

CURRICULUM VITAE

Margaret Hiebert Beissinger

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1984 Harvard University
 Committee on Romanian and South Slavic Folklore and Mythology
 (supervised by Albert B. Lord)
A.B. 1976 Harvard College
 Committee on Degrees in Folklore and Mythology (*Magna cum laude*)

TEACHING POSITIONS

Princeton University: Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
 2006- Research Scholar & Lecturer

University of Wisconsin-Madison: Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, Folklore Program
 2002-06 Associate Professor
 1999-2002 Assistant Professor
 1993-99 Lecturer
 1989-93 Visiting Assistant Professor

Harvard University: Slavic, Comparative Literature, Romance Language Departments; Committee on
 Degrees in Folklore and Mythology
 1984-88 Teaching Assistant, Non-Resident Tutor--Folklore & Mythology (Lowell House)
 1978-84 Teaching Fellow, Non-Resident Tutor--Folklore & Mythology (Lowell House)

BOOKS

Epic Traditions in the Contemporary World: The Poetics of Community, co-edited with Jane
Tylus & Susanne Wofford. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999.

The Art of the Lăutar: The Epic Tradition of Romania. New York: Garland Publishing, 1991.

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS AND BOOKS

- “Why Does Epic Survive? A Comparison of Balkan Oral Traditions” in *Balkan Epic: Song, History, Modernity*, ed. Philip Bohlman, Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2011, 55-82 (at press).
- “Court Poetry, Village Verse: Romanian Oral Epic in the Medieval World” in *Medieval Oral Literature*, ed. Karl Reichl, NY, Berlin: de Gruyter Publishing Co., 2011, 386-408 (at press).
- “Interlocking Oral Narrative Patterns in South Slavic Traditional Song: A Comparative Reading of ‘Banović Strahinja’” in *A Festschrift in Honor of Valtazar Bogišić*, ed. Damjan Rehm Bogunović & Luka Breneselović. Belgrade: Institut za uporedno pravo, 2011 (at press).
- “Oral Poetry” in *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4th ed., Princeton: Princeton University Press (at press), 2011 (at press).
- “Romani (Gypsy) Poetry” in *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4th ed. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2011 (at press).
- “The Study of American Folklore: A Brief History of Research and Fieldwork” in *Terensko istraživanje folklor – leksikon*, ed. Sonja Petrović. Belgrade: Filološki Fakultet, 2011 (at press).
- “History and the Making of South Slavic Epic” in *Sheffield Studies in Aegean Archaeology: Homer and Archaeology*, ed. John Bennet & Paul Halstead, Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2011 (at press).
- “Romani Song and the Discourse of Enemies: Rivalry, Privilege, and Prestige in Romanian *Manele*” in *Gypsies*, ed. Özgen Yildirim, Istanbul: Artes Publications, 2011 (at press).
- “Schimbarea identităților în România postcomunistă: convertirea la penticostalism în rândurile lăutarilor romi” in *Spectrum. Cercetări sociale despre romi*, ed. Toma Stefánia & Fosztó László. Cluj-Napoca: Editura Institutului pentru Studiarea Problemelor Minorităților Naționale, 2010, 267-80.
- “*Muzica Orientală*: Identity and Popular Culture in Post-Communist Romania” in *Balkan Popular Culture and the Ottoman Ecumene: Music, Image, and Regional Political Discourses*, ed. Donna A. Buchanan. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2007, 95-141.
- “Roma” in *Encyclopedia of World Folklore and Folklife*, Vol. 3, ed. William M. Clements. Westport, CT: The Greenwood Press, 2006, 395-408.
- “Rituri de trecere și povestit oral în epica românească și în *Noul Testament* [Rites of passage and oral story-telling in the Romanian epic and the *New Testament*],” *Cercetări Etnologice Românești Contemporane: Revista de Etnologie*, Vol. II, Nr. 1, 2006, 13-30.
- “Romani (Gypsy) Music-Making at Weddings in Post-Communist Romania: Political Transitions and Cultural Adaptations,” *Folklorica: Journal of the Slavic and East European Folklore Association*, Vol. X, No. 1, Spring 2005, 39-51.

- "The Performance of 'Oriental Music' in Contemporary Romania," *Ethnic Identities in Dynamic Perspective*, ed. Sheila Salo & Csaba Prónai. Budapest: Gondalat Ethnic and National Minority Research Institute of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, 2003, 229-36.
- "Rites of Passage and Oral Storytelling in Balkan Epic and the *New Testament*," *Oral Tradition*, Vol. 17, No. 2, Fall 2002, 236-58.
- "Gender and Power in the Balkan Return Song," *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 45, No. 3, Fall 2001, 403-30.
- "Occupation and Ethnicity: Constructing Identity Among Romani (Gypsy) Musicians in Romania," *Slavic Review*, Vol. 60, No. 1, Spring 2001, 24-49.
- "European-American Music: Romanian" in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, ed. Stanley Sadie. Vol. 26. London: Macmillan Publishers, 2001, 104-06.
- "Teaching South Slavic Languages: A Survey of Textbooks and Reference Works" in *The Learning and Teaching of Slavic Languages and Cultures*, ed. Olga Kagan & Benjamin Rifkin. Bloomington: Slavica Publishing, 2000, 609-26.
- "Creativity in Performance: Words and Music in Balkan and Old French Epic" in *The Oral Epic: Performance and Music*, ed. Karl Reichl. Vol. 12, Intercultural Music Studies, ed. Max Peter Baumann. Berlin: Verlag für Wissenschaft und Bildung, 2000, 95-113.
- "Caragiale, Ion Luca (1851-1912)," 119; "Croatian Literature to 1918," 172-73; "Eminescu, Mihai (1850-89)," 257-58; "Serbian Literature to 1918," 724-25; "Serbo-Croatian Language," 725; "Yugoslav Literature," 896-97. in *Encyclopedia of Eastern Europe from the Congress of Vienna to the Fall of Communism*, ed. Richard Frucht. New York: Garland Publishing, 2000.
- "Epic, Gender, and Nationalism: The Development of 19th-Century Balkan Literature" in *Epic Traditions in the Contemporary World: The Poetics of Community*, ed. Margaret Beissinger, Jane Tylus, & Susanne Wofford. Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1999, 69-86.
- "Introduction" coauthored with Jane Tylus & Susanne Wofford in *Epic Traditions and the Contemporary World*, 1-17.
- "Balkan Folklore and Literature" in *Folklore and Literature: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Mary Ellen Brown & Bruce A. Rosenberg. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 1998, 42-46.
- "Text and Music in Romanian Oral Epic," *Oral Tradition*, Vol. 3, No. 3, October 1988, 294-314.
- "Couplets and Clusters as Compositional Devices in Romanian Oral Traditional Narrative Songs," *Études et Documents Balkaniques et Méditerranéens*, Vol. 10, 1986, 1-20.
- "Formulaic Systems in Romanian Epic Poetry," *Cahiers roumains d'études littéraires*, No.1, 1984, 51-59.
- "The Romanian Epic Song and Ballad," *Miorița: A Journal of Romanian Studies*, Vol. 7, 1981, 121-28.

"Aspects of Peasant Life in the Poetry of George Coșbuc," *Yearbook of Romanian Studies: Publication of the Romanian Studies Association of America*, Vol. 4, 1979, 8-22.

REPORTS, PUBLICATIONS IN NEWSLETTERS, OBITUARIES, etc.

"Graduate Student Forum," *AATSEEL Newsletter*, Vol. 53, Issue 1, Feb. 2010, 15-16.

"Graduate Student Forum," *AATSEEL Newsletter*, Vol. 51, Issue 1, Feb. 2008, 15.

"Amintiri duiioase despre Mihai Pop [Fond Memories of Mihai Pop]," *Adevărul*, Anul X, No. 566, 25 Sept. 2001, 6.

"Outreach and the Arts: Integrating Folklore and Music from the Slavic World," coauthored with Steven Duke, *Communiqué*, Vol. 10, No. 2, Fall 2001, 28.

"Report on the Balkan Summer Seminar, June 1999 in *Slavic and East European Folklore Association Journal*, Vol. 4, No. 2, Fall 1999, 25-26.

"Recent Books: Romanian Folklore," *Slavic and East European Folklore Association Journal*, Vol. 3, No. 1, Winter 1998, 21-24.

"Recent Books on Serbian Folklore," *Slavic and East European Folklore Association Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 2, Fall 1997, 34-37.

"Ancheta internațională REF: Dece studiez folclorul azi?" *Revista de folclor și etnografie*, Vol. 41, No. 3-4, 1996, 296-97.

"Trends and Events in International Folkloristics: Folklore in Romania and Moldova," *American Folklore Society News*, Vol. 22, No. 2, April 1993, 3-5.

"In Memoriam: Albert Bates Lord (1912-1991)," *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 36, No. 4, 1992, 533-36.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Transgression, Shame, and the Upholding of Traditional Society: Incest in Balkan Oral Epic" *Proceedings for Singers and Tales Conference*, Harvard Univ., Dec. 2010 (under review).

"*Oriental Music*" in *Romanian Society*, coed. with Anca Giurchescu, Speranța Rădulescu, & Victor Stoichiță (collection of essays on the Balkan-pop song-dance genre "*manea*" in Romania; contributing co-editor—organizational stage; expected completion 2011)

"The '*Manea*' at Village Weddings in Southern Romania: How Rural Romani Musicians Adapt to an Urban Genre" in "*Oriental Music*" in *Romanian Society*, ed. Speranța Rădulescu et al. (writing stage; expected completion 2011)

"Born-Again Romani Musicians: Pentecostal Faith and Shifting Identities in Post-Communist Romania," (revision stage; expected completion 2011)

Culture and Performance among Romanian Gypsy Musicians (a study of Romanian Gypsy musician families, their worlds, and repertoires; based on extensive fieldwork--writing stage; expected completion 2012)

Words in Performance: The Milman Parry Collection and its Reception in the World (proceedings of a conference on Balkan oral epic in Tuzla, Bosnia, July 2008, coed. with Aida Vidan; contributing co-editor; organizational stage; expected completion 2011)

How Narrative and Performance Overlap: Traditional Banquets in Balkan Oral Epic” in *Return of the Song: The Milman Parry Collection and its Reception in the World* (revision stage; expected completion 2011)

Article on linguistic usage among Romanian traditional musicians (*lăutari*) in southern Romania in volume edited by Biljana Sikimić & Biljana Golubović, *Roma without Romani: Language Shift—Identity Shift* (research stage; expected completion 2013)

“Fate, Free Will, and Imagined Gypsy Identities: Literary Depictions of Romani Women by Pushkin, Stanković, and Voiculescu” (a reading of fictional representations of Romani women—revision stage; expected completion 2013)

HONORS

2002-04 Vilas Associates Research Program Award, Graduate School, Univ. of Wisconsin

2001 Contributor of article in volume that earned the 2001 AATSEEL Book Prize for the "Best Contribution to Language Pedagogy" (*The Learning and Teaching of Slavic Languages and Cultures*, ed. Olga Kagan & Benjamin Rifkin)

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2010 Stanley J. Seeger Fellowship; Program in Hellenic Studies, Princeton University; Athens, Thessaloniki, Greece; May 2010

2005 National Council for Eurasian and East European Research Title VIII Short-Term Travel Grant

2001 Wisconsin Humanities Council Mini-Grant for Teacher-Training Workshop "Folklore of Homelands and Diasporas: The Slavic and East European World" (June 2001)

1999-2000 Visiting Scholar: Committee on Degrees in Folklore and Mythology, Harvard University

1998 International Research and Exchanges Board: Short-Term Travel Grant to Eastern Europe

1989 International Research and Exchanges Board: Grant for Slavonic Studies Seminar—Bulgarian Kliment Ohridski Univ., Sofia)

1988-89 American Council of Learned Societies: Post Doctoral Fellowship in East European Studies

- 1985 & 1987 International Research and Exchanges Board: Research Exchange with Eastern Europe
- 1981-83 National Resource Fellowship
- 1979-80 Fulbright-Hays DHEW Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant concomitantly with International Research and Exchanges Board: Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant (Romania)
- 1977 Full tuition scholarship: School of Slavic Studies Serbo-Croatian Language Summer Course (University of Zagreb)
- 1975 Josephine L. Murray Traveling Fellowship from Radcliffe College for Romanian Language Summer Course (Braşov)

BOOK REVIEWS

- Gilad Margalit, *Germany and its Gypsies: A Post-Auschwitz Ordeal* in *Monatshefte für deutschsprachige Literatur und Kultur*, Vol. 97, No. 1, Spring 2005, 148-50.
- Radmila J. Gorup & Bogdan Rakić, ed., *In a Foreign Harbor: Essays in Honor of Vasa D. Mihailovich* in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 48, No. 1, Spring, 2004, 121-22.
- Alaina Lemon, *Between Two Fires: Gypsy Performance and Romani Memory from Pushkin to Post-socialism* in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 46, No. 3, Fall, 2002, 632-33.
- John Miles Foley, *Teaching Oral Traditions* in *Journal of American Folklore*, Vol. 114, No. 454, Fall 2001, 495-96.
- Martha Forsyth, *Listen, Daughter, and Remember Well. . . The Songs and Life of Linka Gekova Gergova from the Village of Bistritsa (Sofia)* in *Slavic and East European Folklore Association Journal*, Vol. V, No. 2, Fall 2000, 60-61.
- Zdenko Zlatar, *The Slavic Epic: Gundulić's Osman* in *Ethnologies: Regionalisms and Ethnicities*, Vol. 21, No. 1, 1999, 271-74.
- Irén Kertész-Wilkinson, *The Fair is Ahead of Me: Creativity and Social Context in a Hungarian Vlach Gypsy Song* in *Romani Studies* 5, Vol. 9, No. 2, August 1999, 141-43.
- Mark Slobin, ed., *Retuning Culture: Musical Changes in Central and Eastern Europe* in *Slavic and East European Folklore Association Journal*, Vol. 3, No. 2, Fall 1998, 38-42.
- Albert Bates Lord, *The Singer Resumes the Tale*, ed. Mary Louise Lord in *Journal of American Folklore*, Vol. 110, No. 436, Spring 1997, 212-14.
- Michael Branch & Celia Hawkesworth, ed., *The Uses of Tradition: A Comparative Enquiry into the Nature, Uses and Functions of Oral Poetry in the Balkans, the Baltic, and Africa* in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 40, No. 4, Winter 1996, 745-46.
- Francelia Mason Clark, *Theme in Oral Epic and Beowulf* in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 40, No. 3, Fall 1996, 551-52.

- David Bynum et al., *Serbo-Croatian Heroic Poems: Epics from Bihać, Cazin, and Kulen Vakuf* in *Slavic and East European Journal*, Vol. 39, No. 1, Spring 1995, 151-53.
- Sabina Ispas & Doina Truța, *Lirica de dragoste* in *Journal of American Folklore*, Vol. 106, No. 420, Spring 1993, 236-37.
- Tatyana Popović, *Prince Marko: The Hero of South Slavic Epics* in *The Sixteenth Century Journal*, Vol. 20, No. 4, 1989, 657.
- Gail Kligman, *The Wedding of the Dead* in *Journal of American Folklore*, Vol. 102, No. 405, July-September 1989, 351-53.
- Nicolae Constantinescu, *Lectura textului folcloric* in *Journal of American Folklore*, Vol. 101, No. 401, July-September 1988, 362-63.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- “Evangelical Faith and Shifting Identities among Romani Musicians in Post-Communist Romania,” Inaugural Conference in Romani Studies, University of California-Berkeley, Nov. 2011.
- “*Manele* at Village Weddings in Romania: How Rural Musicians Adapt to an Urban Romani Genre,” Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting, Graz, Austria, Sept. 2011.
- "Transgression, Shame, and the Upholding of Traditional Society: Incest in Balkan Oral Epic," Conference: Singers and Tales, Harvard Univ., Cambridge, Dec. 2010.
- “Power, Prestige, and the Discourse of Enemies in Contemporary Romanian Romani Song,” Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Sept. 2010.
- "Born-Again Romani Musicians: Pentecostal Faith and Shifting Identities among Roma in Post-Communist Romania," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Boston, Nov. 2009.
- “Traditional Banquets in Balkan Oral Epic: How Narrative and Performance Overlap,” Conference: Return of the Song: The Milman Parry Collection and its Reception in the World, Tuzla, Bosnia, July 2008.
- “Mothers, Mistresses, and the Quest for Meaning: A Gendered Reading of *The Return of Philip Latinovicz*, [by Miroslav Krleža],” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, New Orleans, Nov. 2007.
- "Romani (Gypsy) Women in Twentieth-Century Balkan Literature,” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Washington, D.C., Nov. 2006.
- “Teaching Slavic Folklore for General Education,” Roundtable at Annual Meeting of the American Association for Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages, Philadelphia, PA, Dec. 2004.
- "Song Performance among Balkan Romani Musicians," Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, Dec. 2004.

- “Political Transitions and Cultural Adaptations: Romani Music-Making in Post-Communist Romania,” American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Boston, Dec. 2004.
- “Romani Music-Making and Traditional Weddings in Post-Communist Romania,” Annual Meeting, American Folklore Society, Salt Lake City, UT, Oct. 2004.
- “Why Does Epic Survive? A Comparison of Balkan Oral Traditions,” Conference on Balkan Epic: Song, History, Modernity, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Feb. 2004.
- “Crisis in the Profession: The Plight of Traditional Romani Musicians in Post-Communist Romania,” Annual Meeting, American Folklore Society, Albuquerque, NM, Oct. 2003.
- “Occupational Crises among Traditional Romani Musicians in Contemporary Romania,” Annual Meeting, Gypsy Lore Society, Ann Arbor, MI, May 2003.
- "'Foreign' Music, 'Vulgar' Lyrics: Controversial Cultural Symbols in Romania," American Assoc. for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Nat'l Convention, Pittsburgh, Nov. 2002.
- "Initiation and the Hero in Balkan Oral Epic," 13th Biennial Conference on Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics, Literature, and Folklore, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, April 2002.
- "Gender and Power in the Balkan Return Song," Wisconsin Chapter of American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Annual Meeting, Madison, Oct. 2001.
- "Oriental Music: Identity and Popular Culture in Post-Communist Romania," Annual Meeting, American Folklore Society, Columbus, OH, Oct. 2000.
- "Occupation and Ethnicity: Constructing Identity Among Professional Romani Musicians in Romania," Annual Meeting, Gypsy Lore Society, Washington, D.C., Aug. 2000.
- "Performance and Repertoire among Balkan Romani Village Musicians," Annual Meeting, Gypsy Lore Society, New York, March 1996.
- "Folklore, Gender, and Nationalism: The Development of Nineteenth Century Balkan Literature," Annual Meeting, American Folklore Society, Milwaukee, Oct. 1994.
- "Comparative South Slavic and Romanian Epic," New England Slavic Association Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA, April 1994.
- "Balkan Women and the Poetry of Life-Cycle Ritual," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Honolulu, Nov. 1993.
- "Creativity vs. Formula in Epic Poetry: An Analysis of Balkan Examples," Wisconsin Chapter of American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Annual Meeting, Madison, April 1991.
- "Common Themes in Balkan Epic," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Chicago, Nov. 1989.

- "Narrative Construction in Balkan Epic," Annual Meeting, Amer. Folklore Soc., Philadelphia, Oct. 1989.
- "Balkan Traditional Singers as Non-Mainstream Figures," Annual Meeting, American Folklore Society, Cambridge, MA, Oct. 1988.
- "Text and Music in Romanian Oral Traditional Epic," Conference on Balkan and South Slavic Linguistics, Literature, and Folklore, Univ. of Chicago, March 1988 (also Harvard Univ., May 1988 and Univ. of Wisconsin, Nov. 1988).
- "Compositional Techniques in Romanian Ritual Poetry," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, New Orleans, Nov. 1986.
- "Elements of Folklore and Literary Technique in the Prose of Ion Creangă," American Teachers of Slavic & E. Eur. Languages Annual Meeting, Wash. DC, Dec. 1984.
- "The Question and Answer Technique: Thematic Composition in Balkan Epic," Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Washington, DC, Dec. 1984.
- "Ritualized Epic Songs in the Traditional Romanian Wedding," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, NY, Oct. 1984.
- "Composition by Theme in the Romanian Epic," Amer. Assoc. for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention, Kansas City, MO, Oct. 1983.
- "Religious Elements in the Prose of Gala Galaction," American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Nat'l Convention, Washington, DC, Oct. 1982.
- "Tudor Arghezi and the Romanian Prose Tradition," Society for Romanian Studies Convention, Chestnut Hill, MA, April 1982.
- "Metrical Problems in Romanian Epic Poetry," Modern Language Association Annual Convention, NY, Dec. 1981.
- "Aspects of Peasant Life in the Poetry of George Coșbuc," Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Chicago, Dec. 1977.

INVITED LECTURES

- "Romani Voices in Post-Yugoslav Music-Making," Symposium on Yugoslavia organized by CREECA-University of Wisconsin-Madison and CEERES-University of Chicago, Madison, WI, April 2011.
- "Born-Again Romani Musicians: Evangelical Faith and Shifting Identities among Roma in Post-Communist Romania," Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities conference: Two Decades of Scholarship: Romani Studies in Romania (1989-2009), Cluj-Napoca, Romania, October, 2009.
- "Traditional Romani (Gypsy) Musicians and Oral Epic in the Balkans: A Comparison of

Performance & Performers,” Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia Lecture Series, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, September 2007.

"Identity and Diversity in Romani (Gypsy) Musical Culture," Keynote address at Madison World Music Festival, Wisconsin Memorial Union, University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Union, Madison, WI, September 2007.

“Kako se uči srpski u Americi: Šta, ko, gde, kad?” Azbukum, Novi Sad, Serbia, September 2007.

“Taditional Romani (Gypsy) Musicians and Oral Epic in the Balkans: A Comparison of Performance and Performers” at public lecture sponsored by Slavic & Folklore Departments, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, March 2007.

“History and the Making of South Slavic Epic” at Sheffield Round Table on Aegean Archaeology: Homer and Archaeology, University of Sheffield), Sheffield, UK, January 2007.

"Romani Musicians as Tradition Bearers: A Comparison of Balkan Oral Poets," Lecture Series on Minorities in the Middle Ages, Englisches Seminar der Universität Bonn, June 2006.

“‘Oriental Music’: Identity and Popular Culture in Post-Communist Romania,” Humanities Center Friday Lunch Program, Univ. of Wisc.-Madison, March 2004.

"Occupation and Ethnicity: Constructing Identity Among Professional Romani Musicians in Romania,” Five College Faculty Seminar in Folklore, Amherst College, Amherst, MA, April 2000; Southeast European Study Group, Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA, Feb. 2000.

“Balkan Folk Traditions, Life-style, and Customs" at "Summer School: The Bright Side of the Balkans," 7-26 June 1999, Institute for Sociological, Political, & Juridical Research, Ohrid, Macedonia.

"Epic Traditions in the Contemporary World," 12 Feb. 1999, UW Comparative Literature Student Organization Spring Lecture Series, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"Creativity in Performance: Text and Music in Balkan Epic" at international conference on "The Oral Epic: Performance and Music," Sept. 1997, Englisches Seminar der Universität Bonn, Bonn, Germany.

"Journeys to a Faraway Land: Death and Wedding in the Slavic and East European World," Alumni Univ. presentation, June 1995, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison.

"South Slavic Epic: Women and the Return Song," NEH Summer Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison: "Telling Tales"--June-July, 1994.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal of Balkan Policy Research, Editorial Board, 2011-

Constelații Diamantine, League of Romanian Writers, Honorary Associate Editor, 2010-

Society for Romanian Studies, Chair of First Biennial SRS Book Prize Committee 2010-2012

Slavic and East European Folklore Association (SEEFa), Vice President, 2009-11, 2001-07

Southeast European Studies Association, Board Member, 2006-10, 2002-04; Vice President, 2004-08

Gypsy Lore Society Young Scholar's Essay Prize. Member of selection committee, 2010, 2009, 2005

Gypsy Lore Society, Board of Directors, 2009-, 1998-2004

University of Southern California (in conjunction with AAASS/ASEEES) Book Prize in Literary and Cultural Studies, Member of selection committee, 2009-11

Journal for Comparative Research in Anthropology and Sociology (Bucharest), Member, Advisory Board, 2009-

Society for Romanian Studies Graduate Student Essay Prize, Chair, selection committee 2009-2010

American Councils for International Education, ACTR/ ACCELS Title VIII Funding, Outside Reader, 2009

Women Navigating Academia Roundtable organizer: (AAASS National Convention, Boston, 2009)

Society for Romanian Studies, Board Member, 2006-09, 1994-95, 1987-88

The American Research Center in Sofia, Member of Managing Committee, 2008-

AATSEEL Newsletter, Board member of Graduate Forum, 2008-

Association for Women in Slavic Studies (of the AAASS), Past President 2009-10; President, 2007-08; Vice President, 2005-06

Modern Language Association, Representative, Delegate Assembly of the Section on Lesser Taught Languages, 2005-07

Association for the Study of Nationalities, Editorial Board, *Nationalities Papers*, 1998-2007

Editorial Board, *Slavic and East European Folklore Association Journal*, 1999-2005
 Founding Member, 1995-

East European Meetings in Ethnomusicology, Editorial Board, 1999-2003

International Research & Exchanges Board, Serbo-Croatian language evaluator, 2002

The Learning and Teaching of Slavic Languages, ed. O. Kagan & B. Rifkin, Editorial Board (1998-2000)

Slavic and East European Section of the American Folklore Society, President, 1988-89

Associate Member, Folklore Fellows, 1993

Jewish Language Review, Advisory Council, 1987-93

National Endowment for the Humanities, Translations Program; Collaborative Research Program,
Reviewer, 1995

U. S. Department of Education, Consultant, 1985, 1992

Professional translating, private tutoring: Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Romanian, 1976-

COURSE OFFERINGS

Folklore, Literature, and Culture

Narratives of Identity in the “Other Europe”: Reading Culture in the Balkans
Comparative Balkan & E. European Oral Traditions (Slavic & E. European Folklore)
Romani (Gypsy) Culture of Russia and East Europe
Comparative Oral Epic
The Folktale
Introduction to Folklore
Romani (Gypsy) Folklore
Balkan Literatures
Images of the Gypsy in Literature
Orality and Literature

Languages

Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian—all levels
Romanian—all levels
Bulgarian—beginning & intermediate