

**BENJAMIN PALOFF**  
**(January 2026)**

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures  
Department of Comparative Literature  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
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***EMPLOYMENT***

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (2007-Present)  
Chair, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2023-Present)  
Professor (with tenure), Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature (2021-Present)  
Senior Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows (2024-Present)  
Affiliate, Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies  
Affiliate, Copernicus Center for Polish Studies  
Affiliate, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies  
Associate Professor (with tenure), Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature (2016-2021)  
Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature (2010-2016)  
Assistant Professor (non-tenure track) and Junior Fellow, Michigan Society of Fellows (2007-2010)  
Director, Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (2021-2023)  
Acting Director, Copernicus Center for Polish Studies (Fall 2020)  
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2018-2020)  
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017)

*Boston Review*, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2005-2012)  
Poetry editor

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (2005-2007)  
Instructor and Member of the Tutorial Board, Department of History and Literature

***EDUCATION***

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures, June 2007.  
M.A. in Slavic Languages and Literatures, November 2002.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
M.F.A. in Creative Writing/Poetry, April 2001.

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts  
B.A., *magna cum laude* with highest honors in field, Slavic Languages and Literatures, June 1999.

***FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS***

Kolegium Tłumaczy Fellowship, The Book Institute (Krakow/Warsaw)

Summer 2025

LSA/UMOR-Sponsored Research Funding, University of Michigan	Summer 2023
LSA Michigan Humanities Award	2019-2020
Associate Professor Support Fund, University of Michigan	2018-2019
Best Book in Literary Studies, AATSEEL	2018
LSA/UMOR-Sponsored Research Funding, University of Michigan	Summer 2017
ADVANCE Faculty Summer Writing Grant, University of Michigan	Summer 2016
Literature Fellowship in Translation, National Endowment for the Arts	2016
LSA/UMOR-Sponsored Research Funding, University of Michigan	Summer 2015
PEN/Heim Translation Fund Grant	2014
External Faculty Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center	2013-2014
Sweetland Fellows Seminar Senior Fellowship, University of Michigan	2012
Teaching with Technology Institute Grant, University of Michigan	2011-2012
Kolegium Tlumaczy Fellowship, The Book Institute (Krakow)	Summer 2010
Literature Fellowship in Poetry, National Endowment for the Arts	2009
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Michigan Society of Fellows	2007-2010
Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship	2006-2007
Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies Research Grant	Summer 2006
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Dissertation Fellowship—Polish	2005-2006
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship	2004-2005
Frederick Sheldon Fund Traveling Fellowship, Harvard University	2004-2005
FLAS Fellowship—Czech	Summer 2004
Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies Research Grant	Summer 2004
FLAS Fellowship—Czech	2003-2004
FLAS Fellowship—Polish	Summer 2003
Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies Research Grant	Summer 2003
FLAS Fellowship—Czech	Summer 2002
Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies	2001-2002
Jules and Avery Hopwood Award for Poetry, University of Michigan	2001
Jules and Avery Hopwood Award for Essay, University of Michigan	2001
Meador Family Prize and Guterman Poetry Prize, University of Michigan	2000
Cowden Memorial Fellowship, University of Michigan	2000
Colby Fellowship, University of Michigan	1999-2000
George B. Sohler Thesis Prize for “the best thesis written by an undergraduate presented for Honors in English or in a modern literature,” Harvard University	1999
National Merit Scholarship	1995-1999
Robert C. Byrd Memorial Scholarship	1995-1996
Presidential Scholar in the Arts, White House Commission on Presidential Scholars	1995

### **BOOKS**

*vs. Computer: Poems*. Los Angeles: Archimboldi Press, 2026. In press.

*Worlds Apart: Genre and the Ethics of Representing Camps, Ghettos, and Besieged Cities*. Columbia University Press, 2025. 254 pp.

Reviewed in: *Times Literary Supplement*.

*Bakhtin’s Adventure: An Essay on Life without Meaning*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2025. 131 pp.

*Lost in the Shadow of the Word (Space, Time, and Freedom in Interwar Eastern Europe)*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2016. 376 pp.  
Winner: 2015 Helen Tartar First Book Subvention Prize, ACLA.  
Winner: 2018 Best Book in Literary Studies, AATSEEL.  
Reviewed in: *Polish Review*, *Russian Review*, *Slavic and East European Journal*, *Slavic Review*.  
Translated as: “Sram i udvojavane: *Ferdydurke*” (excerpt). Bulgarian. Trans. Nikolai Genov. *Filologicheski forum* 5 (2019): 219-229.

*And His Orchestra: Poems*. Pittsburgh: Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2015. 74 pp.

*The Politics: Poems*. Pittsburgh: Carnegie Mellon University Press, 2011. 79 pp.  
Finalist: 2011 Balcones Poetry Prize.

### **BOOK-LENGTH TRANSLATIONS**

Krzysztof Jaworski. *Kameraden: Poems*. Polish. Under review.

Adam Leszczyński, *A People's History of Poland* (history). Polish. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2027. Under contract. 600 pp.

Bianka Rolando. *Inselbergs: Poems*. Polish. Introduction by Benjamin Paloff. Los Angeles: X Artists' Books, 2026. In press.

Marcin Napiórkowski, Katarzyna Szyngiera, and Mirosław Wlekły. *1989* (stage musical). Polish. Krakow: Słowacki Theater, 2023. For production use.

Yuri Lotman. *Culture and Communication: Signs in Flux. An Anthology of Major and Lesser-Known Works* (philosophy). Russian. Edited by Andreas Schönle. Brighton, Mass.: Academic Studies Press, 2020. 220 pp.

Dorota Masłowska, *Honey, I Killed the Cats* (novel). Polish. Dallas: Deep Vellum, 2019. 176 pp.  
Excerpted in: *Literary Hub* (September 11, 2019). Online: <https://lithub.com/honey-i-killed-the-cats/>  
Reviewed in: *Kirkus Reviews*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Reading in Translation*, *World Literature Today*

Janusz Korczak. *How to Love a Child* (nonfiction). Polish. In: *Selected Works of Janusz Korczak, Volume 1*. Ed. Anna Maria Czernow. Elstree, UK: Vallentine Mitchell Publishers, 2018. 1: 1-250. 250 pp.

Bożena Keff. *On Mother and Fatherland* (book-length poem). Polish. Translated with Alissa Valles. Asheville, NC: MadHat Press/Plume Editions, 2017. 85 pp.

Richard Weiner. *The Game for Real* (novel). Czech. San Francisco: Two Lines Press, 2015. 286 pp.  
Longlisted: 2016 PEN Translation Prize.

Marek Bieńczyk. *Prince in a Pastry Shop* (children's book). Polish. Wrocław: Wydawnictwo Format, 2015. 96 pp.  
Reprint: New York: Seven Stories Press, 2023.

Marek Bieńczyk. *Transparency* (nonfiction). Polish. Urbana-Champaign: Dalkey Archive Press, 2012. 272 pp.

Krzysztof Michalski. *The Flame of Eternity: An Interpretation of Nietzsche's Thought* (philosophy). Polish. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011. 231 pp.

Andrzej Sosnowski. *Lodgings: Selected Poems*. Polish. Rochester, NY: Open Letter, 2011. 163 pp.

Marek Bieńczyk. *Tworci* (novel). Polish. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2008. 180 pp.

Dorota Masłowska. *Snow White and Russian Red* (novel). Polish. New York: Grove Press, 2005. 293 pp.  
Longlisted: 2007 International Dublin Literary Award.

### **EDITORIAL PROJECTS**

Guest editor. Special issue: *What Does Europe Want Now?* *Michigan Quarterly Review* 58:4 (Fall 2019). 231 pp.

### **ARTICLES, ESSAYS, AND BOOK CHAPTERS**

“Czech Avant-Garde -isms in Search of the (Sur)real.” *The History of Surrealist Poetry*. Eds. Anna Watz and Jonathan P. Eburne. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. In progress.

“Inadmissible Evidence: On the Taboos of Holocaust Postmemory.” *The Cambridge History of Holocaust Literature*. Eds. Stuart Taberner, McKenna Marko, *et al.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. In revision.

“‘I Am Your Brother’: Tadeusz Różewicz’s Long View of Gendered Nationalism.” In revision.

“Echa.” *Pole/Jew: History, Literature, Identity, Future*. Eds. John J. Bukowczyk and Halina Filipowicz. Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2025: 314-325.

“Do You Exist, Mr. Lem?” *Polish Review* 68:2 (2023): 127-141.

“Cold to the Cold War: Rethinking the ‘Moral Authority’ of the Eastern European Writer in the West.” *Slavic and East European Journal* 65:4 (Winter 2021): 583-602.

“Olga Tokarczuk: Listening.” *Polish Review* 66:2 (2021): 36-55.

“The Career of *The Career of Nicodemus Dyzma*: An Introduction.” *The Career of Nicodemus Dyzma*. By Tadeusz Dołęga-Mostowicz. Trans. Ewa Małachowska-Pasek and Megan Thomas. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2020: vii-xii.

“Matter, Spirit, and Linguistic Metamorphoses: Bolesław Leśmian.” *Being Poland: A New History of Polish Literature and Culture since 1918*. Eds. Tamara Trojanowska, Joanna Niżyńska, and Przemysław Czapliński. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2018: 475-479.

“Populists and the Perversion of Academic Expertise.” *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (March 9, 2018). Online:  
[https://www.chronicle.com/article/PopuliststhePerversion/242775?cid=wcontentgrid\\_hp\\_6](https://www.chronicle.com/article/PopuliststhePerversion/242775?cid=wcontentgrid_hp_6)

- “Can You Tell Me How to Get to the Warsaw Ghetto?” *Modernism/modernity* 24:3 (September 2017): 429-460.
- “Esli eto ne sad: Ol’ga Sedakova i nezavershennaia rabota tvoreniia.” Trans. Sergei Ermakov. *Ol’ga Sedakova: Stikhi, smysli, prochtenia*. Eds. Stephanie Sandler, Maria Khotimsky, Margarita Krimmel, and Oleg Novikov. Moscow: Novoe Literaturnoe Obozrenie, 2016: 494-521.  
English version: “If This Is Not a Garden: Olga Sedakova and the Unfinished Work of Creation.” *The Poetry and Poetics of Olga Sedakova: Poems, Philosophies, Points of Contention*. Eds. Stephanie Sandler, Maria Khotimsky, Margarita Krimmel, and Oleg Novikov. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2018: 17-39.
- “East Is Always Further East.” *East European Politics and Societies* 28:4 (November 2014): 687-692.
- Foreword and annotations. *The Romance of Teresa Hennert*. By Zofia Nałkowska. Trans. Megan Thomas and Ewa Małachowska-Pasek. Dekalb, IL: Northern Illinois University Press. 2014: vii-xx, 165-168.
- “O Robinsonie warszawskim, czyli poeta chodzi do kina (i wraca do domu rozczarowany).” [Warsaw Robinson Crusoe, or, The Poet Goes to the Movies (and Comes Home Disappointed).] *Warszawa Miłosza*. Ed. Marek Zaleski. Warsaw: Pro Cultura Literaria and Instytut Badań Literackich PAN, 2013: 285-297.
- “Niewidzialni: Dyskursy mniejszościowe w literaturze polskiej.” [The Invisibles: Minority Discourses in Polish Literature.] *Na pograniczach literatury*. Eds. Jarosław Fazan and Krzysztof Zajas. Krakow: Universitas, 2012: 123-133.
- “Digital Orpheus: Poetry as Technology.” *The Journal of Electronic Publishing* 14:2 (Fall 2011). Online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/3336451.0014.211>
- “I Am One of an Infinite Number of Monkeys Named Shakespeare, or: Why I Don’t Own This Language.” *The Monkey and the Wrench: Essays into Contemporary Poetics*. Eds. Mary Biddinger and John Gallaher. Akron: University of Akron Press, 2011: 78-91.
- “Denatured Spirits: Shame and Doubling in Witold Gombrowicz and Richard Weiner.” *New Perspectives on Polish Culture: Personal Encounters, Public Affairs*. Eds. Tamara Trojanowska, Artur Platkiewicz, et al. New York: PIASA Books, 2011: 94-111.  
Bulgarian version (abridged): “Sram i udvoiane: Ferdidurke.” Trans. Nikolai Genov. *Filologicheski forum/Philological Forum* 5 (2019): 219-229.
- “Zaraźliwy śmiech: Tożsamość i infekcja w *Bakakaju*.” [Contagious Laughter: Identity and Infection in Gombrowicz’s *Bakakaj*.] *Witold Gombrowicz, Nasz współczesny*. Ed. Jerzy Jarzębski. Krakow: Universitas, 2010: 184-193.
- “Czy fraza ‘Polish literature’ oznacza literaturę polską?: Problem teorii recepcji i nie tylko...” [Does the Phrase “Polish Literature” in English Mean the Same Thing as Polish Literature in Polish? (Reception Theory and Beyond).] *Polonistyka bez granic, tom 1: Wiedza o literaturze i kulturze*. Eds. Ryszard Nycz, Władysław Miodunka, and Tomasz Kunz. Krakow: Universitas, 2010: 81-92.  
First printing in: *Wielogłos* 2:4 (2008): 53-64.
- “A Loving Heresy: The God Function in Joseph Brodsky and Ol’ga Sedakova.” *Slavic and East European Journal* 51:4 (Winter 2007): 716-736.

## ***INVITED LECTURES***

“Provocation: Between Free Expression and Compelled Action in Late Communist Poland.” Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics, Cambridge University (November 2025).

Invited Panel: “Celebrating Maria Janion: A Panel on the Maria Janion Reader, edited and translated by Marta Figlerowicz.” Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale University (November 2025).

Public Talk: *The Glory of Life* (2024). Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival, Ann Arbor, Michigan (May 2025).

“*Europa*: An Empirical Film about an Experimental Continent.” Copernicus Center for Polish Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (January 2024).

“The Model Prisoner: Individual versus Universal Experience in Concentration Camp Literature.” European Studies Council of the MacMillan Center, Yale University (May 2022).

Public Talk: *My Name Is Sara* (2020). Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival, Ann Arbor, Michigan (June 2021).

“Qué ridículo!: Bakhtin and the Power of Not Being in on the Joke.” Havighurst Center for Russian and Post-Soviet Studies, Miami University (April 2021).

“Someone Else’s Problems: The Dissident Author Post-Dissidence.” Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (November 2020).

“Jokes from the House of the Dead: Humor’s Challenge to Camp Representation.” University of Southern California (October 2020).

“Translation, Now! A Conversation with Dorota Masłowska.” University of Illinois, Chicago (February 2020).

“Dorota Masłowska: A Reading and Conversation.” Russian and East European Institute, Indiana University (February 2020).

“Olga Tokarczuk.” A Nobel Symposium. Center for the Study of Complex Systems, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (December 2019).

“Why Read Concentration Camp Literature?” Forum on 15, University of Illinois, Chicago (November 2019).

Translation Discussion. University of Illinois, Chicago (November 2019).

“We Have Been Misreading the Camps.” Dialogues in Contemporary Thought V, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (March 2019).

“Young Poland.” Poland’s Centennial: An Evening of Reflection and Celebration, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (November 2018).

“The Universal Translator.” Keynote Lecture, Oberlin College Translation Symposium (April 2016).

“What’s Found in Translation.” Rose O’Neill Literary House, Washington College (March 2015).

“Genre Trouble: *Zapiski*, Parabiography, and Facticity in the Literature of Concentration Camps and Besieged Cities.” Gochman Lecture, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University (December 2014).

“Real-Life Fictions: A Topology (Starring Lidiia Ginzburg, Tadeusz Borowski, and Jiří Weil).” Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of California, Berkeley (November 2013).

“Intersubjectivity and Its Discontents, or: How to Make Fun of Witold Gombrowicz.” Polish Studies Center, Indiana University (February 2008).

“Intersubjectivity and Its Discontents, or: How to Make Fun of Witold Gombrowicz.” Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (February 2007).

“Death is Not an Out: The Metamorphoses of Andrei Platonov and Bruno Schulz.” Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Princeton University (January 2006).

### ***CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND ROUNDTABLES***

“Delusions of Manure: Postcommunist Literature and the Myth of Disposable Culture.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Washington, DC (November 2025).

Roundtable: “Traveling Theory.” ASEEES, Washington, DC (November 2025).

Panel: “Book Discussion: *Worlds Apart: Genre and the Ethics of Representing Camps, Ghettos, and Besieged Cities*, by Benjamin Paloff. ASEEES, Washington, DC (November 2025). Discussant.

“Translational Experience: New Impressions of Andrzej Sosnowski’s *New Impressions*.” American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages (AATSEEL), virtual (February 2025).

Panel: “Diary, Document, Testimony: From Shalamov’s Stories to Ukrainian War Diaries.” ASEEES, Boston (November 2024). Discussant.

Workshop for *The Cambridge History of Holocaust Literature*, YIVO, New York (September 2024).

“The Hyphenated Writer: Between Nation and Nowhere.” Modern Language Association (MLA), Philadelphia (January 2024).

Roundtable: “Thirty-Five Years Since Communism’s End: The Joys and Sorrows of East-Central Europe.” MLA, Philadelphia (January 2024).

Roundtable: “Stanisław Lem in the 21st Century.” ASEEES, Philadelphia (December 2023).

“Polish Literature’s Brief Future: A Prophecy.” The Future of Polish Studies, University of Warsaw (July 2023).

“Inhuman Values: Labor, Spirit, and Raw Material in Camp Literature.” Unfree Spaces in the Modern World: Resistant Responses, Empowering Acts, University of Regensburg (January 2023).

Panel: “Do We Need National Literatures?” MLA, San Francisco (January 2023). Organizer and chair.

“The Time of the Translator.” MLA, San Francisco (January 2023).

“The Plot of Eastern European Literature.” ASEEEES, Chicago (November 2022).

“The Lyric Obscure: Bianka Rolando.” ASEEEES, Chicago (November 2022).

Roundtable: “Warsztat tłumacza: strategie translatorskie wobec wielojęzyczności w prozie polskich autorów” [Translator’s Workshop: Translation Strategies for Multilingualism in Polish Prose]. 5 Światowy Kongres Tłumaczy Literatury Polskiej, Kraków (June 2022). Online recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6K1KD7RXS1w>

Roundtable: “Dorota Masłowska i jej tłumacze” [Dorota Masłowska and Her Translators]. Gdańskie Spotkania Literackie “Odnalezione w tłumaczeniu,” virtual (April 2021). Online recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD-pU0fjJr4>

Roundtable: “The Nobel Prize in Literature as a Referendum on Central Europe.” ASEEEES, virtual (November 2020). Chair.

“Whose Concentration Camp Is It, Anyway?: Instrumentalizing History on the Global Stage.” The Other Europe: Changes and Challenges since 1989, Yale University (September 2020).

“Bakhtin’s Narrative Realism.” AATSEEL, San Diego (February 2020).

“The Present Demands of the Past: Genre and Exceptional Experience in Camp Literature.” MLA, Seattle (January 2020).

“The Real Life of Gombro.” ASEEEES, San Francisco (November 2019).

Panel: “Olga Sedakova I: Ethics and Contemplation.” ASEEEES, San Francisco (November 2019). Discussant.

Roundtable: “Making Sense of Change: Poland 1918-2018.” Indiana University, Bloomington (February 2019).

Roundtable: “Translation and Performance Roundtable II: Performing Poetry Translation.” ASEEEES, Boston (November 2018).

Panel: “Book Discussion: *Being Poland*.” ASEEEES, Boston (November 2018). Chair.

“Is the Child Neuter?: On Translating the World of Korczak’s Words.” Janusz Korczak: Legacy, Pedagogy, Children’s Rights, Columbia University (November 2018).

Roundtable: “Mistakes in Translation.” American Literary Translators Association (ALTA), Indiana University (November 2018).

“Cruel Jokes for Crueler Times.” MLA, New York City (January 2018).



Panel: “Bad Translation.” MLA, New York City (January 2018). Organizer and chair.

“Modernism the Hard Way: Richard Weiner’s Fiction from the Great War.” ASEES, Chicago (November 2017).

Roundtable: “Do We Need Translations of Scholarship from Eastern Europe?” ASEES, Chicago (November 2017).

Roundtable: “Instructions Not Included: A Roundtable on Collaborative Translation.” ALTA, Minneapolis (October 2017).

“Genre Trouble.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Utrecht, Netherlands (June 2017).

“Genera through Generations: On the Evolution of How We Read Concentration Camp Literature.” Generations and Genealogies: The Fourth Annual Polish Jewish Studies Workshop, University of Michigan (April 2017).

Roundtable: “Witold Gombrowicz and Alteration.” ASEES, Washington, DC (November 2016).

“Living with Your Choices, or Reading *The Romance of Teresa Hennert* after Brexit.” Zofia Nałkowska’s Life in English, University College London (November 2016).

“Your Nightmares Have Already Come True: Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky’s Writings on War.” Planting the Flag: The Nonfiction of Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky, Indiana University (October 2016).

“Parabiography, or When the Text Tells You What You Didn’t Know You Need to Know.” ACLA, Cambridge, MA (March 2016).

“You Eat What You Are: Consumption vs. Identity in Dorota Masłowska.” AATSEEL, Austin (January 2016).

“Genera of Text and Person: Tadeusz Borowski’s Ethics of Reading.” ASEES, San Antonio (November 2014).

Roundtable: “Problems of Cultural Context in Translation.” ASEES, San Antonio (November 2014).

“Translation as Provocation: When the Text Says What We Would Rather Not Hear.” Translation and Comparative Cultural Context: East and West in Dialogue, Fudan University, Shanghai (May 2014).

“Can You Tell Me How to Get to the Warsaw Ghetto?” ACLA, Toronto (April 2013).

“East Is Always Further East.” The End of the Story?: Problems and Perspectives of East European Literary Studies, Princeton University (February 2013).

Roundtable discussion among authors and translators. “After Schulz” Festival, University of Illinois, Chicago (December 2012).

“Bruno Schulz as Theoretical Physicist.” Bruno Schulz, 1892-1942: Interdisciplinary Reassessments, University of Chicago (November 2012).

“Rethinking ‘Mesearch’ and the Objectives of Subjectivity.” 4th International Conference on Polish Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago (October 2012).

Roundtable: “How to Become a Literary Translator.” Department of Comparative Literature, University of Michigan (October 2012).

Roundtable: “Poetry’s Publishing Media.” Poetry and Poetics Workshop, University of Michigan, (September 2012).

Roundtable: “Poetry and Difficulty.” University Library, University of Michigan (April 2012).

“I Burn Everything!: Bruno Jasiński vs. The World.” ASEES, Washington, DC (November 2011).

Roundtable: “Czesław Miłosz and American Poets.” Yale University (November 2011).

“O ‘Robinsonie warszawskim’, czyli Poeta chodzi do kina i wraca rozczarowany” [Miłosz’s *Robinson Crusoe of Warsaw*, or: The Poet Goes to the Movies and Is Disappointed]. Warszawa Miłosza, Warsaw (October 2011).

“Czesław Miłosz: Faith without Consolation.” After Miłosz: Polish Poetry in the 20th and 21st Centuries, University of Illinois, Chicago (September-October 2011).

Roundtable: “Miłosz: Made in America.” Copernicus Lecture, University of Michigan (September 2011). Co-organizer and chair.

“National Literature After the Nation and After Literature.” AATSEEL, Los Angeles (January 2011).

“Socratics and Cynics: On the Ancient Epistemologies of Russian/Soviet Poetry.” ASEES, Los Angeles (November 2010).

“Niewidzialni: Dyskursy mniejszościowe w literaturze polskiej” [The Invisibles: Minority Discourses in Polish Literature]. Na Pograniczach Literatury, Krakow (March 2010).

Roundtable: “Developing a New Generation of Translators.” MLA, Philadelphia (December 2009).

Roundtable: “Polish Poetry Now.” Poet’s House and the Polish Cultural Institute, New York City (November 2009).

“‘For Behold This Selfsame Thing’: Writing Difference in the Undifferentiated Society.” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), Boston (November 2009).

“Translating Relative States: Richard Weiner in the Space of Literature.” 10th Czech Studies Workshop, Columbia University (May 2009).

“Marek Bieńczyk and Romantic Melancholy.” AAASS, Philadelphia (November 2008).

“Czy fraza *Polish literature* oznacza literaturę polską? (Problem teorii recepcji i nie tylko...)” [Does the Phrase “Polish Literature” in English Mean the Same Thing as Polish Literature in Polish? (Reception Theory and Beyond)]. IV Kongres Polonistyki Zagranicznej: Polonistyka bez granic, Krakow (October 2008).

- “Truth and Violence: Miłosz, Herling-Grudziński, and the Counterfactual.” New Directions, New Connections: 2nd International Conference on Polish Studies, Indiana University (April 2008).
- “Modes of Lyric Collision: The Urban Phantasms of Nikolai Zabolotskii.” AATSEEL, Philadelphia (December 2006). Panel organizer.
- “At the Limits of Philosophy: Witkacy Against the Grain of the Polish Modern.” AAASS, Washington, DC (November 2006).
- Roundtable: “Polish Literary Studies and Comparative Literature.” AAASS, Washington, DC (November 2006).
- “Denatured Spirits: Shame and Being in Gombrowicz’s *Ferdydurke* and Richard Weiner’s *Hra doopravdy*.” 1st International Conference on Polish Studies, University of Toronto (February 2006).
- “A Loving Heresy: The God Problem in Brodsky and Sedakova.” Russian Poetry Since 1970 Symposium, Princeton University (December 2005).
- “Unmappable Places, Defaceable Faces: Spatial Distortion, Indifference, and Orphanhood in Andrei Platonov and Bruno Schulz.” AAASS, Salt Lake City (November 2005). Panel organizer.
- Roundtable: “How Minor is ‘Minor’?: New Integrative Approaches to Slavic Literature.” AAASS, Salt Lake City (November 2005). Roundtable organizer.
- “Modern-Day Dostoevskys: Bakhtin’s Ideas Among His Contemporaries.” AAASS, Boston (December 2004).
- “Contagious Laughter: Identity and Infection in Gombrowicz’s *Bakakaj*.” Witold Gombrowicz—Our Contemporary, Jagiellonian University, Kraków (March 2004).
- “Gombrowicz in His (Almost) Free Time: *Ferdydurke* and Repetition.” AAASS, Toronto (November 2003). Panel organizer.
- “Free Enterprise: How Bakhtin Manufactures Freedom in Dostoevsky.” (Con)textualizing Time in Central and Eastern Europe, University of Texas, Austin (February 2003).

### **REVIEW ESSAYS, BOOK REVIEWS, AND MISCELLANEOUS PROSE**

- Review of Cynthia L. Haven’s *Czesław Miłosz: A California Life*. *Times Literary Supplement* (October 13, 2023): 28.
- Review of Izabela Wagner’s *Bauman: A Biography*. *Polish Review* 67:4 (Fall 2022): 150-152.
- Review of Zygmunt Bauman’s *Sketches in the Theory of Culture*. *Polish Review* 67:1 (Spring 2022): 159-160.
- “*Black Earth: Selected Poems and Prose*, by Osip Mandelstam.” *Times Literary Supplement* 6207 (March 18, 2022): 25.
- Review of Leona Toker’s *Gulag Literature and the Literature of Nazi Camps*. *Antisemitism Studies* 5:1 (Spring 2021): 204-209.

- “Anatomy of a Cat-Killer: New Translations of Bohumil Hrabal.” *Times Literary Supplement* 6109 (May 1, 2020): 4.
- Review of Natalia Kamovnikova’s *Made under Pressure: Literary Translation in the Soviet Union, 1960–1991*. *Russian Review* 79:1 (January 2020): 132-133.
- “Nothing to See Here: *Accommodations*, by Wioletta Greg.” *Reading in Translation* (October 7, 2019). Online: <https://readingintranslation.com/2019/10/07/nothing-to-see-here-wioletta-gregs-accommodations-translated-from-polish-by-jennifer-croft/>
- “Shaggy, Dogged: *Sentimental Tales*, by Mikhail Zoshchenko.” *Times Literary Supplement* 6031 (November 11, 2018): 26.
- Review of Wojciech Nowicki’s *Salki*. *Slavic Review* 77:3 (Fall 2018): 813-814.
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- Andrzej Sosnowski. Two poems. *New European Poets*. Eds. Wayne Miller and Kevin Prufer. Minneapolis: Graywolf Press, 2008: 175-177.
- Dorota Masłowska. Excerpt from *Snow White and Russian Red* (novel). *Words Without Borders* (online, January 2005): <http://www.wordswithoutborders.org/article.php?lab=RedAndWhite>
- Bolesław Leśmian. "Girl" (poem). *Circumference* 4 (2005): 52-55.
- Witold Gombrowicz. "The Rat" (story). *Words Without Borders* (online, March 2004): <http://www.wordswithoutborders.org/article.php?lab=Rat>
- Krzysztof Piesiewicz. *Faith and Hope* (screenplays). Translated with Justyna Beinek.
- Henry Hiz. "The Ethics of a Guardian and the Ethics of a Legislator" (essay). Translated with Justyna Beinek. *The Philosophical Forum* 24:2 (1998): 50-56.
- Aleksander Wat. "In the Four Walls of My Pain" (poem). Translated with Justyna Beinek. *2B* 11-12 (1997): 184-185.
- from Russian:*
- Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky. "Moscow in the First Years of the War: Physiological Sketches (Excerpts)." *Countries That Don't Exist: Selected Nonfiction*, by Sigizmund Krzhizhanovsky. Eds. Alexander Spector and Jacob Emery. New York: Columbia University Press, 2022): 197-207.

Aleksandr Ilichevsky. "The Sparrow" (story). *Rossica* 18 (2008): 96-103. Reprinted in *Read.Russia!: An Anthology of New Voices*. Ed. Elena Shubina. New York: Overlook Press, 2012: 437-445.

*from Czech:*

Martin Reiner. Four Poems. *Double Room* 6 (2005). Online: [http://www.webdelsol.com/Double\\_Room/](http://www.webdelsol.com/Double_Room/)

## INTERVIEWS

"Encounters with Polish Literature, Season 3, Episode 7: Dorota Masłowska (Benjamin Paloff in Conversation with David Goldfarb)." Polish Cultural Institute in New York. YouTube. July 20, 2023. 56 min. Online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZsWni-VbFM>

"Encounters with Polish Literature, Season 3, Episode 3: Leopold Tyrmand (Benjamin Paloff in Conversation with David Goldfarb)." Polish Cultural Institute in New York. YouTube. March 7, 2023. 67 min. Online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NlucW-UAec>

"Encounters with Polish Literature, Season 1, Episode 2: Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz (Benjamin Paloff in Conversation with David Goldfarb)." Polish Cultural Institute in New York. YouTube. March 1, 2021. 63 min. Online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5ZZ-uXhATY>

"Is It Worth Translating Sienkiewicz?" Conducted by Mikołaj Głiński. *Culture.pl* (2016). Online: <http://culture.pl/en/article/is-it-worth-translating-sienkiewicz-an-interview-with-ben-paloff>

"An Interview with Benjamin Paloff." Conducted by Brandon Lussier. *The California Journal of Poetics* (2011). Online: <http://www.californiapoetics.org/interviews/1427/an-interview-with-benjamin-paloff/>

"Masłowska in NYC: Masłowska is Real." Conducted by Alan Lockwood. *Biweekly.pl* 12 (February 2011). Online: <http://www.biweekly.pl/article/1841-maslowska-in-nycmaslowska-is-real.html>. Polish version, trans. Monika Rokicka: <http://www.dwutygodnik.com/artukul/1830-maslowska-w-nyc-maslowska-jest-prawdziwa.html>

"Dama z łasiczką pod flagą biało-czerwoną." Conducted by Iga Noszczyk. *ArtPAPIER* 48 (2005).

"A Thankless Job: A Translators Roundtable." Conducted by Damien Weaver. *BooksLut* (June 2005). Online: [http://www.booksLut.com/features/2005\\_06\\_005722.php](http://www.booksLut.com/features/2005_06_005722.php)

## TEACHING

*Undergraduate courses:*

Polish Drama, Polish Poetry, Polish Literature from the Middle Ages to 1900, Polish Literature in the Twentieth Century, Polish Literature in the Nineteenth Century, Shorter Masterworks of Nineteenth-Century Russian Prose, Central European Cultures, Central European Cinema, Literature and Ethics, Global Zombies, Introduction to Translation Studies, Translating World Literatures, Introduction to Narratology, Art House Animation and Poetics.

*Graduate courses:*

Eastern European Poets in the West, Critical Theory in Eastern Europe, Slavic Cinema, Translation Theory and Practice, Translation Studies Seminar, Slavic Proseminar, Comparative Literature Proseminar, How to Make a Book.

*Additional instruction:*

“Physics, Philosophy, Fiction.” Telluride Association Summer Program, a six-week intensive interdisciplinary seminar at the University of Michigan. Co-taught with Katie Peterson, Deep Springs College (Summer 2009).

“Rethinking Public Engagement.” An intensive weeklong seminar for graduate students at the University of Michigan exploring public applications of Humanities scholarship. Sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation’s Humanities in the 21st Century initiative (May 2017, September 2018).

“Matters of Life and Death.” A thirteen-week (full semester) undergraduate course in literature and practical ethics. University of Michigan-Shanghai Jiao Tong University Joint Institute, Shanghai, China (May-August 2024).

*Chair of Doctoral Dissertation Committee:*

Ivan Parra Garcia, Ph.D. candidate in Comparative Literature (present)

Aleks Marciniak, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2025)  
“Whence Came I: On Oxxxymiron and Persona in the Digital Age”

Dylan Ogden, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2024)  
“Cracks in the Iron Curtain: Reception and Influence of the Nouveau Roman in Late-Soviet Russia”

Karl Gaudyn, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2022)  
“A Sensuous Love of the Unseen: Beauty and Ordinary Life in the Works of Gautier, Pater, Proust, and Bellow”

Megan Berkobien, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2020)  
“(E)co-translation: Toward a Collective Task”

Alena Aniskiewicz, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2018)  
“Cultural Remix: Polish Hip-Hop and the Sampling of Heritage”

Jodi Greig, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2016)  
“The Sandbox of History: Nationality, Sexuality, and the Historical Impulse in Contemporary Polish LGBTQ Culture”

Jessica Zychowicz, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2015)  
“Superfluous Women: Gender, Art, and Activism in Ukraine after the Orange Revolution”

*Member of Doctoral Dissertation Committee:*

Azhar Dyussekenova, Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures (present)  
Ryan Hoaglund, Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures (present)  
Tanya Silverman, Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures (present)  
Emma Lerman, Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures (present)  
Han Xu, Ph.D. candidate in History (present)

Luiza Duarte Caetano, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2025)  
“The Uses of Literature in Times of Crisis: Germaine de Staël, Louise Michel, Peter Weiss”

Lauren Beck, Ph.D. in Germanic Languages and Literatures (2023)  
“Futurity in Migration: Women’s Memory and Post-National Imagination in Contemporary German Literature”

Jason Wagner, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2022)  
“Yiddish Ruthenias: Home Landscapes in the Modernist Poetry of Moyshe Kulbak and Dovid Hofshsteyn in the Age of Revolutions and National Revivals in Eastern Europe”

Maximilian Alvarez, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2020)  
“Technologies of Resistance: Media, Anarchy, and Radical Politics in Early 20th-Century Mexico”

David Morgan Spitzer, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, Binghamton University (outside reader, 2018)  
“Figures of Motion, Figures of Being: Translation, Diaspora, and the Song of Parmenides”

Greg Dandele, Ph.D. in English Language and Literature (2017)  
“Avant-Gardes at the Iron Curtain: A Transnational Reading of Allen Ginsburg and the Soviet Estradny Poets”

Paulina Duda, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2016)  
“Between *Auteur* and Advocate: Polish Film and the Legacy of Romantic Nation Building”

Eric Ford, Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures (2016)  
“Revolving Beast: Identifying the Animal in Post-Revolutionary Russian Literature”

Olga Greco, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2015)  
“From Triumphal Gates to Triumphant Rotting: Refractions of Rome in the Russian Political Imagination”

Spencer Hawkins, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2014)  
“Foundational Ambiguities: Metaphor, Translation, and Intertextuality in Hans Blumenberg’s Metaphorology”

Corine Tachtiris, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2011)  
“Branding World Literature: The Global Circulation of Authors in Translation”

Ksenya Gurshtein, Ph.D. in History of Art (2011)  
“TransStates: Conceptual Art in Eastern Europe and the Limits of Utopia”

Sylwia Ejmont, Ph.D. in Comparative Literature (2008)  
“The Troubadour Takes the Tram: Experience in Polish Poetry and Music”

*MFA Thesis Committee:*

Francine J. Harris, MFA in Creative Writing (2011)

*MA Thesis Chair:*

Mara Kuhne, MA in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2025)  
Emma Lerman, MA in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2021)  
Nora Dolliver, MA in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2019)

*BA Honors Thesis Advisor:*

Adella Oelerich, BA in International Studies and German (2026)  
Sydney Lyle, BA in Comparative Literature (2025)  
Tyler Berndt, BA in Comparative Literature (2023)  
Elijah Neumann, BA in English (2023)



Annika Hoffmann, BA in Comparative Literature (2021)  
Margaret Greer, BA in Gender and Health (2021)  
Brooke Lennox, BA with Highest Honors in International Studies (2020)

### ***UNIVERSITY SERVICE***

Faculty Launch Committee for Alex Averbuch (Slavic Languages and Literatures) (2025-Present).  
Faculty Launch Committee for Aaron Coleman (English, Comparative Literature) (2024-2025).  
Executive Committee, Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2023-Present).  
Faculty Mentor, Poetry and Poetics Workshop (2014-Present).  
Steering Committee, Copernicus Center for Polish Studies (2007-Present).  
Translation Studies Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017, 2018-Present).  
Faculty Merit Review Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2018-Present).  
Executive Committee, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2010-2011, 2015, 2018-Present).  
Executive Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (committee of the whole, 2014-Present).  
Grand Challenges Subcommittee, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (Winter 2024).  
Faculty Launch Committee for Bryan Miller (History of Art, Archaeology, Museum of Anthropological Archaeology) (Convener, 2022-2023).  
Department Advisory Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017, 2018-2023).  
Executive Committee, Sweetland Center for Writing (2016-2023).  
Graduate Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (Chair, 2015-2017; Member, 2019-2023).  
Acting Director, Copernicus Center for Polish Studies (Fall 2020).  
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2018-2020).  
Promotion Review Committee (Traisnel), Department of Comparative Literature (2020).  
Hopwood Awards Local Judge (2016, 2017, 2020).  
Faculty Reviewer, International Institute Student Fellowships (2017-2019).  
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017).  
Chair, Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017).  
Chair, Graduate Third-Term Review Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017).  
Graduate Advisor, Department of Comparative Literature (2015-2017).  
Chair, Lecturer Review Committee (Westwalewicz), Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2017, 2022).  
Course Evaluation Instrument Review Committee, LSA (2016).  
Undergraduate Advisor, Department of Comparative Literature (2014-2016).  
Undergraduate Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2014-2016).  
Lecturer Review Committee (Hetzl and Beal), Sweetland Center for Writing (2015).  
Scholarly Activities Committee, Department of Comparative Literature (2010-2011, 2015).  
Chair, Lecturer Review Committee (Rogovyk), Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2015).  
Lecturer Review Committee (Pasek), Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures (2013).  
Executive Committee, Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2011-2013).  
Steering Committee, Comparative Literature Year in Translation (2009-2010).

### ***PROFESSIONAL SERVICE***

External Promotion Reviewer, The New School (2025).  
External Reviewer, Department of Polish, Russian, and Lithuanian Studies, University of Illinois Chicago (2024).  
External Promotion Reviewer, Ohio State University (2024).  
External Promotion Reviewer, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (2024).  
External Promotion Reviewer, Harvard University (2019, 2024).  
Translation Fellowships Panel, National Endowment for the Arts (2021, 2024, 2025).  
Executive Committee, MLA European Regions Forum (2019-2024; secretary, 2021; chair, 2022).

Prize Jury, Kulczycki Book Prize in Polish Studies, ASEES (2021-2023; chair, 2023).  
 Prize Jury, Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Studies in Slavic Languages and Literatures, MLA (2017-2019, 2021; chair, 2021).  
 Translation Prize Jury, AATSEEL Publications Committee (2018-2021, 2025; chair, 2019-2020).  
 Executive Committee, MLA Russian and Eurasian Forum (2014-2019; secretary, 2017; chair, 2018).  
 External Lecturer Promotion Reviewer, New York University (2019).  
 IDRF Fellowship Review Panel, Social Science Research Council (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020).  
 External Tenure Reviewer, Princeton University (2018).  
 Faculty Selection Committee, Stanford Humanities Center (2016).  
 Seminars and Institutes Review Panel, National Endowment for the Humanities (2014).  
 Manuscript review for Bloomsbury Academic (2022), *Canadian Slavonic Papers* (2010), Columbia University Press (2018), *Comparative Literature* (2007, 2008, 2014, 2019), *Comparative Literature Studies* (2021), *Contemporary Jewry* (2021), Harvard University Press (2019), *In geveb* (2020), Indiana University Press (2018), *Narrative* (2025), Northwestern University Press (2024, 2025), *Open Cultural Studies* (2018), *Orbis litterarum* (2022), *The Polish Review* (2021), *PMLA* (2015), Routledge (2016, 2017, 2018), *Russian Review* (2015, 2016), *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* (2021), *Slavic and East European Journal* (2010, 2020, 2025), *Slavic Review* (2020, 2022), *Slavonic and East European Review* (2021), *Studies in Travel Writing* (2015), University of Chicago Press (2009), University of Minnesota Press (2024), University of Rochester Press (2011), University of Wisconsin Press (2025), Yale University Press (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018), and *Word & Image* (2021).  
 Individual fellowship review for University of Missouri Research Board (2016) and the Swiss National Science Foundation (2020).  
 Fulbright Interview Committee, University of Michigan (2007-2009).

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEES)  
 American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)  
 Modern Language Association (MLA)  
 American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)  
 American Literary Translators Association (ALTA)  
 Poetry Society of America (PSA)

### **LANGUAGES**

Spoken: Czech, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian (intermediate), Yiddish  
 Reading knowledge: French, German