THE RUSSIAN NATIONALITY ROOM

Dedicated July 8, 1938
THE RUSSIAN NATIONALITY ROOM
E. Maxine Bruhns

Reflecting the Eastern influences that pervade Russian art, this seminar room is rich in religious symbols, ancient geometric forms, animal motifs, and floral patterns.

The *vishivka* - a framed quilt - containing 16th– and 17th– century brocade, petit point, damask, and velvet, appliqued and embroidered, depicts Moscow's patron saint, St. George, slaying the dragon. A replica of a family icon hangs above a corner cupboard.

The blackboard resembles a triptych with ornately carved open-work doors backed by red velvet. It is crowned with figures of Sirin and Alcanost, twin birds depicting joy and sorrow as indistinguishable.

Wooden keys hold together the oak seminar table’s boards and the floor planks. On each student chair back is a carved triangle containing a symbol of regional or mythical significance. The sturgeon recalls the Volga, the lion represents ancient Scythia, the reindeer typifies the northern tundra, and the peacock symbolizes immortality. The professor's chair bears two carved birds revering the Tree of Life. The lectern resembles an Orthodox church *analoi* used to hold the scriptures.

An intricate wrought-iron chandelier illuminates the room. The windows contain handmade colored glass bands in jewel tones. Designs at the corners of the plaster ceiling remind one of molds used to bake Easter cakes. Their bud, sunflower, grape, and pinecone motifs represent the four seasons.
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR
E. Maxine Bruhns

We, i.e., you and all of us, have set a new record this year for Summer Study Abroad Scholarships. Fifty-three awards were offered totaling $182,500. Only one was postponed due to the awardee having an accident.

These students - graduates and undergraduates - will study or conduct research in Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, Rwanda, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Tanzania.

A new tradition was established at the Bon Voyage presentation when I asked Pamela Golden, as former awardee, to tell us where she studied. Immediately, eight or nine other former awardees rose to tell us of their scholarship experiences. This will now become a Bon Voyage tradition as it renews the identity of past awardees and our decades-long bond with them.
MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL

Jennie-Lynn Knox, Chair

The Nationality Rooms - “Classrooms that teach” -

We are once again in the midst of awarding scholarships to students for Summer Study Abroad. Another record-breaking year! 53 awardees! Incredible! Not only are these students traveling abroad to study and experience life but, in many instances, their lives will be changed in more ways than one.

Dr. Marc Wisnosky was awarded the Irish Room Committee Scholarship in 1998. For six weeks, he studied the Old Irish language, its history, and early monasticism. Not only did those events solidify his goals, but through those experiences, he became more independent and confident, leading him to earn a Master’s Degree in Linguistics and a Ph.D. in International Education. Additionally, he bought some music books and formed an Irish rock band, Ceann, touring the United States before taking an academic position at Western Governors’ University.

Dr. Darmendra Ramcharran received the James W. Knox Scholarship in 2007 to study in Brazil. His experiences changed the trajectory of his life. While working in Rio de Janeiro on a research project to examine metabolic complications to HIV/AIDs and hepatitis C treatments, he learned that effective science was not just about methodology, but also about how to build relationships and work collaboratively with teams from different cultures. Since graduating, Darmendra has continued his career as an epidemiologist engaging in research projects around the world. Currently, he is the Director of Epidemiology at Janssen Research and Development in Titusville, NJ.

These scholarships have opened the world to students as they experience life from different cultures and backgrounds. This is an opportunity unlike anything of its kind: education through cultural immersion.

I wish safe travels, good health, and abundant joy to all of our 2017 awardees as they pursue their next journeys in life!

AFRICAN HERITAGE ROOM COMMITTEE

Donna Alexander, Chair

The AHCC continues to meet monthly as we seek opportunities to increase our membership through collaboration with other community organizations. The Committee continues its collaboration with the Carnegie Mellon University Rice Project. The “Rice Project” events are being produced to honor those African Americans who were enslaved to put America at the forefront of the Requiem for Rice production markets (http://requiemforrice.com).

CZECHOSLOVAK ROOM COMMITTEE

Cestmir Houska, Chair

The Czechoslovak Room Committee has been active in revitalizing and increasing the Czechoslovak Nationality Room community life. In addition to participating in various NRIEP organized events, the Committee is continuing with its ongoing lecture series about famous people in the Czech and Slovak history. In the fall, the Committee presented the life and times of the King of Bohemia and Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV and in the spring presented a seminar on Jan Amos Comenius, a Czech philosopher, pedagogue, and theologian who introduced pictorial textbooks written in his native language instead of Latin. He also applied effective teaching based on the natural gradual growth from simple to more comprehensive concepts, supported lifelong learning and the development of logical thinking by moving from dull memorization, presented and supported the idea of equal opportunity for impoverished children, opened doors to education for women, made instruction universal, practical techniques that are being used to this day.

GREEK ROOM COMMITTEE

Nick Giannoukakis, Chair

On Sunday, March 26th, the Committee commemorated 196 years since the liberation of Greece. The theme this year was the refugees of Greece and Asia Minor who immigrated to Greece proper, but also the areas of the Middle East during and immediately following the
returning to Greece from Syria due to the conflict happening in places like Aleppo that had a large Greek-origin refugee population in the mid-18th century.

The Committee exhibited art and photos from the period that depicted and captured the refugees. Nikos Adrianos, the keynote speaker, gave an historical account of the refugees and their travels and travails. A short video of refugees from Aleppo of Greek descent was also shown.

As part of this event, the Committee organized a poetry competition for regional high-school seniors with a theme of the refugees. The winner of the Poetry Competition was Elizabeth Durosko who wrote a poem entitled *The Persistent People*. The award for the Poetry Competition was generously donated by the American Hellenic Foundation of Western PA.

The Grecian Odyssey Dancers performed traditional dances from the regions of the mass Greek Exodus.

**INDIAN ROOM COMMITTEE**
Rashmi Ravindra, Chair

On Friday, April 8th, the Indian Nationality Room’s Architect-of-Record, Deepak Wadhwani, gave a lecture on the creation of the Indian Nationality Room. Deepak developed the Room’s monastery courtyard design after a visit to the 4th century Nalanda University in India. The Indian Nationality Room celebrates the country’s educational heritage during the third through ninth centuries, known as India’s Golden Age, which culminated at Nalanda.

It has been the endeavor of the Indian Room Committee to bring all Indians from different regions, faiths and languages together under one umbrella. Every year we hold India Day to celebrate India’s achievements since its independence.

This year India Day Celebration will be on Sunday, August 13 from 12-4 pm. Mark Nordenberg, Chancellor Emeritus, will be the honored guest. The event is free and open to all. The cultural program will be an amalgamation of India’s diversity. It will be a treat for the eyes to see people dressed in colorful costumes from diverse regions of the country, as well as the tasty Indian food, music and dances.

**IRISH ROOM COMMITTEE**
Jennie-Lynn Knox, Chair

The Committee participated in the Annual Spring Festival of the Egg on Sunday, March 5th as well as the Eurofest on Saturday, April 8th. The Irish Room Committee will celebrate Bloomsday on June 16, 2017 with readings from Ulysses in the Irish Nationality Room. All are invited. In addition to Bloomsday, the Committee will participate in the Annual Celtic Culture event on Sunday, October 15, 2017.

**JAPANESE ROOM COMMITTEE**
Sono Hayes, Chair

The Japanese Room Committee participated in the Festival of the Egg on March 5, 2017 demonstrating Origami paper folding to children. The Committee is in the process of creating an inventory of items owned by the Japanese Room Committee.

**KOREAN HERITAGE ROOM COMMITTEE**
Soyeon Lee, Chair

Since the Korean Heritage Room dedication in November 2015, the Room Committee has been active in initiating a membership drive and is planning to redesign its website to raise awareness of the Korean Heritage Room and increase contributions. The Room Committee has established a Korean Heritage Room endowment.

On February 25th, Consul Youngho Kim from the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in New York, visited the Korean Heritage Room. On April 7th, Consul General Gheewhan Kim visited the University of Pittsburgh and gave a presentation in the Korean Heritage Room.

**KOREAN HERITAGE ROOM COMMITTEE**
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Dr. Sang Park, E. Maxine Bruhns, Consul Youngho Kim
POLISH NATIONALITY ROOM
Larry Kozlowski, Chair

The Polish Room Committee and the Lithuanian Room Committee hosted a Free Egg Decorating Workshop. More than 368 first-time artists hand-decorated “Pisanky” (Easter Egg). A variety of Easter displays, ethnic sweets, Easter basket covers and Easter gifts were available.

Polishfest ’17, a “family-oriented festival” of Polish music, song, dance and culture will be presented on Sunday, November 12, 2017 from noon to 5:00 p.m. in the Cathedral of Learning’s Commons Room.

This cultural event is FREE and open to the public. Now in its 34th year, a full schedule of continuous activities is being planned including live folk dancing, cultural displays, Polish Gift & Import Mart, Polish food and folk-art demonstrations, children’s “make-n’take” folk crafts, Polish bakery, ethnic foods and polka music.

TURKISH ROOM COMMITTEE
Nur Lider, Chair

The Committee raised $10,000 needed to create an endowment for Pitt students to study or conduct research in Turkey or students and professionals from Turkey to conduct research at Pitt.

The Committee is planning a speaker series, movie screenings, co-hosting events, poetry readings, and concerts. Stay tuned.

ROMANIAN ROOM COMMITTEE
Marcia Marko, Chair

The Room Committee has been seeking ways to obtain funds for a 2018 Summer Study Abroad Scholarship by sending a letter requesting donations to help establish an endowment to the UNIREA, the newsletter of the Romanian Catholic Diocese of St. George in Canton, OH. In 2018 the Romanian Nationality Room will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its dedication.

SCOTTISH ROOM COMMITTEE
George Balderose, Chair

The Committee conducted a successful campaign to attract new members to the Committee.

On April 22, we participated in the St. Andrews Society annual Tartan Day celebration. This event was founded by Bob Murdoch and sanctioned by the US Congress as a celebration of Scottish culture. The event was free to the public and was held at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Bethel Park.

An event to honor retired Scottish Room Committee Chairman, Bob Murdoch, is being planned.

YUGOSLAV ROOM COMMITTEE
Ken Kornick, Chair

The Committee continues to acquire new items for its display cases. Most recently, it obtained a tambura and a self-published history of a Croatian family from Midland. In keeping with the portraiture motif of the Room, the Committee is working to identify and assemble photographs of noted Yugoslavians from all six republics and Yugoslavian-Americans for a photo exhibit in the Room. In addition, a major event is being planned in the fall entitled “South Slavic Festival: Celebrating the Cultures of the Six Republics of the Former Yugoslavia.” Stay tuned.

WELSH ROOM COMMITTEE
Dale Richards, Chair

The Committee requested the creation of the Welsh Room Scholarship for Summer Study Abroad in Wales for Pitt Students and also extended the awards to visiting faculty or scholars from Wales to come to Pitt. $11,000 was applied toward the endowment.

The Committee has been has been participating in the Welsh language class and dance classes.

WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL CLUB
Jennie-Lynn Knox, Chair

The WIC has been actively recruiting new members. The Holiday Luncheon in December was very successful. Leslie Marshall, recipient of the 2016 James W. Knox Scholarship spoke on The Conditions of Women’s Economic and Social Policy Preferences in Uganda.

WIC participated in the annual Festival of the Egg on March 5th and will hold its Spring event on Sunday, May 7th at the University Club. Mrs. Yoko Motoyama and her student will conduct a traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony.
**ROOMS IN PLANNING**

**IRANIAN ROOM COMMITTEE**
Ali Masalehdan, Chair

Stephen Altherr was selected to be the Architect-of-Record for the construction of the Iranian Nationality Room. Facilities Management will formally award a contract to Mr. Altherr after the required funding is completed.

**PHILIPPINE NATIONALITY ROOM TASK FORCE**
Fr. Manny Gelido

The PNR began the New Year by showing a series of Philippine movies in January, February and March. The Philippine Nationality Room is scheduled for construction in May 2018. The Task Force has been very active in their fundraising efforts. Their fundraising campaign with “Engage Pitt™“ was very successful reaching their goal of $10,000. It is not too late to still donate. Please click on: [http://www.giveto.pitt.edu/pnr](http://www.giveto.pitt.edu/pnr).

**FINNISH ROOM COMMITTEE**
Seija Cohen, Chair

Nonica Frolanderulf, retired professor from the University of Pittsburgh will be a representative of the Finnish Room Committee at the Finnish Expatriate Parliament meeting, June 16-17, 2017 in Helsinki, Finland.

The Committee participated at the Festival of the Egg on March 5th and the Eurofest on April 8th. The Committee produced a video and is planning to submit it to Institutional Advancement and begin fundraising via “Engage Pitt™“.

**NATIONALITY ROOMS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**
Maryann Sivak

NRIEP Director E. Maxine Bruhns spoke at the Celtic culture event in the Frick Fine Arts Bldg. This event was organized by the Irish, Scottish and Welsh Room Committees.

On October 31, Ms. Bruhns conducted the Ghost Watch in the early American Room on Halloween evening. Her West Virginia grandmother’s ghost made the cradle rock three times.

Yasha Jain, a researcher at the Carnegie Mellon University is doing a project which captures Syrian heritage. Yasha collaborated with E. Maxine Bruhns and took hundreds of photos of the Syria-Lebanon Nationality Room details.

On November 11, Riva Ganguly Das, Indian Consul General of New York visited the Indian Nationality Room. Chancellor Emeritus, Mark Nordenberg, Director, E. Maxine Bruhns, Indian Nationality Room’s Architect-of-Record Deepak Wadhwani and members of the Indian Room Committee were present.

M. Bhalaia, V. Kekre, R. Ravindra, M. Nordenberg, Riva Ganguly Das, E. Maxine Bruhns, D. Wadhwani, C. Lagnese, M. Walter
On November 15, Director Bruhns was interviewed by Jitka Jurková, from the Czech Republic who is Attaché to Israel about the Israel Heritage Room.

Our annual Holiday Open House, on December 4, 2017, was a great success. More than 3,000 guests attended. Many of our Committees raised substantial funds for their Summer Study Abroad Scholarships.

In January Ms. E. Maxine Bruhns, was featured on Popular Pittsburgh an online digital magazine entitled: Pittsburgh Profiles: Maxine Bruhns – Bringing the World to Pittsburgh(http://popularpittsburgh.com/pittsburgh-profiles-maxine-bruhns-bringing-the-world-to-pittsburgh/)

In February Maxine gave a tour of the Nationality Rooms to Consul Youngho Kim, from the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in New York.

On February 27 through March 1, 2017, the Center for International Legal Education at Pitt Law hosted a delegation from Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya, consisting of the University’s Vice Chancellor, Laban Aiyiro, the Dean of Moi’s law school, Maurice Oduor, and Professor of Law Vincent Mutai. The delegation met with administrators from a number of schools at Pitt to discuss opportunities for further collaboration, including discussions at the Schools of Engineering and Nursing as well as the School of Law and UCIS.

A highlight of the Moi University delegation’s visit was a tour of the Nationality Rooms, during which they were joined by Director Bruhns. Ms. Bruhns also joined Center for International Legal Education Academic Director Ronald Brand for a farewell dinner for Vice Chancellor Aiyiro, Dean Odour, and Professor Mutai.
On April 8th, we held our Summer Study Abroad Orientation and “Bon Voyage” for our 53 Summer Study Abroad awardees. Director Bruhns gave a detailed overview and then the Committee and private donors presented the scholarship to the awardees. The Orientation Workshop was held in the English Nationality Room followed by a reception in the Croghan-Schenley Room.

![Image](image.png)

Nationality Rooms Summer Study Abroad Awardees, E. Maxine Bruhns and C. Lagnese
Photo taken by Michael Drazdzinski

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**INFORMATION CENTER**

Michael Walter

**Tour Guests:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Youth</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>559</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>1,150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Admissions for the quarter - 3,596
Total Admission in 2016 - 3,215
11% increase in tours.

**Noteworthy tours of this quarter:**

- January 10th FedEx Ground: Diversity and Inclusion Group. This was a direct result of an outreach we did at FedEx’s Moon Twp. Headquarters in August.
- February 8th The Butler Institute of American Art. Adult docents came from this prestigious museum in Youngstown for their first visit to the Nationality Rooms.
- February 28th CILE, Kenyan Law Professors.
- March 4th Dublin Ohio Youth String Orchestra
- March 14th St Paul L’Amoreaux (Toronto Canada) Choir. 135 singers came to tour.

**Guide News**

This semester many new students are interested in becoming guides, with nearly 30 trainees having completed training and are currently taking the tests or have completed their guide training!

Some of the new trainees include Chiara Montenegro (English and History), Rachel Taylor (Psychology), Amanda Kotze (English Lit), Yasemin Sonel, Cassandra Maas and Claudia Haines (Anthropology), Sarah Feinberg and Nick Zarras (Business), and Elizabeth Schmitz (History).
On February 17th-19th, Quo Vadis traveled to Washington, D.C. for their annual guide trip. Quo Vadis gratefully thanks the Nationality Council for matching the club’s proceeds from Open House, enabling them to make the trip. While there, we visited the Greek and Moroccan Embassies. The Greek Embassy received us warmly and told us of how Greece manages issues of refugee resettlement and antiquities protection. The Moroccan Embassy was very hospitable. Several ministers presented information on their architecture, energy production, Moroccan-American friendship, and finally treating us to sweet mint tea and cookies.

Over the weekend, the club visited many museums, including the African-American History Museum. Familiar items in the African-American Museum included a Yoruba carving, whose headaddress was the inspiration for the building’s façade.

**Maintenance News**
A broken pipe on the second floor caused some plaster damage to the Lithuanian Room ceiling. Facilities Management said that the ceiling will be repainted this Summer.

Dryness appears to be affecting some other ceilings. The building manager was informed and believes that changes to painted surfaces in one Hungarian ceiling panel, the dragon on the Chinese Room ceiling and a loose ceiling panel trim in the Yugoslav Room are caused by extreme dryness. In May, they will be examined and touched up if possible. The carpenter has already fixed the loose trim in the Yugoslav Nationality Room.

**GIFT SHOP**
Phil Johnson

Welcome Spring! With the beginning of this renewing season, the Nationality Rooms Gift Center has many new arrivals to celebrate! Our large selection of decorated Easter eggs made a great gift or a new addition to your collection, many from Eastern European countries. New arrivals also include Italian Murano glass pendants, amber jewelry from Poland and Lithuania, and a new assortment of leather-bound journals from India with handmade paper inside for note taking, drawings or sketches. A great gift for you or your artist friends!

**COMMITTEE, SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP NEWS**
Cristina Lagnese

As I sit here looking out my window daydreaming, I am very pleased that it’s Spring so we can all breathe, reflect on the past academic year and look forward to all the good things as well as some challenges which 2017 will bring.

**Reflection #1 - Elections**
This is our second election since the bylaws were passed in 2014 and we continue to learn and negotiate the bumps in completing this important procedure. The majority of the Committees have held their elections and a few are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks. Congratulations to our 2017 Nationality and Heritage Room Committee officers. We thank you for stepping up by either retaining your position, taking a new position or becoming a first-time as an officer. Please make sure you read the Bylaws and the information/operating guidelines. Then send to the office:

- Signed Bylaws by the Committee Secretary
- Signed Charter Agreement by the Committee Chair

**Reflection #2 - Cultural and Fundraising Events**
Impactful, interesting, educational and fun. Those are some of the words that come to mind regarding the cultural programming which you have put together. Whether it’s a festival celebrating your heritage, an auction or welcoming your scholarship winners- these endeavors enhance people’s understanding of your culture.
Please see the calendar of events. You are welcome to attend the Committee events and all free University events which are open to the public. In response to recent requests, I will try to put together a calendar of events each month and send to Council. If you have a Facebook account, please LIKE both the Nationality Rooms pages [https://www.facebook.com/nationalityroomsprograms/](https://www.facebook.com/nationalityroomsprograms/) and [https://www.facebook.com/Nationality-Rooms-Scholarship-Program-216900801696906/](https://www.facebook.com/Nationality-Rooms-Scholarship-Program-216900801696906/)

Reflection #3 - Summer Study Abroad Scholarships
Saturday, April 8, was a very busy day. The scholarship winners participated in Orientation at 10:00 a.m. before the Awards Presentation. Maxine emphasized that at least seven countries they will reside in have travel warnings so they must register with the U.S. Embassy as soon as they arrive in case an emergency arises. They broke into groups by region so that they could discuss travel topics and challenges which they may encounter in the country or region of their destination. The 2016 awardees served as a resource to those who are travelling abroad for the first time or who have little travel experience. Beyond the practical advice, graduates and undergraduates alike were able to ask each other questions and meet students from different majors and career paths. Lunch was served at noon.

I was elated to finally see our 2017 winners walk on stage with their presenters and accept their certificates and Nationality Rooms book. It was a pleasure to see families, students, panelists, donors, and former awardees in the audience.

We awarded 53 scholarships totaling $182,500. Please see the list below of the scholarships awarded. As always, these scholarships depend on the generosity of our Committees, donors and friends of the Nationality Rooms Programs.

**SCHOLARSHIP CORNER**

**2017 AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**UNDERGRADUATE**

**ARBUTINA, Kristin** - Hungarian Room Committee Scholarship (In honor of Endre Csoman) - Budapest and Debrecen, Hungary. Study intensive Hungarian and cultural exploration of Hungarian Art and Architecture.

**CAREI, Caileigh** - Women’s International Club Grant - Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Conduct a fieldwork investigation on the work of Brazilian filmmaker Ana Carolina (a.k.a. Ana Carolina Teixeira Soares).

**COCO, Noah** - Helen Pool Rush Grant - Cape Town, South Africa. Study American foreign policy as well as participate in service learning and conduct research on affordable housing within South Africa.

**CONTE, Christina** - Savina S. Skewis Memorial Scholarship - Buenos Aires, Argentina. Intern in business setting. Study business and Spanish language.

**CRIStINzIANO, Madison** - Italian Room Committee Scholarship - Rome, Italy. Study the Italian language and history.

**EVANKOVICH, Maria** - David L. Lawrence Memorial Scholarship - Cochabamba, Bolivia. Study contemporary issues facing Bolivia’s diverse population and volunteer in the community through a service learning placement.


**GAUR, Shivani** - Helen Pool Rush Scholarship - Lima, Peru. Study medical Spanish, community medicine and healthcare.

**HARRIS, Megan** - Japanese Room Committee/Toshiba International Foundation Scholarship - Tokyo, Japan. Study Japanese society, politics and culture.

**JOSEPH, Tanisha** - Chinese Room Committee Scholarship (In honor of Tom Chen) - Kunming, China. Study the Chinese language and culture.

LEATHEROW, Teresa - Herbert E. Lieberkind/Danish Room Committee Scholarship - Copenhagen, Denmark. Study environmental sustainability and engineering concepts.

LOMBARDI, Lynnea - Women’s International Club Scholarship - Seoul, South Korea. Study the mass media and popular culture of Korea.

LYONS, Clayton - Austrian Room Committee Scholarship - Graz, Austria. Study the development of medicine through History of Medicine and Healthcare course.

McAFOOS, Ilana - Mary Campbell Cross/Irish Room Committee Scholarship - Galway, Ireland. Study the architecture and archaeology of the castles, churches and cloisters of Medieval Ireland.

McLEOD, Aniah - African heritage Room Committee Scholarship (in memory of Lillie Mae Lesesne) - Iringa, Tanzania. Study the determinants of health and the Swahili language of Iringa.

MELCHER, Eleanna - Austrian Room Committee Grant - Vienna, Austria. Study advanced German language and Austrian and German cultural history.

MISCHLER, William - John H. Tsui Memorial Grant - Beijing, China. Study Chinese language.

OPAIGBEOGU, Ogechukwu - African Heritage Room Committee Scholarship (in memory of Lillie Mae Lesesne) - Iringa, Tanzania. Study East African culture and health issues.

RASLAN, Kamal - Nationality Council Scholarship for Quo Vadis Guides - Denmark, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland. Study sustainable urban planning and design in Northern Europe. Analyze both the architectural and political implications of sustainability.

ROHAC, Julianna - French Room Committee Scholarship (In memory of David Kremen) - Paris, France. Intern in Paris to learn and work in the marketing industry.


TAYLOR, Linton - Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Scholarship - Madrid, Spain. Intern in the workplace and learn about Spanish culture.

TESSITORE, Isabella - Helen Pool Rush Grant - Madrid, Spain. Intern in the marketing field.

WEAVER, Hamilton - Swiss Room Committee Scholarship - Geneva, Switzerland. Study multilateral diplomacy and French language.

WEEKS, Carolyn - John H. Tsui Memorial Grant - Beijing, China. Study Chinese language and modern Chinese culture.

WYCHE, Kyle - Savina S. Skewish Memorial Scholarship - Napo, Equador. Study tropical ecology in the Amazon rainforest.

GRADUATE

BAUMAN, Sara - Dr. & Mrs. Ryunosuke Shiono Scholarship - Accham, Nepal. Research a collaborative filmmaking method for collecting and disseminating data on menstrual hygiene management in mid-west Nepal.

BERESHEIM, Daniel - Israel Heritage Room Committee Scholarship - Tel Aviv, Israel. Conduct oral histories with engineers who are developing artificial intelligence.

CASE, Benjamin - Stanley Prostrednik Scholarship - Johannesburg, South Africa. Study the ways in which student activists view the effect of different types of tactics used in the #FeesMustFall movement that successfully prevented nationwide university tuition hikes in 2015.

CONELL, Sarah - Austrian Room Committee Scholarship - Vienna, Austria. Study the visual culture surrounding veneration of Christ’s Holy Blood as it manifested in late medieval and early modern Austria.

DRESANG, Haley - Stanley Prostrednik Health Sciences Grant - Bogota, Colombia. Examine the relationship between semantic memory and language in Spanish speaking adults with and without aphasia.

GARCEAU, Joel - Dr. & Mrs. Ryonosuke Shiono Grant - Yangon, Myanmar. Oversee educational and professional exchange programs between the U.S. and Burma, facilitate English teaching and conduct cultural affairs programming.


ISOM, Kelvin - Helen Pool Rush Grant - Eldoret, Kenya. Intern at the Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret offering pro bono legal aid services to those affected and living with HIV and AIDS.

KENNEDY, John - Ivan Santa-Cruz Memorial Scholarship - Santiago, Chile. Comparative analysis of the coup of Chilean President Salvador Allende in the relation to the coup of Guatemalan President Jacobo Arbenz.


LaSORDA, Kelsea - James W. Knox Memorial Scholarship - Capetown, South Africa. Research on preventing mother to child transmission of HIV in South Africa.

MALANYCH, Alexander - Israel Heritage Room Committee Grant - Jerusalem, Israel. Research on LGBT ritual innovation at local synagogues, minyanim, and Jewish LGBT organizations.


MONTEVERDE, Irene - Helen Pool Rush Grant - Siena, Milan, Italy, Belgium. Research jazz in Italy, documenting the music of Geri Allen, who will play duo with Italian trumpeter Enrico Rava.


MUNDY, Olivia - Dr. Douglas Radcliffe - Umstead Memorial Scholarship - Milan Italy. Intern with U.S. Department of State at the U.S. Consulate General.

NEWTON, James - Josephine & John McCloskey Memorial Grant - Lilongwe, Malawi. Research the diagnosis and care course of pediatric respiratory disease in Malawi with the intent to identify potential targets for intervention.


SALTER, Cynthia - Ruth Crawford Mitchell Memorial Scholarship - San Jose & Ciudad Quesada, Costa Rica. Research with maternity care providers exploring birth trauma and conduct in-depth interviews with them.


SMITH, Laura - Dorothy Bradley Brown Physical Therapy Scholarship - Chichicastenango, Guatemala. Intern at a physical therapy clinic to learn and gain experience in international medicine.

VINCIGUERRA, Rachel - Helen Pool Rush Scholarship - Les Cayes, Haiti. Program evaluation of the “Fi Ki Fo” (strong girl) girl’s empowerment at Pwoje Espwa orphanage and to intern for a foster care program.

WARING, Kathryn - Stanley Prostrednik Grant - Bielefeld, Germany. Research the institutionalization and treatment of epileptics in Germany before, during, and after World War II.

WEAVER, William - James W. Knox Memorial Grant - Leon, Nicaragua. Study the history of leftist Evangelicalism in Nicaragua’s Sandinista Revolution.

WEBER, Anna - Polish Room Committee - Szuben, Poland. Research the development, history, and impact of Oflag 64, the only Nazi POW camp for American officers in Poland.
INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS and JOHN G. BOWMAN FACULTY GRANTS

We have received several applications for the Ruth Crawford Mitchell Czech/Slovak Fellowships. The awardee receives $7,000 to spend during the Fall term at the University of Pittsburgh studying a topic pertaining to his/her profession. We will award the fellowship at the end of April.

Unfortunately, we did not receive any applications for the Armenian Room Fellowship. We are hopeful that we can connect with Armenian universities and sectors to promote this fellowship.

The John G. Bowman Faculty Grants were established in 1964. The very first awardees were:

| Philip Koch       | Romance Languages | $500 |
| George Shames    | Speech Department  | $600 |
| Leonard J. Slatkes| Fine Arts Department | $400 |
| Richard C. Tobias| English Department | $750 |

Since 1964, we have funded more than $200,000 in grants to 140 faculty members.

This year, we awarded eight John G. Bowman Faculty Grants to part-time and full-time faculty members from Studio Arts, French & Italian, Anthropology, Management and Education. See the Bowman winners below.

2017 JOHN G. BOWMAN FACULTY GRANT Awardees

ARKUSH, Elizabeth - Anthropology - Research topic: Purchase of GIS equipment to use and collect data at archaeological sites in Peru.

COMMANDAROS, JoAnna - Studio Arts - Research topic: Participate as an artist and educator in the Israel Arts and Culture Professional Development Seminar organized by Classrooms without Borders.

FEIG, Haya - Religious Studies—Research topic: Investigate instructional methods for teaching advanced language courses and explore interactive teaching materials within a cultural context in Israel.

KLINBUBPA-NEFF, Tuangtip - English Department - Research topic: The Vibe, Voices and Visions from World Sanctuaries: Cultural, Social and Religious Multiplicity of Bangkok, Singapore and Amsterdam.

LUKACS, Gabriella - Anthropology - Research topic: Investigate the rise of right wing populism from a cultural analysis such as independent theaters, with a focus on Hungary.


WANG, Y. Ken - Management and Education - Research topic: Comparative study of global e-commerce by investigating the current status of e-commerce in China and Japan and emerging technology, supply chain and social networks in the Chinese and Japanese retail markets.

WELLS, Brett - French and Italian - Research topic: Study the contemporary perceptions of Canada’s “distinct society” and the ongoing effort to keep French as the language of Quebec.
WELCOME NEW STAFF
Maryann Sivak

Sarah Grossman is a junior in Architectural Studies with minors in Global/Popular Music and Studio Arts. She is a work study at the office learning more than she ever thought she would about office organization and office technology. Sarah is also involved with Pitt Bike Collective as a core organizer and choir (when scheduling allows).

IN MEMORIAM

Maryann Sivak

Maria P. Suda passed away on January 5, 2017. Born in 1923 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Maria lived in Indonesia, where her father was a minister in the Dutch colonial government. She finished high school in England during World War II. In 1950 Maria moved to Paris, France working as a secretary at the Dutch Embassy. In 1952 married Zdenek Suda who was actively involved in the United Europe Movement, the precursor of the European Union of today. In 1954 Maria and Zdenek moved to Germany where Zdenek joined Radio Free Europe as a journalist. In 1968, Maria, Zdenek and their four children moved to Pittsburgh when Zdenek Suda obtained a position as Professor of Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh. Maria and Zdenek were very active in the Czechoslovak Nationality Room Committee.

Mohinder Mohan Bahl, beloved husband of Saroj Bahl, who was instrumental in creating the Indian Nationality Room, passed away February 3, 2017. Born in Nairobi, Kenya in 1938, Dr. Bahl emigrated with his family to the US in 1972 pursuing his American dream. In 1975 he opened his medical practice in Penn Hills serving his community for more than 35 years. He was active in the Indian community. Dr. Bahl was a founding member of the Hindu Jain temple. He also gave his full support to his dear wife Saroj in her dedicated efforts to create the Indian Nationality Room in the Cathedral of Learning. The Indian Nationality Room was dedicated in 2000.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
2017

May 7- Women’s International Club election and Japanese tea ceremony
Gold Room, University Club

June 8- Nationality Council Meeting, German Nationality Room

June 13- Bloomsday, Irish Nationality Room

August 13- India Day, Commons Room- Cathedral of Learning

August 26- The Shadow of Nanteos with author Jane Blank, Welsh Nationality Room

Fall- Greek Room Committee Poetry Readings, Greek Nationality Room
Czechoslovak Room Committee Lecture, venue to be decided

September (TBD)- Scholarship Reception, Croghan-Schenley Room and Austrian Nationality Room

September (TBD)- Women’s International Club Scholarship luncheon

September (TBD)- Swiss Room Committee Film Showing

Sept. or Oct. (TBD)- Chinese Committee Fundraising Scholarship Dinner, venue to be decided

October (TBD)- Nationality Council Meeting

October (TBD)- African Heritage Committee Meeting and Scholarship Reception

October (TBD)- Summer Study Abroad Scholarship Debriefing

October (TBD)- South Slavic Festival: Celebrating the Cultures of the Six Republics of the former Yugoslavia sponsored by the Yugoslav Room Committee

October 15- Welsh-Irish-Scottish Cultural Evening, Frick Fine Arts Cloister and Auditorium

November 11- Holiday Decorating Day and Social

November 12- Polish Festival, Commons Room – Cathedral of Learning

December 3- Holiday Open House