

REEES Diversity Action Plan

REEES will take a multi-pronged approach to the expansion of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the unit during the next several years.

First, we will create a Diversity Welcoming Statement indicating our program's support for diversity that will be posted on the homepage of our website. We will also add a Resource Page for students and faculty to our website that will provide, among other things, links to two important diversity groups in Slavic Studies, ADSEEEES and Q*ASEEEES.

We will also be sure to advertise our graduate program on those listservs in an effort to attract historically underrepresented groups within Slavic Studies to our graduate program.

Second, we plan to sponsor a series of workshops and public lectures, which will be linked to our existing curriculum and will address topics of particular urgency in the Slavic Studies. Presentations by invited guests and REEES faculty will address the following issues of critical importance to our field, our unit, and our students:

Gender and LGBTQ issues in Russian language and culture: We plan to invite a specialist in Russian language pedagogy to give a workshop to graduate students and faculty and to lead a roundtable on best practices in handling the topic of non-binary gender in teaching Russian—a language that is more highly gender inflected than English. Another workshop/roundtable will focus on gender, language, sexuality and society in contemporary Russia, given by a specialist in anthropology or sociology. Ideally, we will work with other units, such as the CSWS, WGS, or INTL, on this in an effort to get the maximum student and faculty participation,

Race and Ethnicity in Slavic Studies: This is a rising field in Slavic Studies, and we would like to invite two prominent scholars of color in the Slavic field to address these topics, in both lecture and workshop format.

Longer term, we plan to review our curriculum to look for opportunities to improve diversity in our existing courses and to make our program more appealing and welcoming to historically underrepresented groups. Whenever possible, we will seek to collaborate with colleagues in Ethnic Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, and other language and literature programs.