



Contents:

Message from the President	1
Belarus Participates in Eastern Partnership Inauguration	2
Call for Nominations for NAABS Officers, 2010-2014	4
New Dictionaries Project	5
Call for Entries: 2008-2009 Zora Kipel Prize Competition for Books and Articles	6
Call for Entries: Zora Kipel Prize for Student Research Papers	6
NAABS Membership Application	7
NAABS Annual Business Meeting Minutes	9
NAABS Member News	10
NAABS Members Invited to Join the International Association for Belarusian Studies (IABS)	11
IABS/MAB Membership Application	12
5th Congress for Belarusian Studies	13
Publications	13
Southwestern College International Summer School for Belarusian Studies	14
NAABS Application for Affiliate Status with AAASS Approved	14
Calendar of Events	15
NAABS Membership Information	16
NAABS Mission Statement	16

Message from the President

In the last few months of my tenure as president of NAABS, I continue to be aware of the great strides we have made as Belarusists in the academy. We contribute to the discourse in many disciplines and our public and published visibility remains consistent not only in terms of presence, but in terms of quality. In the last conference season alone, Belarusian panels have been offered at ASN, CAS, at various symposia, and will also be a part of the AAASS in November. For a concentrated group of scholars, our membership contributes so much to the understanding of Belarus according to intellectual inquiry and to the framing of Belarus as a dynamic location for the understanding of nation, politics, government, and culture as catalyst and as product. We are truly blessed by the continued resiliency of these scholars.

One of the key challenges of our scholarship lies in the existence of academic communities defined by geography and limited by access. Although some of us are privileged enough to consistently participate in academic events in Europe and Belarus proper, there is a lack of basic sharing of discourse across the Atlantic. This is not a question of unavailable publications, for these are accessible in the market place and through channels. The true challenge is the real-time exchange of ideas, of different analytical tools, of different kinds of critical thinking, and of different modes of questioning. The academic styles, indeed the definition of what constitutes good research can also

be different. The constant meeting of our Belarusian academic communities would not offer a means to determine absolute definitions, but would instead be a practical acknowledgement that scholarship is guided by context and pedagogical philosophies, and that geographic proximity is not the determinant factor in the asking of relevant questions. This desire for exchange is perhaps more earnest amongst scholars whose training and work have been shaped by the dynamism of many intellectual voices, and by the hubris that comes with navigating and appreciating many perspectives. In the end, good scholarship is about contributions, about energizing passions and curiosities, about being confident because one has considered many approaches and can speak to an interpretation – and because one can still remain open to the world of ideas. We have the challenge of constructing and contributing to a global academic community that exists beyond the pages of a conference program. Access, curiosity, and mutual respect are the foundation of a healthy conversation and of the kind of reciprocal engagement that we can offer each other across oceans and borders. It is not just what is said, but the manner in which ideas are expressed. This interpersonal aspect of intellectual communication can offer other cross-cultural, cross-contextual challenges. I am hopeful that NAABS will continue to contribute to the development of such conversations.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

The second primary challenge of this organization is linked to the first. We should find ways through which we can encourage the participation of more students in the activities of the Association, and thereby increase the volume, literally, of our many conversations. In addition to prizes for papers and other research, it might be effective for our more established members to sponsor one-year memberships for graduate students interested in Belarus as subject. I continue to believe that we should all work for the presence of NAABS as a conduit for our academic energies. This process is a slow one. It is, however, an area that requires the attention of all of our members. Perhaps our successful public performances could become a consistent venue for the advertisement of this special community to which we belong.

Throughout my tenure as president, and indeed since the creation of NAABS, I have been privileged to work with and to learn from colleagues whom I hold in the highest esteem. The backbone of NAABS, Dr. Curt Woolhiser, continues to act as the primary “location” for the existence of our organization. His dedication to the management of NAABS as well as his innovative programming, have truly defined the breadth of our potential. Dr. Thom Bird has also been an invaluable voice through his fine scholarship and eloquent comments, as has Dr. David Marples, our outgoing Vice President. I thank them for their energy and dedication, and look forward to future collaborations in NAABS. I must also thank Kern Lunde, editor of *Naviny*, not only for his professionalism, but for his incredible patience with us as contributors to the newsletter.

Finally, I need to mention the impact of Belarusists, not only as members of NAABS, but as individuals who have modeled professionalism, determination, and excellence in all of their work. I have known and worked with many of these scholars over the last twenty years, and I believe that their generosity to me as a graduate student, and then as a fellow researcher deeply shaped my understanding of what it means to be part of an academic community. I am particularly thankful to Dr. Zina Gimpelevich, who arranged for my first academic presentation as a

Belarusist, and who has done much to help me consider the range of attitudes in Western and in Eastern European academies. Her desire to mentor, and her sincere support of others’ efforts have truly demonstrated the role of intellectual generosity in the building of a healthy academic environment.

Although one more meeting remains before my term comes to a close (at the AAASS in Boston 2009), I offer these ideas here because I know that the summer months are upon us and that we can contemplate many ideas that often become stored away in the chaos of a regular teaching year. I look forward to new ideas and to the continued successes of NAABS in the strong company of so many devoted scholars.

M. Paula Survilla

Outgoing President, NAABS

Belarus Participates in Eastern Partnership Inauguration by David Marples

On May 7, in Prague, the Eastern Partnership Project (EPP) was initiated with the participation of Georgia, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, and Belarus. Perhaps reflecting a response to the concerns of several European leaders, Belarus was not represented by President Alyaksandr Lukashenka or Prime Minister Syarhey Sidorski, but by Deputy Prime Minister Uladzimir Syamashka and Foreign Minister Syarhey Martynau. Moreover, several EU countries, including France, Spain, and the United Kingdom, were not represented by their leaders, suggesting that either the meeting was not a high priority or that these countries had reservations about the process.

In general, the meeting was exploratory, embracing issues such as energy cooperation, the creation of a free trade zone, adjusting laws to European standards, and exchanges on an academic

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)

and cultural basis. The European Union has allocated approximately 600 million Euros to the partners for various projects until 2013 (Polish Radio, May 7). The small amount, as well as the wording of the initial draft of the partnership, which deleted the words "European countries" with reference to the six countries, and replaced it with "Eastern partners" (Daily Telegraph, May 7), implies that the association may be initially limited in its scope. The role of Belarus is the most ambiguous of all the participants, and was referred to by several opposition leaders who were also visiting Prague as a "Trojan horse" acting on behalf of Russia (Belorusskaya Delovaya Gazeta, May 9).

The newspaper Belarus' Segodnya (Sovetskaya Belorussiya, its former name is still on the masthead), Lukashenka's official mouthpiece, provided an in-depth report on Minsk's perception of the event. As well as the high-level meetings between the two Belarusian officials and EU leaders, it stated that there were numerous contacts and discussions with the aim of accelerating political links and promoting economic integration. The four key areas of concern are democracy, effective government, and stability; economic integration; energy security; and bilateral contacts. Belarus and the EU intend to create a large free trade zone, cooperate on an institutional basis, support free travel and visa liberalization without compromising security, and strengthen energy cooperation allowing for a secure and long-term transit route for resources across Belarusian territory. The newspaper also maintained that the political direction pursued by the EPP began with the fall of the Iron Curtain in 1989 (SB-Belarus' Segodnya, May 8).

Martynau declared that an important issue for Belarus was the project of the so-called ninth Transit Corridor, which will provide a link between the Baltic and Black Seas, and entail a much higher level of EU investment in the long term. Martynau noted that Belarus has agreed to expand its connections with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Investment Bank, and that both will have the right to open branches in

Belarus (SB Belarus' Segodnya, May 8). Several opposition leaders met with the Czech Foreign Minister Karel Schwarzenberg, and there was a small protest against the policies of Lukashenka led by the leader of the Conservative Christian Party of Belarus, Zyanon Paznyak (www.naviny.by, May 7). Though supportive of closer Belarus-EU links, the Belarusian opposition leaders insist that it should be tied to the improvement of human rights in their country.

The events in Prague coincided with a spate of new arrests in Minsk. On May 7, several hundred people gathered in the city center at Kastrichnitskaya Square bearing portraits of a former minister Yuri Zakharenka, who disappeared ten years ago and is believed to have been killed by the authorities, and political prisoners -the small entrepreneurs Mikolay Autukhovich, Yuri Leonau, and Uladzimir Asipenka, who were arrested in February and since denied contact with their families and the outside world (www.charter97.org, April 24). They were almost immediately targeted by interior ministry (OMON) troops and dozens of civilians were beaten, though they were not detained. Furthermore, the OMON troops arrived en masse in the city-center and began randomly questioning people, demanding to see their passports. Ostensibly, their goal was to prevent disturbances during Victory Day on May 9, when a festival of veterans was held with the participation of the president (Narodnaya Volya, May 9).

The Victory Day events perhaps symbolize the gulf existing between the present Belarusian government and the EU. While Syamashka and Martynau were dealing with very contemporary problems, Lukashenka was emphasizing the country's Soviet past, making reference in a speech to veterans in Minsk to the 26 million wartime victims in the USSR. He emphasized that Belarus, having lost one in three of its residents during WWII, deeply values its independence as well as its links to Europe, Latin America, and the Near East (www.belta.by, May 10).

There are just 49,000 veterans remaining among

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

the population of 9.7 million (0.5 percent) (Narodnaya Volya, May 9). But they have become the apparent *raison d'être* of the Lukashenka regime, now approaching its sixteenth year in power. Their attainments and presence in the country provide justification for why Belarus should be accepted for what it is and more importantly, why Lukashenka's survival is more important than issues of democracy and human rights. The events in Minsk on May 9 may also explain why Lukashenka decided not to go to Prague.

(Reprinted from Volume 6, Number 95 of the Eurasia Daily Monitor, published by The Jamestown Foundation.)

Call for Nominations for NAABS Officers, 2010-2014

The NAABS executive consists of the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and a five-member Executive Council. All officers will be elected by NAABS members by ballot for a four-year term. Elections for NAABS officers and Executive Council will be held later this year for the 2010-2014 term. Balloting specifics will be included in the Autumn 2009 issue of *Naviny*. Provided below is a summary of officer responsibilities:

President

The President represents the Association in relations with the AAASS, IAB/MAB, BINiM, ASN, AATSEEL and other scholarly organizations, both in North America and abroad, and coordinates the activities of the other members of the NAABS executive. The President presides at all NAABS business meetings and special sessions of the NAABS executive and reports on these meetings and other Association business in each issue of *Naviny*.

Vice President

The Vice President presides with the President at all meetings of NAABS, and assumes the

responsibilities of the President at Association meetings and events at which the President is absent. In the event of the resignation, illness or death of the President, the Vice President will assume the duties of the President until the next scheduled elections, and will appoint a Vice President for the remainder of the term.

Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer is responsible for keeping minutes at NAABS business meetings or special sessions of the NAABS executive, and shall submit the minutes to the Newsletter Editor for publication in *Naviny*. The Secretary-Treasurer also collects membership dues, maintains a current roster, and manages Association funds.

Newsletter Editor

The Newsletter Editor is responsible for soliciting, compiling and editing materials for the Association's biannual newsletter, and for mailing each issue of the newsletter to the Association's membership via regular or e-mail. At his/her discretion, the Newsletter Editor may appoint contributing editors for individual sections of the newsletter.

Executive Council

The Executive Council, consisting of five members, will serve in an advisory role to the other officers of the association. With the authorization of the President, individual members of the Executive Council may serve as liaisons between NAABS and other similar organizations and may assume responsibility for certain aspects of the Association's activities, including organization of conferences and panels, coordinating work on Association publications, etc.

Members are encouraged to volunteer or submit nominations to the Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Curt Woolhiser, Harvard University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Barker Center 327, 12 Quincy St. , Cambridge MA 02138-3804; e-mail: cwoolhis@fas.harvard.edu.

New Dictionaries Project

A team of linguists and lexicographers in Belarus have started a project to modernize and publish the classical Belarusian-Russian Dictionary, Russian-Belarusian Dictionary (paper and electronic editions) consisting of a total of 3,000 pages. The project has received some initial financial support from the Belarusian diaspora and some of its institutions and foundations. The Open Society Institute has agreed to partly finance the project and the Center for Belarusian Studies at the Southwestern College has expressed interest in participating in the project.

The need for the dictionaries: At this time in the Republic of Belarus the state maintains a near monopoly on the publication and distribution of Russian-Belarusian and Belarusian-Russian dictionaries. These dictionaries continue the Soviet practice of treating the Belarusian language as second rate and as being based on the Russian language. The publication of dictionaries originally compiled by Dr. Jan Stankevich will give the Belarusian civil society the opportunity to raise the status of the Belarusian language within the entire population. It will also provide for more effective learning of the language by the upcoming generations of Belarusians who have been deprived of hearing the Belarusian language in many schools and at home after decades-long and continuing russification.

The original Byelorussian-Russian Dictionary was a major work in Belarusian lexicography consisting of 1,300 pages. It was published in 1989 thirteen years after the author's death by the Lew Sapieha Belarus Foundation. Its original print run was enthusiastically received by the academic community in Belarus and is now no longer available for purchase.

The dictionary was the result of half-a-century of research by the author, Dr. Jan Stankevich. He drew upon a variety of sources, with the following among them:

Old Belarusian literary and vernacular languages;

The works of current Belarusian literature and his own findings;

The dictionaries of I. Nasovich, V. Lastouski, Bajkou-Nekrashevich; and

The Belarusian regional dictionaries of the Vitebsk, Mahileu, Mstsislavl, Smolensk, Cherven, Lahojsk regions.

About the author: Dr. Jan Stankevich (1891-1976) received a doctorate in Slavic philology and history in 1926 at the Charles University in Prague, Czechoslovakia. His doctoral dissertation dealt with the transliteration and analysis of *Al-Kitab*, the 17th century holy book of Muslims in Belarus, written in the Belarusian vernacular using the Arabic alphabet.

In the years 1926 -1939 Dr. Stankevich taught the Belarusian language in the Universities of Vilnia (Wilno) and Warsaw and wrote scores of articles and published larger works on Belarusian language and history. After World War II he continued this work in the United States, where he published a scholarly periodical *Vieda*. In the 1960-70's, Dr. Stankevich, in cooperation with Dr. Moses Gitlin, an expert in Hebrew and Ancient Greek, translated the complete Bible from original texts into contemporary Belarusian.

The project's scope of work: The Belarusian-Russian Dictionary will undergo modernization and thorough re-editing. As valuable as the original work has been, the long period of compilation and preparation does call for bringing it up to date. The fact that it was printed and published posthumously, the dictionary did not have the benefit of the author's review, proofreading and corrections. Once that is accomplished, the editorial team guided by recognized experts will turn to preparing the Russian-Belarusian Dictionary by expanding the Russian word base. Both dictionaries will be delivered to the printers at approximately the same time, in order to have them come out together in 2011. In order to substantially save on the cost of printing, the dictionaries are planned to be printed in Belarus. Following the publication of the paper versions, the work on the electronic version of the dictionaries will begin. A CD version of both dictionaries will be produced for sale to the public.

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

The project co-ordinator is Valery Bulhakau, the longterm Editor-in-Chief of *ARCHE*, a cultural analytical journal. Since 2002 he has edited or participated in publishing of over 20 books dealing in linguistics, history and political science. He will lead an experienced editorial and production team. The dictionaries project will be advised by the following experts in the field of philology and lexicography:

Yury Bushlakou – Ph.D. in philology. Linguist. Co-author of “Belarusian Classical Orthography”. Participated in publishing Paul Wexler’s “Historical Phonology of Belarusian Language”.

Zmitser Sauka – Doctoral candidate at the Warsaw University. Linguist. Co-author of “*Belarusian Classical Orthography*”, Co-editor of “*Belarusian Dictionaries and Encyclopedias*”.

Yury Patsiupa – Longterm Hrodna University lecturer. Author of 150 page Commentaries to Jan Stankevich’s work “*Language and Philology*”.

Additional information regarding the dictionary project appeared in an article in the January 2009 issue of the monthly BIELARUS. Website www.bielarus.org.

Call for Entries: 2008-2009 Zora Kipel Prize Competition for Books and Articles in Belarusian Studies

The North American Association for Belarusian Studies and the family of Zora Kipel are pleased to solicit entries for the 2008-2009 Zora Kipel Prize competition. The prizes, \$500.00 for books and \$200.00 for articles, will be awarded to the authors of outstanding new publications in the fields of Belarusian cultural studies, linguistics, literature, history and politics. Books and articles published between 2005 and 2009 in either English or Belarusian are eligible. We particularly encourage scholars based in North America to enter the

competition (entrants need not, however, be members of NAABS). Winners will be selected by a panel of judges made up of NAABS officers and members. To enter the competition, please send a copy of your book or article to the following address by October 1, 2009:

Dr. Curt Woolhiser
Harvard University
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
Barker Center 327, 12 Quincy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138-3804

Winners will be announced in March of 2010.

Call for Entries: Zora Kipel Prize for Student Research Papers in Belarusian Studies

NAABS and the family of Zora Kipel are pleased to solicit entries for the 2008-2009 Zora Kipel Prize for outstanding research papers in Belarusian studies by undergraduate and graduate students. Unpublished papers at least 15 pages (double-spaced) in length, written between 2005 and 2009, are eligible for the 2008-2009 competition. We particularly encourage undergraduate and graduate students from universities and colleges in North America to enter the competition (entrants need not, however, be members of NAABS). Winners will be selected by a panel of judges made up of NAABS officers and members. To enter the competition, please send three copies of your paper to the following address by October 1, 2009:

Dr. Curt Woolhiser
Harvard University
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
Barker Center 327, 12 Quincy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138-3804

Winners will be announced in March 2010.



North American Association for
Belarusian Studies
Паўночна-Амерыканская
Асацыяцыя Беларусістаў

WWW.BELARUSIANSTUDIES.ORG

JOIN US

Complete this form, enclose your check or international money order made out to “**NAABS**” in US funds (dues amounts are listed below under “Annual Dues”), and mail it to:

Curt Woolhiser
Harvard University
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
Barker Center 327
12 Quincy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138-3804

Use an additional sheet of paper, if needed, to complete all of the information.

Questions? Contact (by e-mail): webmaster@belarusianstudies.org

Name:	Occupation:
Title: Mrs. Miss Ms. Mr. Dr. Other _____	E-mail address:
Telephone (with country code; area code)	FAX (with country code; area code)
Are you a member of AAASS? Yes No (circle one)	
Annual Dues (2009 calendar year) Membership category (select one): Educator (\$50) Student (\$15) Belarus/FSU (\$5) Supporting member (\$30) Patron (\$100) Other/Donation \$ _____	Mailing Address:
Employer/Address:	1. Your Areas of Interest/Research:

<p>2. Your publications on Belarusian topics:</p>	<p>3. Your other Belarus-related activities:</p>
<p>4. Suggestions for NAABS-sponsored activities, offers to help, etc.</p>	<p>5. May we include your contact information on the NAABS Web site and in publications?</p> <p>Select One: Yes No</p> <p>If "yes", which ones? (Circle word to indicate the information that we may include.)</p> <p>Name Title Position Employer</p> <p>Mailing Address Phone Number Fax Number</p> <p>Interests about Belarusian Studies</p> <p>E-Mail Address Other_____</p>
<p>6. Other comments, questions, etc.</p>	

NAABS Annual Business Meeting, Philadelphia, November 2008 - Minutes

The annual NAABS business meeting was held on November 20, 2008 at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown from 6:30 to 7:30PM.

Members of the NAABS executive in attendance were David Marples (Vice President), Curt Woolhiser (Secretary-Treasurer), and Thomas Bird (Executive Council).

The following items were discussed:

1. Curt Woolhiser announced plans for an International Summer School for Belarusian Studies in Hajnówka, Poland, to be sponsored by the Belarusian Historical Society (Białystok, Poland) and the Center for Belarusian Studies at Southwestern College (for further details, see program announcement on page 14). He noted that the program would include guest lectures by leading scholars in Belarusian studies and extended an invitation to colleagues from NAABS to participate.

2. Other news from the Center for Belarusian Studies at Southwestern College. Curt Woolhiser noted that the Center was eager to collaborate with other academic institutions in North America; in particular, NAABS members are encouraged in particular to invite current visiting scholars from Belarus at the Center to give presentations at their home institutions and to encourage Belarusian colleagues and their students to apply for the Center's visiting scholarships (application information: http://belarusiancenter.com/?page_id=37).

3. Curt Woolhiser announced that the first volume in the new Belarusian Studies series published by Southwestern College Press, Belarusian Jewish Writers of the Twentieth Century: Origin, History, and Discourse by Zina Gimpelevich (University of Waterloo, Ontario), was in press and was scheduled to appear in Winter-Spring of 2009.

4. Secretary-Treasurer's report. Curt Woolhiser reported that as of November 19, 2008, the Association had a balance of \$1,798.00 in its Bank of America account (Salem, MA branch). Total revenue in 2008 was \$760.00 (\$410.00 in dues, \$350.00 in gifts), and total payments came to \$1,182.73. Expenditures since the last business meeting in November of 2007 included \$157.73 for printing and mailing costs for the Winter-Spring 2008 issue of the newsletter (the Summer-Fall issue had not been published at the time of the meeting), and \$175.00 for the editor fee, as well as \$700.00 for the Zora Kipel prizes (\$500.00 to Hanna Kislicyna (Miensk, Belarus) for the book prize, and \$200.00 to Andriy Danylenko (Pace University, New York) for the article prize. Other payments in 2008 included \$130.00 in monthly maintenance fees on account (\$13.00) and \$20.00 for renewal of NAABS non-profit registration with the California Secretary of State.

In 2008, NAABS received a total of \$410.00 in dues payments. This included patron-level (\$100.00) memberships for Ales Artsyukhovich and George Kipel. In addition, the Association received gifts of \$150.00 from Belarusguide, Inc. (for 501 (c) filing fee), \$150.00 from Thomas Bird (for 501 (c) filing fee), and \$50.00 from Kern Lunde.

In conclusion, Curt Woolhiser reminded those in attendance that in accordance with the NAABS Executive Council decision of November 2007, annual membership dues for academic members will be \$50.00.

5. Zora Kipel prize competition (2008–2009). Curt Woolhiser announced that the 2008 competition could not proceed as planned due to an insufficient number of entries (only one entry, for the student paper prize, had been received as of November 2008). He proposed that the 2008 and 2009 competitions be combined, meaning that publications that have appeared between 2007 and 2009 would be eligible. He asked Profs. Marples and Bird, along with other NAABS members, to recommend outstanding new publications in their fields and to

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 9)

contact their authors to encourage them to enter the competition. Curt Woolhiser also requested that NAABS members do more to publicize the competition among their students and colleagues.

6. Call for papers for 2009 AAASS annual convention. Curt Woolhiser solicited proposals for Belarus-themed panels or roundtables for the 2009 AAASS meeting in Boston, November 12-15. Among the possible topics discussed were the Holocaust in Belarus and the changing relationship between Belarus and the EU.

7. In conclusion, Curt Woolhiser solicited suggestions for other NAABS-sponsored events and initiatives for 2009-2010. Thomas Bird suggested that NAABS, perhaps working together with the Center for Belarusian Studies at Southwestern College, could apply for an NEH grant for a summer seminar or institute on Belarusian studies. NEH summer seminar and institute grants support national faculty development programs in the humanities for college and university teachers, and are designed specifically to foster communities of inquiry and forge effective links between teaching and research in the humanities. Typically, institutes last from three to six weeks and include up to 15 participants. NAABS members are strongly encouraged to help develop a proposal for such an institute.

David Marples noted that another possibility would be to organize a seminar or research workshop on contemporary Belarus at the Kennan Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC.

NAABS Member News

We encourage all NAABS members to share information on their recent publications, conference papers, current research, teaching, grants and awards, new appointments and other news that may be of interest to our readers.

David Marples (University of Alberta), Vice-President of NAABS, has been awarded a major grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The award, which runs from 2009 to 2012, is for research on the project "History, Memory, and World War II in Belarus." His recent publications include the following:

"War and Memory in Belarus: The Annexation of the Western Borderlands and the Myth of the Brest Fortress, 1939-1941." [Co-authored with Per Anders Rudling] Accepted for publication by *Belarusian Historical Studies* (Bialystok, Poland), April 2009. 24 ms pp.

"Ethnic Issues in the Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine." *Europe-Asia Studies*, Vol. 61, No. 3 (May 2009): 505-518.

"Is the Russia-Belarus Union Obsolete?" *Problems of Post Communism*, Vol. 55, No. 1 (January-February 2008): 17-26.

In spring 2009, Dr. Marples was awarded the 2009 Wirth Institute exchange fellowship with the University of Innsbruck, Austria, where he is teaching a course on "Ukraine and Belarus since 1991" at the Institute of Contemporary History.

Zina Gimpelevich (University of Waterloo, Ontario) authored the first volume in the new Belarusian Studies series published by Southwestern College Press, *Belarusian Jewish Writers of the Twentieth Century: Origin, History, and Discourse*; it is scheduled to appear in Winter-Spring of 2009.

She was invited to make several conference presentations:

- "Valentin Annenskii-Krivich. 1880-1936 Biography." Research and Information Centre Memorial and European University (St. Petersburg) 20-22 April 2009.

- "Changing a Canon: The Image of the Jew in Vasil Bykaŭ's Military Prose." BASEES Conference, 28-30 March, Fitzwilliam College

- "No Time for Prayers When the House Is on Fire: Janka Kupała's Żydy" Kupała-Kołas conference, Oct. 28-Nov. 1.

(continued on page 11)

(continued from page 10)

Zina also organized several cultural activities:

- Art Show “Celebration: Canadian Slavists of Slavic Origin.” May 22-June 1;

- Yavarovy Ludzi (Belarusian folk group) and Duet Cantabile (classical music) on May 24 at the Congress of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences (Carleton Univ.).

She has submitted the following for publication:

- “Thus Spoke the Belarusan Prodigy: No Time for Prayers When the House Is on Fire: Janka Kupała’s *Žydy*. pp. 19 (to appear autumn 2009).

- “Valentin Annenskii-Krivich. 1880-1936 Biography.” Expected publication April 2010. Research and Information Centre Memorial and European University (St. Petersburg).

- “Changing a Canon: The Image of the Jew in Vasil Bykaŭ’s Military Prose” (June 2009).

Paula Survilla (Wartburg College) organized and presented a paper for the Belarusian Panel/ Roundtable on “Technology, Nation, Government and Material Culture: four Perspectives on Belarusian Cultural and Political Experiences” at the Canadian Association of Slavists Annual General Meeting.

Curt Woolhiser (Harvard University) had his paper “Convergent and Divergent Innovation in the Belarusian Dialects of the Bialystok and Hrodna Regions: A Sociolinguistic Border Impact Study” published in *American Contributions to the XIV International Congress of Slavists*. Bloomington, IN: Slavica, 2008. His article “Communities of Practice and Linguistic Divergence: Belarushophone Students as Agents of Linguistic Change” will appear later this year in *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*, XXVII (2) (special issue on comparative Ukrainian-Belarusian philology and linguistics). Another article, “Social and Structural Factors in the Emergence of Mixed Belarusian-Russian Varieties in Rural Western Belarus,” will appear in the volume “Trasjanka and Surzhyk: Products of Belarusian-Russian and Ukrainian-Russian language contact”, eds. G. Hentschel, O. Taranenko, C. Woolhiser, and S. Zaprudski (Frankfurt: Peter Lang Publishers).

At the 14th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (Columbia University, April 23-25), Dr. Woolhiser spoke on “Official Bilingualism in Belarus, 2000-2009: Policies, Practices and Public Attitudes” as a participant in the round table “Language Policies and the Russian Language in Belarus, Estonia/The Baltic States, Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia Since 2000.” He also chaired a panel, “Historical Memory and Cultural Construction in Contemporary Belarus.” Papers were given by Alexandra Goujon (U. of Bourgogne), M. Paula Survilla (Wartburg College), and Nadzeya Sychuhova (Southwestern College). Thomas Bird (Queens College, CUNY) was the discussant.

Your Name (Your Organization) could have been here! Just send a letter or email to Kern Lunde, Naviny Newsletter Editor (contact information on page 16), with a short description (longer if you have really been busy!) of your activities related to Belarus or Belarusian studies. This is a great opportunity to share your accomplishments with the rest of the NAABS membership.

NAABS Members Invited to Join the International Association for Belarusian Studies (IABS)

The admission of new members into the International Association for Belarusian Studies (IABS/MAB) is carried out on the basis of a written application presented during IABS/MAB meetings. For more information, visit mab.org.by.

The application form is on the facing page; alternatively, it can be downloaded at <http://mab.org.by/ankieta.html>. The official address of the IABS/MAB is:

Dept. of Philology
Belarusian State University
31 Karl Marx Street
Minsk 220050
Belarus

Tel: (017) 222-31-42

E-mail: mabinfo@gmail.com

Грамадскае аб'яднанне “Міжнародная асацыяцыя беларусістаў”

АНКЕТА

1. **Прозвішча, імя
(імя па бацьку)**
2. **Дата, месца нараджэння**
3. **Месца працы / вучобы**
пасада
адрас
тэлефон
факс
e-mail
4. **Хатні адрас**
тэлефоны
5. **Вучоная ступень, званне**
6. **Асноўныя працы па
беларусістыцы**
7. **Галіна (-ы), у якой (-іх)
працуеце і можаце быць
экспертам**
8. **Які ўдзел можаце прыняць у
дзеянасці МАБ**
9. **Прапановы і пажаданні да
дзеянасці МАБ**

“ _____ ” _____ 2008 г.

подпіс

5th Congress for Belarusian Studies (Minsk, May 20-21, 2010)

The International Association for Belarusian Studies (IABS) announces call for papers for the 5th Congress for Belarusian Studies. The Congress is one of major scientific events in the world dedicated to Belarusian Studies. The past Congress held in 2005 attracted more than 170 scholars from 12 countries. Sessions of the 5th Congress for Belarusian Studies will be held in the form of so-called thematic blocks and roundtables and will cover the following disciplines:

- Linguistics
- Literary Studies
- Cultural Studies
- History
- Folklore Studies
- Ethnology
- International Relations

Each application for conducting a thematic block must include:

1. Field of knowledge (see above).
2. Name of the block's head, his/her country of residence, city, institution, position.
3. Name of the block (two variants recommended).
4. Short justification of the relevance of the block (50-100 words).
5. Names of four (minimum three) speakers with information about their countries of residence, institutions, academic degrees and positions. For each paper, provide a 30-40 word summary.
6. Name of the block discussant with the information about his/her country of residence, city, institution, academic degree and position.

Block sessions: Upon presenting planned papers and discussant speeches, the discussion will be held in the form of a free debate. Official block discussants must receive the papers for prior reading no later than in a month before the Congress starts.

Selection criteria for thematic blocks: An important criterion for block's inclusion in the

program of the Congress will be international composition of the block's participants. Blocks that include citizens of different Belarusian cities will be given an advantage as well. Blocks that include citizens of one city will have little chance to be accepted. Applications complete with speakers from the same institution will not be considered.

Applications for thematic blocks must be sent by the block's head to kanhres@gmail.com no later than September 1, 2009.

Notification about results: In September 2009 a special program committee will consider applications for thematic blocks to be included in the program and suggestions on roundtables. In October 2009 all applicants will be notified by email about the committee's decision.

Publications

Alexander Bely, *The Belarusian Cookbook*

\$24.95 hardcover; ISBN 13: 978-0-7818-1209-2;
ISBN 10: 0-7818-1209-7; 247 pages; 5 3/4 x 8 3/4"

The first comprehensive Belarusian cookbook! The author, Alexander Bely, was born in Minsk, Belarus. He holds a doctorate degree in history from Klaipeda University, Lithuania, and has written numerous articles on the history of Belarusian food and drink. He resides in Minsk. Here is a link to the book on Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/Belarusian-Cookbook-Alexander-Bely/dp/0781812097/ref=pd_bbs_sr_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1237473249&sr=8-1

Review copies: 212-685-4371; F: 212-779-9338;
pgress@hippocrenebooks.com
Orders: T: 718-454-2366; F: 718-454-1391;
orderdept@hippocrenebooks.com

Hippocrene Books, Inc.
171 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10016
www.hippocrenebooks.com

Southwestern College International Summer School for Belarusian Studies

The Center for Belarusian Studies at Southwestern College (Winfield, Kansas) invites undergraduate and graduate students to participate in its first International Summer School for Belarusian Studies from July 6 to August 7. The program, co-sponsored by the Poland-based Belarusian Historical Society, will be held at the Belarusian Lyceum in Hajnówka in the Podlasie region of northeastern Poland, home to Poland's ethnic Belarusian minority — an ideal setting for the study of Belarusian language, history and culture, as well as for the study of issues relating to cultural diversity and minorities policies in the expanded European Union. Coursework will include intensive Belarusian language instruction (beginning and intermediate levels and individual advanced-level tutorials) and lectures in English and Belarusian on Belarusian history, literature, contemporary politics and society. The program will also include a regional studies component, with lectures and events on the history, culture and current status of the Belarusian minority in Poland, as well as of the Podlasie region's other ethnic groups (Poles, Jews, Tatars, Lithuanians, and Russian Old Believers). The faculty will include instructors from Białystok University and the Belarusian Lyceum in Hajnówka, as well as Hrodna University in Belarus. Additional guest lectures on Belarusian history, politics and culture will be given by visiting researchers from Belarus, other European countries and North America. Students will have a choice of dormitory accommodations at the Belarusian Lyceum, or homestays with Belarusian-speaking families in Hajnówka.

Coursework will be supplemented by a rich and diverse cultural program, including visits to Belarusian minority cultural organizations and media outlets, meetings with Belarusian writers and artists, films, concerts, theatrical performances, and excursions to important sites related to Belarusian and Orthodox culture and other attractions of the Podlasie region: the city of Białystok, the recently restored Orthodox monastery in Supraśl, the

Białowieża (Belaveža) National Park (the largest and ecologically most diverse remnant of the primeval forests of the Northern European plain), the historic town of Bielsk Podlaski, the Holy Mountain of Grabarka (the most important Eastern Orthodox pilgrimage site in Poland), and the Borderland Foundation in Sejny, a unique institution dedicated to preserving the rich multicultural heritage of the borderland region and promoting dialogue and cooperation among its many ethnic groups and cultures. In mid-July students will also have the opportunity to attend Basovišča, the annual festival of Belarusian rock music organized by the Belarusian Students' Association in Gródek (Haradok) east of Białystok. At the program's end, August 8-19, students may opt to travel to Belarus on a tour including Hrodna, Navahrudak, Slonim, Niasviž, Mir, Minsk, Połack, Viciebsk, Mahiloŭ, Pinsk and Brest.

The program cost, including tuition, room, board, cultural program and excursions is \$2,900 (the cost of the optional Belarus tour at the end of the program will be announced as details become available). For further information, please contact the program director: Dr. Curt Woolhiser, Harvard University, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Barker Center 327, 12 Quincy St. , Cambridge MA 02138-3804; e-mail: cwoolhis@fas.harvard.edu; tel. (617) 495-3528.

NAABS Application for Affiliate Status with AAASS Approved

On June 3, AAASS Executive Director Dmitry Gorenburg informed NAABS President Paula Survilla that the AAASS Executive Committee had approved NAABS's application for affiliate status with AAASS. This status will increase NAABS's profile in the North American Slavic and East European studies community, allowing NAABS to formally sponsor panels and round tables at AAASS conventions and to include its business meetings in the convention program, as well as to publish news and announcements in the "News from AAASS Affiliates" section of *Newsnet*, the AAASS newsletter.

Calendar of Events

2009

June 15. Balto-Slavonic Natural Language Processing (BSNLP 2009) 2nd International Workshop, Krakow, Poland. For more information, visit <http://iis.ipipan.waw.pl/2009/reg.html>.

July 7-10. Fifth International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentology, Opava, Czech Republic. Visit <http://linguistlist.org/callconf/browse-conf-action.cfm?ConfID=73980> for more information.

July 28 - August 3 - CANCELLED. 2009 International Cognitive Linguistics Conference, University of California, Berkeley. Visit <http://www.cogling.org/iclconfs.shtml> for more information.

September 3-6. Fourth Annual Meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society, University of Zadar, Zadar, Croatia. Visit <http://ling.unizd.hr/~sls2009/> for more information.

October 15-17. 2009 Slavic Cognitive Linguistics Conference (SCLC-2009), Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic. For more information, visit http://ucjtk.ff.cuni.cz/sclc/sclc_eng.htm.

October 16-17. 2009 AATSEEL-Wisconsin Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison. For more information, visit http://slavic.lss.wisc.edu/new_web/?q=node/7.

November 12-15. 41st National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Boston, Massachusetts. Visit <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/> for more information.

November 24-25. International Conference "The Belarusian Language in the Slavic Cultural and Linguistic Space," Yanka Kupala and Yakub Kolas Institute of Language and Literature, Belarus National Academy of Sciences, Minsk, Belarus. For

more information, send an email to slav.mov@gmail.com.

December 27-30. Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association and the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Visit <http://www.mla.org/convention> and <http://aatseel.org/program/> respectively for more information.

2010

March 27-29. Annual Conference of BASEES (British Association of Slavonic and East European Studies), Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. For more information, visit <http://www.basees.org.uk/conference.shtml>.

April 15-17. 15th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN), International Affairs Building, Columbia University, New York. Visit <http://www.nationalities.org> for details.

Spring (dates TBD). Fifth Annual Meeting of the Slavic Linguistics Society, University of Chicago. For more information, visit <http://www.sls.utexas.org/slsinfo.htm#futuremeetings>.

May 20-21. 5th Congress for Belarusian Studies, Minsk. For more information, send an email to kanhres@gmail.com

May (dates TBD). Canadian Association of Slavists Annual General Meeting, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec. For more information, visit <http://www.ualberta.ca/~csp/cas/conference.html>.

November 18-21. 42nd National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, Los Angeles. Visit <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/convention/futureconventions.html> for more information.

NAVINY Editorial Policies

NAVINY is published twice yearly, in the spring and in the autumn. Members are encouraged to contribute materials relevant to the field of Belarusian studies. Non-scholarly materials may be published at the discretion of the newsletter editor and NAABS executive. Deadlines for submission are February 15 for the Spring issue and August 15 for the Autumn issue. Items to be included should be sent by e-mail attachment to the Naviny editor, Kern Lunde, kdlunde@mac.com. Please contact the editor for more detailed information on formatting and fonts.

Languages of publication are English and Belarusian (provision may also be made for contributions in Russian, Polish and Ukrainian). Belarusian names and terms in English-language texts should be rendered in Belarusian łacinka or using the Library of Congress transliteration.

NAABS, Inc.

EIN 20-4343905

www.belarusianstudies.org

NAVINY

**8050 S. Victor Pike
Bloomington, IN 47403**

NAABS Membership Information

Membership in the North American Association for Belarusian Studies is open to all individuals and institutions in North America and abroad who share the goals of NAABS and are engaged in research or study concerning any aspect of Belarusian studies. Annual dues are \$50 for educators, \$15 for students. Dues for academic and non-academic members from Belarus and the FSU are \$5. Dues for institutions are \$50.

In addition, two types of non-academic membership are available: supporting (\$30); and patron (\$100) (patrons will be listed in each issue of *NAVINY*).

Upon completion of a membership application and dues payment, one is eligible to:

- Vote in NAABS elections
- Serve as NAABS officers
- Receive NAABS publications
- Serve as NAABS delegates at the International Congress of Belarusianists and at other conferences
- Receive NAABS grants to help defray the costs of presenting papers on Belarusian topics at professional gatherings

Membership dues and donations shall be used to:

- Cover printing and mailing costs for the NAABS newsletter
- Cover fees required for the NAABS Web site and any related activities (e.g., domain name registration, Web server fee, etc.)
- Help fund scholarly publications sponsored by NAABS
- Provide funds for travel grants
- Help cover the costs of visits to North America by Belarusian scholars, writers, cultural and political figures
- Contribute to a fund for a book prize in Belarusian studies
- Contribute to a scholarship fund for students in Belarusian studies

Complete and mail in the membership application form (pages 5-6) with appropriate payment in US dollars. The membership application form is also available at www.belarusianstudies.org.

NAABS Mission Statement

NAABS is a non-profit scholarly organization which seeks to promote research, study, and teaching of Belarusian studies, including the fields of history, language and linguistics, literature and the arts, cultural studies, sociology, anthropology and ethnography, political science, economics, and international relations. To achieve these goals, and to foster the exchange of information among scholars, the Association will publish a biannual newsletter, sponsor or co-sponsor panels and roundtables at regional, national, and international conferences in the U.S. and Canada, organize conferences and symposia, and support the publication of research by North American Belarusianists.