Russian, Soviet, and Post-Soviet Scientific Migration: History and Patterns

APS Meeting Dallas, TX, March 2011



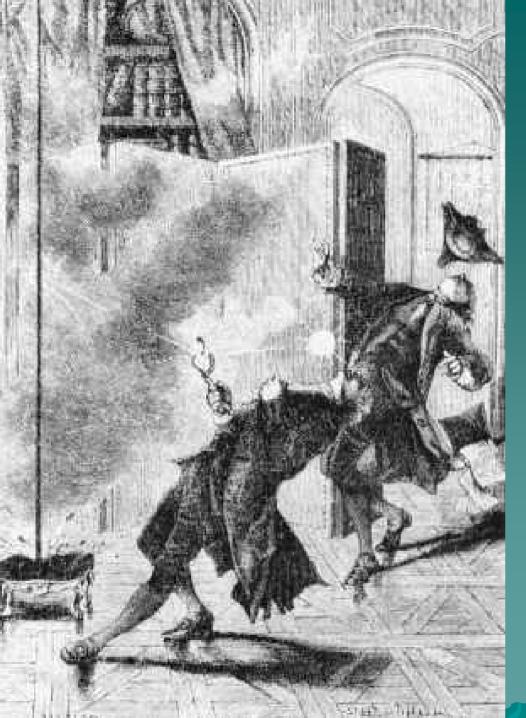
Вид с Невы на здания Академии наук и Кунсткамеры. Гравюра по рисунку М. И. Махаева.



The Imperial Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, 1725

Leonhard Euler 1707-1783

The founding of modern science in Russia, early 18th century: mostly by migrants, primarily from German countries



Franz Ulrich Theodore Aepinus (1724-1802) "Treatise of Electricity and Magnetism" 1759

Russian-Germans: Georg Wilhelm Richmann (1711-1753) First casualty of electrical experiments

Mid- 19th century: university system established, approximately half of the scientists - of "German" origin Dorpat University as the intermediary 1859: Natalia Corsini started auditing lectures by in law at St. Petersburg University

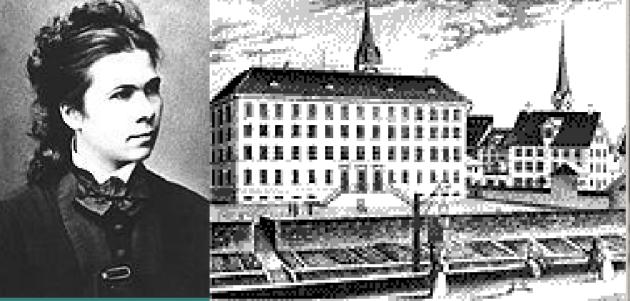
1860: Nadezhda Suslova started auditing lectures at the Medico-Surgical Academy in St. Petersburg



The Ministry of Enlightenment considers a University reform, including opening the university education to women

The latter plan dropped after the 1861 student protests, which the officials blamed partly on women auditors: "*révolutionnaires* in crinoline"







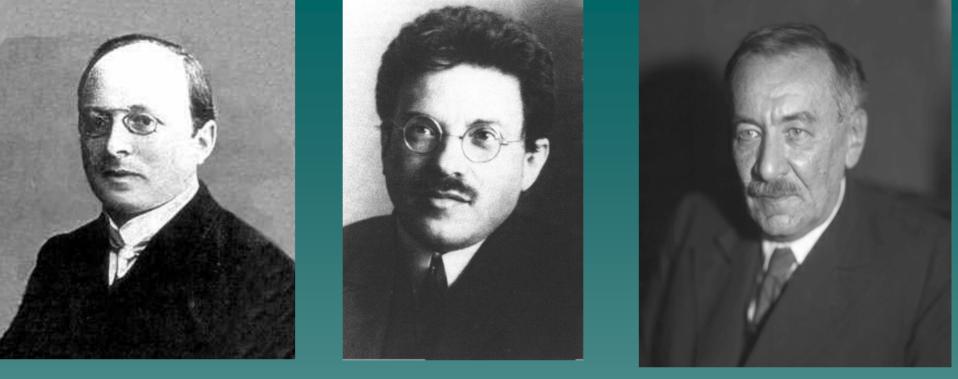
1864: Maria Kniazhnina applied to study Medicine at the University of Zürich 1866: Nadezhda Suslova officially accepted as the first female student there

The first doctoral degrees: 1867: Suslova (medicine, Zurich) 1873: Anna Evreinova (law, Leipzig) 1874: Sophia Kovalevskaya (mathematics, Göttingen) 1874: Yulia Lermontova (chemistry, Göttingen)



women's higher education an established, if not yet legally recognized fact by the end of the 19th c.

Sofia Vasilievna Kovalevakaya (1850, Moscow – 1891, Stockholm) 1883 – professorship of mathematics at Stockholm högskola Maria Skłodowska (Curie) (1867, Warsaw – 1934, Paris) Licentiate in mathematics at the Sorbonne, 1894; DSc, 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics, 1903 and in Chemistry, 1911



Circa 1900: Jewish migrants and go-betweens, and the spread of theoretical physics internationally (also by pre- and postdoctoral fellows)

Epstein, Pavel Sigizmundovich (Paul Sophus) (1883, Warsaw - 1966, Pasadena, CA)

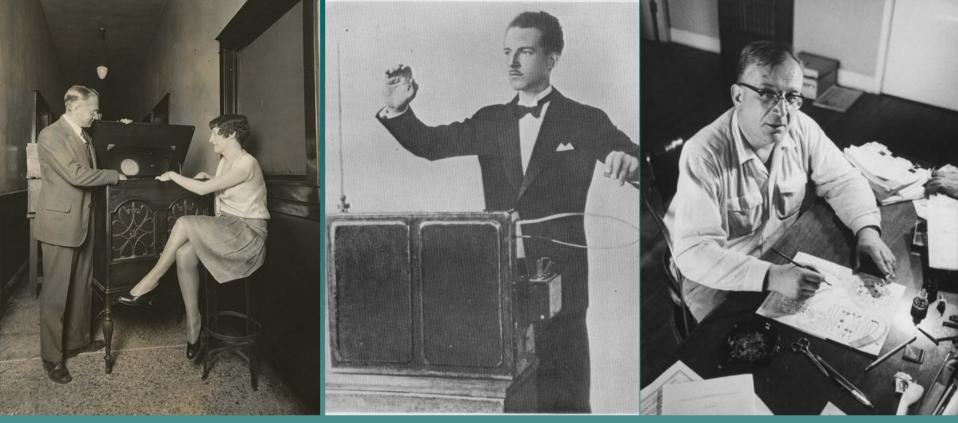
Ehrenfest, Paul (1880, Vienna – 1933, Amsterdam)

Mandelstam, Leonid Isaakovich (1879, Mogilev – 1944, Moscow)



grants and WWI

- izmann, Chaim (1874, Pinsk 1952, Rehovot, Israel)
- lovsky, Konstantin Vasilievich (1880, Ryazan 1958, New York)
- deriks, Vsevolod Konstantinovich (1885, Warsaw 1944 Gorky)



t-Revolutionary Migration:

orykin, Vladimir Kozmich (1888, Murom – 1982, Princeton, NJ) orsky, Igor Ivanovich (1889, Kiev – 1972, Easton, CT) tiakowsky, Georgi Bogdanovich (1900, Kiev – 1982, Boston, MA)

oitza, Piotr Leonidovich (1894, Kronstadt – 1984, Moscow) eremin, Lev Sergeevich (1896, St. Petersburg – 1993, Moscow) now, Georgy Alexandrovich (1904, Odessa – 1963, Boulder, CO)



The launch of Sputnik, 4 October 1957 and its effects on global science:

- Educational expansion
- Brain drain
- Affirmative action
- Decline of the ideology of pure science
- Deamericanization of American science

Soviet science largely isolated from international migration by Cold War barriers until 1988; foreign travel as a limited and treasured privilege

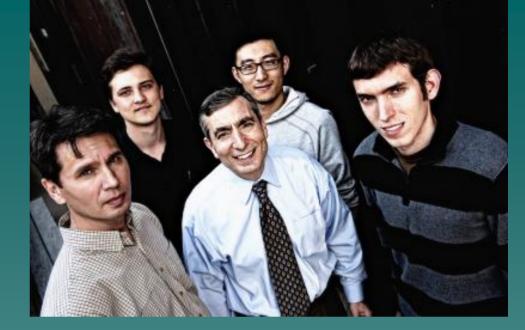


Post-Soviet migration:

Gorkov, Lev Petrovich 1929) U of Illinois; Linde, Andrei Dmitrievich (1948) Stanford U; Polyakov, Andrei Markovich (1945) Princeton U

Rough estimates: Funding for science in Russia: decreased by more than 90% during the 1990s; rebounded to some 40% of the late Soviet levels during the 2000s; Loss in scientific manpower: over 50%; possibly over 200.000 migrant scientists worldwide.







Next generations: postdoctoral researchers and graduate students

The largest scientific migration ever? Russian, post-Soviet, or Russophone?

Transnational scientific subculture: - entire team of researchers; - transnational exchanges and links;

Global effects: still unknown and not studied