

POLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

“POLISH STUDIES”

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

AN OVERVIEW

2010



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF ARTS & SCIENCE

CONTENTS

I. Overview.....3

II. Polish Studies at the University of Toronto.....5

III. Current Status of U of T's Polish Program.....14

IV. The Future of the Polish Program.....15

Appendix.....16

Please Note: The term “Polish Studies” for the University of Toronto should include both the Konstanty Reynert Chair of Polish History as well as the Polish Language and Literature Program in the Department of Slavic Studies. In this report the term “Polish Studies” refers only to the Polish Language and Literature Program. We regret any confusion that this terminology may have created.

I. OVERVIEW

The University of Toronto's Faculty of Arts and Science is home to Canada's—and one of the world's—largest and strongest clusters of expertise and teaching in languages and literatures. As one of the foundations of a first-class liberal arts education is fluency in world languages, and a deep knowledge of their literatures and cultures, this fount of expertise represents a tremendous asset. Students who study, live and work in an interconnected world, after all, are able to participate more meaningfully and with greater confidence and influence when they can speak other languages and appreciate multiple cultures. Their knowledge of language and literature, valuable for its own sake, also deepens their understanding of the history, politics, economics and cultures around the world. This kind of knowledge enables students to navigate across cultures with greater ease and is one of the critical building blocks of global citizenship.

In recognition, generally, of the importance that knowledge of foreign languages and cultures has in multicultural, globalized society, and, specifically, of the constitutive role that Slavic—notably Polish and Ukrainian—immigrants have played in building our nation and contributing to the cultural mosaic, the University of Toronto (U of T) has made Polish Studies part of the rich offerings of humanities courses since the 1960s. Housed in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, it is in the unique position of being the only full undergraduate *and* graduate program in Polish language and culture in Canada, and one of only a handful in North America, equal in terms of resources attributed to it to the elite American programs. In fact, it is one of the biggest programs in North America in terms of course offerings, comprehensiveness and number of students served. Polish language and literature courses are complemented by Polish history courses, taught by an eminent scholar, Prof. Piotr Wrobel, who holds an endowed chair.

Moreover, the Polish Program cooperates with other humanities and social science programs to which bridges have been built over decades, such as cinema studies, drama and of course the Centre for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CERES). In but one example, in 2008, a troupe of 15 drama students traveled to Poland as part of the Faculty of Arts and Science's Internationalized Course Modules program, where they participated in two international theatre festivals; this expedition was instigated by Professor Tamara Trojanowska, who heads both the Polish Program and the University College Drama Program.

Thanks to the exemplary scholarship and commitment to teaching of the program's distinguished leadership over the years, U of T's Polish Program has gained a reputation for excellence in North America and Poland.

Furthermore, it is important to note significant ways in which Polish studies at U of T is integrally connected with the broader academic community. A prominent example is a major international collaborative research project on the literary histories of East Central Europe that was seeded by U of T's Centre for Comparative Literature and funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Professor John Neubauer

of the University of Amsterdam and Professor Marcel Cornis-Pope of Virginia Commonwealth University assumed editorship of the ambitious five-volume project, which involved dozens of scholars—among them graduate students—from Canada, the US and Europe, including those from U of T's Slavic, history and comparative literature units. This monumental rethinking of the literary history of the region has served to forge productive connections across disciplines, institutions and borders, an impressive achievement which speaks powerfully to the interdisciplinary ethos and international reach of humanities initiatives at U of T.

Thus, as students of Polish descent decide to explore their heritage, and as more non-Polish students become intrigued by the Polish achievements in film, theatre, literature and the arts and seek to gain insight into the relations with other world cultures, we are confident that Polish culture, language and history within the Canadian, and indeed global, perspective will continue to grow in significance.

We appreciate this opportunity to inform you about the activities of the Polish Program in recent years, and to provide you with an indication of its future at the University of Toronto, the challenges which must be met, and the opportunities which are available for those committed to preserving this area of study.

II. POLISH STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO: A WORLD LEADER IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Founded in 1827, the University of Toronto (U of T) is Canada's largest and most distinguished university. U of T offers teaching programs in 17 academic divisions located on three campuses and in 10 fully affiliated teaching hospitals. Over the last two decades, our faculty members—who represent eight per cent of Canada's university faculty—have won approximately 25 per cent of the nation's most distinguished awards. U of T is one of only two Canadian members in the prestigious Association of American Universities. Not content to rest on these impressive achievements, U of T is building on its reputation as Canada's leading university and now is among the foremost public teaching and research universities in the world. Indeed, in the 2009 *Times Higher Education—QS World University Rankings*, in terms of academic reputation, U of T is the world's ninth strongest university as judged by academics at other institutions around the world; U of T also stood out globally in terms of its performance in specific disciplines, notably ranking 11th in the arts and humanities.

THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE: ADVANCING GLOBAL FLUENCY

The heart of this great university is the Faculty of Arts and Science—a vibrant intellectual community of students and scholars who are deeply committed to excellence, discovery and innovation. With over 27,000 full- and part-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate students, Arts and Science represents over half the student population on the University's St. George campus. Overall, 73 per cent of U of T undergraduates and one third of graduates pursue degrees in the humanities, social sciences and sciences. The Faculty is the core of a three-campus graduate program focusing on doctoral education and research. The Faculty is committed to offering the highest quality liberal arts education to all qualified students, and to providing an academic environment which promotes the production of leading scholarship and openness to the diversity of world cultures.

U of T and the Faculty of Arts and Science understand the important role that knowledge of world languages and cultures plays in fostering cross-cultural understanding and global fluency. We are committed to ensuring that their study is an integral part of the curriculum, both as individual programs and as important elements in cross-disciplinary programs. Polish Studies has been a notable part of our humanities offerings through units like the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the Department of History, the latter of which is home to an endowed Polish history chair made possible thanks to donations from Toronto's Polonia community. It has close links with the Cinema Studies Program, University College Drama Program and the Graduate Centre for Study of Drama. The Polish Program, moreover, is part of the CERES, which promotes interdisciplinary scholarship in the affairs of all European countries with a

special interest in the Slavic world (not exclusively Russia), primarily in the social sciences. This cooperation takes the form of cross-listing undergraduate and graduate courses, supervising doctoral theses and administrative ties.

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

U of T's Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures offers undergraduate and graduate (both M.A. and Ph.D.) programs in Croatian, Czech, Polish, Russian, Serbian and Ukrainian languages and literatures as well as a graduate program in Slavic linguistics and undergraduate courses in Macedonian. This constitutes one of the broadest ranges of Slavic languages, literatures and cultures among North American universities. The department is also home to a strong Finnish program. In addition to national-specific courses, a number of cross-Slavic courses put a national culture within the context of the broader region, enabling students to understand the cross-fertilizations and bridges between them. With its strong tradition in scholarship, its high standards for student performance and its exemplary record in teaching, it is recognized as a leader in North America in providing an integrated Slavic program. (*Note: As of 2009-2010, all Hungarian courses are administered by CERES. See Appendix I for listing of courses that focus on Polish and for which Polish is a component.*)

POLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE PROGRAM

As noted, the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures houses the Polish language and literature program.

The Polish Program is the only fully accredited undergraduate *and* graduate degree program of its kind in Canada, and one of the largest, in terms of enrolment, course offerings and graduate students, in North America. It was established in the 1960s. Among its distinguished professors have been Danuta Bienkowska, a well-known writer and poet, Richard Lourie, an accomplished writer and prolific translator, and Louis Iribarne, the highly esteemed translator of Witkacy, Miłosz and Gombrowicz. Until her retirement in 1998, Hanka Markowicz taught Polish language. Since 1998, the program has been run by Tamara Trojanowska, a graduate of Kraków's Jagiellonian University (M.A.) and of U of T's Graduate Centre for Study of Drama (Ph.D.) and a specialist in Polish literature, culture, film and theatre.

The program aspires to provide comprehensive, comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives on Polish language, literature and culture in cross-cultural, university setting. The program has four main goals:

1. to serve as the main Canadian point of connection in the international network of scholars working on developing and promoting Polish Studies abroad;
2. to contribute to the research and intellectual life at U of T by organizing and participating in critical, comparative and interdisciplinary projects with an emphasis on promoting the professional development of graduate students;
3. to provide undergraduate students at U of T with broadly contextualized courses that use diversified source materials to teach critical approaches;
4. to provide Polish-Canadian communities with continuous access to their cultural heritage by offering comprehensive and consistent selection of courses in Polish language and literature.

Programs

Over its history, the Polish Program has developed very dynamic undergraduate and graduate programs with an interdisciplinary edge. Undergraduate students can work towards a specialist, major or minor in Polish literature and culture as they earn their B.A.. Graduate students can obtain an M.A. or Ph.D. degree, or study Polish literature as their minor field in the Slavic department.

The program offers three levels of language instruction, using the latest in teaching methodology, as well as 10 undergraduate and six graduate courses on Polish literature (all genres of prose, poetry, drama), culture, film and theatre, on a rotation basis. In any given year, five one-semester courses are offered, including at least two graduate courses (*see Appendix for the current complete list of courses*).

As noted above, the Polish Program also cooperates with the Department of History; undergraduate students can major or minor in the Polish Studies Program, which combines courses on Polish literature, culture, history and language. The language courses serve students from many programs who need three years of foreign language to fulfill their program's requirements and to secure the Language Citation on their transcript.

Personnel

The current head of the Polish Program is Professor Tamara Trojanowska, Ph.D. Her research interests include Polish modernism, avant-garde and postmodernism, with a specialization in theatre and drama. In addition to authoring numerous publications in scholarly journals, she is the co-editor of an anthology of North American scholarship on Polish literature, *Polonistyka po amerykańsku* (IBL PAN, 2006), with Halina Filipowicz and Andrzej Karcz. In collaboration with her graduate students, Artur Płaczekiewicz, Agnieszka Polakowska and Olga Ponichtera, she edited a collection of essays, *Polish Culture and European Modernity: New Perspectives* (PIASA, 2011). With colleagues

from Poland and the United States, she is compiling a new history of Polish literature written by authors from three countries, co-editing a book of essays on Polish drama and theatre and putting out a new series of translations of Polish classics. She regularly participates in international academic conferences and gives lectures at universities. A passionate teacher and popular adviser, she regularly supervises graduate students not only in the Slavic department, but also in the drama and theatre programs, in particular those who have a Polish component in their theses.

Professor Trojanowska is also actively engaged in community outreach, sharing her expertise as a member of the Turzanski Foundation and, up until the Spring of 2010, as a Vice-President of the Polish Institute of Arts and Science, Toronto Chapter. Some of her time is committed to lectures to communities inside and outside of the university. Among these appearances are the following: a two-day series of lectures for a summer program, “Poland in the Rockies,” for international students of Polish history and culture, which she has held three times (2006, 2008, 2010); a talk on “Young Polish Theatre and the Romantic Tradition,” which was organized by the Adam Mickiewicz Foundation and the Polish Students Association at U of T (April 2007); and a presentation, “Ethics and Metaphysics: Kieślowski’s *Blind Chance*,” for the Psychoanalytical Society of Toronto (April 2007).

Professor Trojanowska is aided by a stipend language instructor. From 2000 to 2005, accomplished linguists and second-language acquisition specialists from leading universities in Poland taught Polish language at U of T. They were Drs. Aleksandra Niewiara, Bożena Szalasta-Rogowska and Jolanta Tambor from the Silesian University in Katowice, Dr. Anna Seretny from the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Dr. Agnieszka Karolczuk from the Catholic University in Lublin and Dr. Katarzyna Kasztenna from the Wrocław University. Since 2005, Polish language has been taught by Dr. Artur Placzkiewicz (Ph.D. 2005, U of T) and Ms. Olga Ponichtera (M.A. 2002 and B.Ed 2010, U of T). In addition, graduate students Łukasz Siciński (Ph.D. candidate, Polish literature) and Łukasz Wodzyński (Ph.D. candidate, Comparative Literature) have been teaching courses.

Enrolment

The undergraduate program welcomes approximately 80-90 (and upwards of 120 at its peak) students a year, while approximately four to 10 graduate students take advantage of the course offerings every year. The number of undergraduate students pursuing a degree in Polish (Polish Language and Literature Major, Minor and specialist; Polish Studies Major and Minor) has held steady at 13 students per year over the last five years. The number of graduate students pursuing an M.A. or Ph.D. degree has likewise remained constant, averaging four in the last three years.

It is worth noting that a number of graduate students—eight in recent years—doing work in other Slavic literatures, primarily Russian and Ukrainian, have minored in Polish.

Academic Events and Outreach

In recent years, the Program—its faculty and graduate students—have been very active in the organization of international symposia and conferences. *The Rough and the Polished* was a symposium on Polish culture and society held in 2004 and 2005. A highly regarded international conference, *In Search of (Creative) Diversity: New Perspectives in Polish Literary and Cultural Studies Abroad*, took place in 2006 that was co-organized by academic institutions in Canada, the United States and Poland—the first time such a feat had been undertaken. It has turned into a biannual conference on Polish Studies in North America. In 2007, a symposium entitled *The Writings of Joseph Conrad - Three Perspectives* was accompanied by the installation in Robarts Library of the exhibition prepared by the Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature in Warsaw, *Joseph Conrad Twixt Land & Sea*.

In addition to the Polish focused events, Polish faculty and students participate in trans-national academic conferences. For example, Professor Taras Koznarsky, who teaches Ukrainian at U of T, organized the well-attended 2007 symposium *Eurasian Cities: Between Metropolis and Frontier*. This forum brought Canadian, US and Central European scholars together to explore the social, political and cultural manifestations of Eurasian urban centres during the era of their most dramatic growth and transformations: from the 19th century to the present day. Organized thematically rather than by city/area or discipline, it turned out to be a true symposium in the classical meaning of the word: a conversation with a free interchange of ideas. The symposium provided a geographically wide and methodologically rich context for the exploration of diverse urban centres.

To take another example, in November 2009, Professor Tamara Trojanowska with Professor Pia Kleber organized *After the Wall was Over: Performing the New Europe*, an international conference hosted by the University College Drama Program. The conference gathered international scholars and artists from Canada, Germany, Italy, Poland, Scotland, Sweden and the United States to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the end of communist rule in Eastern Europe and critically assess the consequences of this monumental change through discussions about theatre and the performing arts. The conference was accompanied by an exhibition, *The Decade of Solidarity*, organized by the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland, and featured an photo exhibit in the Consulate General of the Republic of Germany. The organizers also presented a new documentary, *Up Against the Wall*, by Eileen Thalenberg and hosted the director at the screening.

What is so significant about these international gatherings and the scholarly fruits that result from continued collaboration is the novel treatment of Polish Studies abroad and in Poland and the way in which new horizons are opened up for scholars and students.

The Polish Language and Literature Program, moreover, has been involved in organizing public events—almost 40 over the past 10 years alone. These events have enriched the academic experience of students, raised the profile of Polish Studies within the university

community and engaged members of Polonia in the scholarly and cultural activities on campus. Events include guest lectures by leading North American and Polish historians and literary critics, such as Andrzej Busza, Marek Jan Chodakiewicz, Romuald Cudak, Katarzyna Kasztenna, Marian Kisiel, Barbara Koc, Jacek Kopciński, Wojciech Ligęza, Michał Mikos, Wojciech Tomasiak, Adam Walaszek, Alina Witkowska and Bohdan Zadura. In addition to holding readings by distinguished poets like Adam Czerniawski, Bogdan Czaykowski, Anna Frajlich and Krzysztof Koehler, the program has promoted new translations from Polish literature. Some of the most high profile meetings were those with authors of important, new books published in English regarding Polish history and culture: with Irena Tomaszewska (*I'm First a Human Being*), Norman Davies (*Rising '44*), Lynne Olson and Stanley Cloud (*Question of Honor*) and Joanna Wiszniewicz (*And Yet I Still Have Dreams: A Story of a Certain Loneliness*). Screenings of new documentary films have been organized, such as *The Forgotten Odyssey*, by Jagna Wright and Aneta Naszyńska, *Battle for Warsaw*, by Wanda Koscia, and Andrzej Wajda's *Katyń*. The program has been involved in exhibitions and accompanying discussions, such as *Polish People's Republic, 1944-1989: So Far Away, So Close By*, first held at the University of Waterloo before coming to U of T's Munk School of Global Affairs. And it has promoted new publications in Polish, such as Jan Miodek's *Słownik Ojczyzny Polszczyzny* and *AKCENT*, a literary quarterly in Poland.

In 2010, the students, with the patronage of the Polish Canadian Congress, organized a Spring Soirée to raise funds for the Council in Support of Polish Studies at the University of Toronto. Featured were performances by Margaret Maye, Kabaret Pod Banką, Marta Herman and the Rise and Improve Modern Dance Ensemble, among others. Later, in April of 2010, the Polish Language and Literature Program held an open house for Polish high schools. In so many ways, the program and its members are extending the reach, and raising awareness of, the contributions of Polish among the broader university community and general public.

Finally, the Polish Program cooperates closely with Polish organizations and foundations, including the Council for the Support of Polish Studies at the University of Toronto, the Millennium Foundation, the Adam Mickiewicz Foundation and the Turzański Foundation. All of these organizations have been very generous in their financial support over the years.

Exchange Programs

U of T students are able to participate in exchange programs with Poland, thanks to a formal exchange agreement that was signed in 2004 with the **Jagiellonian University** in Kraków. It is open to students in many fields, including the humanities, international relations, political science, history and European studies.

Participation in the Jagiellonian University Exchange Program

| YEAR | STUDENTS | TOTAL # OF TERMS | NUMBER OF STUDENTS |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2005-2006 | 2 Undergraduate | 4 | 2 |
| 2006-2007 | 3 Undergraduate | 5 | 3 |
| 2007-2008 | 1 Undergraduate | 2 | 1 |
| 2008-2009 | - | - | - |
| 2009-2010 | 1 Graduate | 1 | 1 |

In addition, through an agreement with **Civitas International Professional Internship Programs**, students can apply for full-time professional internships in various profit, public and non-profit organizations in Warsaw. These internships may be in the following fields: civil society and local community development; civic and political education; human rights, migration and refugees; European integration, international politics and diplomacy; arts, history and culture; media, advertising and journalism; Jewish history, arts, music and culture; economics, business and finance; transparency in public administration and anti-corruption policies; environment; and theatre education. While undertaking internships, students can also register for specialized for-credit undergraduate or graduate seminars and Polish language courses at Collegium Civitas.

Student Experience

The Polish Studies Program offers students an excellent experience, both inside and outside the classroom.

First, outside the classroom, the students enjoy a robust social and cultural life. In addition to the extra-curricular events noted above, a recent student initiative is “Gadki-Szmatki,” a bi-weekly, informal meeting for Polish language and literature students. During these evening gatherings, the students participate in informal talks about Polish culture, celebrate special occasions, watch films and socialize.

The experience inside the classroom is attested to by recent student evaluations of the Polish language and culture courses, which are generally excellent. Below is a sampling of evaluations of these courses (published in the *ASSU-Anti-Calendar*). Listed as well are a few Polish history courses (*see Appendix I for listing of Polish history courses*). (*Note the top score possible is “7” and the retake rate is the percentage of students who would take the course again.*)

| YEAR | COURSE | ENROLMENT | EVALUATIONS | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | | | TEACHING | LEARNING EXPERIENCE | RETAKE |
| LANGUAGE & CULTURE | | | | | |
| 2006 | Elementary Polish | 9 | 6.8 | 6.5 | 100% |
| | Intermediate Polish | 7 | 6.6 | 5.5 | 100% |
| | Dynamics of Polish Literature & Culture | 15 | 6.4 | 5.6 | 92% |
| | Postwar Polish Cinema | 14 | 6.8 | 6.0 | 100% |
| | Advanced Polish I | 9 | 6.6 | 6.3 | 88% |
| | Advanced Polish II | 5 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 100% |
| 2007 | Elementary Polish | 14 | 6.2 | 5.6 | 91% |
| | Intermediate Polish | 8 | 6.9 | 5.9 | 100% |
| | Advanced Polish I | 15 | 6.1 | 5.7 | 69% |
| | What's New? Polish Culture Today | 23 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 90% |
| | Advanced Polish II | 11 | 6.4 | 5.4 | 100% |
| | Curtain Never Falls: Polish Drama and Theatre in Context | 11 | 6.5 | 5.7 | 70% |
| 2008 | Elementary Polish | 9 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 100% |
| | Intermediate Polish | 8 | 6.7 | 6.2 | 83% |
| | Dynamics of Polish Literature & Culture | 14 | 6.6 | 5.9 | 90% |
| | Advanced Polish I | 11 | 6.6 | 6.2 | 100% |
| | Advanced Polish II | 12 | 6.4 | 5.5 | 100% |
| 2009 | Elementary Polish | 9 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 100% |
| | Intermediate Polish | 12 | 6.9 | 6.1 | 100% |
| | Advanced Polish I | 16 | 6.2 | 5.5 | 100% |
| | Advanced Polish II | 14 | 6.6 | 6.1 | 100% |
| HISTORY | | | | | |
| 2007 | Polish Jews Since the Partition of Poland | 6 | 6.5 | 5.5 | 100% |
| 2008 | Poland: A Crossroads of Europe | 37 | 6.5 | 5.9 | 95% |
| | World War II in East Central Europe | 8 | 6.9 | 6.3 | 100% |
| 2009 | Poland: A Crossroads of Europe | 25 | 6.8 | 6.5 | 100% |
| | Polish Jews since the Partition of Poland | 7 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 100% |
| | World War II in East Central Europe | 8 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 100% |

(Note: By way of comparison, in the Faculty of Arts and Science, average student evaluations in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, respectively, were as follows: Teaching [5.71, 5.71], Learning Experience [5.03, 5.06] and Retake Rates [76%, 78%]. Polish courses consistently receive much higher than average ratings.)

Among the comments from these student evaluations regarding Professor Trojanowska as a teacher are the following:

Professor Trojanowska is the most enthusiastic professor I have had. Her enthusiasm is infectious and makes me feel that what I am learning will stay with me. Thank you.

I loved this course. Professor Trojanowska has been one of my favourite professors whilst attending the University of Toronto. My only critique of the course is the amount of material; two hours per week is not enough time to cover everything.

This is an amazing course. The material is difficult and requires a high level of concentration and attentiveness (slackers beware!). The overall experience however is very rewarding. I learned how to think critically and analyze. Professor Trojanowska is an outstanding professor who communicates both information and enthusiasm very effectively. I would highly recommend this course.

Professor Trojanowska is one of the best professors that I have ever had and her depth of knowledge is inspirational. Thank you for a great year.

Professor Trojanowska is a wonderful professor and her passion for the subject makes us want to learn. She has a great sense of humour and is very fair with assignments and marking. It has been a pleasure to be in her class.

The value of the experience in the course for me came mostly from the lecture. Professor Trojanowska expressed the deeper philosophical, historical and social contexts behind the lecture material which make a profound change in the way I understand my Polish roots and the Polish people I know.

Impact of the Program

The Polish Program has been fortunate to have had consistently top caliber students, the recipients of major prizes and scholarships (Clifford Leech Prize, Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Canada Graduate Scholarship), who have taken diverse and fulfilling professional paths post-graduation. In recent years, six graduates have gone into teaching, among them, one now works in Poland, another brought his high school students to the Open Door event and yet another works with disabled children. Two decided to pursue library studies. Many went on to do graduate work in fields as communications, biology, law (including one who now works in Africa), theology, literature and science. Three PhD graduates have landed jobs in academia: one holds a tenure-stream position in the Department of Theatre Studies at the University of Warwick in England; one is teaching the Polish language courses at U of T after having taught at the University of Wisconsin at Madison; another PhD graduate who had strong ties to the program and on whose thesis committee Professor Trojanowska served now holds a tenure-stream position, as a Polonist, at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in the Departments of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Comparative Literature.

III. CURRENT STATUS OF U OF T'S POLISH PROGRAM

The strong commitment that Poles traditionally have to their language and culture, and the University's recognition of the foundational role that cultural studies play in the formation of ethical and responsible global citizens, are reflected in the circumstances of the Polish Program at U of T. The literature and culture courses taught by Professor Trojanowska are fully supported by the University, while, for the last several years, the Polish language courses have been funded through the Slaby-Ungar Endowment Fund. The annual payout generated by this fund has been sufficient to cover the costs to hold two language courses per year.

To offer the third-level course, which accredits students with an all-important language citation on their university transcripts, it has been necessary to raise additional funds from the community which, on a year-to-year basis, have been generously donated by the Council for the Support of Polish Studies at the University of Toronto, The Millennium Foundation and The Adam Mickiewicz Foundation in Toronto. Recently, with the assistance of the Polish government, the SEMPER POLONIA Foundation in Warsaw provided \$16,000 to cover the costs associated with holding this course for one year; it is hoped that the Foundation will commit to another two years. In years when these funds prove insufficient, however, the Polish Program has run into debt to keep the critical third-year course going.

IV. THE FUTURE OF THE POLISH PROGRAM

The Polish Program has thriving graduate and healthy undergraduate communities and vibrant and innovative collaborations and outreach activities, in terms of literature and culture. However, language is absolutely essential to the proper functioning of the whole program—and, indeed, students who are undertaking the study of the history and politics of Poland through the Department of History and CERES, and its European Studies Program, also depend on the three levels of language instruction offered by the Polish Program. The University's commitment to these students, and the future of the field, can only be fulfilled by securing endowed funds to hold the third language course on an annual basis.

To this end, the University is in discussions with leaders in the Polish community about the possibility of ensuring Polish language studies. The Canadian-Polish Congress, through the Council for the Support of Polish Studies at the University of Toronto, has committed to raising \$100,000 to help support the third course and to date has reached 60% of their goal. Fundraising for this third course will continue through annual appeals and bequests in support of Polish language.

With deliberations commencing this fall to create a School of Languages and Literatures in 2011, of which programs in the Slavic department would be an integral part, there is renewed potential to build on the Faculty's unparalleled breadth in languages and literatures for the benefit of our students and faculty. The study of languages and literatures in the proposed School will be enriched by the opportunities to compare and contrast literary histories, to enhance the student experience by facilitating their ability to move across languages and cultures and to develop new courses on topics of common interest across even broader linguistic and cultural divides that has been possible or feasible to date. The Faculty expects, in short, that language and literature will grow in stature and importance, and that the opportunities for collaboration and building bridges with other important units within the Faculty will be enhanced.

APPENDIX: POLISH COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

(*Y – year courses; H – semester courses)

I. POLISH-FOCUSED LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COURSES

1. LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

SLA 106Y Elementary Polish
SLA 206Y Intermediate Polish
SLA 306H Advanced Polish I
SLA 336H Advanced Polish II

2. LITERATURE AND CULTURE

UNDERGRADUATE:

SLA 216Y The Dynamics of Polish Literature and Culture: A Survey
SLA 226H Polish Postwar Cinema
SLA346H From Eastern Europe to European Union: Polish Postwar Culture
SLA356H What's New? Polish Culture Today
SLA 406H The Curtain Never Falls: Polish Drama and Theater in Context
SLA 424H Theater and Cinema in Extremis: Staging the Twentieth-century Aesthetics and Politics (co-taught with Prof. V. Ambros)
SLA436H Rebels, Scoffers and Jesters: Polish Culture from a Different Perspective

GRADUATE:

SLA 1304H Staging God, Man and History. Polish Drama and Theater in Context
SLA 1305H Polish Fiction or a Disrupted Funeral of the Novel
SLA 1306H Polish Poetry: Shaping the National Canon
SLA 1307H Polish Poetry in the Twentieth Century: Metaphysics, Ethics and Aesthetics
SLA 1308Y Topics in Polish Literature
SLA 1312Y Modernism and Postmodernism in Polish Literature

II. INTERDISCIPLINARY/GENERAL SLAVIC LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COURSES

1. SLAVIC LINGUISTICS

SLA 1040H Methods of Teaching Slavic Languages
SLA 1103H Comparative South Slavic Linguistics
SLA 1104H Introduction to Old Church Slavonic
SLA 1109H Studies in Old Church Slavonic
SLA 1110H Comparative Historical Slavic Linguistics
SLA 1112H Tense, Aspect and Mood in Slavic

2. SLAVIC LITERATURE AND CULTURE

UNDERGRADUATE:

SLA 318H Kyiv-Kiev-Kijow: A City Through Cultures and Centuries
SLA 202H Jewish Communities in Slavic Civilization
SLA 251H Origins of Slavic Civilization
SLA 254G Stone Books to Sky Books: Book as Institution, Commerce and Art in the Slavic Tradition
SLA 255H Slavic Languages: Unity and Diversity
SLA 256H Firebirds and Other Wonders: The World of Slavic Folklore
SLA 302H The Imaginary Jew
SLA 303H Literary Imagination and Jewish Identity in Modern Europe
SLA 380H Language, Politics and Identity
SLA 424H Theatre and Cinema in Extremis
SLA 453H Women in East European Fiction and Autobiography
SLA 476H Twentieth-century Theater and Performance: Modernism, Avant-garde, Postmodernism
SLA477H Performance: Theory and Practice

GRADUATE:

SLA 1037H Theater and Cinema in Extremis: Staging the Twentieth-century Aesthetics and Politics
SLA 1038H Performance in Theory and Practice
SLA 1039H Kyiv-Kiev-Kijow: A City Through Cultures and Centuries
SLA 1207 The Imaginary Jew
SLA 1310H Twentieth-century Theatre and Performance: Modernism, Avant-garde, Postmodernism
SLA 1421Y Women in East European Fiction
SLA 1521H Post-Modernity and the Mythopoetic Legacy of Mitteleuropa

III. POLISH HISTORY COURSES

UNDERGRADUATE:

HIS 353Y Poland: A Crossroads of Europe
HIS 433H Polish Jews Since the Partition of Poland
HIS 461H 20th-Century Poland

GRADUATE:

HIS 1287H Polish Jews Since the Partition of Poland

IV. EASTERN EUROPEAN HISTORY COURSES

UNDERGRADUATE:

HIS 251Y History of East Central Europe

HIS 334Y 19th- and 20th-Century Central Europe and the Great Powers

HIS 451H World War II in East Central Europe

HIS 453H Problems of National Survival in Eastern Europe since 1848

V. INTERDISCIPLINARY EUROPEAN POLITICS COURSES, WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN/POLISH COMPONENT (CERES)

UNDERGRADUATE:

EUR 200Y Europe from Nation State to Supranational State, 1789-Present

POL 324Y European Integration in a Global World 52L

POL 415H Political Economy of Transition: Ukraine and the CIS

GRADUATE:

ERE 1151H Contemporary Issues in European Security

ERE 1188H European Identities: Ethnicity, Citizenship, and Culture

ERE 1195H Social Mobilisation in Ukraine and Eastern Europe

ERE 1198H European Eastward Enlargement: The Political Economy of Integration and

ERE 2001H Gateway Proseminar to European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies

POL 2341H Political Economy of Transition: Ukraine and the CIS