

**The Department of Germanic and Slavic
Languages and Literatures
Presents**



Dr. Svetlana Adonyeva

Professor of Russian Folklore and Theory of Literature at St. Petersburg University

**Wednesday, September 12, 2007
4:00 pm
McKenna 112**

**“Big Men” and “Big Women”:
Traditional Social Structures in
Contemporary Russian Urban Society**

Through her analysis of social relations between men and women of different ages in traditional Russian village life, Prof. Adonyeva will explain the following business practices in contemporary Russia:

- When a Russian businessman (a “new Russian”) has made some money, why does he immediately spend it on a very expensive car?
- Why are political and economic decisions often made in the bath-house?
- Why do Russians prefer to appoint women over forty and with grown-up children as chief accountants in their companies?
- Why do male bosses address their female co-workers as “girls”?

Open to the public
Refreshments Provided