

# REEIfication

NEWS FROM INDIANA UNIVERSITY'S RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE

Padraic Kenney, Director  
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## Robert C. Tucker and Stephen F. Cohen Fellowship by Jocelyn Bowie

The Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University has established a new fellowship to support master's degree candidates, thanks to a \$240,000 donation by Katrina vanden Heuvel along with her husband, Stephen F. Cohen, an IU alumnus and a pre-eminent scholar of the Soviet Union and Russia.

The fellowship will be called the Robert C. Tucker and Stephen F. Cohen Fellowship. Robert C. Tucker was a faculty member in the IU Department of Political Science from 1958 to 1961 who was instrumental in the institute's early years and was Cohen's mentor.

REEI is an interdisciplinary unit within the IU College of Arts and Sciences. The Tucker-Cohen Fellowship will be given to incoming Master of Arts students who demonstrate an interest in the history and politics of the Soviet Union or Russia and who plan to pursue careers in public service, such as journalism, secondary education, nonprofit work or the foreign service.

Cohen is a professor of Russian studies and history at New York University and professor of politics emeritus at Princeton University. He is considered one of the top US experts on Russian history and policy. He earned his Bachelor of Science in economics and public policy in 1960, and his Master of Arts in government and Russian studies in 1962, both from IU.

Tucker joined the Princeton faculty in 1962. Cohen earned his PhD in government and Russian studies from Columbia University in 1969 and eventually joined Tucker at Princeton and succeeded him as director of the Russian Studies Program there.

Katrina vanden Heuvel is the editor and publisher of *The Nation*. She is also co-editor with Cohen of *Voices of Glasnost: Interviews with Gorbachev's Reformers* (Norton, 1989); the author of *The Change I Believe In* (Nation Books, 2011); and co-editor of *The Nation: 1865-1990* and *A Just Response: The Nation on Terrorism, Democracy and September 11, 2001*.

Cohen is the author of numerous books, including *Bukharin and the Bolshevik Revolution: A Political Biography* (Knopf and Oxford University Press, 1973 and 1980); *Rethinking the Soviet Experience: Politics and History Since 1917* (Oxford University Press, 1985); *Failed Crusade: America and the Tragedy of Post-Communist Russia* (Norton, 2000); *Soviet Fates and Lost Alternatives: From Stalinism to the New*



Stephen Cohen and Katrina vanden Heuvel at a ceremony honoring him in Moscow in 2008.

Photo courtesy of AIRO-XXI Publishers

### Winter 2012

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## IU Awards for REEI Alumni

1994 Irene Meister  
 College Distinguished Alumni  
 1998 Stephen F. 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  
 1995 Helena Goscilo  
 2002 Howard I. Aronson  
 2002 William Hopkins  
 2009 Donald Raleigh  
 2011 Stephen F. Cohen

## 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  
 2009 David L. Ransel  
 2010 Jerzy Kolodziej

## Indiana University Alumni Reception at ASEEES National Convention

Indiana University and REEI figured prominently at the 43<sup>rd</sup> National Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) that took place in Washington, DC on November 17-20. Fourteen IU faculty, students, and staff presented papers or served as discussants on panels or roundtables. Visitors to the exhibition hall flocked to a phalanx of booths that represented Slavica Publishers, REEI, and Indiana University Press. Among those recognized at the conference for their scholarly achievement were IU's Jolanta Mickute, who recently completed her PhD in History and won the 2011 ASEEES Graduate Student



Alexander Rabinowitch in conversation with former student Choi Chatterjee at the Indiana University Alumni Reception

Essay Prize for her "Making of the Zionist Woman: Zionist Discourse on the Jewish Woman's Body and Sexuality," Sarah Phillips, Associate Professor of Anthropology, whose *Disability and Mobile Citizenship in Postsocialist Ukraine* received honorable mention in the Davis Center Book Prize in Political and Social Studies, and visiting scholar Stepanka Korytova, who won the Mary Zirin Prize for Independent Scholars.

Sponsored by REEI, the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, and the College of Arts and Sciences, the Indiana University Alumni Reception drew approximately one hundred alumni, faculty, students, staff, and other friends who gathered on Friday night over wine and desserts. REEI director Padraic Kenney greeted those in attendance and presented Stephen F. Cohen (BS, Economics and Public Policy, 1960; MA, Government and Russian Studies, 1962) with the REEI Distinguished Alumni award (see related stories on p 1 and 3). Following Cohen's acceptance of the award, PhD alumni in History Barbara Allen (2001), Richard Bidlack (1987), Clayton T. Black (1996), Sally A. Boniece (1995), Choi Chatterjee (1995), Michael S. Melancon (1984), and Donald J. Raleigh (1988) assembled at the front of the room and summoned their former mentor, Emeritus Professor of History Alexander Rabinowitch to join them. Raleigh then announced the imminent publication of a festschrift in honor of Rabinowitch, and presented him with a keepsake of the prepublication announcement, containing a table of contents as well as essays by Chatterjee, Melancon, and Raleigh that celebrate Rabinowitch's scholarship and influence. *Russia's Century of Revolutions: Parties, People, Places* is being published by Slavica and is due out in the spring of 2012.

### Corrections

In the Fall 2011 edition of REEification Andrea Rusnock was mistakenly identified as a faculty member in the Women's and Gender Studies Department at IU South Bend. She is actually Associate Professor of Art History Department in the Raclin School of the Arts at IU South Bend. We apologize for the error.

## Revisiting the Fall of the Soviet Union Conference

by Katie Hiatt

On October 13-14, distinguished guests from across the US and Russia gathered on the Indiana University Bloomington campus to assess the collapse of the Soviet Union and evaluate the contemporary sociocultural and political challenges currently facing its successor state, the Russian Federation. The conference, "Revisiting the Fall of the Soviet Union," was organized by the Russian and East European Institute with substantial support from a host of sponsors at IU that included the College Arts and Humanities Institute, the Office of the Vice President for International Affairs, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, the IU School of Journalism, the IU Department of Political Science, the Collins Living-Learning Center, and the Foster International Living-Learning Center.

The conference began with a joint presentation and book-signing by distinguished historian and IU alumnus Stephen F. Cohen (BS in Economics 1960, MA in Government and Russian Studies 1962) and Katrina vanden Heuvel on Thursday evening

at the Indiana Memorial Union. Cohen, who currently teaches Russian history at New York University, discussed his passion for uncovering "alternatives in Russian and Soviet history" and presented two of his books: *Soviet Fates and Lost Alternatives: From Stalinism to the New Cold War* and his latest work, *The Victims Return: Survivors of the Gulag After Stalin*. Vanden Heuvel, editor and publisher of *The Nation*, reflected on political alternatives in regards to her new book, *The Change I Believe In: Fighting for Progress in the Age of Obama*. After the presentations, IU students, faculty and guests had the opportunity to meet the authors and other conference participants over wine and hors d'oeuvres.

On the following day, the conference moved to the Grand Hall of the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center for a full day of panels, each of which included two or three pre-

sentations, comments from the panel chair, and questions from the audience.

Chaired by IU History and Jewish Studies Professor, Jeffrey Veidlinger, the first panel focused on "1991 in the Long Durée of Russian History." IU History Professor Ben Eklof discussed the role of educational reform during times of social upheaval in Russia. IU Religious Studies Professor Patrick Michelson focused on the role of the Orthodox Church from Perestroika to the collapse. IU History Professor Emeritus Alex Rabinowitch elaborated on the new possibilities that Perestroika and 1991 offered for improving professional relationships and historical research in the Soviet Union.

In the panel "Causes of the Fall," chaired by IU History Professor Padraic Kenney, Stephen Cohen surveyed various explanations before concluding that Soviet leaders and elites played the decisive role in the dismantling of the state. Jack Matlock, Ambassador to the Soviet Union in 1987-1991 and currently on the faculty at Columbia University, ana-

lyzed the events of 1991 with respect to the end of the Cold War, a development which, in his opinion, predates the fall of the Soviet Union and was mutually beneficial to the US and the Soviet Union. Distinguishing between the collapse of the economic and political system and the disintegration of the union republics, Mark Urnov of the Higher School of Economics (Moscow) stressed the role of steady economic degradation and the rise of nationalism throughout the region as key factors in the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The panel on "Media and Politics in Contemporary Russia," chaired by IU History Professor Maria Bucur, featured the insights of Katrina vanden Heuvel and Nadezhda Azhgikhina, Executive Secretary of the Russian Union of Journalists. Azhgikhina explored the role of journalists in promoting Perestroika and the manner in which women,



Cynthia Buckley, Regina Smyth, and Sergey Markedonov (from left to right) sit on the Revisiting Transistology panel at the Revisiting the Fall of the Soviet Union Conference, October 2011

*Tucker Cohen Fellowship*  
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*Cold War*” (Columbia University Press, 2009 and 2011); and “*The Victims Return: Survivors of the Gulag After Stalin*” (PublishingWorks, 2010).

Both Cohen and vanden Heuvel have taken part in symposia on the IU Bloomington campus in recent years. In 2007, they both served on a panel discussion titled, “What’s Right and Wrong With the Media,” cosponsored by the IU School of Journalism and *The Nation*. In October, both presented at an on-campus symposium on the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Soviet Union.

Cohen received the 1998 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Arts and Sciences. At that time, he explained that a chance tour of Russia during his junior year abroad in England changed the course of his life. Upon his return to IU, he took as many courses as he could from the campus’s extraordinary cadre of Soviet experts, including Tucker.

“In the late 1950s and early 1960s, virtually the entire Russian studies faculty of Indiana University, in all the departments, thought and taught about Russia historically,” Cohen said in accepting the Distinguished Alumni Award. “It was from them, right here in Bloomington, that I learned to ‘think like a European’ -- from inside Russia’s history. I

am more than an alumnus of Indiana University -- I am a personal and professional product of IU.”

Tucker, who died in 2010, was a distinguished political scientist, diplomat, scholar, mentor and renowned Stalin biographer, who played a critical role in the earliest years of REEI, said its director and a professor of history, Padraic Kenney.

Cohen received REEI’s Distinguished Alumni Award at a reception in Washington, DC, in November. In 2008, Cohen received an honorary professorship at the Russian State University of Trade and Economics.

“Steve Cohen is one of the most respected authorities on the Soviet Union in this country. We at REEI are very proud to have such an illustrious alumnus,” Kenney said. “Katrina and Steve’s gift to REEI shows remarkable generosity to IU and uncommon understanding of the financial realities of graduate study. Not for the first time, they are making a great impact upon the field of Soviet and Russian studies.”

Since 1999, vanden Heuvel and Cohen have provided an annual undergraduate scholarship to a student in the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Jocelyn Bowie** is Director of Communications and Marketing for the College of Arts and Sciences

*Revisiting the Fall*  
continued from page 3

who were always well represented in Russian journalism, saw 1991 as a new opportunity for advancement and civil participation. Vanden Heuvel, editor and publisher of *The Nation*, analyzed the position of journalists in Russian and US society over the last twenty years, particularly in regards to the impact that post-1991 corruption had on journalists and their livelihood in Russia.

Chaired by IU Political Science Professor Jack Bielasiak, the fourth and final panel focused on “Revisiting Transi-tology.” Sergei Markedonov, visiting fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, addressed the issues raised by unrecognized separatist areas that developed in the wake of the dissolution of the Soviet Union, such as Nagorno-Karabakh in Armenia. Regina Smyth, IU Professor of Political Science, discussed foreign efforts to aid in democracy building in the new Russian Federation and analyzed the implications that wide-ranging political stances had for developing political parties in the country. University of Texas Sociology Professor and Program Director

for Eurasia at the Social Science Research Council (SSRC), Cynthia Buckley, who earlier in the day had delivered a presentation to graduate students on applying for funding through the SSRC, explored demography as a key factor in explaining popular support for Putin.

The conference stimulated new ways of thinking about the collapse of the Soviet Union and its aftermath, challenging assumptions about Russian and Soviet politics, media and society. A special thanks to our scintillating guests and generous sponsors for making this event possible.

For a copy of the program, as well as access to podcasts and video recordings of the conference, please visit:

[http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb/events/fall\\_of\\_SU\\_conference\\_schedule.shtml](http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb/events/fall_of_SU_conference_schedule.shtml)

<http://www.iub.edu/~reeiweb/podcasts/index.shtml#FSU>

**Katie Hiatt** is a PhD student in History

## Former Ambassador to Bosnia at IU by Rebecca Mueller

On January 12, IU alumnus and former US Ambassador to Bosnia Victor Jackovich spoke at a panel discussion entitled “Bosnia Revisited.” The program featured an hour-long conversation between Ambassador Jackovich and IU senior journalism student Alen Simič, who organized the event. The large audience reflected the range of IU and Bloomington community members interested in Bosnia. Strikingly, a number of current IU students—including Simič—hail from the former Yugoslavia and remember the Bosnian War firsthand.

Ambassador Jackovich, who is of South Slavic and Russian-American background, attended IU in the late 1960s. As an undergraduate, he studied abroad in what was then Yugoslavia. He graduated with his BA/MA in Slavic Languages and Literatures in 1971 and immediately entered the US Diplomatic Service. After 20 years of working with the State Department in Russia, Yugoslavia, and several other countries, Jackovich was nominated to serve in his most memorable posting as the very first US Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In 1992, the newly democratic and independent Bosnia was embroiled in a full-scale war involving Serbs, Croats, and Muslims, as well as those with allegiance to a traditionally multi-ethnic Bosnian identity. Upon his appointment, Jackovich received a briefing and a bulletproof vest from a US Army general in Zagreb and made his first flight into the embattled Sarajevo airport—alone. After this initial solo visit, Jackovich assembled a modest staff in Washington, DC and returned to set up a makeshift US Embassy in Sarajevo’s infamous Holiday Inn. Under constant shell-fire in the besieged city where 30–40 civilian deaths per day was the norm, his team’s most fundamental mission was survival. Beyond that, their day-to-day tasks included speaking to Bosnians on all sides of the conflict, writing reports on conditions in the country, and otherwise working to inform US policy makers.

Jackovich has no regrets regarding his Embassy’s efforts to report the situation on the ground, but believes that NATO military intervention—the first in the intergovern-

mental organization’s fifty-year history—came woefully late. It is telling that four years later, US-led NATO forces intervened in the Kosovo conflict in less than two months’ time. Jackovich, then serving as a State Department coordinator of East European affairs, was instrumental in this quick response.

Regarding post-war Bosnia, Jackovich shared his criticism of the Dayton Agreement, which, in his view, institutionalized internal conflict and dysfunction in the country. Indeed, of the three parties who determined the fate of Bosnia—Alija Izetbegović, Franjo Tuđman, and Slobodan Milošević—only one represented Bosnia. According to Jackovich, Bosnians’ best hopes lie in demanding a new constitution and the removal of the built-in geographic and political factionalism inherent in the post-Dayton government.

At the end of the evening, Ambassador Jackovich was presented with the 2012 Human Rights Award by Journalists for Human Rights—Indiana University. The morning following his talk, he also generously participated in a student “meet and greet” attended by Bosnian and Serbo-Croatian language and international studies students. Jackovich attributes much professional success to his time at IU

and, in particular, his training in Russian and East European languages.

As something of a follow-up to “Bosnia Revisited,” Keith Brown, Associate Professor at the Watson Institute for International Studies (Brown University), will deliver the annual McCloskey Lecture on April 10 at 4 pm in the IMU Oak Room. Professor Brown’s talk, entitled “Reason, Riot and Ridicule: The Democratic Spirit in and after Yugoslavia,” will explore an understudied sequence of events in August, 1987, when residents of a village in Western Macedonia mobilized against top-down initiatives by municipal authorities, thereby attracting the involvement of democratic activists from all over Yugoslavia and establishing a heritage of local autonomy and political activism that survives into the present.



From back left, visiting lecturer Jagoda Malbasa, Ambassador Jackovich, and senior lecturer Jeffrey Holdeman meet with Bosnian and Serbo-Croatian language and international studies students

## Outreach Notes

### Eastern European Film at the IU Cinema – Spring 2012 by Antonina Semivolos and M. Benjamin Thorne

Spring 2012 semester at IU Bloomington marks what we hope to be a lasting and prolific collaboration between Indiana University Cinema and REEI. Although IU Cinema opened its doors for the first time last year, it has quickly become the center for the study of film at IU. Located in the heart of the IU campus in the same building that houses the IU Auditorium, it hosts events that enable members of the IU community and the public at large to meet acclaimed film directors and script writers, such as Albert Maysles (*Salesman*, *Gimme Shelter*) and Paul Schrader (*Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull*, *American Gigolo*). It also organizes film series and academic conferences with notable speakers such as producer Michael Uslan (*Batman*, *The Dark Knight*, *Batman Begins*).

Perhaps no cinematic tradition has focused more on the relationship between the individual and the state than that of Eastern Europe. The combination of an authoritarian state in the region, on one hand, and the advent of Western influences stressing the significance of individuality, on the other, has produced a potent mix: the Communist ideology that governed the Soviet Bloc and emphasized collective forms by attempting to suppress idiosyncrasy and individuality gradually became counterbalanced by the emergence of artists who challenged the canons of this very ideology. As a result, one of the most prominent responses within artistic communities was to insist upon the centrality of the individual. Film proved to be a perfect venue for exploration of these transformations. From Tarkovsky to Kieslowski to Mészáros, the great filmmakers of the region have sought to capture the struggles and dilemmas of the individual — sometimes nonconformist by nature, in other cases conforming almost flawlessly — in this imperfectly confining cage. Such concerns endure in contemporary Eastern European cinema, as evidenced by recent films from Hungary, Poland, Romania, and the Czech Republic which are being screened at IU Cinema in the current semester.

Sponsored by Central Eurasian Studies, the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center, and REEI, “Totalitarianism in Europe – Films from Hungary” featured screenings of István Szabó’s *Sunshine* (1999) and Béla Tarr’s *Werckmeister Harmonies* (2000) in January and February respectively. *Sunshine* chronicles three generations of a Jewish family from assimilation and personal success in the “golden years” of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy through the plight of the second generation in the Hungarian holocaust concluding with



Inside the newly renovated IU Cinema, the theater seats 260 people and is one of about only 10 THX-certified college campus facilities in the United States. Image courtesy IU Cinema

the third generation’s involvement with and eventual rejection of the communist dictatorship. Based on *The Melancholy of Resistance*, a novel by László Krasznahorkai, *Werckmeister Harmonies* explores the breakdown of an old, enfeebled order and the explosive release of repressed popular energies in a brooding atmosphere reminiscent of David Lynch’s early work.

In addition to these Hungarian films, REEI is sponsoring “Eastern European Films,” a series that began in January with a screening of *Essential Killing* (dir. Jerzy Skolimowski, 2010), which takes up traditional East European themes of war, the individual, and escape from confinement as well as Poland’s support for the United States in the wars of the past decade, as it follows an Afghan prisoner who has escaped while in transport to a secret detention center in Europe.

*Tales from the Golden Age* (dirs. Hanno Höfler, Christian Mungiu, Constantin Popescu; Ioana Uricaru, and Răzvan Marculescu, 2009) perpetuates the Romanian cinematic fascination with the garish, almost incomprehensible world of dictatorship. The plot portrays the last fifteen years of Nicolae Ceaușescu’s reign (Romania’s so-called “Golden Age” according to the propaganda of the time) through five vignettes (“The Legend of the Official Visit,” “The Legend of the Party Photographer,” “The Legend of the Chicken Driver,” “The Legend of the Greedy Policeman,” and “The Legend of the Air Sellers”), each centering on an urban myth common to that period and told from the perspective of ordinary people. Surreal, humorous, and poignant, these

## Faculty Profile: Jacob Emery

### Interview by Zachary Kelly

The Russian and East European Institute welcomes Jacob Emery, newly appointed Assistant Professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Department of Comparative Literature. Towards the end of his busy first semester at IU, Jacob took the time to field some questions about his background, first impressions of IU, and current research.

*Where are you from originally?*

I'm from Moscow... but I mean Moscow, Idaho. So my interest in Russian literature is founded on a pretty bad pun, actually. I was born in Moscow, grew up in Idaho, went to high school in Seattle, college in Iowa, grad school at Harvard and lived in Sweden for several years. However, I feel more marked by Seattle than any other city.

*Are there any other reasons that brought you to Russian literature?*

When I moved from Idaho to Seattle, I was in a much larger high school with a lot more resources, and among those resources there were all these exotic languages, like Russian. I think out of perversity more than anything else I decided to study Russian because it seemed like the most exotic of all the languages offered, and it had a different alphabet. I wasn't yet aware of the existence of the 6000 other languages that are even more exotic than Russian and some of which have even crazier alphabets. So I started taking Russian and was an exchange student to the Soviet Union. I have always been interested in and read a lot of literature, and apart from a couple of years when I was taking German instead and going the Kafka route, I have always had a large place in my heart for Russian literature. When, eventually, the influence of Nabokov dragged me away from Kafka back into the Russian orbit, then I ended up declaring it as my undergraduate major.

*Is there a life-changing book for you?*

Well, it is a difficult question to answer, because in some ways there are books that I read when I was a little kid, which have probably marked me and my habits very, very deeply. So, I love *The Odyssey*, for instance, but my love of *The Odyssey* is based largely on the children's edition I was given for Christmas when I was six. Books that I return to over and over again are Nabokov's novel, *The Defense*, Melville's *Moby Dick*, Proust, Bely's *Petersburg* – I like ornate books, I guess you can say. That's the common characteristic that ties them all together.

*Can you reflect on your first two classes taught at IU? What was the inspiration behind their conception or organization?*

As you may know, I have a joint appointment with Slavic and Comparative Literature. I have found the nineteenth century Russian literature survey course to be



Jacob Emery plays the banjo alongside Maria Bucur at the 2011 REEI Fall Reception

tremendously fun. These are books I haven't necessarily read since my orals, in some cases, when I was a graduate student and it's been great to think about an entire century of Russian literature and cull out the parts that I think are most important and to witness this group of undergraduate students who are engaging with it, in many cases, for the first time. I feel that keeps my engagement with the main corpus of Russian literature fresh and reinforces for me all these crucial texts, which then recur as subtexts in the later literature, which I tend to focus on more in my own research.

As far as the graduate course goes, one of the complaints I had heard from graduate students when I came here on my job talk was that poetry is never taught here, so I wanted to teach a course which incorporated some poetry and gave some exposure to poetry in the Slavic department. However, because my graduate course has to be joint-listed with Comparative Literature, it also has to be something that can be done largely in translation and much Russian poetry is difficult to access in translation. So, I came up with this idea for a course on texts, which somehow hybridize poetry and prose. I came up with this way of incorporating a lot of Russian poetry into a course, which would also have enough comparative material, enough material in good translations, and enough theoretical material to be interesting to and accessible to a larger audience of literature.

*Are there any future courses you'd like to offer or plan to offer?*

I'm a pretty easily excited person so I actually don't mind being given topics and finding ways to make them interesting for myself and for students. I expect to be teaching some more film courses in the coming years. I'm

## Reports from the Field: Student Research in Moldova

### Role of Non-Profit Organizations in Preservation and Revitalization in Gagauzia

by Adam Julian

I was awarded a Fulbright Student Research Fellowship to study and complete a research project in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia (ATU Gagauzia), in Southern Moldova during the 2011 – 2012 academic year. My Fulbright project is to study the role non-profit organizations play in the preservation and revitalization of Gagauzian language and culture. To this end I arranged to work with the local Gagauzian non-profit organization, Miras Moldova.

The Gagauz are a Turkic-speaking, Orthodox Christian ethnic group who number approximately 250,000 worldwide. The majority of Gagauz reside in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia, a 700 square mile area of disconnected territory established in Southern Moldova in December of 1994. The territory consists of three cities and 29 villages. I am based in the administrative capital Comrat, a city of about 25,000 located approximately 100 kilometers south of Chisinau.



Adam Julian harvesting grapes with his host family

I arrived in Comrat on the September 1, and immediately began working with Miras Moldova on their projects in Gagauzia. My primary role with the organization has been helping them to identify calls for proposals and funding opportunities that fit their organizational goals and objectives and assisting them with the proposal writing. The Delegation of the European Union to Moldova recently announced the upcoming call for proposals for projects specifically designed to benefit the populations of ATU Gagauzia and the break-away region of Transnistria, and I am currently assisting Miras Moldova with two proposals aimed at addressing two of the most pressing social problems in Moldova, labor migration and poverty. The first is a proposal to open a youth club and educational center in a Gagauzian village that has been especially affected by labor migration. The second is a



A map of Moldova with the Gagauzia region circled in red proposal to promote rural village-tourism in the village of Besalma.

Miras Moldova also operates a website (<http://gagauzia.info.md>) designed to promote and introduce Gagauzia to the English-speaking world through a series of non-professional reports on Gagauzian culture and events. These reports are usually written and published by volunteers from the European Volunteer Service hosted by Miras Moldova, but in their absence I have stepped in until the next volunteers arrive in January. Through this work I have found myself doing everything from learning to make Gagauzian wine and interviewing local Hip Hop artists to meeting the Bashkan of Gagauzia.

**Adam Julian** is an MA student at REEI

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*Reports From the Field*  
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## Uncovering Jewish History on the Banks of the Dniester by Sebastian Schulman

Chickens squawking, shouts in several languages, overflowing bottles of homemade wine, and a hint of cigarette smoke in the air. Such was the atmosphere of a typical *marshrutka* (shared taxi) ride as I crisscrossed Moldova and the unrecognized republic of Transnistria this past summer. Supported by a generous grant from the Borns Jewish Studies Program at IU, in late May 2011, I travelled to the regions of Eastern Europe to conduct original ethnographic and archival research on the transmission and transformation of Jewish life and cultural traditions in those areas after World War II.

As opposed to many other places in the Soviet Union, Jewish life in Moldova continued in the decades following the war, albeit in a profoundly altered form, until the first waves of Jewish mass emigration began in the 1970s. As such, in today's remaining community, many of the historic markers of Jewish identity, such as religious observance, the Yiddish language, folklore, and klezmer music are alive in both the memory and practice of a significant number of its members. Despite the exceptional nature of this phenomenon, few scholars have studied this community or its unique history in depth. It was this overlooked story of cultural survival and perseverance that I sought to better understand this summer.

My approach to this research was twofold, consisting of in-depth ethnographic interviews independently

conducted with over thirty Jews and non-Jews in cities across the country, as well as countless hours in the archives of the Itsik Manger Jewish Public Library, a community center and municipal library in Chisinau. During my stay in Moldova, I also had the opportunity to participate in two larger ethnographic expeditions, including a trip led by Professor Dov-Ber Kerler for IU's Archives of Historical and Ethnographic Yiddish Memories (AHEYM) and a field school organized by the Sefer Judaica Institute in Moscow. Both experiences were invaluable occasions to connect with colleagues on an international scale and receive crucial methodological training in oral history and anthropology.

From the grassroots establishment of a Yiddish theater troupe to the legendary miracles, wonders, and religious rituals performed by a figure known as the "Ribnitzer Rebbe," the stories that emerged from this research were as diverse as they were fascinating. Moreover, every document and conversation seemed to challenge the standard narrative of Soviet Jewry as the oppressed and assimilated "Jews of Silence." Thus, while this trip represents only the beginning of what I hope will be a much larger project, the research I conducted this summer can already make a worthy contribution to the growing historiography that is shifting the paradigm of how we view Soviet Jewish history.

**Sebastian Schulman** is an MA student at REEI

### *Faculty/Staff News*

**Henry Cooper** (Slavic, Emeritus) has published "The Bible in Slavonic" in Richard Marsden, ed., *The New Cambridge History of the Bible* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012). He is also editor of *An Anthology of Croatian Literature* (Bloomington: Slavica Publishers, 2011).

**Ben Eklof** (History) recently gave a talk on "Culture and Education: The Legacy of the Tsarist Secondary School" at Elabuga Pedagogical. Elabuga is a small, old "merchant" city about two hours from the capital of Tatarstan Kazan. In the week of February 13 he gave a talk in Viatka dealing with the life story of Nikolai Charushin, a local revolutionary, and entitled "Conflicting or Converging Legacies: Western and Russian Historiography and Public Opinion on the Russian Revolutionary Movement." On February 29, he will read a paper on "Change Factors in Russian Education: the Early and the Late Twentieth Century," at the Presidential Academy of the National Economy in Moscow.

**Padraic Kenney** (History) presented a talk entitled "'Come With Us - They're Not Beating Today!' Making the Streets Free in Communist Eastern Europe" at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago. An interview based on this talk is available at <http://hnn.us/blogs/padraic-kenney-interview-popular-protest-movements>.

*Faculty/Staff News*  
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**Alex Rabinowitch** (History, Emeritus) has been awarded a Grant-in-Aid for Retired Faculty from the Office of the Vice Provost for Research for his project entitled "The Impact of Crises on the Development of Soviet Authoritarianism, 1919-1920." He also presented his paper "Reflections on the Relationship Between the Bolsheviks and the Left SRs, 1917-1919: The View From Petrograd" at the annual convention of the ASEES in Washington, November 17-20, and gave a talk, "Reflections on my Life's Work: Studying the Bolsheviks, the October Revolution, and the Dynamics of Early Soviet State Building in Petrograd," to members of the history department at Northwestern University on December 5.

**David Ransel** (History) published "Implicit Questions in Michael Confino's Essay: Corporate State and Vertical Relationships" in *Cahiers du monde russe*, Vol 51, no. 2, pages 195-210, and the chapter "Soviet Efforts to Transform Infant Care in the Villages: Leningrad Province in the 1920s" in *People and the State: Divergent Medical Discourses*, ed. Elena Bărbulescu (Cluj-Napoca: Mega, 2011), 21-45. He also gave a presentation at Stanford University in January on "What is Private, What is Public?: The Loss of Community Recreational Assets and National Heritage Sites to Private Developers in Post-Soviet Russia and the Emergence of Civil Society Opposition." He is a visiting scholar this year at Stanford's Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.

**Mark Roseman** (History) published the introduction to a new edition of Sebastian Haffner, *The Meaning of Hitler*, (London: Folio edition, 2011), pp. ix-xv. He also gave a talk on November 16 at the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University on "The Murderers Next Door: German-Jews and German Perpetrators." He gave two papers: on February 3 he presented "The Wannsee Conference and the Final Solution" at The Wannsee Conference Seventy Years After, International Workshop, University of Sussex, Hove, UK; and "Between the 'lived utopia' and the rescue of memory: recollecting the wartime activities of an anti-Nazi group" History Research Seminar, University of Sussex, Hove, UK, on February 2. He was a guest of former IU doctoral student, Robin Henry, at Wichita State University on February 9, where he gave a public lecture entitled: "'Perhaps the most shameful document in history.' The Wannsee Protocol 70 years later."

**Anya Royce** (Anthropology) announced the recent publication of *Antropologia sztuk widowiskowych* (Warsaw University Press), a Polish translation of her *Anthropology of the Performing Arts: Artistry, Virtuosity, and Interpretation in a Cross-Cultural Perspective* (2004, AltaMira Press).

**Mark Trotter** (REEI) has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the American Council of Teachers of Russian.

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## *Continuing Students News*

**Colleen M. Moore** (History) presented a paper, "Land for Service: Peasant Attitudes toward the Land Question in Wartime Russia," at the Clemson Conference on Russian Culture during the First World War and Revolution, 1914-1922, held at Clemson University on October 13-16, 2011.

**Amy Simon** (History) presented a paper, "Rumkowski Revisited: Wartime Diary Accounts of the 'Eldest of the Jews,'" at the Association for Jewish Studies' 44th Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

**Nick Sveholm** (Political Science) has been awarded a ten-month fellowship from the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin.

**M. Benjamin Thorne** (History) has been named the January 2012 Student of the Month by the Indiana University Graduate School. For more information on this award see: <http://iugradschool.blogspot.com/2012/01/october-2011-graduate-student-of-month.html>.

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## Incoming Visiting Scholars



Dalibor Doležal is a Junior Faculty Development Program Visiting Scholar through American Councils for International Education. While at Indiana University, he will collaborate with faculty at the Department of Criminal Justice. He teaches at the University of Zagreb in the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, Department of Criminology. He holds a PhD in Criminology from the University of Zagreb. His areas of interest include developmental and life course criminology, criminal careers, and organized crime. His research at IU will be directed at expanding his expertise in his academic field and developing new educational perspectives through direct observation of various courses offered on the IU campus.

Sándor Földi is a Gyula Rézler Scholar at Indiana University Bloomington in the Department of Central Eurasian Studies. He is on leave from the University of Pécs, Hungary. His current research focuses on the protest culture of the Eastern Europe, specifically Hungary, as seen in a comparative context. This research includes a comparison of political culture and political socialization as well as the history of social movements in the United States.



Yulia Tikhomirova is a Fulbright Visiting Research Faculty Member from the National Research State University in Tomsk, Russia, where she serves as Associate Professor in the Department of Romance-Germanic Philology and earned her PhD in Russian Literature and Translation in 2008. Her general research interests include comparative literature and the history of literary translation, poetic translation genres, as well as Russian-English literary and cultural relations. She will be working on her project “English Reception of Russian Classical Poetry: Genres of Translation” while at Indiana University, where she will be affiliated with the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. The results of her research will constitute a chapter in a monograph on genres of poetic translation.

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### Outreach Notes

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tales reveal the various coping mechanisms — including mythological constructions — employed by a nation trying to survive the absurd dictates of an illogical regime where food was scarce and reason even scarcer. Whether it is stealing bottled air, killing a Christmas pig with poison gas to avoid the attention of hungry neighbors, or hanging fruit in the trees of an orchard before an official visit from Ceaușescu, these stories stretch disbelief, and yet were all believed to be true. The film, which will be screened on Sunday, March 25 at 3 pm, raises questions about what it meant to collaborate with or resist the Communist regime.

Part dark comedy, part biting drama, *Pupendo* (dir. Jan Hřebejk, 2003), which will play on Sunday, April 15 at 3 pm, navigates the gray area between complicity and compliance prevalent in former Soviet Bloc countries. It is a story about two families set against the backdrop of art and politics. A talented artist is blacklisted by the Communist government following the Russian occupation. Since he cannot work within his profession and will not take a day job, his family has to make kitschy ceramic ornaments to

get by. A chance encounter with an art historian combing through a garbage can brings the artist back into contact with a former student and lover. In his film, Hřebejk shows us life in Czechoslovakia in 1981 during “normalization,” the period of cultural and social repression that followed after a failed attempt at cultural and political liberalization during Prague Spring in 1968.

Taken together, these films offer scholars and students in History, Anthropology, Political Science, and Slavic Literature as well as interested members of the broader public opportunities to reflect on a few central themes present in the culture of the region. At the same time, these artistic works represent the rich variety of filmmaking from Eastern Europe achieved during the last decade. Both series are free, though tickets must be obtained for each screening.

Information on tickets is available by phone at (812) 855-1103 or on the IU Cinema website at: <http://www.cinema.indiana.edu/>.

**Antonina Semivolos** is a joint JD/MA student in Maurer Law School and REEL.

**M. Benjamin Thorne** is a PhD candidate in History

*Faculty Profile: Jacob Emery*  
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doing the Central European film course in the spring and I'm doing an Honors College seminar on modernist fiction and the theory of figure. I expect that I will be teaching courses that relate to my own fascinations with repetition, figure, and genre. I've thought of teaching a course on unfinished novels, for example *Dead Souls* as a novel that's not completed, and then for a comparative aspect, I can bring in Dickens' *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. There are tons of novels, *Master and Margarita* or Nabokov's last and unfinished Russian or English novels, where people died or life happened in the middle of writing and you have this thing, which is clearly a novel. It has a narrative plot, yet at the same time it has no ending, so what does that do to the plot and how can you read it?

*What are your current research interests? Can we expect anything to be published in the near future?*

Just this month (December) I had two articles come out, one on Tolstoy and inoculation in *Russian Review* and one on aerial photography in the *New Left Review*. I have another article coming out next year (2012) in *Comparative Literature*, which is on *mise en abyme*, that is to say, situations where there is a text inside the text--like the play within the play in Hamlet, or the book Anna Karenina reads on the train--that provides a condensed image of the framing text. We might look to this condensed image as crystallizing for us the larger text's major point, and in this respect it serves as an internal allegory of the text that frames it. But of course we are used to thinking of allegories as referring to universal structures that exist outside rather than within the text--religious allegories or social allegories or philosophical allegories. The article is about situations in which a single figure appears to point simultaneously to an "internal" allegory on the one hand

and to an "external" scheme on the other. And then I have a couple of incidental articles that I am working on, one on medieval numismatics and one on Melville, which I hope will come to a publishable stage in the next year.

There are also two book projects I am working on. One of them is based on my dissertation, and it involves a series of scenes mostly from Russian and South Slavic novels, in which a character looks into a mirror and mistakes the reflection of themselves for another person. Then there is another book, which is slightly more nebulous, although the article in *New Left Review* and the article coming out in *Comparative Literature* are ancillaries of it, in which I want to take this idea of the *mise-en-abyme*, or the text that is represented inside the text, as a kind of way of thinking about the artwork as indistinguishable from the larger work of economic production. The artwork represents the larger work in a miniature model that is surrounded by the larger work of life.

*Finally, I saw you at the REEI Fall Reception with a banjo. Are there any other hobbies and interests outside of the scholarly world that you pursue?*

Well I do love music. Back in Boston I was in several bands. I haven't been playing shows in Bloomington -- not yet, at least. I juggle, although I'm not a tremendous juggler. Four clubs is the most that I can do. One of these days, when I have a week to myself, I will get it up to five. I like culture of all kinds. This includes literature, of course. I love to read -- I don't draw a very firm distinction between the stuff I read for research and the stuff I read for pleasure -- the two are always cross-pollinating each other. I also like movies and less respectable forms of art like videogames, television, and things like that.

**Zachary Kelly** is an MA student at REEI

## Recent REEI MA Essays

**Paul Anderson**, "Orthodoxy, Putin and the Revival of the National Idea," December 2011.

The resurgence of Orthodoxy as a religious, cultural and distinctly Russian identity is a critical element of contemporary Russia. Under Putin's tenure as president, the Church achieved special access to Russian schools and military institutions while Putin received the honor of presiding over the reunification of the Russian Church. After Putin, the Russian Church is the most trusted institution in Russia. Orthodoxy is routinely looked at as the basis for a Russian national idea. Public opinion reveals that more Russians than ever profess to be Orthodox, a trait they associate more closely with Russian patriotism and national culture than with religious worship.

**Olia Bueva**, "Pictures from the Margins: Disability and Difference in Post-Socialist Art," December 2011.

This essay analyzes representations of disability and infirmity in the Russian and East European cultural landscape. The first section of the paper focuses on socio-economic and cultural narratives which inform dominant discourses on disability, interrogating representations of corporeal difference and cultural constructions of gender, acceptable femininity and aesthetics in post-Socialist popular media. Further the essay analyses the various techniques East European and Russian artists use to formulate new subversive narratives of disability and difference, providing richly textured, nuanced

*REEI MA Essays*

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and provocative accounts of able-bodiedness and femininity. The feminist works explored in the text deconstruct dominant discourses on disability, gender normativity, beauty and aesthetics, producing a plurality of meanings and challenging reductive articulations of disability and normality. While the effects of such art are difficult to quantify, it allows viewers to engage with issues of disability in aesthetics on multiple levels, potentially expanding their interpretative frameworks when encountering difference. The final section of the paper suggests that there is an urgent need for art that redefines traditional conceptions of beauty, normality and body integrity. Authoritative spaces of cultural display need to make room for representations that can potentially generate an open-ended and nuanced discussion about disability and disability experience. The phenomenal power of art lies in its ability to subvert, expose and contest stereotypes by engaging with the viewers on an individual level, encouraging them to experience and “live in” other people’s bodies. This way, by creating representations that disrupt the normal-disabled binary and expanding repertoires of desirable femininity, artists can suggest new ways of seeing corporeal difference and articulate disability as a meaningful component of identity. The paper is interdisciplinary, utilizing several theoretical frameworks, including the feminist deconstruction of the classical nude, the problematization of the Cartesian subject, and the scholarship on gendering of citizenship and nationhood.

**MAJ Robert A. McVey Jr.**, “Russian Elite Approaches towards Foreign Policy: Implications for the US Military Cooperation in Central Asia,” December 2011.

The most dangerous threats to US national security remain in Russia. By not understanding and taking into account Russian foreign policy, US policymakers are both damaging US-Russian relations and making the international environment more dangerous. Why did Russia support the US military presence in Central Asia in 2001/2002 and oppose it in 2004/2005? This study will examine the competing approaches to foreign policy among Russian political elites and use this examination to explain decisions on this subject by Russian president Vladimir Putin. The author finds that Russian foreign policy is formulated in a rational manner and conflicts with US interests due to conflicting views of the international order. The author concludes that these findings have important implications for US military cooperation in Central Asia.

**MAJ Kristopher Mitchell**, “The Role of Serbia in Russia’s Dual Track Foreign Policy,” December 2011.

The Russian president, along with his ministers of foreign affairs and emergency situations, made a state visit to the Republic of Serbia in October 2009. During that visit, the Russian president addressed a special session of the Serbian National Assembly and concluded several Russo-Serbian agreements. This bilateral relationship and the outcomes of these agreements continue to have significant political, economic, and security implications for the trans-Atlantic region. This essay explains why the Medvedev-Putin Tandem elevated Serbia in Russia’s foreign policy. Through an analysis of the Kremlin’s strategic documents, officials’ speeches, and the outcomes of these agreements, it will become evident Serbia is key to Russia’s contain and divide strategy *vis-à-vis* the West.

**Meghan White**, “Shadows of the Civil War: Perceptions of Democracy in Tajikistan,” February 2012.

While the international community judges Tajikistan to be an authoritarian state, both Tajik citizens and the country’s president, Emomali Rahmon, describe their state as democratic. My analysis evaluates the cues that the state provides for its citizens: shared notions of democracy in presidential rhetoric, president-sponsored changes to the physical and social Tajik landscape, and the oral history and public opinion survey data of Tajik citizens. My analyses of these three areas demonstrate that citizens’ perceptions of democracy are largely rooted in Tajik president Emomali Rahmon’s characterization of the causes and effects of the Tajik civil war (1992-1997).

*Alumni News*

**Eric Boyle** (REEI, MA; SPEA, MPA 1999) was recently promoted to Senior Manager for International Development at ICF international. He has helped ICF win several new international development projects, including clean energy work in Russia and Central Asia. He recently returned from a trip to Kazakhstan launching a USAID-funded energy efficiency support program.

**Yulia Boyle** (MPA, 1999) is now a Vice President at the National Geographic Society, responsible for licensing all of National Geographic’s magazine titles in foreign countries. She recently returned from Moscow where she helped open a

*Alumni News*

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Russian nature photo exhibition together with Sergey Shoigu, the Russian Minister of Emergency Situations and head of the Russian Geographic Society. More information is available at <http://www.rgo.ru/2011/11/podvedeny-itogi-konkursa-dikaya-priroda-rossii/>.

**Joseph T. Fuhrmann** (REEI, MA 1964, PhD 1968) retired from teaching at Murray State University after 32 years. His most recent biography, *Rasputin, the Untold Story*, is to be published by John Wiley & Sons in October 2012. His next book will be a biography of Nicholas II.

**Michael A. Lally** (REEI, MA 1992) attended the Mastering Trade Policy course in Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in summer 2011, where he focused on multilateral trade negotiations and future of the Doha Development Agenda. He is currently Counselor for Commercial Affairs in the US Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, with additional responsibilities for Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

**Kelly Moore** (REEI, MA; Journalism MA 1994) is the author of *Secrets of An Accidental Yogi: Yoga Wisdom for Better Health, Less Stress & Great Sex*, a playful, insightful and down-to-earth guide for beginning or deepening your yoga practice and embracing your most authentic, happy and fearless life.

## New REEI AV Library Acquisitions (Selected)

Title in English (Original Title). Director. Format. Year. Language.

### **Russian and CIS Feature Films**

*Kamenskaya-6 season (Kamenskaya, 6-oj sezon)*. Marat Kim and Egor Anashkin. DVD. 2011. Russian.

*Pussy Cat (Koshechka)*. Grigorij Konstantinopol'skij. DVD. 2010. Russian.

*Vodka Lemon (Vodka Lemon)*. Hiner Saleem. DVD. 2003. Armenian, Russian and Kurdish with English subtitles.

*Vysotskij: Thank you for Being Alive (Vysotskij. Spasibo, chto zhivoj)*. Petr Buslov. DVD. 2011. Russian.

*We are Going to America (My Yedem v Ameriku)*. Yefim Gribov. DVD. 1992. Russian and Yiddish with English subtitles.

### **Russian Animations |**

*Cheburashka Arere (Cheburashka Arere)*. Susumo Kudo and Roman Kachanov. DVD. 2010. Russian.



### **Contemporary Russian Music**

*Army Songs – Dembel' 2012 (Armejskie pesni. Diskografiya)*. Various Russian artists. DVD (MP3). 2011. Russian.

*Tripwave (A Retrospective Collection of Russian Psychedelic Progressive Music)*. Various Russian artists. CD. 2011. Russian.



### **East European Feature Films**

*Absurdistan (Absurdistan)*. Veit Helmer. DVD. 2008. Voice-over in Russian with English subtitles.

*Black Peter (Cerný Petr)* Milos Forman. DVD. 1964. Czech with English subtitles.

*Police, Adjective (Polițist, Adjectiv)*. Corneliu Porumboiu. DVD. 2009. Romanian with English subtitles.

*The Real Santa (Az igazi Mikulás)*. Peter Gardos. DVD. 2005. Hungarian with English subtitles.

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**Giving Opportunities**

**General Fund**

The REEI general fund supports a broad range of educational and outreach activities on campus and in the wider community.

**Robert F. Byrnes Memorial Fellowship**

This fellowship honors the memory of REEI's first director by supporting an outstanding incoming MA student. The current award consists of a stipend and fee remission for the first year of study and is renewable for an additional year.

**McCloskey Fund**

This fund commemorates the life and work of former Congressman and REEI alumnus Frank McCloskey, who dedicated himself to the advancement of peace and democracy in the Balkans. It supports a biennial exchange program that sends an IU student to study in the Balkans and a student or scholar from the Balkans to study in Bloomington and Washington, DC.

**Daniel Armstrong Memorial Research Paper Awards**

This competition is dedicated to the memory of IU Slavics alumnus, teacher, scholar, and administrator, Professor Daniel Armstrong (1942-1979). Awards are presented to students for papers written in a class devoted to some aspect of Russian, East European, or Central Eurasian studies.

Gifts from thoughtful friends like you supplement the modest support that the Russian and East European Institute receives from state and federal sources. Your generosity enables REEI to maintain a high standard of education for its students, encourage innovative research on the region, and engage with the broader community through a variety of outreach activities.

To learn more about opportunities for giving to REEI and the activities that your gift will support, please visit our website at [www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/](http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/) or contact Mark Trotter, Associate Director of the Russian and East European Institute, at [martrott@indiana.edu](mailto:martrott@indiana.edu) or (812) 855-7309.

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