

## **20 Years after the Berlin Wall:**

### **Women's Shifting Roles and Status in Post-Communist Europe**

**University of Iowa International Programs Major Project**

**April 7 – April 8, 2011**

**Co-Directors: Margaret H. Mills, Irina Kostina, Jitka Sonkova**

*The collapse of the Soviet era dramatically changed women's status in the family and society at large throughout the former Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc countries. As early as 1992, women supporters of this tremendous political and social upheaval realistically expected to "see the light at the end of the tunnel" that would improve their economic and social stature, as well as enhance the overall quality of their daily lives. Unfortunately, for those millions of women, the tunnel appears to have only grown longer and its illumination – even darker.*

*This International Symposium will examine the public and private stages of this post-Socialist "shift" in the lives of women to explore officially sanctioned throwbacks to pre-1917 domesticity and the ever-increasing "Double Burden" borne by women in Russia and Central and Eastern Europe.*

#### **Plenary Speakers**

**Anna Sharogradskaya**  
**Media Specialist and Professor**  
**St. Petersburg, Russia**

**Hana Haskova**  
**Deputy Chair and Professor**  
**Department of Gender & Sociology**  
**Institute of Sociology**  
**Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic**

**Thursday, April 7, 2011 UCC Conference Room 2025D Old Capitol Town Center**

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Coffee, UCC Conference Room
- 9:00 - 9:15 **Opening Session**  
**Welcome Address**                      **Professor Margaret Mills, UI**
- 9:15 - 10:00 **Plenary Speaker**                      **Professor Anna Sharogradskaya, St. Petersburg, Russia**  
  
**Title: Women and Society in 21st Century Russia**
- 10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee break & UI students’ “West and East: Women in Slavic World” Poster Session**
- 10:30 - 12:00 **Panel: Women’s Health and Collapsing Infrastructures in E.E. and Russia Today**  
  
**The Current Russian Health Care Crisis: Education and Demographic**  
Head, Professor Margaret Mills, UI  
Lauren Piette, Global Health B.A. student, UI  
Hung Tran, Global Health B.A. student, UI  
Lauren Skiba, Global Health B.A. student, UI
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00 - 2:30 **Panel: Women, Islam, Creation and Destruction in 21st Century E. Europe and Russia**  
Head, Professor Irina Kostina, UI  
Lorraine Ross, PhD, Art and Education  
Professor Anna Sharogradskaya, St. Petersburg, Russia  
Sumeyye Pakdil Kesdin, PhD student, UI
- 2:30 - 2:45 **Coffee break & UI students' Poster Session “West and East: Women in Slavic World”**
- 2:45 - 4:00 **Speaker and Roundtable**                      **Young Women of Eastern Europe and Russia Today**  
  
**Women in Corporate Eastern Europe**  
Marketa Sonkova, PhD student, Boston University
- Roundtable**      **Young Professionals’ Forum: Our Future Perspectives**  
Anna Kolesnikova, PhD student, UI, Russia  
Ivana Takacova, PhD student, UI, Slovakia  
Frane Karabatic, PhD student, Croatia
- 4:15 – 5:15 **Coffee &Movie Collage & Poetry Reading**  
**Movie Collage Images of Women from Russian Film: 1978– 2010**  
Project by Dmitry Petrov, Russian B.A. candidate, UI  
**UI undergraduates reading poetry** of classic and contemporary Czech, Slovak, Russian, Croatian, and German Women Poets in the original languages with English translations
- 6:00 - 7:30 Dinner on your own in downtown Iowa City

