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Imperial Nation Tsarist Russia and the Peoples of Empire

May 13–15, 2011

University of Michigan

All Events take place in 1014 Tisch Hall, unless otherwise noted



Imperial Nation Tsarist Russia and the Peoples of Empire

Friday, May 13

8:30 Continental Breakfast Available

9:30 — 11:15 Session I: Conceptualizing Empire and Nation

- Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny [Michigan]
- Ilya V. Gerasimov [Ab Imperio, Kazan'] Beyond Discursive Analysis: Reframing Empire vs. Nation. Dichotomy in New Imperial History
- Seymour Becker [Rutgers] Concepts of Nation and State in Russia to the End of the Eighteenth Century

Commentator: Alex Martin [Notre Dame]

11:15 — 11:30 Break

11:30 – 1:15 Session II: Dealing with Ethnicity

- Chair: Olga Maiorova [Michigan]
- Gene Avrutin [University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign] The Velizh Affair: Ritual Murder in a Russian Border Town
- Darius Staliunas [Lithuanian Institute of History and Munich University] Territorialization of Ethnicity in the Russian Empire? (The Case of Avgustav/Suvalki Province)

Commentators: Mikhail Krutikov [Michigan]

Mikhail Dolbilov [University of Maryland]

1:15 — 2:15 Break for Lunch

All Events take place in 1014 Tisch Hall, unless otherwise noted

2:15 – 4:15 Session III: Intellectuals and the Construction of Empire

Chair: Valerie Kivelson [Michigan]

- Mark Bassin [Södertörn] Colonization Without Empire? Frontier Expansion and Narratives of Russian Nation-Building
- Sergey Glebov [Smith and Amherst Colleges] The Ladder and the Rainbow: Evolutionism, Diversitarianism and Anti-Colonialism in Russian Eurasianism
- Olga Maiorova [Michigan] *A Revolutionary and the Empire: Herzen as a Precursor of Eurasianism* **Commentator:** Richard Wortman [Columbia]

4:15 — 4:30 Break

4:30 – 6:15 Session IV: Empire in Central Asia

Chair: Douglas Northrop [Michigan]

- Alexander Morrison [University of Liverpool] The Russian Conquest of Central Asia and the Napoleonic Generation, 1814-1853
- Ian Campbell [Michigan]
- Kazakhness and Empire: Ibrai Altynsarin and the
- Epistemological Violence of the Nationalism Paradigm Commentator: Kimberly Powers [Michigan]

Saturday, May 14

9:30 Continental Breakfast Available

10:00 — 12:00 Session V: The Imperial and the National: Visions and Promises

- Chair: Gerard Libaridian [Michigan]
- Inna Naroditskaya [Northwestern University] Expansion of the Empire under Catherine II and the Roots of Russian Historical Opera
- Susan Layton [The University of Edinburgh and the Centre d'études des mondes russe, caucasien et centre-européen, Paris] The Journey of a Provincial Imperialist:
- Evgeny Verderevsky's 'From Trans-Uralia to Transcaucasia'
- Harsha Ram [UC Berkeley]
- Imagined Community: The Georgian Intelligentsia Between Nation and Empire Commentator: Ronald Grigor Suny [Michigan]
- 12:00 1:30 Break for Lunch

1:30 — 3:15 Session VI: An Empire of Laws

- Chair: Ronald Grigor Suny [Michigan]
- Paul Werth [Nevada, Las Vegas] Conscience, Conversion, and the 'Foreign Confessions': Tsarist Regulation of Religious Change in the Nineteenth Century
- Alexander Semyonov [Ab Imperio and Smolny College of Liberal Arts and Sciences/St. Petersburg State University]
- Law and Liberalism in Empire

Commentator: Yana Arnold [Michigan]

All Events take place in 1014 Tisch Hall, unless otherwise noted 3:15 — 3:30 Break

3:30 — 5:15 Session VII: Imperial Subjects, Imperial Subjectivity

- Chair: Douglas Northrop [Michigan]
- Paul Brykczynski [Michigan] Prince Adam Czartoryski as a Liminal Figure in the Development of Modern Nationalism in Eastern Europe at the Turn of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries
- Ted Weeks [Southern Illinois University Carbondale] Representing Russian Power in Vilna, 1863-1914

Commentator: Valerie Kivelson [Michigan]

8:30 Michigan Union, 1st Floor, Pond Room Keynote Address: Richard Wortman [Columbia]

Sunday, May 15

10:00 Continental Breakfast Available

0:30 — 12:30 Wrap-up Session: Rapporteurs and Discussion of the Volume

- Chair: Olga Maiorova [Michigan]
- Alexander Martin [Notre Dame]
- Ronald Grigor Suny [Michigan]