
Newsletter

October 2019



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Message from the President: Fall 2019

Dear Colleagues,

With the fall academic season well underway, I would like to thank you for your participation in our society's work and to wish you a productive, enjoyable year!

During the past 2018–2019 year, the Shevchenko Scientific Society presented two international conferences (the centenary of the Western Ukrainian National Republic, in November 2018, and our traditional Shevchenko Conference in March); inaugurated an English-language electronic newsletter; published two Ukrainian-language bulletins; several books in our Shevchenko series; as well as Book 3 of the [Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Diaspora: The United States of America](#). The Grants Committee examined over 100 applications before selecting this year's 21 recipients, the eighth annual [Platon Kostyuk Award](#) for research in neuroscience was granted; and the Publications Committee awarded seven grants. [Our Library](#) identified and catalogued close to 6,000 duplicates, which it is now in the process of disbursing to other academic

libraries. Other standing committee and academic section work continued apace, as did our weekly lectures.

I also invite all of you to participate in our work in whichever way your time allows. Please contact us with your ideas, proposals, and offers of help with projects that further our mission of fostering Ukraine-related scholarship in the broadest sense of the word. We will be happy to hear from you. There is much that can and should be done.

Thank you for your support of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the U.S.

Sincerely,
Halyna Hryn

[For a full message, click here](#)



Donor Appreciation Reception

To start the new 2019–2020 academic and programming season, the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the US held a Donor Appreciation Reception to acknowledge the many individuals and institutions who contributed to the mission of the Society over the past several years. The event was held on

September 14, 2019, at the Society's headquarters at 63 Fourth Avenue, New York, NY.

As over 70 guests entered the second-floor lecture hall, they were greeted with a glass of wine and an opportunity to review an exhibit of the many books the Society had published or subsidized. Among the guests were Mr. Oleksii Holubov, Consul General of Ukraine in NY; The Honorable Yuriy Sergeyev, former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine and Permanent Representative to the United Nations (2007–2016); Marianna Zajac, President, Olga Hrycak, Social Welfare Chair, Nadia Nynka, Vice President, and Lydia Slyzh, head of the New York regional council of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America; Kathy L. Nalywajko, President, Irena M. Holiat, Vice President, Walter G. Hoydysh and Karina Tarnawsky, all of the Ukrainian Institute of America; Maria Shust, Ukrainian Museum Director; and Maria Genkin and Oksana Falenchuk of Razom for Ukraine.

A copy of the event program, including a list of the Society's donors and a sample of student essays, can be downloaded [here](#).

[For a video recording of the event, click here](#)



President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky Met with the Diaspora

On September 23, 2019, at the start of his official visit to the United States, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky met with the diaspora at the [Ukrainian Institute of America](#). Organized by the [Ukrainian Congress Committee of Ukraine](#) (UCCU), the event was attended by a few dozen representatives of various civic, professional, and religious organizations, including the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States, Ukrainian American Veterans, Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA, Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, Ukrainian Engineers Society of America, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization USA, Ukrainian Youth Association, and many others. UCCU President Andriy Futey made opening remarks, urging the newly elected president to safeguard Ukraine's sovereignty and promote Ukrainian culture and language.

"You are our best diplomats, you are in fact our lobbyists," said [President Zelensky](#). "You defend our sovereignty, our territorial integrity here, in the United States, and throughout the world. We are very thankful to you."

[For details, click here](#)



U of Kansas Hosted a Fulbright Pre-Departure Orientation for Europe and Eurasia in July 2019

By Vitaly Chernetsky

Associate Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Director, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies, University of Kansas

On July 21-26, 2019, the University of Kansas hosted the [Fulbright](#) Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO) for Europe and Eurasia. This is the largest of the Fulbright PDOs, bringing together new U.S. grantees heading to 22 countries in the region, including 25 of them heading to Ukraine, to be placed all over the country, from Lviv to Kramatorsk. Approximately 235 total Fulbright U.S. Student Researchers, English Teaching Assistants, and Fulbright Scholars participated in the intense week-long workshop, gaining practical information about living and working in a new country, networking with other grantees, and developing skills related to research and teaching. The sessions were led by KU faculty, staff, and advanced graduate students with expertise in the region. They were joined by alumni assisting in the orientation sessions, staffers from the U.S. Department of State and the Institute of International Education, and, for the final day, also by the Fulbright Board.

The selection of KU as the host for this year's Europe and Eurasia Fulbright Pre-Departure Orientation program is a great honor and a welcome recognition of the depth of expertise and the long-standing commitment to research and teaching of [Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies at KU](#).

[For details, click here](#)



Member of the Month: Ivanna Bilych

Current Position: Co-Founder and President of the [VOLYA Institute](#) for Contemporary Law and Society; Associate Director of the Office of Graduate Affairs, New York University [School of Law](#)

Since its inception, the Shevchenko Society works on important tasks of organizing scholarly gatherings and publishing valuable research. I always shared and admired those goals and ideals. In the last few years, the Shevchenko Society leadership broadened organizational interest and support for more areas of study, e.g. international law and political science, which I believe is a great move and valuable support for those who are working in those fields.

[Read More](#)



Member News

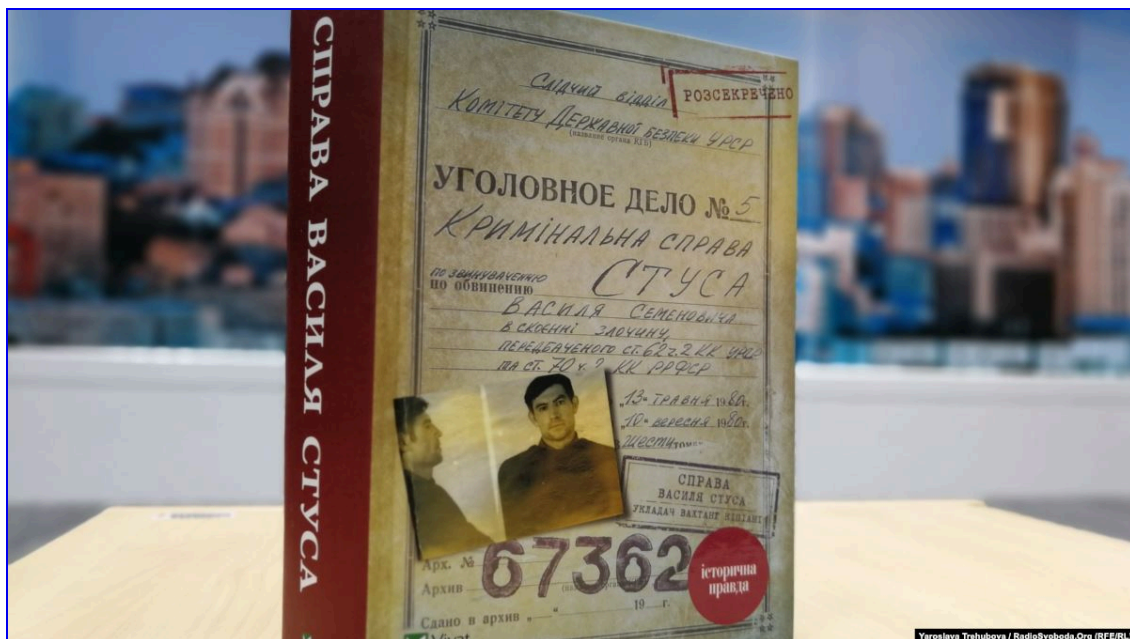
Alexander Motyl, Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, received the [2019 Omelian and Tatiana Antonovych Foundation award](#), honoring his outstanding contribution to Ukrainian Studies. The award ceremony was held at the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington, DC on September 13, 2019.

Serhii Plokyh's book [*Yalta: The Price of Peace*](#) (translated in Ukrainian) received the 2019 Book Award in the category "History" at the Book Forum and International Literature Festival, held in Lviv in September 2019.

Maria Rewakowicz, Lecturer of Ukrainian at Rutgers University, won the Omeljan Pritsak Book Prize in Ukrainian Studies for her book, [*Ukraine's Quest for Identity: Embracing Cultural Hybridity in Literary Imagination, 1991-2011*](#). Established in 2019 and sponsored by the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University, this book prize recognizes a distinguished book in the field

of Ukrainian studies that was published in the previous calendar year.

Iryna Vushko, Assistant Professor of History at Princeton University, moderated a panel discussion, [International Medical Cooperation: The Case of Ukraine](#), at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies on September 25, 2019. Dr. Luke Tomycz and Dr. Igor Kurilets, leading American and Ukrainian neurosurgeons, shared their experiences of working in Ukraine under the conditions of the crumbling medical system and endemic corruption. In particular, they discussed medical missions within the context of the ongoing armed conflict in eastern Ukraine.



Recent and Upcoming Events

September 28, 2019

Lecture: **Atlas of Ukrainians in the United States**

Speaker: **Oleh Wolowyna**, director of the Center for Demographic and Socio-Economic Research of Ukrainians in the US at the Shevchenko Scientific Society
[For details, see](#)

October 5, 2019

Lecture: **Quo Vadis, Ukraine? Ethnicity and Nationality in Today's Ukraine**

Speaker: **Oleh Kozachuk**, the 2019-2020 Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University and Assistant Professor at Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National

University

[For details, see](#)

October 19, 2019

Book Launch: ***Warm Arctic Nights*** and ***The Iquanas of Heat***

Speaker: **Yuriy Tarnawsky**, writer and one of the founding members of the New York Group

[Learn More](#)

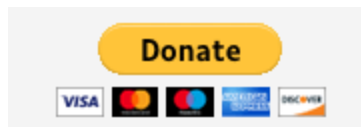
October 26, 2019

Book Presentation: ***The Case of Vasyl Stus***

Speakers: **Vakhtang Kipiani**, Ukrainian journalist, historian, and founder of the Museum-Archives of the Ukrainian Press in Kyiv

[For details, see](#)

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