

International Education Week



On Wednesday, November 16, 2005, a seminar was held on «The Effect of the U.S. Regional Accreditation Process on General Education Curricula: Implications for the Bologna Process.» The speaker was Philip Acree Cavalier, Assistant Dean and Associate Professor of English, Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina, U.S. Fulbright scholar and guest lecturer at the Kyiv International Institute (2005–2006). Following on discussions at the recent Fulbright Conference in Lviv regarding university autonomy, he raised, among others, the following questions:

- How does the increasing push to assess educational success using quantifiable measurements put pressure on the shape of curricula?
- How do assessment and accreditation standards affect university autonomy?
- How do Ukrainian universities establish and maintain their Ukrainian-ness while also establishing their European-ness?

Fulbright Program in Ukraine celebrated International Education Week 2005 by organizing three seminars on issues of international education. On November 15, 2005 a seminar on «Ukraine in the European Comparative Dimension: The Issues and Perspectives of Research» was held. The speaker Victor Stepanenko, Head of the Department of Sociology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Fulbright Scholar at the Kennan Institute (2003–2004) talked about modern methodology problems of comparative studies in Ukrainian sociology.

The third seminar on «Visions & Spaces of Kyiv: The Gendered Experience of the City,» was held on Thursday, November 17, 2005. It raised the question — Why use gender theory as a tool of analysis? Claims put forward for consideration and discussion were:

- Subject positions and viewpoints are engendered; this affects the subjectivity and identity of the city's inhabitants, and their spatial-visual experience of the city and its monuments.
- Gender theory asserts the discursive importance in academic study of the body and material, corporeal experience — in addition to the mind, the abstract, or idea. This challenges the imbalance in values attached to mind vs. body, and greatly improves methods to analyze the city and its experiences.
- Analyzing the spatial and visual aspects of the city through gender leads the scholar to cross disciplines, to question divisions and hierarchies within academic study, and to become more aware of their own position in relationship to what they study.



The speakers at the seminar were Marian Mazzone, Professor of Art History, College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina, U.S. Fulbright scholar, Guest lecturer at the National University of «Kyiv Mohyla Academy» (2005–2006); Myron Stachiw, Associate Professor, Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI, U.S. Fulbright researcher, Institute of Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Lviv (2004–2005), U.S. Fulbright researcher, Kyiv Taras Shevchenko National University (2005–2006) and Svitlana Shlipchenko, Senior Research Fellow, Maxym Rylskyi Institute of Art Studies, Folklore and Ethnology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Fulbright scholar, Pennsylvania State University (2002–2003).