



Newsletter

Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America

Vol. 4, No. 2

April 2024

A Word From the President

Nearly six years ago, you entrusted me with the helm of this distinguished organization and my second term is rapidly approaching its end. As this will be my last column in this space, it comes with mixed emotions and many reflections on what has transpired since 2018.

Truth be told, those six years began with some trepidation. Yes, I had been a long-standing member of PIASA, had published in *The Polish Review*, had participated in several of its conferences, and served as a board member for three years. I also came with some administrative experience at my university, but quickly discovered that chairing a department and leading a national academic and cultural institute were two different matters. My first year was largely spent learning on the job under the guidance of interim president Professor Paul Knoll, who had also served for many years as PIASA's vice president, and Executive Director Bozena Leven.



Things started on a promising note, and our 2019 World Congress in Gdańsk proved an unmitigated success, leading to new applications for membership after years of stagnation. That early momentum was then challenged by the COVID pandemic, the cancellation of conferences in Chicago in 2020 and Białystok in 2021, and the suspension of on-site events at our New York office. We had to find new means to stay connected to our membership and for our members to remain connected with each other. One was this *Newsletter*, the brainchild of Prof. James Pula. The other was a series of webinars, organized with the help of Prof. Anna Müller, PIASA's incoming president.

We also made good use of our assets to emerge from the pandemic a stronger and more diverse organization. *The Polish Review*, edited early on by Prof. Neal Pease

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Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences To Meet in Warsaw

The 9th World Congress of Polish Studies sponsored by the Polish Institute of Arts & Sciences of America will convene at the Collegium Civitas in Warsaw, Poland, June 7-9, 2024. The Congress coincides with anniversaries of international significance including the 35th anniversary of Poland's political transformation, the 25th anniversary of Poland's accession to NATO, and the 20th anniversary of Poland's joining the European Union.

Polish Deputy Foreign Minister Władysław Bartoszewski and two-time former Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz will deliver keynote remarks at the plenary session and awards banquet, respectively. The Congress also features roundtables devoted to PIASA Award recipients Larry Wolff, Małgorzata Fidelis, Geneviève Zubrzycki, Yechiel Weizman, Tomasz Zarycki, Irena Grudzińska-Gross, and Konrad Matyjaszek.

Attendees will have over 50 panels to choose from on a wide variety of topics in the humanities, social sciences, and business/economics. In addition, a pre-conference tour will be available to the Praga district.

To register for the conference, the Praga Tour, and for information on hotel accommodations, see <https://events.piasa.org/events/9th-world-congress-on-polish-studies/>.

Questions can be directed to one of the co-chairs of the conference, Patrice Dabrowski (pmdab@yahoo.com) or Neal Pease (pease@uwm.edu).

The preliminary schedule of panels is available at: <https://piasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Schedule-of-Panels-PIASA-2024-February-27.pdf>

and then by Prof. Halina Filipowicz, has been transformed into the leading English-language multidisciplinary Polish studies journal with a genuinely global reach and a destination for cutting-edge scholarship. Our awards, which back in 2018 were irregularly given, are now well funded, increasingly competitive, and have increased from the original five to nine. Consequently, the increase in membership we experienced before the pandemic has accelerated over the last three years.

Finally, we have renewed our annual meetings, first in Białystok in 2022, just months after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and in New Britain in 2023. In both instances, as well as for the forthcoming World Congress in Warsaw, the amazing organizational talents of Patrice Dabrowski have proved invaluable. Every indication is that the Warsaw Congress will rival that of Gdańsk, both in terms of numbers and in the quality of speakers and panels.

In July, you will "Meet the New President" in this space, and I trust that you will support Anna Müller in her challenging new role. PIASA's future is a bright one, and while I will be stepping aside as president, I hope to remain on the Board of Directors to assist in the transition, just as I was assisted back in 2018. I leave you with just two words of appreciation: "Thank you!"

— Robert Blobaum, PIASA President

PIASA Announces New Award Recipients

The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America (PIASA) is pleased to recognize and congratulate the recipients of its 2023 Awards:

Ludwik Krzyżanowski Polish Review Best Article Award: Vitalii Borymskyi, Institute of History of Ukraine, Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences, for "The Polish-Ukrainian Alliance of 1920 and 'White Russia'," *The Polish Review*, 67:2 (March 2022), 64-85.

Bronisław Malinowski Social Sciences Award: Tomasz Zarycki, University of Warsaw, for his book *The Polish Elite and the Language Sciences: A Perspective of Global Historical Sociology* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022).

Casimir Funk Natural Sciences Award: Alex Wlodawer, National Institutes of Health, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of structural biology.

Tadeusz Sendzimir Applied Sciences Award: Tomasz Wierzbicki, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in

recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of mechanical engineering.

Oskar Halecki Polish History Award: Małgorzata Fidelis, University of Illinois-Chicago, for her book *Imagining the World from Behind the Iron Curtain: Youth and the Global Sixties in Poland* (Oxford University Press, 2022). **Honorable Mention:** Kyrill Kunakhovich, University of Virginia, for his book *Communism's Public Sphere: Culture as Politics in Cold War Poland and East Germany* (Cornell University Press, 2022).

Rachel Feldhay Brenner Award in Polish-Jewish Studies: Yechiel Weizman, Bar-Ilan University, for his book *Unsettled Heritage: Living Next to Poland's Material Jewish Traces after the Holocaust* (Cornell University Press, 2022), and Geneviève Zubrzycki, University of Michigan, for her book *Resurrecting the Jew: Nationalism, Philosemitism, and Poland's Jewish Revival* (Princeton University Press, 2022).

Anna M. Cienciala Best Edited Book Award: Irena Grudzińska Gross and Konrad Matyjaszek, both from the Institute of Slavic Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, for *Breaking the Frame: New School of Polish-Jewish Studies. An Introduction* (Peter Lang, 2022). **Honorable Mention:** Katarzyna Fazan, Jagiellonian University, Michał Kobiałka, University of Minnesota, and Bryce Lease, Royal Holloway, University of London, for *A History of Polish Theatre* (Cambridge University Press, 2022).

Susanne Lotarski Distinguished Achievement Award: Larry Wolff, New York University.

The Karol Pilarczyk Foundation Award for the Promotion of Democracy and the Rule of Law: Agnieszka Holland, filmmaker, and Wojciech Sadurski, University of Sydney.

New Prize and Research Grant

The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies has announced a new prize and research grant to be awarded in 2024. The Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia Article Prize, sponsored by the Weiser Center at the University of Michigan, will be for an outstanding English-language research article in the social sciences by a junior scholar published in a peer-reviewed journal. The Article Prize carries a \$1,000 cash award.

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News

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The James Bailey Dissertation Research Grant in Folklore Studies, funded by an endowed gift from Professor Natalie Kononenko, will be awarded to a PhD student at a US or Canadian university conducting dissertation research in folklore studies. The grant is open to any disciplines and aspect of Folklore studies broadly defined. It is part of the ASEES Dissertation Research Grant Program and will be awarded in an amount up to \$6,000. See <https://www.aseees.org/news-events/aseees-news-feed/aseees-announces-new-article-prize-and-research-grant>.

Fulbright Program Announces Opportunity with the National Science Centre

An agreement between the Fulbright Senior Award Program and the National Science Centre will allow grantees returning to Poland an opportunity to continue their collaboration with scholars from the United States. Signed in December, the agreement will facilitate scientific research and international collaboration. The Centre will designate experts who will be involved in the program's selection committee in the academic year 2025-26. Ten grantees whose projects focus on basic research will be eligible to receive funding that can be allocated for research directly related to their project. The grant can be used for expenses such as the purchase of materials and small equipment, participation in seminars, as well as the costs of travel associated with the research component. The Centre will allocate a maximum of two million PLN for the program. Research covered by the program can last up to one and a half years from the signing of the agreement between the Centre and the grantee home institution. The maximum grant amount researchers can apply for from the NCN is 200,000 PLN. Applications may be submitted until June 5. For further information on applications see <https://fulbright.edu.pl/senior-award/>.

— Natalia Kozłowska

ASEES Accepting Book Prize Nominations

The Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies is accepting nominations of books published in 2023. Books must be monographs authored by no more than two people and originally published in English. Publications that are *not* eligible include textbooks, collections, translations, bibliographies, reference works, and self-published works. For detailed eligibility requirements for each book prize, see <http://aseees.org/programs/aseees-prizes>. Nomination forms **must be submitted no later**

than April 15 and books must be received no later than May 15. Books not received by the deadline may not be considered. Questions should be addressed to aseees-prizes@pitt.edu.

Calls for Papers

The “**Experimental Film in Poland**” for *East European Film Bulletin*— As part of its 2024 Polish focus, the *East European Film Bulletin* is preparing a special issue on experimental cinema, including video and moving-image art and new media. We are looking for essay-length contributions that should discuss current and past trends of these art forms in Poland (or of Polish artists from abroad) and/or contributions that focus on the work(s) of a particular artist. We are particularly interested in discussions on the work(s) of: futurism in Poland, Workshop of Film Form, feminist video-art (Barbara Konopka, Izabella Gustowska, Anna Baumgart), experimental documentary (Bogdan Dziworski, Andrzej Brzozowski). Submissions should be in English. Proposals sent to editors@eefb.org. For further information, see

<https://networks.h-net.org/group/discussions/20024021/cfp-experimental-film-poland-east-european-film-bulletin>.

The Pilecki Institute, in partnership with the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University, the Institute of Political Studies and Institute of Historical Studies at the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Jagiellonian University, and the Centre for East European Studies at the University of Warsaw, will host a conference on “**The Future of Central and East European Studies in the Light of Russia’s War of Aggression Against Ukraine**” in Warsaw, Poland, October 17-19, 2024. The **deadline for proposals is April 30**. Papers may be in the fields of East European Studies, Diplomacy, International Relations, Legal or Political History, or Cultural Studies. Proposals using a comparative and interdisciplinary approach are particularly welcome. For further information contact conference2024@instytutpileckiego.pl or visit <https://instytutpileckiego.pl/en/badania/fall-conference>.

Upcoming Conferences

April 18-19, 2024—Polish National Catholic Church announces the 23rd Scholars’ Conference, Scranton, Pennsylvania. For information, contact secretarytopb@pncc.org or Rev. Jim Ploskonka, Commission on History and Archives, at James.Ploskonka@tri-c.edu.

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Upcoming Conferences

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May 3, 2024—Kościuszkó Conference, West Point, NY. The Conference theme will be “Poland’s Constitution of May 3, 1791: Its Troubled Times Among Those for Whom it Held Promise, as Well as Among Those Who Held it to be a Danger.” For information, contact Anthony Bajdek at a.j.bajdek@comcast.net.

June 6-9, 2024—The **Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences** conference will convene at the Collegium Civitas, Warsaw, Poland. See page 1 for further information, or visit

<https://piasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Schedule-of-Panels-PIASA-2024-February-27.pdf>

June 14-16, 2024—**29th Biennial Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies Conference**. “The Baltic Way: Unity and Giving Aid,” will meet at Yale University in New Haven, CT. The conference is dedicated to scholars studying the peoples and lands around the Baltic Sea from all fields of the humanities and social sciences, education, and technology. The conference program will feature scholarly panels and roundtable discussions, film screenings, other cultural events, as well as exhibitions of Yale University’s various Baltic collections. See <https://aabs-balticstudies.org/aabs-2024/>.

June 17-21, 2024—**7th International Public History Summer School** will convene at the Historical Institute of the University of Wrocław, Poland. For further information and application forms visit

<https://networks.h-net.org/group/announcements/20026000/extended-submission-deadline-7th-international-public-history-summer>.

July 17-19, 2024—The **Seventeenth Global Studies Conference**, “The World on the Move: Understanding Migration in a New Global Age,” will meet at the Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland. For further information, see <https://onglobalization.com/2024-conference>.

September 26-29, 2024—“**The Curse of Empire**”: **East-Central Europe from the German Perspective**. Sponsored by the German Studies Association, this seminar of the histories and consequences of empire in German-speaking and Eastern European territories will meet in Atlanta, Georgia. For information, contact Irina Kogan at ikogan@colgate.edu.

October 17-19, 2024—“**The Future of Central and East European Studies in the Light of Russia’s War of Aggression Against Ukraine**” will convene in Warsaw, Poland, featuring presentations in the fields of East European Studies, Diplomacy, International Relations, Legal or Political History, or Cultural Studies. For further information contact conference2024@instytutpileckiego.pl or visit <https://instytutpileckiego.pl/en/badania/fall-conference>.

November 21-24, 2024—The **56th annual Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies Conference** will be held at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, MA. For information, visit <https://www.asees.org/convention>.

January 3-6, 2025—The **Polish American Historical Association** will hold its annual meeting in New York City, NY, in conjunction with the American Historical Association. For further information, contact Prof. Marta Cieslak at mxcieslak@ualr.edu.

PIASA to Present Science Awards at Kosciuszko Foundation

On Friday, April 5, two PIASA Science Awards will be presented during a ceremony at the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City.

Prof. Tomasz Wierzbicki of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will receive the 2023 Thaddeus Sendzimir Award in Applied Sciences for outstanding contributions to the field of mechanical engineering. Prof. Alexander Wlodawer of the Center for Cancer Research at the National Cancer Institute in Frederick, Maryland, will receive the 2023 Casimir Funk Award in recognition to his contributions to the field of structural biology.

For further information and to register visit:

<https://thekf.org/event/piasas-science-awards-presented-to-eminent-polish-american-scientists-at-the-kosciuszko-foundation/>



New Books on Polish Studies

Mieczysław B. Biskupski, *Prezydent Woodrow Wilson a odrodzenie państwa polskiego (1914-1918)* (Warsaw: Wydawnictwo Neriton, 2023), ISBN: 978-8397031944.

Natalie Cornett, *The Politics of Love: Gender and Nation in Nineteenth-century Poland* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2024), ISBN: 978-1501776649.

Rafał Dobek, *Louis Wolowski (1810-1876): Polish Insurgent, French Politician, Banker and Economist* (Berlin: Peter Lang, 2024), ISBN: 978-3631910948.

Monika Domańska, Dawid Miąsik, Monika Szwarc, *National Courts and the Application of EU Law: Lessons from Poland* (Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032446257.

Olga Maria Hajduk, *Santi Gucci Fiorentino, Artist and Entrepreneur in Early Modern Poland* (New York: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032657875.

Jonathan Huener and Andrea Löw, eds., *Poland under German occupation, 1939-1945: New Perspectives* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2024), ISBN: 978-1805392439.

Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann and James S. Pula, eds., *Polish American Voices: A Documentary History, 1608-2020* (New York: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032343723.

Justyna Kiliańczyk-Zięba, *Printers' Devices in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth: Iconographic Sources and Ideological Content* (Leiden: Brill, 2024), ISBN: 978-9004679597.

Evelina Kristanova, Rafał Habielski, Malgorzata Such-Pyrgiel, eds., *Politics and the Media in Poland from the 19th to the 21st Centuries: Selected Issues* (Leiden: Brill, 2024), ISBN: 978-9004683365.

Anna E. Kubiak, Anna Długozima, Agnieszka Wedel-Domaradzka, eds., *Death and Funeral Practices in Poland* (Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-01032075525.

Marta Kurkowska-Budzan and Marcin Stasiak, *Sport and Polish Society in the Communist Era: Small Towns and History from Below* (New York: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032576879.

Alexej Lochmatow, *Public Knowledge in Cold War Poland: Scholarly Battles and the Clash of Virtues, 1945-1956* (Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032549491.

John S. Micgiel, *Project Eagle: The Top-secret OSS Operation that Sent Polish Spies behind Enemy Lines in World War II* (Essex, CT: Stackpole Books, 2024), ISBN: 978-0811775410.

Malgorzata Mizia, *The Architectural Dimension of Culture* (Katowice: Akademia Śląska, 2023), ISBN: 978-8396808875.

Kenneth B. Moss, *An Unchosen People: Jewish Political Reckoning in Interwar Poland* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2021), ISBN: 978-0674245105.

Michael Ostling, *Between the Devil and the Host: Imagining Witchcraft in Early Modern Poland* (Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2024), ISBN: 978-0198867111.

Jan Pomorski, *Polish Theory of History and Metahistory in Topolski, Pomian, and Tokarczuk: From Hayden White and Beyond* (New York: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032494609.

Kazimierz M. Słomczyński, Michał Kotnarowski, Irina Tomescu-Dubrow, Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow, eds., *Poland: Thirty Years of Radical Social Change* (Leiden: Brill, 2024), ISBN: 978-9004678668.

Michał Sokolnicki, *Dziennik ankarski: wybór z lat 1939-1945* (Warsaw: Ośrodek Karta, 2024), ISBN: 978-8367820028.

Jennifer Stark-Blumenthal, *Poles and Jews: A Call for Myth Reconstruction* (Boston, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2024), ISBN: 979-8887194097.

Adam Szelągowski, *Wzrost państwa polskiego w XV i XVI w.: Polska na przełomie wieków średnich i nowych* (Szczęśne: Klinika Języka, 2024), ISBN: 978-8367044202.

Jakub Tyszkiewicz, *The Open Window into the Soviet Bloc: US Policy toward Poland, 1956-1968* (Abingdon, Oxon, UK: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032332376.

Karen Underhill, *Bruno Schulz and Galician Jewish Modernity* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2024), ISBN: 978-0253057273.

Adam Walaszek, *Polish American History before 1939* (New York: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1003321651.

Michał Wenderski, *Art and Politics during the Cold War: Poland and the Netherlands* (New York: Routledge, 2024), ISBN: 978-1032453354.

Anniversary of Poland's Entry into NATO

On March 12 a ceremony was held at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the admission of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic into NATO. The keynote speech on the occasion was delivered by long-time PIASA member and past Board member Prof. **Donald E. Pienkos** who reminisced on the process among Polish Americans. His remarks were as follows.

It is a distinct privilege to speak at this Silver Anniversary of the entry of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into the NATO alliance. It is most appropriate that this gathering is at the Presidential Library that memorializes Harry S. Truman. For it was President Truman who fathered the NATO alliance 75 years ago.

Who am I to address you today? Fair question! So many others were active in bringing about the expansion of the NATO alliance in 1999. We salute them all! Back in the 1990s, I was teaching International Politics at my university in Milwaukee. But my academic work was deepened by my concern for the people of East Central Europe and for Poland, the land of my grandparents.

I was active in the Polish American Congress, which from its founding in 1944 had worked for the freedom, independence and well being of Poland and its citizens. Indeed, the Congress was the first American organization to denounce the Great Powers' decisions at Yalta as a betrayal of both their World War II ally Poland and the mission of the Atlantic Charter, which affirmed the territorial integrity of all states small and large. In August 1980 the Congress supported the Solidarity trade union movement, just days after its birth. And in Fall 1989, a delegation of leaders of the Congress headed by its President Edward Moskal was in Poland to affirm the Polish American community's support for Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki's newly created post-communist government.

Furthermore, in 1992, the Congress formally backed Poland's entry into the NATO alliance, which it recognized as vital to its future prospects. However, after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 there were influential people who thought otherwise. Some proposed dissolving NATO since the Cold War was over. Others agreed to maintain the 16 member Alliance but opposed its expansion. Poland's new government, headed by its President, Lech Wałęsa, saw things very differently. They knew Poland's and its neighbors' history and understood how important NATO membership was to their national security and as a symbol of their inclusion in the great transatlantic community of free nations.

In supporting this view the Polish American Congress organized a campaign in December 1993 to make President William Clinton aware of its position. Its members barraged the White House with thousands of telegrams,

letters, postcards, e-mails and phone messages calling for NATO expansion. The effort worked and drew the President's attention.

And here is where I came into the picture. It was Monday, January 2, 1994. I was at my University preparing for the Spring semester when I got a surprising call from the White House. I was told that President Clinton was to speak in Milwaukee on U.S. foreign policy that Friday and that a substantial number of Polish Americans needed to be invited to attend this last minute event. Could I put together a list of local Polish Americans with their telephone numbers and fax it to Washington as soon as possible? Yes I could. And Yes I did.

That Wednesday I got another call from the White House. Would I be able to attend a meeting the next evening at the Pfister Hotel in anticipation of the President's visit? I agreed and that Thursday, January 5, I was one of 18 guests — nine of us Polish Americans — among them President Moskal, the Polish American Congress' Executive Director Leszek Kuczynski, Jan Nowak of Radio Free Europe, and Professor Stan Blejwas from Connecticut. Five members of the Hungarian American community were there, along with two each from the Czech and Slovak American communities. From Washington came Alexis Herman, who would later be U.S. Secretary of Labor, Deputy National Security Advisor Samuel Berger, and the State Department's Daniel Fried, later U.S. Ambassador to Poland, plus a bevy of staff persons.

Following dinner Ms. Herman opened our discussion by simply asking us "What's on your mind?" What followed was amazing — for the next two hours everyone who spoke, including me, called on the Government to support NATO expansion. Folks handpicked by the White House and together for the very first time were all speaking with one voice. Significantly none of our White House hosts said a word. Around 10:00 pm Ms. Herman rose to remind us of our meeting with the President following his public address the next morning. Was the meeting over?

No. President Moskal rose to say that he and several others had not yet had the opportunity to speak. Ms. Herman sat down and Moskal then succinctly condemned the administration's failure to support NATO expansion, calling it nothing less than a "second Yalta." His words brought a quick response from the until then silent White House delegation. "No don't say that!" It was as if Moskal had placed their fingers into an electric socket. Our discussion then continued past midnight. As we adjourned, President Moskal, Professor Blejwas and I noticed the White House people and their staff were staying put. Were they revising the President's speech for the next morning?

On Friday morning January 6, 1994, Vice President Albert Gore, subbing for President Clinton whose mother had just passed away, spoke to some 1,000 people — over

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Poland's Entry into NATO (continued)

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200 of them Polish Americans. There he used words and phrases from our meeting the night before. NATO expansion, he implied, was indeed on the table. When our group met with Mr. Gore after his speech, we covered the same ground as the night before. At the end he invited us to the White House to meet with the President after his return from his trip to NATO headquarters in Brussels. On March 2, 1994, we had that meeting. It was very frank. At the end, Mr. Clinton said something that hit me hard. He declared, "The door to NATO expansion is open." Really?

How significant was our Milwaukee meeting? In January 1998, Nicholas Rey, our former U.S. Ambassador to Poland, was in Milwaukee. His mission was to win over critics of NATO expansion — in Wisconsin and around the country. I hosted a luncheon for him attended by dozens of community leaders. There as we exchanged luncheon pleasantries I mentioned my participation at the January 5, 1994, meeting. He dropped his knife and fork and turned to me. "You were there! They were talking about that meeting for six months in Washington! You folks had a big impact in changing our country's foreign policy!" Then he added: "Well not only you!" He was right. So many others had made the case for NATO enlargement. Madeleine Albright who would be Secretary of State in 1999 and Gen. John Shalikashvili, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Prof. Zbigniew Brzezinski, U.S. Senators Barbara Mikulski of Maryland, Hank Brown of Colorado, Paul Simon and Richard Durbin of Illinois, Richard Lugar of Indiana and many, many others.

Myra and Casimir Lenard of the Polish American Congress in Washington, DC, played a key role too. Together they worked with our fellow Americans of East Central European origins to create the Central and East European

Coalition. Its 19 organizations brought together 13 different nationality groups to express the support of 20 million Americans for NATO expansion. Their lobbying efforts focused on the 100 members of the Senate of the United States since a two thirds vote of that body was required to amend the NATO treaty and enable its expansion.

Special thanks here go to Edward Moskal who was engaged in the expansion effort for seven full years. I will never forget how he electrified that January 5, 1994, meeting! And to President Clinton — a Chief Executive who listened. And who acted.

One last personal memory. In early 1998, I had the chance to work with Ryszard Sarkowicz, Poland's Consul General in Chicago, and with members of the Wisconsin state legislature to win a joint resolution in support of NATO expansion. Did that vote mean much? Well, on April 30, 1998, both of our U.S. Senators, Herb Kohl and Russell Feingold voted for NATO expansion. The Senate vote was 80-19. And in the fourteen states where the Polish American Congress was most active, the vote was 26-2 for NATO enlargement. Obviously, lots of other folks were doing similar things around the country.

Today we look back with pride at this singularly great achievement. Three countries whose citizens had courageously ended Soviet domination and without violence had joined NATO — ten long years after the extraordinary events of 1989.

NATO expansion represented a victory for peace, progress, solidarity, and national security, one that began a process of NATO expansion that today unites the citizens of thirty-two very diverse countries around the principle of collective self defense. NATO is the shield defending the lives and hopes of 950 million people in Europe and in North America.

Kudos

Ewa Barczyk chaired a discussion session on the publication *Footprints of Polonia* at the "A Day of Dialogue: Polish American Historical Association Symposium" at the Chicago History Museum in Chicago, IL, in March.

M. B. Biskupski published *Prezydent Woodrow Wilson a odrodzenie państwa polskiego (1914-1918)* (Warsaw: Wydawnictwo Neriton, 2023), ISBN: 978-8397031944.

Vincent Chesney completed a term of two years as a Director at Large on the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) national board and has been elected to the presidential track. Be-

ginning in July and advancing each of the next four years, he will hold the positions of Vice President, President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President.

Silvia G. Dapia moderated a session at the XLIV International Congress of Latin American Literature held at the National and Kapodistrian University in Athens, Greece, where she also made a presentation on the work of León Rozitchner ("Cuerpo, Compasión y Transindividualidad en la obra de León Rozitchner; "Body, Compassion, and Transindividuality in León Rozitchner's Work). She gave

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Kudos

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a paper on the “(Un)translatability of Indigenous Languages: Borges’s Perspective” at the 42st International Congress of the Association of Spanish Professionals in America, at the University of Oviedo, Spain. She was invited to join the International Advisory Board for the Research Project “Imaginamics: Practices and Dynamics of Social Imagining” organized by the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena in Germany. As member of the Board, she participated in a conference in Jena in December 2023 and a second conference in March 2024. Her research topic is “Affective Imaginaries in the ‘Age of Reason’: Simón Rodríguez and the Politics of Compassion.”

Anna Frajlich had her poem “Co piszą o tym?” translated into French as “Qu’en dit-on ?” by Alice-Catherine Carls. A discussion of her *Szyborska: poeta poetów* was held at the PIASA headquarters in New York in March.

Anna D. Jaroszyńska-Kirchmann co-presented a Zoom presentation on the new book *Polish American Voices A Documentary History, 1608–2020* (Abingdon-on-Thames, UK: Routledge, 2023) for the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City.

Eva Jędruch read a paper on “Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz (1758- 1841)” at the 75th Conference of the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions in Rome, Italy. She also made a presentation at the Seton Hall University School of Diplomacy on the subject of Ukraine and World War II based on her recently published memoir *Crossing the Bridges*.

Alan Lupack and **Barbara Tepa Lupack** are the curators of *Visualizing Camelot*, a year-long Arthurian exhibition at the University of Rochester in New York that features a variety of events and activities including national and international speakers and an Arthurian film series hosted by the Eastman Museum’s Dryden Theatre. For further information see <http://tinyurl.com/bp7xp9tr>.

Mark Marian Michalski published *Spirit of Capitalism in Poland: A Personal Perspective on Entrepreneurship* (ISBN-13 979-8875945434), a collection of essays and articles discussing the different pathways of market economy in Poland and China as seen through the American prism.

Małgorzata Mizia published *The Architectural Dimension of Culture* (Katowice: Akademia Śląska, 2023).

Dominic A. Pacyga took part in a podcast with Andrew Sola and Tobias Brinkman concerning Polish, Jewish and

East European immigration to Chicago. The podcast is sponsored by Amerikazentrum-Hamburg, a non-partisan, not-for-profit institute dedicated to increasing transatlantic understanding and strengthening transatlantic relations in celebration of the 30-year anniversary of the Chicago-Hamburg Sister-City Partnership. Pacyga also spoke at the Annual Pulaski Day Celebration at the Polish Museum of America in Chicago on March 4 concerning Kościuszko and Pułaski as symbols for American Polonia. On March 16 Pacyga chaired a session during a conference exploring Midwestern Polonias at the Chicago History Museum sponsored by the Polish American Historical Association and The Chicago History Museum. The conference also celebrated the first exhibition on Chicago Polonia in a major Chicago museum, “Back Home Polish Chicago.” Pacyga was the principal researcher for the exhibit which is largely based on his book *American Warsaw: The Rise, Fall, and Rebirth of Polish Chicago* (Chicago; University of Chicago Press, 2019).

John Peters published *Silence, Space and Absence in Conrad’s Works: Western and Non-Western Worlds* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2024) on the Polish/British author Joseph Conrad.

Donald E. Pienkos spoke at the 25th Anniversary gathering honoring the admission of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into NATO held at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri, on March 12.

James S. Pula chaired a session on “Midwest Urban Polonia” at the “A Day of Dialogue: Polish American Historical Association Symposium” at the Chicago History Museum in Chicago, IL, in March. He also co-presented a Zoom presentation on the new book *Polish American Voices A Documentary History, 1608–2020* (Abingdon-on-Thames, UK: Routledge, 2023) for the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City.

Magda Romanska published a translation of Andrzej Wajda’s “Crime and Punishment” in *The Mercurian: A Theatrical Translation Review*, Volume 9, Number 4 (Fall 2023).

Daniel Stone contributed a text panel to “They Left a Legacy,” the current exhibit at Ogniwo, the Polish Museum in Winnipeg. The panel described the contributions of B. B. Dubiński, Manitoba’s first lawyer of Polish descent and President of the Federation of Polish Societies in Canada, a predecessor of the Polish Canadian Congress. He also co-edited *Jewish Life and Times*, Volume

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About the Institute

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10. The collection of essays publishes historical talks presented to the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada where I am Past-President and Chair of the Programs and Exhibits Committee.

Richard I. Suchenski launched a “museum without walls” designed to open new connections between films, art forms, and periods. Polish art and cinema forms a big part of this and there are several forthcoming Exhibitions on Polish filmmakers ranging from directors Krzysztof Zanussi, Lech Majewski, and Jerzy Skolimowski to composer Krzysztof Penderecki to cinematographer Sławomir Idziak. The museum without walls received an award “for cutting-edge creativity and innovation in digital design and development” for “Cascading Style Sheets (for 3D spaces). For further information contact filmseces-sion@gmail.com.

Andrew Targowski was recognized as a Golden Engineer of Warsaw Polytechnique (2023) and Golden Engineer of the 1930s from NOT, the Naczelna Organizacja Techniczna (2024). He published *Informatyka w służbie ludobójstwa, Wstydluwa karta historii firmy IBM* (Warsaw: Wydawnictwo CAPITAL, 2023) and provided two interviews for Dr. Maciej Kawecki which attracted more than 800,000 viewers on YouTube.

Ewa Thompson's *Imperial Knowledge: Russian Literature and Colonialism* was published in Ukrainian translation in Kyiv in 2023. She gave a lecture on “Polish History and Hope for the West” for the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, Austria, that is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4cU7B26WcY>. Additionally, she wrote the preface to the English edition of Paweł Włodkowic's *Writings* (Warsaw: Teologia Polityczna Press, 2023).

Dariusz Tolczyk's book, *Blissful Blindness: Soviet Crimes under Western Eyes*, was published by Indiana University Press in September 2023.

Jolanta Wrobel-Best gave a talk on the volume *Wheels of Change: Feminist Transgressions in Polish Culture and Society* (2021) during the 2023 Faculty Fall Research Symposium at the University of Houston Downtown in Houston, Texas.

Please send future achievements to the editor at jpula@pnw.edu

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