

**VERA SHEVZOV**  
Professor, Religion Department  
Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies  
Smith College

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Northampton, MA 01063  
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**ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

1994–present: Smith College, Department of Religion;  
Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies  
2011–present: Professor  
2003–2011: Associate Professor  
1994–2003: Assistant Professor

2013–2016; 2017–2018: Chair, Department of Religion  
2014–2018; 2020–2021: Director, Program in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies  
2018–present: Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Program Committee.

Spring 2020: Visiting Professor, Yale Divinity School

Courses taught:

*REEES-related courses:* Eastern Christianity  
Mary: Images and Cults  
Putin’s Russia: After Communism, After Atheism  
Renaissance and Revolution: Modern Russian Religious Thought  
The Politics and Culture of Russian Sacred Art  
Eastern Christian Worlds: Prayer and Politics

*Religion Dept. courses:* Approaches to the Study of Religion  
Introduction to World Religions  
Religion as a Human Experience  
Women and Religion  
The Image and Body of Christ, East and West  
Jesus  
The Making of Christianity  
Christianity and Culture: 1000-1800  
Contemporary Christianity: Crisis and Reflection  
Christianity and Visual Culture  
Blasphemy

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. December 1994 Yale University, History. Advisor: Jaroslav Pelikan  
M.Div. June 1988 St. Vladimir's Seminary. Advisor: John Meyendorff  
B.A. May 1982 Yale University Major: Russian and East European Studies

## Related Education:

- University of Pennsylvania: 1989-1990; fall 1990. Training in Anthropology of Religion, Cultural Anthropology, Sociology of Religion and Folklore Studies under the auspices of an SSRC Graduate Training Fellowship and an IREX Developmental Fellowship
- Leningrad Theological Academy: spring 1988; 1988-1989
- Leningrad State University: 1982-1983. CIEE Academic Year Program. Studies in contemporary Soviet Literature

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books and Edited Volumes

- *Framing Mary: The Mother of God in Modern, Revolutionary, and Post-Soviet Russian Culture*. Northern Illinois/Cornell University Press, 2018 (co-edited with Amy Adams).
- *Pravoslavie v Rossii nakanune 1917* (St. Petersburg, Russia: Dmitrii Bulanin, 2010), trans. Ekaterina Ites and Vera Shevzov.
- *Russian Orthodoxy on the Eve of Revolution* (Oxford University Press, 2004).  
\*\*Winner of the Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize, American Society of Church History.

Reviewed in: *American Historical Review*, *Cahiers du Monde Russe*, *Choice*, *Church History*, *Contemporary Review*, *European Quarterly Review*, *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, *Journal of Modern History*, *Journal of Religion*, *Journal of Religion and Society*, *Journal of Theological Studies*, *Kritika*, *Russian Review*, *Slavic Review*, *Theology*, *Times Literary Supplement*, among others.

### Articles, Essays, Book Chapters (\*\* Peer Reviewed)

- *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. "Russia, Orthodox Church in". Oxford University Press, 2022.
- \*\*"Between Law and Theology: Russia's Modern Orthodox Canonists." In *Law and the Christian Tradition in Modern Russia*, edited by Randall A. Poole and Paul Valliere. Law and Christianity Series. Routledge, 2021, 212-242.
- "Orthodoxy, Religion and Revolution in Russia, 1894-1925." In the *Oxford Handbook of Russian Religious Thought*, edited by George Pattison, Caryl Emerson, and Randall A. Poole. Oxford University Press, 2020, 38-59.
- "Soviet Secularism, Russian Orthodoxy, and the 'Orthodox World': Work Left Undone, Conversations Left Unfinished." In "Unfinished Conversations: A Tribute to Sonja Luehrmann." *History and Anthropology* 31: 2 (2020): 190-193.
- \*\*"In Every Time and in Every Place': The Mother of God in Modern Russian Culture." Introduction to *Framing Mary: The Mother of God in Modern, Revolutionary, and Post-Soviet Russian Culture*, edited by Amy Adams and Vera Shevzov. Northern Illinois University Press, 2018, 3-36. (primary author)
- \*\*"On the Field of Battle: The Marian Face of Post-Soviet Russia." In *Framing Mary: The Mother of God in Modern, Revolutionary, and Post-Soviet Russian Culture*, edited by Amy Adams and Vera Shevzov. Northern Illinois University Press, 2018, 270-311.
- "La Tipologia Dello 'Strannik' Nell'Ortodossia Russa Prima Della Rivoluzione," ("The Typology of the *Strannik* and Perceptions of 'the Stranger' in Prerevolutionary Russian Orthodoxy"). In *Il Dono Dell'Ospitalità*, edited by Luigi d'Ayal Valva, Lisa Cremaschi, and Adalberto Mainardi. Magnano: Comunità Di Bose, 2018, 201-229.
- \*\*"Imperial Miracles: The Romanovs and Russia's Icons of the Mother of God." *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook: A Publication of Mediterranean, Slavic, and Eastern Orthodox Studies* 32/33 (2016-17): 1-42.
- \*\*"Thoughts from Orthodoxy's Modern Past: Theology, Religion, and the University in Russia (late XIXth-early XXth cc.)." In *Eastern Orthodox Christianity and American Higher Education: Historical, Theological, and Contemporary Reflections*, edited by Ann Mitsakos Bezzerides and Elizabeth H. Prodromou. University of Notre Dame Press, 2017, 167-198.
- \*\*"Women on the Fault Lines of Faith: Pussy Riot and the Insider/Outsider Challenges to Post-Soviet Orthodoxy." *Religion and Gender* 4, no. 1 (2014).  
[http://www.religionandgender.org/index.php/rg/article/view/9398/pdf\\_36](http://www.religionandgender.org/index.php/rg/article/view/9398/pdf_36)

- \*\*Akafist to the Mother of God before Her Kazan Icon." In *Orthodox Christianity in Imperial Russia: A Source Book on Lived Religion*, edited by Heather Coleman. Indiana University Press, 2014, 131-138.
- \*\*"Petitions to the Holy Synod Regarding Miraculous Icons." In *Orthodox Christianity in Imperial Russia: A Source Book on Lived Religion*, edited by Heather Coleman. Indiana University Press, 2014, 229-248.
- \*\*"The Struggle for the Sacred: Russian Orthodox Thinking about Miracles in a Modern Age." In *Thinking Orthodox in Modern Russia: Culture, History, Context*, edited by Patrick Lally Michelson and Judith Deutsch Kornblatt. University of Wisconsin Press, 2014, 131-150.
- \*\*"The Burdens of Tradition: Orthodox Constructions of the West in Russia (late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> cc.)." In *Orthodox Constructions of the West*, edited by George Demacopolous and Aristotle Papanikolaou. Fordham University Press, 2013, 83-101.
- \*\*"The Russian Tradition." In *The Orthodox Christian World*. Edited by Augustine Casiday. Routledge, 2012, 15-40.
- \*\*"Mary and Women in Late Imperial Russian Orthodoxy." In *Women in Nineteenth-Century Russia: Culture and Lives*, edited by Wendy Rosslyn and Alessandra Tosi. Open Book Publishers, 2012, 63-90.
- \*\*"Resistance and Accommodation: The Rite of Orthodoxy in Modern Russia." In *Religion and National Identity in Russia and the Soviet Union*, edited by Nikolaos A. Chrissidis, Cathy Potter, David Schimmelpennick von der Oyen, and Jennifer Spock. Slavica Publishers, 2011, 165-90.
- \*\*"Between Purity and Pluralism: The Icon and the Anathema in Late Imperial Russia." In *Alter Icons: The Russian Icon and Modernity*, edited by Douglas Greenfield and Jefferson Gatrall. Pennsylvania State University Press, 2010, 50-73.
- \*\*"Afterword." *Alter Icons: The Russian Icon and Modernity*, edited by Douglas Greenfield and Jefferson Gatrall. Penn State University Press, 2010, 256-53.
- "Iconic Piety in Modern Russia." In *Modern Christianity to 1900*, vol. 6 of *People's History of Christianity*, edited by Amanda Porterfield. Augsburg, Fortress Press, 2007, 178-208.
- \*\*"Scripting the Gaze: Liturgy, Homilies and the Kazan Icon in Late Imperial Russia." In *Sacred Stories: Religion and Spirituality in Modern Russia*, edited by Mark D. Steinberg and Heather Coleman. Indiana University Press, 2007, 61-92.
- \*\*"Between Popular and Official: Akafisty Hymns and Marian Icons in Late Imperial Russia." In *Letters from Heaven: Popular Religion in Russia and Ukraine*, edited by John-Paul Himka and Andriy Zayarnyuk. University of Toronto Press, 2006, 251-77.
- \*\*"Letting the People into Church: Reflections on Orthodoxy and Community in Late Imperial Russia." In *Orthodox Russia: Studies in Belief and Practice, 1492-1936*, edited by Valerie A. Kivelson. Pennsylvania State Press, 2003, 59-77.
- \*\*"Poeticizing Piety: Mary and Her Icon in Russian Akathistoi Hymns." *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 44 (no. 3-4, 2000): 343-73.
- \*\*"Icons, Miracles, and Orthodox Communal Identity in Late Imperial Russia." *Church History* 69:3 (September 2000): 610-31. \*\*\**Nominated for the 2000 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Article Prize.*
- \*\*"Icons, Laity, and Authority in the Russian Orthodox Church, 1861-1917." *The Russian Review* 58 (January 1999): 26-48.
- \*\*"Chapels and the Ecclesial World of Prerevolutionary Russian Peasants." *Slavic Review* 55, no. 3 (Fall 1996): 585-613

### Encyclopedia Articles

- *Encyclopedia of Eastern Orthodox Christianity*, John McGuckin, editor in chief (London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010), s.v. Eleousa, Miracles, Protecting Veil.
- *Encyclopedia of Russian History*, James R. Millar, editor in chief. (NY: Macmillan Reference, 2004), s.v. "Consistory."
- *Encyclopedia of Monasticism*, William Johnston, ed. (London, 1999), s.v., "Visual Arts, Eastern Christian Painting."
- *The Modern Encyclopedia of Religions in Russia and the Soviet Union*, Paul D. Steeves, ed. (Gulf Breeze, FL: Academic International Press, 1988), s.v., "Metropolitan Antonii Vadkovskii" and "Metropolitan Evgeny Bolkhovitinov."

### Working Papers

- “Image and Identity: The Kazan Icon and the Modern Construction of a National Religious Symbol.” Working paper submitted to the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, 2004.
- “The Rite of Orthodoxy in Modern and Contemporary Russia.” Working paper submitted to the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research, 2004.

### Reviews

- Irina Paert, *Spiritual Elders: Charisma and Tradition in Russian Orthodoxy*. Northern Illinois University Press, 2010. In *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* (June 2013): 495-497.
- Alexander Polunov, *K. P. Pobedonostsev v obshchestvenno-politicheskoi i dukhovnoi zhizni Rossii*. In *Rossiiskaia isotoriia* no. 1 (2013).
- Bissera Pentcheva, *Icons and Power: The Mother of God in Byzantium*. Penn State University Press, 2006. In *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 77, no. 2 (June 2008): 440-42.
- Heather Coleman. *Russian Baptists and Spiritual Revolution*. Indiana University Press, 2005. In *The Russian Review* 67, no. 2 (April 2008): 347-48.
- Vladimir Tsurikov, ed., *A. S. Khomiakov: Poet Philosopher, Theologian*. Readings in Russian Religious Culture, vol. 2. Jordanville, NY. In *Slavic Review* 65, no. 3 (Fall 2006): 627-28.
- Roy Robson. *Solovki: The Story of Russia Told Through Its Most Remarkable Islands*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2004. In *The Russian Review* 64, no. 2 (April 2005): 333-34.
- Robert P. Geraci and Michael Khodarkovsky, eds. *Of Religion and Empire: Missions, Conversion, and Tolerance in Tsarist Russia*. New York: Cornell University Press, 2001. In *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 73, no. 1 (March 2005): 246-49.
- Georg Michels, *At War with the Church: Religious Dissent in Seventeenth-Century Russia*. Stanford University Press, 1999. In *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 70, no. 4 (December 2001): 805-807.
- Nadieszda Kizenko. *A Prodigal Saint: Father John of Kronstadt and the Russian People*. Pennsylvania State University Press, 2000. In *The Russian Review* 60 (July 2001): 438-440.
- Judith Deutsch Kornblatt and Richard F. Gustafson, eds. *Russian Religious Thought*. University of Wisconsin Press, 1996. In *The Russian Review* 57 (July 1998): 475-476.
- John Anderson. *Religion, State and Politics in the Soviet Union and Successor States*. Cambridge University Press, 1994. In *Russian History* 22, no. 3 (Fall 1995): 372-374.

### Works in Progress

- “Rights’ in Orthodox Church Discourse in Revolutionary Russia, 1905-1918” (series of articles or book EDC 2022-2024)
- “The Art of Anti-Spiritual Warfare: Religion, Visual Violence and the Bolshevik Revolution” (essay. EDC 2022).
- “Religion in America through Russian Orthodox Eyes: Mid-Nineteenth-Century Views from New York’s Second Avenue” (article. EDC 2023).
- “‘Being a Man’: Defining Masculinity in Postsoviet Russian Orthodox Discourse.” (article. EDC 2023).
- Trauma, Liturgy, and Prayer: Memory and Witness in Gulag and Post-Gulag Russian Orthodoxy (ongoing project; articles)
- Mary in Modern and Postsoviet Russia (book).

### GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Fall 2021: Writing and Public Discourse. Curriculum Enhancement Grant. Smith College.
- 2019-2020: Yale University Institute of Sacred Music Fellow. Project: “Liturgy and Memory in Post-Gulag, Post-Atheist Russia”
- 2019-2024: “Eastern Orthodoxy and Human Rights” Project Fellow. Three-year collaborative project sponsored by the Henry T. Luce Foundation, Fordham’s Orthodox Christian Studies Center, and Leadership 100. Project Leaders: George E. Demacopoulos; Aristotle Papanikolaou (Fordham University).
- 2017: American Academy of Religion. Collaborative Research Grant for hosting an international workshop on the topic “God and Gulag: Religion and ‘Ultimate Questions’ in Post-Soviet Russia”
- 2015-2016: Dorius-Spofford Grant for the Study of Civil Liberties and Freedom of Expression. Course development grant: “Blasphemy!”

- 2009-2010: National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship. Project on Marian devotion in modern and contemporary Russia
- 2006: Mellon Foundation grant for a Faculty Workshop on “The Study of Christianity in a Liberal Arts College.” Co-sponsored by Smith College, Wesleyan University, and Williams College. Coordinators: Vera Shevzov, Richard Elphick, Steven Horst, and William Wagner. June
- 2004: Mellon Foundation grant for a mid-career post tenure project.
- 2002-2004: National Council for Eurasian and East European Research. Support for research on "Mary in Modern Russia: Politics, Culture, and a Religious Symbol"
- 2002-2003: Jean Picker Fellowship, Smith College. Support for research on "Mary in Modern Russia"
- 2001: American Academy of Religion: Individual Research Assistance Grant
- 1997-1998: National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for research on book project, *Russian Orthodoxy on the Eve of Revolution*
- 1997: International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) Short-Term Grant for research in Russia
- 1997-1998: Jean Picker Fellowship, Smith College
- 1996-1997: ACLS/SSRC/NEH Joint Fellowship. Project: "Popular Orthodoxy and Orthodox Communities in Late Imperial Rural Russia"
- 1992-1993: Social Science Research Council Dissertation-Writing Grant
- 1992-1993: Charlotte D. Newcombe Fellow (declined)
- 1991-1992: IREX Long-Term Grant for dissertation research in Russia
- 1991-1992: Enders Graduate Student Grant, Yale University. 1991-1992
- 1990: IREX Developmental Fellowship. Fall
- 1989-1990: Social Science Research Council Graduate Training Fellowship
- 1986-1990: Yale University Graduate Fellowship

#### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture. Prize for best essay, 2008. “Scripting the Gaze: Liturgy, Homilies and the Kazan Icon in Late Imperial Russia,” in *Sacred Stories: Religion and Spirituality in Modern Russia*. Edited by Mark D. Steinberg and Heather Coleman. Indiana University Press, 2007, 61-92.
- Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize. American Society of Church History awarded for *Russian Orthodoxy on the Eve of Revolution*. Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Hans Gatzke Prize for an outstanding dissertation in the field of European History. Yale University, 1995.
- Academic Commendation; Salutatorian. St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, 1984-1986.
- Summa cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa. Yale University, 1982.

#### **INVITED SCHOLARLY LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS**

- June 2022: “*Godless at the Workbench: The Art of Anti-Spiritual Warfare.*” Center for Icon Studies, Third International Conference. Museum of Russian Icons. June 10-11. Invited speaker.
- May 2022: “*Sobornost*’ and the Discourse of ‘Rights’ in Early Twentieth-Century Russian Orthodoxy.” Webinar series on “*Sobornost*: History, Theory, Practice.” Special Seminar in Orthodox Church History. University of Tartu, Estonia. Sponsored by the Estonian Research Council.
- March 2022: “‘Rights’ in Orthodox Church Discourse in Revolutionary Russia, 1905-1918.” Symposium on “Eastern Orthodoxy and Human Rights.” Part of four-year collaborative project sponsored by the Henry T. Luce Foundation and Fordham’s Orthodox Christian Studies Center. Presentation.
- March 2021: “Mother Maria Skobtsova: Iconographer and Social Activist.” Church of Heavenly Rest, 1085 Fifth Ave., NY. Part of spring lecture series.
- February 2020: “Post-Gulag Memory and Narrative in Post-Soviet Russian Orthodox Liturgy.” Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University.
- April 2019: “Modern Russian Orthodox Canonists.” Conference on “Christianity, Legal Thought, and Law in Modern Russia.” Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Emory University School of Law.

- January 2019: “God and Memory: The Slavic Experiences of Totalitarianism and Persecution” (Panel Organizer, Moderator and Discussant). Conference of International Scholars of Orthodox Christianity. International Orthodox Theological Association. Iasi, Romania, January 9-12, 2019.
- December 2018: Norwegian Centre for Human Rights. Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief. Third symposium on “New Directions in Orthodox Thought and Practice.” Participant. December 14-15, 2018.
- June 2018: “Religion, Revolution, and Visual Violence in Russia, 1917-1925.” Workshop devoted to preparation of a volume of Religion and the Russian Revolution. Sponsored by Indiana University Europe Gateway.
- June 2018: “How Do We Sing of Thee? Post-Gulag Orthodox Liturgy and Memory in Post-Atheist Russia.” Invited speaker. Symposium on “The Gulag Legacy: History, Memory and the Sacred in Post-Soviet Russia,” Hermitage Museum, Amsterdam. Sponsored by Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam.
- April 2018: “Secularization Bolshevik Style in Revolutionary Russia, 1917-1925. Invited lecture. School of Global and International Studies; Department of Religious Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.
- December 2017: “‘Being a Man’: Defining Masculinity in Post-Soviet Russian Orthodox Discourse.” Invited speaker. International symposium on “Gender in Orthodox Christianity” sponsored by the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights. Oslo, Norway.
- October 2017: “The Bolshevik Revolution and the Art of Spiritual Warfare.” Invited speaker. International conference on “Religion and the Russian Revolution” held at the Russian Academy of National and Public Administration. Moscow, Russia.
- September 2017: “The Typology of the *Strannik* (Wayfarer) in Late Imperial Russian Orthodoxy.” Invited Lecture. “XXV International Ecumenical Conference on Orthodox Spirituality.” Monastery of Bose, Italy.
- June 2017: “Religious Studies and Theology in America’s Secular Colleges and Universities: Challenges and Debates.” Invited Lecture. School of Higher Economics-St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg, Russia.
- April 2017: “The Good, Bad, and the Ugly: Women and Religion in Early Soviet Visual Anti-Religious Propaganda.” Invited speaker. 2017 Robert J. Kemp Symposium, “Ten Days that Shook the World: Reflections on the Russian Revolution, 100 Years Later.” Bowdoin College.
- April 2017: Invited participant. Conference. “Rethinking Religion in Early Modern Russia.” Yale University.
- March 2017: “The Bolshevik Revolution and the Art of Spiritual Warfare.” Keynote speaker. Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture, Miami University, Oxford, OH
- March 2017: “The Life of Mary in Post-Soviet Public Orthodoxy.” Invited speaker. Symposium for an exhibit on Marian icons. Museum of Russian Icons, Clinton, MA
- September 2016: “Religion in America through Orthodox Eyes: The Travelogue of a 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Russian Orthodox Thinker.” Invited speaker. Annual “Orthodoxy in America” Lecture Series, Fordham University.
- November 2015: “The Marian Face of Contemporary Russia: Public Orthodoxy and its Discontents.” Invited lecture. Yale Institute of Sacred Music, Colloquium Series, 2015-2016.
- May 2015: “Orthodoxy and Politics Consultation.” Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, NJ. Invited speaker. Consultation for policy makers from the U.S. Department of State and the Office of Religion and Global Affairs.
- May 2015: “The Concept of ‘Russian World’: Its Evolution in the Post-Soviet Orthodox Context.” Invited speaker. Symposium on “Political Orthodoxy and Totalitarianism in a Post-Communist Era.” Helsinki, Finland.
- November, 2013: “Imperial Miracles: The Romanovs and Russia’s Icons of the Mother of God.” Invited lecture. Annual Cunningham Lecture in Eastern Christianity, University of Minnesota.
- October 2012: “Cast in Marian Light: Liturgy and Historical Memory in Russian Orthodoxy.” Invited presentation. Symposium on “The Place of Liturgy in Russian Cultural History,” UCLA.
- September 2012: “Pilgrimages in Reverse: Icons and their Journeys in Late Imperial Russia.” Invited lecture. The Museum of Russian Icons. Clinton, MA
- January 2011: “The Marian Face of Post-Soviet Russia.” Speaker. Symposium on “The Image of Mary, the Mother of God, in Russian Culture. College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.
- June 2010: “‘The West’ in Nineteenth-and Early Twentieth-Century Russia.” Invited speaker. International conference on “Orthodox Constructions of ‘the West.’” Fordham University.

- June 2009: “*Sobor, Sobornost’*, and the Problem of the Laity.” Invited speaker. International conference on “The Council and the *Tomos*: Twentieth-Century Landmarks towards a Twenty-First Century Church.” St. Vladimir’s Seminary, New York.
- April 2008: “Resistance and Accommodation: The Rite of Orthodoxy in Modern Russia.” Invited speaker. International symposium on “Sources First! Religion, Politics, and Culture in Pre-Modern and Modern Russia.” Yale University.
- June 2007: “Making History Sacred: Mary and Orthodox Memory in Late Imperial Russia.” Invited speaker (in Russian). International colloquium, *Historical Memory and Russian Imperial and Soviet Society*. St. Petersburg, Russia.
- March 2006: “The Politics of Contemporary Orthodox Visual Culture.” Invited speaker. Symposium on “Orthodoxy and Identity in Post-Atheist Russia,” Harriman Institute, Columbia University.
- February 2006: “Too ‘Other’ and Not ‘Other’ Enough: Teaching and Researching Orthodox Christianity in a Liberal Arts College.” Invited speaker. Symposium on “Faith and Learning,” Hellenic College, Brookline, MA
- April 2005: “An Old Symbol and a New Holiday: The Kazan Icon of the Mother of God and Russia’s Day of National Unity,” Invited speaker. Harriman Institute, Columbia University.
- October 2003: "Between Purity and Pluralism: The Icon and the Anathema in Modern Russia." Invited speaker. International symposium on "The Icon and Modernity: Mystery, Meaning, Means." Columbia University.
- October 2002: "Reflections on the Mother of God in Russian Orthodox Sermons in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries." Invited speaker. Symposium on “Russian Orthodox Theological Traditions.” St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY
- March 2002: "Orthodoxy and the Icon: The Public Presentation of a Dogma in Modern Russia." Invited presentation. Workshop on the History of the Russian Orthodox Church. Harvard University.
- February 2002: "Of Soul and Society:" The Kazan Icon and the Shaping of Orthodox Identity in Imperial Russia." Invited speaker. Conference on “Sacred Stories: Religion and Spirituality in Modern Russian Culture.” University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- November 2001: "The Icon in Russian Religious Culture." Invited speaker. A two-part public lecture presented as part of a year-long Ford Foundation sponsored series on Arts and the Sacred at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
- March 2001: "Image and Identity: Mary, Icons, and the Religious 'Other' in Russian Orthodoxy." Invited speaker. Conference on “Rediscovering Religious Identity: Christianity and Islam in Modern Eurasia.” Arizona State University.
- October 1999: "Beyond Her Image: Mary and Her Icon in Russian Orthodoxy." Invited speaker. Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
- June 1997: *Missiia sredi svoikh: Missionerstvo i prikhodskaja zhizn' v dorevoliutsionnoi Rossii, konets XIX-nachalo XX vv.* ["Mission among One's Own: The Notion of Mission and Parish Life in Prerevolutionary Russia]. Invited speaker (in Russian). Conference on *The Gospel in World Cultures*. Moscow, Russia.
- May 1987: "*Pravoslavnoe obozrenie* and the Academic Theologians' Views on Orthodoxy and Modernity in the 1860s." Invited speaker (in Russian). Third International Conference on Church History. Moscow, Russia.

#### **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND OTHER PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS (Select)**

- November 2021: “Diversity of Religious Experience: Orthodox Christian Believers and the Famine of 1921-1922.” Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), New Orleans, LA Respondent.
- November 2021: “The Future of Eastern Orthodox Christian Studies.” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX Roundtable participant.
- May 2020: “Icons ‘After’ : Art and the Sacred in Post-Soviet Russian Orthodoxy.” Institute of Sacred Music. Yale University. Work in Progress presentation.
- January 2019: “God and Memory: The Slavic Experience of Totalitarianism and Persecution.” Panel Co-organizer and discussant. International Orthodox Theological Association (IOTA). Iasi, Romania.

- December 2018: Panel discussant. "Russia's Religious Revival: Mythology, Controversy, Performance." Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Boston, MA.
- November 2018: Presider/Discussant. "The Icon." AAR, Denver, CO.
- April 2018: "Mary in Post-Soviet Russia." Brown Bag Lunch presentation. Department of Religious Studies (graduate program), Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.
- November 2017: Presider. Panel on "Evangelicals and Eastern Orthodox Christians: A Global Alliance?" American Academy of Religion (AAR), Boston, MA.
- November 2016: Respondent. "Lived Orthodoxy." AAR, San Antonio, TX
- November 2016: Chair, discussant. "The (Great and Holy) Council of the Orthodox Church, 2016: A Paradigm Shift in the Church?" AAR, San Antonio, TX
- November 2015: Chair, discussant. "Orthodoxy and Eros: Gender, Sexuality, and Embodiment in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition." AAR, Atlanta, Georgia.
- November 2014: Roundtable participant. "Georges Florovsky and Changing Paradigms of Modern Orthodox Theology." AAR, San Diego, CA
- May 2014: "Mary in the Orthodox Tradition." Rouman Lecture Series, St. George's Greek Orthodox Church, Hartford, CT (community-based scholarly lecture series).
- November 2013: "Orthodoxy, Pussy Riot, and (Post) Modern Russian Culture" (organizer and participant). ASEES, Boston, MA
- January 2013: Presentation. "Orthodoxy, Women, and the Pussy Riot Challenge." For panel "Breaking Up is Hard to Do: Russian Women in a Post-Soviet World." American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL), Boston, MA
- 2012-2013: Presentation. "Orthodoxy and Family Politics in Contemporary Russia." Kahn Institute Year-Long Project on "Mothers and Others: Reproduction, Representation and the Body Politic." Smith College.
- March 2012: Discussant. "Russian Émigré Scholarship and Culture." Symposium on "Émigré Encounters: Exiles and Their Legacies." Amherst College.
- December 2012: Discussant. "Beauty and the Beautiful: Eastern Christian Thought in Russian Culture." Conference on "Beauty and the Beautiful in Eastern Thought and Culture." The Sophia Institute, Union Theological Seminary, New York, NY
- November 2011: Discussant. "Religious Authority in Textual Form: Sermons, Law, and Instructional Literature in the Russian Empire." ASEES Convention, Washington, D.C.
- November 2009: Presentation. "The Marian Face of Contemporary Russia." Session on "Framing Mary: Icons and Ideas." American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), Boston, MA
- November 2008: Presentation. "Motherhood in the Apocryphal Earthly Life of the Mother of God." Session on "Mary and Motherhood in Russian Religious Culture." AAASS Convention, Philadelphia, PA
- November 2006: Roundtable participant. "Contemporary Russian Orthodoxy: Religion, Politics, and Diasporic Identities." AAASS Convention, Washington, D.C.
- November 2006: Presentation. "Tradition and Innovation: The Kazan Icon and Russia's Day of National Unity." Session on Mary in Russian society and culture. AAASS Convention, Washington, D.C.
- December 2004: Roundtable Participant. "The Study of Eastern Christianity," AAASS Convention, Boston, MA
- September 2003: Presentation. "Orthodoxy and the Icon: The Public Presentation of Dogma in Modern Russia." Workshop on the History of the Russian Orthodox Church. Yale University.
- December 2001: Presentation. "Mary, Icons, and the Religious 'Other' in Russian Orthodoxy." Kahn Institute Project on Religious Tolerance and Intolerance. Smith College.
- November 2001: Roundtable Participant. "Incorporating the Study of Orthodoxy into Russian History Survey Courses." AAASS, Arlington, VA
- November 1999: Discussant. Panel "Religious Protest and Church Reform in Early Twentieth-Century Russia." AAASS, St. Louis, MO
- November 1999: Respondent. "Orthodoxy and Political Theology." AAR, Boston, MA
- May 1997: Public lecture. "Inner Light: Icons in the Eastern Christian Tradition." Exhibit of the works of Stephen Antonakos, Smith College Museum of Art.



- November 1996: Discussant for papers presented on the panel "Applications of Orthodox Theology for Russian Studies." AAASS, Boston, MA.
- November 1996: Presentation. "Hearing behind the Image: The Meaning of Icons in Prerevolutionary Russia Reconsidered." AAASS meeting, Boston, MA
- November 1995: Presentation. "The 'Official' and the 'Popular': Tensions in Tradition in Late Imperial Russia." AAR, Philadelphia, PA
- October 1995: Presentation. "Universal, National, and Local Feasts: Competing Parameters of Orthodox Identity in Imperial Russia." AAASS, Washington, D.C.
- April 1994: Presentation. "Chapels and the Local Character of Orthodoxy in Late Imperial Rural Russia." American Catholic Historical Association, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA”

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2019-present: Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief. International planning committee member.
- 2018-present: Co-editor (with Professor George Demacopoulos), *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies* (published by Johns Hopkins University Press. Project Muse).
- April-October 2017: Organizational Committee. International conference in Moscow on “Religion and the Russian Revolution,” Oct. 26-28, 2017. Principle organizer: Alexander Agadjanian, Professor, Center for the Study of Religion, Russian State University of the Humanities. Sponsored by the Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration.
- April 2017: Principal organizer. Two-day international, interdisciplinary workshop on the topic “God and Gulag: Memory and Ultimate Questions in post-Soviet Russian Orthodoxy.” Smith College.
- 2017-present: Co-Chair, Steering Committee on Slavic Orthodoxy (with Dr. Anna Briskina-Müller, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg). IOTA (International Orthodox Theological Association, the aim of which is to provide a forum for scholars whose research focuses on the history of Orthodoxy and Orthodox thought from late antiquity to contemporary times to meet every three years). The first meeting was held in Iasi, Romania, in January 2019.
- 2015-2017: NWO-Humanities, the Netherlands. A collaborative grant overseen by Professor Katya Tolstaya, Director of the Institute for the Academic Study of Eastern Christianity, Vrije University, Amsterdam. The project focuses on the study of Russian Orthodoxy in Post-Soviet society and involves scholars from more than twenty institutions of higher learning in Europe, Russia, and the United States.
- October 2014: Invited participant. Two-day session on the future of Eastern Christian Studies. Fordham University.
- January 2011: Co-organizer. Symposium on “Mary, the Mother of God, in Modern Russian Culture.” College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA
- Fall 2010: Co-organizing fellow. Kahn Institute short-term project. “Through a Glass Darkly: Reading the New Testament in a Postmodern World.”
- June 2010: Seminar participant. Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Seminar on “Amherst’s Russian Icons.” Amherst College.
- January 2010: Deerfield Academy. Lecture on “The Virginity of Mary in the Christian Tradition.” Deerfield, MA
- 2006: Co-organizer. Mellon Summer Workshop, “Teaching About Christianity at a Liberal Arts College” (included faculty from Carleton, Grinnell, Oberlin, University of Oregon, Wesleyan, Williams). Smith College.
- 2003: Co-organizer. Symposium on “Madonny Europy/Madonnas of Europe.” Smith College.
- 2002-2003: Participant in the “Teach with Technology” program for faculty. Luna Insight for Classroom use.
- 2001-2002: Co-organizer. Year-long project on Religious Tolerance and Intolerance. Kahn Liberal Arts Institute, Smith College
- April 2000: Presentation on comparative ethics (Russian/American) for the Institute of Training and Development (ITD), Program on “Ethics in Local and Regional Government in Russia Program.” Amherst, MA
- March 1999: Co-organizer. Symposium on Orthodoxy in America. Amherst College.
- 1997-1998: Five-College Area Studies Seminar. Monthly Faculty Seminar on Globalization and the Reconfiguration of Area Studies (sponsored by the Ford Foundation).
- April 1999: Teachers' Workshop on Stephen Antonakos exhibit "Inner Light." A workshop on the meaning of icons with local secondary school teachers.

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- Book Manuscript Referee (2007-ongoing). **Books:** Bloomsbury, Cambridge University Press, Fordham University Press, Indiana University Press, Northern Illinois University Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, University of Notre Dame Press; University of Wisconsin Press.  
**Journals:** *Ab Imperio: Studies of New Imperial History and Nationalism in the Post-Soviet State*; *American Ethnologist*; *Asian Ethnology*; *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*; *Church, State, Society*; *Gosudarstvo, Religii, Tserkov*; *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association*; *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*; *Modern Theology*; *Problems of Post-Communism*; *Rossiiskaia istoriia*; *Russian Review*; *Slavic Review*
- 2021-present: International Advisory Board. *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*. Cambridge University Press, UK
- 2021, fall: Dissertation Committee. University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE). Modena, Italy.
- 2020, spring: Outside Doctoral Dissertation Review. Russian Academy of Sciences (History), Moscow, Russia.
- 2020, spring: Outside Master's Thesis Review. Higher School of Economics (Anthropology), St. Petersburg, Russia.
- 2018-present: American Academy of Religion. Steering Committee, Eastern Orthodox Studies Unit.
- 2012-2018: American Academy of Religion. Co-chair, Steering Committee, Eastern Orthodox Studies Unit.
- 2017-2018: Dissertation Committee. University of Chicago Divinity School.
- 2015-2017: Dissertation Committee. University of Texas, Austin.
- 2016-2018: Editorial Board. *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies*.
- 2016: Outside Tenure Review. Dept. of Religion, Indiana University, Bloomington.
- 2015-present: Advisory Council, Orthodox Christian Studies Center. Fordham University.
- 2015: Dissertation Committee, Oxford University.
- 2015: National Endowment for the Humanities: Review Panel for the Public Scholar Program.
- 2011: National Endowment for the Humanities: Review Panel for Summer Stipends.
- 2011: Outside Tenure Review (Dept. of History, East Carolina University).
- 2010 W. Bruce Lincoln Book Prize Committee, Chair. American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.
- 2010-current: Editorial Board. *Journal of Eurasian Studies*.
- 2008-current: Editorial Board. Book Series on Orthodox Christian Studies. Northern Illinois University Press.
- 2008-2016: Chair of Council of Fellows, Sophia Institute. Union Theological Seminary, NY
- 2006 (June): Mellon Foundation grant for a Faculty Workshop on "The Study of Christianity in a Liberal Arts College." Co-sponsored by Smith College, Wesleyan University, and Williams College. Coordinators: Vera Shevzov, Richard Elphick, Steven Horst, and William Wagner.
- 2005: Outside Tenure Review (Dept. of History, Bowdoin College).

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Academy of Religion (AAR)
- American Society of Church History
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
- Association for the Study of Eastern Christian History and Culture (ASEC)
- International Orthodox Theological Association (IOTA)

## COLLEGE and RELATED SERVICE

### College Service

- 2021-2023: Academic Honor Board
- 2020, spring: Tryon Prize Committee
- 2019 summer: Smith College Alumnae Association. Smith Travel. Faculty lecturer, "Waterways of Russia," August 2-14.

- 2018-2021: Honorary Degree Committee
- 2018-2020: Lewis Global Studies Center, Advisory Board
- 2014-2019: Administrative Board
- 2014-2018: Grievance Committee
- 2014-2015: Readmissions Committee
- 2014-present: Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. Member of Five-College Advisory Council
- 2013-2017: Kahn Institute, Advisory Board
- 2011-2015: Board of Counselors
- 2011-2014: Neilson Lectureship Committee
- 2011-2014: Committee on Athletics
- 2011-2014: College Council on Community Policy
- 2010-2012: Honorary Degrees Committee
- 2010-2012: Board of Liberal Arts Advisers
- 2010: Fall: Co-organizing fellow. Kahn Institute short-term project.  
Topic: “Through a Glass Darkly: Reading the New Testament in a Postmodern World”
- 2006-2009: Library Committee (Chair, 2006-2007)
- 2008-2009: Smith College Museum of Art Faculty Focus Group
- 2003-present: Member of Medieval Studies Advisory Committee
- 2003-2006: Director, Medieval Studies
- 2004-2009: Tryon Prize Committee
- 2002-2005: Library Committee
- 2004-2005: Committee on Bias Complaints for Students
- 2003-2004: “Smith as a World College” working committee for Area Studies
- 2000-2002: Stride Student Mentor
- 2000-2002: Phi Beta Kappa, Treasurer
- 1995-2000: Albright House Fellow

#### **Department/Program Service**

- 2021:2022: Program in Russian, E. European, and Eurasian Studies, Faculty Mentor
- 2020-2021: Director, Program in Russian, E. European and Eurasian Studies
- 2020-present: Study Abroad Adviser, Dept. of Religion; REEES
- 2020-present: Honors Director, Dept. of Religion; REEES
- 2014-present: Program in Russian, E. European, and Eurasian Studies Advisory Committee
- 2018-2019: Curriculum Committee
- 2014-2018: Director, Program in Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies
- 2013-2016; 2017-2018: Chair, Department of Religion
- 2011-2012: Library Committee—Liaison
- 2011-2012: Department Prize Committee
- 2010-2011: Curriculum Committee
- 2003-2006; Spring, 2012: Director, Medieval Studies
- 2007-2009; 2018-2019: Curriculum Committee
- 2005-2007: Curriculum Committee, Chair
- 2005-2006: Departmental Decennial Review
- 2004-2009: Department Prize Committee
- 2003-2004: Curriculum Committee, Chair
- 2003-2004: Special department subcommittee on the curriculum and the major

#### **Five College Service**

- 2015-2020: Three College Committee—Russian Language Initiative
- 2003-present: Five College Committee on Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies
- 2013-2014: Five College Committee on the Coordination of Language Instruction; and Five College Teaching of Eurasian Studies
- 2013: Conference on Assessing Student Research Skills. Smith College faculty representative. April 25-27, 2013.

- 2010-2011: Search Committee. Five-College position in Russian, Eurasian and E. European History
- 2008-2009: Search Committee for Curator of Russian Art, Mead Art Museum, Amherst College.
- 2008-2009: Five-College Faculty Advisor for an independent scholar at the Five-College Women's Studies Research Center
- 2007-2008: Five College Support Committee (for mentoring new faculty)
- 2003-2004: Chair, Five College Search Committee for a Five-College position in Russian History