

I write to share with the community the sad news that our dear colleague, Professor Madhu Malik, passed away on May 20th, at home in Delhi, surrounded by close friends and family. She was 69. Madhu joined the Bucknell Faculty in 1983. She retired in 2009, after 26 years of teaching. A native of India, Madhu received her BA and MA in Russian Language and Literature from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and her PhD in Slavic Folklore from the University of Virginia in 1982. From 1974 to 1976, she studied at Patrice Lumumba University, where she co-authored a monograph in Russian, *Translation as an Aspect of Foreign Language Study*. She also worked for Radio Moscow and as a translator and announcer for the Russian service of the All India Radio. Madhu published articles on the writings of Nikolai Gogol, the Russian folk singer Vladimir Vysotsky (whom she knew personally), and *The Wizard of Oz*, and delivered many talks on folklore and Russian culture at professional meetings around the world. Most recently, she published a book-length translation of the 19th-century Russian Indologist Ivan Minayev's *Clever Wives and Happy Idiots: Folktales from the Kumaon Himalayas* (2015).

While at Bucknell, Madhu taught popular classes in Russian language and culture, folklore and ritual, women in Russian culture, pop culture, and guitar poetry. In addition to past service as director of the Bucknell Russian Studies Program, Madhu was a founding member of Bucknell's Race/Gender Resource Center, and served as its co-director for many years.

Madhu's office was always filled with students. In fact, she even held classes in her office, whenever possible. Students flocked to her; our female students, in particular, found in Madhu a role model and mentor. From the hallway, we often heard Madhu's laughter. Madhu took so much joy in every interaction. Her home, like her office, was likewise filled with students. Her legendary Russian holiday parties remain a lasting memory for multiple generations of students (and colleagues!), as do our yearly Brighton Beach trips, and the banquet-style dinners in Russian restaurants (preceded by lunch at a Tandoori grill by a truck stop off of Rt. 80!).

Madhu was a beloved member of the Bucknell community and of Lewisburg, PA, where she made her home for many years, surrounded by a multigenerational collection of deeply loyal friends. In retirement she travelled widely, dividing her time between New Delhi and Lewisburg, while also visiting new places at every opportunity.

She is survived by close family and friends in India and by many grieving friends at Bucknell and beyond.