Sleuthing the Stalinist Archives in Post-Communist Russia:
A discussion [in English] with Leonid Maximenkov
(keynote speaker for the Symposium)

Slavic Lounge (East Pyne 237)
Thursday, April 12
11:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Serious sandwiches, feta-and-hummus snacks, and cold drinks available from 11:30 on

Leonid Maximenkov, a native of Moscow and dual citizen of Russia and Canada, completed a PhD on “the genesis and growth of literary Staliniana” at McGill University (1992). He has been researching the Stalin-era political archives for two decades. Among his major publications are his pathbreaking Sumbur vmesto muzyki. Stalinskaia kul’turnaia revoliutsiia, 1936-1938 ['Muddle instead of Music': The Stalinist Cultural Revolution, 1936-1938] (Moscow, 1997), which has changed the way we look at the ritual shamings of great Russian creative artists in the 1930s, and, more recently, Bol’shaia tsenzura. Pisateli i zhurnalisty v Strane Sovetov, 1917-1956 [The Great Censorship: Writers and journalists in the Land of the Soviets, 1917-1956] (750 pages, 2005).

Maximenkov will speak briefly about his professional methodology as a sleuth in post-Soviet Russia, and then entertain questions from the group about this sort of exhilarating recuperative research: its benefits, dangers, costs, and satisfactions.

Open to the public, but with a special urgent invitation to graduate students in Slavic, history, and music.