In this Issue:

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE SOCIETY WELCOMES NEW TEAM MEMBERS

ASN AND AAUS PRIZE WINNERS

LANGUAGE POLICIES IN MULTILINGUAL COUNTRIES: VOLODYMYR KULYK’S NEW BOOK

HEORHII NARBUT
AND UKRAINE’S VISUAL IDENTITY

THE UKRAINIAN ODESA OF VLADIMIR JABOTINSKY

PANTELEIMON KULISH’S TRANSLATIONS OF SHAKESPEARE

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA, BOOK 4

SPOTLIGHT ON THE DETROIT CHAPTER

UPDATES FROM THE SOCIETY’S LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

MEMBER OF THE MONTH: KATJA PYLYSHENKO KOLCIO

NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER NEWS
Dear Colleagues,

In every crisis lies an opportunity, the saying goes, and as we leave behind the dark days of the COVID pandemic, we can take measure of our Society's accomplishments and look with confidence to the future. Ever since I first joined the Society, I have understood its potential as a vibrant, intellectual community, capable of stimulating internal growth and projecting our vision outward, through engagement with the North American scholarly and intellectual world.

We have returned to our building to continue what was interrupted mid-step in March 2020. The archives, a pillar of our institutional memory and research, have undergone thorough review by certified archivist and consummate professional Michael Andrec; implementation of the review’s recommendations is in full swing. Acting on the 2018 directive of our Board, we are in the process of refurbishing the first-floor lobby and sections of the library. In this, we are fortunate to be advised by award-winning architect Larysa Kurylas, the celebrated designer of the Holodomor Memorial in Washington, DC. Our Finance Committee informs me that our investments and cash of 7.5 million as of June 30, 2019, now stand at 8.7 million, a tribute to the professionalism of our investment advisors. We have hired new staff with careful consideration, tailoring expertise to specific needs and limiting time allocations and expense. In May, we received a generous bequest of over $200,000 from the Walter Kanytsky Trust for which we are most grateful.
On the scholarly side of our activities, I commend the programming committee and coordinator Vasyl Makhno for the high level of our virtual events. We increased English-language content and now adhere to a model of having discussants critique the presentation of the main speaker, as in our most recent discussion on language policy. Our popular in-person public events will resume this fall. The Society’s publications program has yielded two new books, with another three to be released by the end of the summer. We continue to support ongoing scholarly research and encourage you to submit proposals through your respective academic sections.

With the upcoming elections this September, we are on the threshold of a turning point as we pursue the goal of turning our Society into a modern, American-based academic institution. This has caused some understandable anxiety among those who have for decades seen themselves as custodians of this Society and its mission. Ukraine’s troubled history has often compelled us to close ranks and turn inward, causing the demise of many a worthy organization.

If we are to thrive, we must be open to new ideas and new members, to believe that they, too, have the mission of Ukrainian scholarship close at heart. Whispering campaigns targeting personal grievances and dislikes, statements such as ті люди з України and що вони знають про НТШ? have no place in a modern, 21st-century, professional organization. We must cast our net broadly, drawing on Ukrainian and Ukraine-focused academics from all parts of the US, beyond a narrow New York-centered base. Building on the strengths of the past, making the most of new talent and fresh ideas, along with the wisdom and experience of long-time members will assure our future. We must embrace this future with openness and courage, in the spirit of compromise, and place academic excellence at the forefront of our mission. This Board remains grateful for your continued support.

As always, please feel free to contact me at hryn@shevchenko.org or at 617-599-4911. I will be happy to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Halyna Hryn
WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY TEAM

Dr. Markian Dobczansky has accepted the position of an administrative associate of the Society. Among his many responsibilities, he will provide English-language administrative, editorial, membership, and communications support. This position, a first for the Society, is long overdue, and we are very pleased to hire a candidate with such distinguished qualifications.

Markian received his Ph.D. in history from Stanford University, where he studied the Soviet Union, Russian Empire, and 20th century Eastern Europe. He has held post-doctoral and visiting scholar positions at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University and at the University of Toronto, and a pre-doctoral fellowship at George Washington University. Presently he is the Administrator of the Central Eurasian Studies Society and is completing a book manuscript, Between Moscow and Kyiv: The Politics of Culture in Twentieth-Century Kharkiv.

As a scholar and member of our society, Markian brings with him an array of experience, outstanding writing skills, and an expert insider’s understanding of the requirements for a professional academic organization. A native of Silver Spring, MD, he was raised as an active member of the Ukrainian community with which he has maintained close ties. Markian will work remotely, as most of us have this past year. He may be contacted at m.dobczansky@shevchenko.org.
Dr. Michael Andrec (Ph.D., Yale) has taken on the role of archives consultant for the Society. At the request of the Board, he has completed a professional in-depth review of the present status and needs of the Shevchenko Scientific Society archives and has begun the arduous task of addressing some of its most urgent challenges with regards to archival storage and description.

Dr. Andrec is the highly respected archivist of the Ukrainian History and Education Center located in Somerset, NJ, where he manages its archives and has curated a number of important exhibitions. He also manages the institutional records of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA.

Originally trained as a scientist, Michael possesses myriad skills. A graduate of Yale with a Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry, he worked for 13 years at Rutgers University as a computational scientist before becoming an independent consultant, a web developer, and finally a Certified Archivist. In 2017, he created and launched the refurbished shevchenko.org website that we have today. Dr. Andrec is a member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and we are happy to have him on our team.

Alexander Neprel is our new consultant for building maintenance and upgrades. Alexander is a neighborhood contractor who has worked for and with many Ukrainian institutions in New York City as well as with landlords in the Ukrainian Village. He has been in charge of installing all exhibits at the Ukrainian Museum for over 10 years now and is also a member of the Museum’s building committee. He volunteers in Ukrainian organizations and is the present head of the auditing committee of the Ukrainian World Congress. We are fortunate that he has agreed to take the Society’s building at 63 Fourth Avenue under his care. Currently, he is generously donating his time to the Society, supervising and working on much-needed building repairs and refurbishing of the first-floor lobby, office spaces, and library.
Volodymyr Hnativ (MSE, The Wharton School/UPenn Engineering, University of Pennsylvania) is the Society’s new IT support consultant overseeing our computer hardware, software, data, and networking issues. Volodymyr is presently conducting a review of the Society’s IT resources and will enact a thorough upgrading of our IT capabilities. A senior program manager at the company Chainanalysis, Volodymyr has worked in senior positions with many firms in the Greater New York area. We are grateful for his oversight as we move toward an ever-greater professionalization of our Society.

Kristina Conroy (MA, Boston University) has worked as the Society’s communications consultant since January 2021, advising on live streaming webinar presentations, writing and posting English-language social media content, preparing print materials for press, and training staff in various aspects of online communications. Kristina is employed full-time as communications manager at the Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University. She has a background in Slavic and East-European studies, with a masters’ thesis on post-communist church-state relations in Poland and Russia.

Anton Varga (MFA, Kharkiv National Academy of Design and Arts) has worked as the Society’s graphic designer since October 2019, creating a new brand style for the organization and designing and managing the production of our Newsletter and event announcements. A respected Ukrainian artist, Anton curated the National Pavilion of Ukraine at the 59th Venice Biennial of Art in 2019. He also holds a degree in film and media from Hunter College in New York.

The Society’s offices (kantseliariaia) continue to be managed by our long-time Ukrainian-language communications officer and programs coordinator Vasyl Makhno, a renowned Ukrainian writer in his own right. Lev Chaban, the Society’s library curator-consultant continues to manage the library, also handling library and archival research requests and volunteering his time for other society matters. Lev is employed full-time as Slavic Librarian at Harvard University’s Widener Library. Marko Slyz is currently on
As of June, our building at 63 Fourth Avenue is open daily from 10 am to 5 pm for internal business and by appointment for researchers and visiting scholars. Our monthly lectures continue to be presented virtually. Please contact our offices at 212–254–5130, info@shevchenko.org.

---

**ASN AND AAUS PRIZE WINNERS**

Oleh Wolowyna and his co-authors from the Institute of Demography, Ukraine received the 2021 Huttenbach Prize annually awarded for the best article published in Nationalities Papers, the flagship journal of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, in the course of the previous year.

The article makes a comparative assessment of the 1932–1934 direct losses within and between UkrSSR and RSFSR in order to answer the questions as to whether the major grain-producing areas of both republics suffered from the Famine to the same extent and whether the intensity of regional losses was determined exclusively by the grain specialization of the region. The results show that the regions seriously affected by the Famine comprised a much larger proportion (in terms of territory and population) of UkrSSR than of the RSFSR. The highest excess deaths in UkrSSR are found in the
regions that did not play a major role in grain procurement, while in the RSFSSR four grain-producing regions suffered the most. For details, see Levchuk, Nataliia, Oleh Wolowyna, Omelian Rudnytskyi, Alla Kovbasiuk, and Natalia Kulyk. 2020. “Regional 1932–1933 Famine Losses: A Comparative Analysis of Ukraine and Russia.” Nationalities Papers 48(3): 492–512.

The Society’s members also received the Translation Prize annually awarded by the American Association for Ukrainian Studies (AAUS). Marco Carynnyk, Marta Horban, Halyna Hryn, Askold Melnyczuk, and Nina Murray were awarded the AAUS Translation Prize for their translation of Oksana Zabuzhko’s Your Ad Could Go Here (Amazon Crossing, 2020). Of the eight short stories included in the collection, Hryn translated five: "Oh Sister, My Sister"; "The Tale of the Guelder Rose Flute" (with Nina Murray); "Your Ad Could Go Here"; "The Tennis Instructor"; and "No Entry to the Performance Hall after the Third Bell", and Melnyczuk translated "Girls."

Honorable mention: Maria Rewakowicz for her translation of Mykola Vorobiov’s Mountain and Flower: Selected Poems (Lost Horse Press, 2020).
LANGUAGE POLICIES IN MULTILINGUAL COUNTRIES

In a webinar organized by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, Volodymyr Kulyk, Head Research Fellow at the Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, presented his book, *Movna polityka v bahatomovnykh krainakh: Zakordonnyi dosvid ta ioho prydatnist' dlia Ukrainy* (Dukh i Litera, 2021), Kulyk’s recent book traces the development of language policies in seventeen countries around the globe and explores the possibility of adopting best
policy practices in Ukraine.

The book’s publication was supported by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States. Vasyl Makhno, poet, translator, and chair of the Society’s Publications Committee, moderated the discussion.

Laada Bilaniuk, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington, and Mykola Riabchuk, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Political Studies, the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, provided a commentary on the implications of Kulyk’s findings and the linguistic situation in contemporary Ukraine.

For further information, watch the webinar on YouTube.

---

HEORHII NARBUT AND UKRAINE’S VISUAL IDENTITY

On May 15, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States held a virtual presentation of the Narbut XXI multimedia project, celebrating the work of Heorhii Narbut (1886-1920), an outstanding graphic artist responsible for the influential designs that
created the unmistakably recognizable visual identity of the independent Ukrainian state. The project’s output included the release of two art history volumes, a documentary about Narbut’s impact on contemporary Ukrainian graphic design, an international poster design competition, and a special event at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in Chicago.

The project’s history, goals, and impact were discussed by Lidia Lykhach, the founder and director of Rodovid publishing house, Yulia Fediv, the founding director of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation, Myroslava Mudrak, Professor Emerita of Art History at Ohio State University, specializing in Ukrainian and Russian avant-garde art of the 1910s and 1920s, and Vitaly Chernetsky, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas.

The project was spearheaded by the Rodovid publishing house and supported by a grant from the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation.

For further information, watch the webinar on YouTube.
THE UKRAINIAN ODESA OF VLADIMIR JABOTINSKY

On April 26, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States hosted a virtual discussion of Vladimir Jabotinsky’s literary work and, more broadly, cultural life in the city. Jabotinsky (1880–1940) was a famous Russian-speaking Zionist leader who was born in Odesa, educated in Western Europe, and died in Hunter, NY.

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, the Crown Family Professor of Jewish Studies and Professor of History, Northwestern University, discussed the role that Ukrainian culture occupied in Jabotinsky’s life, journalism, and literary works. As noted by Petrovsky-Shtern, the Prosvita Society in Odesa was characterized by unique liberalism, embracing Jews, Ukrainians, Russians, and Germans as its members.

Vitaly Chernetsky, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas, shared his vivid stories about culture in the Odesa of his childhood.

The video recording of the webinar is available here.
Through the support of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US, Panteleimon Kulish’s translations of three Shakespeare plays have just been published by *Krytyka* in Kyiv, Ukraine. As the first volume in the subseries “Translations and Paraphrases,” the publication is part of *The Complete Edition of Panteleimon Kulish’s Works* that was begun in 2005 and of which several volumes have already appeared. The present edition contains Kulish’s translations of three of Shakespeare’s plays, *Othello*, *Troilus and Cressida* and *Comedy of Errors*—which were indeed the first Shakespeare plays Kulish translated in 1882. It is also the first such edition of Shakespeare translations published in Ukraine according to rigorous academic standards.

Kulish hoped to translate 27 of Shakespeare’s plays and to publish them in nine volumes. He managed to translate only 13—the three that appeared during his lifetime and ten that were published after his death by Ivan Franko.

The present volume has been prepared under the general editorship of Oles Fedoruk of the Taras Shevchenko Institute of Literature of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences who is also the Secretary of the Editorial Board of the Complete Works of Panteleimon Kulish. Along with Alexander Boron, also of the Institute of Literature of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, he prepared the textual side of the publication. An extensive commentary was prepared by Olha Luchuk of the Ivan Franko University in Lviv. The scholarly redaction and the introductory article were prepared by Andrii Danylenko, Professor at Pace University in New York City.

*The Complete Edition of Panteleimon Kulish’s Works* is sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US as well as Harvard University’s Ukrainian Research Institute and the Institute of Literature of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. The project was initiated by a group of scholars led by Professor George G. Grabowicz and has already published several volumes of Kulish’s epistolary legacy, scholarly works and now these translations. More volumes of Kulish’s works will be appearing later this year.
THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA, BOOK 4

The Shevchenko Scientific Society has published the fourth book of the American volume of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora co-edited by Orest Popovych and Alexander Lushnycky. The fourth book supplements three previous books, which took three decades to produce, providing additions, clarifications and corrections, as is customary for an encyclopedic project.

The content of the fourth book consists of 117 new entries by 34 authors, a section on the centers and branches of Ukrainian organizations in America, and a register of cities and towns with Ukrainian communities.

Members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society’s chapter in Philadelphia collected a lot of material and copyedited entries. Additional work was done by the Shevchenko Scientific Society’s chapter in Detroit, as well as editors in Chicago and the main office in New York.

To purchase the Encyclopedia, click here.
On 1 March 2021, the Detroit Chapter of the Shevchenko Scientific Society of America marked its 70th anniversary. The Chapter was founded by scholars who had obtained advanced degrees in western Ukraine under the Austro-Hungarian or Polish rule. The chapter’s history from the 1950s to the 1980s was highlighted in the almanac “Ukrainians in Detroit and Michigan” published by the Detroit Metropolitan Committee in 1988.

Under Olena Danylyuk’s (2011-2019) leadership, the chapter witnessed the growth of collaboration with numerous Detroit area Ukrainian organizations, including the Ukrainian-American Archives and Museum, the Ukrainian Cultural Center, the Ukrainian Women’s League, the Ukrainian Cultural Committee, the Ukrainian Congress Committee, Nova Khvylya, and others. Born in Lviv, Danylyuk received her Ph.D in Medical Biology at the Maria Sklodowska-Curie Institute of Oncology in Poland and continued her academic career at Wayne State University.

In 2016 Roman D. Hryciw, Professor of Civil Engineering and Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Michigan, was elected as the head of the Detroit chapter, which now has 38 members.

For the complete article, click here.
When Michael Palij organized the Library Committee of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (U.S.) in 1958 he expressed the following idea: knowledge of Ukraine is proportionate to the number of objectively written books—so the main objective of diaspora Ukrainians is to ensure their presence in American libraries. He eventually built an outstanding Ukrainian collection at the University of Kansas.

Our library must focus on those resources that are unique to our institution: publications of its members, books supported by our grants and our own internal records. The Society’s archive deserves our greatest attention. 200 distinct collections are housed in a climate-controlled storage area.

A thorough shelf reading was among the first projects undertaken by Lev Chaban and Marko Slyz. It brought to light 1,100 duplicates, which were deaccessioned along with a number of out-of-scope and popular-level books found in most public libraries.
In September 2019 a meeting of the Executive Board mandated a request for a professional survey of the archives by Michael Andrec, a certified archivist at the Ukrainian Historical and Educational Center in Somerset, NJ. In May 2021 Michael prepared a detailed, illustrated 28-page “Assessment of policies, collection management, and storage” and submitted it to the board on June 7, 2021. It outlines high-priority actions, includes positive and negative evaluations and makes a number of suggestions for improvement.

For further information, click here.

---

MEMBER OF THE MONTH:

KATJA PYLYSHENKO KOLCIO

Hometown: Higganum, CT
Current Position: Director, Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life; Associate Professor of Dance, Environmental Studies, and Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, Wesleyan University
Professional Interests: Social change, somatics, dance, civic engagement, environment.

I learned about the Shevchenko Scientific Society and read its publications in my home growing up. The Shevchenko Society was integral to my understanding the value of education and pursuit of knowledge – and the fact that Ukrainians have a long history of valuing education.

My current research is twofold – Working in cooperation with the Ukrainian NGO ‘Development Foundation’, our aim is to promote psychosocial resilience and recovery from the conflict in Donbas through the implementation of a somatic program collaboratively developed over the past six years in Ukraine. The second and equally important goal of this project is to assess, in the context of these somatic programs, the ways in which psychosocial resilience and civic revitalization are grounded in the physical and creative resources inherent in each
individual. The project involves care providers in Donbas working with veterans, IDPs and others directly impacted by the conflict. This research will yield information on the specific context of Ukraine, as well as information on how this model can be modified and applied in other contexts around the world.

For a full profile, click here.

NEW MEMBERS

THE SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY IN THE UNITED STATES HAS RECENTLY WELCOMED SEVERAL NEW MEMBERS

Askold Sandursky is the Senior Director and Head of IT for Prelude Therapeutics Inc., the Delaware-based pharmaceutical company with a primary focus in the discovery, development, and commercialization of cancer therapies. Sandursky holds a Master of Science degree in Applied Mathematics from the Ivan Franko Lviv National University. He resides in Huntington Valley, PA, and is an active member of the Ukrainian Community in Philadelphia. He is the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union.

Taras Smerechanskyy received a Master’s in Business Administration from Temple University in 2019 and is currently a Risk Management Associate at TD Bank. He drafted a white paper to detail the body of work performed by the Bank to manage new or exacerbated model limitations that emerged because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Smerechanskyy lives in Philadelphia.

Irina V. Smirnova, director of the doctorate program in Rehabilitation Science and Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science, University of Kansas, completed her doctorate in protein chemistry from the Institute of Bio-organic Chemistry in Kyiv and was a post-doctoral research fellow in the Neurobiology Research Laboratory at the Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Kansas City, MO. She is a principal investigator in the Diabetes Research Lab. Her research focuses on the analysis of the benefits of physical exercise and pharmacological treatments for diabetic heart disease, and proteomics approaches to identify molecular mechanisms and pathways affected in the diabetic heart.
Margarita M. Balmaceda, Professor of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University, published the book *Russian Energy Chains: The Remaking of Technopolitics from Siberia to Ukraine to the European Union* (Columbia University Press, 2021). This book follows Russia’s three largest fossil-fuel exports—natural gas, oil, and coal—from production in Siberia through transportation via Ukraine to final use in Germany in order to understand the tension between energy as a threat and as an opportunity.

Vitaly Chernetsky, the Society’s Learned Secretary, was promoted to the rank of full professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas.

Judge Bohdan Futey and his wife Myroslava have recently established The Futey Family Scholarship for law studies at the Kyiv-Mohyla School of Law. Bohdan Futey received a Doctor of Law degree from Cleveland Marshall Law School in 1968 and serves as a judge on U.S. Claims Court (now U.S. Court of Federal Claims). Judge Futey is a visiting professor at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy and a professor at the Ukrainian Free University in Munich.

In 2020, Judge Futey published the book, *My Story: To Reach the Unreachable Star*, providing a historical account of the family’s ancestry and relating it to political developments in Ukraine and beyond.


Olena Nikolayenko, Professor of Political Science at Fordham University, gave talks on women’s engagement in the Revolution of Dignity at the Gender and Social Movements International Conference, held at the Gender Research Centre, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and the Second Annual *Taras Shevchenko Conference* at Indiana University.

Virlana Tkacz, artistic director of Yara Arts Group, in partnership with the Ukrainian Museum, held a virtual event devoted to the Hutsul tradition of giving children *konyky* or little horses made of cheese on the Thursday before Easter. In the documentary "Hutsul Cheese Horses," Maria Zelenchuk, a native of the Hutsul village of Kryvorivnia, shared her insights regarding the folk art tradition. The documentary is available for viewing here.
Catherine Wanner, Professor of History, Anthropology and Religious Studies at the Pennsylvania State University, and convenor of the Working Group on Lived Religion in Eastern Europe and Eurasia, co-organized the international conference “Unions and Divisions: The Politics of Religion and Reconciliation” in cooperation with the Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS), Germany. This conference invited scholars to reflect on the intersection of populism, nationalism, and inequalities with religion and its impact on unions and divisions in Eastern Europe and Eurasia.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Please let us know about your professional accomplishments, and we will announce them to our members via the English-language newsletter and social media. We welcome information about your recent articles, books, research grants, awards, international collaborations, or career moves. To fill out the form, please click here.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook  YouTube  Website  Email

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY MAKING A DONATION TODAY

DONATE

Copyright ©2021 Shevchenko Scientific Society, All rights reserved.

Mailing Address:
Shevchenko Scientific Society
63 4th Ave.
New York, NY 10003-5202

You are receiving this email because you are a member, or you opted in at our website or at an event.
Add us to your address book