



REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

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Jeremy Stewart, Editor
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Director's Notebook

by David Ransel

Welcome to the 50th anniversary year of the Russian and East European Institute. Although the institute acquired its current name fifty years ago, Indiana University's commitment to our area of study began much earlier. The language programs on which the institute was based started sixteen years earlier in 1942, and an East European Institute opened at IU in 1951. It was this 1951 institution that morphed into the Russian and East European Institute in the academic year 1958-59.

To mark the occasion, our office is producing a magazine that contains a history of the institute, plus a selection of pictures of faculty and alumni from the early years to the present. Andrew Burton of our office and Joe Crescente, a recent master's degree graduate, helped me gather material for the project this summer. It was lots of fun going through our archives and revisiting interviews that Robert Byrnes had tasked his students to conduct with faculty members long ago. The university archives also helped by providing some excellent vintage photos of people key to the founding of Russian and East European programs at IU.

We will give as wide a distribution to the magazine as we can afford. It will be ready in time for the Indiana reception at the Annual Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Philadelphia in November, and you can pick up a copy there if you attend. We will also mount an electronic copy on our web site. I want to thank all those who sent in remembrances. We were able to use a number of them for the magazine. Others will be posted on our web site, along with the magazine.

The anniversary will also be marked by a conference in late February on "The Role of Area Studies in Shaping the Global Future at IU." I had intended the conference initially as an exclusively REEI affair but became convinced that it would have much more resonance for the university's future plans in international studies if we could include the other IU area studies centers. Their directors expressed eagerness to get involved, and we have designed the event on a series of sessions that will address the following questions: (1) The balance between universalist models and theories and area knowledge and language, (2) Reshaping areas for analytical coherence, (3) The place of foreign language teaching in area studies, (4) Area studies and legal and civic culture, (5) Role of area studies in national security, (6) Area studies in the global future at IU.

I am happy to report that our faculty has remained stable as we enter a new year. We saw only one retirement, Professor Nina Perlina of the Slavic Department. At the same time, we gained a faculty member at our Southeast campus, Brigitte Le Normand, a specialist on Balkan history. Our Slavic Department is facing a large number of retirements in the next few years. In addition to Nina Perlina, who is much respected for her important publications on Dostoevsky, Ol'ga Freidenberg, and women's writings from the Siege of Leningrad, the department will be losing much of its senior faculty. As distressing as this prospect is, Steven Franks, the new chair, looks forward

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IU Awards for REEI Alumni

1994 Irene Meister
 College Distinguished Alumni
 1998 Stephen Cohen
 College Distinguished Alumni
 1999 James F. Collins
 Honorary Doctorate
 2004 Richard Miles
 Distinguished Alumni Service

REEI Awards

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
 1988 Alexander Rabinowitch
 1988 Charles Gati
 1995 Gale Stokes
 2000 Helena Goscilo
 2002 Howard I. Aronson
 2002 William Hopkins

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
 1988 Theofanis Stavrou
 1988 Robert F. Byrnes
 1989 Karen Niggle
 1996 Robert W. Campbell
 1997 Charles Jelavich
 1997 Janet Rabinowitch
 2000 William B. Edgerton
 2007 Denise Gardiner

Director's Notebook

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to the opportunity to rebuild the department with young scholars eager to make their mark on the profession.

The semester started with a major site visit by a large delegation of officials from the U.S. Department of Education. Indiana University is second in the country in the number of area studies centers funded by the government, and so the attention was not misplaced. The day that the REEI staff, faculty and students spent with the officials was gratifying, as one after another of our fellowship recipients and faculty members not only expressed their appreciation for the fellowships, research and travel grants, and other services and benefits that the REEI provides but in many cases added that the presence of the REEI and its large affiliated faculty was the decisive element in their choice of IU over other options that they had for study or employment.

It was a very reassuring note on which to start a new academic year.

Ukrainian at SWSEEL

by Yuriy Napelenok

This summer I took advantage of a great opportunity to study Ukrainian at the Summer Workshop in Slavic and East European and Central Asian Languages (SWSEEL). I had the pleasure of studying with Svitlana Melnyk, who structured lessons so that students actively used the language. Our small class included Joel Kleehammer and myself. With my knowledge of Russian and Joel's previous experience studying Ukrainian, we quickly moved through the material and covered much more than a typical introductory level course. The eight weeks flew by quickly, and the work was well worth the time.

Our class met every day from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm. Twice a week we went to Wright Hall for "language table." We learned grammar, wrote dictations, worked on listening comprehension, and learned about Ukrainian culture and history. Instead of repetitive grammar exercises, we orally practiced grammar through conversation. We learned how to book a hotel room, order a meal, travel on a train, and get around Kyiv. We were exposed to Ukrainian culture through the poetry of Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko, and Lesya Ukrainka. One of the most enjoyable parts of class was watching the cartoon series *Як Козаки* (Like the Cossacks). We followed the adventures of three Cossack friends who rescue a maiden from evil demons, play soccer in different countries around the world, and compete in the Olympics.

Svitlana also brought her husband, Sasha, and daughter, Ira, to class one day so that we would be exposed to Ukrainian voices other than her own and those featured in the slow speech of the prerecorded dialogues. Ira even gave a lecture on the Ukrainian school system.

We neighbored the two Turkmen classes, Introductory Turkmen with Ejegyz Saparova and Intermediate Turkmen with Amandurdy "Ata" Amandurdyev in Woodburn Hall. During our breaks, which Ata made sure we took on time everyday, we discussed issues facing Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Russia, and their respective languages. I learned quite a bit more about a country and a language with which most people are unfamiliar.

I thoroughly enjoyed my experience this summer studying Ukrainian. I highly recommend SWSEEL to anyone interested in learning a Slavic, East European, or Central Asian language. It is a great alternative to studying a language in country.

Yuriy Napelenok is a graduate student in the REEI and SPEA Master's programs

New Directions Polish Studies Conference

by Magdalena Sokolowski

More than thirty scholars representing an array of disciplines and several countries gathered at Indiana University from April 17 to April 20, 2008 to take part in the conference “New Directions, New Connections: Polish Studies in Cross-Disciplinary Context,” co-chaired by Professors Justyna Beinek and Bill Johnston and administered by the Polish Studies Center. Participants presented current research and examined the state of Polish Studies in North America, continuing a discussion initiated at the previous conference in Toronto in 2006 in response to the political and socio-cultural changes in Poland over the last two decades.

Polonists from Harvard, Northwestern, the University of Chicago, UCLA, the University of Kansas, the University of Michigan, the University of Florida, and the United States Naval Academy, to mention just American institutions, were divided into ten panels and spent four days grappling with urgent questions confronting the field. What is the place of Polish Studies in light of the shift in humanities toward cross-disciplinary inquiry? And how can specialists in Polish language, literature, and culture be trained to acquire sufficient expertise in matters specifically Polish, while simultaneously managing to function across other fields and multiple disciplines? By examining these questions and others, panelists and attendees of the conference hoped to make new theoretical, substantive, and disciplinary contributions that could reinvigorate Polish Studies and point the field in innovative and productive



Conference organizers Justyna Beinek (left) and Bill Johnston (right)

directions while linking it to other disciplines.

Over the course of four days, the possibilities of cross-disciplinary discourse were highlighted in a variety of panels – “Psychoanalytic Approaches to Polish Literature and Culture,” “Queering Polish Literature and Culture,” “The Nineteenth Century: Interdisciplinary

Perspectives,” “Cinematic Inquiry” – while other panels focused on cultural studies, poetry and prose, and theater. Indiana University’s Polish Studies had a strong representation at the conference. Professors Justyna Beinek (Slavic Languages and Literatures) and Halina Goldberg (Musicology) lectured together on nineteenth-



Participants at the Polish Studies Conference

century literary and musical albums, Professor Bill Johnston (Comparative Literature and Applied Linguistics) read from his translations of Polish literature, and Professor Padraic Kenney (History) chaired the cultural studies panel. Three IU graduate students delivered talks: Bethany Braley and Bora Chung (both from the Slavic Department) spoke about Modernist poetry and prose, respectively, while Mira Rosenthal (Comparative Literature) addressed issues of translation.

Participants discussed several new projects such as the composition of handbooks and histories of Polish literature, the publication of new translations, and the design of collaborative online initiatives with the Book Institute from Cracow, Poland. It was decided that the biennial conference will meet for the third time at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in 2010.

The successful event culminated on Saturday evening with an outing to Brown County State Park where participants and organizers enjoyed food, drink and good conversation over a crackling fire.

Generous conference support was provided by four units of Indiana University: the College of Arts and Humanities Institute, the Office of the Vice Provost for Research: New Frontiers in the Arts and Humanities Program, the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs, and the Polish Studies Center.

Magdalena Sokolowski is a graduate student in the English Department’s MFA program

Georgia's Political History Since the Fall of the Soviet Union

by Laura Linderman and William Eastwood

Georgia, a small nation-state located in the Caucasus Mountains and nestled between the Black and Caspian Seas, gained its independence shortly before the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Popular Georgian nationalist writer and political activist Zviad Gamsakhurdia won an overwhelming majority in the country's first presidential election, but a bloody coup d'état in late 1991 forced him out of power and into exile. In early 1992, Gamsakhurdia's opponents invited Eduard Shevardnadze to act as chairperson of the impromptu national council that had formed in the wake of Gamsakhurdia's ouster. A former Minister of Foreign Affairs in Moscow under Mikhail Gorbachev in the 1980s, Shevardnadze brought with him a formidable cache of international fame and a reputation as a skilled negotiator. But many Georgian power-holders, Gamsakhurdia chief among them, mistrusted Shevardnadze, seeing him as a Soviet sympathizer acting for Russian interests.

Shevardnadze was thrust onto a political landscape that within months had fractured into conflicts on three fronts. The autonomous region of South Ossetia, an ethnic enclave within Georgia during the Soviet Union, had pressed to be absorbed into the then still extant USSR in 1991 as a response to a growing alienation produced by Georgian nationalist platforms. Open

warfare had already broken out between Ossetian and Georgian forces for a good portion of 1991. In the summer of 1992 the autonomous republic of Abkhazia took military action in a move to separate from the newly independent Georgian state. The third front was made up of Gamsakhurdia loyalists who continued to take up arms against what they saw as an illegitimate national government.

By the fall of 1993, Georgia was in a difficult situation. Several brokered truces with Abkhazia had failed, and Shevardnadze had lost control of the Abkhaz capital, Sokhumi. At the same time, Gamsakhurdia had re-entered western Georgia and mounted an offensive there. Faced with these circumstances, Shevardnadze made the controversial decision to invite Russian forces into

Georgia to restore order and preserve what government stability still remained. Russian forces quickly quelled the military conflicts, bringing ceasefires to Abkhazia and South Ossetia and containing Gamsakhurdia's paramilitary units (Gamsakhurdia was killed in western Georgia in late 1993). In February 1994, the governments of Georgia and the Russian Federation signed an agreement allowing for a continuous Russian military presence in Georgia. Shevardnadze and his supporters saw the move as the lesser of two evils, believing that Georgia's survival was impossible without Russia's intervention. Shevardnadze's opponents, however, regarded it as a gross surrender of the independence that Georgians had worked hard to win. In 1995, after the cessation of fighting, Shevardnadze became president of Georgia.

Both Abkhazia and South Ossetia have functioned independently of the Georgian government since that time, but no country recognized that independence until August 2008. During the 1990s Georgia fell into economic decline and political ineffectiveness. Shevardnadze focused

on stabilizing the country, but widespread corruption, a large shadow economy, and the separatist regions remained major problems. In remarkable contrast to the prosperity of the 1980s, Georgia in the last years of the twentieth century acquired a reputation

for glaring acts of corruption in the highest offices of government and entrenched poverty among Georgia's citizens with or without work.

Shevardnadze's policies aimed largely at maintaining the status quo, and he was forced to resign his post early in fall 2003 in what became known as the Rose Revolution. Initially as a mass protest against fraudulent parliamentary elections, protestors spent days camped outside the parliament building calling for a change of leadership. The climax came when protestors, led by oppositionists who had boycotted the election results, forced their way into the new parliament during the opening session. On live television, young and old alike flooded into the room, while Shevardnadze, surrounded

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A Panel Discussion on Georgia, Russia, NATO and the Implications for International Law

by Jeremy Stewart

Was the Georgian attack on South Ossetia legal? Could the Russian invasion of Georgia be legal as well? Yes and yes, said Professor Timothy Waters (Law) at the panel “Russia-Georgia Conflict: Legal Implications and American Foreign Policy.” Waters’ evaluation of the recent hostilities suggested that neither Russia nor Georgia violated international law. This assessment was just one of many valuable insights offered at the REEI-sponsored panel, held on September 23 and featuring Waters and Professor Nicholas Cullather (History). Focusing on NATO policy and questions of international law, the panel participants discussed the potential geopolitical impact of the recent crisis between Georgia and Russia.

Following a brief introduction by REEI Director David Ransel, Cullather explored the shifting and multiple meanings of NATO in the post-Soviet international landscape. Citing great bitterness on the part of the Georgian government and its military forces at alleged betrayal by the United States and Western Europe, he discussed the discrepancy between what NATO represents and what it actually is. Originally formed as a “boots and bombs” alliance to protect allied territory by force, NATO has, since the fall of Communism, become a symbolic rather than a truly military alliance, argued Cullather.

Today NATO means different things to different countries. To its West European allies the United States has marketed the alliance as an organization meant to extend a “Zone of Peace,” putting out “brush-fire wars” and preventing ethnic conflicts in neighboring states. In pitching NATO to Russia, the United States has stressed its role in the spread of democracy. In Eastern Europe, NATO has served primarily as a source of military training and equipment. For the United States, on the other hand, the purpose of NATO after the fall of the Soviet Union was to “protect America from irrelevance in Europe.” The incentive of NATO membership allowed the United States to involve itself heavily in the affairs of the transitioning economies of Europe and certain members of the Central Independent States (CIS).

Georgia sought acceptance into NATO for the purposes of protection from Russia. Russia, on the other hand, had come to view NATO as a soft power organization, focused on the spread of democracy. Cullather suggested that the divergence of these views contributed greatly to the current conflict. Over the summer, at the NATO summit in Bucharest, Georgia applied once again for membership. NATO turned down the request because the treaty organization “preferred to continue having it both ways,” said Cullather.

Following these remarks on the changing role and meaning of NATO in the world, Professor Waters probed how international law might treat the Russian and Georgian actions. He noted that despite world-wide condemnation of both the Russian invasion and Russia’s recognition of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, no one had focused criticism on the reports of ethnic cleansing in these regions. Ethnic cleansing would be a breach of international law. He also pointed out that Russia had reacted to an attack on their peace-keeping forces. While it may have wanted this war, Russia did not “fire first.” A responsive attack, no matter how overwhelming, is entirely legal. Such a response has a name in the United States: the Powell Doctrine. Waters quoted the words of a fellow lawyer from Israel who said “winning wars is not illegal.”

On the subject of the recognition of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, Waters suggested that there is precedent for such an action, albeit rare. Though the United States and its allies stated time and again that the recognition of Kosovo as an independent state should not be regarded



From the left, David Ransel, Nicholas Cullather and Timothy Waters at the panel “Russia-Georgia Conflict: Legal Implications and American Foreign Policy”

as precedent, Waters pointed out that Russia is certainly using Kosovar independence as a model. International law regarding independence of breakaway regions has loosened significantly, and Russia is taking full advantage.

A podcast of this panel discussion is available on the REEI website at www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb.

Jeremy Stewart is a graduate student in the REEI MA and Kelley MBA programs

Faculty Profile: Timothy Waters

interview by Erika M. Steiger

Professor Waters served as a consultant on legal system reform for the Open Society Institute, UNDP, and the Latvian Ministry of Justice. He also monitored implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords in Bosnia for the OSCE and helped draft the indictment of Slobodan Milošević at the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal. His principal research involves re-defining self-determination to devise an effective right of peaceful secession. At IU, Professor Waters has taught classes such as International Criminal Law and Comparative Law: Islamic Law, and he is planning a course this spring on the lessons about law and democracy to be learned from the Yugoslav wars. Here he answers a few questions about his interests and opinions.

You were a Peace Corps Volunteer in Hungary in the early 1990s. Is that when you started getting interested in Eastern Europe and in ethnic conflict?

Yes, not surprisingly, given the time I went there. It was a response to the end of the Cold War, and it was a profoundly important event. While I can't say that it was the defining event for my entire generation, it was for people like me. It was a fascinating time to be in that region. I'm still very interested in Hungary - I went there just this last summer. But while I was in Hungary with the Peace Corps, there was an extraordinarily interesting and important conflict in a country just south of there. When I started doing graduate work on Eastern Europe, I tended to focus on Yugoslavia. As far as ethnic conflict, I became interested in ethnic issues first in Hungary, and that naturally drew my attention to the Balkans.

*A couple of years ago you wrote an opinion piece about requiring Serbia to hand over Mladić ("Why Insist on the Surrender of Ratko Mladić?" *The New York Times*, May 12, 2006) which presented a point of view that was quite unusual at the time but may have more adherents now.*

It's a question of trying to think critically about the benefits of different policies. As I argued in the piece, it would be ideal if he were turned over by the Serbs themselves. However, there are costs to making this the priority in Europe's relationship with Serbia. But once a course is charted, it's hard to turn the ship around – politicians' public rhetoric can impede efforts to change the policy agenda.

Still, it seems to me that in some sense the Europeans actually did what I suggested (not because I



suggested it); they in fact eased off by not demanding the surrender of Mladić at that moment. I realize I'm conflating the cases of Karadžić and Mladić, but the principle is similar. The process continued to move forward. The West did not freeze all relations. What happened at the end of that period? A new government came to power in Serbia that is more willing to cooperate on these matters.

There are, of course, ambiguities and there's been tremendous pressure from the EU. However, I believe that it is a reasonable amount of pressure in that it still grants some agency and autonomy to Serbia to work these things out for itself, though one could take a different view. Certainly people who would violently disagree with the view in my op-ed would plausibly see recent events as a vindication that we must keep this on the front burner, but I wonder about that. I think there were multiple, complex factors on the ground in Serbia that contributed to Karadžić's arrest, and that's to be expected. The issue of war crimes fugitives should not be ignored, but neither should it be the only issue in negotiations of the relationship between all of Europe and the 8 million people in this important country in the region.

There has been a lot of rhetoric about the recent events in South Ossetia and Abkhazia in relation to the events in Kosovo. Is there really a good legal argument that these two cases are different from each other?

Well that's a great question. I've written a few things on that. Hopefully what everyone can agree on is that we should be suspicious of extremely clear answers about this. International law is a very marginal

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Profile

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field in many ways; that's what makes it interesting to me. Probably more so than in most fields of law, the proposition that there are clear answers to these questions is usually not right.

In my view, in a technical legal analysis of Kosovo's independence, the Russian position was more right than that of the United States. It's very hard to see the basis for a unilateral declaration of independence and recognition of it: the rules against secession are firm enough that even given events in Kosovo throughout the nineties, it is difficult to make a case that favors independence. I think that the legal basis of the U.S. argument (resolution 1244 and so forth), and the existence of a U.N. administration, make for fairly weak legal arguments in favor of independence. So logically you must fall back on the broader set of established international norms, and the default rule is that we don't disassemble states. I think that's a very bad rule, but technically, as I say, the more accurate reading.

But whatever the prior rule, we have recognized Kosovo – and this is grist for the argument that the rules are changing with regard to places like Georgia. The Russians are playing a very good double game, having not accepted the Kosovo secession but accepting, shall we say, the precedential value of it: I do not think they are wrong to say that if Kosovo's independence were legal, there could be analogous situations elsewhere. I have no sympathy for their arguments politically – it's completely opportunistic – but I think it's probably right as a legal analysis, or at least plausible.

The opposing view tries to claim that there is no precedential value for Kosovo whatsoever. I don't know what that means. One can't simply declare no precedent *ex cathedra*. States obviously do come into existence. There are ways in which they can be recognized. At the same time there are very clear rules protecting the territorial integrity of existing states. It's hard to see how Kosovo crossed that threshold, and if it did, how could you say that other places can't do the same. This leads to the question of whether these cases are similar or not.

I think there are many points on which you could make the analogy – a recent history of conflict, *de facto* separation, an internationally legitimated or tolerated separate governance – and most importantly, perhaps, is the evident sense that the separatist communities adamantly resist the idea of ever living again under Georgian rule. Georgia's recent initiation of combat operations against the Ossetians reifies that last point, and is really a kind of game changer. At least, again, it allows the Russians to make a plausible claim that one could not possibly expect these people to go back to living under

Georgian rule. That is exactly the language we have used about Kosovo, that these people cannot be asked to live under Belgrade again, which I think is true. If that is now true for the Ossetians as well, I think we start seeing what looks like a parallel or a precedent.

Of course the major difference favoring the argument that Kosovo is not a precedent is that there was a massive episode of ethnic cleansing in Kosovo that never happened in the same way in Abkhazia. In fact it was in the reverse in Abkhazia, and for many that is a critical distinction. Ironically, my view is the Albanians in Kosovo had a legitimate right to their independence before the events of '98 and '99; but if you follow that logic, it has to do with people's desire not to live under someone else's sovereign. I think current argument coming out of Western Europe and the United States – that we're not going to consider claims of independence until there has been a horrible instance of ethnic cleansing or something similar – creates really bizarre incentives. I think the better view, one that I have been researching and writing on, is that we should find a method for recognizing and responding to these kinds of claims before the war, not just after.

Is that what you mean when you say that you think the rules are bad rules?

Yes, in a sense. If I had to provide a technical legal analysis of the claim in Kosovo at the time—should Kosovo get its independence based on existing international laws—the preponderance of the weight of international law would be against the claim, but that is obviously the wrong decision. These people have a legitimate right to withdraw from that state given the totality of their circumstances, but the rules don't say that. So I'm in the position of being one of those lawyers who says, "I can tell you what the analysis is and I can tell you what the analysis should be; they are two different things." So I'm trying to think about a way to construct a different set of rules that would align what the law says with our political and moral sensibilities; right now those things are very far apart.

For more information about Professor Waters and the courses he is teaching this year, please visit the Law School website at info.law.indiana.edu.

Erika M. Steiger is a graduate student in the REEI MA Program

Outreach Notes

SAILS Program Immerses Gary Schoolchildren in Foreign Languages and Cultures

by Dan Tam Do and Mark Trotter

For several weeks this past summer, a group of elementary, junior high, and high school students exploited a unique opportunity to study one of six foreign languages as participants in SAILS--Study Alternative International Languages and Spanish--a summer program based at West Side High School in Gary, Indiana and organized by the Foreign Language Department of the Gary Community School Corporation. SAILS is one of several pre-college Russian language programs that REEI supports through its Title VI Grant. REEI provides SAILS with materials and supplies, assistance with events, and teacher training.

In continuous operation since 1990, the program offers pre-college students experiences that broaden their knowledge of the world and prepare them to interact with people of different cultures. Initially, SAILS offered four languages: Russian, Arabic, Japanese, and

German. In subsequent years, the program added Chinese and, in response to community demand, Spanish as well. In a typical summer, SAILS enrolls 100 or more students between the second and tenth grades. Participants must be recommended by a teacher from their home school and demonstrate the potential to thrive in an intensive learning environment where all students of the same language learn together in a single classroom, regardless of differences in age or grade level.

Classes meet daily over a four-week period in June and July. Each day features ninety minutes of language instruction and forty-five minutes of cultural exposure, where students learn about the art, music, and dance of the people whose language they study. Classroom activities include lessons in geography and history. In addition, the program provides opportunities for students to meet and interact with those studying each of the other five languages. Students who complete the program often choose to repeat the experience. While some go on to

experiment with several different languages, others remain with the same language year after year. Such returning students often act as classroom mentors to new students.

SAILS classes are led by a native speaker working in partnership with an instructor trained in foreign language teaching methodology; as a team, they combine insider knowledge of language and culture with pedagogical expertise. Teachers have the freedom to design their own lessons, keeping age appropriateness in mind, but are also asked to update syllabi, materials,

and approaches on a frequent basis. Rovelli Grib, lead teacher in the Russian program since 2002, has recruited his students from Gary's Emerson School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where he is orchestra director during the regular school year, to perform Russian folk music for the SAILS group and introduce them to Russian folk dances. Cultural lessons and

application of language skills also take place outside of the classroom. In cases where Gary lacks a native speaker population, students travel beyond the confines of the city. For example, SAILS Russian groups have toured a Russian neighborhood in Chicago, where they visited an Orthodox church and observed traditional Russian techniques of bread making. This past summer, program participants had an opportunity to travel even farther afield and spend a week in two culturally diverse cities, Houston and San Antonio, where their itinerary included museum visits and tours that addressed the students' own heritages and explored other cultures.

There is "solid community support for us as a program," according to Myra G. Anderson, the SAILS Acting Coordinator. Although the application fee can present a hardship, sponsors such as local churches, teachers, the city council, and the mayor's office provide assistance when necessary, and the network of support is



SAILS program students pose for a photo with their instructors

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Outreach Notes

SAILS

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such that SAILS has never turned away a child for lack of funds. Anderson believes that the strength of this support stems from the community's perception that SAILS is beneficial to the students as they plan for their futures. The program's strong and lasting positive influence is reflected in the educational and vocational trajectories of past participants, for whom their SAILS experience has served as the impetus for careers in international business, law, arts administration and other fields. In addition to providing students with an advantage on the job market, SAILS can reap unanticipated benefits for the community, as for example a SAILS graduate whose experience with German in the program sparked an interest in languages in general. She is currently working as a teacher of Japanese in a Gary high school. Anderson expresses hope that even during an economically challenging period characterized by property tax reductions and concomitant budget cuts, the program will be continued. "It's a great program with a very friendly staff and excellent coordinators," enthuses Russian teacher Rovelli Grib. "The kids want to learn and our enrollments in Russian are growing with each passing year."

On July 11 of this past year, REEI Assistant

Director/Outreach Coordinator Mark Trotter attended the festive SAILS closing program, where members of each group contributed a performance to showcase their linguistic and cultural accomplishments. Following a skillful and engaging Russian language performance of the American children's song "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes" and the Russian fairy tale "Teremok," Mark met with the Russian students and their teachers at the traditional post-program ethnic luncheon, featuring a selection of dishes to represent all the cultures of the SAILS program.

SAILS welcomes gifts and donations. Those interested in supporting the program materially should contact Dr. Myrtle V. Campbell, Assistant Superintendent of the Gary Community School Corporation, at [mvcampbel](mailto:mvcampbell@garycsc.k12.in.us)
ll@garycsc.k12.in.us.

Dan Tam Do is a graduate student in the REEI and SLIS Master's Programs

Mark Trotter is assistant director and outreach coordinator for the Russian & East European Institute

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State Internship in Kyiv

by Michelle Lawrence

This summer from mid-May to the first week of August I served as an intern in the Management Section of the US Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine. Working in the Management Section, I had comparatively less glamorous duties than my counterparts in some of the other sections, like the intern in the Political Section who visited the Ukrainian parliament during her first week at the Embassy. However, I enjoyed my work thoroughly, especially knowing that the responsibilities of the Management Section were essential to successful diplomatic operations. I independently completed and assisted in several projects in fields as varied as finance, human resources, and information technology.



Michelle Lawrence with the U.S. Ambassador William Taylor (center left and center right)

My arrival also coincided with the exciting final week of campaigning before Kyiv's mayoral and city council elections, in which a total of 79 candidates were running for mayor. The most famous sites in the city, such as Kreshchatyk, were crowded with campaign tents, and election coverage dominated the news. In fact, on my way in from the airport I rode by a tent in a park only a few feet away on a quiet side street at the exact moment when Vitali Klitschko, one of the mayoral candidates and a former heavyweight boxing champion, was introduced to speak before a small crowd. Later in the week I witnessed a pack of cyclists with banners traveling down another main road in Kyiv and was thus introduced to a new method of campaigning: on bicycle.

While I was interested in the elections and followed them closely, friends and coworkers who were natives of Kyiv expressed apathy; they were growing tired of many recent elections and the politicians that continually participated in them. The incumbent, Leonid Chernovetsky, and his accompanying city council

bloc, won the election, an outcome disappointing to some, as the elections had been originally called by parliament in response to corruption allegations involving Chernovetsky. The mayor and some of his fellow candidates attended the U.S. Embassy's Annual 4th of July Reception later in the summer, and I had a chance to meet them in person.

I was also fortunate to be able to travel outside of Kyiv. I visited several sites in Ukraine and also took a trip through Eastern Europe, where I spent time (but not nearly enough) in Prague, Krakow, and Budapest. Along with the other interns, I took the train to L'viv for a weekend trip, where we experienced "Euro 2008 in Your Town," a not altogether successful event which consisted of local youngsters pretending to be on the Spanish and German soccer teams, the finalists in the Euro 2008. They played the game on the cobblestones of Rynok Square. The most common comment from the announcers was an emphatic "very dangerous." While in L'viv we also witnessed a group of older people break into song and learned that singing in a circle is a fairly common pastime in the small towns of Western Ukraine. World War II veterans from the controversial Ukrainian Insurgent Army made an appearance and marched down the center of Prospect Svobody, the main street in L'viv. They appreciated our interest in them and posed for photos with us.

Another of my favorite sites in Ukraine was Chernivtsi, located in Ukrainian Bukovyna. It is the hometown of my undergraduate

Russian professor, and his college classmate, now an English teacher at the university there, acted as my tour guide. This fall Chernivtsi will be marking its 600th anniversary and the city is

actively preparing for the event, restoring facades and re-paving sidewalks to celebrate its long and colorful history.

Ukrainians like to deliver long, flowery farewells and toasts, which for foreigners usually include a wish for the person to return, along with wishes for health and happiness. I appreciated my new friends' sentiments and hope to fulfill those wishes with another trip to Ukraine in the near future.



The University in Chernivtsi, famous for its architecture

Michelle Lawrence is a graduate student in the REEI MA Program

Georgia's Political History Since the Fall of the Soviet Union

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by his retinue of bodyguards, was rushed away. In the following days, Shevardnadze resigned along with his cabinet. Not one drop of blood was spilled.

One of the outspoken leaders of the opposition, Mikheil Saakashvili, was elected president in 2004. Saakashvili has focused on integrating Georgia with the West, seeking membership in NATO and the European Union, reducing corruption and improving the economy. The other professed goal of his administration has been to reunite the three separatist regions within Georgia: Abkhazia, South Ossetia, and Adjara (located on the Black Sea and bordering Turkey. This region escaped the bloodshed of the 1990s when the authoritarian, Aslan Abashidze, took control, enabling the region to enjoy comprehensive political and economic freedoms from Georgia proper during Shevardnadze's presidency). In addition, thousands of Georgian Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) expelled from Abkhazia and South Ossetia in the early 1990s remained in the capital, Tbilisi, in "temporary" housing throughout the Shevardnadze period. Saakashvili made the return of IDPs to their original homes part and parcel of his overall goal to establish the nation-state's territorial integrity.

Saakashvili won international acclaim early on for his quick successes in clamping down on religious violence, reforming the sectors of law enforcement and education, and peacefully bringing back Adjara into Tbilisi's sphere of influence in spring of 2004. Other efforts to build consensus within parliament and to persuade South Ossetia and Abkhazia to reunite with Georgia were unsuccessful. In addition, critics of Saakashvili condemn what appear to be moves toward authoritarianism. For example, in November 2007, members of several opposition parties united to protest what they saw as a growing dictatorship of the president and called for



A view of "Mother Georgia" from Narikala Fortress in Tbilisi

Saakashvili's resignation. In response, Saakashvili called for a special election. He was reelected in January 2008 to another five-year term, garnering 52% of the vote.

In August 2008, fighting broke out between Ossetian and Georgian forces. On Friday August 8, 2008 while open warfare was erupting in Tskhinvali, the provincial capital of South Ossetia, Russian military units, including infantry, armored units, artillery, and aircraft, began pouring into South Ossetia and routing Georgian forces. Russian Federation forces were also bolstering their military presence in Abkhazia. Following numerous Russian air strikes on targets in undisputed Georgian territory, Russian forces entered areas outside Abkhazian and Ossetian separatist zones, eventually taking control of the key east-west highway running from Tbilisi to the Black Sea coast. In addition, Russian units advanced into and around the key towns of Gori, in central Georgia, and Poti, a major Black Sea port. On August 12, with the help of the acting European Union president, Nicolas Sarkozy, Georgia and the Russian Federation reached a cease-fire agreement with stipulations for Russian troop withdrawals. Military action has abated, but the political situation remains tense. On September 8, President Dmitrii Medvedev officially recognized the independence of both Abkhazia and South Ossetia. Further diplomatic talks between EU and Russian Federation representatives have clarified that Russian forces will set up long-term bases in both breakaway regions. At the same time, Russian leaders have indicated their plan to withdraw from undisputed Georgian territory by October, once two hundred EU observers arrive to take up posts along the buffer zones set up between the separatist regions and Georgia-controlled territory.

Laura Linderman is in the PhD program in Anthropology at IU. She lived and worked in western Georgia for a year and a half.

William Eastwood is in the PhD program in Anthropology at IU. He is currently writing his dissertation about Georgian national identity and religious minorities.

AAASS Reception reminder:

REEI will host its annual alumni and friends reception at the 40th AAASS Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Please join us Friday, November 20th, at 9:30 pm in Grand Ballroom J at the Philadelphia Marriott Hotel.

Student News

New MA students

Mara Bertsch is from Lawrence, Kansas and graduated from the University of Kansas with a BA in History and International Studies. Her main focus is modern Polish history and Jewish experiences in Eastern Europe in the 20th and 21st centuries. She plans to pursue a PhD in History or start a career in healthcare advocacy.

Melanie Bulhon is originally from Houston, Texas and graduated from Texas A&M University in 2008 with a degree in international studies. She is pursuing a joint degree with IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs and is interested in Russia's aviation and space industries, US-Russia relations, and Russian foreign policy.

Lauren Butt grew up in Connecticut and graduated from Cornell University in 2004 with a double major in Art History and Classics. She is interested in the impact of historical legacies and memory on cultural policies in the Balkan region.

Justin Classen is originally from Rutland, Vermont and graduated from Williams College in 2003 with BAs in History and Political Science. He was later awarded a graduate fellowship to the University of Vermont, where he graduated in 2007 with an MA in History. Justin is interested in modern Romanian history, particularly the theory, evolution and impact of the radical right during the inter-war period and the early phases of Romanian Communist rule.

Leah Jakaitis is from Albany, New York and graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 2008 with a B.S. in Science and Technology Studies. She is pursuing a joint M.L.S. / M.A., and is interested in merging the two subjects by studying book history and material culture in the Czech Republic.

Kara Hodgson's love affair with the former Soviet Union began in high school when she traveled to Kiev, Ukraine. She later lived in St. Petersburg, Russia for two years. She has a B.A. in Russian Studies and Political Science from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and is currently working toward her M.A., focusing primarily on Russia in a circumpolar context.

James Joeriman graduated in 2002 from the University of Florida with a double major in Russian and Psychology. Since graduating he has worked as a translator, mostly freelance, but also briefly on a couple projects for the US Geological Survey. His primary

interests are environmental issues in the former Soviet Union and corporate, social, and governmental initiatives/responsibility in the area of sound environmental management.

Sara Ronald is originally from Portland, Indiana. She graduated from Indiana University in 2004 with a BA in Slavic Languages and Literatures. Her interests include Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova. She enjoys traveling, reading, and football.

Erika M. Steiger is originally from California. She studied social anthropology at Harvard, concentrating especially on the comparative study of religion, but her main focus since college has been as a writer and a teacher. She is the author of a novel, *Floating On Bamboo*, and a



From the left, new students Melanie Bulhon, Lauren Butt, Sara Ronald, Kara Hodgson, Emily Young, Anastasia Wypasek, and returning student Joel Kleehammer

co-author of "The Mental Health for Immigrants Project: Program Design and Participatory Research in the Real World," a product of one of the many rewarding projects in which she has participated. She has taught English, writing and other subjects in a variety of contexts. Her experience as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Macedonia from 2005-2008 inspired her to learn as much as she possibly could about the Western Balkans, an ambition that led her to REEI.

Carla Tumbas completed her BA in Political Science and International Studies with a minor from the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University in 2007. She is interested in economic development and the role

Faculty News and Publications

Justyna Beinek (Slavics) was invited to Germany in June to deliver two talks on Polish and Russian albums of the Romantic Era. She spoke to Slavists at Humboldt University in Berlin about the working of memory and at the University of Hamburg about the rise of national identity in 19th century Poland. Beinek spent July on IU's STFE program at Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland. While there she worked on a guidebook to Gombrowicz with Jerzy Jarzebski, a project for which she had received an NEH fellowship.

Maria Bucur (History) is a co-recipient of a grant to organize a new knowledge seminar at the Institute for Advanced Study on gender and citizenship in the post-Cold War world. Maria recently published "Gendering Dissent. Of Bodies and Minds, Survival and Opposition under Communism" in *Beyond Little Vera: Women's Bodies, Women's Welfare in Russia and Central/Eastern Europe*, edited by Angela Brintlinger and Natasha Kolchevska.

Henry R. Cooper, Jr. (Slavics) will travel to Split, Croatia in September 2008 to deliver a paper on Martin Držić's literary works in English translation at a symposium dedicated to the 500th anniversary of the birth of the Croatian Renaissance playwright. He will then move to Zagreb, Croatia where, under the aegis of the IU-University of Zagreb Faculty Exchange Program, he will be compiling an anthology of Croatian literature in English translation and refining the two translations of Držić's comedies into English that he drafted over the summer.

Aurelian Craiuțu (Political Science) was appointed in May by the President of Romania, Traian Băsescu, to serve as Honorary Chair of the Presidential Committee for the Study of Romania's Political and Constitutional Regime. The Committee, consisting of constitutional experts and political scientists from Romania, France, and the US, was entrusted with the task of submitting a report to the President by October 2008 that will then be discussed in Parliament.

Ronald Feldstein (Slavics) presented a paper entitled "On Mobile Vowel Stress in Russian, as Influenced by Stem-final Consonants" at the Fourth International Workshop on Balto-Slavic Accentology (IWOBA), in Scheibbs, Austria, in July 2008.

Roy Gardner (Economics / West European Studies) will present his paper "Ukraine's Economy on the Road to Europe" at the University of Notre Dame (September 16),

the University of California at Berkeley (September 29), and Stanford University (October 2). He will spend part of his sabbatical as a visiting scholar at the Center for Russian East European and Eurasian Studies at Stanford University. He has also been awarded a major 3-year NSF grant to study strategic behavior on marine commons.

Jeffrey Holdeman (Slavics) presented the paper "Iazykovoi vybor, informatsionnyi ves i iazykovoi sdvig v nadgrobnykh nadpisiakh russkikh staroobriadtsev v Pol'she, Litve i vostochnoi chasti SShA" at the international conference "Russian Old Believers Abroad: History. Religion. Language. Culture" on June 26, 2008, in Toruń Poland. After the conference, he conducted field and archival research on Old Believers in Poland and Lithuania, visiting several villages in each country.

Owen Johnson (Journalism) published "Not Telling the Truth: Censorship in Communist Slovakia in the 1950s" in *Czech & Slovak Culture in International & Global Context*, edited by Miloslav Rechcíg. He was discussant on the panel "Journalism, Citizens & the State" at the conference of the International Communication Association in Montreal on May 25. His recent publications also include "Thomas D. Marzik (1941-2007)," a Slovak-language obituary, in *Historický časopis* and the article "US National Czech and Slovak Museum Wrecked" in *Slovak Spectator*.

Bill Johnston (Comparative Literature / Second Language Studies) received the "Found in Translation" Award at the spring 2008 Polish Studies conference for his translation of *New Poems* by Tadeusz Różewicz. Established in 2007 by the Polish Book Institute in Krakow, the Polish Cultural Institute in London, the Polish Cultural Institute in New York, and the W.A.B. Publishers in Warsaw, the "Found in Translation" Award is given annually for the best translation of a work of Polish literature into English. Professor Johnston is the first recipient.

Janet Kennedy (Art History) gave one of the keynote talks in June 2008 at the New York Public Library as a participant at an NEH summer seminar organized by Edward Kasinec and devoted to the use of visual resources in teaching and research.

Padraic Kenney (History) is serving this year as the Acting Director of the Polish Studies Center. This past summer, he spent 2.5 months in South African archives,

Alumni News

Joshua Abrams (REEI/SPEA MA/MPA 2001) writes the “Dispatches” column for *Steppe Magazine*, a journal dedicated to arts and culture in Central Asia.

David Abramson (PhD Anthropology 1998) co-published a chapter “Sacred Sites, Profane Ideologies: Religious Pilgrimage and the Uzbek State” in *Everyday Life in Central Asia*, edited by Jeff Sahadeo and Russel Zanca, 2007. In 2008 he received a Department of State Superior Honor Award for outreach to experts on Central Asia and Islam. He recently completed a research trip to Tajikstan and Kyrgyzstan to examine political stability in these two countries. He also organized two conferences in 2008, “Tajikstan and Stability” and “Hizb ut Tahrir in Global Perspective.”

Barbara Allen (PhD History/REEI certificate 2001) has published an article titled “A Proletarian From a Novel: Politics, Identity, and Emotion in the Relationship between Alexander Shliapnikov and Alexandra Kollontai, 1911-1935” in *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review*, vol. 35, no. 2 (2008): 1-29.

Richard Bakewell (REEI MA 2006) is currently on his first tour as a Foreign Service officer in Georgetown, Guyana.

Patrick Burlingame (REEI/Kelley MA/MBA 2008) has completed his dual degree and taken up employment in Budapest with GE Money’s Central and East Europe division. He was accepted into GE’s two year, rotational ECLP program designed for MBA candidates with a marketing and sales background. Currently he works with small and medium size enterprises on the commercial side of GE Money’s Budapest Bank. In January he plans to attend the global ECLP conference in Prague, Czech Republic.

Paul M. Carter Jr. (PhD History/REEI certificate 1997) is currently Deputy Counselor for Political Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Athens, Greece. He is also Chairman of the Embassy Interagency Counterterrorism Task Force and action officer for Greek relations with the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, as well as the Black Sea region.

Mary Dakin (PhD Political Science/ REEI certificate 1998) recently accepted a new position with the Stanford Arts Initiative where she will run an institute for the promotion of fine arts at Stanford. She and her husband are the proud parents of 1-year-old Alexandra and 5-year-old Will.

Lesli Demir (REEI MA 2005) married IU Alum Hilmi Demir (PhD Philosophy) in 2007 and moved to Turkey. She is currently a Tutorial Instructor at Bilkent University and has submitted a PhD application to the History Department at Bilkent University, the first private university established in Turkey. She would eventually like to return to nonprofit work.

Mari Firkatian (PhD History/REEI certificate 1991) has published, *Diplomats and Dreamers: The Stancioff Family in Bulgarian History*, University Press of America, 2008.

Jessica Gibson (REEI BA Minor 2003) took a job as a Field Examiner at the National Labor Relations Board in Milwaukee, WI.

Peter Holquist (REEI BA certificate 1986) is currently working on “By Right of War,” a monograph-length project on how imperial Russia helped develop and codify the international law of war in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. He spent part of the past summer doing research for this project in Tbilisi, Georgia and Yerevan, Armenia. In Fall, 2008 he will be in residence at the School for Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.

Stephan Jerabek (REEI BA Minor 2006) was recently promoted to First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He arrived in Iraq in March 2008 and his platoon is currently conducting convoy security.

Prajakti Kalra (REEI BA Minor 2003) received scholarships from the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust at the University of Cambridge and the Permanent International Conference Foundation to carry on graduate work at the University of Cambridge, UK.

John Kershaw (REEI MA 1994) is a two-time recipient of the Department of State’s Meritorious Honor Award and is currently the Acting Consul at the U.S. Consulate in Florence, Italy.

Claire Carr Maxson (REEI BA Minor 2001) received a Master of Arts degree in Executive Development for Public Service from Ball State University in 2007.

Stephen Nedell (REEI MA/MLS 2000) is currently the Local History Librarian at the Malden Public Library in Massachusetts. He recently received \$17,000 in grants to fund public access computers at the library.

Student News

Returning students

Amy Bedford (REEI) interned with the US Commission on International Religious Freedom during the summer.

Heidi Bludau (Anthropology) will be leaving for Prague in November to conduct fieldwork funded by a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Her dissertation research examines the ways in which migration recruitment firms influence healthcare migration flows, particularly in post-socialist, EU member countries. She also explores the specific strategies of women in healthcare migration and how they use the recruitment firms to mediate non-traditional gender roles. She is using Czech healthcare workers as her core research population. Heidi was also awarded the Outstanding Associate Instructor Teaching Award by the Department of Anthropology in May.

Dan Tam Do (REEI) interned as a Junior Fellow in the European Division of the Library of Congress. She spent the summer cataloging Russian-language works of fiction, poetry and drama published between the 1890s and 1945.

Aimee Dobbs (History) received a Fulbright-Hays Award to study cultural and intellectual history in Azerbaijan.

Nicole Degli Esposti (REEI) spent the last year in Romania teaching and advising on a Fulbright fellowship and completed an internship over the summer in the Economics Section of the American Embassy, where she reported on health care issues and assisted with conferences.

Leone Musgrave (History) spent the summer of 2008 doing pre-dissertation work in St. Petersburg and Moscow. She did research at the Russian State Archives of Ancient Acts and the State Archive of Military History, as well as at the National and State libraries and found interesting material related to her work on relations between Russians and Caucasians in the 18th century, plus some sources on

her secondary subject of interest, the North Caucasus in the era of the Russian Civil War. She met with several distinguished scholars in her field, including researchers at the Ethnographical Museum and Kunstkamera in St. Petersburg and at the Institute of Eastern Studies in Moscow.

M. Benjamin Thorne (History) spent the summer as the 2009-2010 Raul Hilberg Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies. While in residence, Ben utilized the Museum's wealth of archival materials as he conducted research for his dissertation on the Romanian government's deportation of 26,000 Roma to Transnistria in 1942-1944. During the current academic year he will continue his research in Romania with a Fulbright-Hays Award. His review of Armin Heinen's *Rumänien, der Holocaust und die Logik der Gewalt* is forthcoming in *Austrian Historical Yearbook*.

Alexandra Tipei (History) was named a Jacob K. Javits fellow for the 2008-2009 academic year. She also received a summer FLAS, allowing her to go to Greece where she took intensive Modern Greek courses at the Athens Centre and explored the city's bookstores, libraries, and archives.

Allison Ann Trapani (REEI) spent her summer working in St. Petersburg, Russia for the 5th year in a row with the program she directs through St. Petersburg State Politechnical University. She was accepted for a position with the US Department of State in Russia and taught English in the IT department of the Lenta Corporation. Allison also took time to relax and enjoy the finer points of life in Scandinavia and Turkey.

John Venham (REEI) spent the 2007-8 academic year as a math and science tutor at the Madison Area Technical

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New MA Students

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of the European Union in the former Yugoslavia. She is pursuing a joint degree with REEI and SPEA.

Anastasia Wypasek grew up in Akron, Ohio and graduated from Saint Francis University in 2008 with a degree in history and English Literature. She is interested in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Polish history and literature.

Emily Young graduated from Carleton College in 2005 with a degree in music. She has studied abroad in Wales and Russia, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Albania, and is currently pursuing a dual MIS/MA with SLIS and REEI. Emily's interests include the history, culture and politics of Russia and the Balkans.

Student News

Student Awards

Daniel Armstrong Memorial Awards:

The 2007-2008 Daniel Armstrong Memorial Essay Awards were presented at the Russian and East European Institute's annual Fall Reception on September 10. Director David Ransel recognized the recipients for their thorough, well-written work on Russian and East European topics during the previous school year. This year's graduate division winner was **Joanna Matuszak** for "Self-Portrayal of a Soviet Artist: The case of Alksander Deineka's Self-Portrait of 1948," a paper written in Cold War Masculinities, a Gender Studies course taught by John Kinder. The Master's Thesis division featured two winners: **Colin Dietch** for "Nation and Regime: Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy in Post-Soviet Belarus and Ukraine" (Principal Advisor: Dina Spechler) and **Ryan Kilgore** for "The Shtetl and Jewish Resettlement in Soviet Cinema of the Interwar Period" (Principal Advisor: Jeffrey Veidlinger). The undergraduate essay award went to **Michael Gold** for "Restoring Indo-Russian Relations: An Evaluation of Russian Foreign Policy Strategies," which he wrote as a student in Russian and Soviet Foreign Policy, a political science course taught by Dina Spechler.

Robert F. Byrnes Fund:

Emily Young received this year's Robert F. Byrnes fellowship (more about Emily can be found in the New MA Students section on page 12).

David Stira is the returning Byrnes fellow. This fellowship preserves the memory of the first director of REEI by supporting an outstanding student with a stipend and fee remission during the first and second years of study. REEI would like to thank all those who have contributed to the 2008 Fund and especially recognize Eleanor Byrnes and her children, the principal contributors to the fellowship endowment.

Romanian Studies Graduate Student Fellowship

Justin Classen is the second recipient of the Romanian Studies Graduate Fellowship (more about Justin can be found on page 12). Funded jointly by IU and the Romanian government, this two-year fellowship includes a tuition and fee waiver and a stipend. The fellowship promotes study of Romania and Romanian language. **Erin Biebuyck** is the returning Romanian Studies Fellow.



Janet Kennedy (right) and Joanna Matuszak

(left) at the Fall 2008

REEI Reception with her award

ACTR Post-Secondary Russian Essay Contest

Honorable Mention (Non-Heritage Learners, Level 1)

Jennifer L. DeVito, Indiana University

Third Place (Non-Heritage Learners, Level 2)

Rebecca Baumgartner, Indiana University

Honorable Mention (Non-Heritage Learners, Level 2)

Jaclyn Brooks, Indiana University

Second Place (Non-Heritage Learners, Level 4)

Abraham Smith, Indiana University

Honorable Mention (Non-Heritage Learners, Level 4)

Katherine Anne Israel, Indiana University

Dobro Slovo Inductees

Laurel Nicole Giddings

Michaelene Elizabeth Hanley

David Bubeníček

Brigid K. Henry

Lisa J. Maydwell

Magdalena A. Mullek

Allison Ann Maria Trapani

Melissa Jean Witcombe

Mark Trotter (honorary)

Student News

Student Graduations: MA Degrees/PhD Defenses

The following students graduated with REEI MA degrees during the 2007-2008 school year. Their names are followed by the titles of their master's thesis and the names of the chairs of their advisory committees in parentheses:

Brant Beyer- "The Szeklers and the European Union: The European Influence on Ethnic Politics in Romania." (Beata Sessenich)

Patrick Burlingame- "Amending the Hungarian Tax Code: Implications for Flat Tax Reform with Regards to the Recent Flat Tax Movement in East Europe." (Michael Alexeev)

Colin Dietch- "Nation and Regime: Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy in Ukraine and Belarus." (Dina Spechler)

Sarah Fogleman – "Educating in Transition: The Challenge of Reforming Latvia's School System, 1991-2006." (Toivo Raun)

Andrew Hinnant- "Will the Last Person to Leave Poland Please Turn Out the Lights?" (David Audretsch)

Ian Lanzilliotti- "The Foundations of North Caucasian National Consciousness: Soviet Nationality Policies in the North Caucasus during the Early Period of Nativization (1920-1927)." (Bill Fierman)

Elizabeth Raible- "Dilemmas of the Projected 2011 Census of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Enumerating Ethnic

Cleansing, Refugee Return, and National Identity." (Frances Trix)

Manuel Jesus Lopez Hernandez- "Resigned to their Fate: Uzbekistan, Uzbeks, and International Labor Migration in the Post-Soviet Era." (Bill Fierman)

Richard Payne-Holmes- "Orange and Denim: National Identity in Ukraine and Belarus." (Hiroaki Kuromiya)

Maren Payne-Holmes – "Presence and Absence: Representations of Women in Polish Films about Solidarity." (Justyna Beinek)

Josh Ruegsegger- "Less Bang for Our Buck: The History, Status, and Future of U.S. Threat Reduction & Nonproliferation Assistance Programs in the Former Soviet Union and the World." (Dina Spechler)

Dmitry Upart- "Nuclear Catastrophes and Socioeconomic Ramifications: The Belarus Case." (Sarah Phillips)

The following student successfully defended his dissertation to complete a PhD with an REEI certificate during the 2007-2008 school year:

Jude Richter (History) – "Rehabilitating Juvenile Criminals in Russia, 1864-1917." (Ben Eklof)

Returning Students

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College Learning Center in Madison, Wisconsin where he served a diverse, economically disadvantaged community of students and put in many volunteer hours. John was one of seven finalists nominated by direct student feedback for

the Outstanding Tutor of the Year award from a pool of over 175 individuals. In addition he gained certification from the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) as a professional tutor.

Alumni News

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Patrick O'Neil (PhD Political Science/REEI minor 1995) recently returned from a research trip to Iran and is currently working on the third edition of *Essentials of Comparative Politics*, published by WW Norton.

Rebecca Olson (REEI MA/MLS 1999) delivered a presentation on foreign patent searching at a panel on "Patent Searching Demystified" during the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in July 2008.

Siobhan Reardon (REEI BA Minor 2005) is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in international social problems and policy at Columbia University. Her

undergraduate thesis "Beating Out the Old Way of Life: The Zheontdel Campaign Against Wife-Battery 1922-1930" is being considered for publication in the *Journal of Social History*, pending revisions.

Tracie L. Wilson (PhD Folklore & Ethnomusicology 2005, MA REEI 1996) recently accepted a position as Associate Director of the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. From 2006-2008 she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Bryn Mawr College and the University of Illinois (U-C), sponsored by the Council on Library and Information Resources.

IU Participants in the AAASS Convention

The 40th National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania November 20-23, 2008.

Faculty Papers (includes visiting scholars)

- Michael V. Alexeev (Economics): "The Oil Curse and Economic Transition"
 Justyna Anna Beinek (Slavic): "Performing the 'Slavic Soul' in Slowmir Mrozek's 'Moniza Clavier'"
 Paul M. Foster (Slavic): "Macedonian Language in Multilingual Environment"
 Berndt J. Fischer (History-Fort Wayne): "Political Parties, Corruption, and the Legacy of the Past in Post-Communist Albania"
 Padraic Jeremiah Kenney (History): "Reading the Cell: Communist Prisoners in Interwar Poland"
 Monica F. Kindraka-Jensen (REEI-IU/U of Alberta): "How Ivan's Soda Lake Family Became Atheists"
 Sarah Phillips (Anthropology): "Women and Social Activism in Post-Soviet Ukraine: Development and the Politics of Differentiation"
 K. Andrea Rusnock (Art History – South Bend): "Feminizing the Countryside: Images of Women in Paintings of the 1930s Collective Farms"
 Barbara J. Skinner (REEI-Indiana State University): "Guidelines to Faith: Instructional Literature for Russian Orthodox Clergy and Laity in the Late Eighteenth Century"

Student Papers/Participants

- Melissa Andrea Chakars (History): "Education and Postwar Social Transformation among the Buryats"
 Bora Chung (Slavic): "Feminine Voice in Modernist Folk Songs"
 Anna Muller (History): "Together and Apart - Women Communists and Anti-Communists in Stalinist Prisons in Poland"
 Tristra Michele Newyear (CEUS): "Kalym and the Buryat Community: Defining and Debating Bride Price"
 Sudha Rajagopalan (History): "Viewing Bombay Blockbusters in 'Cold War' Soviet Union"
 Susan Marie Williams (History): "Performing Gender and Ethnicity on the Trans-Atlantic Stage: Queen Marie's Grand Tour of America"

Panel Chairs

- Justyna Anna Beinek (Slavic): Codes of Conduct: Literary Constructions of Model Behavior
 Abby Drwecki (Anthropology): Markets, Matriarchs, and Marches: Intersections of Gender and Class in Postsocialism
 Elena Petroska (Slavic): Teaching Heritage Students: Confronting Difficult Issues
 Alexander Rabinowitch (Emeritus, History): Political Parties and the Russian Proletariat Across the Revolutionary Divide
 David L. Ransel (REEI/History): The Gendering of Childhood and Youth in Modern Russia

Panel Discussants

- Jonathyne Briggs (History-Northwest): Rocking the Bloc: Rock Music and Youth Identities in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, Part 3
 Maria Bucur (REEI/History): Gendering East European Historiography
 Paul M. Foster (Slavic): Macedonian Language in the Educational Systems of the 21st Century
 Bill Johnston: (TESOL/Applied Linguistics): Contemporary Polish Literature
 Padraic Jeremiah Kenney (History): Too Good to be True?: Promises and Predicaments of the Good Life under Communism
 Monica F. Kindraka-Jensen (REEI-IU/U of Alberta): Folklore and Identity III: Folk Religion, Gender and Ritual
 David L. Ransel (REEI/History): Identity and Mobility in the Pre-Reform Russian Social-Estate System
 Dmitry V. Shlapentokh (History-South Bend): Films, the Cold War, and Soviet Audience: Problems of Cultural Politics, Gender and Identity, 1948-1984
 Barbara J. Skinner (REEI-Indiana State University): Islam, Christianity and Judaism in Crimea in the Nineteenth Century and Today
 Regina Anne Smyth (Political Science): Promotion and Inhibiting Democratization in Post-Communist States

Roundtable Participants

- Maria Bucur (REEI/History): Gender Studies in Eastern Europe Today
 Ben Eklof (History): The Russianists Love Their Children, Too
 Berndt J. Fischer (History-Fort Wayne): Kosovo: What's Next?
 Alexander Rabinowitch (Emeritus, History): The Bolsheviks in Power: On Alexander Rabinowitch's study of Petrograd under Bolshevik Rule in 1918
 Janet Rabinowitch (IU Press): Meet the Presses: Transforming the Dissertation into a Book Manuscript

Faculty News

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researching a book on political prisoners. He presented a paper on that project at the Robben Island Museum and papers on his work on 1989 to seminars at the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Cape Town. In June, the Italian edition of *The Burdens of Freedom: Eastern Europe Since 1989* was published in June by EDT (Torino) under the title *Il peso della libertà. L'Europa dell'Est del 1989*.

Gabriel Popescu (Geography - IU South Bend) published "Conflicting Logics of Cross-Border Reterritorialization: Geopolitics of Euroregions in Eastern Europe" in *Political Geography* during the summer. He also presented "Breaking the Westphalian mould: cross-border cooperation and the changing political territoriality" at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in Boston, MA.

William Pridemore (Criminal Justice) recently won the Outstanding Young Scholar Award from the American Sociological Association's Section on Alcohol, Drugs, and Tobacco. Recent publications include "A comparison of victim, offender, and event characteristics of alcohol- and non-alcohol-related homicides in Russia" in *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, and "An investigation of the growing number of deaths of unidentified people in Russia" in *European Journal of Public Health*. He also gave an invited presentation entitled "Increasing vulnerability: The homeless, alcohol, and mortality in Russia" in April at the University of Wisconsin's Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia, and will deliver another entitled "The effects of social change and anomie on types and levels of mortality among the most vulnerable in Russia" in November to the Swiss Academy for Development in Biel-Bienne, Switzerland.

Alexander Rabinowitch (History) is the author of *The Bolsheviks in Power: The First Year of Soviet Rule in Petrograd* which has just been issued in a paperback edition by Indiana University Press. A brief memoir by Alex on how he became a "revisionist," originally presented to the most recent Midwest Russian Historians' workshop, has been posted on the AAASS website as a supplement to the discussion "Revisionism in Retrospect" in the Fall 2008 Slavic Review.

David Ransel (History) is the author of *Village Mothers: Three Generations of Change in Russia and Tataria* which has been translated into Romanian (*Mame de la sate. Trei generații în schimbare în Rusia și Tataria*, trans. Elena

Bărbulescu, Cluj-Napoca: International Book Access, 2008). He was named chair of the College Strategic Planning Committee group on International Studies and Research. He was also elected co-chair of the Council of National Resource Centers, a national lobbying group university area studies centers.

Frances Trix (Linguistics / Anthropology) published, "A Story of Spiritual Migration from Rumeli: Selim Ruhi Baba of Elbasan" in the edited volume *Yıldırım Ağanoğlu* (We Established Bridges to the Balkans) and presented her recent research at a May 2008 conference on the Balkans in Istanbul. She is currently continuing her research on Balkan immigrants in Istanbul.

Bronislava Volkova (Comparative Literatures / Jewish Studies) was profiled by former student Mathew Konieczny in "Bronislava Volková: Scholar, Artist, and Teacher" in *Kosmas*, a journal of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences. A Czech version appeared in *České listy*, a journal of the Czech Department of Foreign Affairs. She has been invited by the President of the Czech PEN Club to participate as an official Czech delegate to the PEN World Congress to be held in Bogotá, Columbia, September 17-22. She also published the essay "Exile Inside and Out" in *Writer Uprooted (Contemporary Jewish Exile Literature)*.

Timothy Waters (Law) spent the summer teaching at Central European University in Budapest, where he also participated in two conferences, including one on assessing democracy as part of a contingent from IU's Indiana Democracy Consortium examining issues of democracy promotion in Southeastern Europe. He also designed a course on the legal consequences of the Yugoslav crisis with the support of a curriculum development grant from REEI.

Jerry Wheat (Business Administration - IU Southeast) presented and coauthored "Financial Systems and Business Activity in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia" at the 2008 Business, Economics and Information Technology Conference in Hanoi, Vietnam. This paper was accepted by *The Journal of International Business Research* for publication in March of 2009. He also coauthored "Perceptions of Corruption in Central Asian Countries" in *International Business & Economics Research Journal*. This year he will be teaching at the Hanoi School of Business (HSB), a division of Vietnam National University.



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