

## **Katja Praznik**

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Associate Professor  
241A Center for the Arts  
University at Buffalo, SUNY  
Buffalo, NY 14260  
(email) [katjapra@buffalo.edu](mailto:katjapra@buffalo.edu)

Buffalo, Sept 8, 2020

## **EMPLOYMENT**

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- 2020– Associate Professor, Arts Management Program/Department of Media Study, University at Buffalo
- 2013–2020 Assistant professor, Arts Management Program/Department of Media Study, University at Buffalo
- 2012–2013 Visiting assistant professor, Arts Management Program/Department of Media Study, University at Buffalo
- 2009–2012 Project manager and developer, *Asociacija* – Association of Arts and Culture NGOs and Freelancers, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2007–2009 Editor in chief, *Maska – Performing Arts Journal*, Ljubljana, Slovenia

## **EDUCATION**

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- 2013 Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
Dissertation: *Intellectual Domination: Contemporary Art Between the East and The West*; advisor: Dr. Rastko Močnik
- 2006 M.A. Sociology of Culture, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 2003 B.A. Comparative Literature and Literary Theory, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

## **BOOKS PUBLISHED**

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*Art Work: Invisible Labor and the Legacy of Yugoslav Socialism*, University of Toronto Press, 2021 (in print)

*Paradoks neplačanega umetniškega dela: avtonomija umetnosti, avantgarda in kulturna politika na prehodu v postsocializem* [The Paradox of Unpaid Artistic Labor: The Autonomy of Art, the Avant-Garde, and Cultural Policy in the Transition to Post-Socialism]. Ljubljana: Založba Sophia, 2016.

**Excerpts** of two chapters reprinted in a Slovene newspaper supplement *vSoboto*, and an online portal for art and social issues Proleter

### **Reviews and Interviews:**

1. Kristina Božič, “Zakaj ne bi zahtevali, da država uredi delovne razmere? Intervju s Katjo Praznik [Why wouldn’t we demand that the state regulates the working conditions? An Interview with Katja Praznik]”, *Večer – vSoboto*, vol. 73, no. 52, pp. 12–15.
2. Magda Tušar, “Payment and Love: Conversation with Katja Praznik,” *Kulturni Fokus* [Culture Focus], RTV SLO – Radio and Television Slovenia, May 19, 2017.

3. Jasna Jasna Žmak, "The Paradox of Artistic Labor: An Interview with Katja Praznik," *Art Margins Online*, July 30, 2017.
4. Jasna Jasna Žmak, "Katja Praznik: Umjetnički rad je stvaran rad, a ne božanska intervencija [Katja Praznik: Artistic work is actual labor and not a divine intervention]," *Vox Feminae*, June 13, 2017.
5. Kaja Kraner, "Umetniško delo – umetnost in delo [Artwork – Art and Work]," Art-area, Radio Študent Ljubljana, March 28, 2017.
6. Blaž Gselman "Ime česa je umetniški genij?" [The name of what is artistic genius?] *Dialogi* 53, no. 9 (2017): 153–155.
7. Goran Pavlič, "Katja Praznik, Paradoks neplačanega umetniškega dela" *3k: kapital, klasa, kritika*, no 4. (2017):197–201.
8. Jasmina Šepetavc, "Katja Praznik, Paradoks neplačanega umetniškega dela", *Družboslovne razprave* 35, no. 92 (2019): 109–112.

*Ideologije plesnega telesa* [Ideologies of the Dancing Body, 123 pages]. Published as half of the two-author publication, *Kronotopografije plesa: Dve razpravi* [Chronotopographies of Dance: Two Inquiries (second author Eda Čufer)]. Ljubljana: Zavod Emanat, 2010.

#### **Reviews and Interviews:**

1. Ana Perne, "Knjiga dveh razprav The Book of Two Discussions," *Maska – performing arts journal*, vol. XXVI, no. 137–138 (2011): 74–75.
2. Pia Brezavšček, "O dveh kronotopografskih razpravah [On two chronotopographic discussions," *Teritorij teatra* [The Theatre Territory], Radio Študent, Ljubljana 28. 2. 2011
3. Books on 46. Maribor Theatre Festival, public conversation with Katja Praznik, Oct 19, 2011

#### **ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

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- "Artists as Workers: The Undoing of Yugoslav Socialism and the Politics of Unpaid Labor." *Social Text* 144, vol. 38, no. 3 (2020): 83–115.
- "Plačajte umetnike: taktike boja v prekarnih časih [Pay the Artists: Tactics of Struggle in Precarious Times]." *Časopis za kritiko znanosti /Journal for the Critique of Science* XLVI, no. 272 (2018): 104–114.
- "Autonomy or Disavowal of Socioeconomic Context: The Case of Law for Independent Cultural Workers in Slovenia." *Historical Materialism* 26, no. 1 (2018): 103–135.
- "Independence or Competition: Art Workers in Slovenia." *KPY Cultural Policy Yearbook 2016: Independent Republic of Culture*. Serhan Ada (ed.). Istanbul: Bilgi University Press, 2017, 19–27.
- "Mesto žensk med strukturno podrejenostjo in tranzicijsko utajo razrednih razmerij" [City of Women between a Structural Subordination and Effects of Concealed Class Relations During Post-Socialist Transition]. *Časopis za kritiko znanosti /Journal for the Critique of Science* XLIII, no. 261 (2015): 74–89.
- "The crucial question seems to me how is democracy institutionalized...? A Conversation with Darko Suvin." *Extrapolations* 53, no. 2 (2012): 233–240.
- "Ideologije uprizorjanja plesnega telesa: Yvonne Rainer in Pina Bausch" [Performing Ideologies of the Dancing Body: Yvonne Rainer and Pina Bausch]. *Dialogi* 45, no. 5-6 (2009): 49–70.

“Sodobni ples v Sloveniji – Strategije preživetja otrok poltačene zgodovine” [Contemporary Dance in Slovenia – The Survival Strategies of the Children of Suppressed History], *Amfiteater* 1, no. 1 (2008): 207–222.

### **BOOK CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES**

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- “Women, Art and Labor, or the Limits of Representational Politics.” *City of Women Reflecting 2019/2020*. Tea Hvala (ed.). Ljubljana: Association for Promotion of Women in Culture – City of Women, 2020, 27–34.
- “1% of Artistic Labour, or the Pygmalion-like Effects of the Institution of Art.” *Jaka Babnik: Pygmalion*. Tevž Logar and Julija Hoda (eds.). Ljubljana: MGML, 2019, pp. 95–100.
- “Producing a Reserve Army of Cultural Labor, or, the Surpluses of Slovene Cultural Policy 2005–2015.” *Crises and New Beginnings: Art in Slovenia 2005–2015*. Tamara Soban and Igor Španjol (eds.). Ljubljana: Moderna Galerija, 2015, 57–69.
- “Ideological Subversion vs. Cultural Policy of Late Socialism: The Case of the Scipion Nasice Sisters Theatre (SNST).” *NSK from Kapital to Capital – Neue Slowenische Kunst: The Event of the Final Decade of Yugoslavia*. Zdenka Badovinac, Eda Čufer, and Anthony Gardner (eds.). Ljubljana/Cambridge, Mass.: Moderna Galerija/MIT Press, 355–365.
- “At the Crossroads of the Slovenian Independent Cultural Scene.” *Exit Europe – New Geographies of Culture*. Katarina Pavić and Milica Pekić (eds.). Zagreb: Savez udruga Klubtura/Mreža Clubture, 2011, 86–99.
- “Jaz sem v gibu s teboj. Slovenski sodobni ples med gibom in telesom” [I Am With You in Movement. Slovene Contemporary Dance Between the Movement and the Body]. *Sodobne scenske umetnosti* [Contemporary Performing Arts]. Bojana Kunst and Petra Pogorevc (eds.). Ljubljana: Maska, 2006, 258–273.

### **NON-PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND SHORTER ESSAYS**

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- “Wages for Art Workers – Confronting the Paradox of Unpaid Labor in the Arts.” *Innovative Leadership Network Publications, Dansehallerne*. 2020. Online (*forthcoming*).
- “Paradoks neplačenog umjetničkog rada: ljubav u ritmu eksploatacije [The Paradox of Unpaid Artistic Labor: Loving the Work of Art to the Beat of Exploitation].” *Slobodni filozofski*, 2019. Online.
- “Az avantgárdtól az alternatíváig: a művészi munka az öngazgatói szocializmus idején Jugoszláviában [From the Avant-Garde to the Alternative: Artistic Labor and Autonomy of Art During Self-Managed Socialism].” *Eszmélet – a quarterly journal for social critique and culture*, no. 118 (2018): 176–199.
- “A Short Guide to Contemporary Art in Slovenia,” *Artmargins Online*, January 5, 2010.
- “Between the Avant-garde, Modernism and Amateurism: a Fragmentary History of Contemporary Dance in Ljubljana in the 1960s and the 1970”, *Maska – performing arts journal XXIV*, no. 123–124 (2009):68–84.
- “Theatre, Emancipation and Political Power: Two Cases From the Past”, *Chto Delat* (Theater of Accomplices), no. 08–32 (2011):13–14.
- “Body in Loops” [Nazankano telo] in Elizabeth Grosz, *Neulovljiva telesa: h korporealnemu feminizmu*, [Slovene translation of *Volatile Bodies: Toward the Corporeal Feminism*], Ljubljana: Zavod Emanat, 2008, 5–15.

“Performing the History of Contemporary Dance” [Uprizoriti zgodovino sodobnega plesa], in Mark Franko, *Plesati modernizem/Uprizarjati politiko* [Slovene translation of *Dancing Modernism/Performing Politics*], Ljubljana: Zavod EN-KNAP, 2006, 7–14.

## **ARTICLES IN EXHIBITON AND FESTIVAL CATALOGUES**

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“The Trouble With Autonomy or the (Self)exploitation of Artistic Labor.” *This is Work*. Fictional Collective (eds.). 2015. Online.

“Non-transformation of Cultural System and Cultural Policy/Odsotnost transformacije kulturnega sistema in kulturne politike” and “Absence of History/Odsotnost zgodovine.” *The Glossary of the Present and Presence/Pojmovnik sedanjosti in prisotnosti*. Zdenka Badovinac, Bojana Piškur, Igor Španjol (eds.). Ljubljana: Moderna Galerija, 2012, pp. 90–91, 30–31 and 57–58, 31–32.

“What we talk about when we talk about humankind.” *Jaka Babnik, We Are Dogs*. Ljubljana: Rostfrei Publishing, 2012, 7.

“Teorija za šankom” [The Bar Theory]. *Humor Works Reader*. Katja Kobolt and Dunja Kukovec (eds.). Ljubljana: Association for Promotion of Women in Culture – City of Women, 2–3.

## **TRANSLATIONS FROM ENGLISH TO SLOVENE**

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Eda Čufer, “Uživaj, zlorabi me, sem tvoj umetnik – spomeniki in ruševine kulturnih politik” [Enjoy Me, Abuse Me, I Am Your Artist: Cultural Politics, Their Monuments, Their Ruins], *Maska* 23, no. 117–118 (2008): 17–35.

*Pierre Bourdieu v Alžirji: pričevanja (podobe) izkoreninjenosti* [Pierre Bourdieu in Algeria. Testimonies of Uprooting]. Marina Gržinić (ed.). Celje: Galerija sodobne umetnosti, 2005.

## **PERFORMING ARTS CRITICISM AND POLITICAL JOURNALISM**

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2003–2009 dance and theatre critic for *Dnevnik*, national daily newspaper

2008 political commentaries for *Terminal* on Radio Študent Ljubljana (89.3 FM)

## **INVITED LECTURES**

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“From Cultural Workers to Socialist Entrepreneurs – the Dissolution of Art as Labor” Indigo Festival, Ljubljana, Slovenia, conference Precarity or Self-Management?, 100 Years – 200 Issues of *Maska*, Sept 10, 2020.

“Political Economy of Art: A Discussion with Katja Praznik and Sezgin Boynik,” Kuda.org. Center for New Media, Novi Sad, Serbia, Vectors of Collective Imagination in Art Conversation Series, July 28, 2020.

“Invisible Labor of Art: A Contribution toward a Labor Equity in the Arts,” Lokomotiva Centre for New Initiative in Arts and Culture, Skopje, Macedonia, Contemporary Culture and Cultural Policy Lecture Series, June 24, 2020.

“Art as Labor: A Feminist Approach to a Disavowed Economy of Art” Centar za ženske studije/Center for Women’s Studies, Zagreb, Croatia, June 25, 2020

“Wages for Art Workers – Confronting the Paradox of Unpaid Labor in the Arts.” Dansehallerne, Copenhagen, Denmark, Innovative Leadership Speaker Series, December 17, 2019.

“Feminist Politics and Artistic Labor.” 25<sup>th</sup> International Festival City of Women Festival (Mesto žensk), Ljubljana, October 10, 2019.

- “The Paradox of Unpaid Artistic Labor: Loving the Work of Art to the Beat of Exploitation.”  
Centar za ženske studije/Center for Women’s Studies, Zagreb, Croatia, June 10, 2019.
- “From the Avant-Guard to the Alternative: artistic labor and autonomy during socialism.”  
AGRFT Academy for Theatre, Radio, Film and Television, University of Ljubljana,  
Slovenia, May 25, 2017.
- “Unpaid artistic labor and post-socialist transition.” Multimedia Institute MAMA, Zagreb,  
Croatia, May 23, 2017.
- “Independence or Entrepreneurship? Cultural workers in Slovenia.” University of Maribor,  
Slovenia, May 22, 2017.
- “Producing a Reserve Army of Cultural Labor, or, the Surpluses of Slovene Cultural Policy  
2005–2015.” *Crises and New Beginning: Art in Slovenia 2005–2015*, Museum of  
Contemporary Art Metelkova, Ljubljana, Slovenia, Jan 28, 2016.
- “Wages for Art Workers: Strategies confronting unpaid artistic labor in Slovenia and USA.”  
Social Center Xaspel, Sofia, Bulgaria, New Left Perspectives Speaker Series, June 7,  
2015.
- “Artists as workers: Autonomy, Precarity and the Politics of Unpaid Labor.”  
Zurich University of the Arts [Zürcher Hochschule der Künste], *Practices and Artistic  
Intervention* Speaker Series, Zurich, Switzerland, September 22, 2014.
- “Artist as Cultural Worker.” Institute A.V.A., Ljubljana, Slovenia, March 15, 2012.
- “Pina Bausch: Confronting Body Norms.” 15th International festival City of Women,  
Ljubljana, Slovenia, October 10, 2009.
- “Dance and Ideologies of Body: Rainer, Bausch, Delak.” Seminar of Contemporary Performing  
Arts, Cankarjev dom Ljubljana, Slovenia, March 10, 2008.

## **PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO**

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- “Art as Labor and the Legacy of Yugoslav Socialism.” 10th ICCEES World Congress, Montreal,  
CA, Aug 2020 (*forthcoming*)
- “Art Workers in Yugoslavia and the Paradox of Unpaid Artistic Labor.” 51st ASEEES Annual  
Convention, San Francisco, CA, Nov 2019.
- “Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav Cultural Spheres: Connections, Debates Policies.” ASEEES  
Summer Convention, University of Zagreb, Croatia, June 2019.
- “This Could Be the Place: State of Emergency – Symposium.” University of Waterloo, ON,  
Canada, June 2018
- “Artistic Labor and Monetary Value.” MoneyLab #5 Symposium: Matters of Currency,  
Hallwalls, Buffalo, NY, April 2018.
- “Exceptionality, Entrepreneurship and Exploitation: Post-Socialist Transformation of Art  
Workers.” 36th International Labor Process Conference, Univeristy of Buenos Aires,  
Argentina, March 2018.
- “Roundtable: Immaterial and ‘Wasteful’ Artistic Labor.” MeCCSA (Media Communication &  
Cultural Studies Association) Annual Conference, London South Bank University, Jan  
2018.
- “The Paradox of Unpaid Labor in the United States,” Humanities Institute Scholars at Hallwalls,  
Buffalo, NY, Dec 2017
- “Art Workers: Yugoslav State, Cultural Policy and Transgression.” 49th ASEEES Annual  
Convention, Chicago, IL, Nov 2017.

- “Artistic Labor During Self-Managed Socialism: From Avant-Garde to the Alternative.” 53<sup>rd</sup> ITH – International Conference of Labor and Social History, Linz, Austria, September 2017.
- “Unpaid Artistic Labor Under Neoliberalism: Transforming Cultural Workers into Cultural Entrepreneurs in Post-Socialist Slovenia.” 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Sociological Association, Athens, Greece, August 2017.
- “Contradictions of the Ideological Subversion and Cultural Politics of Late Socialism: The Case of the Scipio Nasice Sisters Theatre (SNST).” University at Buffalo, Center for European Studies, February 3, 2015.
- “(Neo)liberalization of Cultural Policies for Artistic Labor: The Continuity of Market Measures from Socialism to the Post-Socialist Era.” 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Cultural Policy Research, University of Hildesheim, Germany, Sept 2014.
- “The Autonomy of Artistic Labor and the Obfuscation of Class Relations: The Slovenian Cultural System from the 1980s to the Present” Historical Materialism conference, York University, Canada, May 2014.
- “Welfare or precarity? The History of Cultural Legislation for Artistic Labor and the Escalation of Class Differences in the Cultural System: The Slovenian case” Mayday School: Classes on the Periphery, Institute for Labor Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia, May 2014.
- “Autonomy or Disavowal of Socioeconomic Context: The Case of Law for the Independent Cultural Workers in Slovenia.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Meeting, New York University, March 2014.
- “Autonomy or Disavowal of Socioeconomic Context: The Precarity of Cultural Workers in Slovenia since the 1980s.” University at Buffalo, Humanities Institute New Faculty Speaker Series, October 9, 2013.
- “‘Solidarity in Surplus’: The Case of Precarious Cultural Workers in Slovenia.” *Rethinking Marxism Conference*, University of Amherst, Mass., Oct

## **EDITORIAL WORK**

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Associate Editor, *Cultural Policy Yearbook 2016: Independent Republic of Culture*, Istanbul: Bilgi University Press, 2017

Editor in Chief, *Maska – performing arts journal*, vols. 22–24, 2007–2009

## **TEACHING**

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Arts Management Program, University at Buffalo *\*all of these courses I designed or redesigned\**

*Graduate level:*

- AAP 501 Why Manage the Arts?
- AAP 502 Arts Management and Society
- AAP 508 Cultural Policy and Diplomacy
- AAP 509 Research in Arts Management
- AAP 517 Study Abroad: Mainstreaming Emigrants or Tourists? Towards a new relationship between cultural and integration policies – cultural offerings in a demographically changing environment (Vienna, Austria, 2014)

*Undergraduate level:*

- AAP 101 Introduction to Arts Management
- AAP 401 How to Make a Living as an Artist (*awaiting approval*)

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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- 2010–2012 Project manager and grant-writing consultant for *Platform for South East Europe and Regional Hub of the Balkan Incentive Fund for Culture*, Asociacija (Ljubljana, Slovenia), European Cultural Foundation (Amsterdam, Netherlands), Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia.
- 2010–2011 Moderator, organizer and concept developer of “Open institutions – in search of new models for collaboration between public institutions and NGOs in culture: workshop and public discussion.” Asociacija, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- 2009–2010 Project manager for *Networking and Capacity Building of NGOs in culture*. Asociacija, Ljubljana, Slovenia.
- 2008–2009 Concept developer and project manager of the research project “Performing Visual, Performing Life archive of interdisciplinary art practices and social context in Slovenia from 60s to 80s.” Maska, Ljubljana.
- 2007 Concept developer and project manager of the project “Aesthetics and politics of the dancing body through time: 9-days residency with American professor and choreographer Mark Franko.” Zavod EMANAT, Ljubljana

## **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE/CONSULTANCY WORK**

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- 2009–2011 Member of the “Working group for systemic regulation of the NGOs in culture” at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia
- 2009–2011 Member of the “Project group for relations’ management between city municipality of Ljubljana, NGOs and independent artists” at the Municipality of Ljubljana.
- 2010–2011 Member of the Golden Bird Award Committee for the young innovative artists
- 2009 – 2010 Member of the “Expert group for the Institutionalization and networking of contemporary dance in Slovenia” at the Ministry of Culture of Republic of Slovenia and of the research team for the analysis “Institutionalization/networking of contemporary dance in Slovenia”
- 2005 Member of international jury for the project “Map XXL” organized by Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes

## **WORK IN DANCE PERFORMANCES (selection)**

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- Dramaturgy for Matija Ferlin *Sad Sam /Almost 6/*. Production: Ferlini Pula and Zavod EMANAT, Stara Elektrarna, Ljubljana, Slovenia, January 30, 2009.
- Dramaturgy and concept development for Maja Delak *Serata Artistica Giovanile*. Production: Zavod EMANAT and Cankarjev dom, Ljubljana, May 7, 2008.
- Dramaturgy for Maja Delak *Expensive Darlings* in production of Zavod EMANAT, Dance Theater Ljubljana, October 6, 2007.

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

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- UB Humanities Institute Fellowship, Fall 2017–Spring 2018
- UB Baldy Center Research Grant, Spring 2015
- UUP Personal Development Award: Spr 2019, Spr 2018, Spr 2016, Spr 2014

## **UB ARTS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM SERVICE**

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- 2018– present Director of Graduate Studies

2012– present Admissions Committee  
2018 Hiring Committee for Assistant Director  
2016 Hiring Committee for the Assistant to the Chair  
2015 Hiring Committee for the Director  
2013–2015 Organizer of *Why Manage the Arts Speaker Series*.  
The series invited distinguished scholars and practitioners to address pertinent issues in the field of cultural policy and arts management.  
2019 Co-developer and convener of a seven-day study excursion “Neutrality of Art Institutions”, New York City and Washington, DC, May 6–12  
2015 Co-developer and convener of a five-day study tour “Contradictions of the Rust Belt Chic: Investigation of Arts and Redevelopment in Cleveland, Erie, Toledo and Detroit”

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### **CAS SERVICE**

2020– Humanities Institute Executive Board Member

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### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

2014–2016 CAS UB Faculty Senator

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### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA); European Sociological Association (ESA); International Conference of Labour and Social History (ITH); Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

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### **LANGUAGES**

Slovene (native); English (fluent); Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian (fluent); German (intermediate level)