlostanova (Cultural Theory, Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, Moscow, Russia), “Between Decolonial Drives and Neo-Imperial Anxieties: The Fall of the Janus-Faced Empire, Act II”

12:10—Lunch for presenters and moderators at The Garden Room, Hotel E (across McCormick Rd from Newcomb Hall)
1:00-1:50—Keynote speech (South Meeting Room, 3rd floor, Newcomb Hall):
Catherine Evtuhov (History, Georgetown U.), “Total Local History: New Categories for Comparison”

2:00-3:45—Panel II: The “Usable Past”—Peripheries, Provinces, Regions
Moderator: Catherine O’Neil (Literature/ Culture, US Naval Academy)
Helen Hundley (History, Wichita State U.), “Siberian Oblastnichestvo and Vostochnoe obozrenie”
Molly O’Neal (Diplomat Emerita; Visiting scholar, Johns Hopkins), “Identity Shaping Local Histories for Contemporary Russian Entrepreneurs: Evidence from Five Regional Cities”

4:00-6:00—Panel III: The “Usable Past”—Constructing Regional Memory
Moderator: Dariusz Tolczyk (Literature/ Culture, U. Virginia)
Susan Smith (History, Independent Scholar), “Russian Provincial Archival Commissions: Collections, Networks and Notions of Expertise”
Nadja Berkovich (Literature/ Culture, U. Illinois), “‘Where Makar Didn’t Herd His Calves’: The Yakutified Peasant in Korolenko’s Siberian Stories”

6:10—Dinner for presenters and moderators (Commonwealth Room, 3rd Floor, Newcomb Hall)

7:15-8:45—Panel IV: Capitals and Regions—Connections and Disconnections
Moderator: David Herman (Literature/ Culture, U. Virginia)
Ani Kokobobo (Literature/ Culture, U. Kansas), “‘Why Does Russia Need Hadji Murat’s Head?’ Dagestan vs. St. Petersburg”
Austin Charron (Geography, U. Kansas), “Crimea’s New Place in the Russian Federation: Regional Identities and Nationalist Discourses”
Elena Korotkova (Urban Studies and Planning, MIT), “Regional Socioeconomic Strategies – Centralized Differentiation”

**Friday, March 27, 2015**
8:00—light breakfast pastries, fruit, coffee, tea

8:15-10:00—Panel V: Arts Initiatives in Russia’s Regions and Their Social Impact
Moderator: Rachel Stauffer (Literature/ Culture, Ferrum College)

10:15-11:45—Panel VI: Regional Identity and Community Building
Moderator: Julian Connolly (Literature/Culture, U. Virginia)
Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer (Anthropology and Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies, Georgetown U.), “Diversity, Contingency and Legacy in Three Republics of Russia’s Far East”

12:00—Lunch for presenters and moderators (Garden Room, Hotel E)
1:00—Keynote speech (South Meeting Room, 3rd Floor, Newcomb Hall):

2:00-4:00—Panel VII: Social Action in Regional Cultures: The Caucasus
Moderator: Allen Lynch (Politics, U. Virginia)
Gisela Erbsloeh (Radio Journalist, Germany), “Coopting Cultural Traditionalism in Post-Soviet Chechnya”
Magomed Gizbulaev (History, Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnography, Daghestan, Russia), “Violence and Identity Crisis in Daghestan (North Caucasus)”

5:30—Dinner for presenters and moderators (Commonwealth Room, 3rd Floor, Newcomb Hall)

7:00-9:00—Friday evening, March 27, 101 Nau Hall
“Vodka Variations: An Evening of Chekhov Shorts,” directed by Marianne Kubik (Drama, U. Virginia)

**Saturday, March 28, 2015**
8:30—light breakfast pastries, fruit, coffee, tea

9:00-10:15—Panel VIII: Political Action in Regional Cultures: The Volga Region, Siberia and the Far East
Moderator: Jeffrey Rossman (History, U. Virginia)
Alla Anisimova and Olga Echevskaya (Sociology, Novosibirsk State U., Russia), “Siberian Regional Identity: Self-Perception, Solidarity or Political Claim?”
Yulia Gradskova (History, U. Södertörn, Sweden), “Women, Memory and Resistance in the Volga-Ural Region (Tatarstan and Bashkortostan)”
Yakov Samodelkin (History, Urals State Agricultural U., Perm, Russia), “The Urals Independent Republic: The Historical Perspective”

10:30-12:00—Panel IX: Ecological Identities and Initiatives in Russia’s Regions
Moderator: Hank Shugart (Environmental Sciences, U. Virginia)
Sarah Bumpus (Literature/Culture, U. Virginia), “Valentin Rasputin’s Siberian Identity in Farewell to Matyora”
Jane Costlow (Environmental Humanities, Bowdoin College), “Sources of Identity: Holy Springs and Local Culture in the Orel Region”
Diana Kurkovsky West (Technology and Science, European U., St. Petersburg), “Data Dreaming: Imagining a “Smart” Siberia in the Soviet Union”

12:10—Lunch (Commonwealth Room, 3rd floor, Newcomb Hall)
1:00—Keynote speech (South Meeting Room, 3rd Floor, Newcomb Hall):
Alan Holiman (Politics, William Jewell College), “Terrorism at the Grass Roots: The Human Face of Civic Activism”

2:00-4:00—Panel X: ‘Branding’ and Related Formations in Russia’s Regions and Their Cities
Moderator: Katya Makarova (Sociology, U. Virginia)
Edith Clowes (Literature/Culture, U. Virginia), “Tyumen’ Students: Contemporary Cultural Consumption and Imagined Geography”
Roman Khandozhko (History, Center for Humanitarian Studies, Moscow, Russia), “Between Separatism and State Patriotism: The Cossack Revival Movement in the Don and Donbass Regions from 1985 to 2015”
Lyudmila Parts (Literature/Culture, McGill U.), “ ‘How is Voronezh not Paris?’ Branding in the Russian Provinces”

4:15-5:30—Conclusion, roundtable discussion with keynote speakers, and plans for further research and publication