In Memoriam

Daniela S. Hristova (1962-2010)

Michael Gorham

It is with great honor and sadness that we include for publication in this volume of Russian Language Journal one of the final pieces of unpublished scholarship by our dear colleague, Daniela Hristova. Before succumbing to cancer on 10 October 2010, Dr. Hristova was working as Lecturer in the Department of Slavonic Languages at the University of Cambridge, Trinity Hall. She studied Slavic Philology and Slavic Linguistics at the University of Sofia, Charles University in Prague, Harvard University and in 2002 received her Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures from the University of Chicago. From 2002-2007 she worked as Assistant Professor at the University of Chicago and in 2006 taught History and Structure of Russian at Harvard University. Hristova’s scholarly interests included the study of language change, diachrony and synchrony of East Slavic languages, diachrony of Bulgarian, Medieval Slavic Orthodox culture, and post-perestroika linguistic developments in Russian and their sociolinguistic motivations. Her work first appeared on the pages of Russian Language Journal in 2008 in “Negotiating Reality with Anekdoty: Soviet vs. Post-Soviet Humor Lore” (vol. 58, pp. 187-210). Her piece in the current issue, published without the benefit of final revisions from the author, reflects a sustained interest in non-standard varieties of Russian particularly in the context of emerging internet technologies. As a colleague and friend Daniela was herself far beyond standard: along with her outstanding contributions to the profession we will remember her for her wit and charm, her boundless energy and enthusiasm and her passion for fine foods, photography and long-distance running.