

Call for Papers: Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS)

7th Biennial Conference: Women, Gender, and Transnationalism: Theory and Practice
Lexington, Kentucky, March 4-5, 2015

The Association for Women in Slavic Studies is soliciting paper presentations on the theme of “Women, Gender, and Transnationalism: Theory and Practice” for its 7th Biennial Conference to be held on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Lexington, KY, with an opening reception on Wednesday, March 4th. The conference will be held in conjunction with the 53rd Annual Meeting of the Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SCSS), which opens Thursday evening and runs through Saturday. Participants of the AWSS Conference are encouraged to attend and participate in the SCSS conference as well (a separate CFP will be issued for that conference). AWSS Conference participants are eligible to receive the SCSS rate for the hotel, \$109.00/night.

Transnationalism is a new and emerging area of study, and AWSS is pleased to hold an inaugural conference that interrogates both the theoretical and practical implications of this approach for the field of gender and women’s studies. Participants are encouraged to think about women and gender topics in inter-disciplinary perspective. Papers can be based on comparative gender issues between two or more nations/empires, including those relating to personalities, events, and the circulation and reception of cultural products. Comparative gender studies of social and political phenomena in two or more geographical locales are also welcome, as are topics that trace personal linkages, and how ideas and theories travel across nations and empires. We also encourage submissions that address the history, politics and culture of diaspora communities originating in the Russian, Austro-Hungarian, or Ottoman empires. This conference will give us an opportunity to integrate the history of Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia into world history as we explore the gendered intellectual and material linkages that span the globe.

The keynote talk for the conference will be delivered by Dr. Beth Holmgren, professor and chair of Slavic and Eurasian Studies at Duke University, a specialist in modern Polish and Russian gender studies, film, and theater/performing arts history. She served as AWSS president from 2003-2005, and AAASS president (now ASEEES) in 2008. Her most recent monograph, *Starring Madame Modjeska: On Tour in Poland and America*, presents a cultural biography of the transnational actress and impresario Helena Modjeska (Modrzejewska) (1840-1909). *Starring Madame Modjeska* was awarded the Polish American Historical Association Oscar Halecki Prize, the ASEEES Kulczycki Prize for best on any Polish topic, the AWSS Heldt Prize for best book in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Women's Studies, and Honorable Mention for the Barnard Hewitt Prize in Theatre History from the American Society of Theatre Research.

Holmgren's current research focuses on the experience and influence of Warsaw cabaret artists (both Jewish and Gentile) who served in entertainment units attached to the Polish II Corps, informally known as Anders Army, during World War II. Her keynote lecture, which draws on this new research, is titled "Female Performers in Poland's II Corps (1941-1946): Metro/Folk Symbols and All-Purpose Allies."

The conference organizers invite proposals from scholars at all stages in their careers and in any discipline of Slavic Studies (history, literature, linguistics, political science, sociology, anthropology, economics, gender studies, etc.). Proposals should consist of a 250-word abstract of the paper (including the paper's title) and a brief one-page CV that includes author's affiliation and contact information. Proposals are due by December 1, 2014 to Karen Petrone, Chair, Department of History, University of Kentucky, Lexington, petrone@uky.edu and Choi Chatterjee, Professor of History, California State University, Los Angeles cchatte@calstatela.edu. Participants will be notified of their acceptance approximately four weeks after the proposal deadline.

Any questions about the conference or the program should be directed to Karen Petrone (petrone@uky.edu) and Choi Chatterjee (cchatte@calstatela.edu).