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Dr. Michael S. Flier

Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology
Harvard University

Presenting:

“Pulling Out All the Stops: Three Riffs on the Phoneme *g in East Slavic”

Dr. Flier will explore the variegated development of Late Common Slavic *g across East Slavic territory had a profound impact on the morphological and lexical differentiation of East Slavic dialects that ultimately produced major anomalies in the histories of Russian, Ukrainian, and Belarusian. These include adjectival and pronominal endings spelled with <g> but pronounced as [v] (Russian), asymmetrical infinitive formation (Ukrainian and Belarusian), unexpected invocation of the Lord (Russian), the barking of Russian dogs, the marking of money (Ukrainian), and the pronunciation of Gamburg, Gitler, Gimalai, and gimn for foreign Hamburg, Hitler, Himalayas, and hymn (Russian).

Thursday, 25 October, 2007

3:00PM

Durham Language and Literature Bldg, Room 165

Free and open to the public

Call for information: 480-965-9323