

РЕЦЕНЗІЇ, ІНФОРМАЦІЇ

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2015 SUMMER INSTITUTE ON CONDUCTING ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

The article overviews the activity of the 2015 Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research, the scientific and educational seminar for PhD students founded on the initiative of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the George Washington University. The author dwells on the session blocks of the 2015 SICAR; introduces the core speeches presented by advanced scholars and researchers as well as draws attention to the vital issues raised during the seminar; shares her personal opinion about the project as a researcher.

Key words: the 2015 Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research (the 2015 SICAR), the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the George Washington University, the scientific and educational seminar for PhD students, the archival research.

To foster scientific communication, first of all open, informed and non-partisan dialogue, to develop international cooperation among a wide network of specialists, to coordinate organization of the relevant researches concerning both national and international relations – this is the aim of the activity of one of the best think-tank of the world – the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. It was founded with the decision of the Congress in 1968 to commemorate the ideals of the only President of the USA who had PhD. During its functioning for almost 50 years in Washington Wilson Center has expended research work in more than twenty scientific programs and projects. Among them are Africa Program, Asia Program, Canada Institute, Cold War International History Project, Foreign Policy Fellowship Program, Global Europe Program, International Security Studies, Kennan Institute, Kissinger Institute on China and the United States, Latin America Program, Middle East Program, Nuclear Proliferation International History Project and others¹.

One of the leading directions of the activity of Wilson Center is giving a wide support to young scholars of different countries through conducting trainings, organizing conferences and seminars, allocating scholarships and grants for different researches. Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research is of great importance here. It is a several-day scientific and educational seminar for PhD students to help them to organize their research work at the archival institutions skillfully and correctly. It was founded on the initiative of the George Washington University and is held annually beginning in 2003².

Wilson Center's History and Public Policy Program and George Washington University's Cold

War Group are both partners of the 13-th SICAR. Among the 27 lecturers who took part in the event are professional historians, archivists, policy makers, journalists and publishers. They represented different state and archival institutions and scientific and educational establishments of the USA such as the U.S. Department of State, the Institute for Defense Analyses, the National Archives and Records Administration, the National Security Archive, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the George Washington University, Princeton University, Columbia University, the Catholic University of America, the Johns Hopkins University, the University of Maryland, etc.

25 PhD students from the leading universities from Great Britain, Italy, South-Korea, Poland, the USA, Ukraine, Finland, Switzerland and other countries were selected among more than 100 applicants to participate in the seminar this year. They are future historians, political scientists and international relations specialists whose professional activities are closely connected with the using of archival sources. Scientific interests of the participants of the seminar concern various themes such as the development of cultural relations between the U.S. and Italy, the interrelationship between Japanese export promotion, the Cold War security and the U.S. consumer culture, the postwar restoration and historic preservation in the Soviet Union, the Ba'athist propaganda programs and their impact on Iraqi national identity, the inter-Korean Dialogue, Jordan's citizenship policies toward Palestinians, Great Britain's opposition to South Korea signing the peace treaty with Japan in 1945, the Finnish foreign politics and nuclear disarmament policies, the communist movements in



The first session of the 2015 Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research. In the presidium from left to right: Director of the National Security Archive at the George Washington University Thomas Blanton, Director of the History and Public Policy Program and the Global Europe Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Christian Ostermann and Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at the George Washington University Gregg Brazinsky.
May 26, 2015.

(Photos are provided by the Wilson Center's History and Public Policy Program)

late-colonial and early-independence Indonesia and Malaysia, etc. The only thing that connects these fellow students is the time interval of their researches – the period of the Cold War.

The 2015 SICAR was held on the bases of the Wilson Center (Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, 20004-3027) on the 26 – 29 of May 2015. The Director of the Wilson Center's History and Public Policy Program and the Global Europe Program Christian Ostermann and the Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at the George Washington University Gregg Brazinsky opened the seminar as its co-organizers. They greeted all the PhD students who were lucky to participate in the project, gave brief details of its history, told about the program of the seminar and wished all the participants fruitful work.

Just after introducing its participants, the first sessions of the seminar started. Its program was very rich. More than 20 themes were presented to the

PhD students during 4 days. Project format consisted of a lecturer's speech (about 60 per cent of time) and questions on the topic and general discussion of the problem (40 per cent). The program of the seminar was structured according to some blocks. The sessions of the first block presented the theoretical basis of the work at the archival institutions. The second block included practical advice of the researchers who had gained some work experience at the archives of Asia, Middle East, Latin America, Europe and Russia. In the last block, attention was on how to organize one's own archival materials, to write a dissertation or a monography and prepare them for publishing.

Acquaintance with the foundations of the functioning of the archival institutions started with the lecture by Thomas Blanton, the Director of the National Security Archive at the George Washington University, on the topic 'Confessions of a Documents Fetishist'. Being a skilled specialist, series editor for the Archive's online and book publications of



The lecture on ‘Researching at Foreign Archives (Part II): Europe and Russia’.
In the presidium from left to right: Professor of History at the University of Maryland Jeffrey Herf, chief of the Gallery Archives of the National Gallery of Art Maygene Daniels (chair), Term Faculty at the School of International Service of American University, Editor at Large at the European Institute Garret Martin, Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at the George Washington University Hope Harrison, PhD student at MIT, Fulbright Scholar at Fudan University in Shanghai Joseph Torigian.
May 28, 2015.

more than a million pages of the declassified U.S. government documents, he gave brief details about the American practice of classifying and declassification of archival documents to the participants of the seminar. The Associate Professor of History and International Affairs at the George Washington University Hope Harrison and the Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the George Washington University Harris Mylonas shared their own experience at the lecture ‘Preparing to Go to an Archive’. They paid attention to the necessity of compulsory learning the political situation and culture of the country you are going to visit, and the order and conditions of the work of the archival institutions abroad, etc. 38-year veteran of the National Archives and Records Administration David Langbart told about scientific work at the U.S. National Archives in general; the Director of the FOIA Project for the National Security Archive

Nate Jones spoke about the opportunities of using the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); the historian of the U.S. Department of State Stephen Randolph reported about the specificity of the researching the U.S. foreign relations; the journalist Ken Hughes who is specializing on the research of the White House tapes of Richard M. Nixon, Lyndon B. Johnson and John F. Kennedy informed about the Presidential recordings. Special attention was paid to the challenges and opportunities of the digital archives. The problem was presented by the Professor at the Department of History at Columbia University Matt Connelly and the Program Associate with the Wilson Center’s History and Public Policy Program and the PhD candidate in History at the George Washington University Charles Krause.

The speeches by Gregg Brazinsky (the George Washington University), Kevin Woods (the Institute for Defense Analyses) and Christopher Darnton (the



period of the informational society development. Participation in such events, acquaintance with the leading specialists in history, public policy, journalism, archives and publishing of the USA as well as with the PhD students of different countries not only widens our vision but is also the basis for scientific communication and further international cooperation. Certainly, the SICAR is a qualitative scientific and educational project, which opens wide opportunities for its participants. That is why, I strongly

recommend the seminar for the Ukrainian PhD students, especially those who specialize in researching the modern history of foreign countries and international relations.

¹ Wilson Center Programs. – [Electronic resource]. – Access mode: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/programs>.

² 2015 Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research. – [Electronic resource]. – Access mode: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/2015-summer-institute-conducting-archival-research>.

У статті представлено огляд діяльності Літньої школи з проведення архівних досліджень 2015 року – науково-освітнього семінару для аспірантів, заснованого з ініціативи Міжнародного центру Вудро Вільсона для вчених та Університету Джорджа Вашингтона. Авторка висвітлила основні виступи провідних дослідників, а також звернула увагу на стратегічно важливі питання, порушені в ході семінару; висловила особисті враження від проекту як дослідник.

Ключові слова: Літня школа з проведення архівних досліджень 2015 року, Міжнародний центр Вудро Вільсона для вчених, Університет Джорджа Вашингтона, науково-освітній семінар для аспірантів

В статье представлен обзор деятельности Летней школы по проведению архивных исследований 2015 года – научно-образовательного семинара для аспирантов, основанного по инициативе Международного центра Вудро Вильсона для ученых и Университета Джорджа Вашингтона. Автор осветила основные выступления ведущих исследователей, а также обратила внимание на важные вопросы, поднятые в ходе семинара; выразила личные впечатления от проекта как исследователь.

Ключевые слова: Летняя школа по проведению архивных исследований 2015 года, Международный центр Вудро Вильсона для ученых, Университет Джорджа Вашингтона, научно-образовательный семинар для аспирантов