

After nearly a half-century of cutting-edge programming and dedicated instruction, the Copernicus Program in Polish Studies has been elevated by the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science, and the Arts to the

Copernicus Center for Polish Studies!

The Nicolaus Copernicus Endowment was established in 1973 in cooperation with faculty, students, and the Polish Americans of Michigan who contributed generously with their time and financial assistance. It was recognized as a program in 2014, and is now entering a new phase as a full-fledged center.

The Copernicus Center will proudly pursue its mission by supporting faculty research and Polish language instruction, and by offering fellowships and internship opportunities for our students. We are also committed to continue bringing Poland to Ann Arbor through our active programming. The Annual Copernicus Lecture—established in 1980—is well-known for showcasing prominent academic, cultural, and political figures who advance our understanding of Polish affairs and demonstrate Poland’s growing significance in academia, the arts, and foreign affairs.

In the years to come, the Copernicus Center will continue to strengthen its relationships with Polish institutions and develop new ones. We were the first U.S. educational institution to sign an agreement with the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, and we work closely with NGOs, institutions of higher learning, cultural organizations, and U.S. agencies (such as Fulbright) to offer instruction and research opportunities for our students and faculty.

We are forever grateful for your loyal support. It is thanks to your enthusiasm and generosity that we are entering the next phase of our history. The future of Polish studies at Michigan is bright...STO LAT!

Geneviève Zubrzycki, *Director*
Professor of Sociology

FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is with great joy that I bring important news...



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Events

FALL 2019

September 20, 5:30 pm

CREES 60th Anniversary Signature Lecture. *"The Ukrainian Famine: What We Know Now—And Why it Matters."* **Anne Applebaum**, foreign policy columnist, *The Washington Post*. Sponsor: Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. 1010 Weiser Hall.



October 24, 4:30 pm

Lecture. *"POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Politics of History in Today's Poland."* **Dariusz Stola**, professor of history, Institute of Political Science, Polish Academy of Sciences. Co-sponsors: Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, Department of History, Weiser Center for Europe & Eurasia. 110 Weiser Hall.

November 8–10

26th Ann Arbor Polish Film Festival. For films and times, see annarborpolishfilmfestival.com. Sponsor: Polish Cultural Fund-Ann Arbor. Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty.

FALL EXHIBITION

October 4–November 29
Stasys Eidrigevičius: Collages. International Institute Gallery, 547 Weiser Hall.



November 11, 5:30 pm

Annual Copernicus Lecture. *"Working Around, Against, and Without: An Artist's Excursion on Shifting Political Ground."* **Artur Żmijewski**, visual artist. Co-sponsors: Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies; Stamps School of Art & Design. Stern Auditorium, UMMA.



November 19, 4 pm

Panel. *"Yiddish in Poland: Past, Present, and Future."* **Benjamin Paloff**, associate professor of Slavic languages & literatures and comparative literature, U-M; **Karolina Szymaniak**, Frankel Institute Fellow, U-M, and assistant professor of Jewish studies, University of Wrocław; **Geneviève Zubrzycki**, professor of sociology and CCPS director, U-M. Sponsor: Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. 2022 Thayer Building.

November 20, 1:15 pm

CCPS Roundtable. *"Poland's Parliamentary Elections."* **Benjamin Paloff**, associate professor of Slavic languages & literatures and comparative literature, U-M; **Brian Porter-Szűcs**, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of History, U-M; **Geneviève Zubrzycki**, professor of sociology and CCPS director, U-M. 555 Weiser Hall.

WINTER 2020

February 19, 5 pm

Annual Copernicus Lecture. **Dorota Masłowska**, author and poet. 1010 Weiser.



March 25, 12 pm

CREES Noon Lecture. **Bill Johnston**, professor of comparative literature, Indiana University Bloomington. Sponsor: Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. 1010 Weiser Hall.

For full details about CCPS events, visit ii.umich.edu/polish/events.



Faculty

Matthew Bengtson (Music, Theatre & Dance) performed works of Szymanowski, Lutosławski, and Bacewicz on campus with violinist Blanka Bednarz in February 2019. Bengtson received third prize in The American Prize's Solo Piano Division for *Karol Szymanowski: Masterworks for Violin & Piano*.

Benjamin Paloff (Slavic/Comparative Literature) won a Mellon Public Engagement and the Humanities Grant for the 2019–20 academic year. His translation of Dorota Masłowska's *Honey I Killed the Cats* will appear in September 2019, and his issue of *Michigan Quarterly Review* entitled "What Does Europe Want Now?" arrives in October.

Ewa Pasek (Slavic) was named Ladislav Matějka Collegiate Lecturer in recognition of her outstanding teaching, and served as the president of the North American Association of Teachers of Polish. She won an LSA DEI New Instructional/New Initiatives Grant to develop innovative Polish learning materials for non-traditional students and students with different learning styles and abilities.

Endi Poskovic (Art & Design) chaired an international panel, "Futures in the Present: Polish Printmaking and the Quest for Democracy in the 1960s," at the Seventh World Congress on Polish Studies at the University of Gdańsk. He also presented a public lecture, "Intricacies of Post-digital Printmaking," and conducted a workshop with students at the Eugeniusz Geppert Academy of Art and Design in Wrocław.

Piotr Westwalewicz (Slavic) taught two minicourses: "Rock Kills Communism," and "Revolution in the Attic," with over 70 students in each. Given the success, the Slavic department plans to increase enrollment caps to 100 students in 2019–20.

Geneviève Zubrzycki (Sociology) won Best Book Award from the International Society for the Sociology of Religion, as well as the John Porter Award from the Canadian Sociological Association, for her book *Behaving the Saint: Nationalism, Religion, and Secularism in Quebec* (Chicago, 2016). Prof. Zubrzycki delivered keynote lectures on the Jewish revival and politics of memory at conferences in the U.S., Poland, and Spain.

Students

Graduate Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship in Polish (2018–19): **Nora Dolliver**, MA REES/MSI Library & Information Science

Copernicus Summer Grants (2019): **Emily Learman**, BA History; **Catherine Szkop**, BS Evolutionary Anthropology

Amelia Kulesa-Konopka Fellowship (2019): **Minh-Quan Nguyen**, BSE Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering

Excellence in Polish Language Award (2018–19): **Christopher Keefe**, BA Economics

Copernicus/Slavic Polish Language Scholarships (2018–19): **Paulina Buchta**, BA LSA; **Anthony Cichoński**, BA History; **Emily Lerner**, BS International Studies; **Shannon Maag**, BA History; **Minh-Quan Nguyen**, BSE Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering; **Hope O'Neill**, BA Psychology; **Ethan Paczkowski**, BA LSA; **Ewelina Papież**, BA LSA; **Madelaine Topor**, BA Anthropology/Classical Archaeology; **Emily Webber**, BS Movement Science; **Kami Ziolkowski**, BA LSA

Congratulations to students who graduated with minors in Polish from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures: **Michael Lichowski**, **Victoria Peruski**, and **Izabella Puchalski**.

Ian Bratcher (PhD Sociology) followed Krzysztof Śmiszek and Robert Biedroń as they campaigned for the European Parliamentary elections in May, learning firsthand about the need for a stronger focus on women's rights and animal rights.

Grace Mahoney (PhD Slavic) participated in a Global Outreach Program Interdisciplinary Research Workshop at POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews on the theme "Building Culture and Community: Jewish Architecture and Urbanism in Poland." There she presented research on Jewish space and commemoration in Lviv and Kyiv.

Han Xu (PhD History), this year's Copernicus Graduate Fellow, is focusing her research on cultural exchanges between the Eastern Bloc and Asia during the Cold War. In fall 2019, she will be a teaching assistant in the Slavic department for a course on Eastern European cinema.



Alumni

Alena Aniskiewicz (PhD Slavic '19) presented her research on Polish hip hop at ASEES, the International Association for the Study of Popular Music-US, and at a symposium celebrating the golden age of hip hop at Indiana University. She defended her dissertation, "Cultural Remix: Polish Hip Hop and the Sampling of Heritage," in spring 2019 and will remain at U-M as a 2019–20 postdoctoral research fellow at the Institute for the Humanities.

Nora Dolliver (MA REES/MSI Library & Information Science '19) helped curate "A Revolution Worth Having: Emma Goldman at 150," a Special Collections exhibit in the Hatcher Graduate Library for which she also organized a symposium.

Paulina Duda (PhD Slavic '16) teaches Polish cinema and culture at Duke University, and film at the Polish-Japanese Academy of Information Technology in Warsaw. She received a Polish Filmmakers' Association grant to organize a series of public lectures and screenings critically addressing aspects of Polish history. On February 4, 2019, she and her husband welcomed the arrival of their son, Bronek Janikowski. Gratulacje!

Erica Lehrer (PhD Anthropology '04) co-curated the exhibit "Terribly Close: Polish Vernacular Artists Face the Holocaust," on display at the Kraków Ethnographic Museum from December 2018 to March 2019.

Ray Patton (MA REES '05, PhD History '11), associate professor of history at John Jay College, CUNY, is taking on a new position there as director of the Honors Program and Macaulay Honors College. His book, *Punk Crisis: The Global Punk Rock Revolution*, was published by Oxford University Press in October 2018.

Anna Topolska (MA History '15) earned her PhD in history from Adam Mickiewicz University on May 14, 2019.

Kate Wroblewski (BA History '03, MA Education '11, PhD History '19) is a lecturer and assistant director of undergraduate studies in the U-M Department of History.

Photos above, left to right: Krzysztof Śmiszek; Barbara Nowacka; Geneviève Zubrzycki, Marysia Ostafin, Maciej Krupa, Agnieszka Rudzińska; Zakopane Exhibition; Stasys Eidrigevičius, Zuzanna Ziomecka, Robert Biedroń, Zbigniew Libera.

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