

Alumni & Postdoc Notes

Anita Demkiv (née Petroski) (**MARS-REERS, 2004**) is CEO of ADIN Energy, an energy consulting company that she founded in 2015. She earned a Ph.D. in global affairs in 2012 from Rutgers University. Her dissertation examined the correlation between prolonged low oil prices and political instability in petrostates. She has taught at Rutgers University and Fordham University, including a course on Russian politics, and remains involved with Columbia University as a Graduate School of Arts and Sciences alumni board member. Prior to founding ADIN she worked as a crude and oil products researcher for two NYC-based brokerage firms.



Anita Demkiv (née Petroski)

Eileen Kane (**Postdoctoral Fellow, 2007–08**) is associate professor of modern European and Russian history and director of Global Islamic Studies at Connecticut College. She recently published her first book, *Russian Hajj: Empire and the Pilgrimage to Mecca* (Cornell UP, 2015).

Edmund Levin (**M.I.A., SIPA 1985; Harriman Certificate, 1990**) has been a writer and producer at ABC News (*Good Morning America*) for the past twenty years, working mostly on breaking news and political coverage. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Atlantic*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Slate* and other publications. His first book, *A Child of Christian Blood: Murder and Conspiracy in Tsarist Russia: The Beilis Blood Libel* (Schocken, 2014), came out to favorable reviews. He took part in conferences at Dartmouth, at the YIVO Institute, and in Kiev, marking the hundredth anniversary of the Beilis trial, which took place in 1913.



Edmund Levin



Kate Schecter

Kate Schecter, (Harriman Certificate, 1991; Ph.D., Political Science, 1992) joined World Neighbors as the new president and CEO in June 2014. She is responsible for managing programs and operations in thirteen countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. In her previous position, she worked for the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) for fourteen years. Schecter worked as a consultant for the World Bank for three years (1997–2000), specializing in health-care reform and child welfare issues in Eurasia and Central Eastern Europe. She has written extensively about the Soviet socialized health-care system and was a principal investigator for the Carnegie Corporation’s Russia Initiative. She is coeditor and coauthor of *Social Capital and Social Cohesion in Post-Soviet Russia* (M.E. Sharpe, 2003); and author of a chapter in *Russia’s Torn Safety Nets: Health and Social Welfare in Post-Communist Russia* (St. Martin’s Press, 2000) and an entry on Chernobyl for Scribner’s *Encyclopedia of Europe 1914–2004* (2006). She has made three documentary films for PBS about the Former Soviet Union. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on the board of Children’s National Advocacy and Public Policy, Inc., of the Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, DC, since 2010.



Daniel Schlaflly

Daniel Schlaflly (M.A. and Russian Institute Certificate, 1965; Ph.D. History, 1972) is professor of history and director of the Russian and East European Area Studies Program at Saint Louis University. He has translated and edited Marek Inglot, S.J., *How the Jesuits Survived Their Suppression: The Society of Jesus in the Russian Empire (1773–1814)* (Philadelphia, St. Joseph’s University Press, 2015) and two volumes of S. M. Solov’ev’s *History of Russia* for Academic International Press. He has published articles on Russia and the West, particularly the Roman Catholic Church and the Society of Jesus in Russia in *Kritika*, *Cahiers du monde russe et soviétique*, *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas*, *Catholic Historical Review*, *History of Education Quarterly*, *Rodina*, *Journal of Church and State*, *The Historian*, and elsewhere. His studies at Columbia were not just the foundation of his academic career but also personally rewarding. It was a real privilege to work with and get to know so many outstanding scholars, like Marc Raeff, István Deák, Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, Loren Graham, and Robert Maguire.

Christopher Walker (M.I.A., SIPA 2001; Harriman Certificate, 2001) has been named vice president for studies and analysis at the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) based in Washington, DC. In this capacity, he oversees the department that is responsible for NED's multifaceted analytical work, which includes the International Forum for Democratic Studies, a leading center for the analysis and discussion of democratic development. The International Forum pursues its goals through several interrelated initiatives: publishing the *Journal of Democracy*, the world's leading publication on the theory and practice of democracy; hosting fellowship programs for international democracy activists, journalists, and scholars; coordinating the Network of Democracy Research Institutes, a global think tank network; and organizing a diverse range of analytical initiatives to explore critical themes relating to democratic development.



Christopher Walker

John Williams (M.I.A., SIPA 1985; Harriman Certificate, 1986) is office director of the Office of Analysis for Russia and Eurasia in the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR/REA) and is a member of the U.S. government's Senior Executive Service. From 2010 to 2015, he headed INR/REA's Regional Affairs and Eastern Republics Division. From 2000 to 2010, he headed the Office's Russia Division. During his twenty-four years at the Department, he also served as a National Security Fellow at Syracuse University's Maxwell School (2012); public policy scholar at the Kennan Institute for Advanced Study of Russia at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (2001–2); and political officer at the U.S. Embassy, Moscow (1993–96). He has won several State Department and Intelligence Community awards and was selected to participate in the Director of National Intelligence's Exceptional Analyst Program (2001).



John Williams