Christian Raffensperger

Kenneth E. Wray Chair in the Humanities
Director, Margaret Ermarth Institute for the Public Humanities
Professor and Chair of History, Wittenberg University
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Positions Held

Director, Margaret Ermarth		
Institute for the Public Humanities	Wittenberg University	2022-Present
Archie K. Davis Fellow	National Humanities Center	Spring 2022
Kenneth E. Wray Chair in the Humanities	Wittenberg University	2021-Present
Professor of History	Wittenberg University	2020-Present
Chair of the Department of History	Wittenberg University	2019-Present
Associate, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute	Harvard University	2014-2020
Interim Chair of the History Department	Wittenberg University	2017
Associate Professor with tenure	Wittenberg University	2013-2020
Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellowship	Harvard University	2013
Assistant Professor	Wittenberg University	2008-2013
Visiting Assistant Professor	Wittenberg University	2007-2008
Visiting Assistant Professor	University of Nebraska at Omaha2006-2007	

Education

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL MA, Russian History, July 2002 PhD, August 2006 (Defended with Distinction, June 12, 2006)

Bates College, Lewiston, ME BA, History, May 1998

Secondary Concentration: Russian Language

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Medieval Europe, 250-1450, co-authored with Florin Curta (under contract with Routledge)

Iziaslav and Gertrude: The King and Queen of Rus' at the Nexus of Medieval Europe (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, 2024 [forthcoming])

Name Unknown: The Life of a Rusian Queen (New York: Routledge, 2024)

Rulers and Rulership in the Arc of Medieval Europe (New York: Routledge, 2023)

The Ruling Families of Rus (London: Reaktion, 2023) - co-authored with Donald Ostrowski

From Kyivan Rus to Ukraine: Past is Present (Berlin: Hiersemann Verlag, 2022)

Conflict, Bargaining, and Kinship Networks in Medieval Eastern Europe (New York and London: Lexington Books, 2018)

The Kingdom of Rus (Kalamazoo, Mich.: ARC Humanities Press, 2017)

Russian Translation – Korolevstvo Rus': Drevniaia Rus' glazami zapadnykh istorikov, transl. A. V. Fedosov (Moscow: Centrpoligraf, 2020)

Ties of Kinship: Genealogy and Dynastic Marriage in Kyivan Rus' (Cambridge: Mass.: Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute Publications, 2016).

This project has parallel Digital Humanities components which may be viewed at genealogy.obdurodon.org.

The mapping portion of the project (funded by the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and completed in collaboration with the Harvard Center for Geographical Analysis) is located at: gis.huri.harvard.edu

Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World, 988–1146 (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2012).

Winner - 2013 Ohio Academy of History Publication Award

Edited Volumes

Co-Editor with E. T. Dailey, Portraits of Medieval Europe (New York: Routledge, 2024)

Editor, How Medieval Europe was Ruled (New York: Routledge, 2023)

Editor, Authorship, Identity, and Worldview in Medieval Europe (New York: Routledge, 2022)

Mykhailo Hrushevsky, *History of Ukraine-Rus'*. Vol. 2, *The Eleventh to Thirteenth Centuries*, trans. Ian Press, ed. Christian Raffensperger and Frank E. Sysyn, with the translation and editorial assistance of Tania Plawuszczak-Stech (Edmonton and Toronto: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 2020)

Co-Editor with David Olster, Radical Traditionalism: The Influence of Walter Kaegi in Late Antique, Byzantine, and Medieval Studies (New York and London: Lexington Books, 2018)

Co-Editor with Donald Ostrowski, *Portraits of Medieval Eastern Europe, 800-1300* (New York: Routledge, 2017)

The online component of this project is available at -routledgetextbooks.com/textbooks/9781138701205/default.php

Co-Editor with Valentina Pichugina, Twentieth Anniversary Volume – Midwest Medieval Slavic Workshop in Russian History/Histoire Russe 44:2-3 (2017)

Consultant – Mykhailo Hrushevsky, *History of Ukraine-Rus':* Volume 3, *To the Year 1340*: trans. Bohdan Strumiński; ed. Robert Romanchuk, with Uliana Pasicznyk (and Marta Horban-Carynnyk). (Toronto: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press, 2016)

Editor, Festschrift in Honor of Norman W. Ingham in Russian History/Histoire Russe 33:2–4 (2006). Contributed the introduction and bibliography.

Articles and Book Chapters

- "Recentering Medieval Europe: Making the Periphery Central," in *Continuity and Change in Medieval East Central Europe (Social, Ruling and Religious Transformations)*, ed. Dusan Zupka (New York: Routledge, 2024 (anticipated))
- "Alternatives to Commonwealth: Modes of Connectivity Between Byzantium and Medieval Eastern Europe" in *The Cambridge Guide to the Worlds of Byzantium*, eds. Elizabeth Bolman, Scott Fitzgerald Johnson, and Jack Tannous (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024 [Anticipated])
- "Missing Marriages: Tying Byzantium into Europe" in *Unity in Diversity: The Understanding of Roman Identity and the Question of Centrality and Regionalism in the Byzantine World*, ed. Vlada Stanković (New York and London: Lexington Books, 2024 [forthcoming])
- "Reimagining Medieval Rulership in the Twenty-First Century," in *How Medieval Europe was Ruled* (New York: Routledge, 2023): 1-10.
- "Kyivan Rus': A Complicated Kingdom" in *How Medieval Europe was Ruled* (New York: Routledge, 2023): 176-190.
- "Monastic Legitimation of Rulership in East and West" in Sedan vekova od upokojenia svetog kral'a Milutina (Seven Centuries since the death of Holy King Milutin), ed. Vlada Stankovic and Dragoljub Marjanovic (Vran'e, 2022): 46-68.
- "Kyivan Rus: 9th to 13th Centuries," in *Treasures of Ukraine: A Nation's Cultural Heritage* (London: Thames and Hudson, 2022): 50-76.
- "Cooperation and Conflict in Diplomacy and War within and around Central Europe" in *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Central Europe*, ed. Nada Zečević and Daniel Ziemann (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022): 157-174 main authors: Gerald Schwedler and Paweł Figurski, additional contributions by László Veszprémy and Emir O. Filipović
- "Introduction: The Medieval World Then and Now," in Authorship, Identity, and Worldview in Medieval Europe (New York: Routledge, 2022): 1-14.
- "Kingdom of Rus': A New Theoretical Model for Rulership in Medieval Europe" in Rulership in Medieval East Central Europe: Power, Rituals, and Legitimacy in Bohemia, Hungary, and Poland, eds. Grischa Vercamer and Dušan Zupka (Leiden: Brill 2022): 325-339.
- "Runaway Rulers: Marriage, Power, and building a Wider Medieval Europe" Royal Studies Journal 8 (2) (2021): 55-75.
- "A Search for Rusian Monastic Legitimation" in Religion: Proceedings of the 8th International Symposium on Byzantine and Medieval Studies "Days of Justinian I", Skopje, 13-14 November, 2020, ed. Mitko B. Panov (Skopje: INI, 2021): 33-43.
- "Situating Medieval Eastern Europe: Historiography and Dissent," in A Handbook of East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 500-1300, ed. Florin Curta (New York: Routledge, 2021): 9-22.
- "Mykhailo Hrushevsky and the Construction of the Medieval History of Rus" *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* 38:1-2 (2021): 71-86.

- "U.K. and North American Rusiana, 2000-2020" Russian Studies.hu (Fall, 2021) https://russianstudies.hu/onlineperiodikaru.html
- "You're doing it all wrong:' Course Revision and Planning in Mid-Career True Confessions," NewsNet: News of the Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies 61:2 (March 2021): 15-17.
- "Rus' in Medieval Europe: A Consideration of Historiography" in "Forum Russian Middle Ages: Lost in Translation," *Novoe Proshloe / New Past* 3 (2020): 231-236.
- "Visualizing Prosopography Through Digital Humanities The Case for Rus" *Medieval Prosopography* 34 (2019): 207-219.
- "Reimagining Europe: An Outsider Looks at the Medieval East-West Divide" in *Medieval Networks in East Central Europe: Commerce, Contacts, Communication*, eds. Balázs Nagy, Felicitas Schmieder and András Vadas (New York: Routledge, 2018): 9-24.
- "The Optics of Byzantine Blinding in Medieval Eastern Europe" in Radical Traditionalism: The Influence of Walter Kaegi in Late Antique, Byzantine, and Medieval Studies, ed. Christian Raffensperger and David Olster (New York and London: Lexington Books, 2018), 115-135.
- "Volodimer the Bold" in Twentieth Anniversary Volume Midwest Medieval Slavic Workshop in Russian History/Histoire Russe 44: 2-3 (2017): 398-410.
- "Identity in Flux: Finding Boris Kolomanovich in the Interstices of Medieval European History" *The Medieval Globe* 2:1 (2016), 15-39.
- "Iziaslav Iaroslavich's Excellent Adventure: Constructing Kinship to Gain and Regain Power in Eleventh-Century Europe" *Medieval Prosopography* 30 (2015), 1-30.
- "Reimagining Europe: Discussing Rus' in a Wider Context" in "Forum on Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World' Russian History 42:2 (2015), 204-216.
- "The Place of Rus' in Medieval Europe" History Compass 12:11, 853-865 (November, 2014)
- "Mia syntome istoria tou kratous ton Ros [A brief history of the kingdom of Rus"]," in P. Sophoulis and A. Papageorgiou (eds), *Mesaionikos slavikos kosmos* (Herodotus: Athens 2014), 213-248.
- "The Missing Rusian Women: The Case of Evpraksia Vsevolodovna." In *Putting Together the Fragments: Writing Medieval Women's Lives.* Ed. Amy Livingstone and Charlotte Newman Goldy (New York: Palgrave, 2012), 69–84.
- "Mapping History: Using Technology to Showcase Medieval Familial Interconnectivity." With David J. Birnbaum. Festschrift in Honor of Orysia Karapinka in Russian History/Histoire Russe 37:4 (2010), 305–21.
- "Dynastic Marriage in Action: How Two Rusian Princesses Changed Scandinavia" In *Imenoslov: Istoriia iazyka. Istoriia kul'tury:* 193–205. Ed. F. B. Uspenskij Moscow: Aleteja, 2010.
- "Shared (Hi)Stories: Vladimir of Rus' and Harald Fairhair of Norway" Russian Review 68:4 (2009), 569–82.

"Rurik and the First Rurikids," with Norman W. Ingham. The American Genealogist 82:1 (2007), 1–13 (part 1); 82:2 (2007), 111–19 (part 2).

"Rusian Economic and Marital Policy: An Initial Analysis of Correlations." Festschrift in Honor of Richard Hellie in Russian History/Histoire Russe 34:1–4 (2007), 149–59.

"Rusian Influence on European Onomastic Traditions." In *Imenoslov: Istoricheskaia semantika imeni.* F. B. Uspenskii, ed. (Moscow: Indrik, 2007), 116–34.

"Revisiting the Idea of the Byzantine Commonwealth." Byzantinische Forschungen 28 (2004), 159–74.

"Evpraksia Vsevolodovna between East and West." Russian History/Histoire Russe 30:1–2 (2003), 23–34.

Media

"Ukrainians Deserve our World War II-Era Generosity" Springfield News Sun 12/20/2023

"Medieval Europe Without a Core, with Christian Raffensperger"

Byzantium and Friends

 $\underline{https://byzantium and friends.podbean.com/e/106-medieval-europe-without-a-core-with-christian-raffensperger/}$

"The Ruling Families of Rus"

New Books Network

https://newbooksnetwork.com/the-ruling-families-of-rus

"Rus in Medieval Europe with Christian Raffensperger"

The Russian Empire Podcast

https://therussianempirehistorypodcast.com/episode/se6-rus-in-medieval-europe-with-christian-raffensperger

"Toward a More Expansive View of Medieval Europe: Kyivan Rus and Norman Salerno in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries"

History Ex Silo – New books Network

https://newbooksnetwork.com/toward-a-more-expansive-view-of-medieval-europe-kyivan-rus-and-norman-salerno-in-the-eleventh-and-twelfth-centuries

Discussion of Authorship, Worldview, and Identity, New Books Network

https://newbooksnetwork.com/authorship-worldview-and-identity-in-medieval-europe

"Ohioans absolutely care about democracy, freedom" Springfield New Sun 3/5/2023.

"Ohioans must care about Ukraine: Year after Invasion" Columbus Dispatch 2/24/2023.

"Kyivan Rus" SRB Podcast, University of Pittsburgh 12/5/2022 https://srbpodcast.org/2022/12/02/kyivan-rus/

"Historian: JD Vance wrong about Ukraine. 'We need to stay involved in the world.' *Columbus Dispatch* 2/25/2022

"Rulers and Rulership in the Arc of Medieval Europe" MECERN podcast, Central European University 2/17/2022

https://podcasts.ceu.edu/content/rulers-and-rulership-arc-medieval-europe-1000-1200

"We have a Duty to Stand Up to Putin, Authoritarianism" Cox Media Group (Springfield News-Sun, Dayton Daily News) 1/28/2022

"Are the Dayton Peace Accords in Danger: What I keep hearing is why?" Cox Media Group (Springfield News-Sun, Dayton Daily News) 11/20/2021

"Lessons of 2 Afghan Wars will Take Time to Understand" Cox Media Group (Springfield News-Sun, Dayton Daily News) 9/17/2021

"Space: The U.S. Way Being Led by Today's 'Robber Barons'" Cox Media Group (Springfield News-Sun, Dayton Daily News) 8/3/2021

Discussion of *Kingdom of Rus*'. UkeTube 12/8/2020 https://youtu.be/UmdP5mx5ihk

Discussion of *History of Ukraine-Rus'* volume 2. UkeTube 12/6/2020 https://youtu.be/QKY9-cQee-M

Kyivan Rus Kinship – Krynytsya (the Well) Podcast https://soundcloud.com/krynytsya/kyivanruskinship

The Kingdom of Rus' and "Medieval Europe" – Byzantium and Friends Podcast https://byzantiumandfriends.podbean.com/e/7-the-kingdom-of-rus-and-medieval-europe-with-christian-raffensperger/

Olga of Kiev: The Murderous Medieval Tale You've Never Heard Of – Vengeful Saint. WBUR's Endless Thread Podcast https://www.wbur.org/endlessthread/2019/10/18/olga-of-kiev

Discussion of *Ties of Kinship: Genealogy and Dynastic Marriage in Kyivan Rus*'. UkeTube 12/19/2016 https://voutu.be/jTeGn4jasO8

Discussion of Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World. UkeTube 12/19/2016 https://youtu.be/zcOlBQ3Ruyo

"Were Dutch Voters Right to Reject Ukraine's EU Bid? Ukraine has been part of Europe for nearly a millennium" *Washington Post*: Monkey Cage. 4/7/2016

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/04/07/were-dutch-voters-right-to-reject-ukraines-e-u-bid-ukraine-has-been-part-of-europe-for-nearly-a-millennium/

Online Publications

"Analysis and Context for Prigozhin's Actions in Russia"
https://www.wittenberg.edu/news/06-26-23/global-expertise

"Land Acknowledgement of Crimea" – History Workshop Online (6/27/2023)
https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/indigenous-history/land-acknowledgement-of-crimea/

"Rus-Byzantine Treaties: A Unique Insight into the Tenth Century" - Medievalists.net

https://www.medievalists.net/2022/09/rus-byzantine-treaties/

- "Rus not Russia" Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective https://origins.osu.edu/read/kyiv-rus-ukraine-russia
- "What Medieval Warfare can teach us about Ukraine" Medievalists.net

 https://www.medievalists.net/2022/03/medieval-warfare-invasion-ukraine/
- "Kherson and Ukraine" History Workshop Online (3/7/2022) https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/medieval-kherson-and-ukraine/
- "Ukraine as Europe: Medieval and Modern" Medievalists.net https://www.medievalists.net/2022/02/ukraine-as-europe-medieval-and-modern/
- "History of Rus" North of Byzantium Mapping Eastern Europe in the 13th-17th Centuries https://mappingeasterneurope.princeton.edu/
- "The Princess of Discord: Anna of Kyiv and Her Influence on Medieval France" Krytyka: Thinking Ukraine, 6/2017

https://krytyka.com/en/articles/princess-discord-anna-kyiv-and-her-influence-medieval-france

"Kings or Princes? Why do the Titles of Rusian Rulers Matter" *Krytyka: Thinking Ukraine*, 12/2016 https://krytyka.com/en/articles/kings-or-princes-why-do-titles-rusian-rulers-matter

Encyclopedia Entries

- "Rus' and the South" with Andriy Danylenko Encyclopedia of Slavic Languages and Linguistics, ed. Marc L. Greenberg (Leiden: Brill, 2023 [forthcoming])
- "Rus in Medieval Europe," In Oxford Bibliographies in Medieval Studies, ed. Christopher Kleinhenz (New York: Oxford University Press, 2023), accessible at www.oxfordbibliographies.com
- "Kinship and Power: Dynasty, Lineage, and Social Networks," Encyclopedia of the Global Middle Ages (Bloomsbury Academic, 2019)
- "Russo-Byzantine Treaty of 944," Encyclopedia of Diplomacy, ed. Gorden Martel (Wiley, 2018)
- "The Byzantinized States of Eastern Europe," *The World History Encyclopedia*. Ed. Alfred Andrea (ABC-CLIO, 2010)
- "Alexander Nevsky," The World History Encyclopedia. Ed. Alfred Andrea (ABC-CLIO, 2010)
- "The Last of the Macedonians," The World History Encyclopedia. Ed. Alfred Andrea (ABC-CLIO, 2010)
- "Gender and Politics in Byzantium (1000–1500)," *The World History Encyclopedia*. Ed. Alfred Andrea (ABC-CLIO, 2010)

International Projects

Participant in *The Medieval Iberian Treasury in Context: Collections, Connections, and Representations on the Peninsula and Beyond* (PI Therese Martin, Research Challenge Grant, Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation, and Universities, AEI/FEDER, RTI2018-098615-B-I00).

Primary proposer with Jelena Erdeljan and Vlada Stanković. Recentering Europe: Western Eurasia in Early Modern and Contemporary Geopolitical Contexts. U.S. Embassy – Serbia, grant program. (Applied, July 2020 – not funded)

Secondary Proposer – COST Action "Troubling Europe"

Main Proposer – Felicitas Schmieder, FernUniversität Hagen (not funded)

Public Humanities

"The Viking World"

92nd Street YMCA, Manhattan.

https://roundtable.org/live-courses/history/the-viking-world

"The War in Ukraine: Past is Present"

Gloucestershire Historical Association, February 19, 2024

Online at: https://youtu.be/Dz acQOUUcQ

"Napoleon Bonaparte: Maker of Modern Europe"

Clark County Public Library, December 6, 2023

Medieval Power Dynamics: The Ruling Families of Rus

92nd Street YMCA, Manhattan.

https://roundtable.org/class/live/history/the-ruling-families-of-rus

"The History Behind the War in Ukraine"

Defense Security Cooperation University, December 14, 2022

The War in Ukraine: Past Is Present"

Knowledge Shared, Margaret Ermarth Institute for the Public Humanities, September 13, 2022

"The War in Ukraine: A Historical Perspective"

Springfield Kiwanis, August 9, 2022

"Russia-Ukraine Crisis"

Wilmington College, March 29, 2022

"Context of the War in Ukraine"

Springfield Rotary, March 28, 2022

"Russia-Ukraine Crisis"

Wittenberg Alumni College, March 17, 2022

https://youtu.be/X050Zna5l4Y

"The Crisis in Ukraine in Historical Context"

National Humanities Center, March 16, 2022

https://youtu.be/MGO66r5vbVo

Book Reviews

The Medieval Review (22.03.08), Political Culture in the Latin West, Byzantium and the Islamic World, c. 700-c. 1500: A Framework for Comparing Three Spheres. Ed. Catherine Holmes, Jonathan Shepard, Jo van Steenbergen, and Björn Weiler. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2021.

Slavic Review (2022: Forthcoming), The Migration Period Between the Oder and the Vistula. 2 vols. Ed. Aleksander Bursche, John Hines, and Anna Zapolska. Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2020.

Church History 88:2 (2019), Hummer, Hans. Visions of Kinship in Medieval Europe. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

The American Historical Review 121:4 (2016), Wolverton, Lisa. Cosmas of Prague: Narrative, Classicism, Politics. Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2015.

The Medieval Review 16.06.12 (2016), Selart, Anti. Livonia, Rus' and the Baltic Crusades in the Thirteenth Century. Transl. Fiona Robb. (East Central Europe and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 450-1450.) Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2015.

Speculum 90:3 (2015), Berend, Nora, Przemysław Urbańczyk, and Przemysław Wiszewski. Central Europe in the High Middle Ages: Bohemia, Hungary and Poland, c. 900-1300. (Cambridge Medieval Textbooks.) Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Russian Review 73:3 (April 2014), White, Monica. Military Saints in Byzantium and Rus', 900-1200. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

Canadian American Slavonic Studies 48:1-2 (2014), "The Book of Royal Degrees" and the Genesis of Russian Historical Consciousness. UCLA Slavic Studies, New Series, Volume VII. Edited by Gail Lenhoff and Ann Kleimola. Bloomington, Ind.: Slavica, 2011.

Speculum 88:2 (2013) Antonsson, Haki and Ildar H. Garipzanov, eds., Saints and Their Lives on the Periphery: Veneration of Saints in Scandinavia and Eastern Europe (c.1000–1200). Turnhout: Brepols, 2010.

Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas; jgo.e-reviews 3 (2013), A.F. Litvina and F. B. Uspenskii, *Traektorii Traditsii: Glavy iz istorii dinastii i tserkvi na Rusi kontsa XI-nachala XIII veka* (Moscow: Iazyki slavianskoi kul'tury, 2010).

Slavonica 19:1 (2013), Bulat Rakhimzianov. Kasimovskoe khanstvo (1445-1552 gg.): Ocherki istorii. (Kazan: Tatarskoe knizhnoe izdateľstvo, 2009).

Russian Review 71:1 (2012), Donald Ostrowski and Marshall Poe, eds. Portraits of Old Russia: Imagined Lives of Ordinary People, 1300–1725. (Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, 2011).

Speculum 87:2 (2012), Jiří Macháček. The Rise of Medieval Towns and States in East Central Europe: Early Medieval Centres as Social and Economic Systems. Trans. Miloš Bartŏn. (Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2010).

Speculum 87:1 (2012). Robert Romanchuk. Byzantine Hermeneutics and Pedagogy in the Russian North: Monks and Masters at the Kirillo-Belozerskii Monastery, 1397–1501. (Toronto; Buffalo, N.Y.; and London: University of Toronto Press, 2007)

The Medieval Review 11.06.35 (2011), Przemyslaw Wiszewski. Domus Bolezlai: Values and Social Identity in Dynastic Traditions of Medieval Poland (c. 966-1138). (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2010).

Russian Review 67:1 (2008). Kevin Alan Brook. The Jews of Khazaria. (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006)

Canadian Journal of History 42:2 (2007). Florin Curta. Southeastern Europe in the Middle Age, 500–1250. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006)

Social History 32:4 (2007). Serhii Plokhy. The Origins of the Slavic Nations, Premodern Identities in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006)

Canadian Slavonic Papers XLVI:3-4 (2004). Martin Dimnik. The Dynasty of Chernigov, 1146-1246. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003)

Conferences Organized

"Portraits of Medieval Europe" [co-organized with Erin Thomas Dailey]

Online, November 9-10, 2022

Sponsored by the University of Leicester

"How Medieval Europe was Ruled"

Online, August 31 – September 1, 2021

Sponsored by Central European University

"Portraits of Medieval Eastern Europe" [co-organized with Donald Ostrowski]

Harvard University, April 8, 2016

Sponsored by: the Committee on Medieval Studies, the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, the Early Slavists Seminar, the Early Slavic Studies Association, and the Harvard Extension School

Awards and Fellowships

Honorary Member of the Wittenberg Class of 2023

Honorary Member of the Wittenberg Class of 2022

Archie K. Davis Fellow, National Humanities Center - Spring 2022

Mary Jaharis Center Panel Sponsorship and Travel Funding – Leeds International Medieval Congress 2017

Gamma Phi Beta (Alpha Nu Chapter) Award for Faculty and Staff – 2017

Class of 2018 Faculty Appreciation Award – 2016-2017

Faculty Project Grant – Wittenberg University – 2015, 2018

Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute – Funding for Digital Mapping Project (part of the online Rusian Genealogy at genealogy.obdurodon.org and the Mapa project at gis.huri.harvard.edu), in collaboration with the Harvard Center for Geographical Analysis

Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute – Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellowship in Ukrainian Studies – 2013

2013 Publication Award (for Reimagining Europe) - Ohio Academy of History

Faculty Research Award – Wittenberg University – 2013

Southwestern Ohio Conference on Higher Education Excellence in Teaching Award – 2012

Omicron Delta Kappa Award for Outstanding Teaching - Wittenberg University, 2012

Course Revision Grant (Viking World) – Wittenberg University, 2016

New Course Grant (Medieval Russia)—Wittenberg University, 2012

New Course Grant (Conversion in Medieval History)—Wittenberg University, 2010

New Course Grant (Medieval Eastern Europe) —Wittenberg University, 2008

Course Revision Grant (Russian History to 1796) —Wittenberg University, 2008

Professional Enrichment Grants—Wittenberg University, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

Charles and Mary Caldwell Martin Grant—University of Nebraska at Omaha, May 2007

Division of Arts and Sciences Travel Fellowship—University of Chicago, November 2006

Doolittle-Harrison Fellowship—University of Chicago, November 2005

Mellon Foundation Dissertation-Year Fellowship, 2005–2006

Kunstadter Travel Grant—University of Chicago, February 2005 Dumbarton Oaks Short Term Residency Program, June 2004 Doolittle-Harrison Fellowship—University of Chicago, February 2004 University of Chicago predissertation research grant for archival research in Russia, Summer 2003 Title VI (FLAS) Fellowship, 2002–2005

Invited Lectures

- "Art, Influence, and Appropriation: Gertude, her Psalter, and her sisters in medieval Rus" Tufts University, March 7, 2024
- "Visions of Europe: Ukraine and Christianity in Historical Perspective" Brandeis University, March 5, 2024
- "The Donut and the Hole: Imagining no Center"

 The Medieval Center-Periphery Paradigm: Dead or Alive?, Warsaw February 5-6, 2024
- "Recentering Medieval Europe: The Periphery Made Central" Interfaces Journal Lectures. Centre for Medieval Literature. November 30, 2023
- "A Third Category: Rus in History and Art"

 Whose East? Defining, Challenging, and Exploring Eastern Christian Art Index of Medieval Art. November 11, 2023.
- "Recentering Medieval Europe: Making the Periphery Central"

 Medieval Central European Research Network Conference Keynote, Bratislava April 28, 2023.
- "The Roman Empire as Crown of Medieval Europe and Medieval European Studies"

 "Approaching Byzantium from a Global Perspective: Europe and Beyond," Mainz History
 Talks in conjunction with the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton University,
 November 3-5, 2022
- "The Kingdom of Rus: One Medieval Kingdom among many" Chinese University of Hong Kong, October 19, 2022
- "Medieval World Turned Upside Down: Rethinking the Concept of 'Medieval Europe'" Texas Tech University, September 30, 2022
- "The War in Ukraine: Past is Present" Southern Methodist University, September 28, 2022
- "Medieval Origins and Modern Constructs, Rus Ukraine Russia" "From Kyivan Rus' to Modern Ukraine" Dumbarton Oaks, June 16, 2022.
- "Schism" with Tia Kolbaba (Rutgers)
 MWP-IHPAN Multidisciplinary Assemani Research Seminar for Eastern Catholic History,
 January 22, 2022
- "Medieval Europe: As it Was and as We Imagine It" FernUniversität Hagen, November 17, 2021
- "Revising Kyivan Rus for the Twenty-First Century"

Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Kyiv, June 1, 2021

"The Ruling Families of Rus" (with Donald Ostrowski)
Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, March 24, 2021

"Rulers and Monasticism: East and West"

Gaidar Forum, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow, January 15, 2021

"The Kingdom of Rus': A New Theoretical Model of Rulership" Oxford Early Slavonic Studies Webinar – May 19, 2020

"What is a King? What is a Kingdom? Rus' in Medieval Europe"

Southern Historical Association – European History Division Plenary Address, November 3, 2019

"Reimagining Europe: Medieval Networks and the Kingdom of Rus" Bates College, October 5, 2019

"Revisiting the *Byzantine Commonwealth* in the Twenty-First Century" Simon Fraser University, September 25, 2019

"Genealogy and the Kingdom of Rus"

Ukrainian History and Genealogy Center – Nashi Predky, September 14, 2019

"The Kinship Web Across Medieval Europe"
Ohio Medieval Colloquium Keynote Address– The Ohio State University, March 25, 2017

"Ties of Kinship and Mapping Medieval Marriage" Harvard University – sponsored by the Ukrainian Research Institute and Early Slavists' Seminar, October 31, 2016

"Friends, Enemies, Kin: Constructing Kinship Webs and Situational Kinship Networks in Medieval Eastern Europe"

Cambridge University - Cambridge Center for Slavonic and East European Studies, October 25, 2016

"Kinship Networks in Action"

The Ohio State University Medieval History Seminar, September 28, 2016

"Reimagining Europe: An Outsider Looks at the Medieval East-West Divide" Investing in the Past: Medieval Europe in the Globalized 21st Century Sarajevo, September 9–11, 2015

"Kinship, Identity, and Conflict in Medieval Eastern Europe"
University of Michigan Russian History Workshop, January 22, 2015

"Iaroslav Sviatopolchich versus Volodimer Monomakh: Civil War, Invasion, Rebellion, or Negotiation"

Древняя Русь и германский мир в историко-филологической перспективе (Rus' and the Germanic World in Historica-Filological Perspective), Institute of Higher Economics and Russian Academy of Sciences, June 9-10, 2014

Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World by Christian A. Raffensperger (Book Panel featuring the 2013 Ohio Academy of History Publication Award Winner)

Ohio Academy of History, The Ohio State University, April 5, 2014

Adam Davis, Denison University

Anthony Kaldellis, The Ohio State University

Stephen Norris, Miami University

Christian A. Raffensperger, Wittenberg University

Chair: Mary Ann Heiss, Kent State University

- "The Forgotten Kingdom of Rus': A Modern Revision to the Titulature of Medieval Rus" Harvard Early Slavists' Seminar, Harvard University, February 21, 2014
- "What is a Riurikid? Situational Kinship and Identity in Medieval Eastern Europe" Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute Seminar Series, February 3, 2014
- "'Grant me a death by an unknown hand:' Kinship and Death among the Volodimerovichi" Harvard Early Slavists' Seminar, Harvard University, October 11, 2013
- "Who's Afraid of Macrohistory? The Joys and Pains of Crossing Traditional Boundaries in History Research and Writing"

The Medieval Globe Symposium, University of Illinois, April 12–14, 2012

- "Imagining a Larger Medieval Europe: The Unknown Kingdom of Rus"

 Speaker Series, Western Michigan University, March 29, 2012
- "Marriage, Family Politics, and Identity in Medieval Eastern Europe" Early Slavists Seminar at Harvard University, November 12, 2010
- "What's in a Name? The case of the Kingdom of Rus"

 Wittenberg University History Colloquium Series, December 3, 2009

Graduate Workshops

- "Disseminating Research in Different Contexts" with Olenka Pevny (Cambridge)

 Dumbarton Oaks Research Library Mentorship program for Ukrainian scholars in exile
 October 10, 2023
- "Models and Functions of Kinship and Family in Antiquity, Middle Ages, and Early Modern Period" (Formen und Funktionen von Verwandtschaft und Familie in Antike, Mittelalter und Früher Neuzeit) online course module developed

 FernUniversität Hagen
- Rus' in the Byzantine and Medieval European Worlds Simon Fraser University, September 26, 2019
- Mary Jaharis Center Graduate Student Panel on Publishing with Images
 Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Texas San Antonio, October 5, 2018
- Russia and the Soviet Union Grad/Undergrad Class Presentation University of Michigan, September 11, 2018
- Mary Jaharis Center Graduate Student Panel on Digital Humanities

Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Minnesota, October 7, 2017

"Kinship Networks in Medieval Eastern Europe"

Medieval Slavic Summer Institute – Hilandar Research Library, The Ohio State University, June 26, 2017

Rus' Culture and History – Grad/Undergrad Class Presentation Cambridge University, October 26, 2016

Mary Jaharis Center Graduate Student Panel on the job market Byzantine Studies Conference, Cornell University, October 7, 2016

Dissertations Advised

Outside Dissertation Committee Member, Central European University

Alena Kliuchnik, "Western Representations of Poland, Lithuania and Moscovia in the Fifteenth First Half of the Sixteenth Centuries: A Comparative Approach Using Visual Text Analysis" June 11, 2020.

Outside Dissertation Committee Member, Centre for Medieval Studies, University of Toronto Natalia Zajac, "Women Between West and East: The Inter-Rite Marriage of the Kyivan Rus' Dynasty, ca. 1000-1204" August 30, 2017

Conference Presentations (Selected)

International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 3, 2024

Presentation Title: Revisiting Titles and People: The Kingdom of the Hungarians through multiple lenses

British Association for Slavic and East European Studies, April 8-9, 2022 Presentation Title: "Ecclesia and Rule in Rus' and its Neighbours"

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Haskins Conference, November 12-14, 2021

Presentation Title: "Giving Titles a Second Look: Titulature in a Wider Medieval Europe"

Mythology of Russian Modernization, Rostov on Don, October 19-20, 2021

Presentation Title: "Creating a Medieval Rus": Mykhailo Hrushevsky's History of Ukraine-Rus"

Seven Centuries Since the Death of Holy King Milutin, University Belgrade, September 24-25, 2021 Presentation Title: "Monastic Legitimation of Rulership in East and West"

International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 5-9, 2021

Presentation Title: "Women's Influence, Modern Perceptions, and the Transmission of 'Culture' in Medieval Central and Eastern Europe" (panel sponsored by the International Center for Medieval Art)

Medieval Academy of America, Indiana University, April 15-18, 2021 Round Table Participant: "What was Medieval Monarchy?"

Русь и Латинская Европа в Средние века: контакты, влияния, конфликты. Новые исследования, Moscow Higher School of Economics, March 29-30, 2021

Presentation Title: "Corule and Corporate Rule in Medieval Europe"

Third National Scientific Conference, Southern Federal University (Rostov on Don), December 1-3, 2020

Round Table Participant: «Вчерашнее завтра: "виртуальная история", ухрония, контрфактическое моделирование» (Yesterday's Tomorrow: 'Virtual History,' Uchronia, Counterfactual Modeling)

- Eighth Annual Days of Justinian, Skopje, November 13-14, 2020 Presentation Title: "A Search for Rusian Monastic Legitimation"
- Unity in Diversity: Aspects of Centrality and Regionalism in the Byzantine world (Texts, Visual Culture, Ideology, Identity), Belgrade, November 9-10, 2020

 Presentation Title: "Missing Marriages: Tying Byzantium into Medieval Europe"
- International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 1-4, 2019 Presentation Title: "Adam of Bremen's Medieval World" Panel Organizer: "Medievals' World View"
- 54th International Congress on Medieval Studies, University of Western Michigan, May 9-12, 2019 Presentation Title, "The Kingdom of Rus' in a Land of Kingdoms"
- Medieval Academy of America, University of Pennsylvania, March 7-9, 2019 Presentation Title: "Dynastic Marriage and Familial Aid in a Wider Medieval Europe" Panel Organizer and Chair: "Medievals' World View"
- Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Boston, MA, December 6-9, 2018 Round Table Member: "Hrushevsky's *History of Ukraine-Rus*" in English: The Process and Impact of a Translation Project"
- Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Texas San Antonio, October 4-7, 2018 Presentation Title: "The Kingdom of Rus': A Weak Power State"
- International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 2-5, 2018

 Round Table Member: "Troubling Concepts of Medieval Europe: A Round Table Discussion"

 Presentation Title: "Mykhailo Hrushevsky and the Construction of a Non-Byzantine History of Rus""
- 53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies, University of Western Michigan, May 10-13, 2018 Round Table Member: "Central Europe Across and Without Borders: A Round Table"
- Medieval Central European Research Network Conference, University of Zagreb, April 12-14, 2018 Presentation Title: "The Optics of Byzantine Blinding in Medieval Eastern Europe"
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Chicago, November 9–12, 2017 Presentation Title: "Conflict As Bargaining: Conflict Resolution among the Volodimerovichi Clan of Rus"
- International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 3–6, 2017
 Presentation Title: "Tweeting the Past: Rusian Women, Digital Humanities and Modern Politics"
 Panel Title: Byzantine Exceptionalism: New Perspectives (Panel Organizer)

- 52nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, University of Western Michigan, May 11–14, 2017 Panel Title: Central European Medieval Networks Presentation Title: "Comparative Political Development in the Arc of Medieval Europe"
- Ohio Academy of History, The Ohio State University, March 31 April 1, 2017 Roundtable Entitled: "Byzantine Exceptionalism: Reality or Historiographical Fiction?" Panel Organizer
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Philadelphia, November 19–22, 2015 Roundtable Entitled: "Portraits of Rus' and its Neighbours" Panel Organizer
- Byzantine Studies Conference, New York City, October 22–25, 2015

 Presentation Title: "Questioning Titulature and Identity: The Kingdom of Rus"
- CARMEN The Worldwide Medieval Network Annual Meeting, Sarajevo, September 11-13, 2015 Round Table Participant – Memory and Identity: A Round Table
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Boston, November 21–24, 2013

 Presentation Title: "The Lost Kingdom of Rus': A Challenge to the Traditional Translation of Kniaz"
- Medieval Academy of America, University of Tennessee, April 4-6, 2013

 Presentation Title: The Missing Arpad Prince: Finding Boris Kolomanovich in the Interstices of Medieval Europe
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, New Orleans, November 15–18, 2012
 Panel Title: Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World: Christian Raffensperger's Bold New Hypothesis
 Roundtable Participant
 Panel Title: Borderlands as a Problem for "Political Geography" of Pre-Petrine Rus'
 Discussant
- Missouri Valley History Conference, University of Nebraska at Omaha, March 1-3, 2012
 Presentation Title: Arpads, Riurikids, and Komneni, Oh My!: Geza II's Kin Relations and their Consequences
 Chair and Commentator: River and Shore: Moravians, Vikings, and Turkish Pirates in the Middle Ages
- Byzantine Studies Conference, DePaul University, October 20–22, 2011

 Presentation Title: An Attempt at a Byzantine Hungary: The Lost Birthright of Boris Kolomanovich

Fourteenth Annual Winter Workshop in Medieval and Early Modern Slavic Studies, UCLA, February 18, 2011

Presentation Title: The Unknown Queen of Chernigov

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Los Angeles, November 18–21, 2010
Panel Title: War and Peace Among the Medieval Slavs
Panel Organizer
Presentation Title: Marriage as a Prelude to War: Rusian–Polish Relations in the Eleventh Century

Byzantine Studies Conference, University of Pennsylvania, October 8–10, 2010

- Presentation Title: The Advantages and Disadvantages of Familial Ties: Hungary Between Rus' and Byzantium in the mid-Twelfth Century
- Thirteenth Midwest Medieval Slavic Workshop, University of Chicago, April 23, 2010 Presentation Title: Rusian—Polish Dynastic Marriages: A Consanguineous Mess
- American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Boston, November 12–15, 2009
 Panel Title: Medieval Slavic-German Relations, Real and Imagined
 Panel Organizer
 Presentation Title: Rusian-German Marital Ties in the Eleventh Century: Real and Imagined
- Midwest Medieval History Conference, University of Notre Dame, September 25–26, 2009 Presentation Title: *The Forgotten Kingdom of Rus*'
- Twelfth Midwest Medieval Slavic Workshop, University of Chicago, April 24, 2009
 Presentation Title (w/ David Birnbaum, U. Pittsburgh): Mapping History: Using Technology to Showcase Medieval Familial Interconnectivity
- Midwest Slavic Conference, Ohio State University, April 16–18, 2009

 Presentation Title (w/ David Birnbaum, U. Pittsburgh): Mapping History: Using Technology to Showcase Medieval Familial Interconnectivity
- American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Philadelphia, November 20–23, 2008
 Panel Title: Foreign Political Influences in Rus'/Muscovy
 Presentation Title: Comparative Rulership in Rus' and Scandinavia
- Midwest Medieval History Conference, Denison University, October 3–4, 2008 Presentation Title: *The Creation of Royalty: The Foundation Story of Vladimir of Rus*'
- Eleventh Midwest Medieval Slavic Workshop, University of Chicago, April 25, 2008 Presentation Title: Shared (Hi)stories: Vladimir of Rus' and Harald Fairhair of Norway
- American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, New Orleans, November 15–18, 2007
 Panel Title: Warlords, Saints, and 'Mounds' of Evidence: Comparative Perspectives on Late
 Pagan and Early Christian Rus' and Scandinavia
 Presentation Title: Creating Kings and Kingdoms: Harald Fairhair of Norway and Vladimir of Rus'
- 42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, University of Western Michigan, May 10–13, 2007
 Panel Title: Center and Periphery Relations in Medieval Europe
 Panel Organizer
 Presentation Title: Rusian—German Marital Relations in the Tenth Century
- Medieval Association of the Pacific, University of California at Los Angeles, March 2–3, 2007

 Panel Title: "In partibus remotis": Fringeness and its Consequences in the Central Middle Ages

Presentation Title: The Papacy and Rus'

American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Washington D.C., November 16–19, 2006

Panel Title: The Creation of Medieval and Early Modern Biography

Panel Organizer

Presentation Title: Writing Medieval Rusian Family Biography

Professional Service

Outside Expert – Library of Congress Committee on DK and DJK Fall 2023 – Present

Editorial Board Member – Rethinking Byzantium Cambridge Elements – Cambridge University Press

Board Member – Medieval Central Europe Research Network 2018–Present

Editorial Board Member – North of Byzantium 2020–Present

Advisory Council Member – Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies – The Ohio State University 2016–Present

Board Member – H-Medieval Founding member of the board 2014–Present

Series Editor - Beyond Medieval Europe

Created series in 2016. Stepped down as editor in 2020. ARC Humanities Press https://mip-archumanitiespress.org/series/arc/bme/

Editorial Board Member – *The Medieval Globe*Founding member of the journal and editorial board 2013–2021

External Faculty Reviewer, University of Athens 2014–2021

Governing Board Member – The Byzantine Studies Association of North America 2014–2018

Executive Council Member – Ohio Academy of History 2015–2018

Treasurer – The Byzantine Studies Association of North America 2015–2017

Program Chair: Byzantine Studies Conference 2020 Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH (moved online due to Coronavirus)

Program Committee Member: Ohio Academy of History 2018 University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio

Program Committee Member: Byzantine Studies Conference 2014 Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia Program Chair: Byzantine Studies Conference 2013 Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Ohio Academy of History Dissertation Award Committee Member, 2012-2013

Program Committee Member: Byzantine Studies Conference 2012 Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, Mass.

Program Chair: Midwest Medieval History Conference 2011 University of Missouri at Kansas City

Newsletter Editor: Early Slavic Studies Association

2004-2011

Duties were to collate information relevant to our membership and create a newsletter twice yearly.

Councilor: Midwest Medieval History Conference 2008–2010

Manuscripts reviewed for academic journals and presses including Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, University of Toronto Press, Brill, Brepols, Palgrave MacMillan, ARC Humanities Press, Cognella Publishing, ByzantinoSlavica, Medieval Prosopography, The Medieval Globe, Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas, Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History, New Norse Studies, Harvard Ukrainian Studies, Historical Research, Russian Review, Russian History, Journal of World History, Middle Ground, Traditio, Canadian American Slavonic Studies, Cerae: An Australasian Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Scandia: Journal of Medieval Norse Studies

Grants reviewed for the Polish Academy of Sciences, Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture

University Service

Director, Margaret Ermarth Institute for the Public Humanities July 2022 – Present

Chair, History Department, Wittenberg University July 2019–Present

Director, Premodern and Ancient World Studies Minor: Wittenberg University August 2015–August 2021 June 2010–May 2013

Advisory Board, Center for Teaching and Innovation July 2022 – Present

Premodern and Ancient World Studies Minor Steering Committee: Wittenberg University August 2007–Present

Director, Russian and Central Eurasian Studies Program: Wittenberg University September 2014–Spring 2018 Russian and Central Eurasian Studies Program: Wittenberg University August 2007–2023

Coordinator: History Department Colloquium Series: Wittenberg University 2015–Present 2009–2013

Interim Chair: History Department, Wittenberg University February 2017–December 2017

Faculty Development Board: Wittenberg University August 2011–May 2013

Faculty Executive Fund Board: Wittenberg University August 2008–May 2012

Phi Alpha Theta Advisor: Wittenberg University Chapter 2014–2016

Faculty Advisor—Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity 2009–2013

Medieval and Renaissance Studies Minor Steering Committee: University of Nebraska at Omaha September 2006–2007

Library Committee: University of Nebraska at Omaha September 2006–2007

World Civilization Teaching Circle: University of Nebraska at Omaha September 2006–2007

Community Service

Board of Trustees, Clark County Historical Association Elected January 2024 to 3 year term

Board of Trustees, Clark County Public Library
Appointed by County Commission – September 2020 (7 year term)

Advisory Board, Springfield Area Institute for Lifelong Learning