
ANI KOKOBOBO

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Leadership Profile

Experienced academic leader with a demonstrated record of institutional transformation at a Carnegie R1 university. Currently serving as Dean of the largest and most diverse college at UL Lafayette, I provide strategic and operational leadership for a \$21.6M+ budget, 300+ faculty, 2,600 students, and more than 2,000 course sections annually. My work centers on advancing faculty development, expanding research and external funding, strengthening student success and workforce pathways, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, driving enrollment growth, and deepening public engagement. My leadership philosophy is grounded in strategic collaboration, equity, and the integration of the liberal arts into the core mission of 21st-century higher education. I am also a nationally recognized scholar of Russian literature and gender studies, with a sustained record of public intellectual engagement beyond the academy.

Selected Areas of Expertise

- Budget and Resource management
 - Fundraising and Donor Relations
 - Program evaluation
 - Faculty Development
 - Interdisciplinary Collaboration
 - Community and Corporate Partnerships
 - Policy development
 - Enrollment Growth and Student Success
 - Curriculum design
 - Strategic Planning
 - Shared Governance
 - Research Development
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Education and Training

Ph.D. (Russian Literature) Columbia University	2011 New York, NY
B.A. (Russian Literature and Classical Studies) Dartmouth College	2005 Hanover, NH

Executive Leadership Development

Higher Education Resource Services HERS Leadership Institute	Summer 2024 Denver, CO
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Leadership Experience

Dean, College of Liberal Arts, University of Louisiana at Lafayette	2024-present Lafayette, LA
Chair, Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas	2019-2024 Lawrence, KS
University Senate President and President-Elect University Governance, University of Kansas	2021-2023 Lawrence, KS
Interim Director, Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas	Fall 2020 Lawrence, KS

Director of Graduate Studies, Slavic Languages and Literatures College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas	2015-2019 Lawrence, KS
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Slavic Languages and Literatures College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Kansas	Spring 2011, Spring 2013 Lawrence, KS

National Leadership

Vice President Association of American Teachers of Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Languages	2020-23
Chair, Committee for the Advocacy of Diversity and Inclusion Association for the Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies	2020-2021

Faculty Appointments

Professor, Modern Languages University of Louisiana at Lafayette	August 2024-present
Professor, Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies University of Kansas	July 2023-August 2024
Associate Professor, Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies University of Kansas	July 2018-July 2023
Assistant Professor, Slavic Languages and Literatures University of Kansas	August 2011-July 2018

Major Accomplishments

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts University of Louisiana at Lafayette	2024 to present Lafayette, LA
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The University of Louisiana at Lafayette (UL Lafayette), a Carnegie R1 public research institution, is the second-largest university in Louisiana with a \$500 million operating budget, \$225 million in annual research expenditures, and more than 19,000 students. As the university's largest academic unit, the College of Liberal Arts comprises more than 300 faculty, over 2,600 students, nine departments, three research centers, 30 undergraduate degree programs, 40 minors, seven master's programs, and three PhD programs. As Dean, I provide strategic and operational leadership for the College: I manage a combined budgetary portfolio of over \$21.6 million, oversee academic scheduling and policy, and supervise department heads, center directors, and a professional staff of eight. The College generates an estimated \$45 million annually in instructional revenue and the last year faculty secured \$6,733,492 in external research funding (from sources including the NEH, NIH, Department of Labor, and the Bureau of Ocean Management). During my two years as Dean, I raised \$8 million in philanthropic and external funding to advance faculty support, student success, and programmatic growth. I steward the College's mission in direct alignment with the university's R1 designation, expanding research activity by 138%, growing enrollment by 10%, strengthening graduate education, supporting faculty development, fostering interdisciplinary initiatives, and deepening community and industry engagement.

Faculty Development and Support

I prioritize holistic faculty development, building supportive infrastructure across career stages and professional goals, including mentorship, leadership development, and recognition.

- **Faculty Fellows Program:** I designed and implemented an administrative fellowship program to cultivate faculty leadership and align professional development with college priorities. The inaugural 2025-2026 cohort is supporting college-wide strategic initiatives in policy development and faculty mentoring networks, research development, and public outreach on the value of liberal arts.
- **Faculty Elevate Series:** In Fall 2024 I launched an ongoing professional development series supporting early- and mid-career College of Liberal Arts faculty in areas such as academic publishing, responsible AI integration in research and teaching, and AI policies.
- **Recognition of Faculty Achievement:** In Spring 2025 I established the annual Dean's Excellence in Liberal Arts Awards to honor faculty excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service.
- **Mentorship and Community-Building:** I oversaw the development of a college-wide mentoring network with cross-departmental mentor assignments for tenure-track and non-tenure-track faculty, reshaping mentoring from an informal practice into a strategic, equity-driven system that supports long-term career advancement across all faculty ranks.

Student Success & Support

I introduced initiatives to promote student success and retention, while also ensuring ongoing engagement with the student body.

- **Student Peer Mentoring Program:** Directed the implementation of an early-intervention peer mentoring program coordinated by Assistant Deans, to provide targeted support for students identified for early academic intervention.
- **Kathy Ashworth Community-Engaged Internship:** Through a donor gift, I created a two-semester internship pathway program for sophomores to learn about community-engagement in a seminar-setting and work 100 hours with community organizations.
- **Common Book Program:** I supervised the introduction of a common book initiative to foster a college-wide intellectual culture and create connections across students, faculty, and the broader community; the inaugural (2025-2026) selection was *Ernest J. Gaines' book: A Lesson Before Dying*.
- **Established a Student Advisory Committee** with student ambassadors representing each academic department, providing a formal mechanism for student input, leadership development, and peer-to-peer engagement.
- **Global Career Accelerator:** In partnership with Podium Education, I oversaw the launch of the Global Career Accelerator. GCA gives students virtual, hands-on experience working with world-class brands like L'Oréal, OpenAI, charity: water, The Grammys, and more. Students also participate in early talent competitions with top companies like Lyft and Wells Fargo, while building career-readiness skills.

Research Growth & Visibility

To strengthen the College's research culture and visibility, I led initiatives that promote external funding, interdisciplinary collaboration, and public scholarship.

- **138% Increase in Grant Applications:** Spearheaded a strategic push to expand external research funding activity across departments, resulting in a 138% increase in grant submissions across departments within a single year.
- **IGNITE Grant Development Program:** I designed *IGNITE* (Interdisciplinary Growth and Networking Initiative for Transformative Engagement) which is being implemented by a Faculty Fellow to expand research capacity, foster community-connected scholarship, and increase external funding success. Intended as a collaborative incubator, the program has 31 faculty participants this year, split across three research working groups: Communication, Education, Health, and Justice; Culture, Heritage, and Memory; and Medievalism and Historical Reception.
- **COLA Intersections Lecture Series:** Founded and launched the *COLA Intersections Lecture Series* in 2024–25 to spotlight interdisciplinary faculty research, cultivate intellectual community, and elevate the visibility of liberal arts scholarship both on campus and beyond.

- **Research-Intensive Semester Initiative:** I led the college-wide adoption of a Research-Intensive Semester (RIS) program to support faculty research by providing a semester free of teaching obligations.

Academic Program Expansion & Enrollment

With a strategic focus on enrollment growth, workforce relevance, and mission-aligned program innovation, I led and supported the expansion of undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral offerings. These efforts emphasize online access, accelerated pathways, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

- **10% enrollment growth** achieved across the College since 2024, reflecting the cumulative impact of targeted program development, modality expansion, and strategic recruitment.
- **New and Proposed Programs:**
 - Online BA in Sociology
 - Online BA in Criminal Justice
 - Online BA in Psychology
 - Concentration in Social Work
 - Master of Social Work (MSW)
 - PhD in Public and Social Policy
 - Interdisciplinary Minor in Artificial Intelligence
 - Accelerated (4+1) BA/MA in Technical Writing, French and Francophone Studies, Communication, and Criminal Justice
 - Post-Baccalaureate Program in Speech-Language Pathology-Assistant Training
 - BA and PhD in Public Humanities (proposal stage)

Inclusion & Belonging

I led intentional, mission-driven efforts to build a more inclusive and affirming academic environment, with attention to supporting underrepresented and LGBTQ+ students across the College and University.

- **Support for LGBTQ+ Students:** Established both physical and intellectual space for the student group *GLASS* (Giving Love, Acceptance, Safety, and Support), integrating them into college programming and ensuring greater visibility and belonging within the academic community.
- **Scholarship for Gender and Sexuality Studies:** Partnered with a private donor to create a dedicated scholarship for students pursuing the Gender and Sexuality Studies minor, affirming our commitment to equity in academic opportunity.
- **MOSAIC Initiative:** Founded *MOSAIC* (Mission-Oriented Strategies for Advancement, Innovation, and Collaboration), a college-wide task force of faculty and staff focused on advancing inclusive policies, fostering dialogue, and strengthening a culture of belonging throughout the college.
- **Grant-Funded Expansion of the Southwest Louisiana LGBTQ+ Archive:** I wrote the grant proposal to expand the Southwest Louisiana LGBTQ+ Archive. With the help of a Mellon Foundation Officer's Grant, we will fund digitization, faculty fellow positions, memory workshops with the community, graduate student funding lines, and public humanities undergraduate student internships.

Policy and Procedure Innovation

I led strategic initiatives to enhance faculty governance, institutional transparency, and public engagement. Through innovative policy design and cross-campus collaboration, I have created sustainable infrastructure to support data-informed planning, faculty development, and community connection.

- **College-wide Strategic Planning:** Led the development and implementation of a comprehensive, college-wide strategic plan aligned with the University's R1 goals. The strategic planning process emphasized data-informed decision-making, broad community participation, and clear alignment between academic priorities, resource allocation, research growth, and student success. The resulting framework will guide annual planning, budget decisions, and program development across the College.
- **Faculty Handbook Development:** Under my leadership, the college is developing its first Faculty Handbook, containing policies, resources, and other information to support faculty at all stages of their

careers. The handbook also aligns with the University's R1 designation, clarifying workload expectations, tenure and promotion criteria, and departmental governance.

- **University AI Guidance:** In partnership with deans of Nursing and Engineering, I authored a university-level [*Generative AI in the Classroom Guidance*](#) to support the university-wide policies regarding artificial intelligence in the classroom. The document provides practical, principles-based recommendations aligned with national standards.
- **Departmental Annual Reports:** I streamlined a college-wide annual reporting system for academic departments to enhance strategic planning, data-driven decision-making, and accountability. The new format captures key metrics on faculty productivity, student outcomes, and program initiatives.

Budgetary Leadership and Resource Stewardship

I have successfully managed a \$21.6 million budget during a time of fiscal uncertainty and resource constraints. I have provided proactive and transparent budgetary leadership focused on strategic alignment, regulatory compliance, and institutional sustainability.

- **Long-Term Financial Planning:** Advanced a culture of fiscal responsibility and shared governance by engaging faculty leaders in long-term, data-informed budget planning, aligning financial decisions with the College's academic mission and the University's strategic goals.
- **Strategic Hiring Ahead of Statewide Constraints:** I led fiscal planning to safeguard college operations during statewide budgetary constraints. Through strategic coordination with department heads, I ensured all essential faculty and staff hiring was completed in advance of the 2025 statewide hiring freeze.
- **Resource Prioritization and Allocation:** I oversaw college-wide implementation of strategic hiring priorities aligned with multiple metrics, such as faculty workload, research and new doctoral programs, and enrollment trends and instructional demands.
- **Data-Informed Budget Strategy:** In Fall 2025, I implemented a mandatory, data-informed 5% budget cut of our \$21.6 million budget while preserving core academic and operational functions, through enrollment management and course scheduling, and operational efficiencies.

Fundraising & Resource Development

Through collaborative, mission-aligned efforts, I have expanded the College's philanthropic reach and laid the foundation for long-term resource growth through strategic donor engagement, alumni relations, and corporate partnerships.

- **Raised Over \$8 Million in Philanthropic Support:** Secured significant new funding through personalized donor cultivation, targeted engagement events, and expanded alumni outreach—reflecting growing confidence in the College's vision and impact.
- **High-Impact Fundraising Initiatives and Donor Stewardship:** I partnered with the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs to steward major donors and prospects at key university-wide events, ensuring alignment with institutional priorities and philanthropic potential.
 - **Cocktails and Conversation** donor engagement series for current and prospective supporters.
 - **Liberal Arts Alumni Newsletter** to strengthen alumni connection and visibility.
- **Inaugural Advisory Board for College of Liberal Arts:** I assembled a high-impact advisory structure composed of philanthropic leaders, alumni, and regional partners to strengthen donor strategy, expand external advocacy, and support long-term fundraising and workforce-aligned initiatives for the College.
- **Innovative Corporate Partnerships:** Secured local corporate partnerships with a regional wealth management firm and two law firms to create paid internship opportunities for Liberal Arts students, advancing career readiness while cultivating support for student programs like the Moot Court Team.

Strategic Communication

I have built a transparent, mission-driven communication framework for the College of Liberal Arts that strengthens shared governance, reinforces institutional trust, and connects internal and external stakeholders to the College's mission and strategic direction.

- **State of the College Public Presentation:** I delivered the first annual *State of the College* presentation for the College of Liberal Arts, showcasing faculty accomplishments, student success, strategic goals, and community engagement.
- **COLAB Podcast on KRVS (NPR Affiliate):** I host the [COLAB Podcast](#), a public-facing university-wide faculty podcast where faculty share their expertise with the broader public on public interest topics.
- **Community Conversations:** I lead ongoing community discussions that blend strategic planning, data transparency, and dialogue to foster a consistent channel for stakeholder engagement and collaborative leadership.
- **Celebration of Academic Excellence:** Under my leadership, the Dean's Office organized and successfully hosted the Celebration of Academic Excellence in Liberal Arts, which recognizes student award winners as well as retirees in the college.

Facilities and Technology Enhancements

I provided strategic leadership for facilities and technological updates to enhance faculty and student experience, and ensure sustainable, future-ready infrastructure across the College.

- **College-wide Space Survey:** I supervised the administration of a comprehensive space and facilities survey to evaluate classroom, office, and community area conditions; analyzed results to identify utilization efficiencies, instructional bottlenecks, and priority renovation needs, thus establishing a transparent, evidence-based framework for facilities decision-making.
- **Assembled and Led a Facilities Task Force:** Convened and led a cross-departmental Facilities Task Force to respond to survey findings. Outcomes included refurbishment and modernization of classrooms in Mouton Hall, HVAC replacement in Girard Hall, and a college-wide initiative to deploy digital signage across departments, enhancing campus visibility, event promotion, and messaging consistency.
- **Windows 11 Technology Updates:** I oversaw the process for sunsetting underutilized and outdated computer labs, strategically reinvesting resources to support Windows 11 upgrades and refresh computing environments to better align with current instructional, research, and accessibility needs.

Department Chair
University of Kansas

2019-2024
Lawrence, KS

At the University of Kansas, a flagship R1 institution and member of the AAU, I held leadership roles as Department Chair and University Senate President, driving institutional change through both departmental transformation and university-wide governance and policy work. Operating simultaneously at the unit, college, and university levels, I translated faculty priorities into durable structural reforms that advanced academic excellence. As department chair, I successfully merged two academic departments and worked through shared governance to co-create a merged department during a period of organizational and cultural transition. I led multimillion-dollar budgeting and fundraising efforts, launched innovative interdisciplinary and globally oriented programs, and advanced faculty development while maintaining enrollment growth and financial stability. As Senate President, I served as a principal faculty representative to senior leadership and the Kansas Board of Regents. I shaped policy and strategic planning at the highest levels of university governance, passing twelve policy amendments that directly improved faculty working conditions, student access, and institutional accountability.

Academic Leadership and Administration

I provided strategic academic leadership and operational oversight during a period of organizational transformation.

- Successfully led the merger of two academic departments, aligning curricula, budgets, and governance structures to enhance efficiency and academic coherence while maintaining faculty morale and disciplinary integrity.
- 35% enrollment growth across programs.
- I supervised faculty, graduate students, and staff with a focus on recruitment, professional development, evaluation, and promotion processes across a large, multidisciplinary unit with diverse appointment structures.
- I strategically allocated a multi-million-dollar budget across two academic units, ensuring long-term financial sustainability and supporting growth during periods of enrollment fluctuation and shifting institutional priorities.
- I spearheaded comprehensive revisions to department bylaws and governance systems to support the merged unit and strengthen shared governance practices in alignment with AAU peer benchmarks.
- I founded the Chairs' Council to enhance collaboration, mentorship, and policy dialogue among academic leaders across the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, creating a durable leadership network that continues beyond my term.

Program Development and Curriculum Innovation

Expanded the academic portfolio with globally focused, interdisciplinary, and professionally aligned programming.

- I created new study abroad and experiential learning opportunities, including a German language and internship program and a Slovenia-based program in partnership with the School of Business linking humanities training with professional skill development and global competencies.
- I led the development of new curricular offerings such as an online Peace and Conflict Studies minor and a Translation Certificate program to support career readiness and broaden access to interdisciplinary education.
- I directed the creation of learning outcomes and curriculum maps for BA, MA, and PhD programs to support assessment, accreditation, and strategic planning while improving program coherence and transparency for students.

Fundraising and Financial Stewardship

I generated substantial philanthropic and institutional support while aligning resources with academic priorities, faculty research, and student success.

- By translating faculty and student achievements into compelling fundraising narratives for alumni, foundations, and community partners, I raised over \$2.5 million in private donations to support scholarships, academic programming, and research.
- Through rapid-response fundraising and cross-campus coordination, I secured \$200,000 in institutional aid and \$40,000 in grants from NYU's Scholars at Risk network, to support Ukrainian scholars at risk.
- Leveraged institutional, philanthropic, and community partnerships to bring nine displaced Ukrainian scholars to KU over two academic years, coordinating funding, appointments, housing, and academic integration in collaboration with multiple colleges and administrative units.
- I initiated outreach with the national Max Kade foundations to fund the refurbishment of the Max Kade Foundation Building, enhancing infrastructure and stakeholder engagement and using the new space to host visiting scholars and artists.

Public Scholarship, Civic Engagement, and Institutional Visibility

Amplified the university's public profile by connecting academic expertise to civic dialogue, global issues, and community partnerships.

- I modeled public-facing academic leadership by regularly engaging with the press, in public forums, and through community organizations, reinforcing the value of humanities scholarship in addressing contemporary social and global challenges.
- I organized major campus-wide public programs such as *An Evening with Nadya Tolokonnikova*, drawing attention to global issues of free expression, authoritarianism, and artistic resistance and positioning the university as a hub for public intellectual engagement.

- I founded and facilitated the *Public Scholars Group*, training 55 faculty in public-facing scholarship and supporting the publication of over 40 op-eds in major national outlets. Promoted national faculty visibility by encouraging participation in programs such as the OpEd Project and *Made by History* (Washington Post) and by actively coaching faculty through pitch development and editorial processes, in public-facing work.

University Senate President

University of Kansas

2021-2023

Lawrence, KS

Shared Governance and Policy Reform

As University Senate President, I advanced institutional culture through collaborative governance and structural policy change.

- I successfully advanced and passed twelve university policy amendments, including major revisions to the Employee Dependent Tuition Policy, the creation and passage of an excused absence policy, a compassionate withdrawal policy, and substantive revisions to the university's academic forgiveness policy, all aimed at improving student success.
- Through a final policy change, I restructured the University Senate, bringing equal representation among constituent groups (students, staff, and faculty) while adhering to AAUP guidelines.
- I authored and passed a policy establishing academic support measures for students impacted by significant personal disruption, working collaboratively with Student Affairs, Student Senate, and university leadership to address student wellness through governance channels.
- I co-led the university's institutional response to the COACHE Faculty Satisfaction Survey alongside the Provost and Faculty Senate President, organizing faculty listening sessions across academic units, supervising working groups, and helping craft data-informed recommendations to improve faculty working conditions, morale, and retention.
- I led a Chancellor-appointed task force on institutional transparency and campus culture, facilitating campus-wide visioning and strategic dialogue around shared governance, accountability, and trust.
- I co-led campus-wide visioning and authored KU's "Charter for an Exceptional Learning Community" ([L-RISE Culture Charter](#)), a foundational document that stipulates how faculty, staff, and students live out the university's mission and vision in their day-to-day interactions with one another.
- Maintained regular, large-scale communication with the university community, including open forums, and email updates to over 30,000 faculty, staff, and student addressees.

Publications: Books

Sex, Gender, and Tolstoy. Under contract, Northwestern University Press.

The Tolstoy Marriage – A Literary History. Bloomsbury Press, forthcoming Spring 2026.

Leo Tolstoy, The Power of Dissent, Academic Studies Press, May 2025.

Russian Grottesque Realism: The Great Reforms and Gentry Decline. The Ohio State University Press, 2018; Included in the "Studies of the Harriman Institute" Series, Harriman Institute, Columbia University.

Publications: Edited Volumes and Special Issue Journals

Co-Editor (with Edith Clowes and Gisela Erbsloh) *Russia's Regional Identities: The Power of the Provinces*. Routledge, 2018.

Co-Editor (with Emma Lieber and Michael Denner) *Anna Karenina for the 21st Century*. North American Tolstoy Society, September 2016.

Co-Editor (with Katherine Bowers), *Russian Writers and the Fin-de-Siècle: Twilight of Realism*. Cambridge University Press, June 2015.

Journals Edited

Tolstoy Studies Journal, Editor-in-Chief, January 2018-June 2020.

Editor in Chief, *Ulbodus: The Slavic Review of Columbia University*, Volume 13 (Violence), 2010.

Publications: Articles

1. Kokobobo, Ani. "Serving the Common Good: Pyotr Kapitsa's Unusual Agency During Late Stalinism, CUPOLA Project (Refereed).
2. Kokobobo, Ani. "From Classroom to Career: Embedding Internships in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies for 21st-Century Readiness," forthcoming *Russian Language Journal*. (Refereed)
3. Kokobobo, Ani. "Dostoevsky and Disability." Forthcoming in *The Routledge Companion to Dostoevsky*, ed. Sarah Hudspith and Sarah Young, in progress (invited).
4. Kokobobo, Ani. "Siberia and the Russian Novel." In ed. Julie Buckler and Justin Weir, *Oxford History of the Russian Novel*. September 2025, 173-187. (Refereed)
5. Kokobobo, Ani. "Can Tolstoy Mourn?" in Kokobobo, *Leo Tolstoy, The Power of Dissent*, Academic Studies Press, 2025. (Refereed)
6. Kokobobo, Ani. "Society, Mobility, and the Construction of Gender in Early Tolstoy." *Leo Tolstoy, The Power of Dissent*, Academic Studies Press, 2025, 31-50. (Refereed)
7. Kokobobo, Ani. "The Young Tolstoy Struggles to Integrate Desire into Art" in *Leo Tolstoy, The Power of Dissent*, Academic Studies Press, 2025, 76-98. (Refereed)
8. Kokobobo, Ani. "Reading Dostoevsky Now, From the Margins," *World Literature Today*, May 2024.
9. Kokobobo, Ani. "Building Language Pipelines by Sharing Less Commonly Taught Languages with High School Districts." In: Emily Heidrich Uebel, Angelika Kraemer, and Luca Giupponi eds., *Sharing Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs) in Higher Education: Collaboration and Innovation*. Routledge 2024, 93-103.
10. Kokobobo, Ani. "The Rise and Fall of Soviet Science in the HBO Series, 'Chernobyl,'" *KinoKultura*: <http://www.kinokultura.com/2022/77r-chernobyl.shtml> (Refereed)
11. Kokobobo, Ani. "Teaching Ethics Through Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*." *Approaches to Teaching Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment*. Eds. Alexander Burry and Michael Katz. MLA Approaches to Teaching World Literature, 2022, 131-37. (Refereed)
12. Kokobobo, Ani. "Ismail Kadare and the Worldliness of Albanian Literature." *World Literature Today*, Winter Issue online, 2021. (Invited) <https://www.worldliteraturetoday.org/2021/winter/ismail-kadare-and-worldliness-albanian-literature-ani-kokobobo>

13. Kokobobo, Ani. "Using Digital Technologies to Uncover the Geographic Dimension of Tolstoy's *War and Peace*." *Russian Literature*, 2021, Vol 122-23, pp. 193-215. (Refereed)
14. Kokobobo, Ani; Mcfadden, Devin. "The Queer Nihilist -- Queer Time, Social Refusal, and Heteronormativity in Goncharov's *The Precipice*." In Eds., Ingrid Kleespies, Lyudmila Parts. *Ivan Goncharov in the 21st Century*, Academic Studies Press, 2021, 132-151. (Refereed)
15. Kokobobo, Ani. "The Decadent Muse in Ismail Kadare's "The Albanian Writers' Union as Mirrored by a Woman." In Stephen Dickey and Mark Lauersdorf, eds., *Festschrift for Marc Greenberg*. Slavica, 2018, 143-156. (Refereed)
16. Kokobobo, Ani. "Traumatic Repetition in Vassily Grossman's "The Hell of Treblinka" and *Everything Flows*." In *American Contributions to the Sixteenth International Congress of Slavists*, Slavica 2018, 131-146. (Refereed).
17. Clowes, Edith, Gisela Erbsloh, and Ani Kokobobo. "Introduction." In *Russia's Regional Identities: The Power of the Provinces*. Routledge, 2018, 1-12. (Refereed).
18. Kokobobo, Ani. "'Why Does Russia Need Hadji Murat's Head?'—Russian and Dagestani Narratives Revolving Around Hadji Murat's Severed Skull." In *Russia's Regional Identities: The Power of the Provinces*. Routledge, 2018, 264-277. (Refereed)
19. Kokobobo, Ani. "Tolstoy's Enigmatic Final Hero: Holy War, Sufism, and the Spiritual Path in Hadji Murat." *Russian Review*, 76.1, 38-52. (Refereed)
20. Kokobobo, Ani, and Emma Lieber. "Anna for All the Ages; Or, Why Should We Read *Anna Karenina* in the Age of Facebook and Twitter." *Tolstoy Studies Journal* (unnumbered, special issue), 1-11. (Refereed)
21. Kokobobo, Ani. "Sexual Citizenship and the Legacy of the Novel of Adultery in a Twenty-first Century Adaptation of *Anna Karenina*." *Tolstoy Studies Journal* (unnumbered, special issue), 76-94. (Refereed)
22. Kokobobo, Ani, and Katherine Bowers. "Introduction: The *Fin-de-Siècle* Mood in Russian Literature." *Twilight of Realism: Russian Writers and the Fin-de-Siècle*, eds. Ani Kokobobo, Katherine Bowers, 2015. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015. 1-14. (Refereed)
23. Kokobobo, Ani. "The Self as Animal or Corpse: The Grotesque Subject in Tolstoy's Late Theology and Fiction and in Mikhail Artsybashev's *Sanin*." *Twilight of Realism: Russian Writers and the Fin-de-Siècle*, eds. Ani Kokobobo, Katherine Bowers, 2014. June 2015. (Refereed)
24. Kokobobo, Ani. "The 'Old Magician' in Pursuit of Truth — Lev Tolstoy's Lifelong Search for Meaning." *Russia's Golden Age*. Ed. Rachel Stauffer. Amenia, NY: Grey House, 2014. 172-186. (Invited)
25. Kokobobo, Ani. "Trembling Napoleon and Fat Kutuzov – Bodies, Historical Figures, and Historical Determinism in *War and Peace*." *Critical Insights: War and Peace*. Ed. Leighton B Cooke. Amenia, NY: Grey House, 2014. 210-224. (Invited)

26. Kokobobo, Ani. "The Travelogue and the Ode: Radishchev's Polemic with the Court Ode in *Puteshestvie iz Peterburga v Moskvu*." *Russian Review* 72.4 (Oct. 2013): 607-621. (Refereed)
27. Kokobobo, Ani. "Altered Worlds and Defiled Subjects: The Grotesque Aesthetics of Tolstoy's *Resurrection*." *Tolstoy Studies Journal* 24 (Feb. 2013): 1-15. (Refereed)
28. Kokobobo, Ani. "Bureaucracy of Dreams - Surrealist Socialism and Surrealist Awakening in Ismail Kadare's *The Palace of Dreams*." *Slavic Review* 70.3 (Fall 2011): 524-44. (Refereed)
29. Kokobobo, Ani. "Grotesknoe ostranenie v romane Tolstogo *Voskresenie*." *Proceedings from the Seventh International Academic Conference "Leo Tolstoy and World Literature."* Iasnaia Poliana: April 2012, Apr. 2011. 237-244. (Invited)
30. Kokobobo, Ani. "'Curse' of the Blood - The Eastern Origins of Balkan Violence in Ismail Kadare's *Three Elegies for Kosovo*." *Ulbandus* 13 (2010): 79-93. (Refereed)
31. Kokobobo, Ani. "Authoring Christ - Novelistic Echoes in Tolstoy's *Harmonization and Translation of the Four Gospels*." *Tolstoy Studies Journal* 20 (2008): 1-13. (Refereed)
32. Kokobobo, Ani. "Portret Khrista v knige Tolstogo *Soedinenie i perevod chetyrekh evangeli*." *Proceedings from the Fifth International Academic Conference "Leo Tolstoy and World Literature."* Iasnaia Poliana: April 2008, Apr. 2008. 307-314. (Invited)
33. Kokobobo, Ani. "To Grieve or Not to Grieve? - The Unsteady Representation of Violence in Ivo Andrić's *The Bridge on the Drina*." *Serbian Studies* 23 (2007): 69-86. (Refereed)
34. Republished as "Žaliti ili ne žaliti? Promenljivo prikazivanje nasilja u romanu Na Drini ćuprija Ive Andrića." *Sveske Zadružbine Ive Andrića*, Belgrade, Vol. 28, Summer 2011.

Public Scholarship (Selected)

1. [Navalny's Killing Highlights the Need for Higher Education to Help Preserve Democracy](#). *Times Higher Education*, March 16, 2024.
2. [Why the Kremlin Tried to Obstruct Navalny's Funeral](#), TIME Magazine, February 29, 2024.
3. [An Urgent Network for Ukrainian Scholars](#), *Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 7, 2022.
4. [How Should Dostoevsky and Tolstoy be Read During Russia's War in Ukraine?](#), *The Conversation*, April 6, 2022.
5. [War is the Enemy of Education](#), *Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 7, 2022.
6. [The Fight for the University of Kansas](#), *Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 30, 2021
7. [Dr. Chekhov, On Vulnerability in the Era of Covid-19](#), *Los Angeles Review of Books*, July 24, 2020.
8. [If You Thought US-Russia Relations Were Bad Now, Wait Another 10 Years](#), The Russia File, A Blog of the Kenan Institute, July 23, 2020.

9. [On Not Talking About Gender in 19th-Century Russian Literature](#), Jordan All the Russias Blog, April 20, 2020.
10. [Vladimir Putin Follows a Long Tradition of Enlightened Autocrats](#), *The Washington Post*, February 2, 2020.
11. [What's in a Name, Are we Slavic, East European, Eurasian, or All of the Above?](#) Originally published in 9/4/2020 ASEEES Newsnet, and republished on ASEEES blog.
12. [How Alabama's New Abortion Law Echoes Communist Albania's Extreme Abortion Ban](#). *The Washington Post*, May 17, 2019.
13. [Reclaiming Russian Cultural Tradition During the Rise of Populism](#). *Harriman Review*, May 2019.
14. [Can Universities Start Giving Scholars Credit for Public Writing?](#), *Academe Blog*, Nov. 14, 2018.
15. [The Russianist's Burden](#), *SEEJ Blog*, 09/26/2018.
16. [Irrational Authoritarianism in Ismail Kadare's *A Traitor's Niche*](#), *Los Angeles Review of Books*, 07/19/2018.
17. [For Albanians its Not Just an Eagle: Here's the Deeper Story Behind Those World Cup Fines](#), *The Washington Post*, 07/02/2018.
18. [Eastern European Teeth Stories](#), *Los Angeles Review of Books Blog*, 04/26/2018.
19. [There Is No Moral Relativity in Sexual Harassment](#), *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Dec. 15, 2017.
20. [Lust, Blood, and Survival in a New World: On Janet Fitch's "The Revolution of Marina M."](#), *Los Angeles Review of Books*, 11/7/2017.
21. [The Solution to America's Child Care Problem Comes from an Unexpected Place](#)," *The Washington Post*, 10/25/2017.
22. [Tenuous Connections: Laurie Sheek's *The Island of the Mad*](#), *Los Angeles Review of Books*, 07/07/2017.
23. [Pernicious Ambition and Tolstoy's *War and Peace* on the Silver Screen](#), *Los Angeles Review of Books*, 01/13/2017.
24. [Candid About the Camera: Tolstoy Scholars on Adapting *Anna Karenina*](#), *Jordan All the Russias' Blog*, 10/21/2016 (I write the introduction, but this is a series of blog posts as part of a broader public humanities initiative on film adaptations of *Anna Karenina*.)
25. [Using Tolstoy and Dostoevsky to Teach Ethics in the Twenty-First Century](#), *ASEEES NewsNet*, June 2016 issue.

26. [Marital Happy Endings and Cultural Politics in a Contemporary Australian Adaptation of *Anna Karenina*](#), 03/21/2016. *All the Russias' Blog*
27. [Love \(Not Death\): A Postmodern Tolstoy in Joe Wright's *Anna Karenina*](#)," *All the Russias' Blog*, 12/12/2012.

Publications: Book Reviews

1. Anne Lounsbery, *Life is Elsewhere: Symbolic Geography in the Russian Provinces*. Northern Illinois University Press, 2019. *Slavic Review*, 81.1, 2022, 268-271.
2. Kathleen Scollins, *Acts of Logos in Pushkin and Gogol: Petersburg Texts and Subtexts*, Academic Studies Press, 2017. *Slavic Review*, 78.1, 81-82.
3. Julia Chadaga, *Optical Play: Glass, Vision, and Spectacle in Russian Culture* (Evanston: Northwestern UP, 2014), *Slavic Review*, 75.4, 2019, 1055-56.
4. Donna Orwin, *Anniversary Essays on Tolstoy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), *Russian Review*, 75.2, 2016, 308-09.
5. Justin Weir, *Leo Tolstoy and the Alibi of Narrative* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2011), *Slavic and Eastern European Journal* 56.3 (Fall 2012), 463-65.
6. Joe Andrew, ed., *Turgenev and Russian Culture – Essays in Honour of Richard Peace* (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2008). *Slavic and Eastern European Journal*, vol. 53, no. 4, Winter 2010, 665-666.
7. *Balkan Beauty, Balkan Blood: Modern Albanian Short Stories*. Edited and translated by Robert Elsie (Evanston, Illinois: Northwestern University Press, 2006). *Slavic and East European Journal*, vol. 51, no. 3, Fall 2007, 631-633.
8. Peter Prifti. *Unfinished Portrait of a Country* (Boulder: East European Monographs; New York: Distributed by Columbia University Press, 2005). *Slavic and East European Journal*, volume 50, no. 4, Winter 2007, 747-748.
9. "Editor's Introduction." *Ulbandus: The Slavic Review of Columbia University*, Volume 13 (Violence), i.
10. Conference Report, "Seventh International Academic Conference 'Leo Tolstoy and World Literature.'" Iasnaia Poliana, 2010. *Tolstoy Studies Journal*, 2010, 153.

Translations

1. *Leo Tolstoy, Political Writings* (in progress, proposal under consideration, Amherst UP)
2. Translation, Ismail Kadare's remarks for the Neustadt Prize, 2020.
<https://www.worldliteraturetoday.org/2021/winter/dead-storms-and-literatures-new-horizon-2020-neustadt-prize-lecture-ismail-kadare>
3. Editor and translator, Ismail Kadare, *Essays on World Literature*, 2018, Restless Books.

4. Ismail Kadare, "The Migration of the Stork." *Asymptote*, July 2015.
http://www.asymptotejournal.com/article.php?cat=Fiction&id=89&curr_index=5&curPage=current
5. Ismail Kadare, "Book List," *The Week*, December 2014.
<http://theweek.com/articles/441413/ismail-kadares-6-favorite-books>

Funded Research

1. 2025, Mellon Foundation, Officer Grant (\$150,000)
2. 2024, Advance Student Research Equipment Grant, UL Lafayette (\$10,000)
3. 2022, US Russia Foundation Grant for Russian Studies (\$220,000)
4. 2020, US Russia Foundation Grant for Russian Studies (\$150,000)
5. 2020, Title VI NRC fund PI (\$464,000)
6. 2018, Harriman Institute (Columbia University) First Book Subvention Award. (\$3,000)
7. Summer 2018: General Research Fund, University of Kansas (\$5,555)
8. Summer 2017: General Research Fund, University of Kansas (\$5,555)
9. Summer 2016: General Research Fund, University of Kansas (\$5,555)
10. 2016, National Endowment for the Humanities, Course Development Grant. (\$25,000)
11. Summer 2015: General Research Fund, University of Kansas (\$5,555)
12. Summer 2014: General Research Fund, University of Kansas (\$5,555)
13. Fall 2013: Humanities Research Fellowship, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas (Full Semester Leave) (\$27,000)
14. Summer 2013: General Research Fund, University of Kansas (\$5,555)
15. Summer 2012: New Faculty General Research Grant, University of Kansas (\$8,000)
16. 2010-2011. Harriman Junior Fellowship, Columbia University (\$25,000)
17. 2008: Andrew Mellon Fellow at Bakhmeteff Slavic Archives, Rare Book and Manuscripts Library, Columbia University (\$5,000)
18. 2007-2008: Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for the Study of Serbo-Croatian, Columbia University (\$17,000)
19. Summer 2007: Fulbright-Hays Award, Bard/ACTR Program, Moscow State University (\$7,500)

Awards and Honors

- Selected to teach Honors seminar, Fall 2022, Honors College, University of Kansas
- AY 2018-2019: Diversity Fellows Program, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas
- Winner: Harriman Institute (Columbia University) First Book Subvention Award, 2018.
- Fall 2015: Chosen as participant for the Colloquium on Citizenship, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas
- Spring 2015: Institute for Digital Humanities Course Grant, University of Kansas
- 2010-2011: Harriman Junior Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2008: Andrew Mellon Fellow at Bakhmeteff Slavic Archives, Rare Book and Manuscripts Library, Columbia University
- 2007-2008: Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for the Study of Serbo-Croatian, Columbia University
- Summer 2007: Fulbright-Hays Award, US Department of Education

Interviews and Podcasts

1. [The Liberal Arts in the Age of AI](#), La Louisiane Podcast on KRVS (PBS Affiliate), April 8, 2025.

2. [LGBTQIA+ Relevant Scholarship at KU](#), The Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity, KU. November 2023.
3. [The Culture of Albania](#), BBC, Arts and Ideas, March 23, 2023.
4. [Do Russian Classics Need a New Interpretation After Russia's Invasion of Ukraine?](#), Global Voices, May 24, 2022.
5. Pasternak, We Didn't Start the Fire, History Podcast.
<https://podcasts.apple.com/ie/podcast/pasternak/id1549243765?i=1000553029036>
6. "Conservative or Queer Friendly, Russian Writer Reassessed"
<https://news.ku.edu/2021/12/17/conservative-or-queer-friendly-russian-writer-reassessed>
7. "Spatial Analysis Reveals New Dimensions of *War and Peace*"
<https://news.ku.edu/2021/08/30/spatial-analysis-reveals-new-dimensions-war-and-peace>
8. "Grant Will Expand Russian Studies Program for Kansas High Schools"
<https://news.ku.edu/2022/07/14/grant-will-expand-russian-studies-program-kansas-high-schools>
9. [Students Should Read Tolstoy or Dostoevsky Because They Help Readers See Beyond the Noise of Our Present](#). Moscow Higher School of Economics Blog, interview, September 30, 2021.
10. Festival Five with Translator and Scholar, Ani Kokobobo. Fall, 2020.
<https://www.worldliteraturetoday.org/blog/interviews/festival-five-translator-and-scholar-ani-kokobobo-editors-wlt>
11. Quoted in New York Times Article "Nexhmije Hoxha, Lady Macbeth of Albania Dies at 99"
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/04/world/europe/nexhmije-hoxha-dead.html>
12. Interview with 19 Cents, Blog of the Nineteenth-Century Studies Organization
<http://www.ncsaweb.net/Home/ArtMID/476/ArticleID/123/QA-Ani-Kokobobo>
13. Quoted in article on Tolstoy in *Atlas Obscura* piece "Tolstoy Ghosted His Wife, Then Up and Died"
<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/tolstoy-death-train-station>
14. Quoted in Associated Press article, "A Look at the Books Which Have Inspired Literary Classics"
<https://www.apnews.com/e1d01866bcb9496a9afa0d971aed3518>
15. "Making Albania's Leading Writer Accessible in English," KU Today
<http://today.ku.edu/2018/07/27/making-albanias-leading-writer-accessible-english>
16. Interview by KU Today 2017-2018 Edition
https://issuu.com/sunflower_publishing/docs/kutoday2017-18/62
17. Interviewed by Brainard Carey, Yale Radio.
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/ani-kokobobo/id764792660?i=1000385681022&mt=2>

18. Interviewed on Channel 6 News of Lawrence about Stage Russia HD production of Anton Chekhov's *Cherry Orchard*, 4/28/17.
<https://www.6lawrence.com/6lawrence/index.php/2017/04/28/ku-showing-film-russian-promote-culture-diversity/>
19. "Reading *Anna Karenina* in the Age of Social Media"
<https://news.ku.edu/2017/02/28/reading-anna-karenina-age-social-media>
20. On BBC Radio World Service, 8/29/16.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p045lh65>
21. "From Slavic folklore to Sookie Stackhouse, new course will study vampire depiction in the East and West"
<https://news.ku.edu/2015/10/28/slavic-folklore-sookie-stackhouse-new-course-will-study-vampire-depiction-east-and-west#sthash.QVCFZ0eO.dpuf>
22. "The bleeding truth about vampires, soucouyants and the undead"
<http://blog.college.ku.edu/faculty/the-bleeding-truth-about-vampires-soucouyants-and-the-undead/>
23. "Great 19th century Russian writers and Y2K scare influenced by same anxiety, scholar says"
<https://news.ku.edu/2016/02/05/great-19th-century-russian-writers-and-y2k-scare-influenced-same-anxiety-scholar-says>
24. "Professor of Slavic studies wins grant to teach course on ethics and community"
http://www.kansan.com/news/professor-of-slavic-studies-wins-grant-to-teach-course-on/article_3ce86402-f817-11e5-9a33-537c8dfc3d88.html

Public Engagement, Events and Edited Platforms

Curated blog posts, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Blog, with student writings.

<https://college.ku.edu/halloween-2023?fbclid=IwAR0tYgf9BueqTlIsiyq14ZixqgXGS6KhUxjs58xx60kOqJDzKIQCrA2ge0rY>

"Immigrant Stories" – Series curated with Anne Lounsbery and Eliot Borenstein through the NYU Jordan Blog Center. <http://jordanrussiacenter.org/tag/immigrant-stories/>

"An Evening with Nadya Tolokonnikova," Dialogue led and organized, 04/04/2024

"Decoding Today's Russia" – US Russia Foundation Funded Interdisciplinary Online Webinar. Fall 2023-Spring 2024.

"Displaced" – Film Screening on Ukrainian Displacement with Testimonials from Ukrainian Studies. Fall 2023.

"Thomas Mann – Democracy Will Win." Exhibit at Max Kade Center, University of Kansas, Fall 2023.

"The War in Ukraine, 365 Days in." Teach In and Panel, University of Kansas, Spring 2023.

"Coffee and Conversation with Atifete Jahjaga." University of Kansas, Spring 2023

"KU for Ukraine, An Evening of Poetry, Music, and Stories." Maceli's, Lawrence, KS, Spring 2022.

"Russia's War in Ukraine." Teach In and Panel, University of Kansas, Spring 2022.

“Russia and Race.” Lecture series, CREES, University of Kansas, Fall 2020.

“The Expansive Embrace: Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in the Russian Novel.” University of Kansas, Spring 2019.

“Russia and the Right,” University of Kansas, Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Spring 2019.

“Queer and Feminist Poetry in Kazakhstan, A Reading with Zoya Falkova,” University of Kansas, Slavic Department, Fall 2018.

“Comparative Literature in Action,” University of Kansas, Hall Center for the Humanities, Spring 2018.

Co-Director, with Marike Janzen and Luciano Tosta, Colloquium: “Comparative Literature in an Age of De-Globalization,” University of Kansas, Hall Center for the Humanities, Fall 2018.

“Why Does KU Need Comparative Literature,” University of Kansas, Hall Center for the Humanities Spring 2017.

Cherry Orchard, Viewing and discussion. University of Kansas, Spring 2017.

War and Peace and the Digital Humanities, Graduate Student Mini-conference, Spring 2017.

“Chekhov” Graduate Student Mini-conference, Fall 2016.

Organizer, reading group, Hall Center for the Humanities, “Psychoanalysis and Trauma Studies,” AY 2015-2016.

Roundtable “Pussy Riot and New Perspectives on Putin’s Russia” (University of Kansas, May 8, 2014).

With Edith Clowes, “Centrifugal Forces: Reading Russia’s Regional Identities and Initiatives” (University of Virginia, March 26-28, 2015)

Conference Presentations

Holy Fools and the Unmaking of Heteronormative Order in Tolstoy. AATSEEL, New Orleans, February 2026.

Ismail Kadare: Inscribing Albania onto the Canvas of World Literature, ASEEEES, Washington DC, November 2025.

Serving the Common Good: Pyotr Kapitsa’s Unusual Agency During Late Stalinism, CUPOLA Project Conference, Aleksanteri Institute, Finland, Oct. 2, 2025.

Fostering Civic Engagement and Career Readiness: The Kathy Ashworth Community-Engaged Internship Program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, CCAS Conference, St Louis, October 2025.

“Framing Disaster: Heroism, Science, and the Western Lens in HBO’s *Chernobyl*,” American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences, April 2025, Lafayette, Louisiana.

“Masculinity, Force, and Colonial Conquest in Tolstoy’s ‘Hadji Murat,’” ASEEES, Boston, November 2024

“Telling the Story of Dagestan Through *Hadji Murat*,” ASEEES, Philadelphia, November 2023.

“Dostoevsky and Disability,” International Dostoevsky Society Meeting, Nagoya, Japan, August 2023.

Teaching Dostoevsky During Russia’s War in Ukraine, AATSEEL, February 2023

“Tolstoy’s Struggles with Mourning and Grief,” Through Tears, Russian Emotional Culture, November 25, 2022, Moscow, New Literary Observer, virtual conference.

“Why Can’t Tolstoy Mourn,” ASEEES 2021, virtual conference.

“Tolstoy and Andrea Dworkin, Strange Bedfellows,” ASEEES 2020, virtual conference.

“‘I am Tormented by Sexuality’ – Art and the Dilemma of Sex in Early Tolstoy.” Conference: Expansive Embrace: Gender, Sexuality, and Identity in Russian Realism. University of Kansas, April 2019.

“Why Anna Dies While Levin Lives.” ASEEES, Boston, December 2018.

“Donna Orwin’s *Tolstoy’s Art and Thought at 20*. Roundtable.” ASEEES, Boston, December 2018.

“Tolstoy and the #metoo Movement.” Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, Spring 2018.

“Tolstoy and the Objectification of the Female Body.” ASEEES, Chicago, November, 2017.

“Ivan Ilych and Philando Castille: Periscope, Facebook Live, and the Great (White) Death Today.” ASEEES, Chicago, November, 2017.

“Historical Trauma, Personal Autobiography, and Artistic Hybridity: Reading Aleksandr Pushkin’s *Eugene Onegin*.” “At Ease with the Opera.” Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Kansas City, MO. 09/18/2017.

“Chekhov the Witness.” ASEEES, DC, November, 2016.

“Tolstoy, Women, and the Recent BBC Adaptation – Finally Wrestling with the Misogyny.” ASEEES, DC, November, 2016.

“Challenging Napoleonic Mapmakers – Using Digital Technologies to Uncover Tolstoy’s Decentralized Literary Cartography in *War and Peace*.” Oct. 1 2016, Digital Humanities Forum, University of Kansas

“‘He did not speak to them without a parable’ (Mk. 4:34) – The Metaphorical Truth About God in Tolstoy’s *Harmonization and Translation of the Four Gospels*.” ASEEES, Philadelphia, November, 2015.

“Narrating Historical Trauma: The Holodomor and the Gulag in Vassily Grossman’s *Everything Flows*.” (The Annual Ralph and Ruth Fisher Forum, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, June 19-20 2015).

“‘Зачем России голова Хаджи Мурата’ – Hadji Murat Memorialized and Desecrated.” Centrifugal Forces: Reading Russia’s Regional Identities and Initiatives (University of Virginia, March 26-28 2015).

“Android and Hyperreal Anna,” roundtable presentation. ASEEES, Boston, November 24, 2013.

“The Russian Provinces as a Theater of the Grotesque in Dostoevsky’s *Demons*.” (ASEEES, Boston, November 23, 2013).

“Grotesque Realism and the Downfall of the Family Novel in M. Saltykov-Shchedrin’s *The Golovlevs*.” (MLA, Boston, Jan 6, 2013).

“The Grotesque Body and Late Russian Realism.” (AATSEEL, Boston, Jan. 2013).

“Tolstoy’s Theology and its Grotesque Poetic Manifestations.” (ASEEES, New Orleans, November 2012).

“Ismail Kadare’s Libidinous Resistance.” (AATSEEL, Seattle, Jan. 5-8, 2012).

“Homelessness and the Emancipation of the Serfs.” Roundtable presentation. (ASEEES, Washington, D.C., Nov. 17-20, 2011).

“Tolstoy’s Muslim Epic Hero Hadji Murat.” (ASEEES, Washington, D.C., Nov. 17-20, 2011).

“Grotesque Realism in Tolstoy’s *Resurrection*.” (AATSEEL, Pasadena, Jan. 6-9, 2010).

“Maslova’s, Anna Karenina’s, and Maria Pavlova’s Bodies – The Heroine’s Body and the Body Politic in Tolstoy’s *Resurrection*.” Roundtable presentation. (ASEEES, Los Angeles, Nov. 18-21, 2010).

“Demons in the Russian Countryside – Dostoevsky and Turgenev in *Besy*.” (ASEEES, Los Angeles, Nov. 18-21, 2010).

“Grotesknoe ostranenie v romane Tolstogo *Voskresenie*.” (Seventh International Academic Conference “Leo Tolstoy and World Literature,” Yasnaya Polyana, August 11- 15, 2010).

“Hoarding Away the Self – Solipsism and Violence in Pushkin’s *Malen'kie Tragedii*.” (AAASS, Boston, November 12-15, 2009).

“‘Curse’ of the Blood – The Eastern ‘Other’ as Facilitator of Balkan Violence in Ismail Kadare’s *Three Elegies for Kosovo*.” Roundtable Presentation. (AAASS, Boston, November 12-15, 2009).

“The Bureaucracy of Dreams – Aesthetic Rebellion and the Indispensable Surreal in Ismail Kadare’s *The Palace of Dreams*.” (MLA, San Francisco, December 28-30, 2008.)

“The Decadent Muse in Ismail Kadare’s ‘The Albanian Writers’ Union as Mirrored by a Woman’.” (AATSEEL, San Francisco, December 28-30, 2008.)

“The Travelogue and the Ode – Aleksander Radishchev’s Response to Odic Poetics in *Puteshestvie iz Peterburga v Moskvu*.” (AAASS, Philadelphia, November 20-23, 2008).

“Torn in Two – Individual Victimization and the Peculiarities of the Narrator’s Voice in Ivo Andrić’s *The Bridge On the Drina*.” (Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference, NYU, March 29, 2008).

“The Portrait of Christ in Tolstoy’s Gospel.” (American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December 27-30, 2007).

“Where is an ‘Honorable Man’ to Live? – The Hazards of Space and Topophilia in Turgenev’s *Dvorianskoe Gnezdo*.” (Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies meeting, November 2007).

“Portret Khrista v knige Tolstogo *Soedinenie i perevod chetyrekh evangelii*.” (Fifth International Academic Conference “Leo Tolstoy and World Literature,” Yasnaya Polyana, August 12-16, 2007).

“Causality, Mythmaking, and the Epic Tradition in Ismail Kadare’s *Palace of Dreams*.” (Southeast European Studies Association (SEESA) Meeting, Ohio State University April 26-30, 2007).

“Mertvye pchely? – Prince Myshkin’s Anti-logos Stance in Dostoyevsky’s *The Idiot*.” (American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., December 27-30, 2006).

“Doing Battle with the Art of War – Tolstoy’s *What is Art?* in the War Narratives of *War and Peace*.” (Annual Yale Graduate Student Slavic Conference. New Haven, April 7-9 2006).

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

“Tolstoy, a Voice of Dissent Against Empire.” Book talk, Hilliard Art Museum, University of Louisiana, December 10, 2025.

“Dostoevsky and Disability,” Book Workshop, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK, July 2025.

“Leo Tolstoy, Overcoming the State.” Keynote address. Central Slavic Conference. Saint Louis, November 3-5, 2023.

Presenter, “Haunted Humanities.” Community outreach event, Lawrence KS, October 25, 2023.
“Vampires, Rusalki, and Other Undead Creatures in the Slavic World.”

“Dostoevsky and the Perils of Russian Exceptionalism,” KU CREES, December 8, 2022.

“Can Tolstoy Mourn,” NYU Jordan Center, March 7, 2022.

“Mapping *War and Peace*,” Geography and Atmospheric Science Colloquium, University of Kansas, Oct. 2021.

“Tolstoy and Andrea Dworkin, Strange Bedfellows.” Moscow Higher School of Economics, via zoom, October 2021.

“How to Find Your Public Voice,” Office of Faculty Development, University of Kansas, April 2021.
“Tolstoy and Masculinity, NYU Jordan Center, 19v lecture series, via zoom, October 2020.

“Breaking Out of Gender in Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*.” Keynote address, Dartmouth College Tolstoy Mini-Conference, November 2019.

“Tolstoy the Gender Theorist,” Hall Center Gender Seminar, University of Kansas, November 2019.

“Ismail Kadare Around the World,” Tirana, Albania at the European University, August 2019.

“Integrating Diversity in How We Teach Russian Culture: SLAV 140 Course Redesign.” Celebration of Teaching, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas, May 2019.

“Sage of Sex – Tolstoy Theorizes Gender, Identity, and Intercourse.” Slavic Colloquium, March 2019.

“Why Anna Dies While Levin Lives.” Cambridge University Slavonic colloquium UK, January 2019.

“A Sexual Theory of the State –Tolstoyan Abstinence in the Era of #Metoo.” Brigham Young University, October 2018.”

“Using Digital Technologies to Uncover the Geographic Dimension of Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*.” DH Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, October 2018.

“A Sexual Theory of the State –Tolstoyan Abstinence in the Era of #Metoo.” CREES, University of Kansas, September, 2018.”

“Russian Grotesque Realism – The Great Reforms and Gentry Decline.” KU Bookstore, April 2018.

“Teaching Tolstoy in the Era of #metoo.” Dartmouth College, April 2018.

“Abstinence, Pacifism, and the Late Tolstoy’s Overwhelmingly Male Texts.” Columbia University, March 2018.

“The Female Body and The Male Gaze – Or Why Anna Dies While Levin Lives?” University of Kansas, Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, April, 2018.

Film Introduction, *Cherry Orchard* through Stage Russia HD. University of Kansas, April 28, 2017.

“The Anxious Reinventions of Comparative Literature in an Era of Humanities Precariousness.” Roundtable: Why Does KU Need Comparative Literature? University of Kansas, Hall Center for the Humanities, April 21, 2017.

Book commentary for Research on the Leading Edge (Tara Zahra’s *The Great Migration*). University of Kansas, Hall Center for the Humanities, March 2.

“Writing from the Rubble of Normative Ethics: From Ethical Surplus to a Soviet Moral “Gray Zone” in Vassily Grossman’s *Everything Flows*.” Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, University of Kansas, November 2016.

“Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and the Great Russian Realist Tradition.” SLAV 140, University of Kansas, Fall 2016.

“Bakhtin.” Introduction to Graduate Studies Seminar, University of Kansas, Fall 2016.

“Sexual Citizenship and the Legacy of the Novel of Adultery in a Twenty-first Century Adaptation of *Anna Karenina*.” Slavic Colloquium, University of Kansas, March 4, 2015.

“Vassily Grossman, the Gray Zone, and the Ethics of Witnessing.” Symposium in Memory of Cathy Nepomnyashchy, Soviet, Post-Soviet, and Emigré Culture, April 8th, Columbia University.

“Tolstoy’ Cosmopolitan Poetics in *Hadji Murat*,” Faculty Colloquium on Citizenship, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, November 12, 2015.

“The Petersburg Text in Russian Literature.” “In the Classroom with a KU Professor Series,” KU Orientation Session, August 2015.

“Writing Academic Cover Letters – Parameters of the Genre.” Slavic Colloquium, University of Kansas, April 2, 2015.

“Pussy Riot and Capitalist Dissidence.” Roundtable “Pussy Riot and New Perspectives on Putin’s Russia,” University of Kansas, May 8, 2014.

“Pussy Riot and Putin’s Russia.” Film Introduction for “Pussy Riot, Punk Prayer.” Center for Russian and Eastern European and Eurasian Center, University of Kansas, May 7, 2014.

“A North Caucasus Epic Hero – Remembering Hadji Murat and Why He Still Matters.” Seminar “Societies and Cultures of Eurasia,” University of Kansas, March 9, 2014.

“Freakish Others and Monsters Within – Russian Realism and the Grotesque, 1869-1899.” Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, December 2013.

“The Grotesque Privilege of Being a Russian Landowner — Russian Realism in the Age of Modernization, 1869-1899.” Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, University of Kansas, December 2013.

“From Vassily Grossman’s ‘The Town of Berdichev’ to Askoldov’s *Commissar*.” Film Introduction for “Commissar.” Center for Russian and Eastern European and Eurasian Center, University of Kansas, April 2013.

“A Case for Albanian Orientalism – The Ottoman Empire in Ismail Kadare’s *Oeuvre*.” Seminar “The Cultural Impact of the Ottoman Empire on the South Slavs,” University of Kansas, February 2013.

“Data Management in Research.” Graduate Workshop for Responsible Scholarship, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Kansas, December 2012.

“Tolstoy’s Muslim Epic Hero Hadji Murat.” Slavic Colloquium, University of Kansas, February 2012.

“Finding a Suitable Research Topic.” Bibliography and Methods Slavic Seminar, University of Kansas, November 2011.

Courses Taught

I. University of Louisiana at Lafayette

ENGL 530: Nineteenth Century Studies (Spring 2026)

II. University of Kansas

SLAV 675: *War and Peace* (Spring 2019)

Tutorial with graduate student on Tolstoy's *War and Peace*.

SLAV 675: Queer Theory (Spring 2019)

Tutorial with graduate student on queer theory.

SLAV 675: Masculinity Theory (Spring 2018)

Tutorial with graduate students on masculinity theory.

SLAV 140: Introduction to Russian Culture (Spring 2018)

Introduce beginning undergraduate students to Russia through literature, film, visual arts, and philosophy.

SLAV 379: Communities in Russia and America (Spring 2018)

NEH funded course on notion of community in Russian literature and religious thought (Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Solov'ev, Berdyaev, Frank, Lossky), and African American writers (MLK Jr, James Baldwin, WEB DuBois).

SLAV 675: Female Desire and Legacies of the Novel of Adultery Today (Fall 2017)

In this independent study for graduate students, we read European and American novels of adultery and consider their present-day implications.

SLAV 512: "The Russian Novel Through the Digital Humanities" (Tolstoy's *War and Peace*) (Fall 2016)

In this course, we rely on several DH visualization tools to challenge conventional views of the canon and foreground Russia's regions.

SLAV 230: "The Vampire in Literature, Film, and Television" (Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

Depictions of the vampire in Russian and European literature, film, and television.

Strategic Broadening Seminar for US Army, University of Kansas, "Mass Media in Putin's Russia," August 13, 2015.

SLAV 726: "Chekhov" (Fall 2015, Fall 2017)

Graduate seminar, considers Chekhov's short stories, plays, his relationship to Russian theater (Chekhov through the lens of Stanislavsky and Meyerhold), as well as adaptations of Chekhov's work (Russian and Western adaptations like "Vanya on 42nd Street").

SLAV 679: "The Grotesque in Russian and European Literature, 1800-1905" (Spring 2013)

New course, graduate seminar, included works from authors like Rabelais, Hoffman, Shelley, Odoevsky, Gogol, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy Artsybashev, Sologub, and others.

SLAV 370/570: "War and Violence in Russian Literature and Film" (Fall 2012, Spring 2015, Fall 2016)

Graduate seminar, survey of representations of violence in 20th c. Russian literature and film, included authors like Babel, Platonov, Grossman, Shalamov, Sorokin, and others, as well as films like "Ivan's Childhood," "Wolfy," and others.

SLAV 532: "Dostoevsky" (Fall 2012, Spring 2016, Spring 2021)

Upper-level seminar, included Dostoevsky's major's novels *The Idiot*, *Demons*, *Brothers Karamazov*, and shorter works like *Notes from the Underground*.

SLAV 534: "Tolstoy" (Spring 2012, Spring 2015, Spring 2023)

Upper-level seminar, included Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, *Resurrection*, as well as shorter fiction and religious writings.

SLAV 144/145: "Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature in Translation" (Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)

Undergraduate survey of nineteenth-century Russian literature, from Pushkin to Chekhov.

SLAV 660: "Nineteenth-Century Russian Prose and Fiction" (Fall 2011, Spring 2017)

Advanced survey of the nineteenth-century Russian novel for graduate students, which included *Dead Souls*, *Fathers and Sons*, *Oblomov*, *Anna Karenina*, and *Brothers Karamazov*.

HNRS 190: "Russia's War in Ukraine" (Fall 2022)

Honors seminar focused on Western press coverage of the war in Ukraine

III. Columbia University

Slavic V1130: "Violent Muse of the Twentieth Century" (Instructor) (Spring 2009)

(Winner of Departmental Graduate Course Competition, Slavic Department, Columbia University). Independently designed course on representations of violence in Russian and Balkan literatures.

Slavic V3320: "Literature and Empire, The Reign of the Novel in Russia" (Graduate Teaching Assistant) (Fall 2008)

Russian V1102: Introductory Russian (Instructor) (Fall 2005-Spring 2006)

Graduate Student Advising

I. Graduate Student Exam Committees (University of Kansas)

- Jordan Zaugg (Slavic), MA exam (member), Spring 2024
- Gina Sane (Slavic), MA exam (member), Fall 2022
- Devin McFadden (Slavic), PhD Dissertation Defense (chair), Summer 2022
- Ekaterina Chelpanova (Slavic), PhD Dissertation Defense (member), Summer 2022
- Devin McFadden (Slavic), PhD portfolio defense (chair), Spring 2021
- Jakob Johnson (Slavic), MA exam (member), Spring 2021
- Cecilia King (Slavic), MA exam (chair), Spring 2021
- Oksana Husieva (Slavic), PhD portfolio defense (member), Fall 2020
- Olga Savchenko (Slavic), MA exam (member), Fall 2019
- Molly Godwin-Jones (Slavic), MA exam (member), Spring 2018
- Devin McFadden (Slavic), MA exam (chair), Spring 2018
- Frane Karabatic (Slavic), MA exam (member), Spring 2018
- Oksana Husieva (Slavic), MA exam (member), Spring 2018
- Frane Karabatic (Slavic), Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Oksana Husieva (Slavic), Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Devin McFadden (Slavic), Fall 2016-present
- Molly Godwin-Jones (Slavic), Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Nicholas Shea (Slavic), Fall 2016

- Sooyeon Lee (Slavic), Spring 2016-Spring 2017
- Ekaterina Chelpanova (Slavic), Spring 2016
- Megan Luttrell (Slavic), Fall 2012-Fall 2014
- Aric Toler (Slavic), Fall 2012-Spring 2013

II. Graduate Student Individual Advising (MA/PhD Level) (University of Kansas)

- Cecilia Leugers King (Slavic), Spring 2019-Spring 2021
- Aidan Lockett (Slavic), Fall 2017-Spring 2018
- Chul Huyn Hwang (Slavic), Fall 2017-Spring 2018
- Olga Savchenko (Slavic), Fall 2017-Spring 2018
- Frane Karabatic (Slavic), Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Oksana Husieva (Slavic), Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Devin McFadden (Slavic), Fall 2016-present
- Molly Godwin-Jones (Slavic), Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Nicholas Shea (Slavic), Fall 2016
- Sooyeon Lee (Slavic), Spring 2016-Spring 2017
- Ekaterina Chelpanova (Slavic), Spring 2016
- Megan Luttrell (Slavic), Fall 2012-Fall 2014
- Aric Toler (Slavic), Fall 2012-Spring 2013

III. Dissertations sponsored (University of Kansas)

- Devin McFadden (Slavic).
“Queering the Early 20th Century Russian Novel,” August 2022. Defended with honors.
- Megan Luttrell (Slavic).
“Color and Line: The Painterly Properties of Lev Tolstoy’s Fiction.” Defended with high honors, December 2018. Defended with honors.

Professional Service

I. Executive & Strategic Leadership Service (University-Level)

(University of Louisiana at Lafayette and University of Kansas)

- Member, Dean’s Council
- Member, Humanities Task Force, 2023–2024
- Executive Committees (University and Faculty Senate), 2020–2023
- Shared Governance Advisory Co-Chair, 2022–2023
- Institutional Lead, COACHE Faculty Satisfaction Survey Response Team
- Member, ACE Internationalization Lab Steering and Curriculum Committees, 2020–2022
- Senior Administrative Fellow, Office of Faculty Development, 2019–2020
- Pandemic Project Management Team Member, Summer 2020
- Member, Faculty Rights Board, 2022–2023
- Chair, Working Group on Revisions to USRR Articles II and VIII
- Numerous search committees and governance advisory roles (2019–2023)

II. College and Interdisciplinary Service

(University of Kansas)

- Interim Director, Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Fall 2020

- Organizer: “Russia and Race” Lecture Series, Fall 2020
- Chair, CREES Director Search Committee, 2019
- Member, College Research Advisory Board, Spring 2024
- Executive Committee Member, CREES, 2015–2023
- Co-Chair, Comparative Literature Committee, 2016–2019
- Member, FLAS Evaluation Committee
- Graduate Studies Committee
- Organizer: “Russia and the Right” Event, Spring 2019

III. Departmental Leadership & Service

(University of Kansas)

- Chair, Department of Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies, 2022–2023
- Chair, Department of Slavic and Eurasian Languages and Literatures, 2019–2022
- Director of Graduate Studies, 2018–2019
- Director of Undergraduate Studies, various terms, 2012–2014
- Organizer, Panels, Workshops, and Conferences (e.g., “Russia’s War in Ukraine,” 2022; “The Expansive Embrace,” 2019)
- Developed “Jayhawks on the Steppe” Kazakhstan Study Abroad Program
- Chair/member of numerous department-level curriculum, hiring, evaluation, and programming committees
- Committee leadership on teaching, evaluation redesign, and graduate portfolio
- Organizer, Responsible Scholarship Workshop Series
- Editor, *Lawrencian Chronicle*, Fall 2015

IV. National and International Service

- AATSEEL, 2020–2023; Executive Committee Member
- Member, Editorial Board, Academic Studies Press “Issues in Pedagogy,” 2022–present
- Founding Member, 19v Collective on 19th-Century Russian Literature
- ASEES Mentorship Program, 2023–present
- Reviewer: *Slavic Review*, *SEEJ*, *Gastronomica*, NUP, Wiener Slawistischer Almanach
- CRDF Global Grant Reviewer for Georgia’s Shota Rustaveli Foundation
- AATSEEL Graduate Column Editor, 2010–2011
- Conference abstract reviewer, AATSEEL, 2012–present

Professional Affiliation

CCAS
AACU
ASEEES
AATSEEL
MLA

Languages

Native/Near Native: English, Albanian, Russian.

Reading Knowledge: Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian/Montenegrin, Old Church Slavonic, Italian, Spanish, Modern Greek, French.