

REEIFication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

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Tuberculosis in Russia

by Tom Nicholson

"If I discover that a TB patient is also infected with HIV, should I notify the patient, or would it be more humane to allow him to live out his last months with some degree of hope? Should we even test for HIV if we don't have the drugs to treat it?" The physician sat down, waiting for the translator to finish, and for Dr. Salmaan Keshavjee's response.

"That is a very difficult question. If anti-retrovirals aren't available in your region, it's difficult to be frank with a patient about his chances. But I can say that regardless, it is better to be aware of the patient's HIV status, so that you can more effectively treat his TB, and other opportunistic infections that will probably arise due to his HIV status..."

The disintegration of the Soviet Union's political and economic structures also predicated the downfall of a health system that had largely eradicated tuberculosis. As funding for health services was decimated in the 1990s, improper or incomplete treatment of tuberculosis created multi-drug resistance (MDR-TB), which now accounts for 15% of all TB cases in Russia. These new strains require an 18 month regimen of several powerful and expensive drugs, which exact a toll on Russia's struggling health system as well as the body and mind of the patient.

My first trip to Russia with Boston-based Partners In Health (PIH) in early 2006 brought me to Novosibirsk, the sprawling Siberian capital on the north Asian steppe. In collaboration with the Russian Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization, and local clinical staff, my colleagues and I traveled there to work on a new series of MDR-TB training sessions, which drew upon clinical and programmatic experience treating the disease in Tomsk Oblast, some 200 miles away.

PIH (PIH.org) has managed an \$11 million grant from the Global Fund against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) to the Tomsk TB services since 2004. The goal was to prove that careful institutional reform and local



A doctor treating a TB patient.
Photo courtesy of pih.org.

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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

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political will can translate to excellent standards of care for TB patients, even far away from cash-flush Moscow.

The first national-level training session was held at Sosnovka, a beautiful sanatorium in the Siberian countryside near the former academic closed city, Akademgorodok. Participating TB specialists came from Siberia and the Far East, many undertaking the thousand mile journey for several days by rail. Despite the somber subject and an intensive ten-day program, the participants were interested and outspoken--our training program was designed to incorporate debate as often as possible. This format eventually led us to accept a harsh reality; the physicians needed this training, but they simply did not have the drugs or the money to put their new knowledge into practice in their regions on the scale that was required.

In September of this year, after two training sessions in Moscow and one in Yekaterinburg (some 400 physicians trained to date), there was cautious optimism among PIH staff at the final St. Petersburg session. The GFATM recently committed almost \$100 million to the fight against MDR-TB in Russia. The pressure is on both the Russian government and international organizations like PIH to prove that these funds can produce results in the field. Our organization has proposed a new, decentralized system of intensive support for new projects across Russia as the money begins to flow. We can, however, only hope to contribute to the effort if our own project continues to be unusually successful.

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Distinguished Service Award: Denise Gardiner



Denise Ann Gardiner was given the Russian and East European Institute's Distinguished Service Award at the Indiana University reception at the National Convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in New Orleans on November 16. Denise served as assistant director and outreach coordinator at the REEI for 13 years, and her intelligence, dedication, and efficiency helped to carry our programs to a new height. Her name will be inscribed on a plaque in the REEI offices along with the other distinguished holders of this award, and it will also appear on the masthead of

this and every future issue of *REEIfication*. Denise continues to play a supervisory role for the institute in her new job as a fiscal officer in the College of Arts and Sciences. Congratulations to Denise and warmest thanks for your many years of service.

REEIfication online

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My SWSEEL Adventure

by Jeff Truelock

The day I first heard about the Summer Workshop in Slavic and East European Languages (SWSEEL) was a day that neither I nor anyone in my immediate social circle will easily forget. I was halfway tuned in to what the guest in our Russian short fiction class was saying (at the time, I feared a rather detailed quiz), but when I heard the words, “one year of language in about eight weeks,” my interest was piqued. I had always wanted to study a Slavic language, particularly Russian. I discovered that SWSEEL is a world-renowned program that



Silk Road Festival guest artist Sultan Mamet. Mamet played the music of the Uyghurs of East Turkistan

offers the most comprehensive study of Russian in the US. At that time, however, the fame of the program carried little weight with me; I was majoring in mathematics and merely wanted to finish a language requirement and possibly learn some interesting things about famous Russian mathematicians along the way. After a semester of Russian short fiction, I felt somewhat culturally aware and was ready for what has been rumored to be “Russian Summer Boot Camp.” I applied and was accepted.

Nine levels of Russian are taught in SWSEEL. Being at the bottom of the pile in level one could have been completely nerve-racking, but starting a week earlier than the upper levels gave me the opportunity to learn the Cyrillic alphabet and a few stock phrases; so I felt a bit more at ease. The professors are truly top notch and are committed not only to educating their students but even more impressive to me, to using teaching methods that appeal to all types of learners (kinesthetic, visual, and others). Combine my talented Russian professor and classmates, who are now my lifelong friends, and my new family on the fifth floor of Ballantine Hall, and I was completely charmed by the entire program and experience. Moreover, I had learned a year of Russian in nine weeks!

As well as beginning to learn the pragmatics and syntax of the language, I also experienced the culture and traditions of Russia, which I believe greatly enhance the possibility of absorbing a second language. Being able to attend lectures given in Russian (by native Russians), eat Russian foods, hear Russian music and poetry, watch

television and award winning (sometimes corny) Russian movies, or see an original Russian play composed by classmates was a near-immersion experience. I did not live in the dorms with other students and professors, but when I studied there with my classmates, we held to our promise to speak only Russian. Yes, they were short and simple conversations, but they were conversations in *Russian*. A year and a half later, I have yet to travel to Russia. I am, however, confident that when I arrive in St. Petersburg in the winter of 2008 I will definitely be more at ease knowing how to speak the language and, even more so, knowing a substantial amount about Russian culture.

I changed my major to Slavic languages and literatures at the beginning of the following fall semester, and it was only natural that I would enlist in third-year Russian the following summer. After receiving my papers, I also received a grant that paid for my entire program, and I was off to camp... this time for only eight weeks. At times it was really tough. Having four to five hours of homework a night Monday through Friday can get to a person, and I virtually forgot how to form a sentence in English for those two months. The family dog now even understands a few basic Russian commands. Despite the fact that I could not completely understand the great works of Isaac Babel in Russian (nor very well in English, for that matter), I excelled throughout the summer, even impressing the professors who the previous summer listened to me stumble over saying what color my t-shirt was. A few of the first year students even asked if I were Russian!



SWSEEL students enjoying the fruits of a Russian cooking demonstration

I am sure my experience is atypical, but the overall challenge is similar for the majority of students I studied with these past two summers. If you are looking for a challenge, or know someone who is, my advice is to apply to SWSEEL at Indiana University. I would most likely have been devoting all of my time to mathematics and differential calculus were it not for that fateful day in the spring of 2006. Но теперь, большую часть времени я думаю о причастиях и виде.

Jeff Truelock is an undergraduate student majoring in Slavic languages and literatures

The Orange Disappointment? Ukrainian Politics since 2004

by Richard Payne-Holmes

When Viktor Yushchenko, after the events widely known as the Orange Revolution, ascended to the post of President in late 2004/early 2005, many observers assumed that Ukraine would immediately undergo a period of rapid democratic and capitalist growth while leaving behind the corrupt political culture, known as *Kuchmism*, named for the former president Leonid Kuchma. Those who expected smooth sailing on the political horizon were sorely disappointed and often disillusioned by the electoral events of 2005 and 2006. Certainly events since 2004 suggest, too, that the political climate in Ukraine has not changed as dramatically as predicted. There is, however, reason for hope that Ukraine is on the path to a liberal democratic system of government. The parliamentary elections of September serve to reinforce this hope.

When Ukrainians went to the polls on September 30, 2007 it seemed like a bizarre repeat of events. After the well publicized regime-changing actions of 2004, Ukrainians voted again in early 2006, this time in parliamentary elections. After a year of squabbles and inner turmoil, including the dismissal of Yulia Tymoshenko, the heroine of the Orange Revolution, and general disappointment with Yushchenko's government, Viktor Yanukovich, the villain of the Orange Revolution, made a stunning comeback as his Party of Regions captured more votes than any other party. Still, Yushchenko's *Nasha Ukraina*, Tymoshenko's *BYuT*, and Oleksandr Moroz's Socialist Party received enough votes to re-create the Orange coalition. Fate had other plans, however, as Moroz, tempted by the post of parliamentary speaker, defected, along with his party, to Yanukovich's side. With the Socialists on his side in parliament, Yanukovich created a Blue coalition and returned to his pre-Orange Revolution job of prime minister.

With rivals Yushchenko and Yanukovich at the posts of president and prime minister the Ukrainian political scene could not remain peaceful for long. Indeed, within a year Ukraine was on the verge of crisis. After months of each side accusing the other of violating constitutional law to usurp power, Yushchenko dissolved the Rada when deputies from his own party defected to Yanukovich's camp. The Blue majority mostly ignored the President's

decrees and continued legislation in a half empty chamber. The situation was exacerbated as Interior Ministry troops flooded Kyiv, causing many to fear a crackdown on protests. For weeks it seemed that both sides were willing to use force to get their way. Cooler heads prevailed, however, and eventually a compromise was struck and elections were scheduled for September 30.

The elections, which some doubted would even happen, witnessed the continued decline of Yushchenko's bloc and a surge of support for Tymoshenko and her eponymous bloc. While the Party of Regions received the most votes, Tymoshenko and Yushchenko should be able to piece together a coalition which will give them a slight majority. These results are significant for

many reasons, the foremost of which is that the Orange parties will win a second chance to rule after they lost the mandate given them by the Ukrainian people via the Orange Revolution. The results of 2007 do not, however, guarantee a path to transparent government and the end of corruption, as many predicted in 2004. If anything is obvious from the events of the post-Orange period, it is that Ukrainian politics have changed little. Just as observers incorrectly predicted that the return of Yanukovich to power would mean a return to the *Kuchmism* of the 1990s, people should not expect that an Orange victory guarantees a democratic future in Ukraine.

It is difficult to believe that Ukraine ever made a clean break from the political practices of the Kuchma era and foolish to suggest that politicians, such as Yanukovich, would simply disappear after 2004. In short, the political spectrum did not change from entirely Blue to entirely Orange. The reasons for this lack of complete transition are many. First, it takes time to effect the kind of change that Orange supporters expected. Many Ukrainians and international observers have simply been impatient with Yushchenko's government. It is unrealistic to expect major changes within two years of his election. Those who pull many of the economic strings, including Rynat Akhmetov, the richest man in Ukraine and a Deputy of the Rada, reside in places such as Donetsk and Dnieper-Petrovsk, hotbeds of Yanukovich support. They cast their lots, and their cash, with the Party of Regions.

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Victor Yanukovich, Victor Yushchenko, and Yulia Tymoshenko
Photo courtesy of <http://blog.kievukraine.info>

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Second, Yanukovich received nearly 50% of the vote in 2004, and his supporters have not forgotten him (although, they have, it seems, forgotten his election-fixing indiscretion of 2004) or been wooed by Yushchenko. Regardless of the western impression of Yanukovich and the common misperception that he is supported only by the elderly and others who are nostalgic for the Soviet era, the former prime minister still endorses a platform that is important and relevant for many voters in the eastern and southern regions of Ukraine.

Lastly, observers should not forget that Yushchenko was a product of the Kuchma era as well. Yushchenko, although he was fired, also had served as prime minister under Kuchma, and for many years looked to Kuchma as a political mentor; the apple does not fall far from the tree. Tymoshenko, likewise, is not squeaky clean. Her business activities have long been under scrutiny, and the Russian Federation maintained a warrant for her arrest for many years.

Thus we see that political change in Ukraine has not been as dramatic as many would like. Current politics in Ukraine nonetheless offer much hope. First, the March 2006 and September 2007 elections were, by most accounts, including those from groups such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, free and fair. This is a vitally important development, especially considering the events of 2004. It signals the willingness of those in power to retain or relinquish power by democratic means. While the ascension of a member of the Party of Regions such as Yanukovich would not be viewed by many as a positive sign, it demonstrates a peaceful transfer of power within the legislative body. Second, Ukraine, by the creation of the Orange coalition and the strength of the Party of Regions, seems to be on the path to the consolidation of stable, representative political parties. The current alliances indicate that two dominant political parties stand in opposition to one another. While in Ukraine a party may still be a personality parade of a given politician, these alliances are a good sign. Third, the perennial possibility of a Blue prime minister and an Orange president, or vice versa, ensures that one party will not dominate the political life of Ukraine, especially since the opposition in the Rada would be significant. Regardless of what one believes about the Blue or Orange side, both represent large portions of the population whose interests must be considered. Furthermore, the actions of the Yanukovich-led Rada, regardless of their ethical implications, provided an effective check on the power of President Yushchenko. Lastly, events since 2004 have forced both

sides of the political spectrum to compromise. All of the ruling coalitions since the Orange Revolution have been forced to compromise and share power with others. This demonstrates the ability of Ukrainian politicians to pursue pragmatic forms of government, instead of adhering to the dogmatic demands of a given political ideology.

While many believe that the Orange Revolution in Ukraine has been betrayed by the rupture of the original Orange coalition and the Blue victory in the 2006 parliamentary elections, it seems that Ukraine is making progress towards liberal democracy. Those who disagree and would forecast despair and disappointment for Ukraine should look at its neighbors; nations such as Belarus, Moldova, and even Russia put in stark relief the progress that has been made in Ukraine. In contrast to its neighbors,

Ukraine possesses generally free and fair elections, a two-party legislature in embryo, a balance of power between the legislature and the executive, and a penchant for compromise. In consideration of these facts, it seems that Ukrainian politics have been far from disappointing and will continue to keep observers entertained and anxious for years to come.

Richard Payne-Holmes is a dual MA/MPA student in REEI and SPEA



Blue and Orange Protestors separated by the police Photo courtesy of <http://blog.kievukraine.info>



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Forgiving Without Forgetting: Spring 2007 Conference on Polish-German Post/Memory: Aesthetics, Ethics, Politics

By Bethany Braley

From April 19 to April 22 scholars from a diverse array of disciplines within the larger sphere of Polish, German, and Jewish studies convened at Indiana University to discuss the successes, failures, problems, and rising challenges of recent discourse related to the shared Polish-German experience.

Justyna Beinek, Conference Chair and Indiana University professor of Polish language and culture, teamed with Heidi Hein-Kircher of the Herder Institute (Germany), Indiana University's Bill Johnston, Kristin Kopp from the University of Missouri, and Harvard's Joanna Nizyńska to offer a stunning line-up of interdisciplinary panels and discussions rooted in a period of time—lasting from the years immediately following the collapse of the communist regime in Poland and of the Berlin Wall to the present—during which competing notions of “memory” have increasingly framed the conversation about Polish-German history. The conference set as its goals the expression of “new perspectives for examining post-war Polish-German history” and the reexamination of a critical period of shared history in which “established notions of guilt and innocence, fact and fiction, justice and forms of redress are all contested” (<http://www.indiana.edu/~eucenter/pgconf/callforpapers.shtml>).

“Meta-narratives” served as a guiding metaphor of the conference panel arrangement, spanning accounts of wartime and post-war experience, ways of imagining or framing the “other,” cultural exchanges, and the discursive tropes of *presence* and *absence* as well as of *remembering*



Adam Michnik (Left) Ambassador Reiter (Right)

and *forgetting*. Participants paid special attention to the role that social structures have played in determining and revising cultural memory on local, national and transnational levels, and to the types of strategies used in “transmitting specific social constructions of cultural memory” from generation to generation.

In Fall 2006 the conference committee issued a

call for papers on memory as objects (material culture), memory as representation (artistic culture), memory and time, memory and space (city and border regions), memory and politics (symbolic capital), memory and healing, and Polish-German memory discourse in academia. The finalized program—published half a year later superimposed over maps depicting Central Europe in all its geo-political complexity—displayed evidence of



Conference organizers and guest speakers:
Back row: Bill Johnston, Ambassador Reiter, and Dean Patrick O'Meara
Middle Row: Heidi Hein-Kircher, Justyna Beinek, Kristin Kopp, and Joanna Nizyńska
Front row: Adam Michnik

overwhelming and cross-disciplinary interest in all of these categories, with internally diverse panels on “National Identities, Representing Memory, Flight and Expulsions, Reconciliation and the Other” (April 20); “Strategizing Memory, Tourism's Memory, Local Identity, Spatial Narratives” (April 21); and a final roundtable discussion entitled “Future Projects and Transatlantic Cooperation” (April 22.)

Adam Michnik, political activist and Editor-in-Chief of Poland's popular *Gazeta Wyborcza*, joined Polish Ambassador to the United States Janusz Reiter in opening the conference in a uniquely blended spirit of diplomacy and critique. Michnik's candid talk, entitled “Poland and Germany: The Return of Bad Memories,” drew deeply on the speaker's own experiences of political and social tensions in Poland both preceding the Solidarity movement and after the imposition of Martial Law in 1981. His remarks on the need for human groups to “forgive but not forget” evils in history sparked lively discussion among a rapt audience and set a sober tone appropriate to Reiter's ensuing analysis of Poland's posture in the international arena.

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1956 Hungarian Revolution Commemorated at IU

by Brant Beyer

On October 23rd, the Hungarian Cultural Association (HCA) held its annual commemoration of the Hungarian 1956 Revolution, which was well attended, as usual. The visiting Gyorgy Ranki chair, Dr. Agnes Fulemile, gave a commemorative address about world press coverage of the 1956 Commemoration. Dr. Laszlo Kovacs then gave the keynote talk entitled "The Revolution of 1956 – the Refugee Experience." Dr. Kovacs fled to Austria in the wake of the 1956



Agnes Fulemile visiting Gyorgy Ranki professor

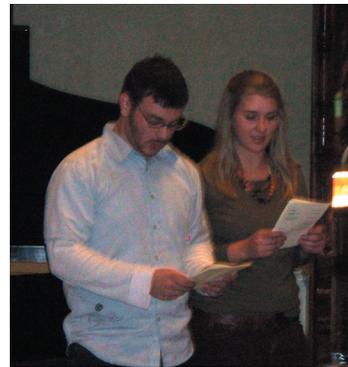
Revolution and then immigrated to America. He studied Library Science and Hungarian Studies under Professor Denis Sinor at Indiana University and then taught at Purdue University. Dr. Kovacs spoke about the refugee crisis following the Revolution and America's acceptance of 40,000 Hungarian refugees. His presentation also included his personal experience of arriving in America not knowing a word of English and how he started as a manual laborer before studying at IU. Following Kovacs's presentation, students read poems by Geza Szocs and Karoly Jobbagy and a text by Milan Fust. Rossitza Banova performed Pancho Vladigerov's *Prelude* on the piano to conclude the commemoration. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed Hungarian dishes that had been prepared by HCA members and the local Hungarian community.

On October 23, 1956, university students started protesting the communist government in Budapest. By that evening, more than 200,000 persons had taken to the streets, and while the protests were generally peaceful, sporadic violence had already started. The following day, as Soviet tanks occupied key points in Budapest, Imre Nagy became prime minister and promised reforms, hoping to reduce the tensions. The Hungarian people, however, continued fighting against the Hungarian secret police and Soviet Army until October 28th, when a ceasefire was declared and Soviet forces began to withdraw from Budapest. Although it appeared that the Soviet Union would accept the new

Hungarian government, on November 4th heavily reinforced Soviet army units re-entered Budapest. Fierce fighting commenced and did not end until November 10th. After taking refuge in the Yugoslav Embassy, Nagy was arrested by the new Hungarian government after being promised safe passage and was eventually executed. Over 2,500 Hungarians died in the fighting and more than 200,000 Hungarians fled the country. Janos Kadar became the new Hungarian leader. During his 32-year rule, Hungary experienced milder "goulash" communism, which allowed limited freedoms. In 1989, Nagy was rehabilitated, and

more than 100,000 people attended his reburial that year; this became a key moment on Hungary's path towards the end of communism.

Since 1989, October 23rd has become one of the most important Hungarian holidays, although it has taken on a new meaning in the last two years. In



Christian Kocsis and Caitlin Carlson

2006, massive protests erupted during the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution, due to Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany's recorded admission that he had lied during that spring's electoral campaign. Demonstrators attempted to occupy the Hungarian Television headquarters and fought pitched battles with police on Budapest's streets. Perhaps the most poignant moment was when protesters seized a Soviet tank used to crush the 1956 Uprising and drove it through downtown Budapest. Demonstrations occurred again during this year's October 23rd events, although they were much smaller than last year's and caused less damage.

The HCA would like to thank the Gyorgy Ranki Hungarian chair, the Department of Central Eurasian Studies (CEUS), the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, and REEI for their contributions, as well as everyone who donated food and time for the event.

Brant Beyer is an MA/MPA student with REEI and SPEA

Forging Trust Through Translation

by Lieutenant Colonel Ivan Shidlovsky

Following graduation from the Army's Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in late spring 2000, I returned with my family to our favorite European country: Germany. Two previous military tours in Germany took us to the 2nd Armored Division (forward), located between Bremerhaven and Bremen in Northern Germany, and the George C. Marshall Institute for Diplomacy, Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Southern Germany. Now, we were headed to Germany's "Hollywood hotspot," Wiesbaden, and the 1st Armored Division Headquarters.



Pocket badge of KFOR

Upon arriving in Germany I was ordered straight to Multi-National Task Force – East Headquarters, Camp Bondsteel headquartered in Urosevac, Kosovo. During 2000 the bulk of the 1st Armored Division was conducting Peacekeeping Operations in Kosovo as part of a 50,000 soldier NATO contingent. The Kosovo Force, or KFOR, as it is called, was originally responsible for establishing a safe and secure environment for the local population. Today, KFOR focuses on building a secure environment in which citizens of Kosovo, regardless of their ethnic origin, can live in peace and receive international aid while strengthening democracy and civil society.

During my initial briefing at the headquarters of the Multi-National Task Force – East (MNTF – E), Camp Bondsteel, I learned that relations between the American Brigadier General commanding MNTF – E and the Russian Airborne Commander, a Lieutenant Colonel, responsible for the county of Kosovska Kamenica were not cordial. Many of the staff officers were frustrated and some even joked that the tensions of the situation would be eased if the Cold War returned. Two weeks into my tour, the MNTF – E Commander, Brigadier General Hardy, requested to see me. He said that he needed an American soldier who spoke and understood Russian to accompany him on his visit to the Russian Airborne Commander in Kamenica. The Brigadier General indicated that he and the previous commander had had trouble with the Russian interpreters – the meaning of questions or statements always seemed to get lost.

Several days later I accompanied BG Hardy on his visit to LTC Rekin, the Russian Airborne Commander in Kamenica. BG Hardy began diplomatically by asking LTC Rekin about his assessment of the security situation in the county and if his soldiers were able to capture the cow thief that had been threatening the local farmers. The Russian interpreter translated the first part of the general's

question correctly, but the second part was translated as if the American general were accusing the Russian soldiers of cattle rustling. I immediately stepped in and corrected the second part of the translation clarifying what the American general had asked. The Russians were taken aback. The Russian commander immediately asked the Russian Interpreter "is the American correct?" The reply was "Yes, Comrade Colonel, I failed to understand the intent of the American general's question." After a moment of silence LTC Rekin satisfactorily answered both parts of BG Hardy's question: Yes, the security situation was improving, but he needed additional help, and yes, the cattle rustlers had been captured and turned over to local authorities. Following several more minutes of discussion, LTC Rekin offered BG Hardy refreshments, something the Russians had not done in the past. Upon leaving, LTC Rekin thanked BG Hardy for a wonderful meeting and said he looked forward to his next visit.

On the flight back to Camp Bondsteel BG Hardy asked if I knew how to forge a better relationship with the Russian forces in our sector. I recommended that he request a Russia Foreign Area Officer assigned to MNTF – E to support the Russian Airborne Battalion. Within four months an American Foreign Area Officer from the George C. Marshall Center in Germany was living and working with the Russian Airborne Battalion. This American officer, on four months Temporary Duty, would ensure that the lines of communication between the American and Russian Commanders remained open.



Joint patrol of Russian and American officers. Author is on far right

Additionally, over the next several months BG Hardy worked hard to include the Russians in the American military planning process and make them feel part of the MNTF – E Team. My responsibility was to ensure that the translators were properly relaying and interpreting what each officer, regardless of nationality, said. The greatest challenge

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REEI Says Good-bye to a Long-Serving Senior Lecturer: Laurence Richter

By Polina Kostylev

Last spring Laurence Richter, senior lecturer in Russian language and phonetics, retired from the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures after many years of teaching students about the elegance of the Russian language and culture. As one of the few students who had the privilege of experiencing one of Richter's last language classes, I can say that the department is not the same without him. His former students have many fond memories of the time spent learning about nominal groups, case systems, and the ever-popular motion verbs. Over coffee last week, Richter said "I love the teaching, and I was very glad to spend my life doing it."

Larry Richter came to the IU Slavic Department in 1968 and has lived in Bloomington ever since. In his youth, Richter, whose original language training was in French and German, was not interested in the Russian language. He studied various foreign languages in high school, but only began studying Russian at the Army Language School in Monterey, California. He initially went to DePauw for his undergraduate degree, majoring in music with an emphasis on vocal performance, but realized in his first year that much of what he thought he wanted to study was not what really interested him. He then decided to go into the military and applied to the Army Language School (now the Defense Language Institute). He was picked to study Russian over other languages because of his academic excellence and ability with languages. At that time, Richter did not plan on teaching, but when he came out of the army certified to teach, he began to do so.

Richter received his BA in 1963 and his MA in 1965 from the University of Illinois. He taught German and Russian at Valparaiso University for two years from 1966-1967 and then came to IU later that year to work on a PhD and to teach in the IU Slavic Department. He

quickly recognized that he had a passion for teaching at the university level and fell in love with teaching students who are deeply committed to learning the language. Although he has seen major changes in the way foreign languages are taught at the university, Richter believes that "there is no substitute for learning the grammar, studying the structure, and the plain old tedium of memorizing forms." According to him, that is the best and only way to teach a language that is as highly palatalized as Russian.

During his time at Indiana University, Richter made a profound difference in the lives of countless students, in and outside of the classroom. Between 1985 and 2004, he traveled to Russia seventeen times with groups of students both to enhance his own teaching and understanding of the culture and to enrich the understanding of his students. Richter also taught various levels of Russian language and phonetics at IU's prestigious Summer Work shop in Slavic and East European Languages (SWSEEL). He continues to lecture at SWSEEL in the summers and plans on coming back for the summer program in the future.

In the mean time, Richter has enjoyed traveling to new places; he recently returned from a trip to Costa Rica, and next month plans to travel to Paris to see the charms of the city for himself. In the next few years, he looks forward to visiting Italy and Turkey, among other countries that he has wanted to see, either for the first time or simply to see an old friend or two once more. After thirty years in the service of teaching students Russian, Richter has been able to continue his love of learning and teaching.

Polina Kostylev is an undergraduate student majoring in Slavic Languages and Literatures and Psychology and minoring in Russian and East European Studies



Professor Richter

Shidlovskv, continued from previous page

for all the interpreters, including me, came during the development of a joint exercise Check Point 78 (CP 78) between American and Russian Forces. The mission was to mutually support each other in rescuing Russian soldiers trapped at a Checkpoint and surrounded by enemy forces. For this exercise the American and Russian commanders developed new tactics, techniques, and procedures, including special graphics that commanders of both nations

could understand and execute. Exercise CP 78 was a huge success, and demonstrated that Americans and Russians were working together as a team.

In late November 2000, the Russians held a special reception for Brigadier General Hardy. They thanked him and me for diligently working to forge trust between our two militaries for the future.

Ivan Shidlovsky graduated with an MA from REEI in 1999

Remembering the 2007 AAASS Conference

by Ramajana Hidic Demirovic

The thirty-ninth annual American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies Convention was held on November 15-18 in New Orleans at the Marriot Hotel. More than three hundred and fifty panels were organized and numerous papers presented in the four-day meeting. A significant number of IU faculty and students made contributions to this year's conference, including Maria Bucur, Owen Johnson, Padraic Kenney, David Ransel, Benjamin Thorne, Jeffrey Veidlinger, Deanna Wooley, and many others (see the October issue of REEification for a complete list). After attending many of the panels organized by the IU faculty and students, I realized how fortunate I am to work with students and professors who are dedicated to and passionate about their work. They all contribute to a very positive and enriching environment at the IU.

In many ways, the papers presented reflected the diverse interests of AAASS members. My favorite panels and papers dealt with gender issues in the pre-communist and communist periods in Eastern Europe. Yet it seemed as if a greater number of panels dealing with gender issues could have been organized in order to accommodate the growing number of scholars interested in this area of study. The need to attract a greater number of presenters interested in gender perspectives is reflected in the AAASS call for the 2008 panels and individual papers.



IU graduate Nathan Wood
with IU professor Bill Johnston

Presenting for the first time at this conference, as part of the panel Identity, Memory, Resistance: The Holocaust in Southeastern Europe, was challenging. Perhaps the most difficult part of the process was to choose which ideas best reflect the overall thesis of my paper, "The Jasenovac Death Camp." Presentations were limited

to only twenty minutes, but all three presenters, Benjamin Thorne, Stefan Ionescu, and I were able to present ideas in a coherent and timely manner. Most importantly, our discussant, Vladimir A. Solonari from the University of Central Florida, gave us constructive comments and



Former students Martin Blackwell and Elizabeth Skomp with Denise Gardiner at the REEI Reception where Gardiner was honored with the REEI Distinguished Service Award

suggestions on how to improve our work. The response from those who came to listen to us was mostly positive. Their questions were challenging and led to long discussions in which all three presenters were able to contribute. Many members of the audience joined the presenters, discussant, and chair of the panel for a lively conversation over coffee after the panel.

Indeed, the extra-curricular activities were especially enriching. For instance, the lobby of the hotel was very busy, and one could not pass through it without seeing familiar faces, hearing numerous languages spoken, and meeting new people. Many of the participants brought their children, and they played in the lobby while their parents discussed ideas with other convention participants.

Besides giving my paper, I spent time at the conference listening to well-articulated ideas and presentations. I was able to connect with graduate students and professors from around the world. After meeting several new colleagues and talking to them about their interests and fields of study, we agreed to organize a panel for next year's conference. Overall, the experience was intellectually invigorating, and I encourage my fellow students to consider participating in the next AAASS conference.

Ramajana Hidic-Demirovic is a PhD
candidate in History

Polish-German conference continued from page 6

Conference highlights included (but were by no means limited to) two separate speeches by Ambassador Reiter, including a general welcome and a retrospective look at Polish-German relations over the last several decades, a retelling by Hanna Gosk (Harvard) of Polish-German relations in twentieth century Polish fiction, and lectures delivered on Jewish-German-Polish relations vis-à-vis the Holocaust by Imke Hansen, Erica Lehrer and Bryoni Trezise. A special session on Friday evening featured an acoustically and conceptually mesmerizing discussion/reading by translator Breon Mitchell on the experience of retranslating Günter Grass's classic tale of social isolation and cultural dissonance, *The Tin Drum*.

The event, said Professor Justyna Beinek, has marked a beginning of the discussion on Polish-German post/memory on this side of the Atlantic Ocean. The conference "brought together numerous junior scholars from the US, Canada, Poland, Germany, Switzerland, and other countries, and was well-supported by leading Polish intellectuals." Beinek further commented that the conference theme has sparked many new independent projects. While there is no definitive plan for a sequel to the conference, Beinek is delighted that it has fostered "cooperation on many levels: for example, a German historian and a Polish historian now want to write a book together, a dozen or so conference participants met in Poland last summer to discuss future projects, and my

new colleague and I are giving a lecture together in Poland in December – these are wonderful by-products of the conference."

The discussion of Polish-German post/memory benefited immensely from the event's exposure at a school like IU, where Polish, German and Jewish studies are all outstandingly represented. Conference sponsors include Indiana University, the Herder Institute, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation), the College of Arts and Humanities, the EU Center of Excellence, the Office of International Programs, the Office of the Vice Provost for Research, the Polish Studies

Center, the Russian and East European Institute, and West European Studies. The event's organizers (listed above, paragraph 1), Polish Study Center facilitators Mira Rosenthal and Andy Hinnant, and student volunteers led by Maren Payne-Holmes, also deserve many thanks for a strong program and the friendly atmosphere in which conference participants thrived.

Bethany Braely is a PhD candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures



Conference participants eating lunch



The Friday morning National Identities Panel: Regina Smyth, Beate Sissenich, Wanda Jarzabek, Heidi Hein-Kircher, and Michael Meng

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Generational Memories of World War II: An International Perspective

The REEI and the IU Center for the Study of History and Memory (CSHM) cooperated in conducting an international workshop from November 8 to 10 on the reconstruction of memories of World War II in the minds of successive generations. Memory and its construction over time, its inflection by media, family stories, scholarly discourse and other factors are intellectually and psychologically challenging subjects. The workshop included experts on Russia, Ukraine, Romania, the Jews of Eastern Europe, the Holocaust, Germany, France and the Netherlands, the United States of America, Japan, China, and Taiwan. David Ransel of the REEI and John Bodnar of the CSHM obtained a large grant through the IU Frontiers of Knowledge in the Arts and Humanities to support the workshop, and they directed the program, with the assistance of Dr. Barbara Truesdell, assistant director of the CSHM. Specialists from our region of interest included Tatiana Voronina, director of the oral history program at

the European University in St. Petersburg. She presented material on the Siege of Leningrad. Another scholar from the region was Gelinada Grinchenko from the V. N. Karanzin National University in Kharkiv, Ukraine. Grinchenko reported on researches into the fate and the memory of the Ostarbeiters taken from Ukraine for forced labor in German-held territories. Presentations were also made by REEI affiliated faculty Maria Bucur (History), Mark Roseman (History and Jewish Studies), and Jeffrey Veidlinger (History and Jewish Studies). Alexander Rabinowitch and Padraic Kenney of IU served as moderators of some sessions. The papers and discussions at the workshop were intellectually rich, emotionally powerful and invigorating. The participants plan to continue their cooperation and to develop further intellectual analyses of the understanding of the war in the many societies that it affected.

Tuberculosis continued from page 2

The scope of the challenge--to maintain a high level of clinical success in Tomsk-- was made remarkably clear to me during my last visit to the rural areas outside of Tomsk where unemployment hovers around 80% after the dissolution of the command economy. Along with Russian and American doctors and local nurses, I visited the homes of several patients who had the most difficulty adhering to the intense 18 month treatment. One 27 year-old patient, who seemed twice his age, had lived with MDR-TB and diabetes for 6 years, juggling medications and trying to earn a living at the same time. In another home, three generations of the same family were drunk together on homemade vodka, with the MDR-TB patient nearly unconscious.

As a result of that trip, PIH launched a new pilot program of intensive patient accompaniment and treatment, which currently provides 15 previously non-adherent patients with social and nutritional support. The program assigns two nurses to travel daily by car to patients' homes to provide these services.

The prevailing attitude in Russia is that these patients are "asocial," that they prefer not to be on treatment, or that they should even be allowed to die. Humanitarian concerns aside, common sense dictates that these patients will continue to infect their families and friends, and need to be treated. By viewing the disconnect with these patients as a programmatic deficiency rather than the fault of the patients, PIH was able to design this pilot program with significant early success. The next step is to export this model nation-wide.



PIH Country Director Oksana Ponomarenko (third from left) during meeting with Bill Gates (left)
Photo courtesy of PIH.org

Tuberculosis is overwhelmingly a disease of the poor. A cycle of alcoholism, unemployment, and disease manifests itself wherever an economically vulnerable population is ignored. In many cities throughout Russia, a revival is underway; freshly paved streets, clean parks, new office buildings, and huge supermarkets are becoming the norm. But sadly, a country that once took such justifiable pride in its care for the underprivileged population has let that tradition slip away along with the more malignant facets of its Soviet past.

Tom Nicholson graduated with a BA in Political Science and an REEI minor in 2004

Announcement of 3rd McClosky Fellow

The Russian and East European Institute is pleased to announce the third Frank McCloskey scholar, Milica V. Matijevic. Matijevic is from Sombor, Serbia and received her law degree from the University of Belgrade in the Department of Legal Theory and Philosophy and her European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratization at the European Inter-university Center in Venice and the Danish Institute for Human Rights in Copenhagen. Her thesis was titled "The United Nations Transitional Administration Missions and the Principles of Democratic Governance." She has taken a number of courses on the role of human rights in foreign policy and international law at universities in Europe as well as at the National Democratic Institute, including a reconciliation program for students from the UN protectorate of Kosovo and the Republic of Serbia organized by Education for Democracy and the European Students' Association.

Most recently Matijevic presented "Multiculturalism as Foundation of a New Legal System: The Case of Kosovo" at the Biennial Research Forum of the European Society of International Law in Budapest at

the end of September. She has also published a "Study on the Implementation of the Kosovo Anti-Discrimination Law" through the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. Her research focuses on ethnic minorities. Whereas many government minority-related policies merely treat the effects of ethnic problems, Matijevic seeks to get to the root of them. She hopes that her research will raise awareness of minority rights in higher education, political participation, and representation. She plans to study university institutions, local political parties and civic initiatives dealing with minorities and to focus on the practical implications of affirmative-action measures as envisioned in the existing legal framework for minority protection.

During her time in Bloomington Matijevic will compile a comprehensive overview of Serbian legislation and domestic and international court rulings related to minority rights in higher education and politics. Using this information, she will create a manual for political parties and higher educational institutions to help them improve their awareness of minority issues.

Polish-Ukrainian Picnic celebrates the 2012 Eurochampionship

On October 27, 2007 the Indiana University Polish Cultural Association and the Ukrainian Studies Organization sponsored a picnic at Bryan Park in celebration of the 2012 European Soccer Championship, which will be jointly hosted by Poland and Ukraine. The 2012 European Soccer Championship represents a unique opportunity for Poland and Ukraine to cooperate in hosting the second most important competition for the world's favorite sport. The symbolism of 2012 was not lost on the members of the Polish Cultural Association and the Ukrainian Studies Organization. "We thought this would be a good time to get together with our Polish 'compatriots' to celebrate something that all Poles and Ukrainians love: soccer!" explained Michelle Lawrence, Vice President of the Ukrainian Studies Organization. The event was also a unique opportunity for an older student organization, the Polish Cultural Association, to help a new one, the Ukrainian Studies Organization, which is only in its second



Ania Nieznanska playing in the soccer game

year of existence. Ania Nieznanska, Vice President of the Polish Cultural Association, said "We thought that this would be a good chance to demonstrate solidarity between not only Poles and Ukrainians, but between students on a grander scale." Despite the slight rain and a chill in the air, members of both organizations and guests enjoyed Polish and Ukrainian cuisine such as Polish kielbasa and Ukrainian shashlik. The inclement weather could not dampen spirits as several participants enjoyed a pick-up game of soccer, while others took part in a raffle to win prizes like t-shirts and Polish candy. The members of the Polish Cultural Association and the Ukrainian Studies Organization hope that their picnic



Students at the grill

and the 2012 European Soccer Championship will not be the last time Poles and Ukrainians come together to celebrate. Olena Chernishenko, faculty advisor of the Ukrainian Studies Organization, expects that "this will be the beginning of a long and amicable relationship between our two organizations."

Alumni Updates

Suzanne Ament (PhD History 1996) received tenure and a promotion to Associate Professor at Radford University in the History Department.

Megan (Freyer) Backes (BA/Minor History/REEI 2004) is the Chapter Executive Consultant at The Appraisal Institute. She also married Michael Backes (BS Business 2004) on Sept 23, 2006.

Martin Blackwell (PhD History 2005) is a tenure-track assistant professor at Gainesville State College (Gainesville, GA) and presented a paper "The Return of the Jews to Post-Holocaust Kyiv, 1943-1946" as an invited speaker at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's international conference *The Holocaust in Ukraine: New Resources and Perspectives* held at the University of Paris - Sorbonne IV in Paris this fall. His e-mail is mblackwell@gsc.edu.

Larry Dailey (BA Political Science/BA History/REEI Minor 2000) (MPA SPEA/JD Law 2003) is an Unemployment Insurance Review Board Member and Associate Justice for the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. He was recently appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels to serve as a Review Board Member for Unemployment Insurance Appeals. It is the highest Departmental Review of an Unemployment Claim, after which, an applicant must appeal to the Court of Appeals.

Robert S. Feldman (PhD History 1967) Emeritus Professor is the President of East-West International Tours, which arranges tours escorted by professors to destinations around the world, including Russia, Ukraine, the Baltic States, Central Europe (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Austria, Germany), Italy & Sicily, England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Greece, Turkey, Egypt, China and Tibet, Vietnam, Cambodia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and South Africa.

John Gaffney (MA REEI 1993) is International Sales Manager for Russia and Eastern Europe at Farmland Foods, Inc., on whose behalf he makes frequent trips to Russia.

Mark von Hagen (MA Slavic 1978) is now Chair of the History Department at Arizona State University. He co-edited the recent IU Press publication *Russian Empire: Space, People, Power, 1700-1930*.

Peter Holquist (BA Slavic/BA History/REEI minor 1986) is a founder and editor of *Kritika*, which, in conjunction

with the University of Toronto in Berlin, conducted a conference in Berlin on June 1-2 called "Fascination and Enmity: Russian-German Encounters in the Twentieth Century and the Idea of a Non-Western Historical Path." He also co-edited with Michael David Fox and Alexander Martin "Orientalism and Empire," vol. 3 of *Kritika Historical Studies* (Slavica), and was an associate editor of *Europe since 1914: Encyclopedia of the Age of War and Reconstruction* (Thomson Gale), 5 vols., under the general editorship of John Merriman and Jay Winter. His article "Baron Boris Emmanuilovich Nolde: The Dilemmas of an 'Official with Progressive Views,'" appeared in *Kritika* 7, no. 2 (Spring 2006), 241-73.

Shoshana Keller (PhD History/REEI certificate 1994) is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at Hamilton College in New York. She has recently published "Story, Time and Dependent Nationhood in the Uzbek History Curriculum," *Slavic Review* summer 2007, "Going to School in Uzbekistan," in Jeff Sahadeo and Russell Zanca, eds. *Everyday Life in Central Asia* (Indiana University Press, 2007), and "Women, Gender and Women's Education in Early Through Late Modern Central Asia," *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures* Vol. IV. Leiden: Brill, 2006.

Jeffrey Leigh (PhD History 1998) has been promoted to Associate Professor at University of Wisconsin-Wausau.

Eric Lewis (BA Journalism/BA Political Science/REEI minor 2004) is a student at the IU School of Law in Indianapolis.

Jennifer Maceyko (MA REEI 2004) is the Managing Editor of *Demokratizatsiya* and *Asian Affairs* at Heldref Publications in Washington, DC.

Michelle McNew (BA/Minor Criminal Justice/REEI 2006) is Project Manager at Wellmed Medical Management.

Joon-seo Song (MA History 1997) is a PhD candidate at the Department of History at Michigan State University and recently published "Za predelami totalitarizma: Interpretatsiia stalinizma zapadnymi uchenymi posle II mirovoi voiny," in *Problemy istorii, filologii, kul'tury*, vol. XVI, no. 2.

Faculty News and Publications

Maria Bucur was awarded an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid to travel to Sofia, Bulgaria, to deliver the paper “Liberal feminism and the reception of John Stuart Mill in Romania” at the International Federation for Research in Women’s History conference, “Women, Gender and the Cultural Production of Knowledge.” At the same conference she chaired the panel “Gender Equity and Higher/University Education in Central and Eastern Europe and the Situation of Women in the Academia.”



Maria Bucur

Steven Franks (Slavic) presented two papers in April at Ohio State University in Columbus: “Splitting (up) Splitting” at the Mid-West Slavic meeting and, together with grad student Lora Bolton, “Topic, Focus, and the Structure of the Left Periphery in Macedonian and Bulgarian” at the Southeast European Studies Association meeting. In May he had a poster, “On Accusative First,” co-authored with James Lavine (Bucknell), at the Formal Approaches to Slavic Linguistics meeting at SUNY Stony Brook. He gave two talks in Israel in June: “Slavic Clitics and the Syntax-Phonology Interface” at a workshop at Ben Gurion University in Be’er Sheva and “Reflections on Spell-Out” at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was an invited speaker at the Slavic Linguistics Society meeting in Berlin in August, where he spoke on “South Slavic Clitics: Balkanization or Unification?” In August, he took part in the 40th Seminar on Macedonian Language, Literature, and Culture, which took place in Ohrid. His paper, co-authored with IU PhD Catherine Rudin, “What Makes Clitic Doubling Obligatory?” appeared in *Jordan Penchev: in Memoriam*, ed. by S. Koeva et al, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences Press.

Hiroaki Kuromiya’s new book, *The Voices of the Dead*, was published by Yale University Press in the UK. He has also been awarded a grant-in-aid of research from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and an REEI Mellon Endowment Grant-in-Aid to travel to Paris where he will deliver his paper “The Great Terror: Polish-

Japanese connections” at the conference “1937-1938: paroxysme de la ‘Grande Terreur’ stalinienne.”

The Romanian translation of *A Carnival of Revolution* by **Padraic Kenney** (History) has just been published by Curtea Veche, under the title *Carnavalul revolutiei: Europa Centrala, 1989*. This is the fourth translation of his book, and it joins the Czech, Polish, and Ukrainian editions.

Alex Rabinowitch has been awarded an Emeritus Fellowship by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to serve as a co-editor/director of a major document publications project developed jointly by the St. Petersburg Institute of History, Russian Academy of Sciences, and the former Leningrad [Communist] Party Archive. The goal of this project is to prepare a comprehensive volume of previously secret, unpublished protocols of meetings of the Bolshevik Petersburg Committee in 1918, and supplementary documents, commentaries, and appendices relating to them. Rabinowitch was honored at the recent AAASS conference with a panel devoted to him and his works titled: “Alexander Rabinowitch: Historian, Mentor, Comrade Mensch.”



Alex Rabinowitch

Martin Spechler published “Pravovye instituty i ekonomicheskii rost v stranakh s perekhodnoi ekonomikoi” in *Obschestvo i Ekonomika*, nos. 2-3 (2007), pp. 91-110, with co-author Vladimir Dashkeev. This paper came from the U.S.-Russia Experts Forum, sponsored by the U.S. State Department in 2006-7. Spechler also published “Economic Reform in Authoritarian Uzbekistan” in *Traders and Trade Routes in Central and Inner Asia: The ‘Silk Road,’ Then and Now*, no. 8 in the series *Toronto Studies in Central and Inner Asia*, edited by M. Gervers, U. Bulag, and G. Long, 2007.

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