

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Emeritus Professors in Columbia

EPIC News

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From the President's Desk

We've had a busy few weeks, with more to come. Thursday, November 2, our Graduate Scholars Series continues with Molly Rose Avila, doctoral candidate in Slavic Languages and Literature, presenting research on selected political literature. Seems peculiarly appropriate at this moment in history. I hope you can join us for lunch and for intergenerational enlightenment. Please RSVP to help us plan the catering.

EPIC just convened the first planning meeting of its music initiative, with Professor Emerita Carolyn Greenberg taking the lead. We decided to begin by setting up an online bulletin board for instrumentalists and singers, to help people "find" one another. Some ad hoc sessions are already planned. (We're keeping the board strictly to Columbia-affiliates so you'll need your UNI to log in.) As EPIC's page-turner-in-chief, I can attest to the fact that the first meeting was delightful. It is difficult to capture the beauty of an evening where colleagues explored ideas for growing a program and also made music by playing and singing together in various small groups. We'll post the link for the bulletin board soon and Carolyn will continue to keep us informed about the program as it develops. If you are a musician, [please do let us know if you are interested](#). More to come.



Pictured at left: Professor Emerita Carolyn Greenberg and Professor Emeritus Peter Strauss, who sings with the [Florilegium Chamber Choir](#), which presents a program of madrigals and partsongs on November 19. [Please click here for details and tickets](#).

In our October 10 Tuesday Talk we learned about the Columbia Justice-in-Education initiative for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated men and women. The program has a major need for **mentors** and "**research assistants**." Inmates, even those enrolled in college credit bearing courses, are completely cut off from the internet and really need help in getting research resources. Released former-inmates need mentorship and guidance. There is room for teaching as well – but the mentorship and course assistance is an immediate need. I, personally, am still trying to figure out how keeping the internet – which of course can be exquisitely controlled and monitored by overseers – away from enrolled students (or inmates in general) is sensible policy. [Read more about the Columbia program here](#) and [let us know if you'd like to participate](#). It is a program that is saving lives.

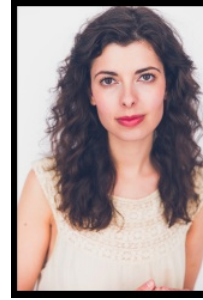
Enjoy the very mild Fall weather, which seems to be lasting longer each year. Good weather makes coming to our yoga classes, or taking advantage of EPIC member reduced rates at the Faculty House luncheon buffets, easier to do.

Have a good day.

*Jeanne Mager Stellman, President, EPIC
Professor Emerita & Special Lecturer
Mailman School of Public Health*

**First Thursday Graduate Scholar
Talk November 2**

Please join us for a talk by Molly Rose Avila, Ph.D. candidate in Slavic Languages: "**Herzen, Chernyshevsky, Turgenev, and Political Literature.**"



First Thursday Graduate Scholar Talks take place the first Thursday of each month during the academic year. The talks provide Ph.D. candidates preparing to defend their dissertations an opportunity to make a generalist presentation on their research to a cross-disciplinary audience ready to listen carefully and ask good questions. EPIC members help give the Ph.D. students a useful learning experience and at the same time learn about something that may be well beyond their own scholarly interests.

A sandwich lunch is provided. RSVP to insure an appropriate catering order.

12:15 - 2:00 p.m.
Ward H. Dennis Room
602 Lewisohn Hall

Guests welcome!

[Please click here for map](#)

RSVP

EPIC Yoga on Thursdays

EPIC Yoga continues with the leadership of Virginia Papaioannou, registered teacher with Yoga Alliance Registry, and Professor Emerita, Development of Genetics and Development, Columbia University Medical Center.

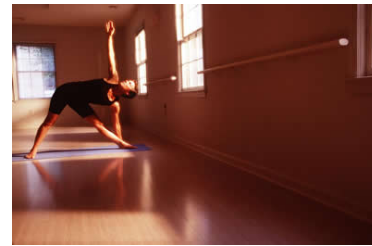
Two classes are offered:

EPIC Yoga Mixed-level class: 10 -11 a.m.

Geared for beginners to intermediate yogis including breathing techniques and basic yoga poses concentrating on alignment, balance and flexibility.

Chair/Beginner Session: 11:15 a.m. - noon

Geared for those who would like the benefits of yoga but have limited flexibility or mobility issues. This is a gentle form of yoga practiced while seated on a chair or standing using a chair for support. No mats or equipment necessary.



No prior experience is necessary for either class.

Wear clothing that is comfortable for moving, either loose or stretchy. Bring a yoga mat and block if you have them. If not, they will be provided. The first class is free; \$10 per class thereafter.

[Read more about the EPIC Yoga program on our website.](#)

For further detail, please [email Virginia Papaioannou at vep1@columbia.edu](mailto:vep1@columbia.edu)

Benefits Open Enrollment Begins Oct. 30

Columbia University's annual benefits open enrollment period begins October 30.

Plan information and related documents have been mailed to home addresses and are also [available on the Human Resources website.](#)

For assistance enrolling and more information, please email hbenefits@columbia.edu or call 212-851-7000.

On the Horizon

Tuesday, November 14: Celebration of the publication of Professor Emeritus Michael Rosenthal's *Barney: Grove Press and Barney Rosset, America's Maverick Publisher and His Battle against Censorship* (Arcade, 2017). 12:00-1:30 p.m., Faculty House.

Tuesday, November 28: "Engineers in America-Early History," a special talk by Mischa Schwartz, Charles Batchelor Professor Emeritus of Electrical Engineering, co-sponsored by the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science. 12:00-1:30 p.m., Room 520 Mudd Hall.

Thursday, December 7: First Thursday Graduate Scholar Talk, "The Biology of Disadvantage: The Immune System and Social Inequality," Megan Todd, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Columbia Aging Center, Mailman School of Public Health. 12:15-2:00 p.m., Ward Dennis Room, 602 Lewisohn Hall.

Tuesday, December 12: Tuesday Talk and Holiday Luncheon, Professor Walter Frisch, Acting Chair, Department of Music. 12:00-1:30 p.m., Faculty House

Events of Interest

[The Columbia University calendar of events is available online](#) and is searchable by audience, type, discipline, and location as well as date.

[Mid-Day Music@Columbia](#) showcases student musicians at Faculty House each Wednesday during the academic year.

If you would like to share information about an event in which you are involved, or simply an event that you think may interest other EPIC members, [please let us know by sending an email to epic@columbia.edu](mailto:epic@columbia.edu).