Conference on Cincinnati, Kharkiv Oct. 13-15

Miami’s history department will host a conference, “Parallel Cities, Different Paths: Cincinnati and Kharkiv in the 19th and 20th Centuries,” Oct. 13-15. Prominent historians of urban America and of Ukraine and municipal officials from both sides will meet to discuss past and present issues these sister cities have in common. Organizer Robert W. Thurston (history) said the talks should be engaging and accessible to both scholars and the general public.

The conference opens at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13, with an address by David Thelen, Indiana University, titled “A Framework for Comparative and Transnational History,” in 128 Pearson Hall.

Other topics and times:
Saturday, Oct. 14, 128 Pearson:
• 9 a.m., Cincinnati and Kharkiv in context, with speakers including Andrew Cayton, Miami; Yurii Shapoval, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences; and Mark Von Hagen, Columbia University.
• 1:30 p.m., Problems of the cities’ development in the 19th century, with speakers Robert Fairbanks, University of Texas at Arlington; Sergei Posokhov, Kharkov State University (KSU); and Zane Miller, University of Cincinnati (UC).
• Sunday, Oct. 15, 100 Laws Hall:
  • 9 a.m., Immigration and social problems, with Roger Daniels, UC; Sergei Kudelko, KSU; and Mark Baker, Harvard University.
  • 1:30 p.m., Race and ethnicity, with Henry Louis Taylor Jr., State University of New York at Buffalo; Vladimir Kravchenko, KSU; and Robert Burnham, Macon State University.

Kenneth Jackson of Columbia will summarize the conference and discuss the evolution of cities under capitalism and communism at 8 p.m.

Organizers plan to continue the discussion at a conference in Kharkiv scheduled for May 2001.

Miami faculty and staff are invited to attend a session free of charge.

The conference is sponsored by the history department’s McLellan Symposium Fund, the dean’s office of the College of Arts and Science, the Walter B. Havighurst Fund, the office of international programs and the Cincinnati-Kharkiv Sister City Project.

For more information, visit www.gw.cas.muohio.edu/parallel.