

Resolution on the retirement of

Sarah Meiklejohn Terry

Adopted by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

The faculty of the Political Science Department and the members of the International Relations Program join others in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences to put on record our admiration and affection for our retiring colleague, Sarah “Sally” Meiklejohn Terry. Over the 28 years, since she first came to us in the fall of 1975 after receiving her Ph.D. from Harvard University, Sally served Tufts teaching courses to literally thousands of our undergraduates on the comparative politics of Eastern Europe, as well as courses covering international relations in the region.

Sally received her BA “with Distinction in All Subjects” from Cornell University, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. She received her M.A. and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in Soviet Studies and Political Science, respectively. Sally joined our faculty as a part-time Assistant Professor in 1975 and the next year became Associate Academic Dean in Ballou while continuing to teach in the political science department. In 1978, Sally joined our department as a full-time member and received tenure in 1984. Over the years, she has held Visiting or Adjunct teaching positions with Harvard, Dartmouth, and the Fletcher School.

In the earlier years, her courses were entitled “Government and Politics in the Soviet Union,” “Soviet Foreign Policy,” and “Comparative Communism.” As times changed dramatically with the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989, so did her courses, i.e. “Russia in a Post-Communist World.” She sometimes commented in the early 1990s that her lecture notes had a shelf life of about 15 minutes as she struggled to make sense of a series of changes from Eastern Europe to the Caucasus as these lands quickly remade themselves politically as first the Soviet empire, then the Soviet Union itself, ceased to exist. Ultimately, she produced order out of chaos—at least for those of us here at Tufts. The signature courses of more recent years, “Soviet/Russian Foreign Policy,” “Politics of Soviet Union and Disunion,” and “Eastern Europe and European Integration” became student favorites due to both their timely nature and Sally’s thorough mastery of a complicated, ever-changing subject of the utmost importance to world order. We can only regret that her latest new course, “How the Cold War was Played,” based on archival work that only has recently become available, will not have as extended a life as we had hoped.

Professor Terry is the author of the book *Poland’s Place in Europe: General Sikorski and the Origin of the Oder-Neisse Line, 1939-1943* (Princeton University Press, 1983). This book won the American Historical Association’s prestigious George Louis Beer Prize in Modern European International History (prompting a senior member of Tufts’ History department at the time to comment that the most distinguished historian on the Hill could probably be found within the political science department). Articles by Professor Terry have appeared in such journals as *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, *Slavic Review*, *Studies in Comparative Communism*, and *East Central Europe*. She has also published numerous articles in edited volumes on various

aspects of Eastern European politics, and she has edited and contributed to *Soviet Policy in Eastern Europe* (Yale University Press, 1984) and co-edited and contributed to *The Soviet Empire Reconsidered: Essays in Honor of Adam B. Ulam* (Westview Press, 1994). Her fellowships over the years include support from the Ford Foundation, the ACLS/SSRC, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Harvard Russian Research Center. In 1976, she studied abroad as an IREX exchange scholar in Poland.

In addition to her scholarly accomplishments, Sally was and remains to be an active member of her professional community. From 1992 to 2000, she served on the Board of the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), an organization sponsoring scholarly exchanges with Eastern Europe, after having been on their Program Committee from 1979-83. She also served from 1983-86 on the Board and Executive Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), becoming its Program Chair in 1996 and returning to its Board from the fall of 2000 through December 2002. In 1990, Sally became Program Chair of the annual meeting of the New England Slavic Association. For several years, Professor Terry served on the Board of the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (as Chair of its East European Area—Fulbright Selection Committee), as well as on the East European Advisory Panel of the National Academy of Sciences. She is currently a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. In addition, Sally has been a long-time associate at the Davis Center for Russian Studies at Harvard, serving as a member of its Executive Committee from 1992 until her retirement from Tufts on December 31, 2002.

Sally was born in Newton, spent most of her professional life in Cambridge and Medford, and now lives in Belmont--making her, in effect, a native of Eastern Massachusetts. This is good news for us as it increases the likelihood that we shall see her for a long time to come. Sally likes to remark upon the speed and complexity of change in Eastern Europe in recent times, and we look forward to her continued insights into the developments of this important region of the world. She will be on the Tufts campus as a teacher this upcoming year and we hope to keep her as an active participant in the intellectual life of the Hill then and thereafter.

As Sally moves into retirement, we recall some of the good times we have had together. We fondly remember how she would bring her beloved Golden Retriever, Brandy, to class. Her students—and Brandy—loved it. Over the past 25 years, Sally enjoyed many trips to Eastern Europe. We looked forward to her return and new displays of the spectacular amber jewelry she would always bring back. How we have enjoyed conversations at the water cooler—conversations not just about Gorbachev and Putin, but about gardening and home repairs and family as well. For 28 years, Sally has been part of our family. She may be retiring, but thankfully she will still be close by.

We thank Sarah Meiklejohn Terry, *Sally*, for her many years of dedicated teaching and for her high standards as a scholar. We are glad to have this opportunity to express our respect and affection for such a fine colleague and person, and to wish her every happiness in the future.

On behalf of the committee, I move that this resolution on the retirement of Sarah Meiklejohn Terry be spread on the permanent record of this faculty and that a copy of it be sent to Sarah.